

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023



**SOCIAL INITIATIVES FOR GROWTH
AND NETWORKING (SIGN), RANCHI**

WHO WE ARE

“Social Initiatives for Growth and Networking” (SIGN) is the official body of the Catholic Bishops of Jharkhand and Andamans (JHAAN) for social concern and human development. It is a non-profit-making Society, registered under Society Registration Act 1860. Though Port Blair diocese also comes under the JHAAN Region, for practical reasons, SIGN anchors the efforts of only 8 Social Service Societies of the diocese of Daltonganj, Dumka, Gumla, Hazaribagh, Jamshedpur, Khunti, Ranchi and Simdega in Jharkhand. It promotes the efforts of Faith-Based Organizations in Jharkhand and networks with all the likeminded NGOs.

Society Registration No.: 731/2009-2010

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FCRA Registration No.: 337800203

PAN No.: AAEAS6072P

TAN No.: RCHS03376C

NGO Darpan : JH/2017/0168123

CSR Registration No.: CSR00015862

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 likeminded organizations.





GOAL:

Ensuring sustainable livelihood opportunities to all, particularly based on harmony with nature, especially for the poor and the marginalized.

Promoting effective governance

Enabling a holistic and healthy society

Ensuring quality education for all

Ensuring women's participation and rights in all spheres

Prevent human trafficking

Fostering inter-religious harmony

Ensure SIGN and partners become effectively managed and sustainable organizations

Strategic Pillars:

1. Natural Resource Management & Livelihood
 - a. Climate Adaptive Agriculture
 - b. Farmer owned Producer and Marketing Organizations
 - c. Food Sovereignty
2. Child Protection
3. Gender Equality
4. Resource Mobilization
5. Education for All
6. Health for All
7. Human Trafficking and Safe Migration
8. Volunteerism
9. Institutional Development and Good Governance
10. Inter-Religious Harmony and Networking with likeminded NGOs

GOVERNING BOARD

Name	Address	Occupation	Designation
His Grace Most Rev Felix Toppo S.J	Archbishop's House, Dr. Camil Bulke 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 Bulke Path, Ranchi Jharkhand	Social Work	Secretary
Most Rev Julius Marandi	Bishop's House Dudhani, Dumka, Jharkhand	Social Work	Member
Most Rev Theodore Mascarenhas, SFX	Archbishop's House, Dr.Camil Bulke Path,Ranchi Jharkhand	Social Work	Member
Most Rev Vincent Barwa	Bishop's Housesamtoli PO Gotra, Simdega 835235, Jharkhand	Social Work	Member
Most Rev. Telesphore Bilung, SVD	Bishop's House, PO Golmuri, Jamshedpur 831003, Jharkhand	Social Work	Member
Most Rev. Anand Jojo	Diocesan Training Centre Hazaribagh, Jharkhand	Social Work	Member
Binay Kerketta	Catholic Charities, Dr. Camil Bulke Path, Ranchi	Social Work	Member





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

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends and Well-wishers,

The story of SIGN has been one of growth and vitality this year, driven by the generosity of all the well-wishers, benefactors and donors of SIGN. The past two years, because of the Pandemic, have been challenging for all and have devastated a big number of people, particularly those from marginalised communities. For SIGN, it was a period of rapid scaling up of our response on health, livelihood, education and humanitarian assistance focused on the needs of the women, girls, and farmers from the marginalised communities we work with. Thanks to Pope Francis, who after the Encyclical Letter 'Laudato Si', came up with "Fratelli Tutti" to express the great need for human fraternity and care of God's creation. He is now encouraging the Church with the spirit of Synodality to listen to the people and walk with the community.

The Synodality inspired and encouraged SIGN, to work more closely with the underprivileged. Therefore, we reached out to more children, more farmers, more vulnerable people than we did last year with various programs and projects. This year we supported 11483 underprivileged children towards their education through Sponsorship program. Through Mother and Child health care program, we played an important role in 19911 safe deliveries and facilitated 10747 women in accessing health facilities at village level. We scaled up our mother and child health care program as never before, with a visionary plan to aim at zero MMR and IMR. Pandemic era had exposed our economic system, which caused the farmers to migration elsewhere to seek for livelihood. This year, SIGN not only empowered 5225 farmers in organic farming, but also opened the way to add income to their family income through various programs.

