



J. & K. 'SAISTAR' SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT-2020



**Sai Star Society is an active member of UNGC
since August, 2009**

Brigadier Amarjit Singh Randwal (Retd)

President, J&K Sai Star Society

“Healthcare, Education & Environment”

“Welfare of Ex-servicemen & Widows”

J&K SAI STAR Society

(Annual Report for year 2019-20)

Nagrota Gujroo, Ramkot, Jammu- 184210, (J&K) INDIA

*** Registered No. 4680/S, under J&K Govt. Act VI of 1998 (1941 AD),**

****Member United Nations Global Compact**

*****Donations exempted from Income Tax under Sec 80 G of the IT Act**

Committed to: - “Ex-servicemen Welfare, Healthcare & Education”

1. Sainiks, Agriculturists and Intellectuals Society for Total Agrarian Rural Reforms (***Sai Star***) are a charitable NGO dedicated to improve the quality of life of rural population in Remote villages. The Society is mainly devoted to Rural Development, Promotion of Youth Activities and Adventure Sports, Healthcare, Environment up-gradation, empowerment of Women , Children; *Welfare of Ex-servicemen and widows.*

Vision

2. To improve quality of life of rural population by sustainable development at grass root level.

Mission

3. All-inclusive development by working at gross root level and employing sustainable technologies and information with regard to Healthcare, education, agriculture. Correct use of natural resources and environment with special emphasis on empowerment of women, children and ***specially welfare of ex-servicemen and widows.***

Area of Work & Methodology

4. The Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh has geographical area of 2.22 lakhs sq. kilometers which is 6.93 percent of total Indian Territory. Out of total area Ladakh covers 70%, Jammu 19% and Kashmir 11%. As per 2001 census population of the State is one Crore and 70 thousands; population density per sq. km is 99 and 75.12% of the people live in rural areas. There are 22 Districts, 6758 villages, 143 Blocks and 4378 Panchayats. There are no major Industries in the State and thus corporate social responsibilities (CSR) activities are almost non-existent.

5. It was observed that some of the remote areas of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh are most neglected specially in the field of Education and Healthcare. Keeping this in view *SAI STAR SOCIETY* has undertaken rural development work in backward areas of Udhampur and Kathua Districts of Jammu Division. People living Below Poverty Line (BPL) are worst sufferers and need Civil Society intervention. This Society area of intervention specifically covers more than 100 Panchayats of Basoli, Billawar, Ramkot and Majalta Tehsils.

6. Sai Star Society being NGO member of the United Nations Global Compact is also adhering to its ten principle charter. The Society embraces the core values of integrity, excellence, professionalism and optimism.

Activities during the year 2019-20

7. Focus of the Society has been to create facilities and awareness in the rural areas on Self-Help basis, which will act as pivots for grass root social work in consonance with overall mission. This is being achieved through "*Shamdasani SaiStar Helpline*" (*SSS helpline*), as Society Focal Point, which are co-located with the Society Office at Nagrota Gujroo on Dhar-Udhampur Road.

Development Work Undertaken and Impact on Target Group

8. Health and Family Welfare.

- (a) Society Ambulance was provided for conveyance of patients from Helpline to Hospitals/ Polyclinics and nearest medical facilities.
- (b) Healthcare of veterans and Veer Naries was taken care through ESM Healthcare Polyclinic and the Society acting as facilitator. Daily footfall at ECHS Polyclinic is above 50 patients, who are provided medical treatment, Healthcare and other assistance.

9. Education & Youth Activities.

- (a) Fine Arts and Crafts course was conducted by the Society from Jan to Mar 2020, in which rural Girls were trained in Fine Arts, Stitching and Tailoring.
- (b) Since the year 2009, this Society is providing Internship Training to Post Graduate (MBA) Students of SP Jain Institute of Management & Research (SPJIMR), Mumbai, which is one of the *TOP TEN* Management Training Institute in India. This year based on a request from Chairperson, Department of Corporate Citizenship of SPJIMR three students were provided guidance and following project studies were carried out and implemented from 12 Mar to 10 Apr 2020:-
 - (i) Mr Suraj Salunkhe, B Tech Graduate from VJIT Mumbai undertook the Project--Designed & Implemented “Water Conservation Mission “by creating awareness about minimizing wastage, enhancing storage above & below ground, and rain water harvesting in rural area of Jammu.
 - (ii) Mr Arpit Bhatt, Graduate from Institute of Chartered Accounts of India, worked on the project; Designed & Executed a campaign to sensitize students in rural area of J&K towards importance of education and trying to bridge gap between students and industry stalwarts digitally.
 - (iii) Miss Taniya Karmarkar, B.Tech (Electrical Engineering) from NIT Durgapur; Designed & Executed a campaign to sensitize students in rural area of J&K towards importance of education and trying to bridge gap between students and industry stalwarts digitally.
- (c) High School Babey which is located in remote area and was Up-

graded with efforts of the Society has been adopted. Students of this School are being provided assistance/ counseling.

