

ANNUAL REPORT

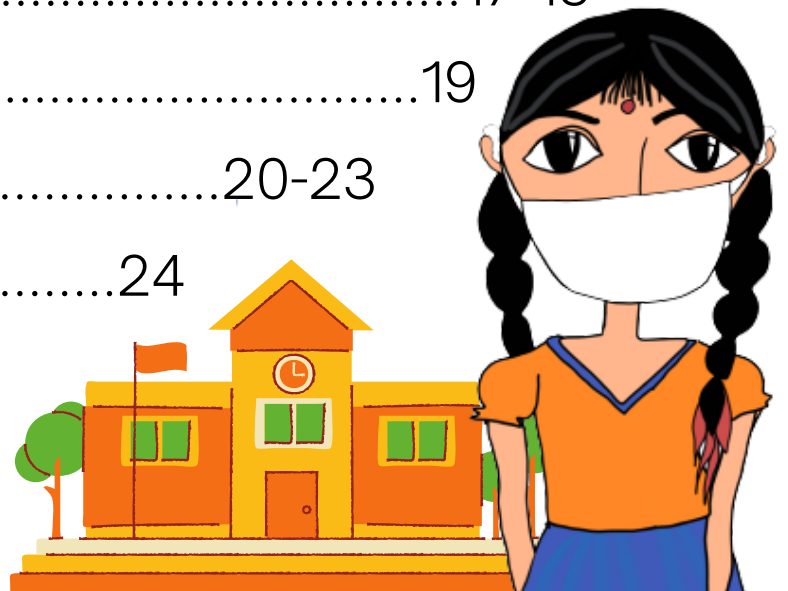
2020-2021





Table of Contents

Our Leadership Team	01 - 02
Our Parent Leaders.....	03- 05
Project Highlights.....	06
VAANI's Digital Innovations.....	07
Virtual Education Sessions.....	08
VAANI Home Visits.....	09
Development of Assamese Signs.....	10
Storytelling Educational Tools.....	11
Appreciation and Recognition.....	13
Celebrations.....	14
Our Partners.....	15-16
COVID-19 Relief Efforts.....	17-18
In Memorial.....	19
Finances.....	20-23
Our Appeal.....	24



Our Leadership Team

The global COVID-19 pandemic has forever changed the way the world thinks about communication and education. Now, more than ever we rely on technology and innovation to bring us together. The challenge at VAANI was to ensure that we were able to reach all our stakeholders, many of whom had limited access to technology. However, with inventive ideas, funding support from our partners, we have been able to ensure learning and communication carries on!

- Brinda Crishna
(Founder)



It is difficult to know how resilient an organization is until it is truly tested and there has never been a more trying time in the recent history of the world. Amid the pathos and grief that we experienced across the globe, there are precious few things to be grateful for. The VAANI family is one of them.

Teachers rose above the call of duty and put children and their families first. Much like the rest of the world, VAANI was forced to pivot to online classes, contend with limited and intermittent internet connectivity and grapple with the numerous logistical nightmares associated with the pandemic. And yet, not only did we not progress but we thrived. Everyone adapted to this change with resilience and resoluteness.

As you browse this annual report, I hope you are inspired by the stories of people who chose hope over fear and brought light into the lives of hearing-impaired children. None of this would have been possible without the generous and timely support from all the donors and well-wishers.

A special thanks to all.
Stay safe, Take care!

- T V Ramaswamy
(Chairperson)



Our Leadership Team

I would be remiss if I did not begin this note with immense gratitude. In this time of global upheaval, our team has remained steadfast- learning to pivot and grow as needed.

2020 did not go as expected. There were plans that needed to be shelved and projects that needed to be reimaged. Our teams, families, and partners experienced immeasurable losses.

This year, VAANI did what it could to extend relief to those impacted by the COVID-19 crisis. We held workshops online and connected with partners and parents digitally. We created communication materials for hearing-impaired people to empower them to make informed choices about COVID-19 and worked harder than we ever have before.

I am immensely grateful for the support of our teams, partners, families, well-wishers, donors, and of course our children. On behalf of VAANI, I'd also like to thank our community workers and professionals for their service. We know that we can rise above any challenge together.

- Sumedha Joglekar
(Director)



Our Parent Leaders

- Sudipta's Story



” I was so anxious when the lockdown began. It was a great relief when I heard about the Virtual Sessions.”

Sudipta Brahma, mother of 7-year-old Sagnik Brahma who hails from Kolkata did not miss out on any Virtual IEP (Individualised Educational Plan) sessions, including Virtual Parents Meetings and workshops. She embraced the use of technology without any inhibition and has become familiar with Video Whatsapp and Google Meet.

In spite of some of their family members being victims of COVID -19, she continued to make herself available for the child’s sessions to ensure that learning of her child was not on pause.

Mother Sudipta says,” I was so anxious when the lockdown began. It was a great relief when I heard about the Virtual Sessions. I was very attentive in all the training sessions on how to access the digital platform, and feel very happy to have learnt so much about it. I have managed to download videos and worksheets shared by Sagnik’s teacher Chiranjit and used them to teach my son at home.”

“ Our entire family is very thankful to VAANI for such adaptation . I have felt that virtual sessions will be so helpful at times in the future when I am unable to travel to the centre or have health issues. Sagnik can then be present for sessions from home on a virtual mode.”

Our Parent Leaders

- Gautam's Story



Fathers are the backbone of a child's development. Their involvement makes a difference, especially while navigating new technological challenges.

