



SOCIAL INITIATIVES FOR GROWTH AND NETWORKING (SIGN) RANCHI

**Annual Report
2021-2022**

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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, Hazaribagh 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 Gospel 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 Tribal's 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.

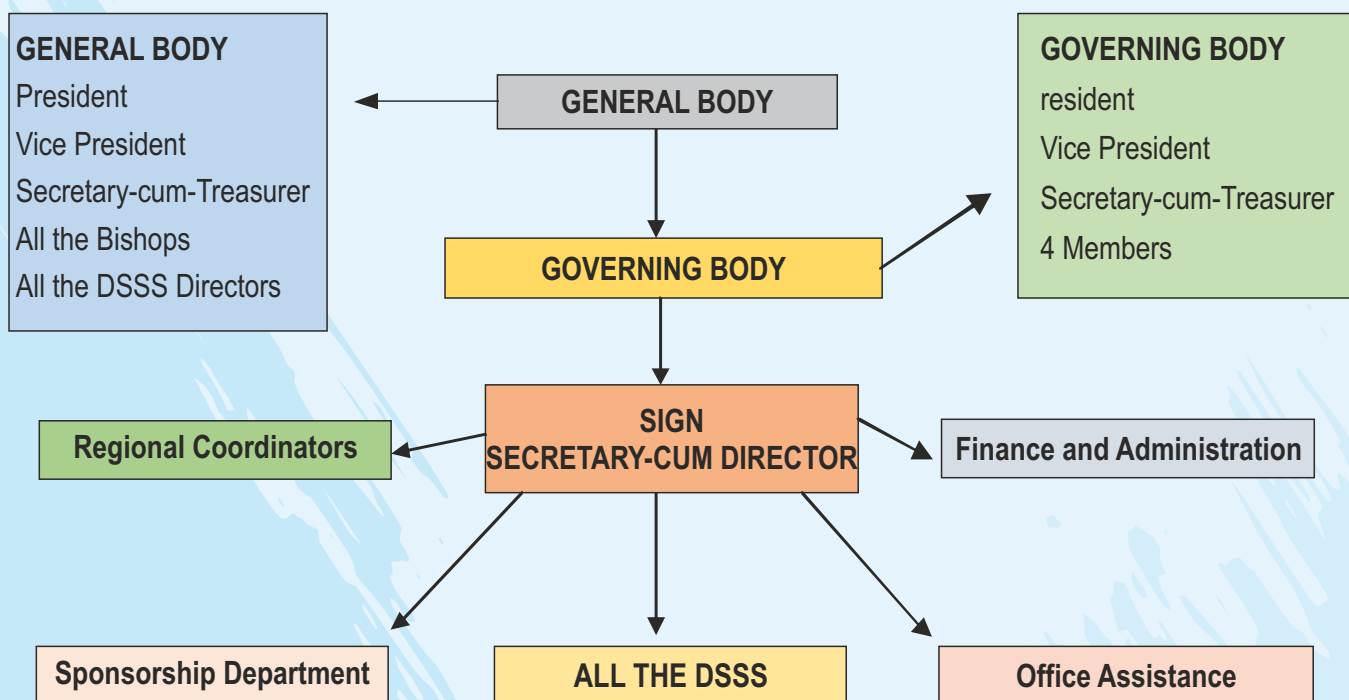
Strategic Pillars

- ▶ Preservation of Tribal Identity
- ▶ Community Led Development
- ▶ Natural Resource Management,
 - a) Climate Adaptive Agriculture
 - b) Sustainable Farming
 - c) 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 BOARD

Name	Address	Occupation	Designation
His Grace Felix Toppo, SJ	Archbishop's House. Dr. Camil Bulcke 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. Camil Bulcke 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. Camil Bulcke Path, Ranchi, Jharkhand	Social Work	Member

Organogram





RANCHI CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE

Archbishop's House, Dr. Camil Bulcke Path
Ranchi - 834001, Jharkhand, India
Tel (O) : 0651-2970708



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

Archbishop of Ranchi,
Email: felixtoppojsr@gmail.com & ranchiarchdiocese@gmail.com

President's Message

Dear Friends, Well Wishers, Benefactors,

The year 2021-22 was yet another challenging year for all of us. The severe second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic had a significant humanitarian and economic impact on the society. The migrant crisis unfolded before us in 2020, with the second wave of COVID-19 we witnessed a complete collapse of the healthcare system. Millions lost their lives and the lives of their loved ones. Several of our own team members and partners were affected with Covid-19. We were unfortunate to lose some of our partners. During this dreadful times, we are saddened by the demise of Most Rev Paul Lakra, one of the General Body Members as well as Fr S Christu Das, the former Secretary of SIGN.

Certain regulatory amendments, with regard to the FCRA, made it measurably difficult for small organisations such as SIGN to work freely in collaboration with the partners and associates. Despite these challenges, SIGN did not waver from its commitment to serve the marginalized and downtrodden it works for and works with. As soon as the pandemic lockdown was eased out, health team of SIGN was there in the field to support Sahiyas and motivate pregnant women and lactating mother to regularize Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Day (VHSND) service. SIGN monitored 573 VHSNDs. As a result, SIGN could motivate 3460 pregnant women and 5069 lactating mothers to avail VHSND services. 239 Institutional deliveries were conducted with the efforts of SIGN.

SIGN, through sponsorship, supported 9896 children for education. Thanks to Sponsorship-cum-education Department of SIGN, who, with the support of Fratelli Dimenticati, guided 21 schools and 16 hostels for educating children in their respective centres.

Against all the odds, SIGN tried to empower marginal communities through Natural Resource Management especially through promoting Organic Farming. Mainly, SIGN empowered 20 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (Primitive Tribal Community) i.e., Asur community from Dokapat by training them on organic farming and Animal Husbandry.

All these were possible due to the support of our well-wishers, Donors and Benefactors. I would like to place on record, our high appreciation to all the well-wishers, Donors and Benefactors specially Fondazione Fratelli Dimenticati Onlus, Missio, Austria, Caritas India, Catholic Relief Services, Kindermissionwerk for the support provided to SIGN during most challenging time. Most importantly, I would like to thank you for your overwhelming trust, support, and confidence in SIGN.