However, we humbly admit that we could not have achieved this without the unwavering support of our generous partners and well-wishers, who placed deep faith in us. I would like to thank all the Well-wishers, Benefactors and partners for your support to and trust in us. And finally, I would like to thank all the members of SIGN family, donors, technical agencies, and other stakeholders who continued to believe in us and support our work. We highly appreciate your goodwill.

God Bless you all.

+ Felix Toppo, S.J.

President SIGN

Archbishop of Ranchi

Most Rev. Binay Kandulna
Bishop of Khunti



Bishop's House
Torpa Road, Khunti
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VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends, and Well-wishers,

I am delighted to share with you the Annual Report 2022-23 of SIGN, which is a collectively crafted “puzzle” of the work that the staff and volunteers of SIGN offer their hard work with kindness and love for the vulnerable. In alignment with the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG), and with your gracious support SIGN could dare to work with the deprived children, marginalized and small holding farmers, pregnant women and lactating mothers and malnourished adolescents. During the year, SIGN focused on eliminating poverty, erasing hunger, availing education to underprivileged, reducing vulnerability of individuals and families, creating opportunities for self-employment and income-earning potential of individuals. We recognize that doing good, impacts both the giver and the receiver. In this cycle of blessing, lives are inevitably uplifted. Together let us continue to transform lives of people of Jharkhand and empower them to reach their God-given potential. I hope when you go through the pages of this Annual Report, you will be encouraged and inspired.

I am grateful to you all our friends, supporters, donors and well-wishers. I want to let you know that we value your support, prayers and encouragement. Kindly accept my sincere appreciation and thanks for the support you have provided during the year. I am humbled and amazed at God's faithfulness and goodness to us at SIGN, that Almighty has continued to guide us and bless us.

God bless us all.

+Binay Kandulna
Bishop of Khunti and 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

FROM SECRETARY'S DESK



Dear friends and well -wishers,

First and foremost, I would like to thank you most sincerely for your incredible generosity in supporting SIGN over the past 14 years. Your support enables SIGN to continue our invaluable work with the vulnerable and underprivileged communities living in the villages of Jharkhand.

Before sharing the activities undertaken during the year, let me thank Edmund Kerketta, one of our staff, who for better prospects moved on from SIGN. I gratefully thank him for all the good works, he did during his stay in our organization. I also wish him every success in his future endeavour.

A world without compassion is a world without love. No matter how rich we are; if we have no compassion towards others, then our lives become empty and meaningless. Principles of SIGN of Preferential Option for poor and human dignity help us to focus to work for deprived and marginalized sections of the community, therefore, with the support of Fratelli Dimenticati, SIGN supported 11483 children for education in 21 schools and 16 hostels. I am proud to say that Sujit Kumar Munda, a blind boy from rag picker's family, whom SIGN had supported for education, represented India in Blind T20 Cricket World Cup 2022. Our girls' football team from St. Patrick's School, Gumla won the final of the Subroto Cup Under-17 Girls' Football Tournament and Sudha Ankita Tirkey represented India in 6th Torneo Female Football Tournament in Italy. These are no ordinary achievements, as these children hail from very poor background. Without support and guidance, they could have been lost.

Working with these tender aged children SIGN realized that we need to show extra care to the adolescents, as we saw the incidents of live-in-relationship among the school going adolescents are catching up. Malnutrition has become a common concern. That is why SIGN incorporated activities in Mother and Child Health care program that would help us to take care of adolescents as well as prepare them as responsible citizen of the country. This year we have formed 150 Adolescents groups, where we talk to them about the importance of schooling, ill effect of early marriage, menstrual hygiene, and their health. Our aim is to facilitate in forming as many Children's Parliament as possible. We are trying to identify and then make Village Level Child Protection Committee (VLCPC) functional in every village. The number of institutional deliveries has increased to 78.80%.