Amongst a higher number of mothers, a very proactive father is Gautam Roy, father of 6-year-old Dhritisman Roy. They live in Guwahati and their son was admitted to a school there in the third week of February 2020. When the lockdown was announced, it had been about a month since the son familiarized himself with a school.

Father Gautam says, “ Since our son also began attending the VAANI Sadhan Centre before he joined school, we did not feel the crisis of learning for him. Till today, our son has not stepped into the school again, but he has learnt a lot from the Virtual Sessions on Whats App and now on Google Meet as well by his teacher Basana Debnath. So far, all his learning has been from the Virtual and Centre Sessions at VAANI. There has been no learning from school yet as schools have not opened for the younger children at all.

Gautam’s mother and I have been both very involved in his learning through the Virtual Sessions that have not only benefited our son but also both of us. We learnt the extensive use of WhatsApp for teaching-learning purpose for our son. We were not familiar with Google Meet at all. VAANI has enabled us to learn how to access it for Sessions, Meetings and Workshops. Sometimes when I am not available for sessions; videos and worksheets shared by Basana di, enable us to take learning forward for our son.

VAANI’s Virtual Sessions have been a boon to all of us.”

Our Parent Leaders

- Heena's Story

A mother from Tumkur goes an extra mile to ensure that her son is able to achieve the learning levels as all the other children . She is Heena, mother of seven year old Syed Uzair .



With the help of Demo Videos shared by the teacher Krishna , Heena has ensured to have all materials at her end ready for effective learning through the Virtual Sessions . She has adopted methods like Directed Activity , Use of Written strips , use of toys and objects to ensure that her son Uzair has proper concept of each and every topic that is being covered for his learning .

Project Highlights in 2020

We have been conducting home visits to provide individualized educational sessions to children living in remote locations keeping in mind all the safety needs of the children, their families, and teachers.

During the visit, children are taught various concepts based on their lesson plans and are provided with Nutritional Supplements and Educational activity books so that the parent can reinforce the learnings from the session at home.

We have conducted 1400 physical sessions.



New Born Screening

Our “New Born Hearing Screening” programme has been running at Tumkur district hospital Karnataka from Monday to Friday using ‘Sohum’ Screening Device. Now we have expanded this programme to Sira taluk hospital, Tumkur Karnataka.

Since the launch over 2500 babies have been screened



Our COVID Response (Food Distribution Drive)

We conducted a COVID relief material distribution drive for 700 families in Assam, West Bengal and Karnataka. These families are from marginalised sections of the society and their livelihood has got impacted due to the pandemic



Sadhan Center Expansion

We have expanded our Sadhan Education Centre in Goroimari, Chaygaon Block Kamrup district of Assam. Through this we aim to reach 160 beneficiaries consisting of children with hearing impairment and their families.

VAANI's Digital Innovations

VAANI conducted a digital campaign to sensitize and mobilize the general public against sexual abuse of children with hearing impairment from 23rd September to 23rd December 2020.

We were able to reach 4000 individuals through social media drive. As part of this campaign, we conducted a 10-day online training session for our parents, NGO Partners, and teachers from West Bengal, Assam, and Karnataka.



Digital Campaign on Protecting Children with Hearing Impairment Against Child Sexual Abuse

Our campaign included an online awareness drive as well as training sessions for parents and teachers on how to address and prevent child sexual abuse in hearing impaired children.



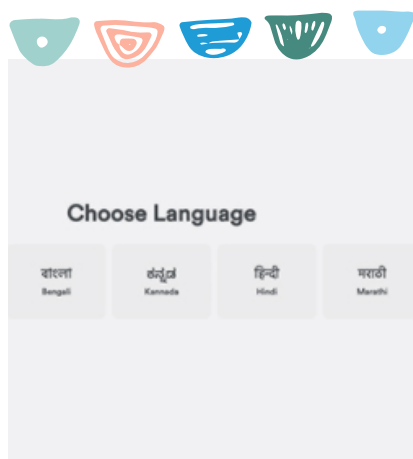
Download teaching – learning materials

Use the VAANI Information Resource Center to download materials to use in the classroom. Make your virtual sessions more interactive with ready-to-use presentations on basic concepts such as opposites, numbers and addition.

[Learn more](#)

Launch of a Microsite: The Information and Resource Center

VAANI launched an online Information and Resource Center for teachers, parents, students, and partners to easily access all of VAANI's digital learning materials including videos, downloadable templates, modules, and guides.



