




VAIBHAV  
ASHOK GOEL FOUNDATION

2019-20



 18 Oct 1989 - 12 Jan 2014 

Vaibbhav Ashok Goel Charity Foundation  
was established in 2010 as a tribute to Vaibbhav Goel.



## A FOUNDATION FOR LIFE.

The inspiration of Vaibbhav Ashok Goel Charity Foundation is the bond shared by every parent and child. Like a parent gives emotional, moral and financial support to a child, the Foundation acts as a parent to sections of society that are at a disadvantage due to environment, circumstance, history or birth, and takes up the responsibility of giving them the skills and means to become confident and self-sufficient individuals who can claim their rightful place in the world.



# LAND, LIVELIHOODS AND LIVES.



The most marginalised members of the society do not need charity – they need long-term solutions created with empathy. Solutions that can make them financially independent and build the foundation for their integration into society. At Vaibbhav Ashok Goel Charity Foundation (VAGCF), we are facilitating their willingness to learn and work by equipping them with skills to build capabilities for a meaningful life.

Going forward, we have chosen five focus areas of intervention and contribution: Access to water for drinking and agriculture, skills development, giving means that result in financial security, environmental initiatives that create earning opportunities, education and mentoring that leads to confidence, and social acceptance for marginalised or neglected children and young adults – The objective of VAGCF is, and will always be, to contribute to the financial independence of those at a disadvantage and thereby, facilitate their integration into society.





## **SMALL STEPS TOWARDS A BIG GOAL.**

In 2019-20, we made significant contributions towards initiatives in the areas of water conservation, education, hygiene, health practices, skills development, cow welfare, rights awareness among rural communities, orphan education and training and education facilities for children with special needs. In the financial year 2019-20, the Foundation contributed Rs. 6,01,61,562/- to various causes in Maharashtra.

Our approach was characterised by its emphasis on understanding the need of disadvantaged individuals and communities, its due diligence in identifying the right NGO partner and volunteers, and hands-on involvement in implementation of all our projects.

However, at VAGCF, even as we are seeing our contributions beginning to show results, we are aware that this is a small beginning towards a big goal. And that goal is not just to make a positive difference to the lives of our disadvantaged communities, but also to inspire other, like-minded individuals and organisations to make a big, or a small contribution in any which way they can.

# EDUCATION BEYOND CLASSROOMS.

There is no doubt that the future of disadvantaged students, especially in rural India, can be transformed with education. The big question is, "Where will we find the teachers?" VAGCF found and funded an organisation that has created an answer – by identifying unemployed, class X pass young women, and training them to become teachers. Each of these teachers then runs an OTS (One Teacher School), that is, a school where one teacher teaches 25-30 students in a class where grades 1, 2 and 3 sit together. The teachers not only give academic education but also conduct co-curricular activities for their students. The OTS model, with its practice of training teachers, flexible school timings and inclusion of local government bodies, is being successfully implemented across rural India. With initiatives comprising health care, hygiene, sustainable economic development, awareness about



rights and moral values' education and awareness, this is one holistic programme that is truly taking education beyond classrooms.

There is no doubt that reading the

right books is as important as learning to write. In and around Chiplun in Maharashtra, VAGCF has discovered and funded an organisation that is literally taking a library to the doorsteps of school children who don't have



access to, or simply cannot afford to buy books. A van equipped with 400 books, atlas, maps, educational games, CDs and four laptops with internet access is now a common sight in the neighbourhood. The van also has

three trained facilitators and its driver doubles up as an assistant, and visits 2 schools per day and spends two and a half hours at each school. Every week it covers 10 Zilla Parishad schools located in interior villages, about 10 km away from the taluka town of Chiplun, and reaches about 550 students.

The library activities are designed to boost Marathi and English language speaking, improve understanding of basic mathematics, and give computer lab sessions to students from 3rd to 7th standards. The main objective is promoting students' interest in language skills and create computer literacy. While the entire focus of the project is to make students adopt a self-learning process for knowledge seeking, it also aims at making learning a pleasurable experience.

# SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN WHO HAVE NONE.

Orphanages have traditionally catered to the very basic needs of providing food and shelter to children without parental or family support. But their need is much bigger. They have to be equipped to go out into the world and support themselves financially and emotionally, else they are destined to fall through the cracks and never return to surface. Aware of this reality, VAGCF has funded an initiative in Maharashtra that is working to provide a nurturing wholesome environment for orphans above 18 years of age. The objective is to give them education and life skills to fire their imagination so they aspire not only to lead a conventional life but also aim for more, and achieve much more.



