



Dr Mahantesh GK bestowed with  
Global Indian of the year 2021  
PRCI Chanakya Award

Vol 13 | Issue 30 | July to September 2021

**SAMARTHANAM**  
EDUCATE... EMPOWER... ELEVATE<sup>®</sup>  
ಸಮರ್ಥನಂ ಅಂಗವಿಕಲರ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ  
Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled<sup>®</sup>

# SAMHITA

A SAMARTHANAM PUBLICATION



Samarthanam's visually-impaired Para-climber wins World Championship



Smart classrooms launched across the country digitalizing the learning practices



COVID Vaccination Programmes run across the country

Samarthanam Trust is a two-time National Award winning NGO that has carved a niche in the field of serving, enabling and empowering the differently-abled and the underprivileged. Samarthanam works to lift and empower every individual in socio, cultural, economic aspects so that they can contribute holistically to the society. Born through the vision of a visually impaired Mahantesh GK and his friend, SP Nagesh, Samarthanam envisions to touch 10,00,000 disabled lives by 2030.

The organization is affiliated to the World Blind Union and is one of those few nonprofits to be awarded the Special United Nations Consultative Status in 2015. Samarthanam is accredited with CRISIL rating for PAN-India presence and burgeoning reach. It reaches out to beneficiaries from diverse verticals through its 15 offices and multiple divisions spread across India.

### 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.

### CORE VALUES

- Accessibility
- Inclusion
- Disability rights
- Women empowerment
- Employment
- Zero hunger
- Reduced poverty
- Equality
- Technology
- Environment protection
- Transformation

### REACH AND IMPACT



13,659  
KIDS EDUCATED



19,719  
YOUTH TRAINED



2.6 lakh tonnes  
DRY WASTE PROCESSED



25,000+  
BLIND CRICKETERS TOUCHED



3206  
WOMEN EMPOWERED



7300  
CHILDREN RECEIVED MEALS



125  
DISABLED ARTISTS SUPPORTED

# FOUNDER'S NOTE

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Dr Mahantesh GK

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



Coping with the pandemic, Samarthanam has begun to run a hybrid model for its initiatives. A few classes at the school have reopened and a few skill training sessions are being taken from the centres. Our blind cricketers are on field, and our staff is back to working from offices. We have put up strict rules and we always follow them. With the COVID pandemic still around, our relief measures are now focused on vaccination awareness, medical support, Oxygen Generator Plant, Modular ICU Unit, ICU Ambulance Vehicles and so on.

Samarthanam has brought into picture a whole new education experience via various projects taking shape and being led to fruition. Tinkering Labs, Mini Science Centres, Smart schools and more are our new projects, and they are making a remarkable progress.

We believe that no child should be left behind when it comes to learning. And digital learning. Hence the programme, 'Digitalization of Government Schools.' We are proud of the team working on installing smart classes in 125 government schools Pan India. The programme is going to facilitate smart learning to children from urban and rural regions, laying the foundation for their bright future in this technology savvy world. A big thanks to DXC Technologies for making the digitalization possible.

We want our children to happily embrace learning Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Samarthanam's Mini-Science Labs is an effort towards building interest among students to learn with practical exposure. Establishing 39 Mini Science Centres at Government Schools across six major cities is our aim and we are on our way to accomplishing the same.

I am glad to witness our school children's exuberance to be learning at the Tinkering Lab, set up at Samarthanam. It is an innovative concept making the students think and act creatively. The labs teach computers, coding, robotics, animations, and the latest technologies.

The Inclusive Education Programme being run from Kodikonda is implementing an incredible job of facilitating education and health needs for the disabled and underprivileged. It's a massive operation which is covering home tuitions, online classes, teacher training, school admissions, health services, aids, appliances, therapy and more.

While all these programmes are being led by my amazing team, I can't thank enough the supporters and sponsors, who came forward to financially support and strengthen the initiatives. Samarthanam and the beneficiaries convey their heartfelt gratitude to our donors for their unfaltering support all through.

I would like to say that COVID pandemic has not ended yet and we need to be aware of the consequences of not following the rules. Wearing masks, vaccinations and hygiene continue to be the only way to beat the virus. Stay safe.

Thank you.

# HAPPENINGS at Samarthanam

## SMART CLASSROOMS SETUP AT GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS PROMOTING DIGITAL LITERACY

Samarthanam, in association with DXC Technology, initiated a project which aims to digitalize 125 Government Schools with Smart Classes. The objective is to strengthen the online education practices, so that students from various backgrounds would be able to access education during the pandemic.

Smart Classroom was inaugurated in Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Madhya Pradesh in the presence of Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka, Dr Thawar Chand Gehlot and Dr Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee of Samarthanam Trust. The next Smart Classroom was inaugurated at Karnataka Public School Agara by Shri B.C. Nagesh, Hon'ble Minister for Primary & Secondary Education, GoK, Shri Omkar G. Rao, Director Service Delivery DXC Technology, Shri Satish Reddy MLA Bommanahalli Constituency and Shri S. Rajendra Deputy Director of Public Instruction.

Samarthanam has installed and activated smart classrooms in 26 schools in Hyderabad, 26 schools in Chennai, 20 schools in Bangalore, 5 schools in Indore, 12 schools in Delhi and 2 schools in Faridabad.

Samarthanam's team is on its way to installing Smart Boards at 125 Government Schools across 6 locations covering Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad, Delhi, Rajasthan, and Madhya Pradesh, facilitating digital education to 5000 children. While Samarthanam ardently promotes technology embedded education, this initiative is seen to be moving in the right direction, promoting quality education for rural and urban school children.

“Students have benefited immensely through virtual classrooms, and e-Textbooks making classroom teaching a comfortable and interactive way of learning. Thanks to DXC Technology India for the participation and support in making learning effective, engaging, and innovative,” said Dr Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee of Samarthanam.



## INCLUSIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMME BY SAMARTHANAM

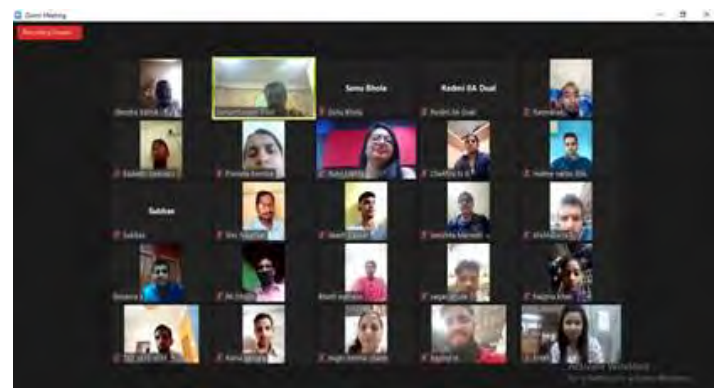
Samarthanam in association with a corporate firm runs an inclusive education programme for the people with disabilities and the economically challenged groups of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. Under the program, education and health support is provided to people in need from Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh States.

