

# **JANARTH ADIVASI VIKAS SANSTHA (JAVS)**

**SHAHADA, Dist. Nandurbar**

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23**

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## GENESIS OF THE ORGANIZATION

In the past, Vikram Kanhere (The Director) and Ranjana Kanhere (The Executive Director) were actively involved in an Adivasi Labourers' Organization (Shramik Sanghatana) working in this area during 70's and 80's. It was one of the most important movements in Maharashtra state involving the rights and identity of the Adivasi people. It was working for the Adivasi landless laborers and marginal farmers in the then Dhule district.

Later from 1996, we started working in this area through this organization, which in the beginning came into existence as an initiative of Janarth, Aurangabad with the Adivasi communities in the then Dhule District (which was initially named Janarth Tribal Development Project). Dhule district is in northern part of Maharashtra. Nandurbar district was carved out of Dhule district in 1998.

The organization started working independently from 2003 under the name 'Janarth Adivasi Vikas Sanstha' (JAVS). JAVS works in Shahada, Nandurbar and Dhadgaon Talukas of Nandurbar district. Main office of the organization is located in Shahada. The organization also has branch offices in Nandurbar and Dhadgaon. Dhadgaon is approximately 100 Kilometers and Shahada is approximately 35 kilometers from the district headquarters at Nandurbar, which, in turn, is about 400 kilometres north of Mumbai. Dhadgaon block is situated in the Satpuda ranges.

JAVS is working primarily with the Bhil and Pawara Adivasi communities in Shahada, Nandurbar and Dhadgaon blocks of Nandurbar District. As is the case in other regions of India, Adivasi communities in this region also have remained economically backward. But we may add here that culturally they are some steps ahead of the non-Adivasi communities.

## OUR VISION AND MISSION:

- **Vision of the Organization:**

*The world society is a complex structure comprised of various layers of inequality, of rich-poor, of so-called higher-lower castes, of Adivasis-Non Adivasis, and of men-women. The organization visions a society where all these sections will experience equal status in society. They will behave with each other with respect and love in a non-exploitative world that will give equal opportunities to every person to shape their lives.*

- **Mission of the Organization:**

*To undertake various socio-economic and educational activities and action research for addressing the issues affecting the deprived and disadvantaged groups, with an objective that the deprived social sections – Adivasis, Dalits, Women, Disabled persons, poor persons, children---- be more capable, more confident, more aware of their rights and responsibilities.*

## OUR CORE VALUES:

The values we uphold in personal life and in organizational and social activities are:

- *Solidarity with the marginalized,*
- *Respect for Human Rights,*
- *Integrity,*
- *Gender Equality,*
- *Social Equality,*
- *Non-violence,*
- *Democracy,*
- *Self-governance, and*
- *Transparency.*

## ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE:

Legal Status	Registered Organization
Society Registration No.	Maharashtra/ 5350/ Dhule from December 1999
Trust Registration No.	F /5263/ Dhule from April 2000
12 A Registration No.	AAATJ3986EE20164 dated 14 October 2021
80 G Registration No.	AAATJ3986EF20212 dated 14 October 2021
FCRA Registration No.	084100003 from 15 April 2005 (Renewal under process)
PAN No.	AAATJ3986E
NGO DARPAN ID	MH/2017/0163106 dated 29 September 2017
Registration for CSR Activities	CSR00010630 dated 5 July 2021
Credibility Alliance Registration No.	CA/67/2013 from 7 August 2013 (for Minimum Norms)
Registered Office Address	C/o: Rupsing Supa Shevale, At Bhute, Po. Javada T.Bo., Tal: Shahada, Dist. Nandurbar, Maharashtra
Head Office Address	Plot No.14, Mira Nagar, Shahada 425 409, Dist. Nandurbar, Maharashtra State
Branch Office Address	1) JAVS, Shikshak Colony, Dhadgaon, Dist. Nandurbar, Maharashtra State, pin code 425 414 2) JAVS, Jagatapvadi, Nandurbar, Maharashtra State, pin code – 425 412
Auditors	M/s. S.R. Rahalkar & Associates, 667, Rahalkar Building, Ravivar Peth, Nashik-422 001, Dist. Nashik, Maharashtra State
Bankers	State Bank of India, Dondaicha Road, Shahada, Dist. Nandurbar, Maharashtra State

In the following pages, we are briefly narrating the activities undertaken for the above mentioned projects during 2022-23.