# CONSERVING WATER. PRESERVING LIFE.

The tribal villages of Jawhar block of Palghar district are located in the mountains of northern Western Ghats. They receive heavy rainfall, however the steep slopes of mountains, impoverished soil strata, and small land holdings result in drought for a period of five months every year. About 50-85% families migrate in distress – in search of work and livelihood. This results in chronic poverty and malnutrition of the entire family. However, if water is made available throughout the year, it will invariably improve livelihood, cattle and nutrition by leading to sustainable means of livelihood and bringing much needed stability.

Taking note of this reality, and importance of water as a lifeline that can lead to socio-political and financial inclusion of these communities, VAGCF has begun work with a local NGO towards this end, and has made a financial contribution of Rs. 21 lakh in 2019-20 towards water conservation efforts in Palghar district.



The water conservation effort in Palghar is unique in the way they combine traditional practices and modern scientific techniques. It is a planned approach to ensure involvement of locals through education, awareness and contribution of labour.

The first step in the approach involved Decision Making, where potential water sources were identified, and the information was shared with the local Gram Sabha along with a request for suggestions and solutions. The Gram Sabha not only took the final decisions but also took up the responsibility for construction management. To ensure transparency, budgets were read out loud in the Gram Sabha.



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The second step was Being Responsible. The Gram Sabha chose a group of people to take responsibility of construction. This group arranged the requisite men and



material as per the construction plan. They also kept accounts and managed labour and reported to the NGO every day. This process led to capacity building amongst the locals and ensured that work can be carried out even without the presence of the NGO.

The third step was Contributing Labour. The NGO appealed people to offer their services for the cause of development. People offered one day of voluntary labour (Shram-daan) every week. The value of their Shram-daan was deposited in the common village fund. In this way, people donated towards their own village development. This approach was implemented in the villages of Tokarkhand, Wangadpada, Sakhlipada, Rojpada, Chinchwadi, Pendharshet, Dovachimali, Kashtipada, Tadachimachi and Khardi, and the benefits are already visible.

Three types of conservation activities are primarily being implemented in this project: 1) Spring cordons that involve cordoning off temporary springs created during monsoons to create watershed structures to ensure assured supply of water. In the cordoning process, a concrete wall of appropriate dimensions is built at a location identified by an expert after actual site study. It stores water and creates pressure on the spring, which results in reducing flow rate of the spring and enhancing life of the spring. 2) Bunds comprise temporary bunds, farm plaster bunds, and sub-surface bunds to control and manage the flow of water and reduce wastage. One of the most often used precipitation harvesting methods in agriculture, the main purpose of bunds is to slow down and filter runoff water from rainfall and hence reduce soil degradation. 3) Open dug wells: these are traditional wells created by simply digging the earth to reach the underground water table thereby reducing dependence on rains and rivers.

The approach is scientific and uses tagging, listing and satellite maps. It is also inclusive, thanks to the involvement of voluntary labour and Gram Sabhas. But it is commitment and resilience that will result in the reward of sweet water.





## A SUSTAINABLE SHELTER FOR COWS.

Abandoned cows, who have outlived their utility, have literally nowhere to go. But giving shelter to cows takes patience, land and finances. An organisation in Kanpur, UP, decided to redefine the productive lifespan of cows and make caring for them a self-sustainable process with the help of different products made from milk, cow dung and cow urine. In addition, it has also taken up the challenge to make the local village self-sufficient by providing them efficient farming techniques based on organic farming and eco-friendly methods. As the next step, the plan is to connect these two initiatives by developing a research centre on different aspects of rural technology, cow caring and organic farming and hence provide sustainable development goals for many more to adopt and replicate the process. Appreciating the long-term solution, VAGCF has contributed to these efforts. Villagers in Magarwara in UP are being hired and given training, while 125 cows and bulls are being cared for on 15 acres of land that will also produce fodder for the cattle in the near future.



# A SPECIAL INITIATIVE FOR SPECIAL CHILDREN.

From the outside, children with special needs appear to be one unified category of children. Truth is, within this category are multiple sub-categories that range from minimal to severe disabilities, and in more cases than one, an individual child needs individual care. Understanding the complexity of care needed for these children, VAGCF identified and selected an organisation in Latur, Maharashtra who is constructing a 15,000 square feet state-of-the-art facility dedicated exclusively for providing treatment and care, as well as giving them education to help them integrate into society.





