



Empowerment  
Sanskar

Education

# Annual Report 2015-16



Health  
Rural Development

# 52,497 Ekal Vidyalayas educating 14,45,512 children





# Foreword



I have been a humble worker of the Ekal Movement; a movement which has brought a silent revolution in the remotest regions of the country. As they say, Ekal is a faceless organization with thousands of faces. These thousands of faces have been toiling hard in remote regions of our beloved Bharat to ensure empowerment of the needy staying there. Ekal's work in more than 53000 rural/tribal villages is a story of courage and passion, dedication and sacrifices, service and devotion.

In the previous years, we all have observed Ekal movement widening its approach to make interventions in a more holistic manner. This has resulted in the intervention by specific organizations under the umbrella body of Ekal Abhiyan. This diversification in the form of independent organizations - Friends of Tribals Society, Bharat Lok Shiksha Parishad, Ekal Vidyalay Foundation of India, Ekal Gramotthan Foundation, Arogya Foundation of India and Shri Hari Satsang Samiti, have proved to be very strategic. Now, Ekal Abhiyan is able to touch lives of the downtrodden in a more integral and holistic manner. This has brought organizational and operational clarity to the Abhiyan and its various stakeholders. Our supporters can engage with us with more choices and better understanding of our interventions.

Further, this separation of roles has enabled the sister organizations to strategize their own operational approaches. Now, these organizations can build their own expertise and knowledge base, they can mobilize their own resources and can be better assessed. This is bringing efficiency and transparency in the processes.

Ekal Abhiyan has been known for the transparency and the professionalism it brings in its approach. How a volunteer based movement can be run so professionally, there cannot be a better example than the Ekal movement. We are committed to maintain this character of the world's largest people's movement.

We all know that such a large movement would not have been feasible without the selfless support of our well-wishers. Our supporters are part of our family. I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our supporters.

Finally, I want to restate Ekal's core values: Sustainability, Self-Reliance, Integrity, Partnership, Inclusivity and Transparency.

Ekal Pranam.

Jitendra Bhai Bhansali  
Chairman, Ekal Abhiyan Trust Board



# Ekal Abhiyan Trust Board

Shri Jitendra Bhai Bhansali  
Chairman

Shri Sajjan Kumar Bansal  
Working Chairman

Shri Bajrang Lal Bagra  
Secretary

Shri Rameshwar Lal Kabra  
Shri Mangi Lal Jain  
Shri Sajjan Kumar Bhajanka  
Shri Pradeep Goyal  
Shri Satya Narain Kabra

Shri Naresh Jai  
Shri Ramesh Kumar Saraogi  
Shri Vijay Maroo  
Shri Arun Kumar Bajaj  
Shri Shyam Sunder Damani  
Smt. Manju Shree Srivastava  
Shri Madhawendra Singh  
Shri Sapan Kumar Mukherjee  
Shri Shyam Gupta (Invitee)  
Dr. Surya Prakash Sharma (Invitee)  
Dr. Mukul Bhatia (Invitee)  
Shri Lalan Kumar Sharma (Invitee)  
Shri Praveen Arya (Invitee)

# Central Executive Committee

Shri Mangi Lal Jain, Patron  
Shri Bajrang Lal Bagra, President  
Shri Nikhil Mundle, Vice President  
Shri Natwar Bang, Vice President  
Shri Amar Nath Joshi, Vice President  
Shri Udai Khardikar, Vice President  
Shri Madhawendra Singh, Secretary  
Shri Virendra Sharma, Member  
Smt. Manju Shree Srivastava, Member

Shri Ramesh Shah, Member  
Shri K E N Raghavan, Member  
Shri Lalan Kumar Sharma, Member  
Shri Sapan Kumar Mukherjee, Member  
Dr. Surya Prakash Sharma, Member  
Shri Khemanand, Member  
Shri Shyam Gupta, Invitee  
Shri Om Prakash Sharma, Invitee



Ekal team with Prime Minister Narendra Modi - February, 2016









# Ekal Vidyalaya

## ONE TEACHER SCHOOL

### Ekal Vidyalaya – One Teacher School

Based on the ideology of Swami Vivekananda Ji “If the poor boy cannot come to the education, Education must go to him’ Ekal started its journey and runs One Teacher Schools, largely run in remote rural and tribal villages. These schools provide free informal education to the children in the age group of 6 to 14 years and they operate for 3 hours a day, for about 22 days a month.

Ekal Vidyalaya movement has been working for 30 years in the field of education having wide presence all over India except in urban areas. **The movement has successfully been able to reach 52,497 villages, spread over 22 states in India and in Nepal, as on 31st March 2016. Presently over 14**

**lakh students are being given literacy lessons. And in past years some 15 lakh children have moved ahead from Ekal’s One Teacher Schools.**

A local educated youth, preferably a lady from the same village is appointed as a teacher by the Gram Samiti. The teacher is trained to impart non-formal form of education to teach the basic subjects through songs, play, story-telling, games, art, etc. These activities happen to be the main attraction for the children to come to Ekal Vidyalaya on daily basis. In Ekal Vidyalaya the motive is not only to make them literate alone but to educate a child hence apart from imparting basic education, the syllabus includes awareness towards health, general cleanliness, sanitary conditions, hygiene, ethics, sustaining development and empowerment for self-reliance.