Congratulation and Thanks to all the staff of SIGN for your dedication and hard work.

God Bless you all

July 16th 2022
The Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

✠Felix Toppo, S.J.
President of SIGN
Archbishop of Ranchi Archdiocese



Most Rev. Binay Kandulna

Bishop of Khunti

Bishop's House

Torpa Road, Khunti
P.O. & Dist.-Khunti, Pin-835210
Jharkhand - INDIA

Vice President's Message

Dear Friends, Collaborators and Well-wishers,

It was yet another year filled with action and learning for SIGN. The unprecedented challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic exacerbated the existing distresses to the poor and marginalized. With everyone confined to their locale areas, reaching out to these people was much more difficult.

With the support and guidance of Catholic Relief Services and Caritas India, and with the help of 339 volunteers, SIGN saved the life of about 10000 people bringing awareness to 2595 Families on Corona Appropriate Behaviours and prepared them to take Vaccination.

Our donors played a pivotal role in supporting us towards undertaking collective action to work during pandemic. SIGN provided online training and conducted various online meeting. However, SIGN team did not shy off visiting the field, wherever it was necessary to visit.

Needless to mention it would not have been possible without the support and encouragement of Governing Board members, well-wishers, supporters, and frontline workers. I am proud to say that even in the most challenging time SIGN, through its perseverance and courage, continued to work for the downtrodden and oppressed.

I am grateful to our Donors and well-wishers who have supported SIGN generously as we strive to maintain the excellence in these unprecedented times this year. New challenges certainly await us, but with the dedication and tenacious spirit, we will navigate them together. I have high hopes that we will continue to expand on this momentum and generate greater enthusiasm to address real needs of marginal community of our country. I would like to thank everyone joining, supporting and magnifying the impact of our journey of change and wish everyone good health, strong hopes and keep walking with us.

I implore God to bless you all.

✂BinayKandulna

Bishop of Khunti Diocese
Vice President of SIGN



SOCIAL INITIATIVES FOR GROWTH AND NETWORKING

MOST REV. FELIX TOPPO - PRESIDENT

MOST REV. BINAY KANDULANA - VICE PRESIDENT

FR. BIPIN PANI - SECRETARY

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Regd. Under Society Registration Act XXI of 1860 - No. 731

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE



It is my privilege to present Annual Report of SIGN for the year 2021- 22. This year was the most challenging and historic year, with the onslaught of COVID-19 causing suffering to the human kind and disruptions due to nationwide lockdown. The year began with me getting admitted in the hospital with Covid-19 infection and followed by losing Fr. S Christudas and Bishop Paul Lakra due to Covid-19. May their soul rest in peace. Meanwhile, one of staff Mr. Arjeeun Tigga, who moved ahead with his new assignment. We thank him for all the good services he provided to SIGN and its partners. We wish him every success in his new endeavor.

This global crisis, due to Covid-19, had slowed down the tempo of our work. We were not allowed to go to the field. We had to conduct online meeting and workshops. Meanwhile it was realized that though Covid-19 was not over, yet people were moving around carelessly. Alarming thing was that, many did not know about corona appropriate behavior. People were confused and had divided opinion on Corona vaccine. Therefore, to bring about awareness among the people, SIGN with the initiatives of Catholic Relief Services and support of Caritas India, started Risk Communication and Community Engagement program in 5 dioceses viz. Dumka, Jamshedpur, Khunti, Ranchi and Simdega. We contacted volunteers, trained them and communicated Covid appropriate behavior through online workshop. Many prominent places Covid-19 Posters were displayed. Thus we could save the life of about 10000 people. When lockdown was relaxed, SIGN staff were in the field to motivate, encourage and promote antenatal and postnatal care of mother and the child. As a result, 3460 pregnant women and 5069 lactating mothers were facilitated to make use the health services of 573 VHSNDs in 5 Districts viz. Latehar, Palamu, Pakur, Sahebganj and West Singhbhum. Out of 294 deliveries, 239 were Institutional deliveries and 15504 children of age between 0-2 years were vaccinated.

Despite the challenges posed by Covid-19, SIGN went on motivating 21 Schools and 16 Hostel, the sponsorship centres, to be in constant touch with the children. All the centres responded with greater responsibility and creativity in an effort to continue supporting school going children at this extremely difficult time. Many centres organized remedial classes for the students. Fratelli Dimenticati continued to support education materials for the children, but most importantly when it was difficult for the parents to pay the fees, Fratelli Dimenticati supported the centers with salary of Teachers, Hostel Warden and support staff. Fratelli

Dimenticati helped many centers for the maintenance of the building. The achievements against this challenging backdrop have been remarkable. Even in the midst of Covid-19, we could reach out to 9896 of children through our education programs. This year 41 students appeared for class 10th final. Except one, all of them passed with first division marks.

Coming to agriculture sector, despite the pandemic we continued to carry out our program on ground. We carried out 5 Organic Farming training for 159 farmers, 5 training on formation of Kisan clubs for 130 farmers and 5 Ginger cultivation and vegetable growing training for 128 farmers. At present we have 32 Farmers clubs in 5 districts. We, inviting farmers from 5 districts of Jharkhand, organized state level Farmers Convention. SIGN also became instrumental in connecting farmers with Institution like Birsa Agriculture University, Holy Cross Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hazaribag, Semina Agro Pvt. Ltd., and Adivasi Bahu Uddesiya Sahkari Samiti (ABUSSL). Our farmers got seeds like 2800 Kgs paddy, 700 Kgs Barley, 200 Kgs Elephant foot and 2250 kgs Ginger from these institutions. At the same time, we facilitated farmers in getting Animal Husbandry training at Birsa Agriculture University. Besides these, SIGN promoted off farm product like Phenyl making, Mushroom cultivation and vermi composting. It is just the beginning for these farmers, when they are thinking of doing something different than farming for their economic enhancement.

