



A step towards Inclusive Education  
"Resource Centre for the  
Hearing Impaired" launched

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# SAMHITA

A SAMARTHANAM PUBLICATION



Samarathanam's COVID  
Campaign widens reach  
Provides support to the needy

An honour to remember  
Mahantesh GK receives a  
Doctorate in Social Service

A new launch by Samarathanam  
"Inclusive Education for  
Children with Disabilities"



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# SAMARTHANAM'S INITIATIVES



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.

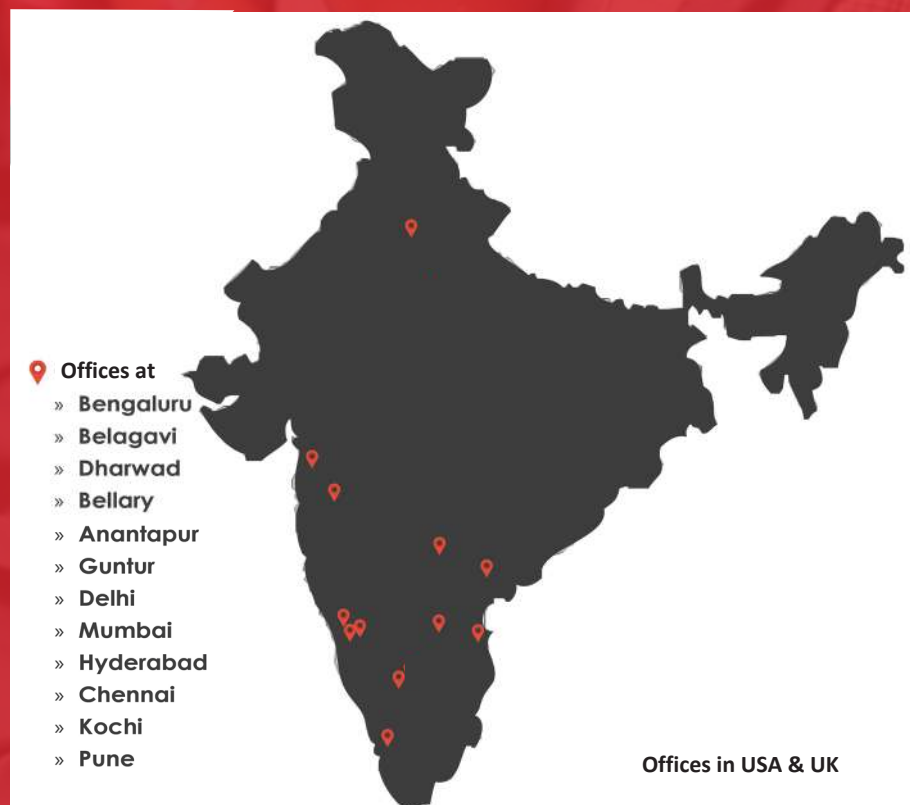
Samarthanam envisions to touch 10,00,000 lives by the year 2030

### 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

### **Dr. Mahantesh G Kivadasannavar**

Founder Managing Trustee, Samarthanam Trust

President, Cricket Association for the Blind in India

The year 2020 came to an end. It has been a tough one with uncertainties and I am glad that we are wrapping it up with optimism and a glimpse of hope that the New Year would bring in all the good that we missed in the last one. While we have been offering respite to people across pandemic hit regions, we also adopted virtual education system for our schools and training centres, health programmes, inclusive education projects, rehabilitation, training sessions and virtual volunteering.

Taking a step towards inclusive education, a Resource Centre for the Hearing Impaired was established. A centre that would ease the education hurdles associated with teaching the hard of hearing children and also helps them stay on par with the mainstream education system. Another major step in the same direction led to the launch of “Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities” project in Ananthapur, Andhra Pradesh and Chikkaballapur Districts of Karnataka.

Inclusive education being our primary pursuit, Samarthanam team has worked hard towards conceptualizing these two major interventions this quarter and I am extremely proud of my squad. I am happy that our students, beneficiaries and also children who are in need of these facilities will now be able to enjoy continuous learning without any hurdles. With the help of the Health Interventions programme, hundreds of children with disabilities were provided with aids, physiotherapy sessions and healthcare instructions and the appreciation received indicates that our interactions have been fruitful.

On the other hand, COVID Relief Task Force of Samarthanam continued their effort with the distribution campaigns across the country. Our team has been on the forefront taking calls, letters and messages and offering assistance to the affected, Hospitals, frontline workers, ASHA and Anganwadi workers, Police, and those in need. We have reached more than 8,00,000 people through the Relief Campaign and we only pray that the pandemic subsides in the coming year.

The entire world was hurt because of the COVID pandemic and the disabled communities have suffered the most. As a Charity Organization, we had gathered resources to deploy our best relief mechanism to help them survive the difficult days. Standing together we have survived and looking at the positive side, we only wish for a fresh start devoid the pandemic.

With the help of consistent support from the society we would be able to achieve more and help better. A huge thank you to people, Government, Corporate and organizations that have supported Samarthanam in our every endeavor. Your belief in us has been our greatest strength.

Let us together say yes to a new beginning with a Happy New Year and a Happy Sankranti!

Mahantesh G K



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# NEWS CORNER

## **Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities**

### **A new programme launched by Samarthanam**

Samarthanam initiated its first inclusive education and health interventions programme at Kodikonda in Andhra Pradesh for students with disabilities. The project has identified 162 children with disabilities in 70 villages and reached out to 138 children under Primary Education in 80 schools in and around Kodikonda Check post of Chillamattur Mandal of Ananthapur, Andhra Pradesh and Bagepalli taluk of Chikkaballapur Districts of Karnataka.