After completion of term with Ekal school, most children continue their formal education in nearby schools.

## Operations

The school operations are carried out on shoe string budget with administrative overheads restricted to below 10 percent. This is possible as the manpower resources deployed are mostly on voluntary basis, with reimbursement of travel and out of pocket expenses being the only expenditure on them. The present cost of running each of these non-formal schools is Rs. 20,000 per annum.

Ekal Vidyalayas provide free education to the village children. The contributions come from the community - individuals and corporate, under corporate CSR, and from NRIs settled abroad. Presently, close to one third schools are supported by contribution from overseas NRIs.

The operations of Ekal serve the tribal and rural communities without any consideration of caste,

Institution	Areas of Operations	Chapters
Friends of Tribals Society (Vanbandhu Parishad), Kolkata	Raising resources and running Ekal Schools in Eastern, Western and Southern regions of India.	32
Bharat Lok Shiksha Parishad, New Delhi	Raising resources and running Ekal Schools in Northern region of India.	12
Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation of India, New Delhi	Raising resources from abroad and running Ekal Schools in some parts of Northern region of India.	11

creed, faith, religion, sex or any other classification.

In Ekal's education programme, there are three operational institutions with their respective roles assigned, as shown hereunder:

### Friends of Tribals Society (Vanbandhu Parishad)

Friends of Tribals Society (FTS), the first and still the leading organization, started Ekal Vidyalayas in the year 1988 in Jharkhand. Headquartered at Kolkata, FTS presently has 32 chapters through which it oversees the working in East, North-East, South, Centre and West India. The total number of schools being looked after by FTS is 20,885 from its own resources.

### Bharat Lok Siksha Parishad

Bharat Lok Siksha Parishad (BLSP) started in the year 2000 with its headquarters in Delhi. BLSP, with its 8 chapters, looks after the schools in North India. The total number of schools being looked after by BLSP is 5,489 from its own resources.

### Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation of India

Considering that special attention was needed to communicate with overseas Indians and to let them know of Ekal activities and the need to take basic education to remote villages in tribal and rural area, Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation of India (EVFI) was formed in the year 2000. This was primarily to coordinate with the efforts of supporters abroad. Working closely with these groups abroad, EVFI funds 17,059 schools. The major contribution comes from USA.

### Gram Sanghans (GS)

Lately the concept of GSs came up to tap the potential of local groups in smaller cities/towns and



Friends of Tribals Society



Bharat Lok Shiksha Parishad (Regd.)



Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation of India





villages. With small contributions being collected by GSs, they supported 7,406 schools.

Besides above, 1,658 Ekal schools were operated in **Nepal**, supported by NRI groups in Europe.

Ekal Vidyalaya has reached the scale of running 52,497 Vidyalaya as at 31st March, 2016.

Organization	March, 2016	March, 2015
FTS	20,885	20,037
BLSP	5,489	5,210
EVFI	17,059	15,519
GS	7,406	9,729
Nepal	1,658	1,308
<b>Total</b>	<b>52,497</b>	<b>51,803</b>

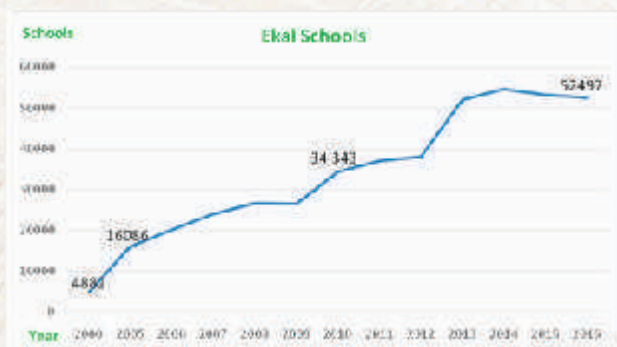
There has been a net addition of 694 Ekal Schools during the year.

### Quality Improvement

Prabhag Karya Samiksha (PKS) meetings are organized once in every month during the year for review and improving quality of schools by discussing various aspects of school operations ranging from

payment of honorarium to teachers and volunteers, availability of school supplies, holding training camps, field visits, reporting and input data required for reporting to donors to holding of Samiti meetings. Apart from review meetings and field visits, emphasis was given on training during the year.

Apart from holding regular training camps, a special training course was launched this year by FTS, aimed at enhancing technical and managerial skills of volunteers. The residential courses were run in batches of 15 to 20 trainees at Kolkata, called **SAKSHAM** and several batches have undergone such special training. It has continued in following year as well.







### Going an Extra Mile

**Digitisation of processes:** For timely and efficient reporting a Management Information Software (MIS) has been developed that is used to upload data such as school information, attendance, teachers record, karyakarta records and so on to provide one platform database that aims to save cost and efforts in order to generate value addition.

