



Annual Report

2023-24



Saral Services

924/3 Mansarovar Height Phase II
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From the desk of Subodh Gupta, Executive Director.....

Dear stakeholders

I am pleased to present the annual report of 2023-24 when Saral expanded our work in 10 middle schools in Nalanda District and established a Digikul computer training center in one of the school. Saral had started ASHA program for weaker students in Government Schools in 2022-23. Same was extended to same number of school and transformed 273 students of 493 enrolled in the ASHA centers. In the Digikul center, 40 youths completed the training of 3 months duration and 28 students of class 7 were given computer orientation class.



This is to thank management of Cochin Shipyard Private Limited, Cochin and Rajiv Gandhi Foundation to consider us suitable partner for implementing education project and training of digital literacy.

We received over 30 lakhs as grant for development work. With this fund, we provided online training on digital literacy to 40 youths during the year. We started ASHA project for 493 weaker students in 10 schools impacting 2500 students of 10 Government middle schools in Nalanda District.

While working with these schools, Saral worked on Bagless day and Daksha, programs of Bihar Education Project (BEP). Bagless day program is a very innovative project and it provided window for the students to learn from sports, activities, environment and peers. Daksha is the program to improve the learning for the weaker students.

We are looking forward to 2024-25 to expand the ASHA model for weaker students that can transform Government schools and skill training model in digital technology.

Regards



Subodh Gupta
Executive Director

Saral Services:

Society for Action Research in Accelerated Livelihood Services (Saral Services) is a Registered Society, launched on 25th January 2005. Saral's mission is to provide multiple services enabling support/promotion of livelihood and quality of life of disadvantaged people.

Saral understands that a large section of community which needs to leverage the power of Information and Technology is deprived of and segregated from the process of development. On the other hand a small section of community is digitally rich and leveraging power of IT to grow and control the growth of others. Digital divide has widened the gap. Though there have been efforts from public and private institutions in establishing information technology infrastructure in digitally poor areas to reduce this divide, but the gap could not be reduced. Saral believes that besides infrastructure, efforts are also required to enhance the capacity of the people to utilize this IT infrastructure effectively. In addition, Organization decided to bridge a special issue of Gender digital divide.

Objectives:

- To build capacity of community in education and skill development that enable them ready for better livelihood and democratic society.
- To do action research on application of power of Information Communication Technology (ICT) in rural & social sector and such action research work that facilitates the use of ICT to benefit the disadvantaged and democratize the process of development.

Thematic Area

Saral aims to empower rural and social agencies working with the poor with the power of ICT to bridge the digital divide. It seeks to not only encourage society to invest in ICT infrastructure in digitally poor areas but also enhance the utilization of ICT infrastructure. Saral Services plans to work on multiple services such as micro finance, livelihood, health, education and training in rural area.

1. Education for children age between 4-14 (Early Childhood and Elementary Education). Our focus is to develop Government middle schools as swadhayalay

centers that develops learning environment during the school timing and beyond the school hours. Based on available funding, select component of learning environment is taken up. Since last three years, we are addressing the issue of weaker children and project based learning in the school as part of bagless day.

2. Training and Education for youths of 15-25 years old based on vocational training. Saral is providing IT based training to unemployed rural youth to make them employable and placing them in agencies to support the IT infrastructure. Through the training, Saral providing the opportunity for equal participation and contribution to the development process to the rural youth.
3. Development of work-station in the rural area for the trained youths. This aims to provide opportunity to the youth to learn and earn from various digital domains - Testing and Deployment of Digital content and portals for development sector with focus on democratize the access to resources including monitoring systems

Operational Area: Bihar, Telangana Target Population: Children, Youth, Farmers and community at large	Chartered Accountant Gali and Associates Hyderabad -500029 Phone - 888-5511-500
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Bank Details

