

SOCIAL INITIATIVES FOR GROWTH AND NETWORKING (SIGN) RANCHI



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ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020



SIGN (Social Initiatives for Growth and Networking) is the official Body of the Catholic Bishops of Jharkhand and Andaman for social concern and human development. It anchors the effort of the eight social service societies of the diocese of Ranchi, Gumla, Jamshedpur, Simdega, Khunti, Daltonganj, Hazaribag and Dumka in promoting a just and humane society based on the gospel values of love, peace, equality and dignity to all.

Vision:

A just and humane society based on the values of love, peace, equality and dignity to all.

Mission:

An Empowered society-Well Knit and Disciplined, that upholds human dignity of the oppressed and the marginalized, especially the Tribals and the Dalits by means of advocacy, liaison and networking with the diocesan institutions in collaboration with government and like-minded organizations.

Goal:

Ensuring sustainable livelihood opportunities to all, especially the poor and the marginalized by promoting effective governance, enabling a holistic and healthy society, imparting quality education, recognizing women's contribution to society and fostering inter-religious harmony.



Strategic pillars:

- Preservation of Tribal Identity
- Focus on Community Led Development
- Natural Resource Development Management
 - i) Climate Adaptive Agriculture
 - ii) Sustainable Farming
 - iii) Food Security to Food Sovereignty
- Women Empowerment
- Education for all
- Health for all
- Child Protection (Children's Parliament)
- Human Trafficking and Migration
- Volunteerism
- Institutional Development and Good Governance
- Inter-Religious Harmony

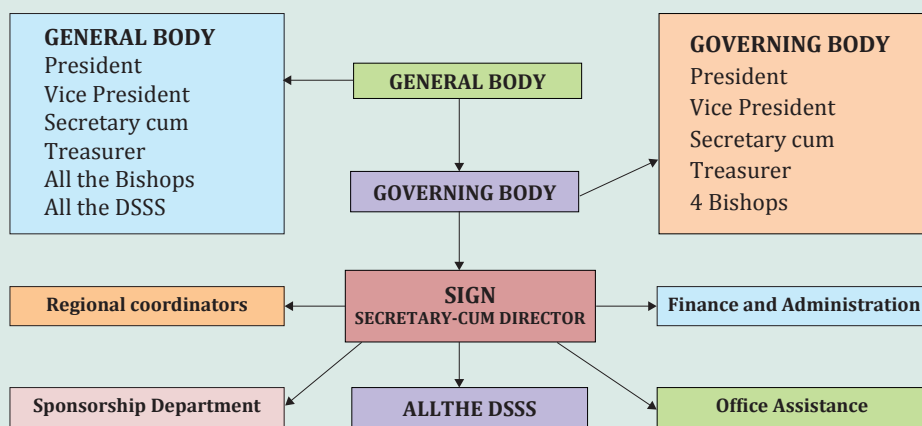




GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS

Name	Address	Occupation	Designation
His Grace Felix Toppo, S.J.	Archbishop's House, Dr. CamilBulcke Path, Ranchi, Jharkhand	Social Work	President
Most Rev. Binay Kandulna	Bishop's House Khunti, Jharkhand	Social Work	Vice President
Bipin Kumar Pani	3 rd Floor, Social Development Centre, Dr. CamilBulcke Path, Ranchi, Jharkhand	Social Work	Secretary
Most Rev. Anand Jojo	Diocesan Training Centre, Hazaribagh, Jharkhand	Social Work	Member
Most Rev. Julius Marandi	Bishop's House, Dudhani, Dumka, Jharkhand	Social Work	Member
Joseph AJ	Jan Vikas Kendra, Morrise Road, Zullu Park, Hazaribagh	Social Work	Member
Anil Kujur	Catholic Charities, Dr. CamilBulcke Path, Ranchi, Jharkhand	Social Work	Member

Organogram





RANCHI CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE

Archbishop's House, Dr. Camil Bulcke Path
Ranchi - 834 001, Jharkhand, India

Rt. Rev. Dr. Felix Toppo, S.J., D.D.

Archbishop of Ranchi,

Email: felixtoppojsr@gmail.com & ranchiarchdiocese@gmail.com

Tel (O): 0651 - 2970708



Dear Friends and Well Wishers,

SIGN over the last one decade has established itself as an organization committed towards the socio-economic development of the poor people, majority of whom are scheduled tribes, working in the hard-to-reach areas of Jharkhand. I am proud to be the part of SIGN because it was able to professionalize itself and adapt to the challenges of the times while staying attentive to needs of the hour: contributing to the development of people, communities and organizations in the social and humanitarian spheres.

SIGN consciously tried to keep its programs and activities aligned with Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of United Nations especially SDG-2 i.e., Zero Hunger, SDG-3 i.e., Good Health and Wellbeing and SDG-4 i.e., Quality Education in its project area.

Beginning with SDG-2, SIGN, with its partners, is working in 19 districts of Jharkhand teaching, encouraging and motivating farmers to take up Organic Farming so that family members of these farmers get safe food throughout the year. Safe food is one part of the Good Health, therefore working on Good Health and Wellbeing, SIGN took the challenge to work in five most vulnerable districts of Jharkhand, viz. Latehar, Pakur, Palamu, Shebganj, and West Singhbhum as identified by UNICEF and successfully improved the status of malnourishment, Infant Mortality rate and Maternal Mortality rate among the mothers and children in these districts. Apart from these SDGs, SIGN also put its effort to provide educational opportunities to the poorest of the poor in four districts viz. Ranchi, Khunti, Simdega and Gumla.

Investing in human capital is an investment that returns huge dividends. This year SIGN imparted various capacity building training to the members of CBOs, Health workers, School Teachers, school Children and staff of the partner organization in the sector of Education, Agriculture and Health. These are the kinds of investments that do not just make economic sense; they also help countless people across Jharkhand to improve their quality of life.

Now, at the time of presenting this Annual Report, as I conclude my message, I see COVID-19 has already come to Jharkhand with vengeance. I feel it is going to affect all of us, but more specifically to the poor and the weak. Nevertheless, I am also confident that with the God's grace you all will bring relief to the people.

I thank all the funding agencies for enabling SIGN to work for the downtrodden. I congratulate all the partners and staff of SIGN for their tremendous work done during the financial year 2019-2020.

Finally, special thanks to Fr. S. Christu Das, who worked tirelessly to work for the people of Jharkhand through SIGN. Now, on behalf of the members of Governing Board of SIGN, as the President of SIGN, I wish Fr. S. Christu Das all the best for his new endeavour in his diocese Dumka. I also assure Fr. Bipin Kumar Pani, the new Director of SIGN for the support of all the Governing Board members during his tenure at SIGN.