**Google Mapping:** A project called “Google Mapping” has been started from November, 2015 to place the locations of Ekal Schools on Google map. In phase-I, Ekal Schools run by EVFI are being covered and during the period 6,718 schools have been covered, 38% of the target of Phase-I. In Phase-II, mapping of schools run by FTS and BLSP shall be covered.

**Mahila Abhibhavak Yojana:** With an objective of resolving the field level operating issues of schools, the Mahila Abhibhavak Yojana (Lady Guardians Scheme) was started in July, 2014 with 13 members, to act as guardians to and support the teachers and volunteers at sanch level. To realise its aim, meetings of abhibhavaks team have been organized regularly. The team has visited the monthly teachers’ revision camps 5 times during the year. The number of members has also increased from 13 to 30 within

the year. A total of 600 schools in Mewat bhag are being monitored very effectively.

### New Support Initiatives

Several new initiatives were taken by all the institutions to enlarge the support base and particularly approaching corporate sector under their CSR programmes and other social organisations. Securing a grant from Rotary International Literacy Mission for arranging dropped out students joining education again in eastern and north-eastern states was unique joint venturing with other social organisation. Several corporate were added to support base during the year like RITES, ONGC, Protiviti, Gateway Rail, Parivar Finance, SMC Global, National Insurance, IFFCO-Tokio etc.

### Restructuring of Gram Sangthans

Several organisations called State Voluntary Organisation (SVO) were set up across India to mobilise small contributions from villages and small cities and towns. To make their working more efficient and effective, these organisations have been re-structured during the year. These are now called Gram Sangthan and their number stands reduced from 39 to 10 with branches in different locations.



# STORIES Success

## From Ekal to Police Force

Shri K. Gopi Nayak, a student of Ekal Vidyalaya from Ranga Reddy district of the state of Telangana (formerly Andhra Pradesh) grew nostalgic on his interview with us. Having worked as an Acharya Gopi Nayak is currently working as a Constable in Telangana Police force. In spite of the success that comes with his indomitable will to protect Bharat, he is still active as a guiding spirit to the Ekal Abhiyan even today.

Belonging to a poor family who couldn't even afford three meals a day, let alone education, he remembers how his days at Ekal Vidyalaya kept providing him the very lessons and practices that would help him accomplish his dream of contributing to Bharat's upliftment.



## Ekal's Former Student Wants to Join DRDO

Sasodhar Mahto, a student of Ekal in the year 2003-05 in Karyadih village of Jharkhand, is now pursuing diploma in Mechanical Engineering from the Government Polytechnic. He did his formal schooling from Navodaya Vidyalaya and then took Computer Training from Vikas Bharti. When he passes out in the year 2017, he has an aim to join Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).





# Ekal Arogya

## HEALTH SERVICES

Ekal Arogya in its 14th year after inception has leapt into full swing in recent couple of years. **Planning** is more comprehensive and aimed at providing holistic health to the rural masses. It now comprises preventive health initiatives and curative services at the doorsteps of the rural masses, both. Allopathic advanced services are tried through Chikitsa

Sahayata Kendra and medical camps while Arogya Sevikas are providing herbal remedies to the people in the villages for common ailments. In order to multiply reach and impact, **collaborations** have been made with several institutions like NMO, Rotary Club and Lions Club during the year that have yielded rich dividends.



Blood test for Anaemia



Blood test for Anaemia



The year proved to be milestone in journey to its goal of holistic health as the pilot project of **Anaemia Control** programme at 12 places in 5 states concluded and Impact Report of the pilot project has been brought out. A new form of Arogya Yojana, **ARC**-Arogya Resource Centre was conceived, planned and implemented in 4 states.

The new government at the centre has energized the whole country for a unique programme of **Swachhh Bharat**. In Ekal's trainings this was part of syllabus for past 17 years. In Arogya Yojana also it was the part of preventive health initiatives. We renewed and recharged our field activities with special packages under support from US affiliate for Swachhh Bharat Abhiyan in selected villages in Rajasthan and Jharkhand.

The sphere of support for Ekal Arogya expanded from AFI to USA with the inception of Health Foundation for Rural India (**HFRI**). Representatives from Ekal Arogya visited USA for a month and participated in the programs organised by EVFUSA and HFRI which opened doors to a reciprocal programme of participation of 9 US students in Premedical Internship Programme organized by AFI and sponsored by HFRI this year.

Arogya Yojana suffered a setback this year as we lost one of our devoted volunteers Dr. Satheesh. In the current year he had been successful in securing support of **Bhavnagar Ayurvedic University** for Home Remedies Training Programs in Tamilnadu. The University has agreed to provide certificates to the trained Ekal Karyakartas in Tamilnadu. He had also availed major support in the state to make the state unit self sufficient.

### Pilot Project of Anaemia Control Programme

After much experimentation and innovations to make the pilot project of Anaemia Control Programme a success, it culminated in July 2015 - exactly 2 years after it took off in August 2013. The results are very encouraging as is evident from the following data and analytic inferences. The project was undertaken in 240 villages in Jharkhand, Rajasthan, UP and Odisha.

The pilot project was concluded in Tamilnadu in November 2014 and results published in December 2015.