Under the programme, identified children with disabilities were provided with medical assistance, physiotherapy treatment and assistive devices. Artificial limbs and Calipers were provided to the beneficiaries at Health Centres and corrective surgeries were scheduled for a few children. The very first surgery was carried out on a young girl for stiff elbow successfully.

Parents were trained on basic exercises such as stretching, strengthening of muscles, gait training, postural management for their home exercise routine and improve their mobility. A Teachers Training programme was also organized for teachers, inaugurated by the Mandal Education officer. The training programme focused on disability orientation, inclusive education, teaching learning materials, teaching methodologies, and importance of accessibility in school. Alongside a one day Caregivers Training Programme was conducted on the importance of Inclusive Education, role of a parent in Inclusive Education, management of children with intellectual disabilities, and so on. The programme was a remarkable success with huge audience and participation from various sectors to understand the significance of inclusivity.



## An enhanced education experience for the Hearing Impaired

### Deaf Resource Centre launched at Samarthanam

Accessibility and inclusion are one of Samarthanam's strong pursuits. On the same road, to provide better education facilities for students with Speech and Hearing Impaired, Samarthanam launched a special facility called Resource Centre for the Hearing Impaired, set up at its Bangalore Head Quarters.

The inauguration of the Resource Center for the Hearing Impaired took place in the presence of Shri SV Venkataraman, Managing Director & Purandare, ANZ, Shri Bhaskar Rao, IPS Additional Director General of Police Internal Security Division, Dr V. Muniraju, Director, Department for the Empowerment of Differently abled and Senior Citizens, GoK, Shri Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee Samarthanam Trust. The Resource Center will be helping students with Hearing Impairment to learn their school curriculum, understand the concepts, subjects and also participate in educational activities on par with mainstream students.



## Four years of WBC Presidency

### Mahantesh GK's service for the Blind Cricket community

Blind Cricket is a game with no barriers. To make every visually impaired cricket enthusiast a part of the game and provide them with a global platform, the efforts of WBC have been commendable. Being elected as the President of WBC, twice, the huge responsibility of uplifting blind cricket and widening its reach was vested in Mahantesh GK.

Mahantesh GK completed his 2nd term of Presidentship tenure of WBC. After four years of fabulous and dedicated leadership, the blind cricket community is averring that a proper framework with well devised structure has been brought into WBC. Under his Presidentship, Two World Cups, 2nd T20 World Cup for the Blind 2017 and 5th ODI World Cup Championship in Dubai in 2018, have been played.

Mahantesh actively advocated the game through many conferences, meetings, discussion, and talks with the most eminent personalities associated with cricket across the world. His efforts towards the global development of cricket for the blind are praiseworthy and admirable.



*I would like to express my gratitude to all for the confidence and opportunity which was bestowed on me for taking care of WBC for 4 years. During this journey I have gathered a lot of friends and acquaintances globally whom I would like to thank personally for their unflinching support. My congratulations to the new President and his team. I am very confident that WBC will head in a new direction of achievement. My support to the team continues.*

- Mahantesh GK, Former President, WBC

## Mahantesh GK honored with a Doctorate in Social Service

### By Brampton International University

Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee Samarthanam was conferred with an Honorary Doctorate in Social Service by the Brampton International University.

Speaking on this day Mahantesh said, “I am deeply humbled that I have been recognized for this honor. My profound thanks to Brampton University for the recognition of my work in Social Service and to all the people who have made this possible. I dedicate this award to my parents, for their unconditional love, encouragement, and sacrifice.”



## Dialogue by Mahantesh GK

### Founder Managing Trustee Samarthanam

- Mahantesh GK was part of SocGen's Virtual Launch of their Central Function Engagement Model.
- Acharya Institute hosted an event where Mahantesh GK's talk on “Disability is no longer barrier for the strong willed” was widely appreciated.
- Inspirational talks on the World disability Day at Wipro and NTT Data
- Mahantesh GK was the Keynote Speaker at Christ University and spoke on “Equity, Equality & Opportunity” on World Disability Day and launched their website as well.
- Mahantesh GK was the spokesperson at the Webinar on World Disability Day organized by Qatar Stories, spoke on “Challenges Specially-abled sports people face and role of sports federations in supporting them.”
- A motivational speech at DXC Technology was lead by Mahantesh GK.
- A talk on International Day of Persons with Disability at Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences,SVIMS.
- Mahantesh GK was a part of two significant Webinars organized by Samarthanam for Punjab Education Department and Assam Samagra Shiksha Abhiyaan focusing on inclusive education and was attended by a massive group of people from the two States. The Impact of COVID -19 on Education of Children with Disabilities - Challenges & Solutions, was the theme and Gurdeep Kaur, Deputy Director, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare was one among the speakers who emphasized on the effect of COVID and virtual schooling on the education of CwD. Mahantesh GK delivered the Keynote Address which detailed on the accessibility in schools, online education for CwD, ICT skills of the teachers, distance learning solutions, access to technology and the need for raising awareness. Subash Mahajan, Deputy State Project Director, Punjab Education Department, Kalyan Chakravarthy, Principal Secretary, Education, Assam and Pearly Faiza, Inclusive Education Coordinator, Assam Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan and Dr . Anupriya Chadha, Consultant, Inclusive Education, Samarthanam Trust were the other speakers of the event.