- 94 students with and without disabilities received Home based tuitions
- 20 economically under privileged students received Online teaching
- Interaction with 20 Schools teachers
- 6 children facilitated with school admission
- 4 students provided with Pre-university Admission support
- Teachers Training program
- Teachers meet for planning projects
- Teachers' orientation programme
- 200 Children - Total reach under education
- 17 individuals received appliances referral to various centers in Bangalore
- 17 people in need received Hospital referrals
- 14 Appliances distributed in a month
- 54 Therapy services provided

The Kodikonda Division which actively promotes inclusive education celebrated its one-year anniversary with flag hoisting ceremony, marking India's 75th Independence day in the presence of Dr. Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee of Samarthanam, Dr. Mahajan, Ms Vasanti Savanur Trustee of Samarthanam and the CSR Team from Global Foundries and beneficiaries.

## AADHAR HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

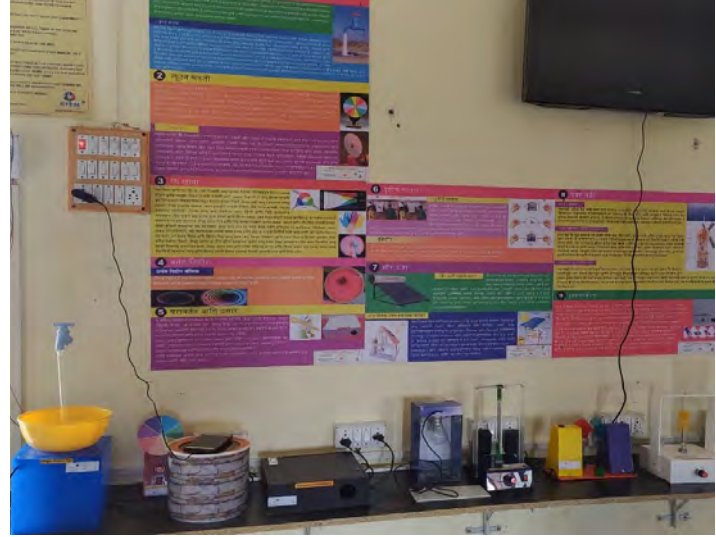
Aadhar Housing Finance Limited and Samarthanam Trust have joined hands together to support 225 youths with and without disability across 3 cities, Bangalore, Mumbai and Delhi. The purpose of the training is to make their livelihood better. Aadhar Finance extended its support to provide vocational skills training for the differently-abled, underprivileged rural and urban youth of Samarthanam Trust across the three cities.



## MINI SCIENCE LABS ACROSS GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS FOR STEM EDUCATION

To spark the interest among students towards Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, Samarthanam, in association with Otis India, initiated establishing Mini-Science Labs across Government Schools Pan India. The labs help in strengthening the students ability to integrate, improve practical knowledge, creativity, and problem solving skills. 39 Mini Science Centers across Government schools will be set-up including 8 in Bangalore, 6 in Chennai, 6 in Hyderabad, 8 in Delhi, 6 in Mumbai and 5 in Pune.

Samarthanam Center Heads and Program Coordinators from Delhi, Chennai and Hyderabad procured permissions from the Education Department for the installation of the Centres in 14 schools. The others are under process.

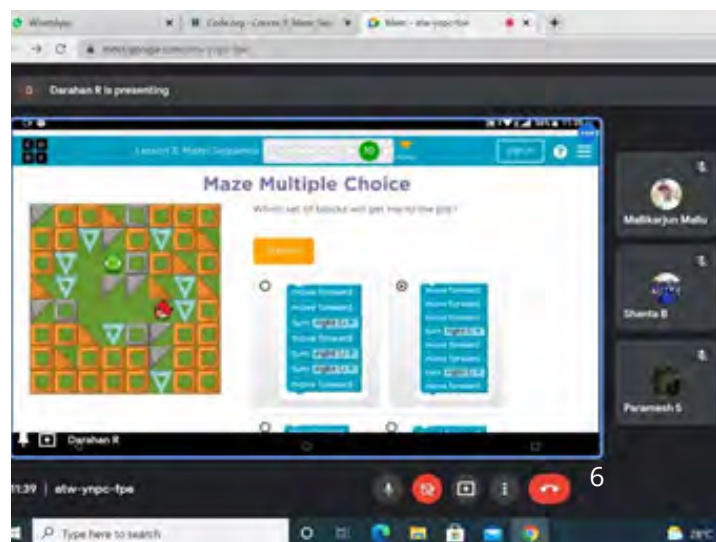
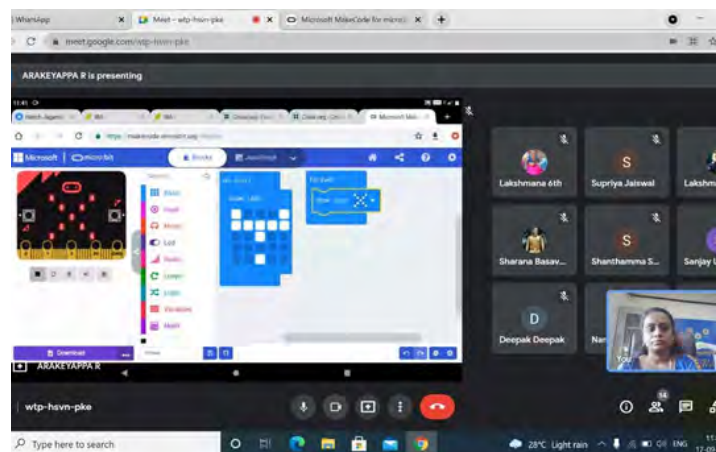


## INNOVATIVE TINKERING LAB IN ASSOCIATION WITH UNITED WAY BENGALURU TO GROOM THE YOUNG TECHNOLOGY ENTHUSIASTS

Samarthanam's Innovative Tinkering Centre is a concept lab that provides the school students a technology integrated learning platform to learn, understand, and imbibe technology. The initiative is to teach the students the modern-day technological skills, and they receive guidance from the teachers. The students would be able to think creatively, conceptualize, troubleshoot, design thinking, computational skill building and make way for innovative ideas.

The educational equipment includes a 3D printer, Robotic kit with sensors, open-source ARM-based embedded system, software programming languages to develop games, animations, mobile apps, artificial intelligence, and Machine learning.

Samarthanam's Tinker Lab received a great response from students, who are showing great interest in learning the latest technology. Samarthanam is encouraging the young minds by grooming their skills and enhancing their learning capabilities for their bright future.



## AWARDS RECEIVED BY SAMARTHANAM

Samarthanam and Dr Mahantesh GK feel honored to receive the Chanakya Award for Global Indian of the year 2021 at the 15th PRCI Global Communication Conclave.

“I am glad to be receiving the Chanakya Award and proud of my team, who never back down on advancing the mission,” said Dr Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee, Samarthanam Trust.

Dr Mahantesh GK received the Global Indian of the year 2021 PRCI Chanakya award at the hands of Hon'ble CM of Goa, Shri Pramod Sawant.

Mr Niranjana S received Jury special Award for Excellence in Media Coordination under PRCI from Hon'ble CM of Goa, Shri Pramod Sawant.

Mr B.V Naveen received Situational leader of the year COVID19 Crisis- Under Kautilya Award of the year for the youth 2021 from Hon'ble Governor of Goa, Shri Sreedharan Pillai.