### Data based Conclusions

1. 86.5% of rural women suffer from anaemia, of which 47% suffer from mild anaemia i.e. Hb gm% between 10-12 gm%, with remedies targeted by diet counseling, hygiene, sanitation, gender discrimination etc.
2. Only 4.5% women have below 7 gm% Hb who improve quickly by oral treatment, as after second test only 0.9% are left in this category.
3. **Majority of women fall in 7-10gm% Hb group and improved considerably. Those improved in this category were 89.1%.**
4. The experiment in Gola Sanch with above measures, but without medicines associated with herbal and natural measures gives us an extra scope of improving anaemia without medicines in most of the anaemic women except those having severe anaemia. The improvement in Hb gm % was evident in 58% women as compared to 76% in over all data of all the sanch.
5. It has been observed that to cure all the anaemic women it takes more longer duration than a year.
6. **Ekal has been successful in controlling Anaemia in the focus areas. The total anaemic population has reduced from 88% to 72%. Mild category has increased from 52% to 56%. Moderate category has reduced from 32% to 15% (more than half). The most significant impact has been in the most severe category, which has come down from 4% to NIL.**



A typical health camp





An Eye Camp



Jaganran Prabhat Phery (Awareness Rally) in Gola, Jharkhand

New strategies have been drawn based on the experience gained in pilot project for future.

### Anaemia Control Program with home remedies

The programme for the women of villages was implemented in two states Tamilnadu and Jharkhand. As was concluded from the pilot projects the women were given diet counselling and change in life style along with administration of herbal preparations with encouraging results.

### Medical Camps

Medical Camps were organized all over the country during the year which included the camps conducted in collaboration with NMO in some states. Sambhag wise data on the camps are as under:

S. No.	Sambhag	No. of Medical Camps	No. of Villages Parti.	No. of Patients
1	North East	143	666	26301
2	Bengal	38	233	2299
3	Odisha	4	26	1115
4	Jharkhand	45	463	4955
5	Rajasthan	52	311	7020
6	MP	82	475	13779
7	Bihar	10	100	2765
8	Chhattisgarh	21	150	4140
9	Maharashtra	14	742	4320
10	Karnataka	8	136	1705
11	Central UP	7	82	3462
12	Himachal	11	103	1945
13	Eastern UP	67	1169	24303
14	J & Kashmir	57	162	12721
	<b>Total</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>4818</b>	<b>110,830</b>

During these camps apart from attending the patients, awareness programs for cleanliness and different measures of prevention of diseases is an integral part of the camps.

### Training

Training is the base of any rural health plan. Last year the training camps were conducted to train the Arogya Sanyojika and Arogya Sevikas in Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Assam and Tamilnadu.

### Some special programmes in Tamilnadu

For benefit of adolescent girls, special programmes were conducted in girls schools in Coimbatore in which 6,169 students participated besides 159 teachers. They were provided training on home remedies.

Home Remedies Training Center of Arogya Foundation at Coimbatore has received the recognition from Gujrat Ayurveda University.

### Chikitsa Sahayata Kendra (CSK)

CSK is the plan of directing the village patients to proper places of treatment in city where they can be treated at minimum cost. It is planned that every Anchal in the ARC will have one CSK. CSK at Ranchi ran throughout the year 2015-16 supporting 5,567 patients for treatment in allopathic, homeopathy, referrals, ayurvedic and home remedies.

### Swachchhta Project

Ekal activities in Vidyalaya and Arogya always had significant emphasis on spreading awareness on health and hygiene since inception. However, with





Soak Pit



Soak Pit

renewed emphasis on Swachchh Bharat by the new Government, Ekal Arogya has taken up cleanliness in a project mode. 104 villages have been selected in two Anchals (Gola and Bhandra) in Jharkhand have been taken up. The modality includes awareness through Prabhat Pheries (rallies), school competitions, public meetings, wall writing etc. Digging of soak pits and waste pits have been undertaken besides preparing drains and facilitating construction of toilets. Planting medicinal plants have also been covered under the project.

Special Arogya Sanyojikas and Arogya Sevikaas have been deployed after training for the purpose.

### Premedical Internship Initiative Programme held at Ranchi

The goal of the programme was “To connect West to East”. It was initiated by Dr. Veena Gandhi, the chairperson of HFRI, USA and Dr M S Bhatt in India. 9 American NRI Premedical students were in Ranchi, for 10 days study tour from 2nd January 2016 to 12th January 2016.

The students visited villages, RIIMS, a Corporate hospital, two charitable hospitals and an Ayurvedic Hospital. They were given talks by medical experts and EkalArogya.