We cannot do all these all alone, partnership and networking remain the key to our work. Thanks to all our partners in all over Jharkhand, who generously supported our work. Your encouraging and supportive attitude always made us confident to take up activities in your area. The networking with different organization and institution made our work easier. Sincere thanks to you Birsa Agriculture University, Holy Cross Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hazaribag, Asian Institute for Sustainable Development, Ranchi, Semina Agro Private Limited, Ranchi, and Adivasi Bahu Uddesiya Sahkari Samiti (ABUSSL), Ranchi for your support during the year.

It's incredibly inspiring for us to think through what we have accomplished in the past year, together, and all that we have overcome during a pandemic. We are extremely grateful to you Caritas India, Catholic Relief Services, Missio, Austria, Kindermissionwerk, Fondazione, Fratelli Dimenticati Onlus, for your enormous support and the trust you placed in our efforts, made a difference in the lives of millions of people, and we count on your continued support in 2022 and the coming years too.

At last, but not the least, all the contribution made by SIGN staff during this pandemic is amazing. None of this work would have been possible without the steady support and hardwork. The work done by SIGN family is inspirational and I thank you all from the bottom of my heart. God Bless us all.



Fr. Bipin Kumar Pani
Secretary

Thematic Area - 1



Natural Resource
Management & Livelihood



Jharkhand is “Migrant Feeding States in India”

Do you approve it ?

Support to stop MIGRATION

Economic Empowerment through Organic farming and Entrepreneurship

Under “**Natural Resource Management & Livelihood**” SIGN promotes “Sustainable Farming”. SIGN believes that sustainable farming could be achieved through Organic Farming, therefore SIGN is putting all its effort in changing the mind set of farmers to make a shift from chemical farming to organic farming. In order to promote organic farming SIGN organized various trainings. Trainer made farmers aware of scientific agriculture knowledge, merits of organic farming and demerits of chemical farming. Scientists from Birsa Agriculture University (BAU), Ranchi, Holy Cross Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Hazaribagh, Asian Institute for Sustainable Development (AISD), Ranchi, Semina Agro Private Limited, Ranchi and other social scientists from social sectors supported 1721 farmers including 20 farmers belonging to **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups** viz. Asuron technical know-how on organic farming.



37 farmers have promoted vermi compost and 250 farmers have learned to make organic fertilizer and are ready to continue organic vegetable cultivation. 7963 fruit and timber saplings have been planted in the project area.



To learn from each other and from the distinguished speaker, the State Level Farmers convention was organized at Social Development Centre. 29 farmers five districts participated in the convention. Dr. Niva Bara, Head of the Department of Agriculture, Extension & Communication, said that need of the hour is promotion of organic farming in Jharkhand to save humanity and the fertility of the soil. She also said that Birsa Agriculture University is ready to help the farmers. Mr. Dominic Lugun, the AGM NABARD talked about collective farming. He said Farmers' Producers Organization is good for marketing farmers' produce, whereas Mr. Nishant of AISD shared his vast experiences on organic farming was practical and applicable to use in agriculture farm.

Hardworking parents of Martina Barla are farmers and have cultivated different vegetables in agriculture field. They have only 2.5 acres of land farming. Though, there is lack of water for irrigation, they acquire land on lease for farming. Having learnt scientific method of agriculture, importance of cash crops, Mushroom cultivation, organic farming with vermi-compost and phenyl making, he has taken up integrated farming approach. He proudly says that he got net profit of Rs. 75000/- per annum alone from vegetable cultivation, whereas, he got profit Rs. 40000 from paddy cultivation. Additional money has been generated from animal husbandry rearing. In order to give higher education to their children, they have opened bank accounts.



In order to promote organic farming, SIGN with the support of BAU, Ranchi, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Gumla, Adivasi Bahu Uddesiya Sahkari Samiti (ABUSSL), Ranchi, Krishi Factory Producer (KFP) Com Ltd Odisha, made available 2800 kgs Paddy, 40 kg Wheat 700 Barley, 200 kgs Elephant-Foot Yam, 34 kgs pulses (*Arhar*) 400gmpapaya, 10 kgs Muringa from Semina Agro Private Limited and 2250 kgs Ginger from Mr. Mourice Oraon of Bero block to 366 farmers. Farmers produced them for family income as well as self – consumption. When farmers saw some income added to their family, their interest increased towards commercial farming. With the efforts of SIGN, best farmers were awarded with 20 Irrigation Machine each and 05 Seed Drum each for any type of seed treatment.



Besides farming, SIGN also promoted off farm income enhancement activities among farmers in many centers viz. Gangutoli, Jampani, Mahugaon, Dumri, Getelsud, Khalari and Dokapt, where Project coordinator taught them Phenyl making, Mushroom cultivation and vermi composting. He also taught them about entrepreneurship and marketing. For these farmers, it is just a beginning of their entrepreneur journey. Women farmers have already started making business with phenyl and mushroom. We must acknowledge that it is a good beginning for these women farmers from remote villages, who knew only rice bear selling, now they have started making business with phenyl and mushroom. It is good beginning for the family as such, as

they see income coming from off farm sources as well, because as a farmer, year after year, they faced scarcity of water for irrigation, lack of traditional seeds, lack of organic manure and minimum price for agriculture products from market. Now this phenyl and mushroom business will give them courage to be more enterprising and take care of their family in much better way.



SIGN is grateful to Missio, Austria, Fondazione Fratelli Dimenticati Onlus and Caritas India for supporting farmers of Jharkhand for taking up organic farming and helping us to preserve the health of human beings as well as that of the soil. At the same time grateful for giving us courage to initiate entrepreneurship among the farmers.

~ Walter Zaphed Kerketta



Thematic Area - 2



Education for All



Every child deserves to be in the school
Your small help can educate a Child

Life Changing Friendship

Having a caring sponsor means a big life changer and a bright future for a child like Herman Bhengra from Khijur Toli of Dorma village. Herman lost his father Etwā Bhengra, when he was very young. His mother Christina Tiru brought up Herman and his other siblings working as a maid in many houses. There were also days when Herman and his siblings have to be content with only one meal or no meal a day.

