

04 Release of "Eye-Opener" the
Autobiography of our Founder,
Mahantesh GK

Vol 12 Issue 26 | July to Sept 2020

SAMHITA

A SAMARTHANAM PUBLICATION

06 Samarthanam's COVID
Campaign continues
Offers respite to many people

Steve Waugh visits India 05
Includes Blind Cricket in his
Photobook, 'Spirit of Cricket'

A day to remember 05
Mahantesh GK's
50th Birthday
Celebrations



ಸಮರ್ಥನಂ ಅಂಗವಿಕಲರ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ
Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled®

www.samarthanam.org

Samarthanam is a
CRISIL rated organization
and certified as "Strong delivery capability
and High financial proficiency" organization



EDUCATION



SKILLING



ENVIRONMENT



SPORTS



ARTS & CULTURE



HEALTH & NUTRITION



REHABILITATION

SAMARTHANAM AT A GLANCE

Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled, founded in 1997, is an NGO working towards facilitating opportunities to enable persons with disabilities and the underserved to keep pace with the rest of the society by providing quality education, accommodation, nutritious food, vocational training and placement based rehabilitation. It was established by Founder Managing Trustee Mahantesh G Kivadasannavar along with his schoolmate and childhood friend, Late. Nagesh SP. The organization is affiliated to the World Blind Union and Rehabilitation International. Acknowledging the efforts, National Award for Child Welfare (2010) by Ministry of Women & Child Development, Government of India and National Award for Child Welfare (2014) in the institution category were awarded. Samarthanam also received the National Award for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities 2017.

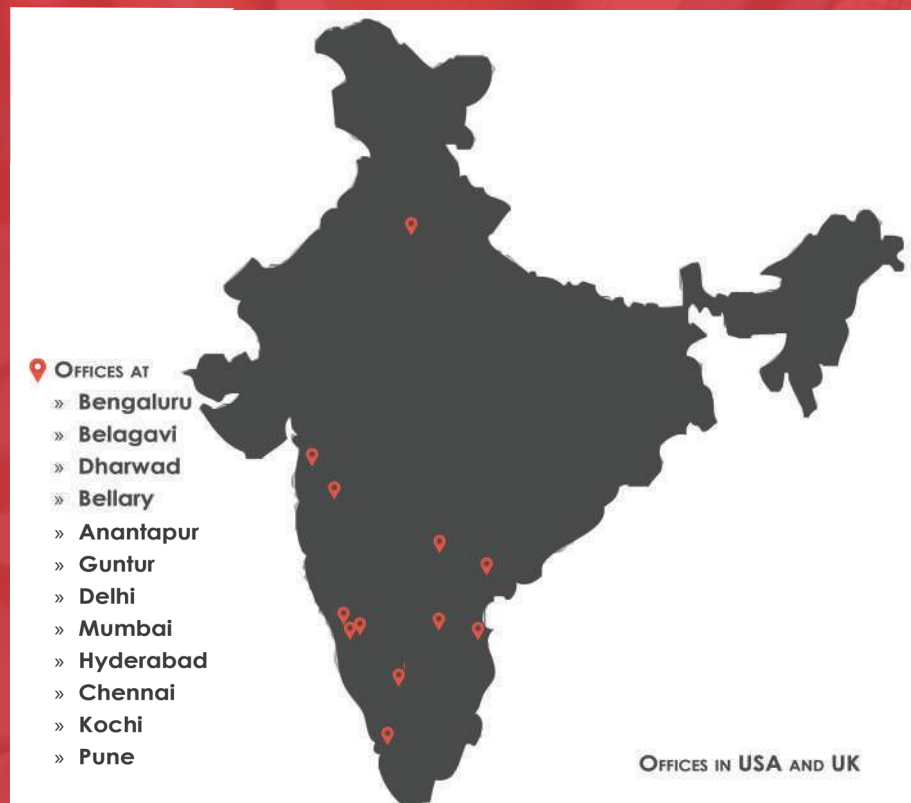
Samarthanam envisions to touch 10,00,000 lives by the year 2030

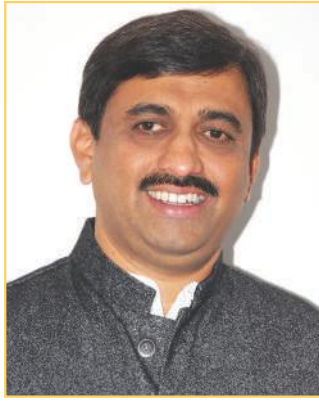
Vision

An inclusive society free from discrimination where persons with disabilities become contributing members, living with dignity and respect.

Mission

To empower visually impaired, disabled and underprivileged people through developmental initiatives focusing on educational, social, economic, cultural and technological aspects.





FROM THE FOUNDER

Mahantesh GK

Founder Managing Trustee, Samarathanam Trust
President, Cricket Association for the Blind in India
President, World Blind Cricket

COVID19 has disrupted the lives of millions of people across the world. Thousands have succumbed to the communicable virus, and more are entering into quarantine. While social distancing has been concluded to be the only solution to ward off the evil virus, this very solution has become a bane to people with disabilities. It is not just this visually impaired people whose plight needs attention, but there are hundreds of people living in remote regions of the State which have been declared as redspots, closed from all sides with no access to basic necessities.

Samarathanam stood on the fore in helping these communities fight COVID19 and restore their livelihoods to an extent. Samarathanam's task force has taken up the brave and industrious job of responding to every person in need from various corners of the city. The timely response by our supporters strengthened our mission and helped us reach out to the masses in need.

The Relief Campaign is still on and we thank the immense support received from various sponsors, corporate and Government, helping us implement without any setback. A special mention and a big thanks to my team who are bravely executing the efforts from various cities.

These are uncertain and difficult times which we hope to overcome very soon. As we all stand together, follow the rules of protecting ourselves, social distancing, and proper hygiene, we look forward to witnessing a COVID free nation soon.