One of the worries in rural Jharkhand is many abled men are migrating to cities and not showing interest in parental occupation of agriculture. SIGN tries to revive this age old occupation of tribal community and, may be in small way, but trying to solve the puzzle of climate change by promoting organic farming, short duration paddy and ragi cultivation. This year SIGN could motivate 676 farmers to take up organic farming. 53 farmers earned INR 1,72,694 by growing sugar-free rice. 128 women farmers are making Mahua Laddus, Mahua pickle, Tamarind chatni and Tamarind candies and adding to their income. We also motivated 22 farmers for lac cultivation.

Besides all these, it is important that each organization should have skilled and capable staff to administer and take forward the organization, therefore SIGN, with the support of Manos Unidas, organized five different development related training for staff of partners' organization.

Finally, with the support of Caritas India and Catholic Relief Services, formulated its Safeguarding Policy. Having got Governing Board's approval, it will be made functional.

Before I conclude, I sincerely thank and acknowledge for the incredible generosity and ongoing support by all our donors. I hope you continue to support our work and vision in building "A just and Humane Society based on the Gospel values of Love, Peace, Equality and Dignity to ALL" and look forward to working and engaging with you in 2024 with more vigour and enthusiasm.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of stylized initials and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Fr. Bipin Kumar Pani
Secretary SIGN

Our **REACH** at a glance



AGRICULTURE

Supported **5225** farmers of
257 villages in 87
Panchayats of 25 blocks in
5 districts

Facilitated **10747** women for
ante-natal and post-natal care
by covering 572 VHSNDs in
600 villages of 5 blocks in 5
districts



HEALTH



EDUCATION

Supported **11483**
underprivileged children in 37
educational centers of 4
districts for their holistic
development.



EDUCATION FOR ALL

EDUCATION is FOUNDATION for BETTER FUTURE

SIGN envisages to facilitate all the children from deprived section of the society to have access to school. With the support of Fondazione Fratelli Dimenticati, Italy, SIGN supported 1574 hostel students, 8284 Primary School students, 3000 High School students and 127 Inter College students in 37 centres in the dioceses of Ranchi, Khunti, Gumla and Simdega. SIGN provides education materials, food, clothing and medical care, as these children hail from very poor background. Their parents are either small farmers, daily wage workers, rickshaw pullers or rag pickers.



Through the school education, SIGN tries to promote overall development of every child. Therefore, during the year, besides many other activities SIGN also organized workshop on Road safety and session on Safe touch and unsafe touch.

Today's in the busy life, in the town, both the parents go for earning and hardly have time to reach their children to the school or pick them up from the school. In this bargain, many accidents take place .



SIGN, in collaboration with Young Indians, organized Road Safety Workshop for the children. Mr. Shailendra and his team performed educative Nukad Natak on “Road Safety” followed by an interactive lecture on Road Safety, demonstrating how to cross the road, use of helmets, walking on left side of the road and so on.

Child abuse and Sexual abuse are big concerns in today's world, therefore it is mandatory that every school should educate their students about protection from Sexual abuse and child abuse. This year, SIGN began promoting safeguarding session in the schools. SIGN, with the help of Young Indian, organized a session on Safe touch and Unsafe touch. Radhika Pasari, the resource person said that all of us are Boss of our Body.



It is our duty to protect our body. Good touch and Bad touch means protecting our body from unwanted touch. They also told the children that when there is unsafe touch, they have to say BIG NO and rush as fast as possible to the nearest safety place and inform the parents.

28th September 2022 was a proud day for one of our centers, St. Patrick's School, Gumla, when Girls' Football team defeated Wanggoi Higher Secondary School, Imphal by 3-1 margin in the final of Subroto Cup Under-17 Girls' Football Tournament at Ambedkar Stadium, New Delhi. Girls were honored to receive the Winning trophy from Air Marshal Sandeep Singh and hear encouraging words from Olympic Bronze medallist Sakshi Malik.

From this winning team, Sumanti Kumari, Sudha Ankita Tirkey and Amisha Baxla were selected to sharpen their skills and so sent to the coaching camp to Tata Football Academy, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand so as to prepare them for the FIFA Under-17 Women's World Cup. Later, Sudha Ankita Tirkey became the part of India Under-17 Women's National Team to play in the 6th Torneo Female Football Tournament in Italy and then in the Open Nordic Tournament WU16 in Norway.