Launch of the Voice to Visualization Tool

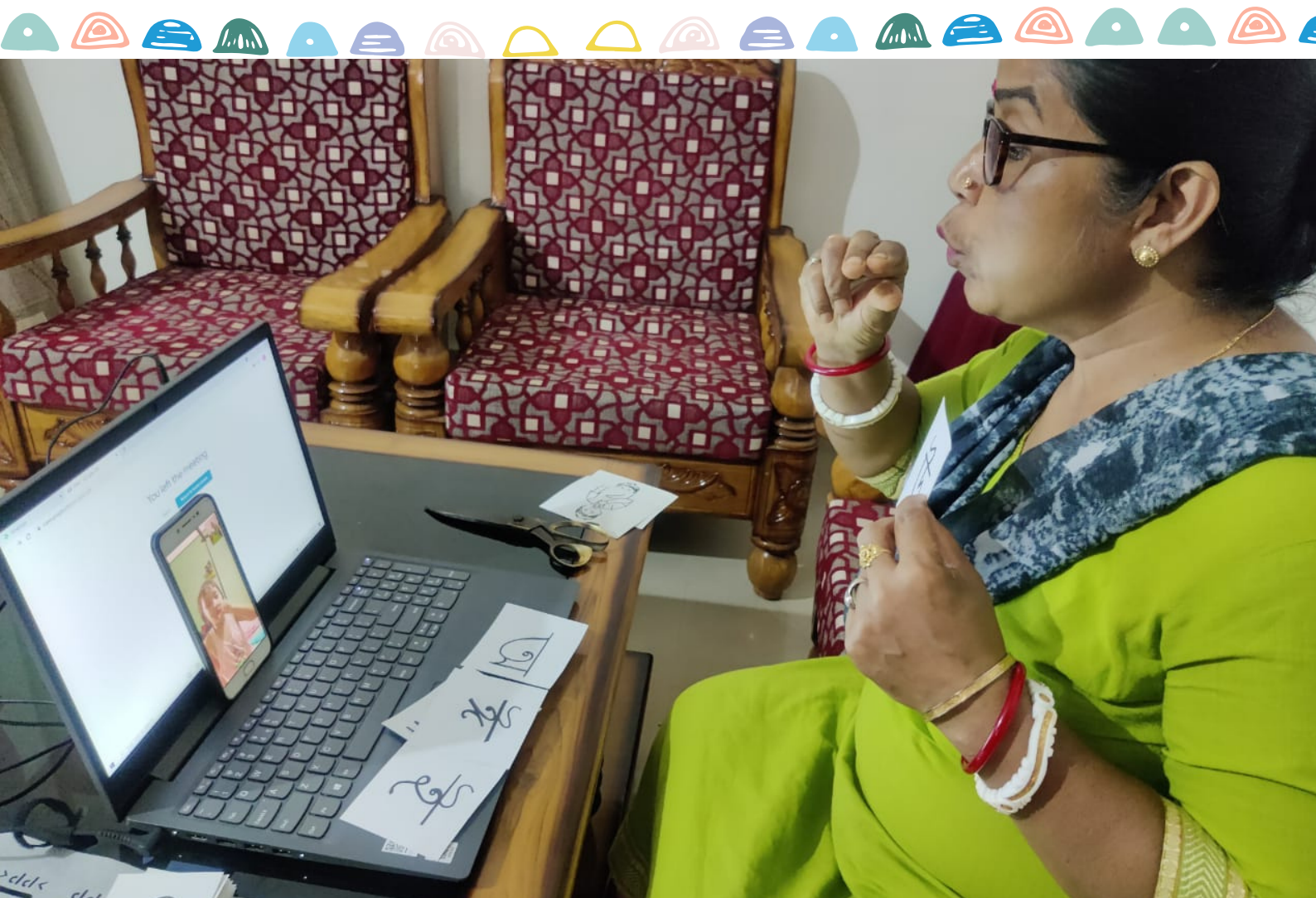
This innovative tool is a learning aid that helps convert simple words into pictures, signs, and speech. Using this tool parents, teachers and children can better engage with language holistically. The voice to visualization tool is available in English and in regional languages.

VAANI Virtual Education Sessions

During the various lockdown periods and social distancing measures that were implemented by the Indian government during the global COVID-19 pandemic, VAANI teachers conducted regular virtual sessions with children whose parents had smartphones over the course of the academic year 2020-2021.

Children whose parents did not have smartphones were given information through audio calls and via SMS. VAANI teachers provided lesson plans and activity details over phone calls and trained parents to practice the same at home.

In 2020-2021 VAANI has conducted 18000 virtual sessions and reached 600 deaf children and 1200 families.



VAANI Home Visits



VAANI also conducted home visits where possible to provide individualized educational sessions to children living in remote locations keeping in mind all the safety needs of the children, their families, and the teachers.

During the visits, children were taught various concepts based on their lesson plans and are provided with nutritional supplements and educational activity books so that the parent could continue to reinforce the lessons from the session at home.

VAANI conducted over 1400 physical sessions.

Development of Signs of the Assamese Alphabets



“Is it possible to have signs of Assamese alphabets like in English? Our children would then have been able to spell and remember the Assamese words better”.