## **A) PROJECT NAME: VIDYA BALBHAVAN PROJECT**

### **Background:**

Nandurbar district is one of the tribal districts in Maharashtra State and Dhadgaon block is situated in the northern region of Nandurbar district and in the Satpuda ranges. The habitation of the tribal communities (Bhil and Pawara) is scattered in hamlets. In Dhadgaon block the major problems are: Seasonal Migration of tribal families, high dropout rates, difficult inaccessible terrain, poor school infrastructure, poor classroom interaction, and apathetic teachers. There is a dire need to equip these children and to motivate teachers with additional educational input so that quality education is integrated in the system. There is also need to create pro-educational atmosphere in villages, so that the School Management Committees (SMCs) and parents will be active in the venture of improving quality of education.

The children do not get pre-primary education in Anganwadis and are not prepared for school education. The language of the tribal communities (Bhil and Pawara) living here is quite different from Marathi, which is as good as a foreign language to the children. (Ignoring this factor, now English language is also added in the primary education.) When the Adivasi child enters school for the first time, he / she has to confront triple difficulties: 1) the unfamiliar school atmosphere, 2) to hear and get acquainted with an unfamiliar language and try to relate it to his/her home language and 3) to learn reading and writing in this unfamiliar language.

The Balbhavans for children learning in Dhadgaon Block have established a method for enhancing the elementary education. The Balmitras are the teachers in Balbhavans and the activities to the Balbhavans are: Teaching Marathi and Maths up to 5<sup>th</sup> standard and sessions on science toys. All these activities of Balbhavans are strengthened through following strategies:

- 1) To organize program planning and preparation workshop for the team for clarity about values and objectives of Organization and about the program under this project,
- 2) Dialogue with Anganwadi Sevika and to get list of eligible AWC children to get enrolled in schools,
- 3) Home visits to motivate parents,
- 4) Capacity building trainings of Balmitras for school preparedness activities such as loco motor and hand-eye coordination, Marathi and Maths preparedness,
- 5) Marathi and Maths trainings of Balmitras for 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> standards. As 5<sup>th</sup> standard is added to Balbhavan, new responsibility of developing the training on curriculum of 5<sup>th</sup> standard is an added task.
- 6) TLM (Teaching and Learning Material) workshop to prepare material for all standards in Balbhavans.
- 7) Training to Balmitras about RTE Act and role of SMC (School Management Committee),
- 8) Shivar Pheris and Field visits for children,
- 9) Reading corner activity with colorful books
- 10) Pre-test and Post-tests for standards from 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> and also for the children for school preparedness program.

Records of attendance and unit-wise progress have been maintained. Regular monitoring, review and planning meetings (fortnightly meetings, monthly review meetings and meetings with partners) have trimmed the process.

To improve upon the attendance, when a child is absent, his/ her parents are visited. For improving attendance, support from parents and SMC members is sought through home visits and SMC meetings. Involvement of SMC necessitated awareness of SMC adult members (and parents) and student members about educational issues, their rights and responsibilities as SMC member, SDP (School Development Plan) and RTE Act through capacity building training. So, the trainings of adult and student SMC members were organized.

## **Report for the period 2022-23:**

### **1) SMC Meetings in May 2022:**

SMC meetings were organized in 28 villages on 24, 25 and 26<sup>th</sup> of the month. The total number of participants in these meetings was 300 out of these the number of SMC members-130, parents-147, students' representatives-23.

In these meetings following issues were discussed:

1. Review of last meeting,
2. Sustainability of Balbhavan activity and How SMC and Village can raise funds to support Balmitra for continued Balbhavan activity after July 2022
3. Regular attendance of students.

### **2) SMC Meetings in June 2022:**

On 24 June 2022 SMC and parents meetings were held in 29 villages which SMC members 170, Parents 168, Teachers 11 and students' representatives 13 participated. Total 368 Persons. Subjects discussed were as following

#### **BALBHAVAN MATERIAL:**

1. Group method
2. Use of bi-lingual Books
3. Use of TLM of language and mathematics
4. Library Activity
5. Shivar Pheri
6. SMC meetings to be held regularly per month

### **3) SMC and Parents Meeting in July 2022:**

Meetings were organized in 30 villages from 26 to 28 July 2022 . In these meetings SMC members 150, Parents 140, teachers 48 and students' representatives 32 participated total 370 persons participated. Following subjects were discussed.