Ms. Geetha Shankar, Communication Consultant of Samarthanam received the Ameya Award for Women Motivators for dedicated service to PR and society from Hon'ble Minister for Art and Culture, Goa, Shri Govind Gaude



Alongside, Samarthanam is honored to receive the Best Organization Award for Training & Placement under DDU-GKY Program. Dr. Mahantesh G Kivadasannavar Founder Managing Trustee Samarthanam Trust received the award from Hon Chief Minister of Karnataka, BS Yediyurappa & Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka, Dr. Ashwath Narayan on World Youth Skills Day at Vidhan Soudha. Samarthanam's Trainee of DDU-GKY and employee, Wilson received the Best Candidate Award

# INSHORTS

Samarthanam in association with Shankara Eye Hospital organised a free Eye Camp at Government General Hospital, K R Puram and another one at Primary Health Center Varthur.



Samarthanam received a Certificate of Appreciation for COVID Support work from ESI Hospital, Employees' State Insurance Corporation, Government of India.



LIC Golden Jubilee Foundation sponsored a school bus for the school. The keys were handed over to our Founder Managing Trustee, Dr Mahantesh GK by M. Jagannath. ZM South Central Zone Hyderabad .and the Team from LIC.



Mr Kiran Raj, a popular Kannada and Telugu Cinema Actor, Model and Philanthropist, visited Samarthanam, had a pleasant interaction with the beneficiaries and distributed blankets.

Samarthanam Trust collaborated with BBMP to launch a Waste segregation Awareness Drive at SM Kalyanam Mantapa, Jaraganahalli, Bengaluru, as part of Samarthanam Waste Management Program (SWMP). N. Muniram, Ex.CMC Member, Jaraganahalli, Naresh, Senior Health Inspector, Jaraganahalli, Krishna N, Solid Waste Inspector, Jaraganahalli, Viswanath BJP Leader were present.

Samarthanam Trust distributed assistive aids to persons with disabilities supported by ServiceMax under its CSR initiative.



Samarthanam inaugurated an Inhouse Cricket Tournament at Altire Sports Green Park Ground in honor of Samarthanam's Founder Trustee, Late SP. Nagesh, who was an avid cricket player and an inspiration to the blind cricket community.

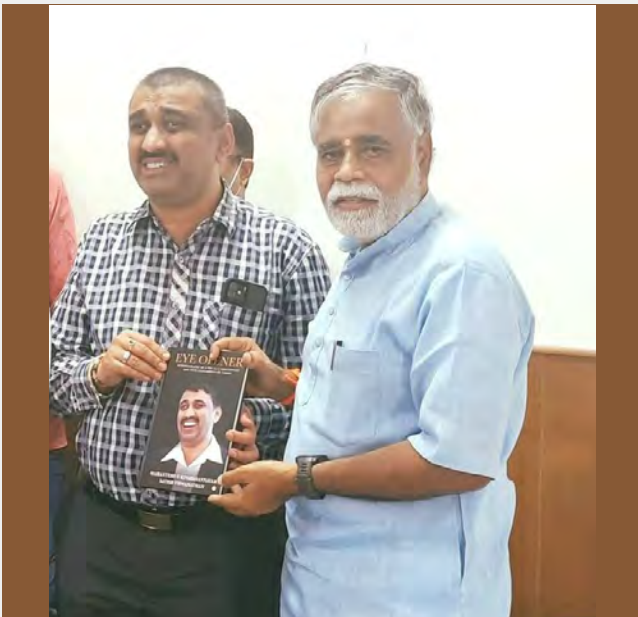
# MGK- MEET AND GREET



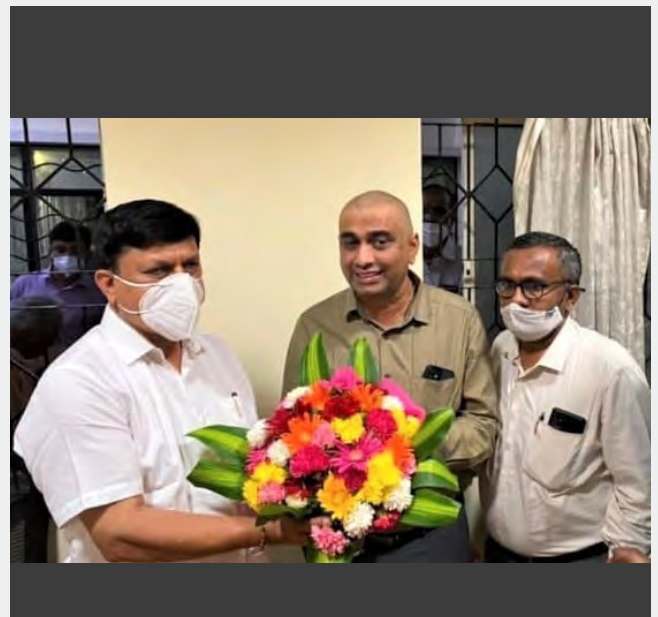
Dr Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee of Samarthanam visited Prashanti Kutiram (S-Vyasa University campus) in Jigani. The campus was an abode of Peace, says Dr Mahantesh GK. His interaction with the Chancellor Dr H.R Nagendra, was pleasant and enriching.



Dr Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee of Samarthanam met Dr L. Murugan, Hon'ble Minister of State in the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying and Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. We appreciate the support from the Ministry towards employment generation among PwD.



A meeting between Dr Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee of Samarthanam and B.C Nagesh, Hon'ble Minister of Primary & Secondary Education to discuss initiatives in Education and Accessible technology proved to be optimistic and encouraging.



Dr Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee Samarthanam had the privilege of meeting the Hon'ble Home Minister, GOK, Araga Jnanendra and wished him success. We appreciate the Minister's support as promised towards the welfare of People with Disabilities.



# COVID 19 RELIEF CAMPAIGN

Samarthanam's Pan-India Initiative

Samarthanam expands its COVID pandemic Relief Services  
Focuses on vaccinations and rehabilitation support



52,000+  
Dry Ration Kits



5,00,000+  
Packed Meals



86,000+  
PPE & Health Kits



2,00,000+  
RtPCR Kits



32+  
Hospitals covered  
pan India



7  
ICU Ambulance on  
Wheels



2  
ICU Modular Bed  
Facilities



1,00,000+  
Frontline Workers  
supported



10,00,000  
PwDs aimed to be  
educated on Vaccinations



In progress  
Oxygen Generator  
Bank



5000+  
Disabled families  
supported with health kits



Rs 10 Crore+  
worth medical equipment  
provided to Hospitals

## DRY RATION KIT DISTRIBUTION

- Samarthanam distributed dry ration kits to the disabled at Gandhinagar in the presence of Shri Dinesh Gundu Rao, MLA Gandhi Nagar, Bangalore
- J C Penney supported 651 Dry Ration Kits to Government Schools in Bangalore
- The team at Delhi distributed 1000+ dry ration kits with the help of Robinhood Army, a volunteer group at West Delhi.
- ‘Project Care – For the Disabled,’ is an initiative by Samarthanam and Acuity Knowledge Partners who together reached out to 300 differently-abled families in and around Bangalore, who have been impacted by the second wave of the pandemic. Dry Ration and Medical kits were distributed to PWDs who had lost their livelihood and needed health care facilities.



## AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

- Samarthanam initiated Vaccination campaigns for People with disability and the underprivileged along with awareness programmes aimed at clearing the misconception about the vaccine among people.
- Strengthening of the Vaccination Centres in Sullia Taluka of Dakshina Kannada was initiated by Shri Angara Sullia, Hon'ble Minister of Fisheries, Minister of Ports and Inland Transport Department, District Minister of Chikmagalur and Member of Legislative Assembly. This was a part of the initiative called Sanjeevani – A Shot of Life, Dakshina Kannada, organized in partnership with United Way Mumbai.
- 20 Vaccination centres across 200 villages in Dakshina Kannada will be covered under Sanjeevani. The centres to be strengthened through this project are Taluka Hospital Sullia, PHC Aranthodu, PHC Bellare, PHC Guthigar and PHC Subrahmanya. The Centres will be provided with N-95 Masks, 3-Ply Masks, Sanitizer, Sanitizer Stands, Gloves, Handwash and Disinfectant cleaner.
- A Vaccination Drive for Persons with Disabilities sponsored by L&T Technology Services was inaugurated by Mr. R. Chandrasekaran, Independent Director & CSR Committee Member LTTs, Mr Rajeev Gupta, CFO, LTTs, Dr. Mahantesh G.K, Founder Managing Trustee, Samarthanam, Mr K.N. Prabhakaran, Head CSR, LTTs. The programme took off with the inoculation of 5 PwDs.



Sanjeevani Programme



Vaccination campaign by L&T Technology Services

## HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICE

- Samarthanam's COVID Campaign supported with a Life Support Ambulance sponsored by AIRBUS and launched by Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka Dr Thawar Chand Gehlot. The Life Support Vehicle is designated to respond to the emergencies in Guwahati, Assam Red Cross Society. The Ambulance was received by Hon'ble Governor of Assam, Shri Jagdish Mukhi ji at Guwahati.
- A Modular ICU Unit, for treating the COVID Patients, was installed in Yelahanka Government Hospital sponsored by Exxon Mobil. Naveen Shuk-la – CEO & Director, EMSTPL and SR. Vishwanath, Member of Karnataka Yelahanka & Chairman of Bangalore Development Authority inaugurated the Unit in the presence of Dr. Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee Samarthanam, Satish & Harshitha – CSR Team, EMSTPL, and Dr. Asma Tabassum - Administrative Medical Officer- Government General Hospital Yelahanka.
- Samarthanam handed over COVID Safety Equipment to Mandya District Hospital along with Ms V.R. Shylaja, Additional Deputy Commissioner of Mandya and to Govt Hospital KR Pette by Dr. Narayana Gowda, Hon'ble Minister, Youth Empowerment and Sports and Dr. Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee of Samarthanam.
- Samarthanam, with the help of EY GDS, set up an ICU Unit with eight beds at Rangadore Hospital. The initiative is going to be helpful for the hospital in assisting COVID and other patients. Mr Venkatesha Kumar from EY GDS along with the Founder Managing Trustee Samarthanam, Dr. Mahantesh GK and Dr. Gauri Shankar- CEO, Rangadore Hospital and Shankar Math inaugurated the unit.
- Samarthanam and DHL Express India distributed free masks to BBMP workers to reduce community transmission of COVID19.
- Samarthanam distributed BiPAP machines to BN Bose SDH Panihati General Hospital in West Bengal, supported by United Way Mumbai.
- A Health Equipment Distribution programme, supported by SERVICEMAX, was carried out at Davangere District Hospital. The chief guests were Shri S A Ravindranath, MLA Davanagere South, Dr GM Siddeshwara Lok Sabha Member, Davanagere, Shri Mahantesh H Bilagi IAS Deputy Commissioner Office Davanagere, Shri Vijaya Mahantesh , IAS, CEO, Davanagere, Dr Nagaraj, District Health Officer, Dr. Jayaprakash, Officer, Chigateri General Hospital, Davanagere and Dr sMahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee, Samarthanam.
- Samarthanam distributed dry ration kits supported by Godrej & under took Mask making supported by NetApp



Life Support Ambulance by AIRBUS



Modular ICU inauguration



ICU Unit at Rangadore Hospital



Distribution of BiPAP machines



Samarthanam Trust, for the past 24 years has been playing an instrumental role in the learning and development of millions of people with disabilities and those from under-privileged communities. Our seven diverse interventions are designed to nurture and encourage the abilities of the differently-abled population.

Samarthanam envisions an inclusive society where people with disabilities lead a socio-economically independent life.

## SAMARTHANAM INTERVENTIONS

- Inclusive Education
- Skilling
- Disability Sports
- Environment
- Arts and Culture
- Health and Nutrition
- Rehabilitation



## SAMARTHANAM BARRIER-FREE RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL | HIGHLIGHTS

Samarthanam welcomed the students from 6th and 7th grades, as the classes reopened for these students, following social distancing, and wearing of masks. The online classes are being conducted without any setback and thanks to the unhindered learning interest displayed by students and hard-work of teachers, making it successful. Owing to the persisting pandemic, while most of the interactions have been virtual, a few events were organized in the premises.

### Teachers Day

Samarthanam greatly respects the service rendered by our educators and to honor their limitless dedication, Teachers Day was celebrated at the School. It was a day to say thank you and applaud their endless hard work and commitment. Alongside Teachers Day, Samarthanam also celebrated Late SP Nagesh's Birth Anniversary, which had the presence of Shri S Suresh Kumar, Former Minister for Primary & Secondary Education, Shri Nagabhushana K, DGM -HR SEG Automotive India, Dr. B K Ravi Professor & Chairman Dept. of Communication Bangalore University, Shri Pankaj G C Block Education office Bangalore, Dr. Anrunalatha J S, Director, Braille Resource Centre Bangalore University, Dr. Subhash Mahajan Philanthropist and many other guests. Our Founder Managing Trustee Dr. Mahantesh GK and Trustee Vasanti Savanur welcomed and honored the guests.



Teachers Day

### Everyday learning

- As per the guidelines from the Education department, the school reopened for the 6th and 7th grade students. Books, stationery, Tabs and internet facility were provided to the newly enrolled students.
- Deaf Resource Center observes the general classes and conducted the online remedial classes for the students with Hearing Impairment. ID School Teachers conducted virtual classes for the children with special needs. Teachers guide parents and children with respect to everyday activities, physical fitness, perceptual activities, pre- writing and reading.
- Early Intervention sessions are organized virtually where the students and parents participated in learning activities and improving their cognitive, gross and fine motor skills, socialization, self-help, and communication.
- Virtual physiotherapy sessions greatly helped children with special needs.

## Workshops for teachers

- ‘PRAYAS’ Webinar series CRC Davanagere conducted National level webinars on various topics relating to the children with special needs and was attended by ID school teachers
- The international webinar by Pope Paul Mercy Home Teachers Training Institute, Kerala in collaboration with RCI on “Assessment, Diagnosis and Training of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.” was attended by Samarthanam's school principal.
- ‘Health Project’ organized capacity building sessions for parents of children with special needs, which were greatly informative and interactive.