Herman started schooling in R.C. Middle School, Dorma. They lived in abject poverty. His mother could not afford to buy textbooks for them. They would borrow books from their friends and study. Herman used to have only one notebook, where he used to take notes of all the subjects. In spite of this, Herman was attending class every day. When Herman was in class three, realizing the situation of Herman, Fr John Tagadial, TOR, kept him in sponsorship. With this the worry of Christina was over, as far as the education of Herman was concerned as he was getting school uniform, study materials, stationery, and even the school fees was paid through sponsorship program. He worked harder in his studies. He joined High school in Nirmala High School Dorma in 2003 for class VII. In 2006, he passed matric exam and joined for his +2 education. In 2009, he succeeded in entering Indian Army, in his first attempt only. With this first of all he supported his elder brother, Amrit Kishore Bhengra, for Industrial Training. Later helped his elder brother for his wedding. Moreover, he also supported his sister-in-law for B.Ed training. Now he is posted at Panjab and supporting his mother. All the credit to Fratelli Dimenticati for the generous support given to him during his schooling days. In a way, one can say, "Fratelli Dimenticati picked him up from rags and made him a dignified man." It is not only Herman but also many underprivileged children like him, whom Fondazione Fratelli Dimenticati Onlus has been supporting in last many years in Gumla, Khunti, Ranchi, and Simdega Diocese.



It is not different in the present reporting year, when Fondazione Fratelli Dimenticati Onlus continued to support 2111 children of 37 centres in above mentioned diocese not only for their education, but also for their books, school



uniforms, and in the hostel it also provides meals for the children. Most of the children belong to poor families and for their parents providing quality education is a very big challenge. COVID-19 made life more challenging for these parents.

Pandemic adversely affected the education of children all over the world and it was not different in Jharkhand. Schools had to be kept closed as a response to Pandemic lockdown. With the lockdown, children were not only deprived of learning, but also deprived of on the joy of being together, interacting, and playing with friends. These extracurricular activities are equally formative to a child's growth as academic study, which were not catered for through distance learning.



The good news was, children started coming back to school from February 2022. However, one could clearly see the concentration lapses of children in the classroom. During pandemic-lockdown, children were used to free and fun living. The habit of daily study was completely missing during pandemic. They were used to loiter around villages the whole day. Some of the students are reluctant to come to the school after lockdown. A huge downfall in the qualitative studies among the students is noticed. The pandemic has affected the cognitive capabilities of children. Nevertheless, when many parents could not give proper guidance to their wards, few parents

arranged private tuitions for their wards.

The teachers found challenging with growing indiscipline, inattentiveness and lack of concentration among the children. They were having very tough time creating interest in the children for learning. Teachers started going to villages to motivate the students to come back to school. It was made possible through regular provision of fund from Fratelli Dimenticati facilitated.

Even in these crisis, the children sponsorship program became a big hope for the education of children. Children in the hostel centres i.e., sixteen in number were, provided care for the children. In our visits to the centers we found that the children staying in hostel were disciplined, able to communicate and far better in their academic studies. They seemed to be responsible and talented compare to day-scholars. Through children sponsorship program their basic needs of food, clothing, shelter, and medicine were taken care of. Many centers organized remedial classes for the weak students and also for those who do not have facility to study at home. Some center in-charges looked after the remedial classes themselves whereas some arranged tutors for the same. Fratelli Dimenticati provided the centers remuneration for the teachers, as there was hardly any tuition fee collected. Though listed number in the sponsorship list was only 2111 children, but centers supported 9896 children in the year 2021-22.



Sponsorship program has helped many children from the deprived section of the society to come up in their life. One of the thrust areas of SIGN is "Education for all" and with the support of Fratelli Dimenticati, SIGN not only dares to think about not only facilitating school education to the children from poor section of the society, but also think about making them so capable that they could be a support to other needy child.

~ Chanchal Jyoti Bara

Thematic Area - 3



Health for All



Nearly 70 % of children between
6-59 months are anaemic.
Your small help can make a difference

Towards a Healthy World

“Health for All” is one of the strategic pillars of Social Initiatives for Growth and Networking (SIGN) and therefore last few years the focus of SIGN is on the Improved Health status of Mother and child in 5 highly prioritized districts of Jharkhand viz. Pakur, Sahebganj, West Singhbhum, Palamu and Latehar, where the status of Mother and child health is worrisome. SIGN continued to work on improving the health status of mother and child even in year 2021-2022, the only difference was SIGN extended the health care service even among the adolescents.



However, pandemic lockdown tried to weaken health system response to the essential services for women and children's health care. The pregnant women in the village were neither receiving supplementary food at least as take home ration nor any vaccination from Anganwadi. Anganwadi workers and Sahiyas were scared to make home visits. The situation of lockdown raised a serious concern about ensuring safe, timely and quality maternal health care at the community level. Discontinuation of ANC care for the lockdown period, barriers in accessing institutional facility for delivery care, among many more, had raised a cause of concern during pandemic lockdown. The suspension of transport facilities and non-availability of ambulances was posing risks to the health and lives of pregnant women, along with various other barriers induced by lockdown.



It is said “Where there is WILL, there is WAY”. Barriers paused by Pandemic lockdown could not deter SIGN to continuing health care assistance to mother and child, therefore as soon as lockdown was relaxed, SIGN started motivating its community mobilizer, block Animator and District Animators to visit pregnant women and lactating mothers and monitor VHSND so that Government Frontline Health Workers could be supported.

With this effort, SIGN could monitor 573 VHSNDs on regular basis. SIGN team imparted health classes with pictorial demonstration and videos. Due to house to house visits, there was improvement in VHSND visits by the pregnant women and lactating mothers.