Name of account: Saral Services Name of Bank: Axis Bank Account No: 910010031799574 IFSC Code: UTIB0000008 MICR Code: 500211002 Swift Code: AXISINBBA08 Bank Address: Greenland's Begampet Road, Hyderabad, Telangana, India	Name of Account: Saral Services Name Bank: State Bank of India Account Number: 30012540053 IFSC Code: SBIN0002802 MICR Code: 500002056 Swift Code: SBININBB321 Bank Address: Trimulgherry Branch, Secunderabad, Telangana, India
Name of Account: Saral Services Name of Bank: Punjab National Bank Account Number: 6677000100018361 IFSC Code: PUNB0667700 MICR Code: 0000240000 Bank Address: Rajgir, Nalanda- 803116, Bihar, India	FCRA Account - Account No: 40088371317, STATE BANK OF INDIA, 11 Sansad Marg, New Delhi 110 001, Delhi, Delhi, Delhi, 110001, E-mail: fcra.00691@sbi.co.in,

Legal Status

Society Registration Number : 102/ 2005, Dated: 25.01.2005
 12 A Registration Number : AACAS3046BE20061 for 2022-27
 80 G Registration Number : AACAS3046BF20211 for 2022-27
 FCRA Registration Number : 010230830 renewed on 12-09-2022 for a period of 5 years
 Permanent Account Number : AACAS3046B

Tax Account Number

: HYDS19376A

Activities of 2023-24

A. Digital Skill Development of youth:

Our society is changing rather rapidly. Computers, Smart phone, Internet and Chat GPT have changed the way we live and the way we do our business. Digital technologies are taking roles in our life. In the changing landscape of life and livelihood, we need to prepare the people build their capacity in digital technologies.

The digital divide further deepened with new definition and experiences. Since 2007, we have been delivering training on digital technologies physically and post COVID we started online training. Once again in 2022-23, we started mixed training online as well as physical training. We have trained 600 youths so far.

During 2021-22, with support from IRCTC, we received 7 laptops and printer to start training centre in Nalanda. This training centre later named as Digikul where youth can learn digital technologies. Tie up was done to issue certificate on DCA and ADCA courses. With support from Cochin Shipyard 40 youths were given training of 3 months duration during 2023-24. Initially it was started in Lal Bhawan on rent and then shifted to Vidyapith School in the month of December 2022.

40 trainees were from Silao block, and they were either studying in class X and above or doing part time work. Some of them were working as marketing agent.

Training centre was set up with 20 laptops in Vidyapith school building. On our credentials DEO once again provided letters to all the 10 schools for providing space for library, science lab and computer lab as well as supports for the Saral. On the request from teachers, Digikul center has started orientation class for the students of class 7 and 8. During the year, 28 students were given the computer orientation.

activities as per NEP 2020.

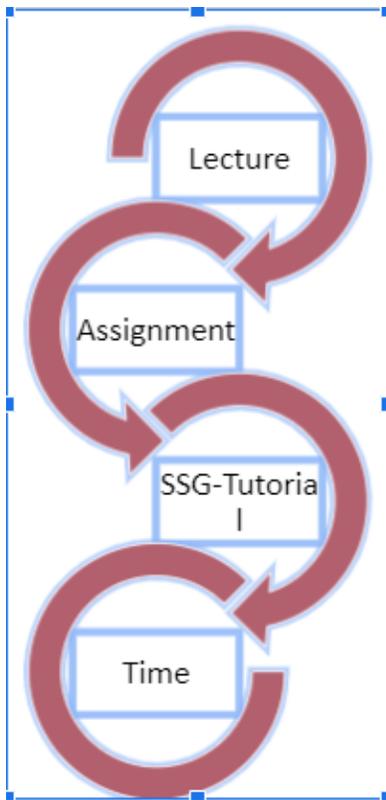


Achievement

1. 3 months training of Digital technologies – 40
2. Cumulative number of youths trained – 1000
3. Students given computer orientation - 28

Training approach followed -

आचार्यात् पादमादत्ते पादं शिष्यः स्वमेधया ।
सब्रह्मचारिभ्यः पादं पादं कालक्रमेण च ॥



Training did not depend only on the lecture class where a teacher taught them one topic. Training design included a platform for other learning spaces such as tutorial classes where our faculties facilitated trainees to learn by doing assignments as well as learn from peers and colleagues. Training design created sadbhavana and swadhyay groups for perpetual learning.