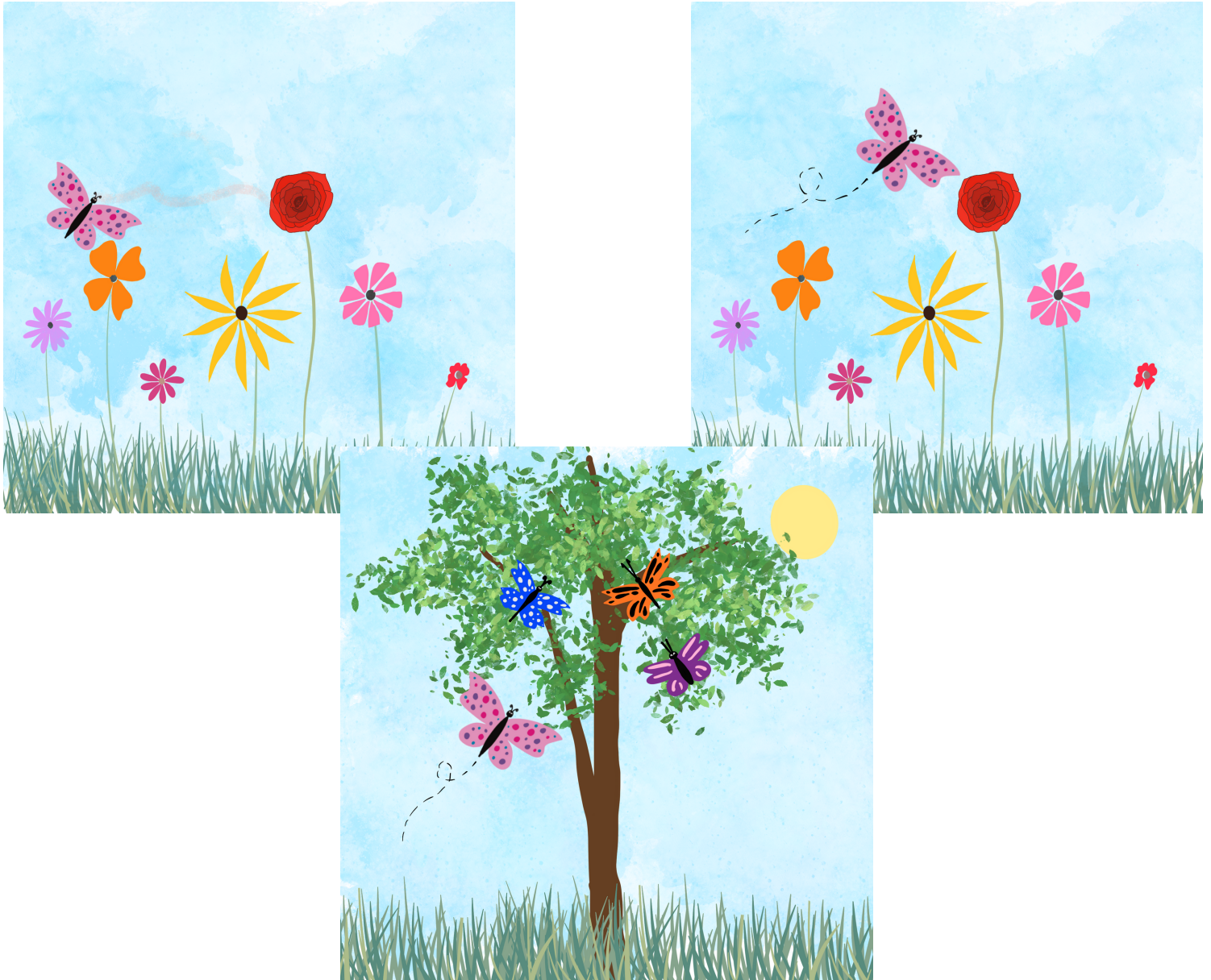
This was a sentence repeatedly heard from mothers Anjali Deka, Rashmi Rekha Chakravarty, Basana Debnath, and many more who came across VAANI in the earlier years of its initiation in Assam. Their children had hearing loss and the language followed for their academics was Assamese. However, as part of the school curriculum, they also had to learn English as a second language.

The parents found that for their deaf children, spelling and remembering the English words was easier than spelling and remembering the Assamese words as they used Finger Spelling (signs used for English alphabets in Indian Sign Language) to easily spell out the English words.

This remark from the parents kept resonating within us since then. Finally, after years of observation what mothers and teachers usually used as gestures to communicate to their children to write the alphabets, repeated discussions with VAANI teachers in the northeast on what they felt was easier to interpret and then combining the first two factors together with a few existing ASL and ISL finger spellings, the Video of Signs of the fifty-three Assamese alphabets was developed. The work on the Videos was completed in November 2020. The signs are in three parts – Assamese Vowels, Assamese Consonants, and Assamese Matras.

In Assam, the Children With Hearing Impairment covered under the VAANI Programme have begun using them since December 2020, and have found them very useful. With the development of these signs we hope to enhance the learning of spellings and language in Assamese, for the Children With Hearing Impairment, and thus remove the barrier of spelling Assamese words in Signs. The SSA - Assam also felt it would be very useful and has released it for use in the School Programmes covered by them across the 33 districts of Assam. Work on translating it in the Print form has also been taken up and is expected to be completed soon to make it Bilingual for the entire Deaf population who follow the Indian Sign Language, whose written language for learning is English.

Storytelling Educational Tools



VAANI believes in the power of education through storytelling. Stories are contextualized to the age and ability of the child and each story is special. Teacher-made stories are used to illustrate concepts such as numbers, colors, counting, math, spelling, language, feelings, and problem-solving.

The stories are digitized so they can be shared across regions, languages, and with all children in need. The stories come with guides for teachers and parents as well as exercises for the children to test their understanding at the end of a story.



We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to "One World Group Oxted"

Our Siliguri Saadhan Center got a fresh coat of paint and a new look!

The walls are covered in blue and orange with images of happy children, birds, and trees.

It is a space to remind us all to be young at heart and mind.

Appreciation and Recognition


VAANI Superstar Ajita Gohain

Our Program Head Ajita Gohain received a token of appreciation from Samagra Shiksha Assam, Government of Assam, for the contribution towards the development of the basic level Disability Screening Tool named “Sandhan”



VAANI has also received much appreciation on the U.S.-based, world-renowned platform "Great NonProfits" from volunteers, partners, and employees alike. Donors and well-wishers have taken to the platform to praise VAANI for its integrity and work in the field of education.

"We have been associated with VAANI for more than 3 years. It's been a pleasure to work with a group of absolute professionals working towards a great cause."