- 1) Transfer of Balbhavan assets and other material to SMC and parents committees.
- 2) Balbhavans to continue contribution by people is essential.
- 3) Practical process of continuation Balbhavan.
- 4) Transfer affidavit to be read out openly to all.
- 5) SMC meeting should be held regularly (on their own initiative because up to now Sanstha was facilitating it)

Regular period was only for four months; it affected posttest percentage of marks. During corona period, many children had to suffer education loss. With CINI support, the loss of education was studied and its effects were understood. Efforts were made to fill up this loss, by continued functioning of Balbhavans in school holiday period i.e. up to June 15 2022.

This year will be remembered for the heroic task of Balmitras and team for working in this risky period when there was threat of corona infection. This was possible also with support from SMC and parents (giving houses for hamlet classes without asking any rent), combined with another support from CINI and NSE by providing adequate sanitizers, masks and spray-pumps.

This year due to some difficulty, the remuneration was late by 4 to 6 months, but our team worked with same zeal and commitment.

## 1. Program Outreach:

Achievable

Achieved

	No. of Beneficiaries (Target)	
Direct	2700 Children	Hamlet level 1700 / regular schools period 2700
Indirect	204 SMC members and 2700 parents	180 SMC Members and 2700 parents

## 2. Program Output:

Sr. No.	No. of Beneficiaries (Target)	
1	70% Attendance of children in Balbhavan	76% Attendance of children in Balbhavan
2	35% of students get 50% in Post-test (Target was reduced as schools were regularly	In language 36% students got more than 50% In Mathematics 57% students got more than 50%

	functioning only for 4 months)	
3	60% SMC Members participate in Monthly meetings	60% SMC Members participated in Monthly meetings

### Other outcomes:

KPI	Means of Verification	
1. Improved parental interest in ensuring school attendance and children's education	1.1 Resolutions passed by all SMCs in project villages to support hamlet level classes during COVID led school closures. 1.2 Provision of community spaces/ houses by SMC members / Parents for teaching activity during COVID-led school closures	Achieved
2. Parents and community advocating for the attainment of educational needs through greater participation of parents in schooling	2.1 SMC members visited block education administration twice in a year.	Achieved
3. Inclusion of teaching staff and community members in outreach activities as well as regular meetings	3.1 Facilitated 60% of the SMCs to prepare School Development Plan	Achieved
4. A strong nexus among village level institutions for vigilance to ensure comprehensive and holistic educational attainment of the children	4.1 Improved participation / Involvement of PRI members in better functioning of the schools – PRIs from 50% of project villages will be actively involved in better functioning of schools.	Very poor, partially achieved

### 3. Physical Activities

Sr. No.	Key Activities Planned in Year III	Target	Achieved
1	Teaching Activity (No. of children through 34 Balbhavans)	1500 / 2700	1500/2700
2	No. of Trainings of Balmitras & Supervisors	4	4
3	No. of SMC Members Trainings (Adult and Student Members)	2	2
4	No. of Shivar Pheris	102	102
5	No. of SMC Meetings	360	356
6	No. of SMC Members Visit to Block Administration	2	2
7	Awareness Campaign (No. of Balbhavans)	34	Not done due to corona period
8	Post-Test in number of Balbhavans	34(1050/2600)	34(2172)
9	Short Videos on Balbhavan Module and teacher Training	5	5
10	Multilingual Dictionary	1	1

## **Video Shooting of Balbhavan Activity:**

Film director Arvind Joshi and his team from Pune from 6 June to 12<sup>th</sup> June 2022 did video shooting of Balbhavan activity with support from Janarth and CINI teams. Balmitras, Supervisors and SMC and parents also supported.

## **Fortnightly and Monthly Review Meetings:**

Fortnightly meetings and Monthly review meetings were organized every month with the Director, wherein the Manager, the Coordinators and the Supervisors participated to review and discuss the progress made, difficulties arisen and to plan further activities.

## **B) PROJECT NAME: COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME**

### **Background:**

This program is supported by Basic Needs India, Bangaluru. Mental health is most neglected issue, both by the society and the government. The efforts include awareness of families and villagers to build up community support for Persons with Mental Illness (PWMI) to recover from the illness and to stand on their own feet by earning livelihood. To materialize a process in this direction, following programs are organized.