Corona crisis has not hindered Samarathanam's in-house initiatives. Our programmes have moved online and we are continuing to offer our education and training services via webinars, video classes and conference calls. I am proud of my entire crew at Samarathanam for keeping all the programmes up and running without any setback. Our higher education students scored top marks in the final exams and I appreciate the hard work of teachers and students towards accomplishing their goals.

The day, tenth of September, is very prominent in my diary as it is the Birthday of my dear friend, Nagesh SP (Co-Founder of Samarathanam) and I chose this day to launch my Autobiography, "Eye-Opener." It has marked a milestone in my journey and is a treasured moment for me. The book was released by Rahul Dravid, Satish Vishwanathan, Rajendra KR, Subu Kota and in the presence of my family, friends and well-wishers. I am thankful to the guests for making the day unforgettable with their honored presence and kind words. Many people have played a pivotal role in my life journey, supporting my endeavors at every level and I am truly indebted. I turned 50 this 28th of September and am thankful to Samarathanam family for making the day the most memorable of all.

As we move towards the end of the year, I look forward to receiving unconditional support from our followers who have always believed in our cause.

Thank you.

Mahantesh GK



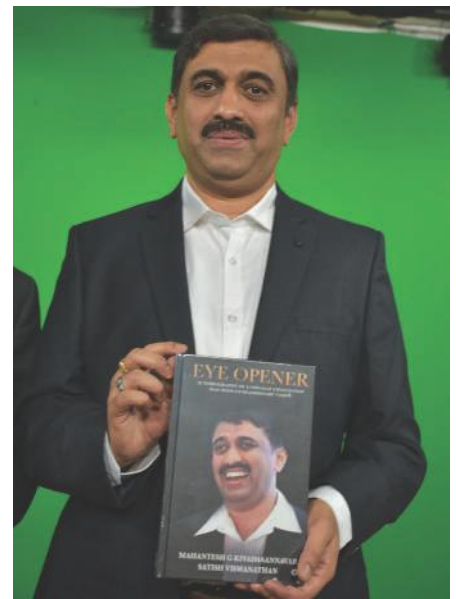
NEWS CORNER

The release of “Eye-Opener”

Autobiography of an ordinary man with an extraordinary vision, Mahantesh GK

The story of Mahantesh GK is transcribed into an amazing, soul-stirring book by the name “Eye-Opener,” co-authored by Satish Vishwanathan, a Cricket Journalist. The autobiography was released in a virtual event by Rahul Dravid, legendary Indian Cricketer and former Indian Team Captain, Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee of Samarthanam, Satish Vishwanathan, Cricket Journalist, Rajendra KR, Mahantesh’s mentor and Subu Kota, President of Samarthanam USA, virtually from their respective locations.

The book presents us with the fascinating journey of Mahantesh GK that exemplifies the courage, determination, dedication and perseverance of an ordinary man to achieve his dreams. Published by Notion Press, this autobiography opens a window into the world of Mahantesh GK and his love for Cricket that acted as the driving force behind turning his extraordinary vision into reality.



“Eye Opener” is an inspiration to the entire society. It is a fascinating story, a story waiting to be written, needed to be written and the time has come to record decades of achievements. It is a great story of inspiration of what can be achieved if you have an extraordinary vision. We are inspired to what can be done to the society from the story of Mahantesh GK. He touched the lives of many people out there and made a difference in their lives.”

- Rahul Dravid, former Indian Cricket player and Captain of the Indian national team



“Completing my autobiography and releasing it today, on my friend and Co-Founder of Samarthanam, Nagesh SP’s birthday is a treasured moment for me. The book was released by Rahul Dravid, Satish Vishwanathan, Rajendra KR, and Subu Kota which makes me feel extremely honoured. I convey my sincere gratitude to all those people who have been a part of my life’s journey. I look forward to continuing my service to the society and contribute to the making of an inclusive world.”

- Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee, Samarthanam

Our Founder Managing Trustee celebrated his fiftieth birthday

Samarthanam family got together to celebrate the fiftieth birthday of Mahantesh GK, the Founder Managing Trustee. It was an event to remember as the celebration included all his friends, family, well-wishers, teachers and staff of Samarthanam.

A short video highlighting the milestones in Mahantesh's life was played for the audience to reminisce his life achievements and successes. To honor the most important people in Mahantesh's life and those who have played a significant role in his journey, including friends, mentors, teachers, well-wishers, Mahantesh presented them with Mementoes which read "I am eternally grateful for the big part you played in my journey to 50." It was a gesture filled with respect, gratitude and admiration.

The day was marked with celebrations, memories and good wishes while team Sunadha's performances raised the spirit of birthday by leaps and bounds. Samarthanam family expressed their affection and delight to their leader by wishing him lots of good health, happiness and success all through his journey.



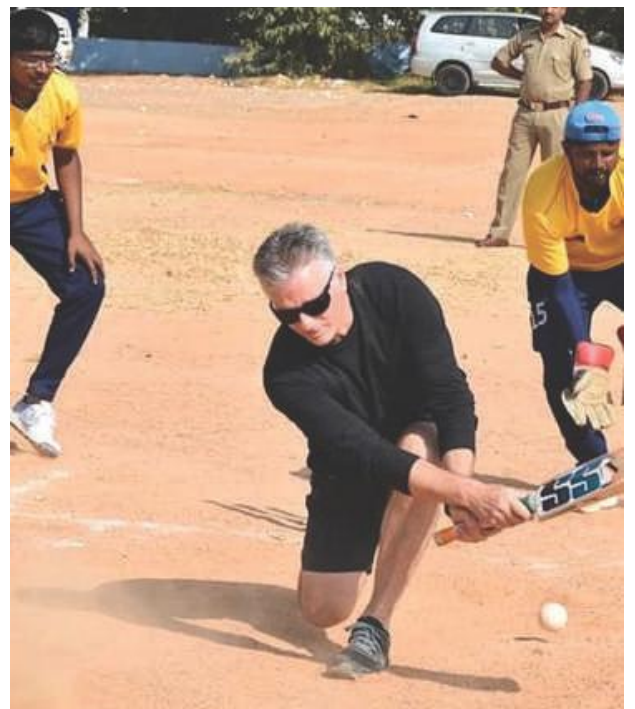
Steve Waugh is inspired by Blind Cricket

Mentions the game in his memoir

Steve Waugh is a name well known in the cricketing world owing to his exceptional cricketing talent and being the most successful test captain in cricket history.