# COVID19 PANDEMIC REFUSES TO CEASE

## Samarthanam continues to provide Relief to the needy

As the entire world is looking forward to the availability of the COVID vaccine, Samarthanam Trust has not stopped its relief services to those who are still fighting the pandemic. While the vaccine is yet to reach the common people, Samarthanam Relief Campaign will continue to support the needy till the pandemic subsides. Our Relief Services include Dry Ration, PPE Kits, Healthcare Kits, Packed Food, and other necessities. 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.

Our task force is active round the clock, reaching out to those in need and giving away supplies across the city with the support from Corporate, Government and many donors. Distribution stations are set up to assist the poor and disabled communities, helping them live through these difficult times.

We are thankful to the doctors, police, hospitals, and community welfare departments who are relentlessly helping the society fight the pandemic and recover. Samarthanam's campaign is giving out protective gear and healthcare necessities to the COVID warriors helping them execute their duties without any setback.

### 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

### 3 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 provided Dry Ration Kits to children from 10 Government Schools who are Samarathanam's MidDay Meal beneficiary families. Their generosity has enabled hunger-free households for these families, who are greatly thankful for the support.



Dry ration kits were given away to Hyderabad Flood Relief victims supported by DXC Technology



Morgan Stanley supported Samarthanam with dry ration which were distributed to the needy families. Essential items were given away to marginalized families at many locations in Bengaluru and Mumbai.



Societe Generale has come forward to lend a hand along with Samarthanam in helping people from remote villages that lack basic resources, and have been suffering the most because of the pandemic. Societe Generale partnered with Samarthanam to distribute dry ration kits and essential items to poor and vulnerable families so that they do not starve due to lack of resources. Since COVID19 many of these families had lost their livelihood and exposed to hunger and health issues. These kits supported the families' household nutrition needs and survival till their routine restores.

## PPE AND HEALTHCARE KITS



Samarthanam collaborated with Fossil to give away masks to COVID Warriors such as Pourakarmikas, Police Personnel, Anganwadi workers, ASHA -Community health workers, and BBMP staff.



Societe Generale and Samarthanam distributed Health kits to Anganwadi and ASHA workers in different parts of Karnataka to keep healthcare workers safe in the fight against COVID19.



In another distribution programme sponsored by Societe Generale, Samarthanam distributed Health kits to Anganwadi workers in the South Zone at Banashankari in the presence of Child Development Project Officer, Rajani and Assistant Child Development Officer, Deepthi.




Samarthanam also distributed health kits, supported by Societe Generale, to ASHA Workers in BBMP West Zone Office, Malleshwaram in the presence of Zonal Programme Manager, Taaj to keep healthcare workers safe.




PPE Kits, sponsored by Morgan Stanley, were distributed to doctors and medical staffs across Hospitals in Mumbai and Bangalore helping them protect themselves while attending to the ailing.


## COVID Campaign beneficiaries express their gratitude

 *Our Hospital received PPE Kits from Samarthanam which greatly helps us in keeping our staff safe while attending to our patients. We cannot step back from our responsibilities and these kits help us continue our services without setback. I appreciate the timely support offered by Samarthanam to Hospitals and doctors which is quite ideal. Thank you.*

*- Mr. Radhakrishna, Medical Superintendent, CV Raman General Hospital*

 *The situation has been very critical as I have no work in hand and no money to feed my family. Samarthanam's ration kits are helping us or it would have been impossible for us to survive. The ration received will help us run our kitchen for a month. We are thankful to Samarthanam.*

*- Mr. Guruprasad, Beneficiary*

 *A very huge thanks to the Trust for bringing in all the healthcare needs and distributing among us (healthcare workers). They have been thoughtful in approaching us with health kits as we keep moving across the city and helping the COVID affected people. We need protective gear and sanitisers importantly. Thanks to them we have a good supply now.*

*- Health Department, HSR Division*

### SNIPPETS

- In the 30th Annual Conference of Indian Psychiatric Society Karnataka Chapter, Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled has been chosen and awarded the IPSKC Distinguished Service Award in the field of Disability, Mental health, and Rehabilitation for the year 2019 2020.
- On the occasion of International Day of Persons with Disabilities, Mahantesh GK Founder Managing Trustee of Samarthanam addressed the employees of WIPRO Electronic city, Bengaluru with a talk elucidating his views and beliefs on the empowerment of the disabled and inclusion.
- Mahantesh was part of a Webinar organized by Qatar Stories and as the Advisory Board member to the Chief Commissioner for persons with disabilities in India, GoI and Founder Managing Trustee Samarthanam, he expressed his views to his global counterparts. The webinar was organized on the occasion of International Day of Persons with Disabilities.
- Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee Samarthanam had the privilege of meeting Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Science & Technology, GoI. The Minister appreciated Samarthanam's interventions and the progress made in Assistive Technology with an assurance to support the cause.
- Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee Samarthanam in a brief meeting with Dr. Thawar Chand Gehlot, Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India presented his autobiography "EyeOpener" and discussed on Samarthanam and its cause.
- Samarthanam observed International White Cane Day in a very significant way by entering into an MOU with Applied Cognition systems which emphasized on applying R&D solutions to the challenges of population with multiple disabilities and marketing of technology products for physically, mentally challenged and the elderly population.
- Samarthanam joined hands with Sowkhya Care Net through its MOU to provide joint training programmes in job-oriented digital health leading to internships and placements in the industry and entrepreneurship opportunities for suitable candidates with disabilities.
- Samarthanam hosted Ushashri, MLA Kalyandurg constituency, Ananthapur District who visited the HSR Layout premises and interacted with the beneficiaries. She expressed great admiration to the work, reach and impact created by the organization.