ACHIEVEMENTS IN EDUCATION SECTOR

1393 students from 13 centers appeared for Matric



863 students passed with 1st Division and 236 students passed with 2nd Division.

Sujit Munda, a blind boy from a rag picker's family selected to play for India senior team in the Blind T20 Cricket World CUP 2022



Ranjan Bhutkumar, a rag picker completed his Masters in Political Science, learnt Computer in REDS is now a Computer teacher in St. Mary's Vocational Training Centre, Ranchi.

WE SUPPORT CHILDREN'S EDUCATION THROUGH FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS







HEALTH FOR ALL

Healthy lives and Well-being for all at all Stages of life



Taking a leaf out of Sustainable Development Goal, SIGN is engaged in promotion of wellbeing of Mother and Child health care right from the period of conceiving a child to their maturing age. SIGN even prepares adolescents to be a healthy mother. Under Mother and Child health care program SIGN addresses communicable and non-communicable diseases by organizing Health Camps and strengthens Health System for quality health services. SIGN through its intervention created pressure on health system to maintain the quality health service.

Now 573 functional VHSND located in 77 Panchayats spread over 5 Blocks in 5 panchayat namely Jagannathpur, Mahuadanr, Chainpur, Barhet and Amrapara respectively in West Singhbhum, Latehar, Palamu, Sahebganj and the Pakur District.

With the effort of SIGN incidents of still birth is reduced as 78.80% (989) Institutional deliveries and 21.19% (266) home delivery took place.

The 1200 Village volunteers, promoted by SIGN, accompany pregnant women and the lactating mother to have access to the Government Health Services in the Hard-to-Reach Area. as a result, 19,911 children were vaccinated.



In order to create an Empowering Environment for the Adolescents girls, 150 Adolescent groups are promoted providing a platform to 1789 Adolescent girls to speak about Adolescent Reproductive and Sexual Health (ARSH).



ARSH is the major topic shared with them to make them aware of their changing physical status in this growing age. They discuss about early marriage, child labor migration, education, nutrition and the menstrual hygiene management. In support of this 12 VLCPC (Village Level Child Protection Committee) promoted by the government and revived by SIGN, started taking up responsibility in shaping adolescents future brighter.



On 4th February, SIGN, in collaboration with “Young Indians”, organized two workshops on Cancer Awareness and Menstruation Hygiene Management at Nirmala College, Doranda, Ranchi and Ursuline Convent, Camil Bulke Path, Ranchi about 300 girls benefited from this. Two oncologist viz. Dr. Kumar Saurabh, one of the associates of HCG Currie Cancer Centre was the Speaker on Cancer in Women at Nirmala College, whereas Dr Pallavi Pandey, the Executive Director of RJSP Cancer Hospital & Research Centre, Ranchi was the Speaker on breast cancer and cervical cancer at Ursuline Convent. Ms. Rashmi Saha, the Founder of Mukty Mission, was the speaker on Menstruation Hygiene Management.

SIGN organized seven Health Camps in seven different schools viz. in a) Immaculate Heart of Mary Middle School, Plandu, b) R.C. Girls’ Middle School, Gangutoli, c) St. Charles’ Tribal Girls’ Boarding, Kereng, d) St. Charles’ Tribal Girls’ Boarding, Kuru, e) Holy Cross High School, Katukona, f) St. Francis High School, Bahya, and g) R. C. Primary School, Muriya. HB, Glucose, SGOT/AST test, SGPT/ALT ratio, creatinine, TSH test, eye test and dental check-ups were done in all these Health Camps.

2485 children benefited from these health camps. During the check up some of the children have expressed as part of their ill health excess sleep, stomach related issues, dysmenorrhea, nocturea, weakness, leg pain etc. Children are given medicines such as de-worming tablet, calcium, IFA tablets, Vitamin-C, protein powder and multivitamin syrup. Children who need further investigations and check-up were referred to the Government Primary Health Centers.