## WAY FORWARD.

### VAGCF Initiatives for Social & Economic Integration of the Disadvantaged.

Encouraged by the results of our contributions and support to various causes, we have chalked out a focussed and strategic intervention programme for the future. At the heart of our plan is a humbling truth – to make a sustainable and lasting impact, we will have to focus only on select few areas of intervention.

The five areas of intervention selected by us are very different from each other, but our objective of intervention is the same. And that is, to empower beneficiaries with the ability to be independent – physically, emotionally and financially, so they get the opportunity to be integral and contributing members of the society and the economy.

# QUENCHING THIRST.

## Initiative 1 - Water Conservation

Globally, 844 million people lack basic drinking water access. That is, more than 1 of every 10 people on the planet. By 2050, at least 1 in 4 people will likely live in a country affected by chronic or recurring fresh-water shortages. Closer home, India is suffering from one of the world's worst national water crises. In fact, it is considered as the centre of the global water and sanitation crisis. More than 50% of the population in India has no access to safe drinking water and about 200,000 people die every year for lack of access to safe water. India is heavily dependent on groundwater and is the world's largest groundwater user.

At VAGCF, our Water Conservation Initiative will focus on implementing programmes for access to water for both drinking and agriculture. Work has already begun and as first steps, we are empowering our on-ground partners in building under and over ground check dams for ground water re-charge, digging wells to tap into the existing water table and educating communities about micro irrigation and implementing conservation projects.



# EQUIPPING HANDS

## Initiative 2 - Livelihood Improvement



Unemployment in India reached 6.1% as recorded by the National Sample Survey Office's periodic labour force survey. As per CMIE's data, due to the CoronaVirus pandemic, the monthly unemployment rate in April 2020 stood at 23.52%, up from 8.74% in March 2020. The long-term impact of the pandemic on employment cannot be predicted, and hence, the only way to tackle is to expect the worst, and prepare for it in advance.

Our Livelihood Improvement Programme focuses on capability building to ensure financial security of the beneficiaries. The objective is to impart skills to those who don't have any, or teach them to earn more from existing occupations.

We have identified the need to strengthen agriculture, the backbone of India's economy. And we have begun with providing training and means to subsistence farmers to reduce dependence on monsoons, increase crop cycles for farmers on the plains, build greenhouses in hilly terrains and cultivating bamboo plantations on barren land.

One of the key reasons for unemployment in India is the lack of employable skills. We are addressing this by setting up community skill centres that will donate tailoring equipment and impart skills, teach how to make products from bamboos, setting up nurseries, farmhouse management training, give crop seeds and agricultural inputs for women self-help groups and organise training in traditional arts and crafts to make marketable products like bags, purses etc.

The community skill centres will go one step beyond imparting skills training. With support and guidance from VAGCF, the centres will also help market and sell products made by the beneficiaries of the programme.