## INCLUSIVE EDUCATION AT SAMARTHANAM SCHOOLS HIGHLIGHTS FOR THIS QUARTER

In these uncertain times due to COVID pandemic which has not subsided yet, Samarthanam continues to provide education to its students via interactive online platforms. The teachers at Samarthanam are dedicating their complete efforts into teaching students to the best of their abilities. With the help of webinars, presentations, recorded classes and video classes, Samarthanam's online learning is on the right track.

### VIRTUAL INTERACTIVE SESSIONS

Online learning was in practice all through the quarter without any setback. Tabs were distributed to high school students for easy access to online class. Virtual English Grammar classes were held for all the students.

### TEACHER TRAINING SESSIONS

- A three day teacher training camp was organized for the Primary and ID school staff. Dr Gangadharaiah, Principal, B.Ed College and Dr. Mruthyunjaya, Principal, B.Ed college were the trainers. The topics covered teaching techniques, types, learning outcome, class room management, simplified learning, virtual training sessions for teachers and inclusive education.
- India Autism Center conducted a Webinar for teachers on "Importance of diet in ASD kids," headed by Dr. Vaidya. M. Prasad, Founding Director and Honorary Chief Physician of Sunethri Ayurvedashram & Research Center, Kerala.
- Ebillity Webinar Series organized webinars in separate sessions lead by speakers Dr Deepa Raja, Medical Practitioner and Dr Geetha Gopi N, Rehabilitation Practitioner and Psychologist, on topics pertaining to academics for special children. ID and Primary school teachers attended the session.



Teacher Training Camp



Tab Distribution for the students

## **VOLUNTEERING AT SAMARTHANAM SCHOOLS**

- The volunteers of 'Societree' have distributed stationery to students from Primary and ID School.
- AIG volunteers hosted a Mandala art workshop for the staff and students of ID and Primary School.
- Children with special needs participated in the online Navaratri and Dussehra competition 2020-2021 organized by GNEACT Toddler's Pathshala and received the certificate of participation.
- Blee TV Library, a digital library for deaf students, was launched at Samarthanam to reach out to children through technology and the Blee TV Library App.
- Celebrating Children's Day Amway conducted cultural competitions like Crafts and Salad Dressing and gave away gifts.
- SocGen conducted a story telling session for the ID school children that were greatly enjoyed by the staff and students.
- Volunteers from AIG conducted Art & Craft activities for the children with special needs enabling them explore their creativity.
- Transworld conducted virtual volunteering activity with the ID school children in two groups for the Senior and Junior with dance, Origami, Quiz, rhymes and craft activities.
- Morgan Stanley conducted virtual volunteering session with Primary school children including Quiz, dance, storytelling and fun activities.



Cultural activities for the students

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

- Samarthanam High School carried out classes virtually for the students with the help of laptops and other digital equipment provided to the teaching staff. Tabs were provided to the students for easy access to the online classes.
- Teachers attended an online session on MS Excel conducted by an expert trainer. Another workshop on Mandala Art was conducted by a volunteer from AIG.
- High school teachers attended the Next Learning Platform Training and demo class organized by Teach next, an online learning management system

## HIGHER EDUCATION

Samarthanam's Higher Education programme are operational across 11 cities including Belagavi, Ballari, Dharwad, Gadag, Bangalore, Delhi, Hyderabad, Ananthapur, Guntur, Pune, Mumbai. These programmes enable college students pursue their higher education without any setback and proceed towards making successful careers.

- This quarter, though the college admissions have been processed, the classes were conducted online for all the students enrolled. The higher education students of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Delhi locations were facilitated classes virtually by their respective colleges. To accommodate continuous access to the online classes, Tabs were given away to the higher education students as well.
- Two visually impaired higher education students, P. Chinnari and D. Gangamma participated in a National Level Talent Hunt “Jhoom India-2020” and received awards.
- Two higher education students from Pune, Prerana Dhile and Payal Gaurakhede cleared their Diploma Course in Computer Engineering with distinction.
- Samarthanam organized a programme by name “Yodha Namana” reminiscing the bravery and valor of Kargil Martyrs. It was organized at APS College, Bangalore where the family of Kargil Martyr Yashwanth Kolkar was honored by Chief Guest Chakravarthy Sulibele, Writer along with Mahantesh GK, Founder Samarthanam, Vasanti Savanur, Trustee Samarthanam, and K. P. Narasimhamurthy, General Secretary, APS Educational Trust. The higher education students of Samarthanam collected donations from students and well-wishers for the children of the Kargil Martyr.
- 61 tabs were distributed to Higher Education students of Mumbai on November 2nd 2020. The higher education program in Mumbai is supported by AVANSE Financial Services Limited. The program was graced by employees from AVANSE Financial Services Limited, Mumbai - Ms. Priyanka, Ms.Perpetual Fernandes, Shri.Ashmit Desai and Shri. Sanmati Bande.



Tab distribution at Bangalore



Tab distribution at Ballari



Tab distribution by AVANSE Financial Services Limited

## STORIES OF CHANGE

### Suhas

Samarthanam is proud of its students who work hard to make a future. One of our best talents is Suhas, differently abled, who recently completed his pre-university course at Christ College, Bangalore and got a seat in Bangalore Medical College in the academic year 2020-21 to pursue his dream career.

Suhas M. Kyathanavara is an 18 year old talented and hard working individual who is now going to pursue a career in Medicine. Suhas was born with a clubfoot and had to face many challenges right from birth. Suhas's locomotor disability restricted his movement which also made attending school a major obstacle. Suhas's parents could not afford any medical treatment for bettering his disability.

