

**VIDYA BHAWAN SOCIETY**

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **2020-21**



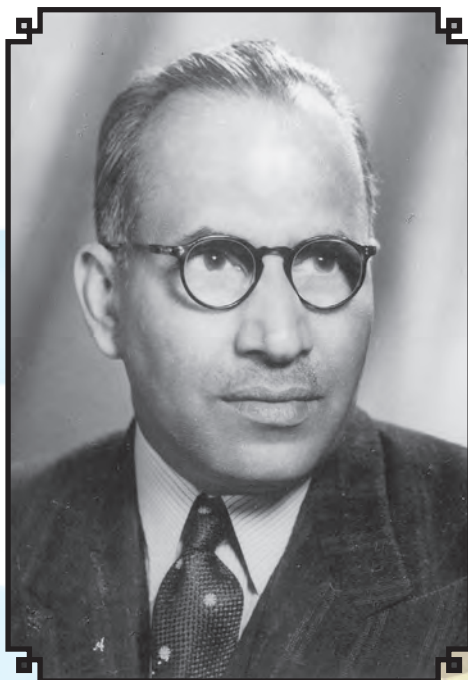
## **Aims and Objects of Vidya Bhawan**

1. To promote sound education, which implies the full and harmonious development of the individual according to his or her aptitude with a sense of social responsibility.
2. To develop a broad and open-minded outlook on life and a healthy sense of citizenship.
3. To disseminate sound ideas on education among parents, teachers, guardians, policy makers and administrators in particular and people in general.
4. To conduct and promote educational experiments and research.
5. To promote vocational and professional education based on employment needs of the society at large.
6. To promote social, educational and economic development of rural and urban society.
7. To promote adult literacy and continuing education.
8. To promote environmental avenues and conservation. To promote values, based on equal respect for people of all races, religion, gender, social and economic background.



## Dr. Mohan Sinha Mehta

Founder, Vidya Bhawan  
(1895-1985)



*Its positive purpose was to provide for children an atmosphere of freedom for growth, and to promote in them a sense of civic responsibility. No doubt, this might in due course undermine our out-of-date social structure and the strongholds of reactionary forces. But the staff and students of Vidya Bhawan would not, it was clear, line up behind external organisations for any sectional or political ends.'*

*Mohan Sinha Mehta*

*(Naidu, P.S. ed. 1960. The Story of Vidya Bhawan. Silver Jubilee Volume (1931-1956), Part 1, Vidya Bhawan Society, Udaipur, 1960, p. 7)*

*'Given the necessary spirit of humility and patient accommodation, truth and sincerity can be left to themselves to win their battles against ignorance, prejudice and misrepresentation.'*  
*(First Annual Report, p. 15)*





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## OFFICE BEARERS (All positions as on 31.03.2021)

Members of Board of Control		
1	Shri Ajay Mehta	President
2	Shri Dilip Galundia	Vice President
3	Shri Hemant Kumar Bohra	Hon. Secretary
4	Shri Revati Raman Shrimali	Hon. Treasurer
5	Shri Salil Singhal	Member
6	Shri M.K. Agarwal	Member
7	Shri Kulbhushan Kothari	Member
8	Shri Riaz Tehsin	Member
9	Shri Siddharth	Member
10	Vacant on 17.08.2020	Member
11	Dr. Anurag Priyadarshree	Mukhya Sanchalak (Ex-Officio)
12	Shri Prasoon Kumar	Education Advisor (Ex-Officio)
13	Shri Shailendra Singh	Organising Secretary (Ex-Officio)
Members of Executive Committee		
1	Shri Ajay S. Mehta	President
2	Shri Dilip Galundia	Vice President
3	Shri Hemant Kumar Bohra	Hon. Secretary
4	Shri Revati Raman Shrimali	Hon. Treasurer
5	Shri Riaz Tehsin	Former President
6	Prof. Arun Chaturvedi	Member
7	Smt. Chandralekha Bharti	Member
8	Dr. Deoki Nandan Dani	Member
9	Shri Dinesh Galundia	Member
10	Dr. F.S. Mehta	Member
11	Shri Gopal Krishna Bumb	Member
12	Shri Harish Mathur	Member
13	Shri Kezar Ali Kurabadwala	Member
14	Shri Liaquat Hussain	Member
15	Smt. Neelima Khetan	Member
16	Dr. Sayeed Ahmed	Member
17	Shri CSR Mehta	Member
18	Shri Shyam Sundar Somani	Member
19	Shri Surendra Jain	Member
20	Shri Naveen Vyas	Member
21	Prof. Farida Khan	Member
22	Dr. Daya Dave	Member
23	Dr. Suraj Jacob	Member
24	Dr. Anurag Priyadarshree	Mukhya Sanchalak
25	Shri Prasoon Kumar	Education Advisor
26	Shri Shailendra Singh	Organising Secretary
27	Shri Akhil Prakash Trivedi	Chief Finance Officer
Member of Finance Committee		
1	Shri Revati Raman Shrimali	Hon. Treasurer
2	Shri Hemant Kumar Bohra	Hon. Secretary
3	Shri Gopal Krishna Bumb	Member
4	Shri Mahendra Bapna	Member
5	Dr. Anil Kumar Kothari	Member
6	Dr. Anurag Priyadarshree	Mukhya Sanchalak
7	Shri Akhil Prakash Trivedi	Chief Finance Officer



