



Annual Report 2021-2022



Swami
Vivekanand
Shiksha Samiti
(SVSS)

Greetings from Chief Functionary

Swami Vivekanand Shiksha Samiti (SVSS) is celebrating its 50th year of establishment. SVSS mission has been to ensure fair and equitable access to quality health services, quality education including the poorest section of society especially women, adolescent and children.

On behalf of all of us in Swami Vivekanand Shiksha Samiti (SVSS), we send our heartfelt greetings to all partners: Government of India and State Governments, inter- national government departments, foundations and organisations, private companies who have contributed through CSR initiatives, individuals; and last but not least, members and staff of the organisations.

Through support and collective action, we have been successful in transforming millions of lives across our work locations. The stories of courage and inspiration of the people impacted are constantly shared verbally and through our digital platforms (website and social media). Do visit our website to read and share these stories.

I would like to highlight some achievements of the past year: The first is our continued work and expansion of the *Childline* Programme and the efforts to bring justice to the children in distress. More than 500 cases were registered and resolved till date. The programme has also met with widespread appreciation from the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India. We are in process and will now be further scaled up to more regions in the coming years.

I am also very proud to share that we directly engaged with more than 5,000 women and youth across our project initiatives for gender equality, women empowerment and skill development. These include large-scale projects that train women in functional and financial literacy, entrepreneurship and skills training and support women to start their own enterprises and income-generating activities. All these activities contributed towards the UN Sustainable Development Goal no. 5, i.e., “achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls”. It also contributed to improving the lives of the families of these women, translating to more than 1.2 million people.

Let me also mention SVSS’s contribution in 2019-20 to make our project locations in Mirzapur and Sonbhadra district, an open defecation free zone. In this regard, SVSS also started supporting individuals and community members in construction of Toilets. One of such initiative was undertaken in Chandauli district wherein a community toilet was constructed with support from Oil and Natural Gas Company (ONGC) under its CSR initiative.

Lastly, I want to emphasise that SVSS is committed to continue the efforts of expansion in both quantity and quality of the five broad areas of development work – education, health, livelihood & community development and environmental sustainability – all aligned with the global Sustainable Development Goals. Operationally, all SVSS projects are people-centric and build on engagement and ownership of the activities by the people benefitted and with an administrative and organisational framework that ensures the highest level of accountability and transparency.

We look forward to working together with all stakeholders and partners in many years to come!

Mr. Anuj Srivastava, Chief Functionary, SVSS



About the Organization

Swami Vivekanand Shiksha Samiti (SVSS) is a not-for-profit organization registered under the Societies Act in the year 1971. The idea of its existence was conceived by Shri Uma Shankar Srivastava who was inspired by the philosophy of Swami Vivekanand. He envisioned the creation of an organization which could spread the idea of education and uplift the poor masses, especially the women and children. A congregation of likeminded social activists came together and SVSS was established to make this mandate a reality. SVSS is working for the past 42 years for the cause of the marginalized sections of the society, especially women, youth and children. Its focus has been on issues which usually considered insignificant in common parlance, have a significant impact in ensuring inclusion of the marginalized. The work at SVSS is governed by the guiding principles of being secular and non-political. SVSS worked with 1148 villages in Uttar Pradesh and has impacted the lives of over 10 lakh children.

Broder Objective

In our endeavour to improve the quality of education imparted through the programme we aim and work for:

- Providing basic education to underprivileged children in the age group of 3+ to 18
- To improve quality of education available to the underprivileged children
- To create community awareness towards education, health and rights.
- To make necessary interventions to create income security opportunity for the rural communities
- Through village institutions collaborate and influence Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) to become more effective, accountable and inclusive

Vision

A society which is just, egalitarian and democratic and a life which is free from violence, hunger and exploitation.

Mission

- We work towards mobilizing and effecting institutions of self-governance and improving the accountability of public service delivery mechanisms to help beneficiaries access their rights and entitlements
- We build leadership among women and create an enabling environment for children to help vulnerable sections in the society realize their optimum potential leading to improvement in their quality of life
- We partner with government ministries; local, national and international organizations to scale up our intervention models and replicate.

Approach

SVSS adopts a hybrid approach in vouching towards its goal of sustainable village development. The hybrid approach engages components of service delivery as well as rights-based approaches. In doing so, it works both ways:

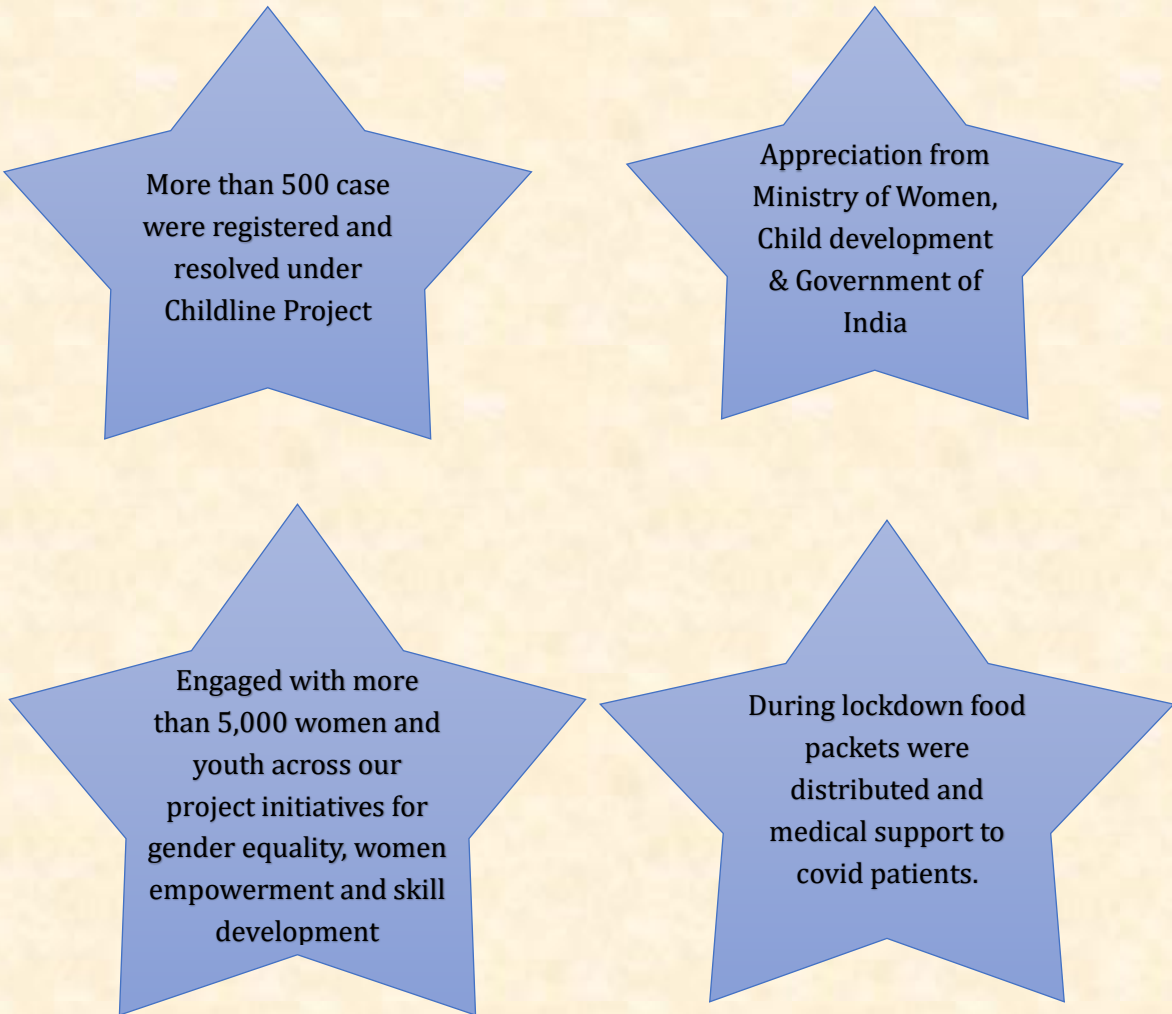
- a) Making the supply side (i.e., Institutions and government administration) more accountable
- b) Making the demand side more empowered which includes communities.

The hybrid approach emphasizes non-discrimination, attention to vulnerability and empowerment. SVSS works at grassroot level to create sustainable change for village children.

Genesis

The inception of SVSS, four decades ago, was guided with Swami Vivekananda's mission of empowering children and women through effective access to quality education. Recognizing the backwardness in the Uttar Pradesh region and the daunting need for development interventions, SVSS came into being to improve the status of education in the rural pockets of the state through improving service delivery mechanisms as well as making rural inhabitants realize the importance of education. Pursuing the overarching objective of making education available for all, SVSS placed a special focus on empowering the women of rural communities to mobilize individual initiatives in making their situation better. Reiterating the need for intervention, SVSS, in collaboration with its donors expanded its outreach to foray into the avenues of health and livelihoods. Recognizing that these domains are intertwined, SVSS in today's date envisages for holistic community development through rights-based approach.

Project Highlights/Achievements



More than 500 case
were registered and
resolved under
Childline Project

Appreciation from
Ministry of Women,
Child development
& Government of
India

Engaged with more
than 5,000 women and
youth across our
project initiatives for
gender equality, women
empowerment and skill
development

During lockdown food
packets were
distributed and
medical support to
covid patients.

Work Done in Programmes

Programme	Project Title	Donor Name	Total no of beneficiary	Location	Age Group
Education	Girl Child Education Program	IIMPACT	1800	Prayagraj	6-14 years

Education is a fundamental right of every Indian girl as per the **Right to Education Act 2009**. India is the second most populated country in the world with nearly 48.5% of female population. India is also one of the fastest growing countries but our women literacy rate is far below the global standard. The Indian government has enacted several acts and policies like the RTE Act 2008 and NEP 2020 to increase the **literacy rates in India**.