ACHIEVEMENTS IN HEALTH SECTOR

957 dropout children identified.
801 dropout children linked with
Immunization



169 Left out children identified.
130 Left out children linked with
routine immunization

128 malnourished children
were linked with
Malnourishment Treatment
Center



150 Adolescents Groups are
formed and functioning



**NATURAL RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT &
LIVELIHOOD**

Love the NATURE and Nature will Love you



In spite of mineral-rich state, Jharkhand is predominantly an agricultural state and at SIGN, we strongly believe that the communities in Jharkhand should get benefit of these natural resource available to them. They should go back to traditional organic farming with food security as priority and commercial farming for sustainability. At present only about 70% of the area during Kharif is under paddy cultivation, whereas most of this area remains fallow during the Rabi season. Therefore, SIGN aims at enhancing food security and sovereignty of community in Jharkhand through a) Climate Adaptive Agriculture, b) Sustainable Farming and c) Sovereignty.

With the support of Fondazione Fratelli Dimenticati, Caritas India and Missio, Austria, SIGN is trying to mitigate the effect of climate change by promoting Climate adapting practices. One of the steps SIGN took towards this climate adaptive practices is to promote organic farming by training farmers how to make Jeevamrut, Beejamrit, Aushadhi Matka Khad and vermi compost. At present 644 farmers from Gumla, Khunti, Simdega, Ranchi are using organic manure, but also partially chemical fertilizer, whereas 132 farmers are completely given up chemical fertilizer and using organic manure. 213 farmers are doing Kitchen Gardening and 111 farmers are taking their vegetable to the market.



One of the problems in farming is lack of proper seed, therefore SIGN approached Birsa Agriculture University, Ranchi and 9 Krishi Vigyan Kendra to make 1825 Kgs of MTU 7029, Sahbhagi, Lalat and Swarnshreya variety of rice seed available for 77 farmers and made available 840 Kgs of Wheat for 50 Farmers. This year SIGN networked with ABUSSL, Ranchi and Farmers' Producers Organization i.e., Krishi Factory Producer Company Ltd, Odisha for promoting Sugar Free rice among 53 farmers. These farmers got 440 Kgs of Sugar Free rice for RSs 79200 and in return they got 8793 Kgs of sugar free rice and earned Rs 172694/-.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN AGRICULTURE SECTOR

128 Women farmers are gaining by adding value to Minor Forest Produces.



213 farmers are generating income by Kitchen Gardening

112 farmers have accessed government schemes



22 farmers are doing lac cultivation





INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

Genius..is the capacity to see 10 things, where Ordinary can see only one



To survive and excel, in the fast changing world, it is necessary that time to time Organization and communities should adopt new skill, instincts, abilities and resources. In order to achieve their objective people and organization must constantly increase their abilities. Therefore, during the year SIGN organized various development related training for its partners. Following trainings were organized for the participants from 8 diocesan social service societies and 6 Faith Based Organization:

- a) Fundraising Training
- b) Result Based Planning
- c) Workshop on Financial management
- d) Training on Community Led Development
- e) Training on Result Based Monitoring and Evaluation

Besides these trainings, 812 men and women farmers benefited from four different trainings viz. a) Vermi Compost, b) Organic farming, c) Value Addition on Minor Forest Product like Mahuwa and Tamarind and d) Lac Cultivation, organized by SIGN during the year.

SIGN not only developed the capacity of its partners, but also tried to enhance the capacity of its staff. with support of Caritas India and Catholic Relief Services SIGN underwent orientation on Safeguarding Policy and then had the orientation on Safeguarding Policy within the organization for all the staff. Thus, SIGN is trying to move with the pace of changing development understanding.



ACHIEVEMENTS IN INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

All the participating NGOs are giving importance to Results and 4 NGOs have started developing Result based projects.



15 families are making phenyl and selling it locally

7 women have taken up weaving work



108 families are rearing Goat

SIGN has developed its own safegurading policy





Inter-Religious Harmony and Networking with likeminded NGOs

Your Network is your Net worth

Taking a leaf out of Sustainable Development Goal, SIGN is engaged in promotion of wellbeing of Mother and Child health care right from the period of conceiving a child to their maturing age. SIGN even prepares adolescents to be a healthy mother. Under Mother and Child health care program SIGN addresses communicable and non-communicable diseases by organizing Health and the Awareness Camps and strengthens Health System for quality health services. SIGN through its intervention created pressure on health system to maintain the quality health service.