## Vaccination Campaign

Samarthanam school teachers joined the “Stop the Spread” Vaccination Drive programme with door to door surveys, mass awareness programmes, assistance during vaccination programmes and data collection.

## Sports and Cultural activities

- Students with special needs participated in the State level selection for Golf at Palace ground Golf yard, Bangalore.
- Children with special needs experienced great fun being a part of the Kannada film shooting ‘Love 360’ at HMT Officer Club, Jalahalli.
- Sunrisers Event Planner’s and Trishula Educational and Charitable Trust organized a fashion show that celebrates the beauty of people with disabilities and students with special needs took part in the “Dazzling Miss Karnataka for Disabled Children.”

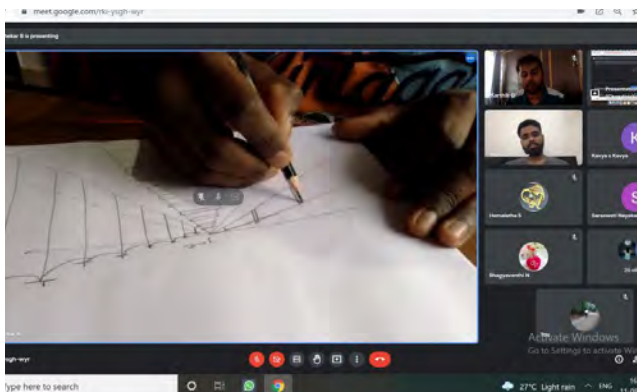
## Virtual Volunteering at Samarthanam Schools

- PWC conducted various virtual volunteering activities with the students to teach reading comprehension, vocabulary, and the significance of Indian Independence.
- Target volunteers conducted an online session on “Meditation and Yoga,” conveying the importance of physical and mental wellness.
- The online volunteering class by NatWest was to teach the students the significance of health and hygiene.

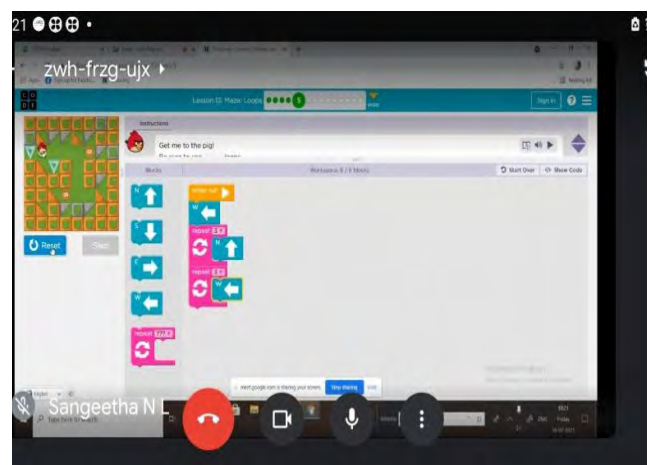
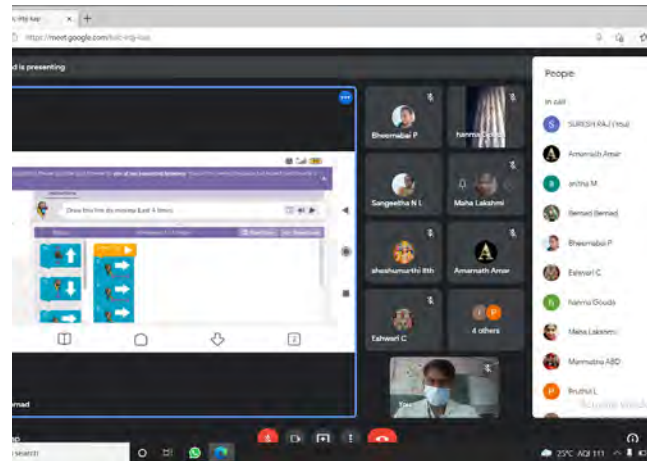


## SAMARTHANAM HIGH SCHOOL

- The High School teachers are taking online classes for the students, ensuring their uninterrupted learning. Students from 8 to 10 Grades are able to continue their education and prepare for the exams via online classes.
- Tinker Lab Classes are most thought-provoking sessions for students attending the online class.
- Samarthanam high school students who gave SSLC exams, cleared with 100% pass percentage. Our school topper, Chandrashekhar, secured 86% and we congratulate him on his success. Samarthanam appreciates the teachers for guiding the students throughout their preparation and exams period.
- Buzz Cloud volunteers conducted two activity sessions on Computer design (Drawing using Basic Shapes) and Photoshop for the 10th Class students.



Volunteering activity



Online Tinker Lab classes

## SAMARTHANAM HIGHER EDUCATION

Samarthanam's Higher Education Programme facilitated the PUC and UG admissions of 50 disabled and underprivileged students in some of the reputed colleges encouraging their higher education interests.

Samarthanam HEP Pune and BMC Software India Pvt. Ltd distributed Kibo digital scanners at 2 educational institutions in Pune namely Fergusson College and Aabasaheb Garware College where the highest number of visually impaired students are studying. Wheelchairs have been given away to 15 physically impaired beneficiaries as well.

Samarthanam distributed talking Pulse Oximeters and talking Digital Blood Pressure Monitoring Machines to 35 visually impaired physiotherapy students studying in NETT Paramedical College, in Mumbai.



Distributing Oximeters to students



## BANGALORE SKILLING CENTRE

Online training classes are actively implemented at Ban-galore Skilling Centre, along with assistance to attend the classes from home. The team is always at reach for queries, guidance and learning support.

## DELHI SKILLING CENTRE

Samarthanam Delhi team is actively running online classes for the enrolled trainees ensuring the completion of the training, despite pandemic. Mobilization activities are underway.

The team organised a volunteering activity supported by Nari Shakti, an NGO which works towards empowerment of women. The volunteers organized sessions on personal hygiene, gardening, cooking for Visually Impaired Girls from the Delhi centre.

## MUMBAI SKILLING CENTRE

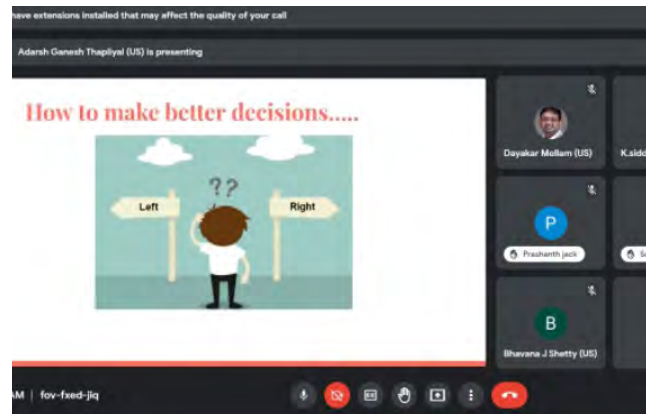
The Mumbai team initiated a new batch with enthusiastic trainees and welcomed them with kits. Along with classes, the team involved in Dry Ration Kit distribution across various places hit by the pandemic. Assistive Aids like Blood Pressure Measuring Devices and Pulse Oximeters were given away to people in need.