## HEADS OF INSTITUTIONS

Institute	Head	Contact Details
Vidya Bhawan Senior Secondary School, Fatehpura	Shri Pushpraj Ranawat Principal	Tel: 0294 – 2411095 Email: pushpraj@vidyabhawan.in Website: www.vbsschool.org
Vidya Bhawan Senior Secondary School, Ramgiri	Smt. Renu Jadhav Principal	Tel: 0294 – 2450806 Email: renu@vidyabhawan.in Website: www.vbbschool.org
Vidya Bhawan Public School	Smt. Neerja Jain Principal	Tel: 0294 – 2421170 Email: neerja.jain@vidyabhawan.in Website: www.vbpublicschool.org
Vidya Bhawan Govindram Seksaria Teacher's College	Shri Arvind Singh Ashiya Officiating In charge	Tel: 0294 – 2451814 Email: arvind@vidyabhawan.in Website: www.vbgsstc.org
Vidya Bhawan Gandhian Institute of Educational Studies	Smt. Bhagwati Ahir Principal	Tel: 0294 – 2450806 Email: vbhagwati@vidyabhawan.in Website: www.vbgies.org
Vidya Bhawan Rural Institute	Dr. T.P. Sharma Director	Tel: 0294 – 2450403, 2453088 Email: tpsharma@vidyabhawan.in Website: www.vbriudaipur.org
Vidya Bhawan Polytechnic College	Shri Anil Mehta Principal	Tel: 0294 – 2451309, 2452997 Email: polypr@vidyabhawan.in
Vidya Bhawan Krishi Vigyan Kendra	Shri Deepak Jain Officiating In charge	Tel: 0294 – 2451313, 2450922 Email: deepak.jain@vidyabhawan.in Website: www.vbvk.org
Vidya Bhawan Prakriti Sadhna Kendra	Shri R.L. Shrimal Coordinator	Tel: 0294 – 2450911 Email: rshrimal@vidyabhawan.in
Vidya Bhawan Education Resource Center	Smt. Preeti Misra Director	Tel: 0294 – 2451497 Email: preeti@vidyabhawan.in

### Vidya Bhawan Society Office

President	Shri Ajay Singh Mehta
Mukhya Sanchalak	Dr. Anurag Priyadarshiee
Organizing Secretary	Shri Shailendra Singh Barath
Education Advisor	Shri Prasoon Kumar
Chief Finance Officer	Shri Akhil Prakash Trivedi
Manager (HR)	Smt. Richa Bhandari
Tel: 0294-2450911, 2451679 Email: vbs@vidyabhawan.in Website: www.vidyabhawan.in	



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The year that has passed was marked by the Covid pandemic. Physical attendance of students was stopped by government orders in April, 2020. Under the guidance of Mukhya Sanchalak, Shri Anurag Priyadarshree, Vidya Bhawan was quick to recognise that teaching would have to go online and he enabled teaching staff to adapt to this new reality. Even though only a few staff members had experience of online teaching they showed tremendous willingness to learn how to teach through the distance mode. In June, a major survey was undertaken under the guidance of Prof. Rama Kant Agnihotri to assess the extent which students had devices so that they could learn online. It was estimated that between 50 to 60% had effective access to online teaching. Besides the survey on devices, information was collected on the socio-economic profile of students in Vidya Bhawan. The study indicated that 72% of students belong to families where the average monthly income is less than 15,000 per month. It also indicated that 66% of Vidya Bhawan students' mothers' education did not exceed middle school. The study was useful because it reaffirmed Vidya Bhawan's impression that the majority of students in Vidya Bhawan come from modest socio-economic background and that providing them with a good education is a contribution to society.