Address by Dr. Veena Gandhi





# Gramotthan

## A GRAND EFFORT FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

India has around 640,000 villages inhabited by 830 million people. India's villages have been backbone of her existence when it comes to her socio-cultural character. It can safely be said that if one wants to experience Indian worldview in action, one should experience life of Indian villages. But in recent times, this socio-cultural flow is experiencing disturbances. Reason of this is insufficient economic resources. Weak village economy is causing disparity in society and village people are forced to migrate to towns and cities abandoning their cultural roots. City slums are filled with people from rural villages. This is also being exploited by organizations with extreme ideologies. At the core of this problem are: 1. lack of opportunities 2. lack of resources 3. lack of availability of modern technology 4. lack of information 5. lack of structures and processes that

can enable them to participate in mainstream economic activities. Many NGOs and government departments are trying to solve this gap but results are not up to the expectations. And whatever development is happening, that is not in accordance with Indic worldview. Any development effort should take into account India's characteristic worldview and the social institutions that carry it. Family system and village cooperation are two of such institutions. We need to make villages economically self-reliant. This self-reliance should align with India's worldview and idea of evolution. Evolving models that can inspire such development is very critical at this juncture of time when India is at a very important cusp of time. Ekal Gramotthan Foundation, a public charitable trust, was born out of this challenge: Developing Indian villages with her ethos intact.



## Vision

To facilitate the process of empowering rural and tribal communities based on the concept of social, economic and gender equality.

## Mission

Holistic development of remote, tribal and rural villages of India through economic development and empowerment.

- Self-Sustainable Rural Economy
- Financially Independent Villages
- Reduction of Migration to Urban Cities
- Self-Employment for Youth

- Women Empowerment
- Food Security and Nutrition in Villages

## Impact

The year 2015-16 proved to be very crucial for the foundation. EGF team was able to penetrate the remotest villages, mobilize the target beneficiaries and deliver the impact. The team is constantly innovating and trying out new strategies to maximize the impact. Though we all know that when one works with the most deprived sections of the society, impact cannot be assessed just by numbers; following tables show the effort Gramotthan put up during FY 2015-16:

### 1. IT Literacy cum Certification

GRC	Karanjo	Girdih	Jarangloi	Malda	Nemis	Mirzapur	Total
No of Trainees	479	155	20	397	253	69	1373

### 2. Ekal on Wheels

	No. of villages	No. of students	No. of village Hrs	Total Van run (Km)
December 2015 to March 2016	45	1477	369	1224

### 3. Tailoring Training at GRCs (master trainers' training)

GRC	Karanjo	Girdih	Jarangloi	Malda	Nemis	Wada*	Total
No of Trainees	140	133	126	155	163	50	767

\*Training at Wada started in November 2015.

### 4. Tailoring Training in Villages (by trained master trainers)

GRC	Karanjo	Girdih	Jarangloi	Malda	Nemis	Wada	Total
No of Villages	80	34	54	62	34	18	282
Total Trainees	619	256	387	543	230	54	2089



## 5. Farmers' Training

### i. Training for Organic Farming and Nutrition Garden (in villages)

GRC	Karanjo	Girdih	Jarangloi	Malda	Nemis	Mirzapur	Wada	Total
No of Villages	75	38	59	85	23	47	8	335
Total Trainees	1790	665	892	1160	400	151	197	5255

### ii. Training for Organic Farming and Nutrition Garden (at GRCs)

GRC	Karanjo	Girdih	Jarangloi	Malda	Nemis	Mirzapur	Wada	Total
No of Villages	52	46	35	76	16	8	9	242
Total Trainees	442	349	138	345	195	84	95	1648

## 6. Poshan Vatikas (Nutrition Gardens)

GRC	Karanjo	Girdih	Jarangloi	Malda	Nemis	Mirzapur	Wada	Total
No. of Farmers	300	300	300	300	100	50	25	1375
No of Vatika	289	335	301	360	100	35	22	1442



Poshan Vatika



Ekal on Wheels



Composite Pit



Composite Pit



## Infrastructure Development

- i. Drip Irrigation facility for the farms at GRC Karanjo.
- ii. Exhibition-cum-Sale center at GMY central office, Ranchi.
- iii. Vocational Training Center at GRC Giridih.
- iv. Land Management of GRC Giridih.

## LEARNINGS

### Invest in Eco-Systems

Gramotthan's mandate is to create developed villages which covers all the socio-economic aspects of human life. In the process of economic development, people should not get cut-off from their cultural roots. With this philosophy at the core of its work, Gramotthan has been investing efforts in varied sectors: Skill based training, micro-entrepreneurship, health, agriculture based livelihood, women empowerment. As we learned from our experience and got a better understanding of the ground, we realized all the sectors, we were investing in, should be in coherence. We realized building eco-systems is essential for integral and holistic development. Skill, entrepreneurship, agriculture, health, empowerment, family and socio-cultural ethos form an eco-system. This helped us to evolve our strategies and methodologies.

### Build Partnerships

Peer learning and collaboration with like-minded organizations working in the similar domains are an important dimension to bring in constant innovation and energy. We realize that building a network of like-minded organization and change agents is very important if work is to be scaled up. Gramotthan has started engaging with such

organizations and individuals. We are working on a formal strategy and guidelines for the same.

### Make Beneficiaries Part of the Team

Gramotthan has been engaging with beneficiaries very closely. They have been working as our representatives. We want to take it a step further by making them a part of the organization. They should not be isolated success stories, but active contributors to create more success stories. Their relationship with Gramotthan should be a lifelong one.