God Bless you all

+ Felix Toppo, S.J.

Archbishop of Ranchi

President of SIGN

Most Rev. Binay Kandulna
Bishop of Khunti



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Torpa Road, Khunti
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Dear Friends, Well Wishers, Collaborators,

As we come to the close of yet another financial year 2019-2020, there are plenty of reasons to thank and feel happy about. I thank all the Donors, Well Wishers and Collaborators for trusting and investing on SIGN in enabling even the last person of the society to have an access to various services like Health, Agriculture and Education meant for them. I also feel happy about the way SIGN has been guiding and collaborating with its 8 Diocesan Partners in rural development in Jharkhand.

The unrelenting commitment of the staff of SIGN and partners to improve the lives of those affected by discrimination, inequity, neglect or distance is truly inspiring. Their generosity and ingenuity is what shines in the face of adversity, it allows them time and again to succeed in helping those disadvantaged and the needy. I wish to thank them for their rejection of failure, and I wish to congratulate them on their unyielding dedication to others.

Although this Annual Report is presenting just a handful of inspiring stories where lives have been transformed, there are hundreds more of such stories that could have been told, and there are still hundreds of such stories yet to be heard. With this in mind, I invite you to go through the work of SIGN and how we touch the lives of poor and marginalized. I hope these pages will inspire you to join us in our mission in being Partners for Good.

God Bless you all.



+ Binay Kandulna
Bishop of Khunti
Vice President of SIGN



SOCIAL INITIATIVES FOR GROWTH AND NETWORKING

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MOST REV. FELIX TOPPO - PRESIDENT

MOST REV. BINAY KANDULNA - VICE-PRESIDENT

FR. BIPIN PANI - SECRETARY



Dear Friends, Well-wishers,

I am happy to present the Annual Report 2019-2020, reporting on core activities undertaken during the year by SIGN with its partner dioceses viz. the Social Service Societies of the dioceses of Daltonganj, Dumka, Gumla, Hazaribag, Jamshedpur, Khunti, Ranchi, and Simdega in reaching last person of the respective Dioceses. The article, stories, pictures in this presentation reflect in a small way the efforts of SIGN in enabling and empowering people from the weaker section of the society.

During the year, SIGN, with the support of Manos Unidas, Spain, worked with 22820 marginalized farmers in 852 remote villages of 19 Districts across Jharkhand with 1649 Farmers' Club. We see the beginning of transformational changes taking place as our people start walking with a new purpose with renewed vigor. This year SIGN through the combined effort of its partners tried to bring back farmers to organic farming from chemical farming, leading them to food security. SIGN has succeeded in small way, when 647 farmers dared to take up commercial farming along with their traditional paddy growing. SIGN through its partners has promoted SRI method for farming and farmers are getting good return. However, the problems of climate change, water crisis and natural disasters are increasing and food shortages remain a serious threat to those people who are already living in poverty. In this context of unequal distribution of opportunities and resources, we have been working with our partners to empower communities to access their rights and entitlements. We have continued our work in conservation and utilization of local resources to achieve ecological balance and build sustainable livelihoods.

Under the Health care, SIGN, with the support of Kindermissionswerk, Die Sternsinger, focused on Child Health care. In the process SIGN has prepared 1076 Village Volunteers, who along with the 859 Self Help Group leaders, Aganwadi Sevikas, and ANMs, have motivated 6563 pregnant women to attend VHND. As a result 18399 children were immunized, 92.6% Institutional Deliveries were conducted during the year. Simultaneously, SIGN and its partners through interactive session promoted healthy practices among 19839 school children on Hand wash, Nutrition, Diarrhoea, Pneumonia and Menstrual Hygiene. This way SIGN is trying to reduce IMR and MMR as well as bring improvement in

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Anemia and malnutrition status in the project area i.e., Chainpur Block in Palamu District, Mahuadanr Block in Latehar District, Amrapara Block in Pakur District, Barhet Block in Sahebganj District and Jagnathpur Block in West Singhbhum District of Jharkhand.

There is a saying. "It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men" therefore, SIGN with the generous support of Fondazione Fratelli Dimenticati, which literally means Foundation of Forgotten Brothers, is promoting education of 13350 children coming from very poor financial background studying in 26 schools and 16 hostels through 42 centers of 4 dioceses viz. Ranchi Archdiocese, Gumla, Simdega and Khunti dioceses. Besides these SIGN through 12 deferent centers of REDS (Ragpickers Education Development Scheme by Marianists Brothers) trying to shape up the future of over 800 children of rag pickers, coal pickers, rickshaw pullers, widows and widowers living in the slums of Ranchi.

Another notable activity, with the support of Caritas India, was undertaken by SIGN was to revisit its VISION/MISSION and come up with the sharper strategy, which will guide all of our work for the next few years. It was the united efforts of all the partners. Thanks to all the partners for their cooperation.

End of the year was marked with COVID-19 disrupting all our activities, locking us down in our homes. However, SIGN and its partners could not be confined to their homes. All of them are out in the field to attend to the destitute, the hungry and the lost.

Finally before I windup the reports, I would like to THANK Fr. S. Christu Das, who, as the Secretary-cum-Director, with his great effort nurtured SIGN under his charismatic leadership. He established it and gave stability. He served JHAAN region, under the banner of SIGN for a decade. And now he goes back to his Diocese i.e., Dumka Diocese. We thank Fr. Christu Das for all the effort he had put in to take SIGN forward. SIGN and its partners will fondly remember him, for the time and energy rendered for the upliftment of the underprivileged of Jharkhand through SIGN and its partners.

I also take this opportunity to THANK all the donors, friends, well-wishers and all the collaborators for your generous support during the year. I look forward to your support in the coming year too.

A BIG Thanks to all the partners working day and night across Jharkhand to real the Vision of "A Just and Humane Society based on the values of Love, Peace, Equality and Dignity to all." Sincere Thanks to you all

Finally I salute the efforts of all the staff of SIGN for making a difference in the life's of deprived and needy people across Jharkhand, I look forward to work more enthusiastically.

God Bless us all



Bipin Kumar Pani
Secretary-cum-Director



CHANGE OF GUARD

On 26th July 2007, in the Annual meeting of Regional Bishops' Conference of BIJHAN an important decision was taken to Trifurcate BIJHAN Forum into Bihar Social Service Society, Jharkhand Social Service Society and Andamans Social Service. In 2009, when Fr. S Christu Das took the charge of Jharkhand Social Service Society as the Secretary-cum-Director, he had plenty of work at hand. Fr. Christu started his mission with a business-like approach. To begin with, he gave a legal identity to Jharkhand Social Service Society, by registering it with a New name i.e., Social Initiatives for Growth and Networking (SIGN) under the Society Registration Act 1860. It also got 12A certificate from Income Tax Department for Tax exemption to receive money and implement it for development purpose. Finally, Fr. S Christu got SIGN registered with Home Ministry under Foreign Contribution Regulation Act 2010 and thus paving way for the our foreign collaborators to support the development work of SIGN.