Steve Waugh had been in India before the Coronavirus pandemic hit the world. He was on a mission to discover cricket in India with his camera for his photobook "Spirit of Cricket". Along the expedition he captured photos and videos of every possible place where cricket was played in the country. He traveled to many cities and beautifully covered the passion of cricket expressed by the Indian folk.

"Blind cricket is inspiring," said the famous Steve Waugh, who tried his hand at the game along with our men and women blind cricket players. Blind Cricket has found its rightful place in his book on "Spirit of Cricket" and we, at Cricket Association for the Blind in India, feel proud and honored to be a part of this work.



THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID19 CONTINUES

Samarthanam steps up its Relief Services across the country

Samarthanam Trust had initiated relief activities across the country to combat COVID19 and offer respite to those who have been severely affected due to the pandemic. Apart from the poor, disabled, elderly, doctors, healthcare workers, we also have expanded our services and reached out to sanitation workers, frontline workers, police, medicos and people in remote regions.

The relief team is actively distributing necessary supplies across the city with the support from Corporate, Government and many donors. We have been organizing distribution programmes primarily focusing on assisting the disabled communities, helping them live through these difficult times.

We are truly grateful to the service delivered by the various departments including police, hospitals, sanitation, healthcare, and community welfare. It would not have been possible to live through the pandemic without their unrelenting service. Our campaigns are devoted to assisting these brave men along with helping out those families who have been adversely affected due to the raging COVID19. The battle has not been won yet. Samarthanam's Relief Services are being continued across the country, reducing the repercussions of the pandemic to a certain level.

IMPACT OF THE CAMPAIGN

- Facilitating services to People with Disabilities at doorstep
- Supporting the poorer sectors with essentials and food
- Distributing Dry-ration to the poor, disabled and people in need
- Frontline workers supported with Dry-ration Kits
- Assisting the elderly with basic needs, necessities and medical support
- Supplying fresh meals twice a day to the hungry
- Hot meals distributed to people from stations set up across the city
- Supporting the hospitals, police and frontline workers with medical kits
- Supplying health care essentials to sanitation crew
- Raising awareness on Social Distancing and COVID safety measures
- Sensitizing the general public



RELIEF MEASURES



14 Cities Covered

Dry Ration Kits

Kit containing basic essentials like Food grains (rice, wheat, jowar, dal), Sugar, Coffee/ tea. Milk, Assortment of limited shelf life vegetables and Masala items.

Packed Food

Healthy hot meals provided twice a day to the poor and weaker sections of the society.

PPE and Health Care Kit

N95 Masks, Personal Protection Equipment (PPE), Tami flu Tablets, Ply face mask, Nitrile gloves. Sanitizer

ICU Beds

Soap dispensers

2 Ply masks

Sanitizers

Hand wash

Online fund transfer

Tabs and other virtual education equipment

OVERALL IMPACT



36000+

Dry Ration Kits for Poor and Disabled



5,00,000+

Packed Food for Disabled and Daily-wage Workers



50,000+

PPE and Health Kits



25000+

COVID Warriors Supported



5000+

Children of Frontline Workers Received Support



5000+

PwD received Online Fund Transfer



15+

Hospitals Covered

COVID19 RELIEF ACTIVITIES ACROSS INDIA

DRY RATION KITS



Persistent Foundation supported the families of children from 10 Government Schools who are Samarathanam's MidDay Meal beneficiary families. The contribution has helped us in providing support to the disabled and low-income families across Bengaluru.



Low's India partnered with Samarathanam to help people with ration kits, response relief kits and personal protective equipment.



Morgan Stanley supported the poor and low-income families across Bengaluru with dry-ration kits. Essential items and dry ration kits containing cooking oil, food grains and spices were distributed to marginalized and disabled persons across different parts of Karnataka.



Dry ration kits were given away to people with disabilities at Kolar. The distribution was led by Srinivas Gowda MLA Kolar.



Dry ration kits were distributed to the poor families of Chennapatna.

PACKED FOOD

In association with Morgan Stanley, Samarthanam provided hot meals to poor and low-income communities at Bengaluru to ensure these families don't go hungry during these difficult times. Samarthanam supported disabled, daily wage workers, senior citizens and poor marginalized populations from weaker sections of the society with meals twice a day.



PPE AND HEALTHCARE KITS

CV Raman General Hospital, Bangalore



Samarthanam joined hands with Societe Generale World Solidarity Programme to launch the relief distribution service at various cities. PPE kits were distributed at ESIC Hospital Rajajinagar and CV Raman General Hospital, Bangalore to fight against the corona virus.

Kilpauk Government Hospital, Chennai



Samarthanam and Societe Generale gave away PPE kits at Kilpauk Government Hospital in Chennai,

CV Raman General Hospital, Bangalore



Samarthanam with the support of Persistent Foundation distributed PPE kits to Jayanagar General Hospital, and C V Raman General Hospital, Bangalore.

The Coca Cola Foundation and United Way Mumbai supported PPE Kit Distribution

In association with Coca-Cola Foundation and United Way Mumbai, Samarthanam carried out various distribution programmes, mitigating the adverse effects of corona virus.