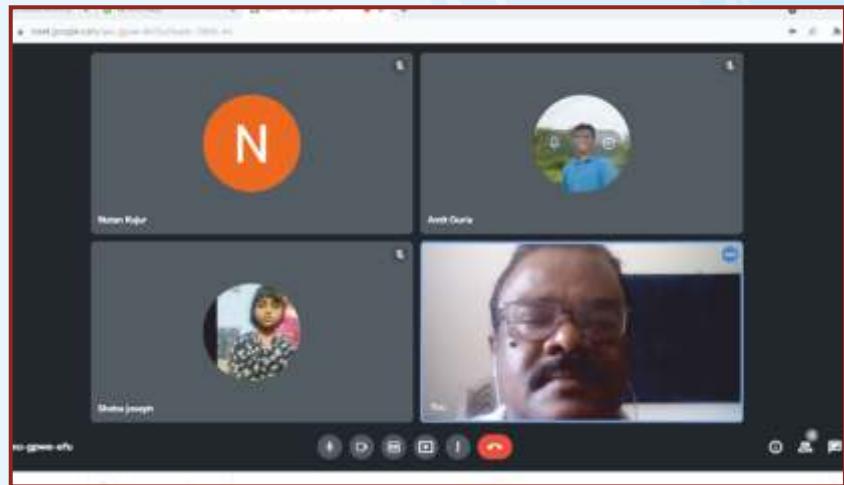
KEY PROJECT REACH DURING 2021-2022

- **3460** Pregnant Women reached to VHSND through our support.
- **5069** lactating Mothers facilitated to avail VHSND services.
- **239** Institutional Deliveries
- **55** deliveries at Home
- **15504** Children Vaccinated 0-2 Years
- **404** Drop out Children linked for Routine Immunization
- **96** Left out Children linked for Routine Immunization
- **74** Malnourished Children linked to Malnourished treatment centre (MTC) and successfully treated.
- **3976** families practiced kitchen garden for better nutrition.
- **260** Active Village volunteers accompanies Pregnant Women and lactating mothers during VHSNDs.
- **800** SHGs Trained and reached on key health issues to support and motivate the village women.
- **573** VHSNDs were monitored to check the services and make a provision for its availability from the Government.
- **75** schools reached to create awareness on Health and Hygiene.
- **150** Adolescent Girls group formed to sensitize on the Menstrual Health Hygiene Management (MHM)
- **600** hundred villages with 23500 households were reached



Due to lockdown the MTC (Malnourished treatment center) were closed and in most of the places these MTCs were made Covid-19 treatment centers due to shortage of beds in hospitals. SIGN team, with home-made nutritious powder, took the challenge to take care of Malnourished children. This nutritious powder was made of locally available nutritious

food like ragi (Madwa), rich in calcium and iron, which itself is the best for anaemic and malnourished children. Besides ragi, mixture of Maize, Wheat, Gram, Rice, Green Gram, Kurthi, Arhar Dala and Groundnut powder was used for this nutritious powder. The best part of it was, this nutritious powder was prepared by members of SHGs and local women. SIGN supported 126 anaemic mothers and 359 malnourished children with this home-



identified 408 Volunteers, who were also called Caritas Samaritans. Regional Coordinator trained online all these Caritas Samaritans on Corona Appropriate behaviour, the necessity to take the Vaccination and the way to communicate all these messages. By the end of six months only 339 continued with this program. Each Caritas Samaritan had to contact as many households as possible over the phone and orient them about Corona Appropriate Behaviour and motivate people to take vaccination. These

made Nutritious powder. Results were quite encouraging. The community and family members expressed that *“Lots of changes came in the growth of child after using homemade nutrition. The child whom we had seen unhealthy has now gained weight and are able to walk.”*

Amidst all these, in spite of continuous awareness building through various social media means, it was realized that more than 60% of the population is ignorant of COVID appropriate behaviour. For this reason, second wave of COVID-19 had severely hit the country as well as Jharkhand. Therefore, SIGN with the support of CRS (Catholic Relief Service) and Caritas India initiated a new approach of development to bring COVID appropriate behaviour into general practice of community through mass media. This New-Normal Approach was called “Risk Communication and Community Engagement” (RCCE). SIGN implemented this programme in 5 dioceses namely Ranchi, Jamshedpur, Khunti Simdega and Dumka of JHAAN region. SIGN through the Diocesan Coordinator



CRS **Caritas INDIA**

खुद रहें सुरक्षित, दूसरों को रहें सुरक्षित
क्या करें और क्या ना करें

क्या करें

- हमेशा डबल मास्क पहनें
- दो गज की दूरी बनाए रहें
- 40 सेकेंड तक साबुन और पानी से हाथ धोएं
- छींकते/खांखते समय अपना मुंह व नाक रुमाल से ढकें
- बुखार/खांसी/सांस लेते में परेशानी है तो दूसरों से अलग रहें
- रोडयूस के अनुसार टीका लगवाएं

क्या न करें

- अपनी आंख, नाक या मुंह को हाथों से छूएं
- भीड़-भाड़ वाली जगहों/सामाजिक आयोजनों में जाएं
- सार्वजनिक स्थानों पर जाएं

यह व्यवहार बड़े व बच्चे सभी अपनाएं और कोटीजा को दूर अनाएं।

COVID-19 संबंधित जानकारी के लिए
अधिक जानकारी के लिए राष्ट्रीय हेल्पलाइन नंबर 1075 या
राजकीय हेल्पलाइन नंबर पर संपर्क करें।

NHM, JHARKHAND **nhmjharkhand** **www.jhms.jharkhand.gov.in**

Caritas Samaritans brought awareness in 2595 Families on Corona Appropriate Behaviours and prepared them to take Vaccination by contacting them over the phone and also by wall writing and displaying Posters on Corona Appropriate Behaviours and Vaccination on prominent places. Regional Coordinator had online-meeting with these Caritas Samaritan every week and take stock of things, solve problems if any and motivate them to work. Through this intervention SIGN saved more than 10,000 lives from Corona by