The best NGO networking is done by SIGN, in the year under review, is none other than TAAC (The Advocacy and Accountability Collaborative) Hub. It started its journey on 13th January 2022 to strengthen civil society advocacy and accountability action coordinating with experts within country and state. This initiative started to support and align with sustainable development principles of country leadership and ownership. It is a network of 43 NGOs led by Children in Need Institute (CINI) with the objectives of Sustainable domestic resources mobilization and Improved joint accountability.

During the year, SIGN attended workshop on “Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act, 1994”, workshop on Child Protection and Child Safeguarding”, SMART Advocacy and Family Planning”, “Evidence Generation”, “State level CSR Conclave”, “Policy on Sexual Harassment” and “Proposal writing”. This networking is quite beneficial for SIGN as well as for others.

In order to bring more benefit to the farmers, SIGN has built a link with Birsa Agriculture University Ranchi, 9 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) of Jharkhand, 2 seed companies and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Palandu, Ranchi. Time to time these government departments/agencies organize training and provide seeds for the farmers. This year, they have provided 2265-kilogram paddy seed, 840-kilogram wheat seed, 50 pieces of sprayer machines and 50-kilogram mustard seed to the farmers.



SIGN also networked with technical agencies as well as enthusiast group of people to offer service to the needy. In this process SIGN network with Young Indians (YI) to organize program like “Cancer Awareness and Menstruation Hygiene Management” for young girls in Nirmala College and Ursuline girls Hostels. Then organized program like “Good Touch and Bad Touch”, “Awareness on Road Safety”, “World Forest Day celebration” for school Children.



**It is my story of
CHANGE.....**



Ripple Effect; A Step Towards Organic Farming

Eto Khariya, a poor farmer from Semra village of Sisai, Gumla, even having done lot of hard work, was finding difficult to feed his family of two sons, a daughter and wife, started using chemical fertilizer to get paddy, maize, pulses, groundnut and vegetable from his 4 acres of land, but he was not getting return as he expected. In the meanwhile, he noticed that Sukra Khariya, a neighbouring farmer is not using chemical fertilizer but using something else and his farm produce looks better. When he inquired from Sukra about it, he said that it is “Aushadhi Matka Khad”. Sukra also told him that Aushadhi Matka Khad protects plants from pests and viruses. Eto Kharia wanted to know, where he got it from. Sukra brought Eto to a training organized by SIGN at Gram Utthan Kendra, Gumla.



Eto Kharia says that is the turning point of his life. He says that in that Agivulture training, he learnt what is the harm in using chemical fertilizer and what is the benefit of using organic manure. He learnt to make “Aushadhi Matka Khaad”, “Jeevamrit”, “Beejamrit” and Seed treatment. Having attended, the training, Eto Kharia, went for potato planting. He says for the first time in his life, before planting potato seed, he treated 150 kg of potato seeds treated and then planted in 40 decimal of land. He got the bumper crop. He says he could not believe that he could get so much of potato only by treating seeds before planting and time to time using “Aushadhi Matka Khaad” and “Jeevamrit”. He had also planted 25 papaya plants which he got from SIGN, Ranchi.

He is very happy and very thankful to SIGN for organizing such a life changing training for poor farmer like him. he says, it is because of the use of chemical fertilizer; he was losing so much. Now he is all for organic farming. He says, “if you want to save your family and land then leave the use of chemical fertilizer and go for organic farming. As mother needs preparation before child birth, so also every seed needs treatment before plantation.



Biti Hembrom, a school dropout, joins the school again

CORONA was a nightmare for many families. Many families lost their loved ones. Many children stopped going to the school due to lockdown and never went back to the school any more. Biti Hembrom the daughter of Surjon Hembrom from Ambadihi of Amrapada block had same story. Due to pandemic lockdown, she stopped going to the school, but when lockdown was lifted up and the school was reopened, Biti never went to the school nor her parents persuaded her to go to the school. Her life was normal, doing house hold work, grazing goats and loitering about aimlessly. This was the time when SIGN started focusing on adolescents through mother and child health care project.