10. Welfare of Ex-Servicemen, Widows and local Marginalized Community.

- (a) Large number of Ex-servicemen was provided assistance in their pension related cases and some of them were taken up with various Regimental Record offices pertaining to arrears in their dues.
- (b) Veterans/ widow pensioners and their Dependents were provided assistance in Healthcare through Polyclinic.
- (c) Female Patients and widows were provided assistance & counseling through Lady Counselor by the Helpline.
- (d) Ex-servicemen and Widow Pensioners were provided assistance in becoming ECHS Members by preparing documents for them.

11. General Welfare and Miscellaneous Work.

- (a) Environment awareness campaign is being organized in rural areas. An Environmental park is being established and sample medicinal plants have been procured and planted in Nursery.
- (b) Special assistance was provided to BPL, persons in distress and deserving girl students.

12. Shamdasani SaiStar Helpline.

Scope of SSS Helpline sponsored by “The Shamdasani Foundation” has been enlarged to include rural empowerment. The Helpline is co-located with the Society Office at Nagrota Gujroo, Km 67 in the center of 135 Km long Dhar- Udhampur Road. It provides support to an area of 1200 Sq. Km in Shivalik Hills consisting of more than 100 Panchayats of Tehsil Majalta of Udhampur District and Tehsils Billawar, Ramkot & Basoli of Kathua District of Jammu UT. In addition to civil population, it is providing assistance to approx. 8,000 Ex-servicemen and their Dependents living in the area.

SaiStar Career Awareness Project (SS CAP)

13. A study was carried out by Post Graduate Management students of S P Jain Institute of Management & Research, Mumbai under the aegis of J&K Sai Star Society. The study project on the education and employment scenario revealed that the J&K UT lacks in all the key indicators of educational development. Situation of Higher Education in this newly created Union Territory is even worse. In terms of access, J&K has only 108 colleges, which is hardly 0.4% of the total in the country, whereas it has 1.03 % of the total population of the country. It suffers from a high pupil teacher ratio and a lack of private institutions and universities. Participation is low with a 13% Gross enrolment ratio and nearly 63% dropout rate. The J&K board is one of the low performing boards of education in the country. There is a misalignment between the education and employment sectors of the state which can be attributed to labor supply demand mismatch, scrotal mismatch, skill education mismatch and geographic mismatch. All these factors contribute towards the problem of unemployment and unemployability in the state. An interesting finding was that incidence of unemployment among the educated is much higher than the overall unemployment.

14. A survey of school students in Classes 10th, 11th and 12th revealed that there is a lack of awareness about higher education, vocational and professional training and job opportunities in the focus area of Kathua and Udhampur districts. This confirmed the assessment of the need of a matching institution/ mechanism to guide students and help them make informed choices. The Study team had interacted with more than 2000 students in 10 schools and 2 colleges in 2 districts of Jammu province.

15. The Project report recommended bridging the information gap through means such as career awareness campaigns and a helpline. It envisaged the use of an information system which is updated with latest information about courses, institutes and jobs relevant to the local students.

16. Keeping above in view, it was felt that a Career Counseling campaign for Higher & Vocational Education Awareness will be able to bridge this information gap.

17. The Project.

. (a) To design Educational & Career Awareness Campaign for students studying in Rural Schools.

(b) Further the scope includes the introduction of the youth to national level institutions for learning and skill development and helping them in application and examination related queries, and in Career Counseling. The campaign will endeavor to create awareness about role and importance of higher education and vocational and professional training. It also encompasses the information about various opportunities of education and employment and the advantages and prerequisites of each of them. Further, the campaign will aim to motivate and encourage the youth to choose fields of education according to their interests and needs of the industry.

18. The Project described will endeavor to bridge gap through Career Counseling for Higher and Vocational Training in Rural area of Jammu Province of J&K, which is subsumed as educationally backward in reference to established indices namely literacy rate, teacher pupil ratio, dropout rate. It is envisaged that a suitably modified Vehicle equipped with audio visual system where information can be imparted to the students by way of Power Point Presentation and personal Interaction by a Counselor/Mentor.