Sachin27
Donor 06/01/2021

★★★★★

I have been donating to VAANI for more than a year now. I have great respect for the kind of work VAANI does. Their engagement with hearing-impaired kids, parents and community members is inspiring. VAANI has been able to do impactful work for more than a decade now and I am immensely proud to be donating to VAANI.

Share this review: [✉](#) [🐦](#) [f](#) [Flag review](#)



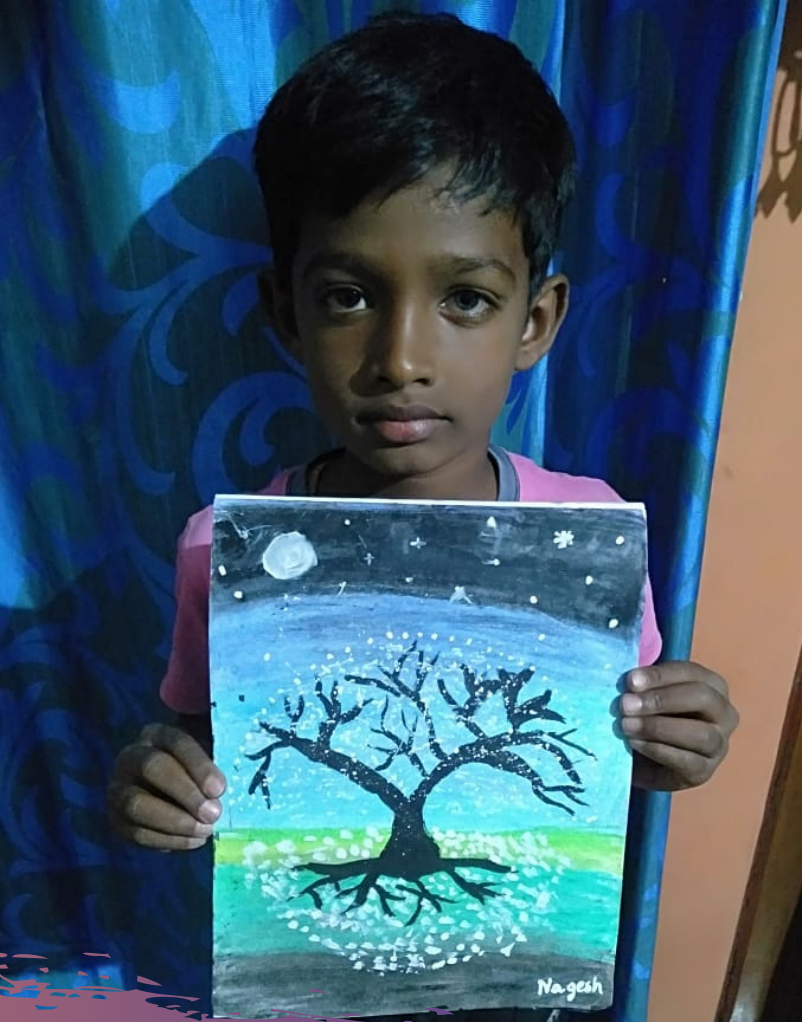
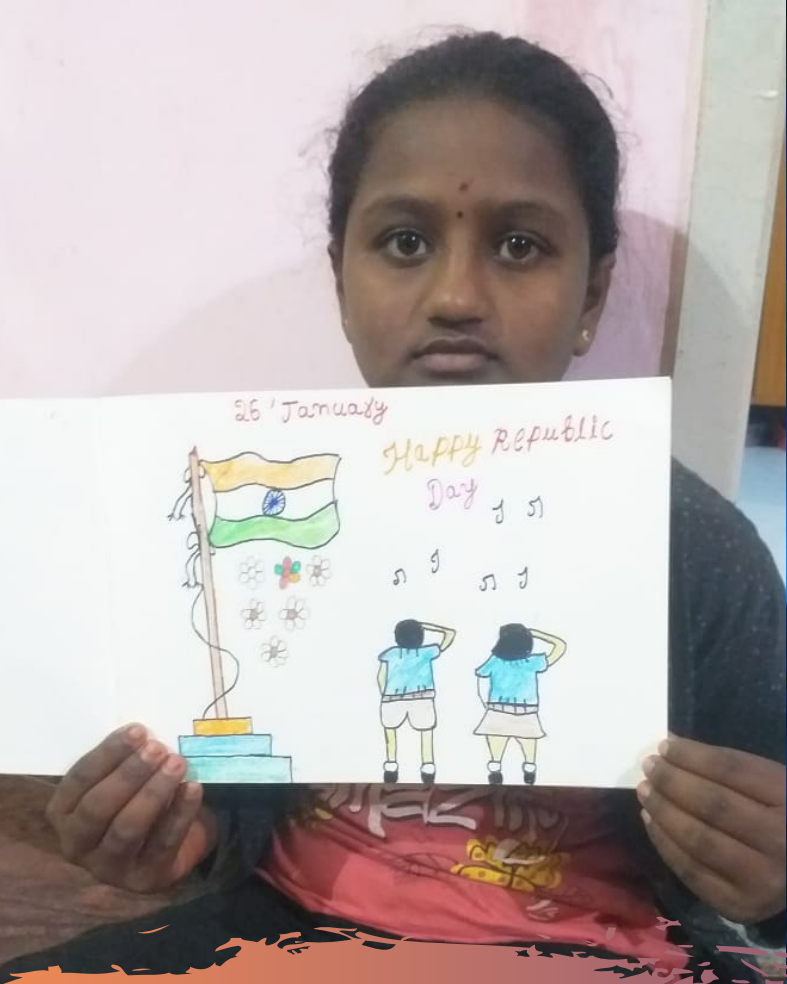
Neha_Sathish
Client Served 07/13/2021

★★★★★

I lead CSR at Thomson Reuters India and we have been associated with Vaani for the past three years. Really appreciate their transparency and passion to serve and do good for the children. We are working with Vaani both on volunteering and CSR front and really happy with the team and the great work that they do.