When he was in Grade 2, his uncle and grandmother decided to put him in a special school. Suhas approached Samarthanam when he was eight years old. Suhas made Samarthanam his home for eleven years and completed his primary and high school education from Samarthanam School. He scored 92% in SSLC and enrolled into Christ College for PUC where he secured 83%. Suhas has always been a bright and hard working student who never accepted defeat easily. His determination made him clear the National Eligibility Entrance Test (NEET) and secure a medical seat at the prestigious Bangalore Medical College.

Suhas has been supported by Samarthanam at every step. His School, College, Tuition, Medical needs, Coaching and other has been taken care by Samarthanam. Suhas says, "Completing my Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) will be one of my biggest achievements and my journey of MBBS will begin soon. I am thankful to Samarthanam for all the support throughout my schooling and college. It was not an easy journey but I am here now and I am eager to begin soon."



### Priyanka

Priyanka is a young girl with Speech and Hearing Impairment who was brought to Samarthanam six months ago. Priyanka was found in the Bangalore Railway station and was moved to Samarthanam by Child Welfare Committee. She has a tendency to run away and not stay in one place. Priyanka's caretakers were unable to hold her for more than 3 months consistently. She was violent, underweight, and stressed. Samarthanam team, with all their expertise, took care of Priyanka offering comfort, books, toys. Since Priyanka has ADHD and hearing impairment, Samarthanam's 'Resource Centre for the Hearing Impaired' proved to be an ideal place to learn basic communication. She was taught the basics of Sign Language and basic Computers at the "Resource Centre." In a span of six months there was a notable difference in Priyanka's behavior, who is now manageable and peaceful.

Priyanka's parents were contacted in Aligarh, and she was relocated by Samarthanam to reunite with her parents. A group of three from Samarthanam escorted Priyanka and successfully helped the young girl get back to her family. "I appreciate the hard work of Samarthanam team who have helped Priyanka with her ADHD. We are glad that we could help little Pinky in all ways and also reunite with her parents. We will miss her," says Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee of Samarthanam.





### **SKILLING CENTRE - BENGALURU**

Samarthanam Skilling Centres cater to the youth with disabilities from urban and rural regions through its 14 centres set up across the country. Even in these uncertain times Samarthanam Centres are continuing to provide training via various web and video platforms.

The Virtual Training Sessions are organized everyday in separate groups via different modes including WhatsApp, Zoom, Google Duo, Google Meet and Voice Calls. The trainers share the Day wise Topics and Assignments before the video classes, which are duly completed by the students. Candidates who were unable to access video classes were provided with lessons over phone calls.

### **SKILLING CENTRE - DELHI**

Delhi Centre has been carrying out virtual classes for its trainees via video classes, WhatsApp videos and Conference Calls. The teaching staff displays great dedication in reaching out to the students and making necessary arrangements for their timely classes. The students enrolled this quarter were given Tabs as well for their virtual classes.



Tab distribution at Delhi LRC

### **SKILLING CENTRE - MUMBAI**

Samarthanam Delhi team took part in the COVID Distribution Campaign and gave away Grocery Kits to many people with disabilities at various places in Mumbai.

As part of the regular training sessions, students were provided with online classes regularly and Tabs were given to the trainees enabling uninterrupted virtual learning.



Grocery distribution at Mumbai

## SKILLING CENTRE - HYDERABAD

- Hyderabad team got together for COVID Relief Kit distribution and gave away groceries to the poor and the disabled across the city. The distribution event was organized in the presence of Sangeetha, Corporator, Ashok, Bharat Gas Agency Proprietor and Samarthanam management.
- Relief Kits were distributed to people with disabilities in an activity lead by Lohit, Actor, Srinivas Jawab YouTube Channel Chief Editor and Samarthanam management team. Another distribution activity was head by Vijayalakshmi, Municipal Chairman Sangareddy, Zubeda, Divyang Solar Society Chairman, Praveen Goud, Blind Welfare Association President.
- COVID Relief Kits were given away by the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor of the city. In a separate distribution activity, kits were distributed by KP Vivekananda Reddy, MLA, Rajender Reddy, TRS Divisional Leader, Venkatesh Madiraju, Former TRS Corporator, and other politicians.
- Relief kits were given away at Mahbubnagar District by Srinivas Goud, Honorable Sports Minister and other political personalities. Another Relief Kit distribution activity was headed by Devi Reddy, Sudheer Reddy, Chairman of Musi River Front Development Corporation and TRS MLA and other eminent political figures.
- DXC Technology team members and Sudheer Reddy, MLA had given away relief kits to flood affected people in Hyderabad
- Training activities were duly carried out by the teaching team via online learning platforms. Virtual volunteering activities and placement support workshops were organized.



Distribution activities at various places in Hyderabad

## SKILLING CENTRE - PUNE

- The trainees at Samarthanam Pune Centre received Tabs, supported by RBL Bank, for easy online learning. Virtual classes were organized for the students via video platforms enabling uninterrupted training.
- Dry Ration Kits were distributed to people with disabilities at various regions in Pune and surrounding areas helping them during the COVID times.
- Volunteering session on Career guidance and Leadership development by a reputed Corporate proved to be beneficial for the students who actively participated in the discussions.



## SKILLING CENTRE - CHENNAI

- The Chennai team distributed Dry Ration kits to the disabled families at various regions in Chennai with the support of many sponsors including Societe Generale, Godrej, and Kaalbi Technology. Alongside, Medical Equipments were given away to Stanley Hospital in Chennai to help the staff in their COVID services.
- Online training was carried out for the trainees enrolled in the new batch. Alongside Tabs were distributed to candidates enabling easy access to the online classes and supported them with data recharge as well.