## PUNE SKILLING CENTRE

Alongside classes, various volunteering sessions were arranged on Motivation, Self-Development, Capacity Building, Life skills and Importance of personal hygiene. Kibo Scanners, Wheelchairs and Dry Ration kit distribution programmes were organized.

## HYDERABAD SKILLING CENTRE

The motivational speech by GVK Murthy, CEO of Bhagya Tools, the session on Financial Literacy by ICICI Foundation and visits by Conduent Business services, Medical experts, Lion Club members, and various other donors/benevolent individuals, largely help our students widen their horizons with respect to learning, confidence, social exposure and communication.



Online classes at Bangalore



Volunteering activity by Nari Shakti at Delhi



Kibo Scanner distribution at Pune



Financial Literacy by ICICI Foundation

## CHENNAI SKILLING CENTRE

- Apart from training classes, the volunteering sessions by industry experts are immensely welcomed by the beneficiaries. The session by Muthusamy Concentrix and team helped the students learn Resume Preparation and interview etiquette. DXC Technology volunteers offered sessions on Interview preparation techniques, expectations of the IT industry, motivational sessions for our beneficiaries.
- Beneficiaries from the second and third batches successfully completed the 3 Months Residential Training Program on Java, Python & Soft Skills funded by DXC Technologies at OMR Skill Development Training Centre.
- Ration Kits were distributed to various disabled community groups and RtPCR testing kits, RNA Isolation Kits, Medical Kits to Govt. Stanley Hospital to overcome the COVID pandemic situation.

## GUNTUR SKILLING CENTRE

- As the online classes are on the go, the trainees were also interviewed virtually by the Manager of Spectra Real Estate. A few students got selected for the Tele Caller role. They have been a part of a job drive organized by APSSDC as well. Samarthanam appreciates the students who cleared the placement interviews and are training on the job.
- Samarthanam Staff along with the students participated in the COVID Vaccination awareness programme to raise awareness in rural areas of Guntur district. The campaign included distributing brochures, face masks, talking about hygiene and COVID safety rules.
- Samarthanam Guntur beneficiaries took part in a mobilization campaign in the locality, raising awareness on Samarthanam activities.
- The students also volunteered for a Clean and Green programme at Pattabipuram High School to help the students of the school keep their premises clean. They also have been a part of the school's new block inauguration.



Job Drive by APSSDC



Clean and Green volunteering Programme

## ANANTAPUR SKILLING CENTRE

- Anantapur Skilling Centre welcomed the trainees who joined the programme. Along with regular classes, few motivation sessions were conducted by industry experts help in boosting the morale. A German language Specialist of SBI Global Technology, Director of Deeksha Foundation, members from M/s Gain Aloe Private Limited, are a few proficient personnel who delivered talks on various subjects.
- As part of placement assistance, the team arranged interviews for the students. KIML Company at Hindupur, Khazana Jewellery, and a few retail firms have interviewed the trainees and offered jobs. The job drive by APSSDC at SV Degree and PG college Anantapur proved to be helpful for the students. The selected trainees joined in their respective roles at various firms and the Placement Department has initiated talks with many other companies to organize interview sessions.

## BALLARI SKILLING CENTRE

Samarthanam Skilling centre in Ballari is running online classes and virtual volunteering sessions for the students. Effective time management, Etiquettes of Virtual Meetings, Beginners Guide to Excel and Basics of Using MS Word, Outlook are the topics covered by volunteers from Akamai. Mobilization programmes have been actively carried out at various locations by the Ballari team. A few trainees attended interviews at Vindhya e-Infomedia Pvt Ltd.



Placement interviews

## BELAGAVI SKILLING CENTRE

A new batch of training took off at Belagavi with study kits for the new students. Volunteering sessions by experts in Financial Literacy, personality development, soft skills, self-employment and communication greatly benefit the students in shaping their thoughts and personality.



Volunteering session on softskills

## DHARWAD SKILLING CENTRE

- The skill training classes are effectively being facilitated to the trainees, who have not missed classes due to the pandemic. The team came forward to support ASHA Workers by giving health kits. The “Stop the Spread” campaign on COVID Vaccination, Awareness and Facilitation was taken up and 200 villages have been covered. 447 awareness drives were organized impacting 164735 people in need.
- The trainees have been a part of a 5 day yoga camp at the centre, and a session on mind yoga by Swamy Vivekananda Yoga Research and Holistic Health Trust proved to be benefitting.



Yoga Camp



## PARISARA

- 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.
- A new project on Waste management was initiated with focus on creating awareness on the importance of waste segregation at source. It also acts as a livelihood programme for the Rag pickers involved. Under this project, 20 blocks were Ward mapped, 1270 households were propagated, and Virtual volunteering activity conducted for Pourakarmikas and waste pickers.

## WOW (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.

- Awareness on COVID19 delivered to the DWCC workers and Pourakarmikas (PKs).
- Dry Ration Kits distributed to the DWCC & Pourakarmikas (PKs) during COVID Lockdown.
- Successful implementation of the new system in 4 divisions with 28 wards.

882 Tonnes	Total Dry Waste collected in 28 Wards
194 Tonnes	Total LVP {Low Value Plastic} Dispatched
Rs. 21,60,212	Income to Waste Handlers
Rs. 15,66,428	Saving to Municipal corporation

## PROGRESS AND IMPACT



162 Tonnes of dry waste collected



134 Tonnes of dry waste recycled



12 persons employed



Rs. 12lakhs - The value derived from segregation and recycling





## AN EPIC WIN BY AN EXTRA ORDINARY SPORTS WOMAN

A visually impaired individual from Samarthanam made it to the IFSC World Championship and we are proud of her achievement. Para-Climber Sunitha Dhondappanavar is the First Indian Woman in the history to get Bronze medal under B3 category in IFSC World Championship. Sunitha and her Coach, Shika Shetty, trained for the big day and made it to the finals held in Moscow.

Sunitha is a visually impaired individual who approached Samarthanam for Higher Education support owing to the financial inconsistencies in the family. She has been a part of Samarthanam for 4 years, receiving education support and is currently pursuing BA in Arts at Bengaluru. Sunitha has always been a sports enthusiast and a regular participant in tournaments. She is also the winner at international sports for disabled in wall climbing at Jammu and Kashmir in 2018. Samarthanam appreciates Sunitha for her accomplishment, as she stands as an inspiration for many women at Samarthanam.



### Wall climbing champions

Indian mountaineering federation (IMF) conducted selection trials for world championship in wall climbing event for visually impaired candidates. 14 climbers from Samarthanam participated. Murali, Sujatha and Sunitha from Samarthanam were selected to represent India in the IFSC World Championship.

Para-Climber Sunitha became the First Indian Woman in the history to get Bronze medal in the final IFSC World Championship at Tokyo.



The IFSC World Championship where Sunitha won the Bronze medal

# CRICKET FOR THE BLIND

## CRICKET ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND IN INDIA (CABI)

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.