As you see, the teacher teaches the topic through lecture and demo so that the trainees get exposed to the subject and then practice over it by doing the assignment. Selection of assignment was done carefully and that the trainees can do easily and use the learning from the lecture as well as from past understanding.

In the tutorial class, feedback on the assignment is given. Faculties and peers help a trainee to complete the assignment. The tutorial class provides opportunities to connect with peers and learn from them as well.

Since the classes were physical, a full time trainer was deputed and training was delivered to have classes on digital technology aligned with generic syllabus of DCA and ADCA. The difference that we provide is the practice. In fact, we provide incentive for repeated practices of the tools. This has generated interests among the youth and given additional confidence required for seeking job opportunities.

The training centre was used as work station for doing work and earn. Digikul alumni earned by doing the work on election data download and analysis. 24 alumni could get job or earned while working online. One alumni earned as high as 50 thousand in two months.

B. Quality Education in Government Schools

With support from E2E Rail, Saral Services worked with following three Schools in Nalanda in 2021-22.

1. Vidyapith Middle School, Nalanda
2. Adarsh Middle School, Nalanda
3. RB High School, Nalanda

This project was over by March 2022. CSR E2E Rail stopped the funding and therefore, we had to reduce the operation and focus on one school and concept of swadhyay. In the month of January 2023 with support from RGF we expanded the work in ten middle schools of Silao with sharp focus on bridge classes for the students who are unable to read and write. This was implemented under ASHA project of RGF.

ASHA project aimed to bring hope in the students who are struggling to read and write specially from class IV to VIII. 15% of the enrolled students had this problem. Same work continued during 2023-24.



ASHA Centre

We were working in two middle schools till December 2022. We identified eight more schools and conducted the baseline survey for ASHA classes. Our team visited all the ten schools for ASHA project. Schools were selected carefully considering the supportive teachers. On suitable time, ASP arranged the class for weaker students. ASHA center was located in the library.

Books were kept in the library where students could sit and study. In addition, there were events such as Premchand jyanti, Teachers's day and Science day celebration. On the occasion, students and teachers participated and engaged in the intetracton on a subject. Students prepared for the occasion and participated in Eassy competition, Speaking competition and Quiz. Such events motivated students to enjoy learning.

For the baseline project followed ASER toolkit. Using the toolkit we divided the students into four grades – A,B,C and D. Definition of these grade were given below:

A	कहानियां सहज पढ़ लेते हैं
B	शब्द पढ़ लेते हैं, वाक्य नहीं
C	शब्द पढ़ते नहीं
D	अक्षर पहचान नहीं है

Following were the Schools and their locations in Silao Block.

ASHA center	ASP for the Center
MS Adarsh Middle	Ms Chandani Kumari
MS Vidyapith middle school	Mr. Rohit Bharadwaj
MS Kul Middle school	Ms Tanu
Urdu MS Panhesa	Ms Sulat Jahan
MS Sabbait middle	Mr Ranjeet
MS Fatehpur	Ms Deepa Kumari
MS Dharhara	Ms Lovely Kumari
MS Silao	Ms Sweety Kumari
MS Maniyawan	Ms Lovely Pandey

Achievement: Result data

Sr No.	Total	493	275	56%	Ranking
1	Silao	85	63	74%	2
2	Vidyapith	49	29	59%	4
3	Sabbait	37	14	38%	8
4	Adarsh	76	37	49%	6
5	Maniyawan	54	32	59%	3
6	Dharhara	49	40	82%	1
7	Kul	22	2	9%	10
8	Bhadari	19	4	21%	9
9	Panhessa	49	27	55%	5
10	Fatehpur	53	24	45%	7

Project worked with 493 students where 100% students were in category b,c and d. The aim was to bring 300 students into A grade within a period of 3 months. We have succeeded in transforming 275 students into grade A. With time enrolment do increase as there are new admission. At the time of baseline the enrolment was only 352 students.