Once he got SIGN legal identity, he traveled far and wide to establish good rapport with its 8 diocesan partners viz. Daltonganj, Dumka, Gumla, Hazaribagh, Jamshedpur, Khunti, Ranchi and Simdega. It was his untiring effort that he could bring all the Diocesan Social Service Societies under one umbrella. He worked hard for the cause of tribal beginning with Agriculture to Health to Women's Empowerment to Education. Then realizing that it is time for tribal people to fight for their rights, he, with the help of Benjamin Lakra and Gladson Dungdung, worked for strengthening Tribal Identity under the title Awakening Tribal Soul.

10 long years, and Fr. Christu has worked tirelessly to establish SIGN in the Church of Jharkhand, among the Funding Agencies and in front of Jharkhand Government. It is sad that Fr. Christu, who has worked so much for the people of Jharkhand as the Director of SIGN, has to leave SIGN and go back to his Diocese Dumka. The loss of SIGN is the gain of Dumka. We wish him every best for his new mission and let him know that SIGN will be always indebted to him for his selfless service.

Now a new chapter begins in the history of SIGN, when Fr. Bipin Kumar Pani, a priest of Jamshedpur Diocese, joins SIGN in the month of June 2020. He brings with him 25 years of priestly and social development experience. He has served the Diocese of Jamshedpur in different capacities. Now when he comes to SIGN, JHAAN Forum looks up to him with lot of expectation. SIGN assures him all the needed support and expects that he will continue the good work started by his predecessor Fr. Christu Das. Wish him all the best in his new Office.

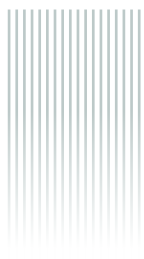


Fr. S. Christu Das

THEMATIC AREA 1

AGRICULTURE

- Recognizing the importance of stability and sustainability
- Capacity Building of Farmers in each partner Diocese





INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE IS THE BEST WEAPONS AGAINST HUNGER AND POVERTY

SIGN has been constantly working for last few years towards empowering small and marginal farmers through agricultural activities, because the main occupation of 80% of population of Jharkhand is agriculture. Unfortunately, in spite of having good amount of rain, farmers of Jharkhand are able to harvest only one crop. Rest of the year, they travel to cities to work as a labour. Poverty follows them as shadow. SIGN believes, progressive agriculture practice is the key to alleviate poverty. With this understanding SIGN is working with 22820 number of farmers in 1649 Farmers' Club through its 9 partners in 19 districts across Jharkhand.

S.N	Partner Diocese	District	Block	Village	Farmers' Club	No. of Male	No. of Female	Total No. Members
1	Bhagalpur	02	08	87	178	2509	24	2533
2	Daltonganj	03	13	113	260	2550	931	3481
3	Dumka	03	11	108	172	2178	253	2431
4	Gumla	02	10	93	185	2837	108	2945
5	Hazaribag	05	14	133	178	2027	281	2308
6	Jamshedpur	03	07	91	212	2505	241	2746
7	Khunti	01	04	60	97	1275	182	1457
8	Ranchi	01	08	84	211	2934	79	3013
9	Simdega	01	07	83	156	1877	29	1906
Total		21	82	852	1649	20692	2128	22820

In order to capacitate the farmers, SIGN organized several training during the year sometime at Social Development Centre, Ranchi and sometime in different training centers like Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hazaribagh, and Mahamilan Sevashram Sangh, Shalboni. These training enhance the knowledge of farmers for integrated farming and motivate them to do so. Seeing is believing and that is why it is necessary that time to time these farmers come together and share their experience.





It is a practice of SIGN to organize State Level Farmers' Convention, once in a year, so that farmers have a platform to share their experience as well as learn from different experts. This year State Level Farmers Convention was organized on 20th September 2019. Mr. Jay Nigam, the Deputy General Manager (D.G.M) of NABARD was the Main Speaker, Mr. Pran Ranjan, the Director of SPWD for Eastern Region and Mr. Mohit Kumar, the Director of Semina Agro were the other two speakers on this occasion. His Grace, Most. Rev. Felix Toppo S.J., the Archbishop of Ranchi and the President of SIGN welcomed all of them.



If a community need to be kept alive it is very essential that the skills of the community has to be handed over to the coming generation, therefore SIGN started promoting Kitchen gardening in the school so that children learn to grow vegetable as well as they get nutritious food for their meals.



Children Sowing Seeds in School Campus of Gangutoli Center



Chainpurcentre School/ Hostel Kitchen Garden



Outcome of Agriculture Activities

- 184 famers have cultivated paddy cultivation through SRI methods in 117.18 acres
- 617 farmers have cultivated vegetables in 401.5 acres
- 645 farmers have cultivated maize in 363.09 acres
- 446 farmers have cultivated wheat in 249.03 acres
- 647 farmers have done cash crop in 315.42 acres to strengthen the family economic condition
- 529 farmers have done animal husbandry to ensure integrated farming
- 71 individual farmers and 10 farmers clubs members have done fishery
- 139 farmers done horticulture activities
- 607 farmers have cultivated pulses in 299.52 acres
- 236 farmers have adopted integrated farming system
- 221 trained farmer have shared their knowledge on agriculture to 2921 farmer of the villages



LIFE HAS CHANGED SINCE WE ADOPTED MASS FARMING



Agriculture work and daily wage is one of the major occupations of “Titahi” village in Chanro panchayat of Churchu block in Hazaribag district. Felling of trees was normal to 47 families of this village. Due to unorganized farming and lack of coordination among the villagers, they were facing new challenges almost every day. In this situation “Jan Vikas Kendra”, Hazaribag social worker team conducted a meeting and urged them for unity in the village. Then continuous meeting with the villagers brought a mutual understanding between the villagers and on 28 February 2018 “Ujwal Kisan Club and Jagriti Kisan Club” were formed and with these formation of Farmers’ Clubs, a radical change came over the people. Now they started to say *Jal* (water), *Jangal* (Forest), *Jamin* (Land) are the gift of our ancestors. Therefore, it is our responsibility to protect these, which is possible only by having unity among the villagers. Deforestation reduced and levelling of rough field took its place. Then 25 kg paddy cultivation was done in 3 acres through 27 members. In the 1st year itself they got 1080 kg of paddy. It was distributed 40 kg each among 27 members in the group. It became an inspiration for other farmers of the village. Hence, now the rest of the 20 families also joined to cultivate 50 kg paddy cultivation. Having tested success, all of them went ahead with constructing a check dam on a village river and raised fish. In the first year, they raised 4 kg small fish in the river and in return, they got back income of Rs. 4500. For the second time in the year, they raised 6 kg small fish and it is yet to be sold. Now entire village is enjoying the fruit of getting united. That is why, it is said, “Unity is Strength”.