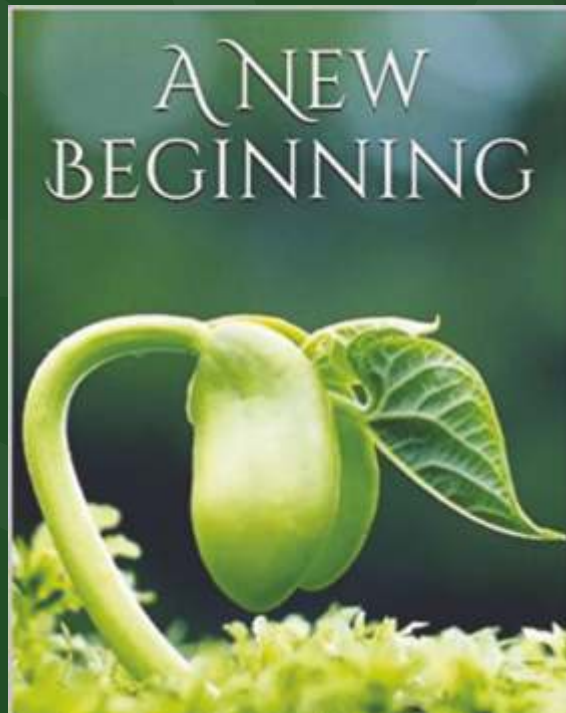
preparing them for Corona Appropriate behaviour and motivating them to take Vaccination. At the end of the programme these 339 Caritas Samaritans were awarded with 'Certificate of Appreciation' by Caritas India and CRS.

Thanks to CRS and Caritas India for teaching a new approach to development. Fratelli Dimenticati joined hands in spreading lesson of Covid-19 Appropriate and necessity of taking Covid-19 vaccine by supporting for the displaying of posters in all its centers. Thanks to Kindermissionswerk for trusting and

supporting SIGN for strengthening our community and the future generation. SIGN will continue strengthening VHSNDs, ensuring all pregnant and lactating mothers availing the health services provided by the Government and promoting Institutional Deliveries. SIGN would like to replicate the learnings of RCCE programme in other projects as well.

~ Satyendra Tudu and Edmund Kerketta





Stories of Change



Story of Kriti



I am Kriti Tirkey from Hatma, Ranchi. We are three in the family mother Mrs. Susheela Tirkey, elder sister Kusum Tirkey and myself. My father passed away when I was three years old. After the death of my father, we had to face very bad economic condition. Food was never enough for a day. As the situation at home went bad to worse, my mother remarried and lived separately. My sister and I were left alone, there was no one to support us. All the relatives had abandoned us.

I started picking rags to make money and later it became a habit. I wanted to go to school but there was no way. Meanwhile, I was noticed by a Brother of REDS centre. It was near our house. Bro spoke to me about the REDS that they provide food, clothes, soaps and study materials: books, copies, pen, school uniform, school bag, umbrella, warm clothes, blankets, sweaters, shoes and socks. I immediately joined REDS and started going to the centre. I did not have proper clothes. REDS provided me all that I needed. Bro. Antony Nesam used to share his lunch, clean my dirty noses with his handkerchief. Many times, these love and care brought tears to my eyes, as I was never experience all these in my growing age. Gradually, I set my goal to face the challenges in my life.

In 2007, I got admission in primary school at St. Maria School, Kanke, Ranchi. REDS bore all my study expenses. REDS admitted me in a boarding school in class 6, at St. Francis High School Baheya, Ranchi. I passed my matriculation in 2015. Since I did not have any place to stay, I came to my grandmother's place. In order to do my Inter Colleges study, I started working as a maid-servant in two houses in the morning hour. I used to earn Rs 2000/.

Meanwhile, I got admission in Ursuline Inter College, in 2015. One night, in my grandmother's house, when I was still asleep, one stranger lay beside me and started behaving unpleasantly. When I made noise, he ran away. When I reported this to my grandmother and Aunty, they scolded me and said it is my mistake. Having talked to my elder sister, who stays in Bangalore and works as a maid-servant, I left grandmother's house and went to stay with my father's elder brother's house, where I was not welcomed. In fact, my cousin used to give me mental torture, saying her house is not a hotel or orphanage. So after discussing with my elder sister, I started staying in a rented house. Thus, I completed intercollege in 2017. Then, I went to Andhra Pradesh, where I started studying General Nursing Midwifery (GNM) in Dugru Gopal Reddy (DGR) School of Nursing, Nellore, Andhra Pradesh. My elder sister partially supported my study expenses. During summer vacation, I did not return Ranchi, but I worked in Bangalore and earned Rs 15000/-. Thus, I completed GNM in 2020. Now, I am working in Rani Children's Hospital, Ranchi from 22nd January, 2020. I am paid Rs 15000/- per month for my service. We have planned to have our own home and so we have bought a small piece of land. If God willing, we will make our home. I am grateful to REDS, Ranchi, who picked me from rags and made me a dignified person. I do not enough words to express my gratitude to Fratelli Dimenticati and SIGN, who support REDS to take care of less fortunate children like us. I must admit, it is only because of your generous support and the encouragement from the REDS, that I am a Nurse today. Otherwise my life would have been destroyed.

Rally saved the life of malnourished children

SIGN project team, at Jagnathpur organised a rally on Malnutrition to bring awareness on importance of the immunization, causes of malnutrition, prevention and Malnourished Treatment Centre (MTC). As a result, very next day, 3 mothers went to MTC with their malnourished child. Only one malnourished child got admission for treatment on that day. After two days other two malnourished children brought back to MTC by their parents. For 15 days, children were undergoing treatment in MTC.

Joseph Sinku, age 6 months, was one of the malnourished children, who was admitted to MTC after the rally. He was weighing 4 Kg and 400g and after treatment he gained 1kg weight. Likewise, David Sinku, 11 months, the another malnourished child, was having 6 Kg and 600g, gained 1 kg and Premi Sinku, 9 months, the third malnourished child, was 5 kg and 600g, gained 3 kg of weight.

The project team regularly visited these parents and instructed them to follow the schedule of providing food on time to their children. Mothers appreciated the support and guidance they got during the entire process of treatment.