Eleven years back, when this process started, there was not a single day Mental OPD in District hospital in Nandurbar district. With constant and positive dialogue and follow up with district hospitals from Nandurbar and Dhule districts the situation was improved.

In 2011-12, the Dhule Hospital sent their Psychiatrist once a month to Nandurbar Hospital for some months. A few months after this, The Civil Hospital, Nandurbar itself appointed a psychiatrist and started Mental Health OPD two days a week. PWMI with their care takers were facilitated to attend these OPD days. Activists kept constant follow up with the families to ensure that PWMI are responding and having a regular treatment. A representative group of care givers from Shahada block visited Civil Surgeon to request him that one day of mental health OPD may be started in Rural Hospital in Shahada block, which will minimize their economical and physical stress in going up and down to Nandurbar.

In 2012-13 taking a note of the request, the Civil Surgeon started one day OPD in Shahada Hospital. The psychiatrist along with pharmacist visits Shahada once a month and gives treatment and medicines to the PWMI.

From 2012 to 2014 there was gap of two years in CMHD program. In those two years Janarth Adivasi Vikas Sanstha continued the work of community mental health and development program by attending OPD at Shahada, where PWMI and their families came for diagnosis and medicines and had constant communication with them. The second phase started from 2014 and is further continued up to 2019-20. In



2019 the CMHD program started in Nandurbar block. It continued for three years till 2021 and from January 2022 onwards, CMHD program has been introduced in Dhadgaon block.

### **Activities during 2022-23:**

Psycho-social education of the person with mental illness (PWMI) and families was done by family visits by volunteers and FW and Coordinator. It helped them in facing this illness and coping with problems due to illness.

Mentally ill persons are in a way isolated from family and society. It can be seen as doors of communication and thinking are closed by PWMI as well as family and society. As the symptoms become less and PWMI begins to improve, there is need to help them in beginning to open this doors, it helps in their reintegration in society.

Three programs are organized – 1) outing or trip of PWMI and care-takers, 2) One day camp, and 3) Livelihood support to PWMI and family – 7 families were supported with BNI financial support.

### **Meeting with THO, Dhadgaon:**

On 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022, our team met District Mental Health Program (DMHP) team at Nandurbar. The psychiatrist and team appreciated our team efforts and suggested to form a what's app group of DMHP and volunteers.

At the time of DMHP OPD at RH Dhadgaon and some medicines were found in short supply. Project Coordinator and Field Worker had three meetings with Medical Officer in charge of RH for getting supply of medicines for PWMI.

### **Training of Volunteers by BNI:**

Training of volunteers and team was organized by BNI, wherein Sujataji and Vittalji were the resource persons.

The sessions taken and discussed in the training were: 1) Types of severe mental illness, 2) How to solve difficulties during field and home visits, 3) How to keep record of PWMI attending OPD and 4) How to maintain discipline at the time of OPD at Dhadgaon RH

### **International Mental Health Day:**

Invitations for celebrating International Mental Health Day were given to DMHP team and Legal Service Authority. It was celebrated in Dhadgaon.

53 PWMI, 33 Care takers participated. Issues like Mental Health and the superstitions that hinder the process of treatment were illustrated.

## **Community Awareness at village level:**

PWMIs, caretakers and other village level people have formed Family Support Groups (FSG). Meetings of FSGs are organized every month. Problems and sorrows of individual family are shared. Information on mental illness and mental health is shared. Atmosphere of confidence and trust is strengthened through these meetings.

Wall painting giving messages on Mental Health was done in 15 villages - Nigadi, Mandvi, Kharda, Mudulavad, Katra, Telkhedi, Achapa, Pimpri, Mankhedi, Mojara, Kuktar, Hatdui, Veliamba, Shelkuvi and Kuklat.

## **Meetings at the time of monthly OPD at Dhadgaon:**

During the year, the numbers of total identified PWMIs in Dhadgaon block is 543 and out them 371 PWMIs have been linked to treatment. Meetings of PWMIs and caretakers are held at the time of OPD at Dhadgaon RH. As there is only one OPD every month, more than 100 PWMIs attend every time.