Learning goals for ASHA students

A list of 10 story and poem from the textbook was done in a such a manner that they are simple. In preparing the list, Saral team consulted with teachers from all the ten schools. One of them was a song and not from their textbook. This was included as it was the theme song. This list was prepared over a period of three months.

Initially project started the learning the words that they use in their home and in the school interactions. Later they started the story and poem they liked. Over a period the list was prepared based on the story and the poem children liked. Later we focused only on those ten story/poems. Focus was important to have impact and change in the behaviour.

1	बिना जड़ का पेड़
2	दानी पेड़
3	बचपन के दिन
4	चार मित्र
5	शेर का सवा शेर
6	चांद का कुर्ता
7	कदम का पेड़
8	सीखो
9	तू जिंदा है तो
10	छोटी सी आशा

Atmanirvar Swadhyay Prerak (ASP)

Though teaching is the job and responsibility of the teachers in the Government School, but they requested Saral Services to take the responsibility and appoint a teacher to take the task of teaching such weak student. Project did not have such budget to place a full time teacher in every school. A volunteer was identified later named as ASP. For part time, a motivator ASP was placed for every school. These ASP were given training every month and small honorarium to compensate their cost for the time. These ASP are the local youths from the community who wishes to give their time to bring change.

Science through experiments

In school, teachers teach Science like literature without experiments. Saral believed that learning science is not possible without experimenting. Project identified four ASPs who went

to two schools in pair and demonstrated experiments for the children. Science Day was celebrated and asked students to do experiments on what they have learnt in the class. 14 students of class V to class VIII participated in the science experiments. 5 girls students also participated. Simple experiments such as candle extinguished



November 11, 2023 – Science Exhibition on Education Day

when there is no oxygen. After the experiment, student explained the phenomena and told the science behind it. A jury was formed to evaluate and select one that was the best.

The event was followed by experiments in the classroom.

Sports including yoga and cleanliness

Saral believed that sports is integral part of personality growth of a child. It not only develops good health, it provides platform to learn teamwork, plan winning strategy and brotherhood (sadbhavana). Sports also teaches as how to learn from failure.

Yoga was started among the children. Kabbadi sports was introduced. ASP in Silao facilitated games such as Kabadi, Kho Kho and Chess. Our team has encouraged the initiative of our students in sports.



Engagement of parents:

Engagement of parents is must for the purpose of transforming the school. ASP were given training for motivating parents to attend the monthly meeting in the school. To build the association, morning yoga started in the schools. One parent took the responsibility of continuing the efforts of practicing the yoga regularly.



Parents teachers meeting held – 50 meetings in 10 schools and the average parents attended the meeting – 25.

In these parent's meetings, mostly mother come. They raised issues about entitlements. Our team facilitated these meetings where ASP presented the ASHA intervention and importance of sending the children to the school. Teachers often raised issue of the absence of the children. As a NGO, raised the issue of understanding the interest of their children and their growth. Parents meeting helped in getting the children attendance better.

Challenges and way forward:

Working with children on education, is challenging as the Government has become hard on any new intervention by NGO in the State. Since Saral has the letter from the DEO to work in these 10 schools till 2024-25, Saral planned to work only in 10 schools. Saral team is focusing on the work on the computer training. Youths have shown interest. Government is positive about digital literacy among the children. Saral hope to expand work on the digital literacy theme. In addition, Saral will explore the work in partnership with Jeevika to strengthen the parents participation in building the learning environment of learning.