Organic Farming can change your life



Suresh Kerketta of Pithra Bandhtoli of Simdega is hardworking farmer. He has about 2.5 acres of land. He had learnt to grow rain fed paddy once a year from his father. Unfortunately, in spite of his hard work he was not able to feed his parents, his wife Manisha and his three children Ashish Kerketta, Nikita Kerketta and Arpan Kerketta. He wanted to give up farming and migrate to other states in search of job like many of his villagers. At this juncture, he happened to attend one of the meeting conducted by Mr. Walter, the Regional Coordinator of SIGN. In the Meeting Walter talked about Organic farming and its benefits. Suresh was happy to know that he can increase his income by adopting organic farming. On Walter's invitation, he attended a

training on Scientific Agriculture and Organic Farming. After training he was full of enthusiasm. He gave up the idea of migration and determined to put all his effort in organic farming. He took some land on lease to grow vegetables. Now with the knowledge of organic farming, he cultivates paddy, pulses, ragi, green vegetables, tomato, chilly, cucumber, bottle gourd, and bitter gourd. In the Rabi and Summer seasons he cultivates cash crops. The total income from agriculture field was one lac. With the income of agriculture, he is educating his children and looking after the needs of the family. Once he did not have enough to eat. Many of the months they were almost starving, but now they have two vegetables at every meal. He says, ***"Organic Farming can only save our family."***

Manish Naha, a Story of Rag picker becoming a Teacher

Manish Naha s/o Gopal Chand Naha and Anita Devi from Pahari, Ranchi, has two younger siblings viz. Jaya Naha and Pawan Naha. They spent their childhood in abject poverty, as their father Gopal Chand Naha used to work as a cleaner in marriage parties. Left overs of the wedding party was carried back home for the children and the wife. Manish says, ***“We waited my father to bring left over food from those wedding***



parties. I don't remember how many nights my siblings and I went to bed without food.” To get at least one meal a day was a big concern for Manish and his siblings and so in 2006 Manish joined **Ragpickers Education and Development Scheme (REDS)**, which used to provide mid-day meal after few hours of teaching. Manish joined REDS, in the first place to get at least one proper meal, and also spend some peaceful time in the company of same age group children. Manish still fondly remembers the kindness of REDS centre in-charge in Pahari, who used to carry left over mid-day meal to his home for his siblings. After teaching hour in REDS, Manish used to sell movie CDs in the market.

In 2006 he joined St. Kuldeep High School in class 2. Sadly, that was the year, when Manish lost his mother. Thereon, he was supported all the study material and school uniform from REDS. He passed class 10 from St. Kuldeep High School, Harmu, Ranchi. The matric result was out on 27th April 2015. He was the topper of the school with 84% marks. He completed Intermediate from Marwari College, Ranchi in 2017 and Bachelor in Arts in English Honors in 2020 from the same college.

In order to support himself and his siblings he started giving tuitions to REDS children at home. He also guided the students up to class 12 of English medium Schools. From 31st March 2022, He is teaching in Doon Public School, Morabadi, Ranchi. He is a big support and inspiration to his siblings.

He has a wish to become an IAS (Indian Administrative Services) officer. Every day he spends extra hours in preparing himself for Civil Service exam. He dares to think that once he becomes an IAS officer, he would help those children, who have to discontinue education due to poor financial background. He is grateful to REDS for supporting him for the schooling and looking after every other need. He can't forget Fratelli Dimenticati and SIGN, as without their support, he would have reached nowhere. He says, ***“It is because of your support and encouragement dear Fratelli Dimenticati and SIGN that I am a teacher and can support my family”.***

Early Marriage is a curse to the mother and the child



Mother and Child Health Care is also reaching out to couples having marriage at early age. Our project team with motto of **'LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND'** met with Rasila Sinku and Ghanshayam Sinku. During discussion, it was noticed that the couple got married at an early age, husband (17 years) and Wife (16 years) in 2018. Within a year, Rasila became pregnant with little knowledge of care. Her husband migrated in search of job.

This was the time, when community mobilizer took resolve to protect her with complete awareness about Anti Natal Check-up. She helped her to get register with Anganwadi Centre for regular check-up.

On May 18, 2019 Rasila delivered a underweight baby having 1 kg 400 gm weight at the time of birth. After few days in observation, she was transferred to Sadar Hospital, Chaibasa.

For a month, she got complete care at hospital and after discharge, once in a week she continued taking her baby 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.

A STEP towards Sustainable Farming through Organic Farming

Ashok Prasad, a resident of Jhaardag village in Katkamsandi block of Hazaribagh district was spending his days in utter poverty with his wife, two sons and a daughter. Though Ashok was the son of a farmer, he, after working hard in his field, was able to earn only Rs 10000 to Rs 12000 a year. In the face of such difficulties, in the year 2021, Missio supported project under “Sustainable Farming in Jharkhand”, Sukhram Toppo made a visit to Jhaardag village and he made farmers aware of the disadvantages of chemical farming and benefits of organic farming. Ashok says that on the invitation of Sukhram, he had the opportune to participate in various Organic farming training organized by SIGN. as a result, his way of farming has improved. He is not only doing organic farming, but also uses SRI method for paddy cultivation, therefore he earns Rs 30000 to 40000/- per annum from farming. Now Ashok is leading a Happy life together with his family members. He expresses his gratefulness towards SIGN and Jan Vikas Kendra, because SIGN introduced organic farming to a small and poor farmer like him and played a big role in facilitating him to lead a respectable life. He says, **“Organic farming is the way to Sustainable Agriculture”**.



Acknowledgment



As a leading Social Development Organization in India, your association with SIGN has always brought positive impact on people. We are thankful to you for all the support during the year.