Special Thanks to MANOS UNIDAS & Fondazione Fratelli Dimenticationlus for supporting the farmers of these 852 villages in believing in themselves and regaining confidence in organic farming.

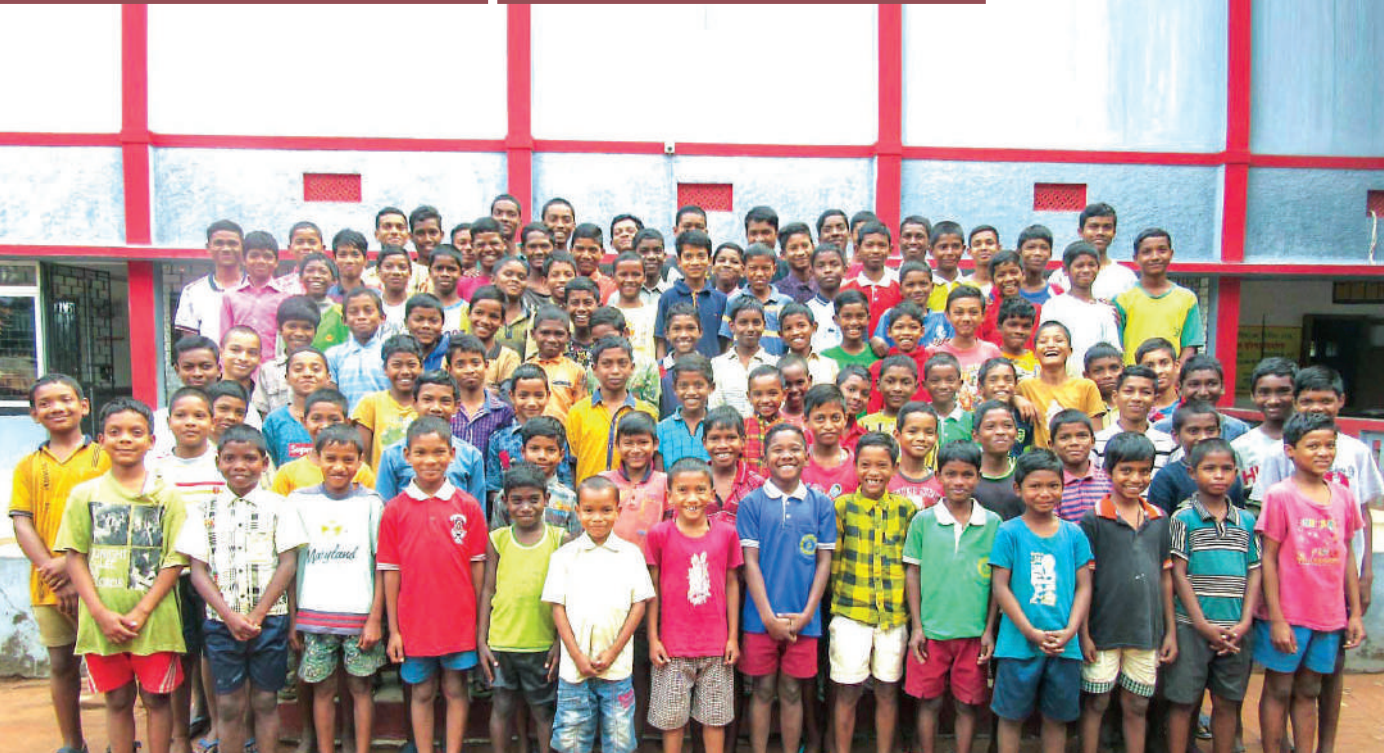




THEMATIC AREA 2

EDUCATION

- Education Support to forgotten children of 4 Dioceses in Jharkhand



EDUCATION SUPPORT FROM FORGOTTEN BROTHERS TO FORGOTTEN BROTHERS

Sustainable Development Goal 4, aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning opportunities for all. In fact Education and development are the fundamental rights of every Child, but unfortunately, in changing scenario, Education has become a privilege of few. Due to poverty 100s and 1000s of children in rural Jharkhand are deprived of quality education. Consequently, they lack the basic principles that could help them to improve their living conditions. It can be seen all around the world, what happens when millions are deprived of their right to education. Poverty, trafficking, slavery, and diseases that could be avoided are often the results of a lack of education. As a consequence of these, underprivileged children are forgotten in the rat race of the world. For this reason SIGN, with the generous support of Fondazione Fratelli Dimenticati (Forgotten Brothers Foundation) helps 13350 children through 43 centers in Ranchi, Khunti, Gumla and Simdega districts. Through this program SIGN supports children from the poor section of the society studying in 26 schools and 16 hostels in the remote places of Jharkhand. SIGN also supports the children of the rag pickers and children of widows with low income, orphaned, rickshaw pullers, day laborers and domestic workers with low income from slums of Ranchi town.

Education is like a seed. It is sown today and the fruit will come after few years. The Seed of Education, which is planted by Fondazione Fratelli Dimenticati through SIGN and different centers, bears fruits in abundance. Some are known and some are unknown. However, all these children become a model to their own community like Khrisna Toppo, the fourth child of Birsa Toppo and Singi Devi from Beter in Latehar district, began in 1996, when Fr. Simon Nazereth, a Pallotine Priest, found him grazing cattle, in one of his visits to the village. Fr. Simon, knowing fully well that the family of Khrisna had to go without food for many days, brought Khrisna to St. Charles Boromeo Hindi Medium School.

Khrisna put heart and soul in his studies and came up with good results. Later when Fr. John Sobha Sundar, SAC, seeing his keen interest in studies and knowing that he hails from a very poor family, included Khrisna as one of the sponsor child from Kuru center. With the support of Fratelli Dimenticati, Khrisna completed his Matric Studies in 2006 with distinction in mathematics and Science.