- Healthcare essentials and hygiene supplies were distributed amongst sanitation workers and ASHA workers across multiple wards in Bengaluru.
- 3-ply masks, hand-washing liquid, and sanitisers were given away to sanitation workers at Byrasandra and Gurappanapalya wards. Health and hygiene supplies were distributed to the office of District Health Officer, Bangalore Urban for the safety of community health workers.
- 3-ply masks, hand-washing liquid, and sanitisers went out to sanitation workers of Shivanahalli and Dayanandanaga wards in Bengaluru.
- Health safety kits including crucial sanitation supplies and protective gears were distributed among frontline warriors at Bellary.
- 3-ply masks, liquid hand-wash and sanitizers given to sanitation workers at eight different wards in Bengaluru. The same were given out at Ganganagara and Gangenahalli wards in Bengaluru.
- Distribution of ICU beds, PPE kits, masks, gloves, sanitizers, IR thermometers was carried out at Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Chest Diseases, Bengaluru.
- A distribution event was flagged off by Shri B Sriramulu, Minister for Health and Family Welfare & Backward Classes Welfare in the Government of Karnataka where health safety kits have been given away to the hospital crew at C.V Raman General Hospital and Victoria Hospital in Bangalore.

Distribution at Shivanahalli and Dayanandanagar



Distribution at Gangenahalli, Ganganagar



Kits distributed by B. Sriramulu, Health & Family Welfare Minister, Karnataka to sanitation workers and ASHA workers



Kits distribution at Byrasandra, and Gurappanapalya



Health Kits and ICU Beds Distribution at Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Chest Diseases



COVID Campaign beneficiaries express their gratitude

“We need to survive but we don’t have any money,” says a slum dweller who lost his daily wage job and lives with his pregnant wife and two children. The situation has been very critical as I have no work in hand and no money to feed my children. “If not for Samarthanam’s ration kits it would have been impossible for us to survive. The ration received will help us feed our children for a month. We are thankful to God and to Samarthanam.”



Samarthanam team is entering into containment zones and red zones and distributing kits to people living here. In this critical situation we requested Samarthanam to support and they immediately helped with ration kits. The help that is received is unforgettable and we are greatly thankful to them. Many thanks to Samarthanam and their supporters.



Every day we receive packed food two times and we are relieved that our children are not hungry anymore. With no job and no money it has been difficult for me to feed my family. I am still looking for work but nothing has opened as of now. Thanks to the Trust that we can survive till everything gets back to normal.



Everything has come to a standstill and we are waiting for our situation to get back to normal. Meanwhile Samarthanam and their team brings us food twice a day. We are thankful to them.



SNIPPETS

- Samarthanam celebrated the birthday of Late SP Nagesh, Founder Trustee of Samarthanam on the occasion of his 53rd Birth Anniversary at HSR Layout Head Office in Bangalore. SP Nagesh’s contribution to the making of Samarthanam and CABI cannot be forgotten and his birthday serves as an opportunity to remember our Founder’s vision and follow his footsteps in contributing to the making of an inclusive world.
- Amway India launched the “Disinfection Drive” at Samarthanam School and hostel premises. A team cleaned visible surfaces followed by spraying disinfectant to prevent the spread of COVID-19 virus and other viral respiratory illnesses in schools.
- Mahantesh GK was one of the many eminent speakers at a Webinar organized on the World Humanitarian Day. The topic was Humanity- Language of the soul and organized by Public Relations Council of India- Bangalore Chapter.
- Mahantesh G K went on air to speak on the topic, Welfare of specially challenged during COVID19 crisis on DD Chandana. The programme helped in raising awareness and garnering support for the Relief Campaign.



INCLUSIVE EDUCATION AT SAMARTHANAM SCHOOLS HIGHLIGHTS FOR THIS QUARTER

The current academic year, Samarthanam had to resume their education online owing to the COVID pandemic situation. During this period our teachers are providing students with the rest of the year's lessons with the help of webinars, presentations and video classes. An online study platform is launched that can be accessed by the students from their homes to continue their learning programmes.

- Teacher Training Programmes are being regularly organized at the School for the teaching staff to understand the technicalities of running online classes. With the help of Zoom meetings teachers are advised on conducting Parent –Teacher meetings, direct online classes, reviewing of the current educational programme, methods of teaching, collecting feedback, and encouraging parents on taking the classes seriously.
- Regular online classes are being conducted dutifully and alongside students are also receiving sessions on health, fitness, corona safety measures and physical activities.
- The 74th Independence Day has been celebrated at the School in a small gathering with flag hoisting by Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee and Vasanti Savanur, Trustee. Assistive devices were distributed for few children with special needs.

DEAF RESOURCE CENTRE

Samarthanam's DRC is a place to bring together all the Hearing Impaired students under one roof and help them cope with virtual education. The method of teaching would be Total Communication that is using speech, gestures, reading, listening, writing and very importantly Sign Language. Sign Language combined with the other modes of communication, is the best way to help our students gain knowledge quickly and accurately.



Assistive Device distribution by Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee and Vasanti Savanur, Trustee

VIRTUAL INTERACTIVE SESSIONS

- Eblity organised Webinars on “Impact of Positive Reinforcements on children with special needs” and Recognising Academic and Related Difficulties
- AIG conducted an online live zoom meeting to execute ‘Talent Hunt ‘for the children with special needs where the kids participated in drawing and coloring activities. The activity proved to add great fun to the students daily routine.
- A volunteer from Bristle Cone conducted a virtual session with children with special needs with activities like storytelling, spot the difference, rhymes and singing.
- Children with special needs took part in the virtual aerobics and dance classes conducted by a volunteer