Godrej supported kit distribution

## SKILLING CENTRE - GUNTUR

- It was a proud moment for Samarthanam when a YouTube Channel with Audio Books was launched for the first time, making online learning easy and accessible for people with disabilities. Samarthanam Guntur launched an Audios YouTube Channel and the event was honoured by S.V. Rao, Director of SVR LEDs, G Siva Ram, CA and President of Hindu College Council and Lakshmi Pathi, BJP State Leader, along with the Guntur team. This education channel will provide audio books to the students of Intermediate, Degree and Post Graduate levels.
- Regular online classes were organized for Samarthanam trainees at Guntur



YouTube Channel Launch at Guntur

## SKILLING CENTRE - ANANTHAPUR

- Ananthapur team is conducting their online classes for the trainees and also mobilizing across various regions, enrolling for their upcoming batches. The team participated in a 2 day “Online leadership development training” organized by Samarthanam HQ. Also “REC Foundation Learning Session” was held for the trainers by Indu Goyal, CEO of REC Foundation and Amogh Mamadapur, Head of Public relations SELCO Foundation.
- Samarthanam Ananthapur team took part in the COVID Campaign and distributed Health Kits in Bagepalli to ASHA workers and Anganwadi workers in the presence of Dr. Sathayanarayana Reddy, Taluk Health Officer and Anchubhai, ICDS Supervisor.



Kit Distribution to the Health workers

## NORTH KARNATAKA

### SKILLING CENTRE - BALLARI



COVID Campaign PPE Kit Distribution for the ASHA and Anganwadi workers



World Disability Day celebrations at the Ballari centre

### SKILLING CENTRE - BELAGAVI

- A six day session on Soft Skills was organized by Gurukul School Pune for the beneficiaries.
- A Virtual Volunteering Engagement Activity Programme was conducted by a reputed corporate with their leaders.
- Belagavi Centre took initiative of Kit Distribution as part of the COVID Campaign. Dry Ration Kits were distributed at various regions to the families of the disabled and Health kits were given away to ASHA and Anganwadi workers.



### SKILLING CENTRE - DHARWAD

- As part of the COVID Relief Operation, Food Kits were distributed to the needy and disabled families across various villages in Dharwad District. Health Kits were given away to Anganwadi and ASHA workers in Hubballi-Dharwad twin cities as well.
- Online classes were conducted for the trainees along with placement drives, additional sessions on Leadership Development and Soft Skills.
- The new facility which is being constructed at Dharwad is actively progressing with the best efforts laid by the building construction team.



Dharwad Building construction



Placement drive



## 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.

To avoid burden on the municipal waste system during this pandemic, Parisara team is propagating households and bulk waste generators to reduce waste generation and segregate waste as best as possible, without compromising on the individuals health and safety. MSW management as an essential service has mandated personnel involved in MSW management to implement safety precautions.

### SEGREGATION IN CHANDRANAGAR SLUM INITIATIVE

Samarthanam and SWMP under the CSR activity of ExxonMobil worked in many areas of Yelachenahalli to solve the problem of segregation and the black spots. As a result of increase in the mixed waste quantity and new black spots Parisara team planned to conduct a programme to raise awareness across areas including Chandranagara slum, Illiyaznagar and Rajyotsava nagara. A two day awareness event was organized to fix the segregation and collection problem. The efforts of Samarthanam have been fruitful and well appreciated by BBMP.

122 tonnes  
of dry waste  
recycled

150 tonnes  
of dry waste  
recycled from  
Corporate

15  
employment  
opportunities  
generated



1693 tonnes  
of dry waste  
collected

686  
tonnes of  
LVP processed

## WELL-BEING OUT OF WASTE

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.



## CRICKET ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND IN INDIA

- Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI) is the cricketing arm of Samarthanam fostering Blind Cricket in India by organizing Tours, Coaching Camps and encouraging blind cricket players pursue a career in cricket.
- This quarter, CABI team organized virtual sessions for the visually impaired cricketers across India focusing majorly on fitness and mental strength.
- Every two years, an Annual General body Meeting (AGM) is organized where elections for World Blind Cricket Ltd was held. This time, after the elections, two members from India were elected, John David for the post of Director Global Development WBC and Rajanish Henry for the Second Vice President of WBC.
- Welingkar University had come forward to conduct an impact study on blind cricket and its history. The report turned out to be a comprehensive data analysis on international blind cricket and the blind cricket players. Samarthanam expressed gratitude to the team from Welingkar University for the study.
- Governing Council Meetings were held to discuss on the schedules for the 3rd edition of Nagesh Trophy National Cricket Tournament for the Blind and the International Bilateral Cricket Series with South Africa.