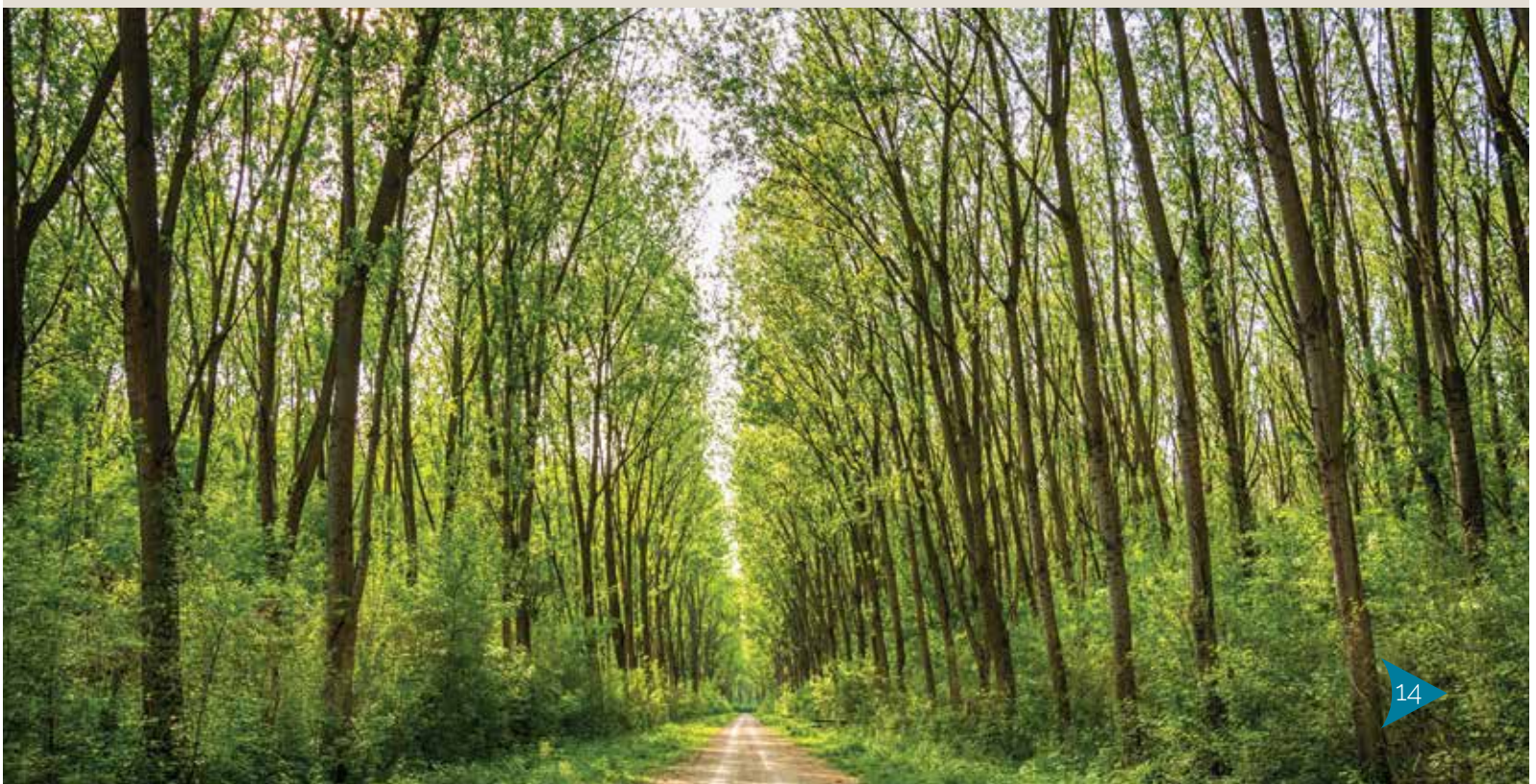


# STRENGTHENING ROOTS

## Initiative 3 - Afforestation

The world needs its forests to survive. But beyond being the lungs of the planet, forests also provide sustenance and survival to a large populace, especially in India. They fulfill the needs of fuel, fodder, energy, housing, timber, raw material for artisans and industries and generate employment. Minor forests products, including fruits, flowers, seeds, grasses, dyeing and tanning agents, natural gums, resins etc. provide livelihood and contribute to the economy. The role of forests in ecological balance, bio-diversity conservation, food security, protection of soil and water resources, mitigation of global warming, combating desertification and sustainable development has been widely accepted. However, during the last two decades, India has witnessed annual depletion of forest cover at a rate of 235 sq. km.

Given the larger role played by forests in the lives of people and the planet, we are contributing to afforestation by planting trees and educating communities about the protective role of forests in water and soil conservation.



# GIVING IDENTITY.

## Initiative 4 - Empowerment of Adults without Support



According to UNICEF, there are roughly 153 million orphans worldwide. In India, the official figures put the number of orphans at 31 million. A bigger cause of concern is that since the number of shelters in India are limited, almost all of them are able to provide only the basic necessities of food and shelter.

The biggest challenge for the inmates of orphan care centres begins when they turn eighteen. Out of their institutes, they are left to fend for themselves in the world outside, usually without adequate education and employable skills. Their situation is worsened because they do not possess two requisites of acquiring any identity documents – permanent residence address and names of parents. Without shelter, without skills and without an identity, the girls become easy victims for predators. The boys, sooner or later, take to a life of crime.

VAGCF has purchased land in Pune district, Maharashtra and will soon begin construction of a residential centre for education and vocational training so these children have a chance at a real future and real life that goes beyond survival.



# CREATING CONFIDENCE

## Initiative 5 - Intervention for Children with Special Needs

The 2019 "State of the Education Report for India: Children with Disabilities" states that there are close to 79 lakh children with disability in India, that is, 1.7% of the total child population. Unfortunately, as many as 75% of children with disabilities don't attend schools and one-third of most disabilities are preventable. Add to this the prevalence of ignorance, superstition and social stigma associated with disabilities and the task of acceptance and absorbing into the mainstream for these children becomes even more challenging. VAGCF has understood the urgent need for creating general awareness and acceptance as well as providing these children with an opportunity to not just overcome their disabilities but also to help them discover their strengths and go out into the world, armed with education, skills and confidence. Programmes for education and mentoring of children with special needs are already underway and are undertaking education and skills training that lead to employment and acceptance as well as giving them guidance and mentoring for navigating their way in the world.