TEACHER TRAINING SESSIONS

- CRT organised a zoom meeting on the topic E- Manthana on National Education Policy 2020, KCRO, CACL – K and CRT. The ID and Primary school teachers attended the meeting.
- The ID school teachers and parents attended a webinar on ‘How to manage learning at home through play for younger children with special needs.’
- Seva- In- Action arranged a zoom meeting for the staff to discuss on the orientation of teachers for online quizzing to prepare children with disabilities during this COVID-19 pandemic.
- Primary and ID school teachers have attended the Digital Literacy Program conducted by Brillio Software Company.
- The ID and Primary school teachers attended a webinar organised by AIG on “Understanding the functionality and features of Google meet, WebX and Zoom, making their class implementation trouble-free.
- Eblity Webinar series conducted an online webinar on the topic “Understanding and Responding to Self stimulating Repetitive Behaviours.” The speaker Gerd Winkler, Director at Global Autism solutions has been helping kids with Autism and their families from more than 24 countries for over 30 years.
- ISEA in collaboration with DSERT organised a webinar on “How to engage High Impact Online session securely” as part of a 4- day Karnataka state Online Teachers training Program.
- Wells Fargo conducted a virtual training session on ‘Leadership development’ for staff.
- National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities, Chennai organised a Webinar on “Home Based Multi – Sensory Integration Activities for children with special needs.
- A Webinar on “Education of Children with Disabilities in COVID- Challenges and Solutions” was held by Samarthanam Trust for Bihar Education Project Council (BEPC) attended by 252 participants, all functionaries at block, district and state level from Bihar.



Webinars organized for the teaching staff at Samarthanam

HIGH SCHOOL

- Samarthanam High School students are receiving online learning classes which are being effectively carried out by the staff. Teachers were a part of a few learning programmes perfecting over the MS Office Applications and also the details of online teaching. An online teachers training session on Cyber Safety and Security organized by Department of State Education Research and Training (DSERT), Karnataka in collaboration with Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA), was very useful for the teaching staff.
- Alongside, we are proud of the students from SSLC who have recorded good results in the exams with three students securing distinction and 63% as the overall result.



Online Teachers Training

HIGHER EDUCATION

Samarthanam runs Higher Education programmes at Ananthapur, Guntur, Pune, Bangalore, North Karnataka and Delhi. These programmes support the educational needs of students who wish to take up college courses and give direction to their respective careers.

Students from Higher Education Programme received enrolment into various colleges and are waiting for the classes to begin. The higher education students from Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Delhi locations are being facilitated with online classes by their respective college faculty. During the Academic Year 2019-2020, 7 students have secured more than 80% in their PUC II Year Board Examination, Karnataka. While at Pune, all the students who took the PUC II year exam cleared with a good percentage and at Mumbai, in the Class 12 Board Exam, students recorded 92% pass percentage overall.

Apart from regular online classes, students from Ananthapur LRC registered for the Braille Reading Competition organized by Saksham NGO for visually impaired students.

STORIES OF CHANGE

Nagarathna, LRC Bangalore

Nagarathna is a visually impaired (partially) individual from a farming family in Kolar. Being an industrious, focused and studious person, she always wanted to live an independent life without seeking support from her family. After completing PUC, Nagarathna could not continue her education due to lack of financial support. Nagarathna approached Samarthanam Trust with a keen interest in the Skill Training Programme. She perceived the programme as an opportunity to her economic and social independence. With a lot of interest and dedication she attended the training and attained proficiency in Computers, English, Soft skills and Communication. After completing the training, with the support of the placements team, she attended an interview at a private firm and secured the job of Tele-caller. Nagarathna is now an independent woman with the ability to support her family and herself.





SAMARTHANAM SKILLING

SKILLING CENTRE BENGALURU

ONLINE LEARNING VIA WHATSAPP, VIDEO PLATFORMS AND VOICE CALLS

Virtual training sessions for the entire class have been introduced via voice calls, whatsapp calls and group meetings. We are implementing the classes in smaller sessions with students divided into groups forming an easy and stress-free learning environment. Using Whatsapp and Online video recording platforms, the trainers share the topics, assignments, learning materials and teach through the online classes. Students who cannot avail online learning are provided with lessons over voice calls.

SKILLING CENTRE MUMBAI



Dry Ration kits distributed at Delhi

SKILLING CENTRE CHENNAI



PPE kit distribution to Hospitals at Chennai

SKILLING CENTRE MUMBAI

- Mumbai LRC is actively implementing online classes along with sessions on soft skills, interview preparation, building motivation, workplace ethics, communication, and other technological applications.
- Grocery Kit Distribution at Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation, Turbhe Central Godown, and Landmark
- Grocery Kit Distribution at NMMC Bholanath Ramdas Patil School. The school also received IT CPU's, Monitors, Tablets and Laptops from Bengaluru/Belgaum.
- Grocery Kit distribution at Airoli, Belapur, Digha, Ghansoli, Nerul, Koparkhairne, Vashi, Turbhe, Ganeshpuri and Vangani.
- PPE Kits handed over to the Municipal Corporation of the City of Navi Mumbai, Health Department, NMMC Hospital, Central Godown, CBD Belapur

SKILLING CENTRE HYDERABAD

- Virtual training classes, mock interview sessions, and motivational speeches were organized for the trainees.
- Volunteering sessions by Target Corporation on interview skills, and MS Excel proved to be beneficial.
- Interviews were organized for the trainees at six different companies.

SKILLING CENTRE KOCHI



Three candidates, Jestin, Abhijith and Blesson, who are Speech and Hearing Impaired from Kochi centre received placement at an e-commerce firm in Bangalore

SKILLING CENTRE PUNE



Dry Ration Kit Distribution at Pune by Sangeeta Athavale, a Social Activist

SKILLING CENTRE ANANTHAPUR

- Virtual training classes were conducted through Whatsapp calls, Video Calls and Con calls.
- Students also received training in IT, English and Soft skills through Knowledge Sharing Groups, Video Calls
- Students participated in “Talent Hunt Cultural Competitions” organised by Santhidham Foundation, Orissa and got selected for the final round
- Samarthanam “Annex building” and “Inclusive education project” were inaugurated at Kodikonda site by Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee of Samarthanam, Vasanti Savanur, Trustee, and Busegowda, Trustee. The Inclusive Education Programme is aimed to cover 150 villages and 200 children with disabilities to support their education needs.
- Interviews and placements are actively going on at the Ananthapur centre.