SIGN started motivating Village level Child Protection Committee (VLCPC) to work for adolescents especially the adolescent girls. In one of such meetings, the topic of school dropouts was discussed and the search for such children were done. On 16 May 2023, VLCPC of Ambadiha Village, in their search for school dropouts, identified Biti Hembrom, who was a school dropout due to pandemic lockdown in 2020. Immediately VLCPC of Ambadiha came into action.

Mrs. Mansoori Dev, the president Ambadiha VLCPC, together with few members of VLCPC, spoke to Biti Hembrom, where Biti expressed her willingness to join the school. VLCPC, Ambadiha took the initiatives and took all the trouble to re-admit Biti Hemberom in the school. They made Biti parents especially her father Surjon Hembrom understand, why education is important. Then went to meet Mr. Chhoto Kisku, the Headmaster of the Government School, Ambadhiha and got her admitted in the school. She got the books fromb the school. She is continuing school after the summer vacation. Biti Hembrom wants to become a teacher after the study.

First time in Years an Ambulance coming to Chhota Basko

Chhota Basko, a small village, in Singarsi Panchayat on the hillock, though peaceful, but isolated village of Amrapara Block in Pakur district. Most of the residents belong to Paharia community, the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group. They have lot of fear going to the hospital. Every child, dead or alive, is born at home. On 10th March 2023, Sister Milka Mary, the District Coordinator and Seerill Kisku, the Block Animator of Mother and Child health care project of SIGN, on their village visit reached Chhota Basko. On reaching there, Samuel Soren, the Community Mobilizer took them to the house of Laxmi Paharin, as he knew that days of labour pain of Laxmi was closing. On reaching the house of Laxmi Paharin, Sister Milka Mary and Seerill Kisku, realized that they have reached the house just on the time of delivery. Mrs. Swati Hembrom, the ANM was conducting the delivery, but she was stuck into a difficult situation. Though the child was delivered, but her Umbilical cord was not operated and placenta was taking time to come out. Sister Milka Mary and Seerill Kisku's arrival was a blessing in disguise.



They immediately got into action. They rushed outside of the village and called for an ambulance, as mobile connectivity in Chhota Basko is a problem. With this critical condition Laxmi Paharin was sent to the Hospital in the Ambulance. The umbilical cord and the placenta was operated and vaccine was given the child. After a long conversation, Sister Milka Mary and Seerill Kisku convinced Laxmi Paharin to stay in the hospital. Mother and the child is healthy. On their next visit, Laxmi Paharin and her husband Srikant Paharia thanked Sister Milka Mary and Seerill Kisku and said – “We would have lost the life of Laxmi, if God had not brought them to their house on 10th March.” Community leaders also said that this is first time that the any ambulance entered their village. Now whole village knows that to have safe delivery, it is always good to go to the hospital.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT



Our sincere thanks to you dear friends for helping us to accompanying our DSSSs' partners, first and foremost in Strategic planning and now developing necessary policies and other legal documents.



We are grateful to you for introducing Safeguarding Policy to SIGN as well as facilitating in formulating Safeguarding Policy for the organization



Today an underprivileged child can dream of going to the school, is possible because a BIG brother, like you, is there to support their education. Thanks so much



Only with your support, SIGN dare to think of bringing down MMR and IMR in the hard to reach districts of Jharkhand. Thank you so much



We highly appreciate your understanding to prepare the professionals in the development sector as well as preparing a second line of leadership in the organization. Thanks so much



Thanks for your understanding of the need to revive Tribal value systems, culture, and heritage. You support means so much to us.



Your support has given hope to the farmers in farming. They are growing in confidence in adopting organic farming. Thanks so much.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

SIGN is privileged to be associated with TECHNICAL Institutes like yours, dear friends. It is because of your generosity that SIGN Staff and its beneficiaries gained from your expertise and support. We express our sincere THANKS to you.



Save the Children



**Birsa Agriculture
University,
Jharkhand**



**NABARD,
Jharkhand**



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



**Young
Indians**



**Hoffman Law
Associates,
Jharkhand**



**devnet
Development Network**

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

SIGN is privileged to be associated with TECHNICAL Institutes like yours, dear friends. It is because of your generosity that SIGN Staff and its beneficiaries gained from your expertise and support. We express our sincere THANKS to you.