Share this review: [✉](#) [🐦](#) [f](#) [Flag review](#)

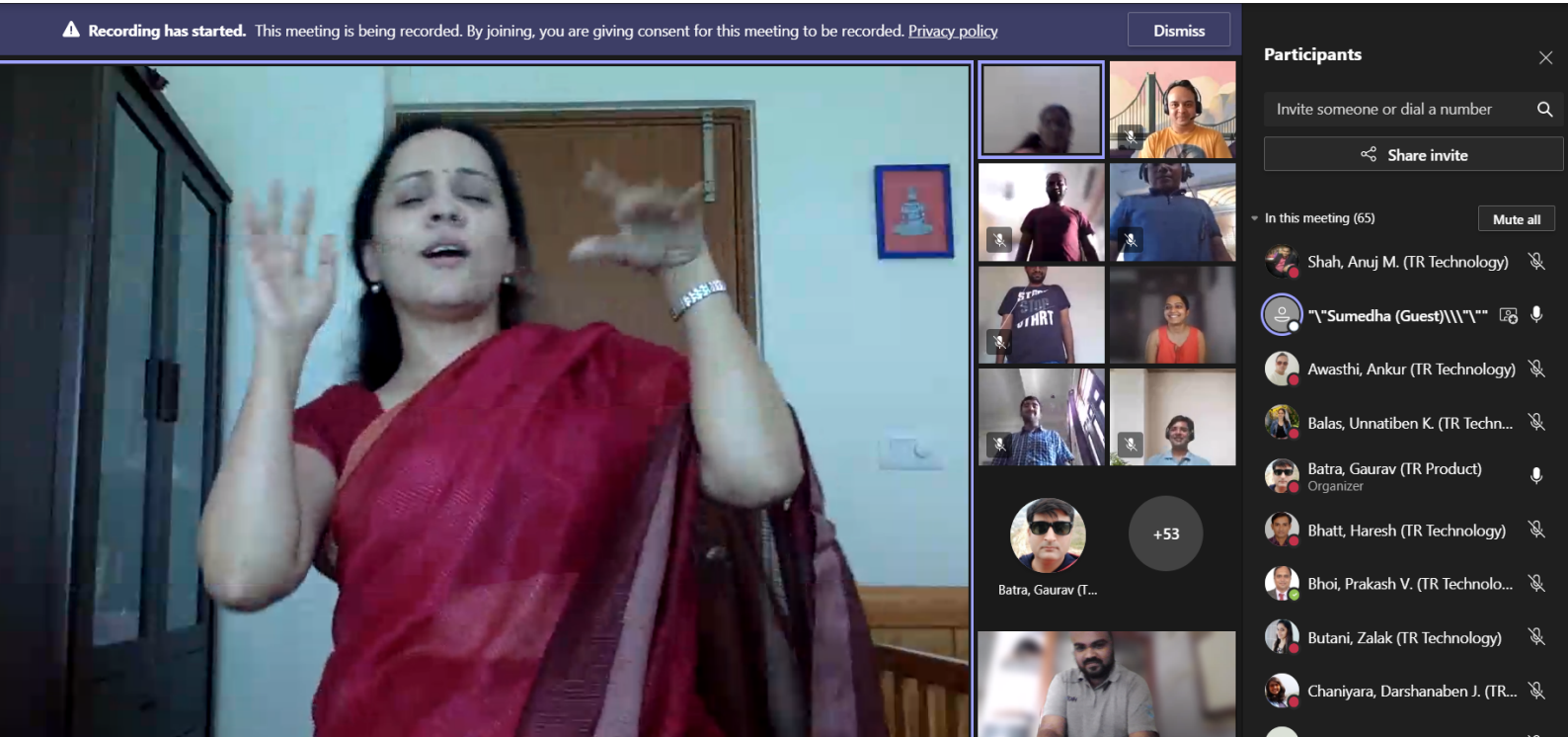
[View more at https://greatnonprofits.org/org/vaani-deaf-childrens-foundation](https://greatnonprofits.org/org/vaani-deaf-childrens-foundation)



CELEBRATIONS!