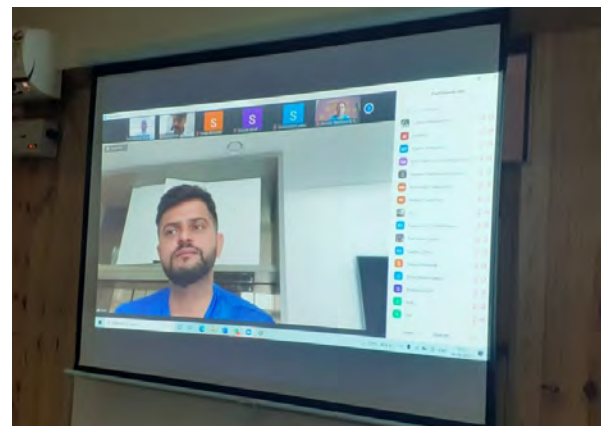
### David Mathias, Karnataka State Cricketer, talks about never giving up

A virtual Motivational and Fitness Session under the series- Never Give up for the Visually Impaired Cricketers was organized by Samarthanam and CABI. Sharing his cricket journey, experiences, and cricket moments, David Mathias, fast bowler, and Karnataka State Cricketer was the chief guest who addressed 125 participants. Dr Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee of Samarthanam and President of the Cricket Association for the Blind in India conveyed his gratitude and appreciation to David Mathias for his valuable time.



### CABI AGM welcomes Suresh Raina, Indian Cricketer as Keynote Speaker

The 11th Annual General Body meeting of CABI was held virtually with 46 Delegates along with the CABI officials from 25 affiliated State Cricket Boards. John David General Secretary of CABI was the host and Buse Gowda, Executive Committee Member welcomed the gathering. It was an honor to have Suresh Raina, Indian Cricketer as the Keynote Speaker, who talked about the importance of nurturing young talent. He spoke about his cricket journey, his fitness regime during the Pandemic and congratulated CABI for its efforts in promoting blind cricket.



### Coaching Camp for Women Cricketers

The game of cricket is aspiring and ambitious for these 30 women cricketers who received Cricket coaching in Bangalore. The coaching focused on various aspects to prepare the cricketers to play for the Country. All the players were motivated through the Videos on cricket of Indian team playing in the world cup matches. The players received a detail note on the rules, categories, Auditory Cricket Ball, Cricket Pitch and the Field placements during a Match. Along with coaching on batting and bowling, the importance of exercise and fitness was elucidated.



## Women cricketers in action

CABI organized Blind Cricket Tournaments under the Société Générale Project to the aspiring Blind Women Cricketers at Bangalore. After the Coaching Camp, 60 women cricketers were selected to play the tournaments. Players from two States, Karnataka and Tamil Nādu took part and Team Karnataka won the Tournament by beating Tamil Nadu team. Seven players were awarded Player of the Match and one was awarded Player of the Series. The winners and runner-up were awarded with trophies and cash prizes.

The tournament presented the players with a chance to showcase their talent and meet players from other states. It was an opportunity to receive expert coaching, learn various skills, understand the potential of the game, and give your best.



## Coaching Camp supported by Australian Aid

45 blind cricket players received an opportunity to learn technology, communication skills, and making complete use of the web services. The players were introduced to basic Computer usage, Tab utilizations, using Computer and mobile Applications, Soft Skills and Spoken English.

Along with cricket coaching, personality development, communication, technology awareness was also a part of the coaching camp.





## SWADHARA-GREH

Samarthanam's Rehabilitation programme, Swadhara, lends a helping hand to women in distress. It is a home for women and their children, who would be able to receive protection, counselling, education, and vocational training. The programme helps these women to recuperate and become independent. Health, nutrition, medical needs, food, accommodation, vocational training, and counseling by experts are a few of the services provided by Swadhara.

## WORKING WOMEN HOSTEL

Samarthanam's Working Women Hostel is home for many women who are pursuing their higher education, and those who are employed in the city. Samarthanam encourages and supports these hard-working young women to study, work and make a future. The Hostel continues to provide a clean and safe place for the women along with awareness sessions on the pandemic, lockdown, safety rules and vaccinations for their wellbeing.

## LAKSHMI

Samarthanam Swadhara embraces women in distress and offers them with emotional support, the much-needed gesture when in agony. Lakshmi is a 29 year old woman from Bangalore who never thought she would be facing marital issues and always wished for a financially independent life. But when family problems were burgeoning, Lakshmi had to make the hard decision and seek expert help. She approached a Social Worker from Janodaya Santhwana Kendra in Bangalore and later came to Samarthanam Swadhara.

Swadhara comforted Lakshmi and assured her that she would be able to have her self-sustenance. Swadhara provided her with accommodation, food and counselling support.

"I am glad that I came to Swadhara. I was seeking support and here I could get my hands on training in tailoring. I do not want to depend on anyone and I, now, can finally have an independent living," says a relieved Lakshmi.

Lakshmi received vocational training at Swadhara in tailoring and she believes she can make a livelihood from what she has learnt. It may be small but it's a good beginning, says Lakshmi. She is currently employed at Bommanahalli and living on her own in a separate house. "We see a lot of women like Lakshmi. The first support they need should be confidence and assurance that they can start over. Latha recuperated in a short time as she is strong-willed and we wish her the best," says the counsellor at Swadhara.



*"I do not want to depend on anyone and I, now, can finally have an independent living"*

*Lakshmi*

# STORIES OF CHANGE

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## LATHA .V

“I have a profound interest in music and I am glad that my talent is receiving appreciation from people,” says Latha, a 26-year-old visually impaired individual from Ananthapur District. Latha came to Samarthanam after hearing about the training programme at the Skilling Centre from a Community Mobilizer. She found the training programme highly motivating. Latha trained in IT, BPO, Retail and Hospitality sectors. Her parents say that her English, communication skills, and overall social exposure has improved leaps and bounds after the training at Samarthanam.

“Thanks to Samarthanam I can do a lot more today. Computer and Social skills have been added to my profile and I am glad that I took up the course,” says Latha.

Latha completed her schooling in Seva Mandir Blind school at Hindupur and joined Government Residential School and Junior college at Mahaboobnagar for intermediate. She completed her MA Music course in SV Music and Dance college at Tirupathi.

Latha has many achievements on her name such as;

- “Black the flowers of music”, participated till semi-finals
- “Zee-Kanada Sarigamapa participated till semi-finals
- Blind fest 2k16 Kalaburagi
- Kalakarula aikhya vedika at Hindupur
- Balamithra Award- Nataraj Lions club, Mahaboobnagar

Samarthanam wishes her the best in her music and her career. We look forward to encouraging young people with disabilities to take a step towards skill-building and lead an independent life.



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*"Computer and Social skills have been added to my profile and I am glad that I took up the course" Latha V*

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*"Her English, communication skills, and overall social exposure has improved leaps and bounds after the training at Samarthanam" Latha's parents*

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## MANIKUMAR

"I like it here and I am happy to be studying at Samarthanam. I want to be a doctor and I am sure I can make it," says Manikumar with bright eyes and a big smile.

Manikumar's parents work for meagre salaries and owing to financial inconsistencies, they were unable to provide high school education to Manikumar. Since his parents wanted their kids to continue to study and have better lives, they approached Samarthanam School.

Manikumar came to Samarthanam School to join 8th grade. He stayed in the hostel and started liking the place from day one.