Khrisna' struggle did not end with the completion of schooling, in fact, his main struggle began after schooling. He started to work under news agency, distributing newspaper. However, this earning was not enough to support the studies of his brother and sister and so he also started work in a hotel as part time worker. He motivated his brother and sisters to study with borrowed books and he, himself completed + 2 Studies in 2008. He joined Industrial Training Institute (ITI), Daltonganj State Council for Vocation Training. He completed the training in 2010 as a Turner. He continued his studies and completed Bachelor Degree in Arts in 2013. Finally, in 2014, his capability earned him a job in Electricity Department in South Eastern Division in Indian Railways in Chakardharpur, Jharkhand. Now he is a successful man. He is able to support his parents, who with small plot of land earned food as a farmer. He supports his brother a B. Tech student and his sister, a college student. He is grateful to fathers from the Society of Catholic Apostolate (SCA), better known as the Pallottines. He says, "Small act of kindness, has brought abundance of grace to his family". He has seen difficult days in his life and now he has come up in his life. He highly appreciates the support given by Fratelli Dimenticati in his early days for his studies. With deep sentiments, he salutes his benefactors.

We have no words to express our gratitude to Fondazione Fratelli Dimenticati for it is their untiring effort "to Help those who struggle everyday against poverty and exploitation" has shaped the life of many forgotten brothers and sisters, who would have lost their childhood and life at large.

THEMATIC AREA 3

HEALTH

- Strengthen health systems
- To prevent IMR and MMR 5 Districts on Jharkhand





CHILD'S HEALTH IS THE CAPITAL OF A FAMILY

The primary focus of SIGN in the health sector is to fulfil the basic health and social needs of underprivileged sections of the society like poor, women, elderly, children, adolescents etc. To build a healthy society, one has to focus on the health care of a mother and the child. Never neglect the health care of a pregnant woman, lactating mother and the health care of Infant or you will not be able pay the price of their lost health.

In the year gone by SIGN with the support of Kindermissionswerk has been working in 72 panchayats in 5 highly prioritized districts of Jharkhand i.e., Latehar, Palamau, Pakur, Sahebganj and the West Singhbhum through three partners viz. Samaj Vikas Sanstha, Daltonganj, Social and Education Development Centre, Dumka and Catholic Charities, Jamshedpur. The focus of the project is to strengthen Health System in 600 villages of 5 Blocks viz. Mahuadanr (Latehar), Chainpur (Palamu), Amrapara (Pakur), Barhet (Sahebganj) and Jagnathpur (WestSinghbhum) as well as to prevent New Born Deaths in these blocks by raising awareness of community across the district on issues of diarrhea and pneumonia management.

In spite of having rich vegetation and natural resources, Anemia, Malnutrition and Underweight birth rates are high in Jharkhand. Report from National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-2015-16 say, "75.5% of children ages 6-59 months are Anemic, 63.3% pregnant women age 15-49 years are Anemic. Infant mortality rate (IMR) in rural area is 46 and Under Five Mortality is 58 in the rural area". In spite of Government's effort to ensure safe Intuitional Delivery, community finds it difficult to access the services. SIGN plays facilitators role in providing easy access of community to Government Health Institution. SIGN is also strengthening VHNDs at every Anganwadi Center. By promoting Kitchen Gardening SIGN is trying to address Anemia, IMR and UFM, which is 46 and 58 respectively in Jharkhand as per NFHS.





SIGN identified 1076 Village Volunteers and given them training on Immunization, VHND, Diarrhea, nutrition, kitchen garden, and different government schemes like; Pradhan Mantri Vandana Yojana. Due to the active presence of these Village Volunteers there is an increase in Institutional Delivery, increase in Child Vaccination, and an increase in the visit of mothers to Village Health and Nutrition Day (VHND) at VHND Centre. Realizing that how important is VHND for Safe Motherhood and Child survival, Village Volunteers, along with Sahiyas, made several visits to expectant mothers and lactating mothers to bridge the gap between Community and VHND. In the last one year Village Volunteers have motivated 6563 pregnant women to attend VHND for registration of pregnancy, regular antenatal care and postnatal care, growth monitoring and discussion Mother and Child health care related topics with Auxiliary Nurse and Mid-Wife (ANM). The ANMs have high appreciation for project team and the village volunteers. However, Village Volunteers are not alone in motivating Pregnant women in sending to VHNDs, as Self Help Groups also play an effective role in it by discussing 'Mother and the Child Health Care' in their monthly meeting. Members find out whether expectant mothers are visiting for ANC. As a result now almost every women and the family is aware of 'Colostrum' feeding.





Besides training Village Volunteers SIGN organized State level workshop-cum-training of Project Staff to have assessment of the previous year, sharing of the learning's as inputs on Success Story Writing, Photography of the events, Government services and how to have an access to it, in addition to immunization

and the vaccination schedule, services through VHND, nutrition and the kitchen garden, interpersonal communication and the behaviour change and communication.

Over and above with the support of School Children, Local SHG leaders, Parents, and the Government Health Department of concerned Blocks, 20 Rallies were conducted on Nutrition Week from 3rd to 9th September 2019, on Intensive Diarrhoea Control Fortnight from 28th May to 8th June 2019 and on Breastfeeding Week from 1st to 7th August 2019, because it generates lot of awareness in the community.



S.N	Activities conducted during the year to ensure Safe Motherhood and Child Health Care	Achievements
1	Village volunteers Trained	1076
2	SHG and Gram Sabha members Trained	1100
3	School Teachers Trained	720
4	Students participated in one day School Health Education	20228
5	No. of Health Rallies in a year	20
6	Adolescent girls group sensitized	1068
7	FFL Show	23
8	Pregnant Women attending VHND	6563
9	Deliveries in Hospital	1384
10	Deliveries at Home	221
11	Children Vaccinated	16195
12	Drop out children identified	844
13	Left out children identified	194
14	Drop out immunized	729
15	Left out immunized	157
16	Malnourished Children referred to MTC	93
17	Practice of Kitchen Garden	6409

SIGN and its partners express its sincere thanks to Kindermissionswerk for supporting us in contribution towards reduction in IMR and MMR, and improvement in Anemia, Malnutrition and Underweight birth rate status in 5 highly prioritized districts of Jharkhand i.e., Latehar, Palamau, Pakur, Sahebganj and the West Singhbhum. There are many good stories, but here we mention one story from West Singhbhum

Rasila Sinku and Ghanshayam Sinku. Had the child married in 2018, when Rasila was 16 and Ghanshayam was 17. Within months, Rasila was found pregnant. As soon as it was brought to the notice of Block Coordinator, she visited Rasila with Village Volunteer and counselled her, as her husband was away for earning livelihood. On 8th May 2019 she delivered an underweight baby having 1 kg 400 gm. After few days in observation, she was transferred to Sadar Hospital, Chaibasa.

For a month, she got complete care at hospital and having got discharged, she continued taking her baby, once a week for regular check-up. The community Mobilizer too visited her regularly. Slowly the baby gained weight and having normal growth. He is now 1 year old with 8 kg weight. Rasila also understood the importance of marriage at right age. She is encouraging other adolescent in the area to continue their study and not to marry at an early age.