Our Partners





Azim Premji
Philanthropic
Initiatives



Tech
Mahindra

Rajni Nijhawan. Rajni Nijhawan Charitable Trust

accenture



INDECOMM GLOBAL SERVICES
Partnerships@work



onmobile



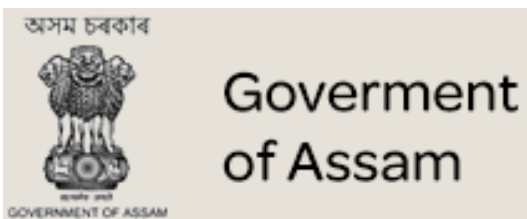
Pirojsha Godrej
Foundation

Child Vikaas International

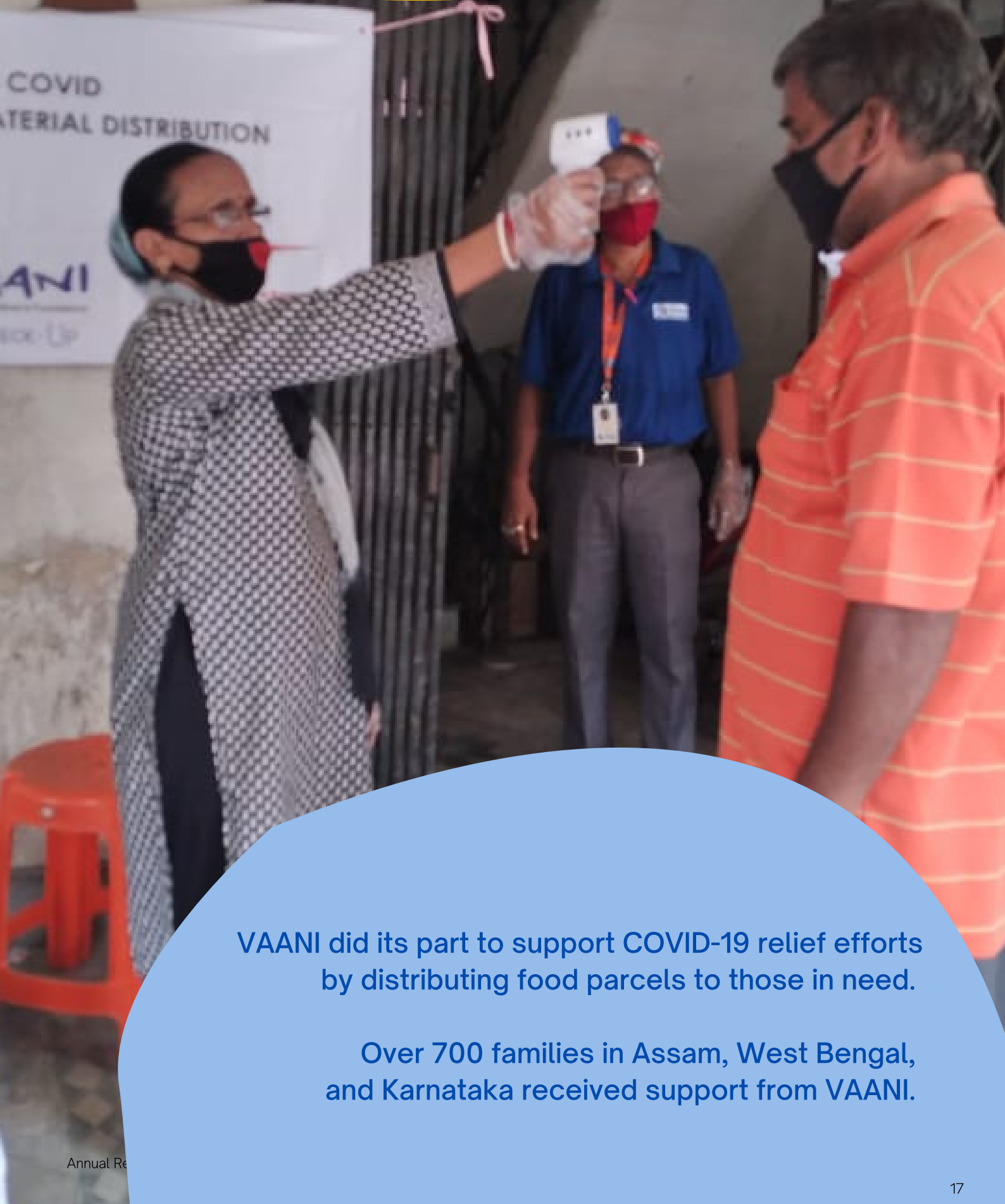


THOMSON REUTERS

adams



COVID-19 Relief Efforts



VAANI did its part to support COVID-19 relief efforts by distributing food parcels to those in need.

Over 700 families in Assam, West Bengal, and Karnataka received support from VAANI.



In Memorial

"A butterfly to remind me
Even though we are apart
Your spirit is always with me
Forever in my heart."



Finances



PHILLIPOS & Co.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

P. B. No. 534, No. 47, M-FLOOR
WHEELER ROAD, COX TOWN
BANGALORE - 560 005

BSNL : (080) 25467223, 25467224
AIRTEL : (080) 41251474
e-mail : phillippos18@gmail.com

Independent Auditor's Report

To
The Trustees of
Vaani Deaf Children's Foundation

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **Vaani Deaf Children's Foundation** which comprise the Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2021, the Income & Expenditure Account for the year then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the financial statements give us a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India of the state of affairs of **Vaani Deaf Children's Foundation** as at March 31, 2021 and the *Excess of Income over Expenditure* for the year ended on that date.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Standards on Auditing issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. Our responsibilities under those Standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the entity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements and we have fulfilled our ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the Code of Ethics. We believe that the audit evidence

Finances

we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

The Trust's management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the aforesaid Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Management is responsible for overseeing the entity's financial reporting process

Auditors Responsibilities for the Audit of Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with SAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

We communicate with the management regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

Further, based on our audit we report that:

- a. We have sought and obtained all the information and explanations which, in the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit.



Finances

- b. In our opinion, proper books of account as required by law have been kept by the Trust so far as it appears from our examination of those books.
- c. The Balance Sheet, the Income and Expenditure A/c dealt with by this Report are in agreement with the relevant books of account.