Relief Kit Distribution to the disabled at Kodikonda



Samarthanam Annex Building Inauguration

SKILLING CENTRE GUNTUR

- Interview sessions were organized for the trainees at various companies.
- A special training programme on use of Computers and Assistive Devices for Girls with visual impairment was conducted virtually.
- The Webinar on Interview Skills conducted by Target Association helped the trainees understand the details associated with interviewing.



Plantation Drive in association with Noble Foundation



Food Relief Kit Distribution to the needy

SKILLING CENTRE BALLARI



Ration kits and PPE kits distribution by Hon Minister of Health and Family Welfare, B. Sriramulu



Google Nest device distribution to frontline workers

SKILLING CENTRE BELAGAVI

- Samarthanam Belagavi centre activities have been covered exclusively by TV5 News Channel which helped in raising awareness among the disabled communities.
- Gurukul School Pune conducted a special volunteering training programme for the students to improve their interview skills and soft skills for six days.
- A guest lecture for soft skills and computer training was taken up by Guru School team members.
- Medical essential kits were distributed to hospital wards, corporation office and medical workers and police stations as part of COVID Campaign.
- Google Next devices were distributed to COVID Hospital workers.
- Dry grocery kits were distributed to the disabled and needy families across various places in Belagavi.

SKILLING CENTRE DHARWAD

- Virtual training classes are going on with beneficiaries being trained in BPO/IT/Soft Skills and English Communication.
- Google Nest devices were distributed to COVID Hospital workers.



Relief kit distribution



Various campus placement drives were carried out where a total of 23 candidates got placed



SAMARTHANAM ENVIRONMENT

Samarthanam's Parisara, apart from being the dry waste management service provider, also promotes the 3Rs, Reduce-Reuse-Recycle, with various activities raising awareness in the public. Parisara's sustainable dry waste recycling system aims to create a greener environment and lessen the burden on landfills.

- During this season, to stay safe from COVID, certain precautions are being taken by the Parisara team while implementing their routine.
- Awareness sessions on segregation were provided to the public along with the on-spot segregation was carried out in the presence of Health inspector, Marshal and Supervisor by Samarthanam Team.
- Samarthanam encouraged the PK's, and auto drivers to collect the segregated dry waste separately and transfer to the scrap vendor for an appropriate pay.
- All the members working in the field are advised to follow safety precautions and to stay safe from Corona virus.

Exxon Mobil project in Yelachenahalli

The project involves awareness programmes on source segregation across all households and the PK's. The team conducted a PK orientation programme in the presence of the Corporator, BBMP Supervisors, and Health Inspectors. Software employees, construction crew, and industries joined the team to conduct awareness camps and make announcements to the public on the significance of source segregation, wearing of mask and maintaining social distance. A waste management session was organized along with identification of vendors for dry waste collection, health awareness sessions, and COVID testing for the PK's.



WELL-BEING OUT OF WASTE

1078 tonnes
of dry waste
collected

168
tonnes of
LVP processed

WOW is a recycling programme, initiated by ITC. It is a corporate level program where the focus is on ensuring proper segregation and recycling of waste. In association with Samarthanam Trust, ITC executes various programmes under WOW with the help of BBMP.

- Sanitizing the DWCC has become one of the primary activities by the workers owing to the rising Corona crisis.
- BBMP officials visited the various wards and provided guidelines on DWCC maintenance, collection process, social distancing and health precautions.
- BBMP Commissioner and other officials visited various wards to initiate on the new BBMP policy for waste collection from the house holders while the time officers visited DWCC to inspect on the work process.



CRICKET ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND IN INDIA

Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI) this quarter, because of the COVID pandemic, was unable to organize cricket matches. The cricketers were forced to continue training indoors with a few individual outdoor sessions. Other activities include;

- An online meditation session was organized by CABI and led by an expert who helped the participants learn and understand the importance of meditation.
- A virtual AGM was organized by CABI with 28 State representatives attending the meeting. The major highlights include Indian Women's Cricket Team's participation for the Bilateral Cricket Series with England at England in August 2021, IndusInd Nagesh Trophy Men's National Tournament for the Blind to start later than the normal October-November, provisional recognition to newly formed associations in Chandigarh, Assam, Sikkim, Nagaland and Meghalaya, steps to revive the postponed tour of India by the South Africa Blind Men's team for a bilateral series.
- 700 Blind Cricketers from different levels across the country are being supported with direct cash transfers to help in sustaining their livelihoods.
- A Webinar was organized by former Indian women's team captain and BCCI Apex Council Member, Shantha Rangaswamy who addressed our Blind cricketers, both men and women, in an online seminar. She shared her invaluable experiences on playing through difficult times.
- The All India Visually Impaired Bankers Association organized a webinar on Blind cricket addressed by Indian Blind cricket team player Ajay Reddy and CABI General Secretary John David who explained the working of CABI and its purpose to a wide-ranging audience.

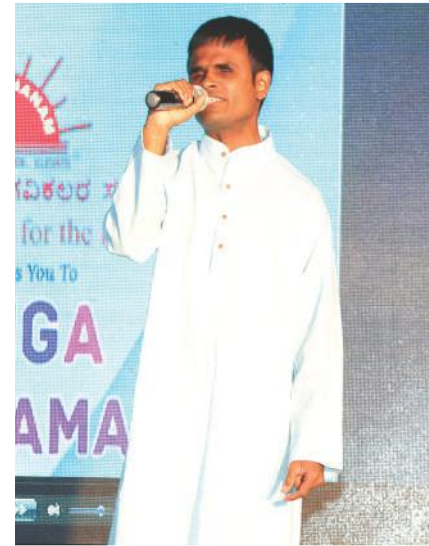




SUNADHA

Sunadha is the group of artists with disabilities at Samarthanam which performs on various National and International platforms, portraying Indian art and culture on stage.