NEW APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT

Over the years, Social Development in India has seen many approaches; specially the Church in India began its Social Development work with the Charity mode and eventually took the welfare approach. With the passing time, church along with many NGOs took the Rights Based approach to development. However, Church realizes “Social development refers to the improvement in the capabilities of the people. It enables them to enlarge their choices, which are numerous. The most important of these choices are long and healthy life, knowledge and access to the resources required for the decent standard of living” as reported in UNDP (1990), Human Development Report, New York, Oxford University Press, p. 10, therefore Caritas India, along with its partners, have taken People Led Development approach breaking into four strategic pillars viz. Empowering Animation (building the capacity of the Community), Volunteerism (promoting local initiatives), Dialogue (Two-way conversation) and Sharing Community (Generating local resources). Caritas India having approved this new approach for the period 2018-2023 in May 2018, have initiated reflection and planning meetings for developing strategies for mainstreaming the Key Strategic Pillars (KSPs) within the Regional Forums and its partner dioceses of Caritas India in the form of training and dissemination of Strategy Plan.

Once Albert Einstein said, “The world as we have created it is a process of our thinking. It cannot be changed without changing our thinking.” It is necessary that with the changing time we need to adopt new learning and new approaches so that we walk with the time. Being aware of it, all the stakeholders of Church-based organizations came together for the reflection session on the new approach of development at different levels. All the diocesan partners, including Jharkhand Forum, are putting efforts to adopt this approach by mainstreaming in their existing programs. Partners do face few challenges while implementing this approach.

Jharkhand Forum, SIGN (Social Initiatives for Growth and Networking) Ranchi with the support and collaboration of its 8 partners started mainstreaming the New Strategy Plan in the existing programme and in relief works. All the partners of SIGN have tried to build up self-confidence and ownership attitude in the local community. SIGN and its 8 partners through various activities; especially during COVID-19 pandemic have gradually



realized the importance of these pillars in the social development works. Partners realize that Volunteers and community members play vital role in development. Hope in future this new approach of Empowering Animation, Volunteerism, Dialogue and Sharing Community will bring sustainable development in the community.



ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENT IN THE PERSPECTIVE OF 4 KEY STRATEGIC PILLARS

ACTIVITY	ACHIEVEMENTS
• Training and Dissemination of Caritas India Strategy Plan & Key Strategy Pillars • Meeting organized at Regional level for campaign & strengthening sharing community • Dissemination & mainstreaming 4 Key Strategic Pillars • Two days training on Catholic Social Teaching and Key Strategic Pillars for the representatives of different commissions • Orientation Class on Catholic Social Teaching and Key Strategic Pillars for SIGN Staff	• 288 participants gained knowledge on CST (Catholic Social Teaching and Key Strategic Pillars) and the knowledge was utilized during the activities carried out • For the first time in Jharkhand approximately 18,150 people participated in the Launching of the Lenten Campaign • Networking and dialogue with different government officials and retired personals. • Meeting with Agriculturist, mines and minerals expertise and tribal market chain system expertise. • Organized state level meeting to create THINK TANK
• Re-Framing Regional Strategic plan in Alignment with the Key Strategic Pillars	• SIGN reframed its Strategic Plan in alignment with the 4 KSPs on 29th and 30th November 2019 facilitated by Mr.Khilesh in which 28 participants took part in it.
• Relief work for the migrant workers and needy people in Archdiocese Ranchi	• 3272 beneficiaries in 47 places received a packet of dry ration • 141 volunteers offered 24 hour each for this volunteering work • Regional Forum coordinator voluntarily offered about 85 hours during this pandemic • One-time fund raising for dry ration to the poor people is done • by RF- coordinator





PARTNERS HAND IN HAND IN EMPOWERING THE POOR



Founded:	1994
Location:	Hoffman Social Service Society, P.O. Khunti Dist. Khunti
Area of Operation:	Karra, Khunti, Murhu, Arki, Torpa, Rania, Bundu, Lapung, Bandgaon, Kamdara
Target Population:	Marginalized and Indigent Tribal Groups
Focused Areas:	Malaria awareness program, Nutrition Awareness program, Herbal Medicine training program, Agriculture, Women's Development & Empowerment
Director:	Fr. Xavier Topno



Founded:	1970
Location:	Patel Bagan, Sundarnagar Jamshedpur Jharkhand
Area of Operation:	East and West Singhbhum, Saraikela - Kharsawan district Jharkhand.
Target Population:	Marginalized and Indigent Tribal Groups
Focused Areas:	NRM sustainable, Women's Development & Empowerment, Health & Family Welfare, Education Support, Adolescent health Program, livelihood and strengthening Local self-Governance
Director:	Fr. Alwin C.V



Founded:	1998
Location:	Samaj Vikas Sanstha, P.O. Chandwa, Dist. Latehar-829203 (Jharkhand)
Area of Operation:	Rural and Tribal Jharkhand
Coverage:	3 Districts: 249 villages
Target Population:	Marginalized and Indigent Tribal Groups
Focused Areas:	Skill Trainings, Women's Development & Empowerment, Health & Family Welfare and Education
Director:	Fr. Alphonse Bakhla



Founded:	2006
Location:	Post Box NO. 05 Dr. Camil Bulcke Path, Ranchi-834001 (Jharkhand)
Area of Operation:	Ranchi and Lohardaga Districts of Jharkhand
Target Population:	Marginalized and Tribal Communities
Focused Areas:	Agriculture, Human Rights, community based Natural Resource Management, Skill trainings for youth, Migration and trafficking, and Livelihood
Director:	Fr. Anil A. Kuiur



PARTNERS HAND IN HAND IN EMPOWERING THE POOR



Founded:	2006
Location:	Jan Vikas Kendra P.O. & Dist. Hazaribag (Jharkhand)
Area of Operation:	Hazaribagh, Chatra, Bokaro, Koderma, Ramgarh districts
Target Population:	Marginalized and Indigent Tribal Groups
Focused Areas:	Agriculture, Human Rights, community based Natural Resource Management, Skill trainings for youth, Migration and trafficking, and Livelihood
Director:	Fr. Tomy A. J



Founded:	1993
Location:	Vikas Kendra, Simdega, P.O. Gotra-835223 (Jharkhand)
Area of Operation:	Simdega District
Coverage:	13 villages at present
Target Population:	Marginalized and Indigent Tribal Groups
Focused Areas:	Women and Children, Youth, Marginal farmers, rural artisans
Director:	Fr. Kishore Lakra



Founded:	1981
Location:	DSES office is located In the campus of SDC, Dumka , Santhal Pargana
Area of Operation:	Dumka, Sahibganj, Pakur, Jamtara Districts
Target Population:	Marginalized and Indigent Tribal Groups
Focused Areas:	Agriculture, Human Rights, community based Natural Resource Management, Skill trainings for youth, Education, Health and Livelihood
Director:	Rev. Fr. Sonatan Kisku

GRAM UTTAHAN KENDRA GUMLA

Founded:	1992
Location:	Gumla Diocese Premises Dist. Gumla (Jharkhand)
Area of Operation:	All Blocks of Gumla and three blocks of Simdega
Target Population:	Marginalized and Indigent Tribal Groups
Focused Areas:	Agriculture, Human Rights, community based Natural Resource Management, Skill trainings for youth, Education, Health and Livelihood
Director:	Rev. Fr. Mark De Brouwer S.J



“We, at SIGN, are Immensely Grateful, touched, highly appreciated and proud of you dear FRIENDS”



Thank you to the entire team of MANOS UNIDAS for being an important part of so many small and marginal farmers in the remote parts of Jharkhand.



