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Social Initiatives for Growth and Networking

HIS GRACE VINCENT AIND PRESIDENT | MOST REV. BINAY KANDULNA VICE PRESIDENT | FR. BIPIN PANI SECRETARY



Dear Friends and Well-wishers,

As we take a moment to reflect on the milestones and achievements of this fiscal year, it is with profound gratitude, I present to you the 2023-2024 annual report. This report underscores our dedication to creating lasting, positive change in the lives of children, families, and their communities.

Promoting children's education remains central to our mission, and we deeply appreciate the support of all our sponsors, donors, and supporters especially Fratelli Dimenticati Onlus, who has been tirelessly supported our efforts to educate underprivileged children. Through sponsorship program, SIGN has facilitated the education of 10537 school children in 21 schools and 16 hostels. Additionally, with the support of Kindermissionwerk, under health program, SIGN has enabled the education of 1959 children for high school studies. I am delighted to report that 2214 adolescents now have a platform to freely express themselves in 162 Adolescents groups.

SIGN has achieved significant advancement in child and maternal health care over the past year. Our primary focus has been to enhance care during the perinatal period for mothers and new-borns. We have transitioned from narrow focus on disease-specific programs (Immunization, polio, pneumonia, diarrhea) to comprehensive approach aimed at strengthening health systems. Therefore, 3460 pregnant women and 10,690 lactating mothers were facilitated to avail Village Health Sanitation & Nutrition Day (VHSND) services. 3312 deliveries were safely conducted in the Government Hospital and only 241 deliveries occurred at home.

Rural Jharkhand is homeland of farmers, where farming stands as one of the most important and ancient profession. However, smallholder and marginal farmers often endure poverty. The challenge of earning a sustainable livelihood from agriculture drive many to migrate to urban areas in search of alternative opportunities. Through its interventions, SIGN aims to instil confidence among farmers in its project areas that they can thrive in Jharkhand itself. SIGN is actively promoting organic farming integrated with allied activities using a scientific approach

However, the year is marked with two important initiatives: the preservation and promotion of Tribal culture and philosophy as well as the promotion of Safeguarding policies in our institution. The identity of tribal communities is deeply intertwined with their culture, characterized by a profound bond with their nature. As societies increasingly embrace modernised development, the richness, diversity, and depth of tribal cultures tend to fade away, therefore this year SIGN, with the support of Misereor, putting all its effort to promote tribal customs, culture and philosophy among the tribal community along with youth and children. It is also trying to re-establish tribal self-governance system.

There is a widespread call for safe living conditions and Safe working environment, echoing from every corner, from children to vulnerable adults. I am pleased to inform you all that SIGN has its own Safeguarding policy. As a regional organization, it has conducted orientation on safeguarding policy for staff members of various organizations, as well as for priests, nuns and teachers.

Under Institutional Development (one of the Strategic Pillars of SIGN), SIGN, with the support of MANOS UNIDAS, facilitated Capacity building training for the Diocesan Partners to build the second line leadership of four Diocesan Social Service Societies. We are thankful to MANOS UNIDAS.

As we look back on our collective achievements, we are deeply humbled by the blessings of God. His grace and mercy have sustaining force, empowering us to persevere in our mission.

Finally, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all our esteemed Well-wishers, supporters, and donors, for your invaluable contributions for the noble task of serving the poor, because none of these accomplishments would have been possible without your generous support. I am sure that with the support of our well-wishers, donors and supporters, SIGN will be able to bring positive impact in the life of downtrodden and help them to lead a dignified life.

Let us remain steadfast in our commitment to doing good, knowing that our efforts are making a tangible difference in the lives of those we serve.

Warm regards,



Fr. Bipin Kumar Pani
Secretary, SIGN