### The Way Ahead

Gramotthan was conceptualized with a grand vision of making models of development that can show the world the path of sustainability. India's villages have been practicing values that are sustainable and are in harmony with the surrounding. When we say that we will bring development keeping the ethos interact, we are essentially talking of these values only. Gramotthan has this conviction that once Indian villages stand on the ground of prosperity, they can lead the whole world.

There are about 4,00,000 villages in Indian that are very rural and tribal. Developing these many villages needs a grand effort and resources. Gramotthan is aware of this huge challenge and is moving accordingly. In the coming years, we aim to implement GRC model across the country. Four GRCs are already proposed at Tinsukia (Assam), Gajrola (Uttar Pradesh), Sonagarh (Gujarat) and Kalyani (West Bengal). We are building on our learnings and intend to build eco-systems with other organizations, a more formal and organized way of peer learning and institutionalization of our models. Expanding our team and mobilization of resources are key action items on the list.



# STORIES Success

## Women Empowerment with Ekal Help



27 year old Shilpa Mishra is from village Karaikera in Bandgaon block of West Singhbhum district of Jharkhand. This village girl from a very poor family has made a mark for herself. In the year 2003 Shilpa took training for stitching at the Ekal Gramoththan Centre in Karanjo, not very far from her village. By

next year she started implementing what she had learnt at home and started a tailoring unit with the help of one tailoring machine she was given free. She started earning 2 to 3 thousand Rupees a month, with which she completed her studies and also helped the family. From year 2010 she started to train others at the Gramoththan Centre, from where she had learnt. In these 6 years she has trained 171 females and they all are working from home. In fact the dedication of Shilpa helped her to open 10 to 12 sub-centres of the tailoring training in remote area. In each of these sub-centres 25-30 females participate. Now Shilpa is earning around 5 to 6 thousand Rupees per month. She has even helped her father get a medical operation done which cost her 40 thousand Rupees. With her earning she is helping her younger sister's education, who is doing civil engineering from a Odisha institute.

## Anganwadi Worker Learns Computer with Ekal Help

One Anganwadi worker in a remote tribal village of Jharkhand, who had never used a mouse, has learnt to use computers - all with the help provided by Ekal. She is so happy today, and says that she has learnt to work on Note Pad, Word, Excel, Publisher, Power Point and Paint. Thanking the Ekal for providing this free, she has now become a motivator for others in the village, asking them to take advantage of this service.







# Ekal Sansthan

Training is the fundamental requirement of running organisations which are primarily run on volunteerism. Though Ekal had a robust in-house training programme it was felt that time has come when practices have to be upgraded to professional levels. With ambitious targets for expansion the need for maintaining quality was also overpowering. It was also felt that with such tremendous efforts being made to empower the rural masses, Ekal was weak in communicating this message to the urban people – there was something missing in the promotional efforts.

Considering all these, Ekal Sansthan was launched with the purpose of improvising the efforts of training and to build a robust communication network. The following activities started, which have picked up very well and are adding to the Ekal Abhiyan effort in totality:

1. Training of karyakartas, teachers and volunteers.
2. Publications like Ekal Varta and Ekal Prayas.
3. Holding Seminars and Ekal Study Circle meets at regular intervals (details given below)
4. Repositioning of promotional efforts through brochures, films, social media etc.
5. Ekal Study Tours for urban volunteers.

## **EKAL STUDY CIRCLE**

Ekal Sansthan regularly organises seminars, conferences and study circle meet. Persons from different walks of professional life and who are experts in the respective fields are invited to deliberate on various subjects. In the year 2015-16 four Ekal Study Circle meets were organised in Delhi. These meets were well attended and the subjects covered were:



1. Ekal Model for Social Change (30 May 2015)
2. Digital India Mission (31 October 2015)
3. Technology for Livelihood (30 January 2016)
4. 'SAMRASTA: Social Harmony to Promote Equality (26 March 2016)

### 1. Ekal Model for Social Change (30 May 2015)

The overall upliftment of tribal village adopted by Ekal by way of education, economic education, health education and empowerment education was highlighted through a presentation.

It was informed that Ekal's sustained efforts have resulted in many villages shunning liquor altogether. It has also checked immigration of rural youths to cities by providing them livelihood opportunities in their own village. An overwhelming participation of women folk in this endeavour is praise worthy outcome of the movement. Ekal as model for social change has delivered immensely on every designated front.

### 2. Digital India Mission (31 October 2015)

Digital India Mission in context of Rural & Tribal Bharat was the subject of this Ekal Study Circle meet. It was organized on 31st of October, 2015 at IIC, Delhi. The esteemed panel was: 1. Dr. Dinesh Tyagi (IAS) - CEO – Common Service Centre (CSC), E-Governance, Ministry of IT, Government of India 2. Shri Deepak Chanduka: CGM (MM&WM), Bharat Broadband Networks Limited, Government. of India 3. Shri Arvind Gupta: IIT-BHU, Expert on Digital Policy, Entrepreneur and Founder Member iSPIRT 4. Prof. Abhay Karandikar: Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, Powai, Mumbai 5. Dr. Rishi Mohan Bhatnagar: Global Head - Digital Enterprise Services, Tech Mahindra Limited.