In view of the dislocation caused to the livelihoods of families during the Pandemic period, efforts were made to raise funds to help students to carry on their education. By the end of the year, Vidya Bhawan could raise 1.5 crores. 60% of this amount came from donors abroad. This fund has helped 800 students to continue their studies. No words of gratitude are adequate to all the donors, individuals and companies that

responded to Vidya Bhawan's appeal for support. But for them not only would many students have dropped out, Vidya Bhawan itself would have gone into a debt trap. By the end of the year at the level of operating costs we had a surplus of 18 lakhs. The total deficit was Rs. 1.86 crore on account of our gratuity obligations. This reassuring performance on the finance front owes a great deal to the leadership of Anurag ji. He took measures to rationalise costs and motivated staff to accept salary deferrals to cope with the shortage of liquidity. Overall, between the many small donors and the regular donors, Hindustan Zinc Ltd., Indigo, Bajaj group of companies, India Shelter Finance Corporation Ltd., and Colgate, Vidya Bhawan retained all its staff without cutting their salaries.

During the course of the year Vidya Bhawan was able to improve its infrastructure, in virtually all its ten institutions. With the generous grant from the Bajaj Foundation new classrooms were built, a library renovated, playing fields improved, an open-air theatre created and a structure renovated to house the Gandhi Peace Centre. This building called the "Gandhi Swaraj and Peace Centre" is designed to be the hub for Gandhian thoughts and practice for Vidya Bhawan and the community at large.

On the staff front, it was humbling to see colleagues cooperate and make sacrifices to keep Vidya Bhawan alive. Staff earning above Rs. 10,000 were requested to accept salary deferrals in the range of 10 to 30% of that salary. They were appreciative of the fact that no one was asked to leave their jobs, other than those on short term contracts. Even for contract staff, special efforts were made to help them find alternative employment. The





positive attitude of staff was to manifest itself palpably during the second wave of the pandemic. The Executive Committee had proposed that Vidya Bhawan celebrate its 90th anniversary year Vidya Bhawan staff members, responded enthusiastically to this idea and made it an occasion to foster institution wide discussions on how it can adapt its educational interventions to the future needs of a good society.

On the academic side, it is difficult to benchmark ourselves with other institutions. While Vidya Bhawan's academic results may not compare favorably with the best performing institutions in Udaipur, the overall educational ambience on Vidya Bhawan encourages learning and self-confidence. There is regularity of teaching and there are multiple opportunities for students to participate in activities such as sports, theatre, music, chess, access to libraries, metallurgy and carpentry workshops and being with nature. More than anything else, staff are given to encouraging students feel positive about themselves. One important aspect of the effort to give students a positive identity is to promote in Vidya Bhawan multilingualism. In the words of Rama Kant Agnihotri, Professor Emeritus at Vidya Bhawan:

"Vidya Bhawan respects diversity, be it religious, social, cultural or linguistic. We do need to focus on linguistic diversity, as language not only constitutes the basis of our individual and collective identity but is also the source of all our knowledge. Most people think language is just a medium, a tool meant for communication. This is far from being true. Language is constitutive of all our knowledge; all conceptual constructs inevitably get coded in, and only in, language. And language itself needs to be understood as multilingualism as all human groups and therefore all classrooms are by default multilingual. Depending on

the context, person, place and topic, we use a variety of styles, registers and languages. Students bring different kinds of linguistic repertoire to the classroom and if we wish them understand what we are saying, we need to hear their voices. The level of comprehension is inversely proportional to the level of silence; allow for maximal articulation for each child. Contemporary research shows that languages of learners can be used as a resource for both cognitive growth and more effective pedagogy."