At the onset, the teachers have noticed that Manikumar was unable to write his notes as he has trouble seeing the board. After consulting his parents, we referred him to an eye hospital and got new eyeglasses, improving his vision. "He was so happy to have the spectacles because he could see the board clearly and understand the subjects well. He was then able to do homework and his reading speed improved as well," says his teacher.

Samarthanam provides tuition, food, clothes, and stationery to its school students. The teaching staff provide learning assistance along with personal development support. Manikumar showed great interest in school learning, communicating with friends and teachers, art, and sports. His interest in sports and drawing was noticed by his teachers and encouraged him to contest.

"He is a creative child and at Samarthanam he is able to improve his talent and receiving opportunities to grow," says Manikumar's parents.



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*"He was so happy to have the spectacles because he could see the board clearly and understand the subjects well" Manikumar's teacher*

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*"He is a creative child and at Samarthanam he is able to improve his talent and receiving opportunities to grow" Manikumar's parents*

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# VOLUNTEERING

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## INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS

150 students completed internship and service learning at Samarthanam, who were exposed to the various verticals at the organization. They have worked in the HR Department, School, Sunadha and early intervention, CABI, Rehabilitation center. Digital Library, Skilling Centre, Parisara, and WOW programmes. Few of them worked for the Eye Camp, Vaccination drive, Waste segregation Awareness. Counseling the students on virtual platform, and English grammar sessions were also taken up.

These included students from Tata institute of social Science, Symbiosis Noida, Symbiosis Pune, IIM Rathok, UPES Deharadun, Christ University- Dept of Social Work, Christ University - Dept of Management Studies. Christ University - Dept of Media, Dept of Psychology. Bangalore University, Krupanidhi College Bengaluru, Jain (Deemed University), Oxford College HSR, Bengaluru City University, Institute of Management, Nirma University (IMNU), Jindal Global Law University, Gujarat National Law University, St. Francis college Bengaluru, RV College, SSMRV, Flame University.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- 330 Volunteers from Eli Lilly volunteered for Audio Book Recording and converted text books into Audio format and were also a part of the Disability awareness Webinar.
- Volunteers from Symbiosis Noida and Connectfor worked on recording Audio books.
- Students from Greenwood College raised funds by making and sale of candles.
- Morgan Stanley conducted Session for Women cricket beneficiaries.
- 50 volunteers from DHL participated in the Sign language workshop.
- Cloudbuz volunteered for sessions on Photoshop for the students.
- Volunteers from Target conducted a session on Mind Mapping for LRC Beneficiaries.
- 50 volunteers from NASDAQ were part of the Disability Awareness Webinar.



83 volunteering activities organized

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24 corporates involved

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1472 volunteers participated

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2087 hours of voluntary service

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150 student interns

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## VOLUNTEERING CORPORATES

[24]7.ai, Akamai, Ametek, ANZ, Apple (Goodera), CITI Bank, Cloudbuz, Concentrix, Connectfor, DBS (Goodera), DHL, Eli Lilly, Intel, JP Morgan, Morgan Stanley, Nasdaq, NatWest, Paypal, SCB, Sunpure, Target, UW Hyderabad, Lowe's India, Goodera

# DIGITAL LIBRARY

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Samarthanam's Digital Library is one of its kind to be set up in India offering accessible education assistance to the disabilities. The books are well-suited for the print disabled students like the visually impaired, dyslexic children and those with verbal processing difficulties.

- Samarthanam has proposed to set up digital libraries across all taluks and the discussions with the Government library are underway.
- The Big Impact Day of a major corporate has its volunteers read 3000 books and it is on the go.
- Citibank volunteers recorded 175 books and we are thankful for their contribution.
- Starbucks, PES college, ExxonMobil have shown great interest in volunteering for the Library and the recording is going to start soon.
- Former Minister of Primary and Higher education Shri S Suresh Kumar visited Samarthanam Digital Library, appreciated the initiative and recorded a byte about Samarthanam.

# HUMAN RESOURCES

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The Human Resources team at Samarthanam, as part of employee welfare, learning and appreciation, organized a few programmes which helped the staff feel motivated. A quarterly Employee Recognition Programme was organized where employees from different projects and departments were recognized for their exemplary performance in the first quarter. A 2-hour session on financial planning and investment by DHL volunteering team was attended by Samarthanam staff. A session on 'Goal Setting' was organized by team from NatWest who conducted an interactive session to explain the importance of setting well-defined goals. Alongside, Samarthanam employees relished a North Karnataka potluck packed with a variety of sumptuous food, put together by the employees.

Since COVID pandemic is on going, the HR team implemented a Vaccination Drives for PwDs and Samarthanam staff at the HQ and Samarthanam Bhavan, JP Nagar. All staff members and beneficiaries received the vaccination and were asked to stay cautious.



6023 Braille Books

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4612 Audio Books

---



39618 Scanned Pages

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124 books in "Sugamya Pustakalaya"

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472 employees

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117 People with disabilities

---



188 Women employees

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# THANK YOU SUPPORTERS

We are grateful for your valuable contribution

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Aadhar Housing Finance Limited  
Airbus Group India Private Limited  
Acuity Knowledge Centre (India) Private Limited  
Academy Association  
ANZ  
Ashirvadam Trust  
ExxonMobil Company India Private Limited  
Federal Bank  
Future Generali India Insurance Company Limited  
Godrej Seeds and Genetics Limited  
Godrej  
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H T Parekh Foundation  
ITC Limited  
IndusInd Bank  
International Association for Human Values  
J C Penney Services India Private Limited  
L & T Technology Services Ltd  
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Mercedes Benz Research and Development India Pvt Ltd  
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UK Online Giving Foundation  
V Kare Charitable Trust  
VM Ware  
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XLHealth Corporation India Private Limited

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## Donate to Make a Difference

(Select your amount of choice)

Rs. 3000/-	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rs. 5000/-	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rs. 10000/-	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rs. 15000/-	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rs. 20000/-	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rs. 25000/-	<input type="checkbox"/>	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, 15<sup>th</sup> Cross, 16<sup>th</sup> Main, Sector 4, HSR Layout,  
Bengaluru – 560102 Karnataka State, India  
Tele: +91 9449864784

**DONATE THROUGH PAYTM**

Visit [www.samarthanam.org](http://www.samarthanam.org)



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

\* marked fields are mandatory



**Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled**

GA: 39, 15<sup>th</sup> Cross, 16<sup>th</sup> Main, Sector-4, H  
ngaluru - 560102, Karnataka Stat

+91-80-25729911 / 25729922 /

Email: info@samarthanam

www.samarthanam

**More than**

**10,00,000**

**people received support since  
the COVID pandemic**

**But its not over...**

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

**DONATE NOW**

**COVID-19 IS STILL HERE.  
YOUR ACTIONS STILL MATTER.**



**Wear  
a mask**



**Wash  
your hands**



**Practice social  
distancing**



**Get  
vaccinated**

Reach out to Samarthanam at [www.samarthanam.org](http://www.samarthanam.org) or Call at

Naveen +91- 9449864786, Sunil +91- 9449864691, Raghavendra +91- 9483237158

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



To follow us on  
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