SOCIETY FOR ACTION RESEARCH AND ACCELERATED LIVELIHOOD SERVICES
(SARAL SERVICES)
BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31.03. 2024

Particulars	Note	As at 31st March, 2024	As at 31st March, 2023
Sources Of Funds			
Corpus Fund		5,000	5,000
General Reserve	1	1,238,581	139,259
Current Liabilities	2	34,635	299,552
Short Term Provisions	3	11,800	11,800
Total		1,290,016	455,611
Assets			
Non Current Assets			
Property, plant & equipment and intangible assets			
-Property, plant & equipment	4	311,304	104,973
Other current assets	5	302,483	302,483
Cash and Cash Equivalents	6	676,229	48,155
Total		1,290,016	455,611

ACCOUNTING POLICIES & NOTES TO ACCOUNTS

12

As per my report of even date

For Gali & Associates

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

G. Venkateswarlu

G Venkateswarlu

Proprietor

ICAI Firm Reg. No.: 016102S | M. No.: 228934

UDIN: 24228934 BKAPYX6618

Place: Hyderabad

Date: 26-09-2024

for Society For Action Research in Accelerated
Livelihood Services (SARAL SERVICES)

Subodh Kumar Gupta
Subodh Kumar Gupta
Executive Director

Dr. Sankar Datta
Dr. Sankar Datta
Director



SOCIETY FOR ACTION RESEARCH AND ACCELERATED LIVELIHOOD SERVICES
(SARAL SERVICES)
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.03.2024

Particulars	Note	For the Period Ended 31st March, 2024	For the Period Ended 31st March, 2023
Revenue			
IT & hr Services			
Donations & Grants Received	7	2,988,791	850,000
Other Income	8	18,939	30,834
Total		3,007,730	880,834
Expenses			
Direct Programme Expenditure	9	1,728,136	1,479,097
Other administrative overheads	10	63,519	195,775
Depreciation	11	116,753	14,347
Total Expenses		1,908,408	1,689,219
Excess of Income over Expenditure transferred to General Reserve		1,099,322	(808,385)

ACCOUNTING POLICIES & NOTES TO ACCOUNTS

12

As per my report of even date

For Gali & Associates

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

G Venkateswarlu

G Venkateswarlu

for Society For Action Research in Accelerated Livelihood
Services (SARAL SERVICES)

Subodh Kumar Gupta

Subodh Kumar Gupta

Dr. Sahakar Datta

Dr. Sahakar Datta



Details of Board Members

- Dr.V.P.Gulati []: Consulting Advisor, Tata Consultancy Service, he has a career spanning over three decades of intensive Research, Academics, Institution Building and Administrative activities, resulting in quality professional output in Technology, Management, administration and Consulting.
- Mrs. Lavanya Chandra[Vice Chairperson]: A Fellow Member of the institute of Company Secretaries of India, New Delhi, She is a professional with 20 years experience who has worked as Finance Manager and Company Secretary in various organizations after qualifying as a Company Secretary in 1988.
- Mr.Subodh Gupta: An engineer from IIT, has been involved in development sector for more than 25 years and worked extensively for livelihood development and M&E. He is the founder of Saral Services. In 2008, he was awarded the “Indira Gandhi Sadbhavna Award” for his achievements in the field of IT.
- Dr. Sankar Datta [Chairman]: Is a development professional, who has been engaged in rural livelihood promotion/ support activities for more than three decades since early 1980’s. He is co founder of Basix and recently worked as Professor in the Azim Premji University, Bengaluru. He was also the member of faculty of premier institutions of India. Academically he did B Sc. [Ag& AH] with Post Graduate Diploma in Rural Management and Ph.D in Economics.
- Dr.P.J.Narayanan: Professor & Director of IIIT Hyderabad working in Computer Vision, Computer Graphics, Image Processing, and Virtual Reality. He has completed Ph.D 1992, University of Maryland, USA. He brings with him rich experience that he gathered by working in various capacities such as Development Engineer, Research Faculty Member & Head of Computer vision & virtual reality in various eminent.
- Mr. PK Raghav[Treasurer], Retired Government officer from Indian Railway currently promoting yoga for all. Government sent him to Ethiopia as Yoga teacher for two years. His passion is “For healthy body, mind and soul, yoga is must”. He is based at Delhi.

SARAL SERVICES:

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