This season has been a moment of pride for Samarthanam when singers Balasubramaniam and Veerabhadra got an opportunity to sing in a Kannada movie “Pawan Star” which is still in the making. Also Balasubramaniam was the runner-up in the nationwide talent hunt for artists with visual impairment organized by NAB Delhi. Another feather in the cap for Samarthanam Sunadha is Balasubramaniam receiving the opportunity to act in a Kannada movie titled “OLD MONK” which is still in the making.



STORIES OF CHANGE

Balasubramanyam is a versatile singer of the Sunadha Troupe. Hailing from Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh, he developed an interest for singing at an early age. While performing in 2014 at a regional programme on Suvarna Channel, he was noticed by Samarthanam and was invited to be part of the art and culture troupe.

Balasubramanyam has received free training from Samarthanam in the areas of music and computer skills. He has traveled across the US and UK as part of Samarthanam’s performances. We are constantly amazed at the way our visually impaired beneficiaries communicate with music. While he sings during special events, he has also honed his skills to be part of the Business Process Outsourcing unit of Samarthanam.

Samarthanam is constantly working to motivate our artists and seeing our disabled artists perform well, helps remove the disability barrier and create good artists and well rounded individuals.





SWADHARA GRUH

REHABILITATION

Swadhara Gruh provides a home for women in distress along with their children. Over the past 13 years, Swadhara has been consistently supporting women, helping them overcome adversities and training them to live independently. It provides food, accommodation, counseling, vocational training and further looks into their problems to provide the necessary support. Alongside, health camps, menstrual hygiene sessions and meetings with expert counselors are also arranged for the beneficiaries.

This quarter, Swadhara continued to provide their services to their women inmates along with providing safety against COVID pandemic, measures and precautions to stay safe during the COVID season.

STORIES OF CHANGE

Mercy DS is a young, educated and confident women who needed moral and emotional support to boost her confidence back into shape. She hails from Bangalore and before coming to Samarthanam Swadhara, Mercy was subject to various domestic issues which were close to breaking her down. Her family troubles started at a very young age and Mercy resorted to Samarthanam for help. Swadhara team helped in nursing her morale back and also assisted in taking up the vocational training courses at Samarthanam. She enrolled into the Computer training, and Tailoring sessions. Being a part of Swadhara, Mercy learnt to restore her self-belief and economic independence.

Samarthanam provided shelter, safety, counseling support, vocational training and of all, the confidence to handle any situation. Mercy is leading a contented and independent life today without any setbacks.



Given the Pandemic scenario, the volunteering team had to reinvent the wheel and figure out how to engage corporates in CSR activities virtually. Activities such as audiobook recording, podcasts for LRC, blogging, creating content for ID and Primary school topics, and Search engine optimization were shared with the corporates. This has now become the new normal, at least for the rest of the year to come.

VOLUNTEERING CORPORATES

Target, Wells Fargo, Goldman Sachs, Amazon (India), KPIT, Sanofi, Pro Engage, AIG, PwC, Inventures Academy, AT &T, Cognizant, NTT Data, Lowes, Crane India, State Street, ExxonMobil, Amandeus, Avevy Dennison, Lenovo, Eclerx, HGS, NetApp, KoneCranes, Unisys, Citi Bank, Brillio.

INTERNSHIPS

About 7 students completed their internship at Samarthanam in this quarter. They were exposed and engaged in all the programmes right from Schools to Digital Library. These include students from Christ University & SVKM's Narsee Monjee Institute of Management studies.

HIGHLIGHTS

Sanofi, as part of virtual volunteering, contributed their time to blogging, making content for LRC and the School to build a repository for the lessons taught in the curriculum, Audio recording, creating content for ID & Primary school and mock interviews for the skilling beneficiaries in online classes. It was a volunteering week for Sanofi and we had close to 300 volunteers who participated in different causes.

AIG was extremely enthusiastic about conducting fun activities for our ID students and our skilling beneficiaries. They conducted talent hunt for the ID students and singing competition for the young adults. The volunteers also conducted a digital literacy session with the ID school teachers and skilling trainers, where effective usage of Zoom, Google Meet and WebX were elucidated.

PwC decided to work on Audio recording and Blogging. The Blogs written for our website were largely appreciated as they covered the topics of awareness disability, sports, and disability related verticals. They also worked towards converting books into accessible formats for the Digital Library.



51
volunteering
activities



27
corporates



1696
volunteers



4185
hours of
service

SAMARTHANAM DIGITAL LIBRARY



426
volunteers
visited



3140
books
uploaded



803
books
in ePUB format



Rahul David listening to a record at the Digital Library



3140
Audio books



41008
Scanned pages



5908
Braille books



10265
Regular books

HIGHLIGHTS

- New languages added include French, German & Spanish.
- We have worldwide volunteers from countries like Morocco, London, Spain, New-Zealand, Qatar and Oman.
- Samarthanam Braille press has printed 6 Braille books of “EYE-OPENER”
- Digital library application is under development.

SAMARTHANAM HUMAN RESOURCES

Though the COVID effect has not subsided yet, as we all moved back to our work places, the HR team is doing a commendable job by maintaining clean and safe environment at the office premises in the pandemic season. The employees are advised to follow all the rules of social distancing and wearing of mask while at office along with sanitizing hands often.

- A training programme for perfecting in MS-Excel was introduced with an objective to make the employees more competent with the application which is widely used in all the programmes at Samarthanam.
- A special team bonding activity was set up for Samarthanam staff conducted by TeamWorks Academy on the theme “Independence Day”. Employee engagement has been a primary focus of HR department during COVID times and hence this initiative was taken up.
- As part of employee welfare initiative, to support the staff during medical emergencies, medical insurance was finalized and employees were enrolled in the ‘Religare Health Insurance’.
- HR department coordinated with the start up called ‘Continual Engine’ to jointly host a virtual product expo on AI based tools which have been developed to make the digital content more accessible for the visually impaired.