Dear members of KINDERMISSIONSWERK kindly accept our sincere THANKS for all that you have done to help us realize how important the HEALTH of a Mother and Child is.



Dear members of FONDAZIONE FRATELLI DIMENTICATI Onlus, you changed the life of millions without even trying, and we don't think we could ever tell you all how much you mean to us. We can't imagine what things would be like if your supported would not have come to us.



Sisters of Charity
OF NAZARETH

Thank you the members of SCN MINISTRY FUND COMMITTEE for being an important part of so many underprivileged people.



We will forever remain humble because we know we could have less. We will always be grateful because we know we've had less and it is because of you members of Caritas India that we could achieve so much.

We can do so much more because of you



Save the Children



Semina Agro Trading Pvt. Ltd.
REACHING THE UNREACHED



devnet
Development Network

“हम हैं तो, मैं हूँ”

कम लागत में ज्यादा उत्पादन हो लक्ष्य: फेलिक्स

संवायदाता > राणी

पेराला जैनितारुप पुरी ओष एंड
चर्मिन (मान) के अवध
पेराला केलिकम टोयो ने कल कि
अर्चनात्मक सर्व समझ ओ के
मे कृपि उत्पन्न पर विनिर्दि
प है यदि हम विनिर्दि
कमप्य बतने में योत्तम
विधि के लिए कल
न के के दो शिखर
उन सत्र में जो

बैंगन जनजाति को देशज खान का फायदा

संसाधनों परी प्रेमोशन ऑफ
केन्द्रीय डेवेलपमेंट बैंक के
निष्ठा के प्राप्त उद्देश्य के साथ कि
जनता के लोगों के पास जवाब
परकर्म की सुविधाओं को जवाब
जानने से जुड़ा जान है, उर्वक पास
30 से 35 प्रक के पारिक् वीज
उपलब्ध करने हैं, इसे पारिक् वीज
के पायाव से कुल को बढ़ा देने
काहिए, इसमें पूर्व काव के निष्ठा
परकर्म विधिप वने से राधे का कव्वा
काहिए, संभवतः पूर्व डीएनए का
निष्ठा के मीलक करण, कलाल
के मीलक के हाथ प्रोमोशन परक कुनू,
उपकर्म को ऑ-अडिट पायाव समर
विधि वीज संकलन में कलाल मीलक

आरखंड के किसानों के साथ है नाबाई : नाबाई के हीरोजस जय सिंग ने कहा कि नाबाई आरखंड में किसानों के साथ है नाबाई बैंकों के माध्यम से किसानों के जाल उपलब्ध करा है नाबाई भूमि

किरातों के साथ भी ज्यादा लाइसेंस
ग्रुप के माध्यम से रहता है, उन्होंने कहा
कि झारखंड के 18 जिलों में माया
डिस्ट्रिक्ट डेवलपमेंट मैनेजर है, कि
जाना हमारे साथ के कर सकते हैं.

संख्या : २०००

[illegible]

...संस्था का ला

[illegible]

साइन का राज्य स्तरीय किसान संगठन

किसानों के साथ खड़ा है नाब

जानकारी प्राप्त हो

[illegible]

सब से सारगर्भिक सम्बन्धी मे
लेने का काम हो करता है।
विचार करने पर हमारे लोकजीवन को
बहुत कुछ मिला, इस विचार में जो
कारण है। वह कारणों में अधिक
तक सृष्टिकर्ता का स्वयं सृष्टि

[illegible]

खबर मन्त्र

EVENTS AND CELEBRATION

Events and Celebration are the soul of Indian culture. It not only brings smile on the face of partners, but also it brings us closer to each other. It also let others know that what type of social issues we are involved in and how are we working hand in hand to create a better living environment. Following events and celebration tell us how SIGN and its partners grew together as partners.



Relaunching of Tribal Awakening Soul
27th September 2019



Revisiting the Vision and Mission of Sign
29th and 30th November 2019 at SDC by
Mr. Khileesh Chaturvedi, a freelance consultant



Book Release "Interrogating Social Capital"
Authored By Dr. Anirudh Prasad on 18th June 2019



Book Release Standard Treatment Guidelines (STG) 18th June 2019



Christmas Get-Together
20th December 2019, SIGN office celebrated
Christmas Gathering



"Enciende La Llama 2019" (Light Up The Flame) SIGN participated in the event "Enciende La Llama 2019" organized by Manos Unidas, Spain on November 9th 2019



State Level Farmers Convention 20th September 2019
Chief Guest Mr. Jay Nigam, the Deputy General Manager (D.G.M) of NABARD, His Grace, Most. Rev. Felix Toppo S.J., the Archbishop of Ranchi, Mr. Pran Ranjan, Prog. Director Eastern Region, of SPWD, Mr. Mohit Kumar, the Director of Semina Agro Trading Pvt. Ltd



Visit of Maria Cabal and Laura Castan From Manos Unidas Maria Cabal and Laura Castan from MANOS UNIDAS visited the Jharkhand. On their way to Hazaribagh on 14th November 2019, Maria and Laura met SIGN and its partners. We had one hour meeting with Maria and Laura.



Just Before Getting Printed...



A RESPONSE OF SIGN TO COVID-19

We are at the close of financial year 2019-2020, we thought everything went on well throughout the year, but just then COVID-19 came with cat steps and before anybody could understand it had spread all over Jharkhand. In Ranchi SIGN started its relief work with people affected by leprosy on 7th April. It went on to distribute ration to begging community, rag pickers, coal pickers, rickshaw pullers, sex workers, widows, widowers, daily labors, migrants, physically handicapped, abandoned. SIGN provided Rice, Flour, dal, potatoes, onions, Grams, cooking oil, salt, soya Bari, spices, jiggery, beaten rice, washing soaps, sanitary pads and masks. Thanks to Missio, Jiv Daya Foundation and Fondazione Fratelli Dimenticati for their generous and timely support. Because of them we were able to reach to the suffering humanity during this pandemic. Relief work is still going on. Thanks to Ranchi Administration, who allowed us to visit different places of Ranchi and distribute ration. Special Thanks to Bishop Theodore Mascarenhas, SFX, who guided us during COVID-9 lockdown. We hope that soon people get back to the normal living.