Benefits of Girl Education in India

1. Education not only empowers a grown-up girl, but also makes her economically independent. Economic independence makes a woman feel confident about herself and gives her a sense of accomplishment. Empowerment of girls and women also forms a strong base in the fight against the issue of gender-inequality.
2. An educated woman is capable of sharing the burden of men in the different walks of life. In this age of economic crisis, it's hard for the middle class to make both ends meet. Working women can add to the total income of their husbands and can earn a living for herself and her family.
3. Educated girls can not only improve their own lives, but can also brighten the future of the country by giving their children a good upbringing. Education leads to freedom of thought and broadens a woman's outlook. This also makes her aware of her responsibilities and duties.

It establishes single teacher led learning centres imparting primary level education using a child friendly, Multi grade Multi level learning approach. Students are Provided high quality Primary Education. It enables a facilitative eco-system in village for furtherance of education of girl child. This encourages and enable each girl to become an independent thinker and self -learner.

Programme	Project Title	Donor Name	Total no of beneficiary	District	Age Group
Health	Social Audit	STEP Foundation	1000 direct and 6000 Indirect	Mirzapur & Bhadohi	18 years above

Step Foundation, guided by the principle of social responsibility and the need to urgently support groups at risk from COVID-19 in Mirzapur and Bhadohi, has decided to combine its efforts and resources with the SVSS.

1. Food packets were distributed to 400 families
2. Around 2800 beneficiaries were given Covid vaccination
3. 50 volunteers were trained and were distributed Covid Kit. Proper training and awareness were provided to them.

Programme	Project Title	Donor Name	Total no of beneficiary	District
Livelihood	Work 4 progress	LA Caixa Foundation & Society for Development Alternatives	315 youth, Men & Women	Mirzapur & Bhadohi
Livelihood	GAVL-Integrated Fishery and Poultry Project	Godrej Agrovet Limited	631 enterprises	Mirzapur, Chakiya & Chandauli

1. **Work for Progress**-Swami Vivekanand Shiksha Samiti is implementing project titled “**Work for progress**” with support from Society for Development Alternatives, New Delhi. The primary funder of the project is LA Caixa foundation. The project is currently being implemented in 9 villages of City block and 5 villages of Channa be block in Mirzapur district & 6 Villages in Bhadohi district of Uttar Pradesh. The project aims to provide technical, market related training and financial linkages for starting a new enterprise or expanding the existing enterprise. Swami Vivekanand Shiksha Samiti plays the vital role of resource mobilization and supports in identification of local enterprises and entrepreneurs. SVSS undertake these through activities such as community meeting, community discussion, personal interviews, sports activities, street plays and others related programs.

2. **Integrated Fishery and Poultry Project**-This will act as supplement income for farmers with small land holdings as well as provide a lucrative business model for women and youth seeking to pursue entrepreneurship. A focus on integrated backyard poultry and fishery models helps to increase the yield and economics/unit time/unit area by virtue of intensification of crops and allied enterprise. The model can make use of recyclable waste material of one component as an input for another thus reducing the cost of cultivation. The solution is also aimed at bridging the gap for increased market demand for poultry and fishery products.

Programme	Project Title	Donor Name	Total no of Child rescued	District	Age Group
Childline	Childline Project 1098	Childline India Foundation		Mirzapur	Up to 18 years

Railway Childline	Railway Childline Project	Childline India Foundation		Mirzapur	
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1. **Childline**- SVSS has started Childline Project in Mirzapur district of Uttar Pradesh. It reaches out to children from 0-18 years. CHILDLINE 1098 is a phone number that spells hope for millions of children across India. It is a 24-hour a day, 365 days a year, free, emergency phone service for children in need of aid and assistance. Childline works for the protection of the rights of all children in general. But its special focus is on all children in need of care and protection, especially the more vulnerable sections. This programme is being implemented in collaboration with the Child India Foundation and supported by Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India. The activities of Childline include: -
 - The CHILDLINE team receives & responds to the calls
 - Crisis Intervention
 - Direct assistance: medical, shelter, protection from abuse, repatriation, death, missing children, intensive counselling
 - On phone: Emotional support and guidance, information and referral to services for the caller, information about CHILDLINE, silent calls
 - Long-term rehabilitation
 - After the emergency needs of the child have been addressed, CHILDLINE explores options with the child to study, learn a trade, go back home etc. Based on the decision of the child, CHILDLINE links the child to an appropriate organisation in the city.
2. **Railway Childline Project**- The largest number of homeless children, pavement dwellers, street and working children, child substance abusers and child beggars left on their own and in need of care and support reside in urban areas. These children suffer extreme deprivation compounded by lack of shelter and access to basic services for survival. Many of them travel from small towns and rural areas to urban areas, alone or with families, in search of livelihood, or hope for a better life, or in anger, or on impulse. A large number of children who run away from their homes use railways as a mode to travel. There are also children who are trafficked and transported through railways. Finally, a number of children get separated from their guardians during the course of their journey through railway. Such children are vulnerable to the harsh reality of street life and are often victims of various forms of abuse; physical, sexual, emotional as well as economic exploitation. They often end up living on their own in streets, market places and especially at railway stations. All these places are transit points for trafficking and need focussed programmes and attention for rescue and rehabilitation.

Glimpse of the Project