**Samaj Vikas
Sansthan
Chandwa**



**Dumka Social and
Educational
Society, Dumka**



**Gram Utthan
Kendra, Gumla**



**Jan Vikas Kendra,
Hazaribagh**



**Catholic Charities,
Jamshedpur**



**Hoffman Social
Service Society,
Khunti**



**Catholic Charities,
Ranchi**



**Vikas Kendra,
Simdega**



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, 2023, 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, 2023 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, 2023.

Date : 19-07-2023

Place : Ranchi



NRV & Associates

Chartered Accountants

Rajesh

(CA. Rajesh Himatsingka, Partner)

M.N. 401880; UDIN - 23401880BGYSXO9442

Shyam Bazar Road (Azim Gali), Dumka - 814 101 (Jharkhand)

Branch - Kolkata

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 2023

Ref No.	Particulars	Note No.	As at 31 March, 2023 (Rs.)
A	SOURCES OF FUNDS		
1	Corpus and Capital Fund		
	(a) Corpus Fund	2.0	50,24,343
	(b) Capital Fund	2.1	43,24,937
2	Current liabilities		
	(a) Other current liabilities	2.3	51,39,268
	TOTAL		1,44,88,548
B	APPLICATION OF FUNDS		
1	FIXED ASSETS		
	Fixed assets	2.2	9,36,313
2	Current Assets, Loans and Advances		
	(c) Cash in Hand		94,252
	(d) Cash at Bank		57,49,229
	(e) Fixed Deposits		76,76,016
	(f) Other current assets		32,738
	TOTAL		1,44,88,548

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 - 23401880BGYSXO9442

Firm Reg No- 325333E

Place : Ranchi

Date : 19/07/2023



[Signature]

Secretary

Social Initiatives for Growth & Networking (SIGN)

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

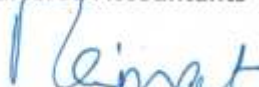
Receipt & Payment Account for the year ended 31st March 2023

Ref No.	Particulars	For the year ended 31 March, 2023 (Rs.)
I	RECEIPTS	
	<u>Opening Balance</u>	
	Cash in Hand	44,859
	Cash at Bank	67,34,596
	Fixed Deposits	72,44,521
		1,40,23,976
	Grants / Donations / Other Income / Receipts	
	Foreign Contribution Account	6,50,43,980
	Local Account	16,04,778
	Total	8,06,72,733
II	PAYMENTS	
	Foreign Contribution Account	6,61,37,705
	Local Account	10,15,532
	Total	6,71,53,236
	<u>Closing Balance</u>	
	Cash in Hand	94,252
	Cash at Bank	57,49,229
	Fixed Deposits	76,76,016
		1,35,19,497

As per our Report of even date

For M/s NRV & Associates

Chartered Accountants



CA. Rajesh Himatsingka

Partner

M.No.- 401880; UDIN - 23401880BGYSXO9442

Firm Reg No- 325333E

Place : Ranchi

Date : 19/07/2023





Secretary

Social Initiatives for Growth & Networking (SIGN)

Dear Edmund Kerketta, as you embark on a new path we at SIGN, wish you nothing but all the luck and success for the bright future ahead



Thank you for the good memories that we shared together at SIGN! God Bless you!

OUR CORE TEAM



Fr. Bipin Kumar Pani
Secretary Cum Director



Walter Z Kerketta
Regional Coordinator



Chanchal Jyoti Bara
HoD Sponsorship Dept.



Satyendra Tudu
Regional Coordinator



Rena Soreng
Senior Accountant



Manish Toppo
Regional Coordinator



Rakesh Kiro
Regional Coordinator



Archana P Kujur
Assistant Accountant



Abhishek S Xalxo
Assistant Sponsorship
Department



Pricilla Kullu
Support Staff
Sponsorship Dept.



Joseph Dhodrai
Support Staff



Social Initiatives for Growth and Networking (SIGN)

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

Phone: 0651-2210211, Mobile: +91-94311779925

E-mail: signranchi2010@gmail.com

www.signranchi.in