CAPACITY BUILDING TRAININGS

Capacity Building is the process by which individuals and organizations obtain, improve, and retain the skills, knowledge, tools, equipment, and other resources needed to do their jobs competently. It allows individuals and organizations to perform at a greater capacity. SIGN focuses on building and enhancing the capacity of staff of its partner dioceses, staff of the project and members of CBOs so that any given project is implemented in professional manner. During the year SIGN has organized following Training and conducted meetings:

Sl. No.	Trainings & Programs	Date	Place	Participants details		
				Male	Female	Total
1	MANOS UNIDAS Agriculture Project 1st Review Meeting	31st January, 2019	SDC, Ranchi	18	03	21
2	MANOS UNIDAS Agriculture Project 2nd Review Meeting	1st May 2019	SDC, Ranchi	16	03	19
3	MANOS UNIDAS Agriculture Project 3rd Review Meeting	17th July, 2019	SDC, Ranchi	17	03	20
4	Networking Initiatives with like-minded NGOs	19th August 2019	SDC, Ranchi	29	12	41
5	State Level Capacity Building Training by Semina Agro Pvt. Ltd.	20th-22nd August, 2019	SDC, Ranchi	21	05	26
6	Farmers Agriculture Training	9th-13th September 2019	KVK, Hazaribag	25	08	33
7	State Level Training on Community & Social Mobilization for improving Child Health through Health System Strengthening	3rd -5th October 2019	SDC, Ranchi	17	09	26
8	MANOS UNIDAS Agriculture Project 4th Review Meeting	25th October, 2019	SDC, Ranchi	13	03	16
9	Farmers Pointed Gourd (Parval) Training	4th-5th November, 2019	Mahamilan Sevashram Sangha, Shalboni, Jamshedpur	25	00	25
10	An Eye View of Project with MANOS UNIDAS	14th November 2019	SDC, Ranchi	34	05	39
11	KINDERMISSIONSWERK Quarterly Review Meeting	28th November 2019	SDC, Ranchi	06	04	10
12	Re-Framing Regional Strategic Plan in Alignment with the KSPs	29th-30th November 2019	SDC, Ranchi	20	05	25
13	Workshop on Children Parliament & Workshop on Save The Children	8th January 2020	SDC, Ranchi	17	12	29
14	KINDERMISSIONSWERK Half Yearly Review Meeting	30 January, 2020	SDC, Ranchi	12	10	22
15	Catholic Social Teaching (CST) And Key Strategic Pillars (KSPs)	30th-31st January 2020	Sitara, Sisai Road, Gumla	20	30	50
16	Results Based Planning and Monitoring	5th-7th February 2020	Don Bosco, Bariatu, Ranchi	17	11	28
17	Catholic Social Teaching (CST) And Key Strategic Pillars (KSPs)	10th-11th February 2020	Don Bosco, Bariatu, Ranchi	21	13	34

These trainings and meetings have helped SIGN to implement the project as per the project plan and achieve desired results.

OUR TEAM



Social Initiatives for Growth and Networking (SIGN)
3rd Floor, Dr. Camil Bulcke Path, Ranchi - 834001 (Jharkhand)

Receipt & Payment Account for the year ended 31st March 2020

Ref No.	Particulars	For the year ended 31 March, 2020 (Rs.)
I	RECEIPTS	
	<u>Opening Balance</u>	
	Cash in Hand	9,539
	Cash at Bank	50,42,877
	Fixed Deposits	61,81,809
		1,12,34,225
	<u>Grants / Donations / Other Income / Receipts</u>	
	Foreign Contribution Account	2,26,11,720
	Local Account	13,52,649
	Total	3,51,98,594
II	PAYMENTS	
	Foreign Contribution Account	2,47,54,378
	Local Account	17,04,499
	Total	2,64,58,877
	<u>Closing Balance</u>	
	Cash in Hand	14,735
	Cash at Bank	26,09,850
	Fixed Deposits	61,15,132
		87,39,717

As per our Report of even date

For M/s NRV & Associates

Chartered Accountants

Rajesh

CA. Rajesh Himatsingka

Partner

M.No.- 401880; UDIN - 20401880AAAACS7862

Firm Reg No- 325333E

Place : Dumka

Date : 02/09/2020



(Signature)
Secretary
Social Initiatives for Growth & Networking (SIGN)



Social Initiatives for Growth and Networking (SIGN)
3rd Floor, Dr. Camil Bulcke Path, Ranchi - 834001 (Jharkhand)

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2020

Ref No.	Particulars	Note No.	As at 31 March, 2020 (Rs.)
A	SOURCES OF FUNDS		
1	Corpus and Capital Fund		
	(a) Corpus Fund	2.0	47,72,229
	(b) Capital Fund	2.1	23,69,685
2	Current liabilities		
	(a) Other current liabilities	2.3	19,22,910
	TOTAL		90,64,824
B	APPLICATION OF FUNDS		
1	FIXED ASSETS		
	Fixed assets	2.2	2,04,241
2	Current Assets, Loans and Advances		
	(c) Cash in Hand		14,735
	(d) Cash at Bank		26,09,850
	(e) Fixed Deposits		61,15,132
	(f) Other current assets		1,20,866
	TOTAL		90,64,824

Significant accounting policies and Notes on accounts 1 & 2

The accompanying notes are integral part of the financial statements.

As per our Report of even date

For M/s NRV & Associates

Chartered Accountants

Rajesh Himatsingka

CA. Rajesh Himatsingka

Partner

M.No.- 401880; UDIN - 20401880AAAACS7862

Firm Reg No- 325333E

Place : Dumka

Date : 02/09/2020



Secretary

Social Initiatives for Growth & Networking (SIGN)



“

*As long as I have the energy to walk and work, I will keep planting trees.
These trees give us life and it's our duty to protect them.
We should make trees our partners for a green revolution and development.*

”

~ **Padma Shri Simon Oraon** ~

(Brand ambassador of the watershed programme by the
Rural Development Department, Government of Jharkhand)

SOCIAL INITIATIVES FOR GROWTH AND NETWORKING (SIGN)

3rd Floor, Social Development Centre, Dr. Camil Bulcke Path
Ranchi - 834001, Jharkhand, India

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