### 3. Technology for Livelihood (30 January 2016)

The third Ekal Study Circle meet in the year was held on 30th January, 2016 on Technology for Livelihoods at India International Centre. A detail presentation was delivered by a team from IIT-Mumbai.

In every human society world over, the development model has three basic components viz., economy, technology for appropriate means of livelihood and environment, which determine the level of socioeconomic development. It was, in this background the subject was decided.

### 4. 'SAMRASTA: Social Harmony to Promote Equality (26 March 2016)

The last Ekal Study Circle meet for the year 2015-16 was on the issue of SAMRASTA - Social Harmony to Promote Equality on 26th March, 2016 at IIC, Delhi. The Eminent panel was represented by Social Activist Shri Virendra Ji, Supreme Court Advocate Smt. Monika Arora and Secretary Vivekananda Foundation Shri Manash Battacharya. The meet was attended by professionals from different walks of life.

### Ekal Learning Yatra in Uttarakhand

The Ekal Sansthan conducts 'Ekal Learning Tours' for volunteers and supporters regularly. One such





'Ekal Learning Yatra' was undertaken from April 24-26, 2016 in the Ekal villages in Rudrapur district of Uttarakhand. The villages visited were Rajpura Fatehganj, Dopulia Roshanpur, Gram Khatola No. 2, Gram Kulha and Gram Tilpuri.

Such 'yatras' definitely help in understanding and pursuing the objectives of Ekal with a better vision, profound clarity and greater commitment.

### Special Workshop on Capacity Building and Training

A workshop between Ekal Sansthan executive members and field experts was organized on July 26, 2015 by Ekal Sansthan. In this the field experts gave detailed information as to how the different aspects of Ekal Movement work on the ground. Information was also given on the organization set up and how the working of Ekal villages really take place.

### Master Trainers' Workshop (October 25-30, 2015)

A 'chintan baithak' cum workshop was organised in which the senior most prathamik shiksha prashikshan

team comprising 18 members participated in Delhi from October 25-30, 2015.

### Publications

Ekal Sansthan publishes a bi-monthly, bi-lingual magazine **Ekal Prayas**, a Hindi monthly **Ekal Varta** and an English e-monthly newsletter **Ekal News**. During the year Ekal made its presence felt on Facebook and Twitter and also used WhatsApp on the social media to reach more and more people.



### Development of Contents

Ekal Sansthan has created contents, syllabus and protocol for Digital Literacy for the computer labs at Gramothan Resource Centres and for the computer on wheels, roving e-lab. With the active participation of IIT-Mumbai team 'spoken tutorials' were introduced for the computer labs.







# Sanskar Shiksha

## ETHICS AND VALUES

While initial intervention of Ekal was in field of primary education with values for children, it was realised very soon that unless positive efforts are made to integrate tribal communities culturally and socially, the fruits of any other venture would remain incomplete. The rich cultural heritage of tribes was fading resulting in various habits like addiction to liquor and tobacco and developing fissures in society for various reasons. A fresh model has been developed by the Abhiyan to address these issues related to adults.

### Model

A weekly gathering of villagers is organised in village

centre called Sanskar Kendra in Saptahik Pathshala, through chanting of collective bhajans. Once the gathering attains size, Ekal volunteer addresses the assembly on cultural and social issues, awakening harmony in the society, resorting to de-addiction and imbibing patriotic spirit. The regular leading volunteer, every week, is usually a villager trained in such chanting and addressing gatherings.

Motivational assemblies are organised at regular intervals by trained volunteers who are drawn from the same tribal communities, trained for long duration at training centres located in Vrindavan, Ayodhya and Nabadweep.



## Organisation

The operations related to Sanskar Shiksha are managed by Cultural Society for Tribals, Mumbai, Vanvasi Raksha Parivar Trust, Delhi and Shri Hari Satsang Samiti at Kolkata, Surat, Agra, Malda, Siliguri etc. National Co-ordination Committee set up by these institutions coordinates the operations. A proposal to bring these various organisations at a common platform is under consideration.

## Activities during the year

During the year under report, 49,134 sanskar kendras were run on weekly basis, where attendance was over 1.2 million adults.

3,146 motivational assemblies were organised in total, during the year, attended by 0.17 million people.

Training of volunteers continued at Vrindavan and



Sanskar Shiksha Van

Ayodhya as per schedule. A new training centre was completed at Nabadweep during the year where session has started.

The mobile motivational Rath has been in operation for over a decade fulfilling the gap where volunteers are not able to reach for various reasons. Such 23 Rath were in operation during the year going from village to village on daily basis.



Sanskar Volunteers with PM Modi on Raksha Bandhan



# Ekal Global

Having spread to about 5,000 villages over a decade since start of Ekal, national frontiers were crossed in the year 2000 to reach supporters of Indian origin settled abroad to support further growth. Over next two decades the foreign network has spread to several countries and Ekal Global came into being to coordinate such geographical expansion. Ekal has formally registered chapters in USA, Canada and Australia besides support groups in Oman, UAE, UK, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Egypt and Hong Kong.