Importance of taking regular medicines and some cases of effects in case of medicines taken in incorrect way were discussed. Issues of Psychiatrist not attending OPD and shortage of medicines were discussed and how to make collective efforts to solve these problems and methods were discussed.

There was shortage of medicine for 3-4 months. The gap in taking medicine has serious effects and the recovery affects. There is possibility of relapsing of the mental illness. Therefore to address the problem of shortage of medicines, a memorandum with signatures of PWMIs and caretakers was given to the Civil Surgeon of Nandurbar Civil Hospital. Meanwhile Janarth Sanstha purchased medicines of Rs. 7,000/- and distributed the same at the time of OPD with help of DMHP staff.



PWMIs and caretakers meeting at Dhadgaon OPD



FSG meeting at Sisa

## Monthly Review Meetings:

Monthly review meeting was organized every month to get reports / data from volunteers, to discuss issues / challenges and find out the solutions. Planning of the activities for next month was also finalized during these meetings. Additional meetings to regular meeting were organized for recording Baseline and Gunjan data entry.

### **C) PROJECT NAME: MAHARASHTRA LABOUR PROJECT**

This year, JAVS with the support from Swaniti organization has started work among the migrating workers. The work was initiated in Dhadgaon, Akkalkuwa and Navapur blocks of Nandurbar district.

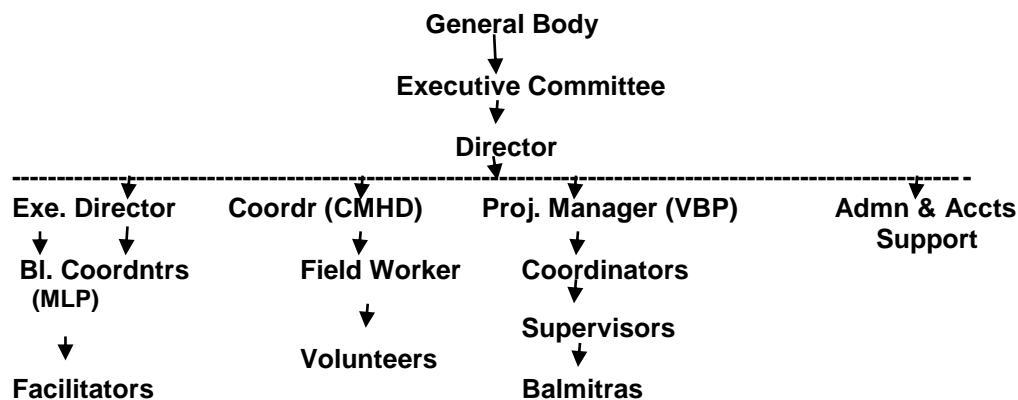
A survey on the issues and problems faced by migrating workers was done which involved nearly 700 families from the above three blocks. There are number of families who have immigrated from outside districts / states to work in the companies situated in the MIDC in Navapur block. These families were helped in getting ration cards. A Medical camp was organized for them with the help of Doctors from Nandurbar.

In Dhadgaon and Akkalkuwa blocks, the families migrate to other districts / states during winter season. They migrate for 7-8 months every year, which is mostly for sugarcane cutting. They do not get any facilities at the site of migration. The health of migrated women and children is affected seriously. The education of children is also obstructed.

The MREGS scheme, which promises workers of employment within their villages, is ill-implemented. To make them aware of the scheme and to create a demand for work under the scheme, village level Rojagar Kruti Samitis were formed. Trainings were organized. The work span under the scheme was discussed and meetings were organized to chalk down the activities that can be demanded under the scheme.



## The Team (Organogram)



The team of organization has regular team meetings so that we can report and share each other's work experience as well as plan further activities. Songs on social issues are a part of our meetings. Majority of the team members are Adivasis, who (and the non-Adivasi activists also) are well acquainted with the local life and languages. Trainings for the team are organized to develop their skills and knowledge. We try to keep the hierarchy at minimal level.

### Finance:

As regards the financial activities, we would like to state as under:

- We have maintained the accounts as per legal statutes of India.
- During day to day operations, ethical accountability, value of money, transparency and environmental concern are the highest priority.
- Our auditors have performed their task in an independent manner.
- Only one Board Member, Mr. Vikram Kanhere gets honorarium from the organization.
- No part of the income of the organization has been directly used or applied for the benefits of any person / relative of Board member / donor.

**THANK YOU!**

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