## SUNADHA

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

- This quarter, two of our artists from Sunadha, Balasubramaniam Grandhi and Nagesh G, won the International Singing Competition organized by Qatar Kannada Sangha. In another event, our musicians participated in the first-ever Inclusive National Musical Instrumental Competition organized by DRYZA. Out of the 10 finalists, 3 were from Sunadha, Isai Arasan (Harmonium), Ashok (Keyboard), and Vikram L Rao (Mridangam).
- The visually impaired band presented a live performance for the Good Air Movement and appreciating the efforts of the Band were Himani Singh, Senior Project Manager Integrated Health & Wellbeing Council, and Rajeev Kumar, Consultant- IHW Council.
- Samarthanam presented a Virtual Musical Event, where Sunadha artists went Live on Prajavani Social Media pages commemorating the Kannada Rajyotsava, showcasing our respect and honor to the State, by singing the most popular Kannada songs.
- Sunadha SPB LIVE is another remarkable event by Samarthanam where the visually challenged troupe sang songs of SP Balasubramanyam, honoring the late singer. The event was Live on Samarthanam Facebook page, YouTube Channel garnering huge audience and appreciation. More than 2500 people viewed the program live on our social media sites.
- The team performed for the annual events of GKN Aerospace, SKF and SocGen which were highly applauded by the viewers. Also performances at the IHW (Integrated Health and Wellbeing) Council of India were applauded by the eminent guests including the Director of AIIMS, TERI, well-known actresses and UN Ambassador.
- The artists participated in the International Singing Competition organized by the Uttara Kannada Balaga, Qatar, and reached the final round.



Good Air Movement event



Kannada Rajyotsava



International singing contest by Qatar  
Kannada Sangha



## SWADHARA GRUH

Swadhara Gruh is the Rehabilitation programme by Samarthanam to lend a helping hand to women in distress. Swadhara is a home for women who along with their children receive protection and vocational training, helping them recuperate and become independent. The women beneficiaries are supported at all times as their empowerment is Samarthanam's primary motive. Health, nutrition, medical needs, food, accommodation, vocational training and counseling by experts are a few of the services provided by Swadhara.

This quarter, Swadhara is providing their services to women beneficiaries and helping them stay safe from the pandemic by counseling on the safety guidelines, precautions to take and also measures to stay safe during the COVID season.

## WORKING WOMEN HOSTEL

Samarthanam's Working Women Hostel provides home for many women who are pursuing their higher education, and those who are employed in the city. These hard working young women are encouraged to study further and make a future. Considering the current COVID pandemic, hostel residents are attending their respective college classes from the hostel premises. While all the arrangement necessary have been made, Samarthanam is also encouraging volunteers to take up classes to these girls and help them study better.

## STORIES OF CHANGE

Pushpa is a 37 year old woman from Hosur, Karnataka who had come to Samarthanam seeking safety and shelter along with her daughter. "I have been through many difficulties for the past three years and I want to be on my own now," says Pushpa when she had first stepped into Swadhara Greh. Pushpa was being troubled by her husband for three years and she could not seek help from any of her family members. Being deserted and subject to harassment, she wanted to start a new life with some help from Samarthanam.

Samarthanam took Pushpa in along with her daughter and provided shelter and counseling support. She has been suffering from many family problems but with the help of Samarthanam counseling team she was able to restore her individuality. Swadhara team taught her Computer training, Tailoring and other women oriented courses with the help of which Pushpa is now living independently. "I am very happy and free now," says Pushpa who conveys her gratitude to Samarthanam for the support and encouragement.

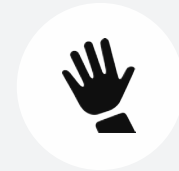


## SAMARTHANAM VOLUNTEERING

Samarthanam volunteering team has brought in virtual volunteering activities which received great response from corporates, who have actively come forward to be a part of them. All activities were implemented virtually with the help of the amazing cooperation from the volunteers and the team at Samarthanam.

### Volunteering Corporates

NASDAQ, AIG, CITI Socgen, ExxonMobil, Lowes, First American, ABB, Lilly, RBL, Morgan Stanley, Transworld, Microland, Emids, JP Morgan, NTT Data, Alstom, ANZ



**49**  
**volunteering**  
**activities**

### Internships

4 Students completed their internship at Samarthanam in this quarter. They were engaged in all the programmes of Samarthanam while a few of them worked closely with Sunada and Early Intervention. A few counseled the students on virtual platform, and English grammar. These interns had come from Christ University- Dept of Social Work and Dept of Management Studies and Maharaja College Gujarat.



**20**  
**corporates**

### Social Awareness Visits

Three students from the Department of Management studies, Christ University did a social concern project and study on Samarthanam.



**22403**  
**volunteers**

### Highlights

A corporate firm celebrated its Impact day with around 20,000 volunteers who recorded audio books for the visually impaired community. It was one of the largest virtual activities. And on SocGen International day, the volunteers were amazed at Sunada's cultural programmes, after which the volunteers participated in the orientation for Audiobook recording. Around 400 volunteers from NTT Data participated in a Panel Discussion for Disability Day led by Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee of Samarthanam.



**162753**  
**hours of**  
**service**

Volunteers from Sandvik participated in a virtual Sign language workshop where the resource person detailed on the importance of Sign language, its history and also taught the volunteers basic sign language. A similar workshop was held for NTT Data as well where the volunteers were explained on the importance of inclusion at workplace. Another set of volunteers from NTT Data participated in the 'Best out of Waste' workshop.

## SAMARTHANAM DIGITAL LIBRARY



**121**  
volunteers  
visited



**2833**  
corporate  
volunteers



**5597**  
books  
in Library



A Braille book being explained to Bhaskar Rao IPS



**2457**  
Audio books



**2565**  
Scanned pages



**183**  
Braille books



**812**  
Regular books

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Bhaskar Rao IPS, visited Samarthanam and Digital Library who experienced the recording and appreciated the initiative focused on the welfare of people with disabilities.
- S V Venkataraman, Managing Director ANZ, toured Samarthanam and the Digital Library and expressed his keen interest in the books profiled in the Library.
- Dr. V Muniraju, Director, Department for the Empowerment of Differently-abled & senior citizens, GoK visited the Digital Library and valued the work done by the entire team towards educating the disabled.