Free Breakfast Programme for Needy School Children

19. It was felt that there is a need to nurture school-going children in rural areas & disadvantaged sections of the society with nutritious breakfast, while also catering for their emotional and spiritual needs as most of the poor children who come to school hungry and wait for the Mid-day meal provided by the Govt, thus ignore their study.

20. With this aim in view J&K Sai Star Society with active assistance from Sri Sathya Sai Annapoorna Trust Muddenahalli, Karnataka started Free Breakfast in Govt Schools in Kathua & Udhampur Districts on 30 Oct 2019. In the initial phase this service has been provided to 340 students in seven G

Middle & High Schools. It is planned to expand this facility to cover more Schools and the Society is looking for donors for the same.

Community Development

21. A community Development Centre (CDC) at village Babey, Udhampur is being maintained and run by the Society for welfare of rural public.

To empower Villagers the Society provides individual citizens and village Panchayats members with knowledge and confidence to become informed active self-advocates for the development of the community.

Cooperation with other NGOs to achieve the Objectives

22. The Society has achieved excellent networking with sister NGOs, specially, HP Sanstha, Ex-servicemen league Jammu, Indian Red Cross Society, International Committee for Development & cooperation (IRDRC). The Society also interacts with NGO at National Level.

We Support - United Nations Global compact

23. J&K Sai Star Society is a NGO Member of United Nations Global Compact and adhering to its Charter & Ten Principles. The Society participated in activities of UN Global Compact India at New Delhi.

24. Environment.

(a) **Herbal Garden.** The Society is actively working towards up-gradation of environment and awareness in rural area. It has established an Environmental Park on Dhar- Udhampur Road in Jammu & Kashmir State. The Society is planning to establish an Herbal Garden “Arogaya Vatika” in this Park for which a Project Report has been prepared with the assistance from the Department of Corporate Citizens SP Jain Institute of Management & Research, Mumbai. Total Cost of the Project is Rs Sixteen Lakhs over a period of 3 Years for which funds are needed.

(b) **Water Conservation Mission.** A study was carried out by Post Graduate Management students of S P Jain Institute of Management

& Research, Mumbai under the aegis of J&K Sai Star Society. The study project Designed and implemented ‘Water Conservation Mission’ by creating awareness about minimizing wastage, enhancing storage above & below ground, and rain water harvesting in area of our intervention.

25. Seminars & Conferences.

J&K Sai Star Society Participated in the following Conferences and Seminars during the period under review:

- (a) National Security Seminar- 2019, conducted by United Services Institution of India (USI) on “Transnational Terrorism: Evolving Threats and Responses” at New Delhi on 07-08 Nov 2019.
- (b) “Times Litfeast” organized by The Times of India Group of News Papers at New Delhi on 30 Nov & 01 Dec 2019.
- (c) Delhi Gymkhana Club Ltd Literature Festival held in New Delhi on 22 & 23 Feb 2020.

26. Society Boucher & Website.

Boucher of the Society has been edited giving updated information regarding activities of the Society and printed in form of a Multicolored Leaflet for wider circulation. Copy of the same is at Annexure 1 attached. Website of the Society, www.saistar.co.in has also be redesigned and updated.

27. Way Ahead - Future Action Plan.

- (a) Water Conservation Mission & to construct a Check Dam for water conservation at Environmental Park site.
- (b) Environment up-gradation and Clean India Mission (Swash Bharat Abihan).
- (c) To establish an Herbal Garden in remote rural area.

Summary

28. Sai Star Society works with rural people and communities to create sustainable programs and has been able to achieve most the objectives set for the Year, like improving Healthcare in rural areas and Career Awareness Project for rural students. There has been significant impact during the year under review in improving quality of life of the rural people in the target area of intervention, especially Healthcare awareness and Vocational Education. The Society has made major contribution with regard to welfare of ex-servicemen veterans, particularly Healthcare and Veteran's age related issues.

29. During the Year the Society has also Started Free Breakfast Programme "Annoapoorna" for needy School Children in Govt Schools.

30. Sai Star Society Website "www.saistar.co.in" has been redesigned in consonance with our revised mission specific activities. It has also been made Donor Friendly by incorporating payment gateway. The Society Face book page has been updated and large number of people have visited and shown interest in these sites. Information about the society is also in public domain on Government of India NGO Darpan Website- www.ngodarpan.gov.in.

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(Brigadier Amarjit Randwal, (Retd))

President

No.4680/S/R/2020

Dated-07/4/2020

**"GOD grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,
Courage to change the things I can,
And Wisdom to know the difference."**