120
PwDs

137
Women

161
Men

418
Total employees

CORPORATE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are thankful for the support and encouragement received from the following corporate organizations. Our initiatives are incomplete without your support and we look forward to a long term relationship.

- Societe Generale Global Solution Centre Private Limited
- Morgan Stanley India Company Private Limited
- Give Foundation
- Godrej Consumer Products Limited
- United Way Mumbai(Coca Cola)
- Persistent Foundation
- Nasscom Foundation
- Iron Mountain
- ITC Limited
- NIKE
- United Way Of Bengaluru
- UK Online Giving Foundation
- AIG Analytics & Services Pvt. Ltd.
- Tech Mahindra Foundation
- Kluber Lubrication India Private Limited
- United Way Mumbai(Black Rock)
- BMC Software
- GKN Aerospace Engine Systems India
- Collective Good Foundation
- Globant India Private Limited
- Government Of Karnataka
- The Executive Director State Poverty Eradication Mission(Kudumbashree)





More than

3,00,000

people received support since

the COVID pandemic

But its not over...

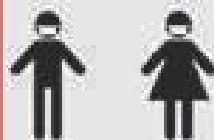
**Help Samarthanam
reach out to the
disabled and the poor**

DONATE NOW



**YES
WE CAN
DEFEAT
COVID-19**

**DO NOT FORGET TO FOLLOW THE
SAFETY MEASURES**



**KEEP 3 FEET
DISTANCE**



**PRACTICE
RESPIRATORY
HYGIENE**



**SANITIZE
YOUR HANDS**



**COUGH & SNEEZE
INTO YOUR
ELBOW OR
USE A TISSUE**

**Reach out to Samarthanam at www.samarthanam.org or Call at
Naveen +91- 9449864786, Sunil +91- 9449864691, Raghavendra +91- 9483237158**



Support

persons with disabilities and the underserved with
your generous donation



Make a Donation (Select your amount)

Rs. 3000/-

Rs. 5000/-

Rs. 10000/-

Rs. 15000/-

Rs. 20000/-

Rs. 25000/-

Amount of your choice

Fill the form below with your correct details

Name*

Email ID

Address*

Country*

State*

Pin Code*

City*

Mobile*

Phone

Mail the donation form to the below mentioned address:

To
Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled,
CA: 39, 15th Cross, 16th Main, Sector 4, HSR Layout,
Bengaluru – 560102 Karnataka State, India
Tele: +91 9449864784

DONATE THROUGH PAYTM

Visit www.samarthanam.org



Income Tax exemptions available under section 80G of Indian Income Tax Act
Samarthanam is also qualified to receive contributions through FCRA





ಸಮರ್ಥನಂ ಅಂಗವಿಕಲರ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ
Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled



Take Part in **Our Responsibility** for Your **Corporate Social Responsibility**

CSR Partnership with Samarthanam

Choose Samarthanam as your CSR partner this financial year!

We welcome employee engagement, monetary contributions, volunteering, diverse projects and long-term partnerships.

Contact Kumaraswamy
at kumar@samarthanam.org or
9449864775
for associating with Samarthanam

Income Tax exemptions available under section 80G of Indian Income Tax Act. Donations made in the USA are exempt under 501C3. Samarthanam is also qualified to receive contributions through Give India, Give to Asia, United Way, Charity Aid foundation, USA and American service to India, USA

Head Office

CA: 39, 15th Cross, 16th Main, Sector 4, HSR Layout, Bengaluru – 560102 Karnataka State, India
Email: info@samarthanam.org
Ph: 080 25729922 / 25721444

Administrative Office

#17, Villa Suchita, 1st Cross, 17th 'A' Main, J.P. Nagar II Phase, Bengaluru - 560078
Ph: +91 9449864770, +91 9449864771

National Office

A 336, Chhattarpur Enclave, Phase 2, Street No 35, Maidan Garhi Road, New Delhi
Ph: +91- 6364867812

Hyderabad Division

Plot No - 4, 1st Floor, Sri Sai Nagar Colony, Lane Behind Ambedkar Statue, Old BSNL Lane, Picket, Secunderabad 500026
Ph: +91 6364867803

Mumbai Division

Prem Villa, Plot No. G/11, Sector No. 20, Mahavir Marg, Behind Belapur Gaothan, Police Station, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai - 4
Ph: +91 6364867809

Pune Division

Hari Om Bungalow, 2nd Lane, Tara Dutt Colony, Opp. B T Kawde Flyover, Ghorpadi, Pune - 411001, Ph: +91 6364867806

Chennai Office

Plot No. 120, Sri Bhuvaneswari Nagar, 1st Main Road, Velachery, Chennai- 600042
Ph: +91 9840610316

Guntur Division

4-14, 223/6, 1st Floor, Anjaneyapet Main Road, Amaravathi Road, Opp. Sri Rama Hospital, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh - 522002
Ph: +91 6364867800

Kochi Division

2nd Floor, Adam Star Building, Near Corporation Bank, Mavelipuram Colony, Kakkanad, Kochi - 682030,
Ph: +91 6364867814

Anantapur Division

D.No. 3/705, Thapovanam, Narayanapuram Main Road, Anantapur - 515001
Ph: +91 6364867797

Ballari Division

Door No. 17/1, Beside Maddikere Bhimayya School, Moka Road, Gandhinagar, Ballari - 583103, Ph: +91 94808812138

Belagavi Division

House No. 11, Scheme 40, Shriram Colony, 3rd Stage, Hanumannagar, Belagavi-590019
Ph: +91 9480809598

Dharwad Division

No. 48, Dasappa & Sons Building, 5th Main, Gandhi Nagar, Dharwad - 580 004
Ph: +91 9480812139

USA Office

Samarthanam USA, Inc., 21 Southwest Cutoff, Northborough MA 01532
Ph: +91 9449864698, +1 (978)7276927

UK Office

Registered Office: 447, Kenton Road, Harrow, Middlesex, United Kingdom, HA3 0XY