For Phillipos & Co
Chartered Accountants
FRN: 002650S

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Baby Issac".

Baby Issac
Partner

Membership No: 027621
UDIN: 21027621AAAAHT3938

Place: Bangalore
Date: 02-08-2021

Finances

**Vaani Deaf Children's Foundation
Balance Sheet as on 31st March 2021**

Particulars	Schedule	31.03.2021 Rs.	31.03.2020 Rs.
Source of Funds			
Trust Fund	1	30,111	30,111
General Fund	2	1,07,73,720	80,72,005
PHF Fund	3	4,05,954	4,05,954
Current Liabilities & Provisions	4	1,23,96,259	53,42,756
		2,36,06,044	1,38,50,826
Application of Funds			
Fixed Assets	5	31,17,080	26,34,794
Loans & Advances	6	5,85,425	5,37,953
Cash & Bank Balances	7	1,99,03,539	1,06,78,079
		2,36,06,044	1,38,50,826

For VAANI Deaf Children's Foundation

For VAANI DEAF CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

T.V. Ramaswamy
Trustee, Chairperson

Sumedha Vijaylaxmi Joglekar
Director

Date: 02-08-2021
Place: Bangalore

For Phillipos & Co.
Chartered Accountants
FRN : 002650 S

B. Issac
Partner

Mem.No.027621
UDIN: 21027621AAAAHT3938



**Vaani Deaf Children's Foundation
Consolidated Receipts and Payment Account for the year ended 31st March 2021**

Particulars	Schedule	31.03.2021 Rs.	31.03.2020 Rs.
Opening Cash and Bank balance	14	1,06,78,079	1,09,16,145
Receipts:			
Grants & Donations	15	2,51,99,655	1,85,99,756
Other Income	16	5,90,134	4,02,826
Liabilities	17	9,43,278	(2,81,733)
Income tax Refund		-	6,185
		3,74,11,147	2,96,43,179
Payments:			
Human Resource	18		
Project		64,91,481	
General		20,85,040	85,76,521
Operational Expenses	19		
Project		49,75,635	
General		4,36,322	54,11,957
Office & Administrative Expenses	20		
Project		13,86,817	16,02,917
General		2,16,100	13,00,888
Fund Raising Activity	21		
Fixed Assets	22		
Loans and Advances	23		
Other Payment	24		
Bank Charges		38,251	4,259
Closing Bank, Cash, Fixed Deposit Balance	25	1,98,84,735	1,06,78,079
		3,74,11,147	2,96,43,179

For VAANI Deaf Children's Foundation

As per our report of even date
For Phillipos & Co.
Chartered Accountants
FRN : 002650 S

For VAANI DEAF CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

T.V. Ramaswamy
Trustee, Chairperson

Sumedha Vijaylaxmi Joglekar
Director

Date: July 19, 2021
Place: Bangalore



B. Issac
Partner
Mem.No.027621

**Vaani Deaf Children's Foundation
Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st March 2021**

Particulars	Schedule	31.03.2021 Rs.	31.03.2020 Rs.
Income			
Grants & Donations	8	1,91,61,220	2,05,15,273
Other Income	9	5,18,344	3,15,248
		1,96,79,564	2,08,30,522
Expenditure			
Human Resource	10		
Project		64,91,481	
General		20,85,040	85,76,521
Operational Expenses	11		
Project		49,75,635	
General		4,36,322	54,11,957
Office & Administrative Expenses	12		
Project		13,86,817	16,02,917
General		2,16,100	13,00,888
Fund Raising Activity	13		
Bank Charges		38,251	4,259
TDS Receivable written Off		-	7,740
Depreciation	5	8,13,524	4,14,766
Excess of Income over Expenditure		27,01,715	31,45,962
		1,96,79,564	2,08,30,522

For VAANI DEAF CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

T.V. Ramaswamy
Trustee, Chairperson

Sumedha Vijaylaxmi Joglekar
Director

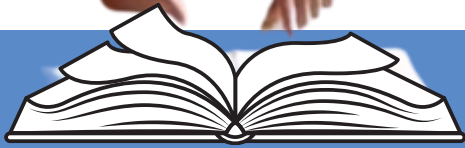
Date: 02-08-2021
Place: Bangalore

As per our report of even date

For Phillipos & Co.
Chartered Accountants
FRN : 002650 S

B. Issac
Partner
Mem.No.027621
UDIN: 21027621AAAAHT3938





VAANI receives its income through generous grants and donations from Institutions and Individual donors. This helps us continue our effort to bring language and communication to the lives of deaf children and their families.

You can help raise funds for VAANI by asking your friends/colleagues to donate to VAANI on special occasions, taking part in fundraising events such as crowdfunding through your personal and professional networks.

Volunteering with VAANI-

You can choose to volunteer with us by helping us with your expertise in tech solutions, content writing, designing, communications and in fundraising for the cause.

Reach out to us at vaani@vaani.in

Our Appeal

To raise funds for VAANI

write to

vaani@vaani.in

Make a generous contribution at

<https://vaani.in/donate/>

Rs. 35,000 Supports One Child for One Year.

It covers:

- Individualised Educational Programme(IEP) for children
- Nutrition Supplements and Sanitation Supplies
- Teaching learning materials (online and print) and technical aids
- Parent capacity building workshops and Community sensitisation
- Audiological camps and check ups





Deaf Children's Foundation