As a co-traveler in development sector, you have been big a support and inspiration to all of us. Your innovative approach to development has helped us work even in most challenging time and situation. The word "THANKS" is not able to express the depth of our appreciation for you.

missio

Last one year was amazingly beneficial for our farmers. It is because of your support; we have dared to think of Organic Farming. It already started bearing fruit. Thank you so much



Your association has taken underprivileged children from dust to sky high. Your support has changed the life of many children of disadvantage section of the society. We do not have better words than "THANK YOU" to express our heartfelt GRATITUDE



Health status of Mother and Child would not have been better in 5 prioritized districts of Jharkhand, if your supporting hand were not to be there with SIGN. We highly appreciate your generous support to the malnourished and anaemic mothers and children



Manos Unidas

SIGN and its partners overwhelmed by your keen interest in the development of people in Jharkhand. It gives us lot of courage to take up projects in the hard-to-reach places. Your association with us has added value to our work. Thanks so much

Acknowledgment

We would like to place on records the SUPPORT provided by you dear TECHNICAL Partners. We highly Value your technical support



**Save the Children
Jharkhand**



**Birsa Agriculture University
Jharkhand**



**NABARD
Jharkhand**



**Holy Cross, Krishi Vigayan Kendra,
Hazaribagh**



**Asian Institute for
Sustainable Development**

Acknowledgment

SIGN feel honored to have valued partners in the form of Diocesan Social Service Societies of JHAAN Region. We express our sincere thanks to you dear Directors for all your cooperation and support during the year



Samaj Vikas Kendra, Chanduwa



Dumka Social and Educational Society, Dumka



Gram Utthan, Gumla



Jan Vikas Kendra, Hazaribagh



Catholic Charities, Jamshedpur



Hoffman Social Service Society, Khunti



Catholic Cahrities, Ranchi



Vikas Kendra, Simdega

Audit Report



NRV & Associates
Chartered Accountants

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

We have audited the annexed Balance Sheet of **Social Initiatives for Growth and Networking (SIGN), Social Development Centre, 3rd Floor, Dr. Camil Bulcke Path, Ranchi - 834001 (Jharkhand)** as at 31st March, 2022, the Income and Expenditure Account and Receipt and Payment Account for the year ended on that date. These financial statements are responsibility of management of the Society. Our responsibility is to express our opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in India. These standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatements. An audit also includes examining on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in financial statements. An audit includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

We report that we have obtained all the information and explanation, which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of audit.

- a) In our opinion the Society has maintained proper books of accounts.
- b) The Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account dealing with by this report are in agreement with the books of accounts produced before us.

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanation given to us the said accounts give a true and fair view.

- i) in the case of Balance Sheet of the State of Affairs of the Society as on 31st March, 2022 and
- ii) in the case of Income and Expenditure Account of the Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year ended as on 31st March, 2022.

Date : 11-07-2022

Place : Ranchi



NRV & Associates

Chartered Accountants

(CA. Rajesh Himatsingka, Partner)

M.N. 401880; UDIN - 22401880ANFBNO1041

Azim Gali, Dumka - 814101 (Jharkhand)

Branch - Kolkata

Ph. No. (06434) 230547, Mobile - 9431157223, e-mail ID : cadumka@gmail.com, nrvdumka@gmail.com
website :- <http://nrvassociates.icai.org.in/>

Social Initiatives for Growth and Networking (SIGN)

3rd Floor, Dr. Camil Bulcke Path, Ranchi - 834001 (Jharkhand)

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2022

Ref No.	Particulars	Note No.	As at 31 March, 2022 (Rs.)
A	SOURCES OF FUNDS		
1	Corpus and Capital Fund		
	(a) Corpus Fund	2.0	50,24,343
	(b) Capital Fund	2.1	38,46,806
2	Current liabilities		
	(a) Other current liabilities	2.3	62,76,603
	TOTAL		1,51,47,752
B	APPLICATION OF FUNDS		
1	FIXED ASSETS		
	Fixed assets	2.2	10,91,038
2	Current Assets, Loans and Advances		
	(c) Cash in Hand		44,859
	(d) Cash at Bank		67,34,596
	(e) Fixed Deposits		72,44,521
	(f) Other current assets		32,738
	TOTAL		1,51,47,752

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 - 22401880ANFBNO1041

Firm Reg No- 325333E

Place : Ranchi

Date : 11/07/2022



[Signature]

Secretary

Social Initiatives for Growth & Networking (SIGN)

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 2022

Ref No.	Particulars	For the year ended 31 March, 2022 (Rs.)
I	RECEIPTS	
	<u>Opening Balance</u>	
	Cash in Hand	50,126
	Cash at Bank	56,18,810
	Fixed Deposits	67,64,036
		1,24,32,972
	Grants / Donations / Other Income / Receipts	
	Foreign Contribution Account	2,95,94,700
	Local Account	13,40,813
	Total	4,33,68,485
II	PAYMENTS	
	Foreign Contribution Account	2,85,78,658
	Local Account	7,65,851
	Total	2,93,44,509
	<u>Closing Balance</u>	
	Cash in Hand	44,859
	Cash at Bank	67,34,596
	Fixed Deposits	72,44,521
		1,40,23,976

As per our Report of even date

For M/s NRV & Associates
Chartered Accountants

Rajesh Himatsingka
CA. Rajesh Himatsingka
Partner

M.No.- 401880; UDIN - 22401880ANFBNO1041
Firm Reg No- 325333E
Place : Ranchi
Date : 11/07/2022



[Signature]
Secretary

Social Initiatives for Growth & Networking (SIGN)

**Behind you all your memories
Before you all your dreams
Around you all who love you
Best wishes for your
future endeavors**



**Thank you Arjeeun Tigga
You all be always Remembered
for what you did in SIGN**

Our Team



Fr. Bipin Kuamr Pani
Secretary cum Director



Walter Z Kerketta
Regional Coordinator



Chanchal Jyoti Bara
HoD Sponsorship Dept



Reena Soreng
Senior Accountant



Satyendra Tudu
Regional Coordinator



Pricilla Kullu
Support Staff Sponsorship Dept



Archana P Kujur
Assistant Accountant



Joseph Dhodrai
Support Staff



Abhishek S Xalxo
Assistant Sponsorship Dept

THANK YOU
TO EVERY SUPPORTER,
PARTNER AND DONOR,
WHO SUPPORTED US IN 2021-22
YOU MEAN WORLD TO US



Social Initiatives for Growth and Networking (SIGN)

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