## Global Team

Dr. Subhash Chandra  
Chairman

Shri Pradeep Goyal  
Co-ordinator

Shri Ramesh Shah  
Co-ordinator

Shri Naresh Jain  
Co-ordinator

Shri Bajrang Lal Bagra  
Co-ordinator



Dr. Subhash Chandra, Ekal Global Chairman addressing the gathering





# Ekal Global

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Ekal crossed Indian frontiers formally in 2000 though support had been coming earlier to that from NRIs and PIOs. Presently, Chapters are there in 3 countries and support groups in many others.

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## Chapters

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USA  
Canada  
Australia

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## Support Groups

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Oman  
UAE  
Hong Kong

Thailand  
Egypt  
UK

Newzealand  
Germany  
Italy

Norway  
Singapore  
Netherlands

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# Ekal Help After the Nepal Earthquake

## Ekal's Relief and Rehabilitation Efforts in Earthquake hit Nepal

On 25th April 2015 a severe earthquake hit Nepal. Thousands of lives were lost and massive destruction occurred in Kathmandu and neighbouring area.

It was the need of the hour to provide relief and help in the rehabilitation of people. Ekal, with its full force, started to work. Some 1600 karyakartas worked round the clock distributing relief material to the needy. A central control room was set up in Kathmandu with camp offices in 10 districts.

Incidentally when the devastating earthquake occurred Ekal's mentor Shaym Gupt was holding a meeting of karyakartas in Kathmandu. They rushed

outside and were witness to the catastrophe.

The affected areas included 626 villages where Ekal has its presence. Houses of 310 teachers of Ekal were fully destroyed and another 55 teachers' houses were damaged. Among the Seva Vratī karyakartas houses of 39 were fully destroyed and 19 houses were damaged. Fortunately there were no casualties.

Besides food and medicines, 9,743 tarpaulins and 11,500 blankets, with a total value of about a crore of Rupees were arranged and distributed by our volunteers. A dedicated medical team of doctors and assistants took care of the injured.



Distribution of Food Items



Distribution of Blankets



Distribution of Medicines



Distribution of Clothes



# Seeing is Believing



Joshi family from Muscat, Oman on Vanyatra

To know what Ekal is doing in the remote villages the best way is to visit a village and see for oneself the functioning of the Ekal Vidyalaya and the other programmes of Ekal. While Ekal Vidyalayas are run in all Ekal villages the other programmes are in selected villages.

These visits to villages are called 'Vanyatra'. One can join in a Vanyatra and experience the warmth of the villagers, which will leave the visitor spell bound. And here one will see what the Ekal movement is achieving.

Hundreds of Vanyatras are organised all over the

country every year. Many of Ekal supporters from abroad too have joined in the Vanyatras and for many of them it was a first visit to a village.



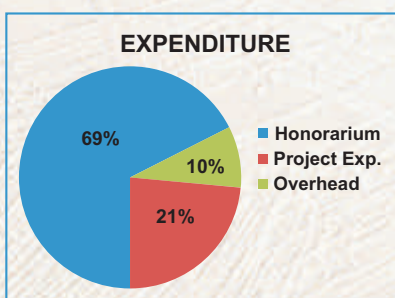
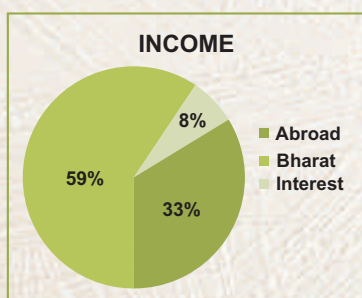
Vanyatri from Bhopal



# CONSOLIDATED INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT 2015-16

Amount  
Rs. in Millions

Incomes		
Contributions	- from Abroad	367.98
	- from within India	650.28
	Interest on deposits	79.95
	Others	2.11
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>1100.32</b>
Expenditure		
<b>Project Expenditure</b>		
	Honorarium to volunteers	610.78
	Training	42.72
	Travel	44.03
	Materials	29.24
	Field office expenses	27.85
	Others	44.63
		799.25
<b>Overheads</b>		
	Management	55.64
	Depreciation	5.61
	Programmes	16.39
	Others	9.06
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>885.95</b>
<b>Excess of Income over Expenditure</b>		<b>214.37</b>



**Notes:-**

1. Inter-unit transfers between institutions of Abhiyan have been ignored.
2. Sponsorships in kind have not been evaluated, nor accounted for.
3. Contributions received include those for special projects which span over for more than a year.



# Recognitions



The Associated Chambers of  
Commerce and Industry of India  
**NATIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD  
for Education (2016)**



Deccan Education  
Society, Pune  
**SAHU CHHATRAPATI AWARD  
for Education (2016)**



Rotary International  
**ROTARY LITERACY HERO AWARD  
(2016)**



Masala Awards, Dubai  
**BEST CHARITY INITIATIVE  
(2015)**



UBM India, UK  
**LEADING NGO OF THE YEAR  
(2015)**