Bhaskar Rao IPS recording an audio byte



ANZ Managing Director visits the Digital Library

## SAMARTHANAM HUMAN RESOURCES

Samarthanam HR team has brought together all the rules of safety and hygiene safeguarding employees at all levels during this COVID season. Masks and sanitizers were provided to all employees helping them stay protected throughout the working hours. While following all the precautions Kannada Rajyotsava was celebrated at Samarthanam with a Sunadha performance and also other festivals following the quarter. A virtual training on leadership development was held for Samarthanam staff where the employees from different locations attended the two day training with great interest. A session on “Financial Planning” was also organized by a Finance expert who detailed on the investment and savings concept, attended by the employees. To add some fun to the everyday routine of the workplace, the HR team planned ‘Funterval 3.0’ an employee engagement program involving every person at Samarthanam.

**121**  
PwDs

**142**  
Women

**158**  
Men

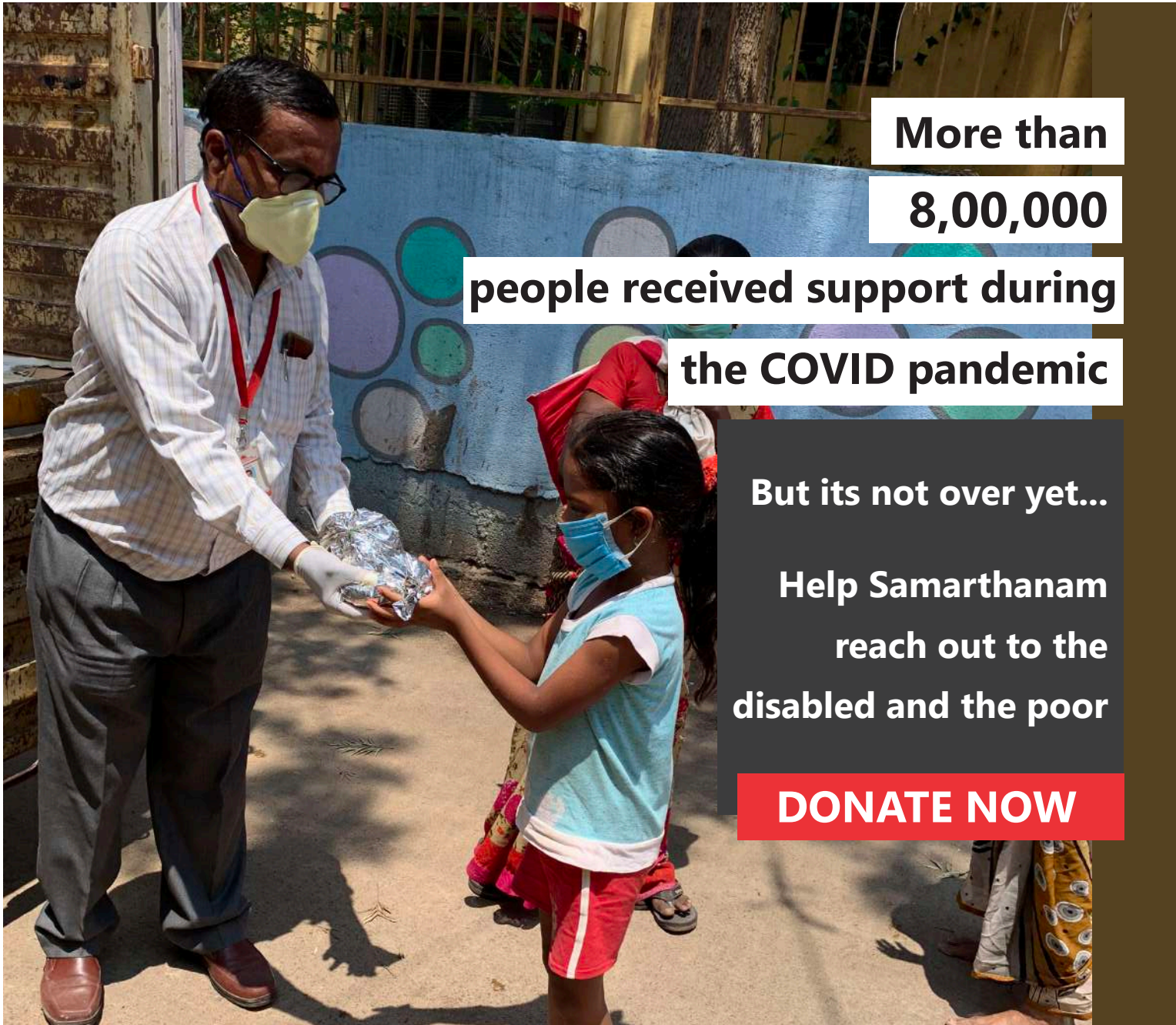
**421**  
Total employees

## 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.

- Agility Logistics Private Limited
- AIG Analytics & Services Pvt. Ltd.
- ANZ
- Ashirvadam Trust
- Australian Consulate General
- Charities Aid Foundation
- Dow Chemical International Private Limited
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- United Way Of Bengaluru
- XL India Business Services Pvt Ltd





**More than**

**8,00,000**

**people received support during  
the COVID pandemic**

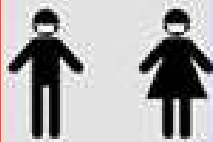
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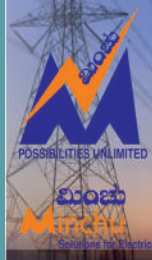
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