# FINANCIAL REPORT.



# VAIBHAV ASHOK GOEL CHARITY FOUNDATION

## Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2020

Amount In Rupees

	Notes	31st March 2020	31st March 2019
Equity and Liabilities			
Fund and Reserves			
Share Capital		—	—
Income & Expenditure Surplus	3	4,45,15,937	19,43,520
Current Liabilities			
Other Current Liabilities	4	1,08,465	13,980
	Total	4,46,24,402	19,57,500
Property And Assets			
Non-current Assets			
Property, Plant & Equipment	5	4,30,47,221	—
Current Assets			
Cash & Bank Balance	6	10,71,418	11,41,848
Other Current Assets	7	5,05,764	8,15,652
	Total	4,46,24,402	19,57,500

Notes forming part of the financial statement

Amount In Rupees

	Notes	31st March 2020	31st March 2019
Income			
Donations Received		10,28,00,000	35,00,000
Interest Received	8	57,637	
Expenses			
Donations Given		60,16,1562	27,35,072
Other Expenses		1,23,658	39,880
	Total	6,02,85,220	27,74,952
Surplus Before Tax		4,25,72,417	7,25,048
Less: Tax Expenses			
- Current Tax		—	—
- Deferred Tax		—	—
Surplus After Tax	Total	4,25,72,417	7,25,048

Notes forming part of the financial statement

# VAIBHAV ASHOK GOEL CHARITY FOUNDATION

## Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2020

### Notes forming part of the financial statement

Amount In Rupees

3	Income & Expenditure Surplus		31st March 2020	31st March 2019
	Opening Balance		19,43,520	12,18,472
	Add: Surplus of Income Over Expenditure for the Year		4,25,72,417	7,25,048
		Total	4,45,15,937	19,43,520
4	Other Current Liabilities		31st March 2020	31st March 2019
	Statutory Dues		5,955	—
	Other Payables		1,02,510	13,980
		Total	1,08,465	13,980
5	Property, Plant & Equipment		31st March 2020	31st March 2019
	Land (at cost)		4,30,47,221	—
		Total	4,30,47,221	—
6	Cash & Bank Balances		31st March 2020	31st March 2019
	Cash & Cash Equivalents - Cash In Hand		1,400	—
	Balances with Bank - In Current Accounts		10,70,018	11,41,848
		Total	10,71,418	11,41,848

# VAIBHAV ASHOK GOEL CHARITY FOUNDATION

## Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2020

Notes forming part of the financial statement

Amount In Rupees

7	Other Current Assets		31st March 2020	31st March 2019
	Income Tax Deducted at Source		5,764	
	Other Receivables		5,00,000	8,15,652
		Total	5,05,764	8,15,652

8	Other Expenses		31st March 2020	31st March 2019
	Rent		7080	7080
	Rates and Taxes		4,740	10,702
	Legal & Professional fees		4,200	4,800
	Payment to Auditors			
	- Audit Fees		59,000	6,000
	- Other Matters		24,990	10,000
	Bank Charges		3,776	1,298
	Sundry Balances Written off		14,774	—
	Miscellaneous Expenses		5,098	—
		Total	1,23,658	39,880

Audited by MGB & Co. LLP, Chartered Accountants. Firm Registration Number: 10116gW/W-100035

### Partners for Life

Organisations that provided valuable support to our initiatives in FY 2019-20:

#### Donors

1. Ashok Goel Trust - Mumbai
2. Vyoman Tradelink India Private Limited - Mumbai

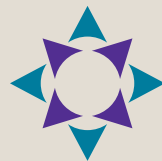
#### Partner NGOs

1. Friends of Tribals Society
2. Manav Navnirman Sankalp Charitable Trust
3. Mangal Foundation
4. Umeed Charitable Trust
5. Vayam
6. Young Volunteer's Organisation
7. Samvedana

# LET'S WORK TOGETHER.

We, at VAGCF, are aware of the enormity of the task we have undertaken, and are open to participation and partnerships of those who share our beliefs, have experience in the field and possess the skill sets needed to make our programmes better and more successful. Please contact us on [vagcf@ashokgoeltrust.com](mailto:vagcf@ashokgoeltrust.com) with details of your areas of interest and expertise, and we can take the conversation further.





**V A I B B H A V**  
ASHOK GOEL FOUNDATION

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