This year a Committee was constituted under the leadership of Dr. Suraj Jacob, previously Mukhya Sanchalak, to explore how the quality of civic education in Vidya Bhawan can be enhanced using the formal curriculum and also through informal interactions among students and staff members. Dr. Suraj describes the ambition for civic education and social leadership in the following passage:

"Even prior to the pandemic, Vidya Bhawan was going through a process of internal changes to address financial, staffing and organisational issues. While on the one hand the pandemic has heightened these challenges, on the other hand it has perhaps also vindicated Vidya Bhawan's emphasis on a community of care – translating into respectful and supportive relations among students and among staff, between students and staff, and with their families and communities. In the flux created by the pandemic, we at Vidya Bhawan reaffirm our commitment to a society with greater social justice and democracy in the face of troubling inequalities and curbing of freedoms. While we have a long way to go as we make internal changes for strengthening financial and organisational sustainability, we believe that our foundational vision – education for transforming social relations – continues to be deeply relevant even as



the world changes and dominant values change.

One of our learnings, both from our internal changes and from the pandemic, is that it is important to rethink prevalent models of leadership. It is understandable that technological change, increasing marketization, and the demands of donor accounting are together strengthening the notion that 'leadership' is substantively about techno-managerial skills. No doubt such skills are very important. And yet leadership should also be about connecting everyday activities to larger collective goals, and importantly, about reflecting on values, and asking what our various endeavours mean for respectful and just social relations. Vidya Bhawan's forte, education, provides us a natural crucible for this: the vision of education for transformative social relations also implies the preparation of such leaders among our students and staff. Indeed, the founder Dr. Mohan Sinha Mehta (Bhai Sb.) envisioned Vidya Bhawan as a space that would create leaders to respond to the challenges of nation-building and social transformation. Even as we face immediate financial and organisational challenges, we remind ourselves that ultimately Vidya Bhawan's importance lies in this longer arc of transformation."

This year has been important for Vidya Bhawan. It has tried to make sense of the immense suffering of people who fell ill, lost their loved ones and the disruption of the lives of millions of people, specially migrant labour. Vidya Bhawan would like to orient itself to being sensitive to what is happening in the world, specially be aware of those who are stigmatised, made victims of poverty and denied democratic freedoms.

I would like to take this occasion to thank the Board of Control, Executive and Finance Committee members for

their guidance over the course of the year. My special gratitude to Shri Anurag Priyadarshee, for his remarkable leadership at the time that the Covid-19 pandemic afflicted Vidya Bhawan. He was quick to understand the implications of Pandemic and took proactive steps to protect staff members and students from contracting the virus. He also took firm steps to deal with the financial crisis that followed the lockdown. His leadership after December of 2020 was not available as he fell ill and had to go on medical leave.

I would also like to record my gratitude to Shri Prasoon Kumar, Educational Advisor for taking the responsibility for producing this Annual Report. He made great efforts to encourage colleagues to treat the writing of the annual report as not just the sum of events and activities undertaken during the course of the year, but also as reflections on the vision of Vidya Bhawan as embodied in everyday practices. Prasoon feels disappointed that the deep reflections of colleagues shared in many forums have not found voice in the report. I have no doubt that over the years many will find their voice and give fuller expression of their views with respect to the purpose of education in our times. The editing of the report has been done by Professor Rama Kant Agnihotri, Sh. Kamal Mahendroo and Professor A.L. Khanna. It is Vidya Bhawan's good fortune that scholars of such eminence give their time for tasks that many of their stature would consider mundane. Finally my gratitude to all colleagues in Vidya Bhawan for their efforts and dedication throughout this difficult year. It is they who give hope that Vidya Bhawan can excel as an institution by their reflexive identification with the aims of Vidya Bhawan.

**(Ajay S. Mehta)**  
President



# EDUCATION ADVISOR'S REPORT

The academic year 2020-21 will go down in history for all the wrong reasons because of the pandemic that impacted all. Many lost their dear ones. Economically, families got ruined, and individual income decreased.

The report highlights how the pandemic impacted Vidya Bhawan and how it coped with, long it brought for course correction.

## **Support to Retain Students**

The pandemic created a situation for many students to leave education—an overwhelming impact in the country. Also, students shifted from private to government teaching institutions, as fees became dearer with general job and businesses loss.

In the first six pandemic months, all Vidya Bhawan institutions received applications for school and college leaving certificates. By one count, it was thirty to forty per cent students. Since most organisations in the country looking for individual support, and with general depletion in the people's income, despite an attempt to generate internal employ-giving, for Vidya Bhawan, the success was less than the need.

Despite odds, Vidya Bhawan President led the institution to get funds through individuals and organisations for a need-based scholarship. The institution's Fund Raising team had Chief Finance Officer for backhand support. Within a short span, the organisation could raise donations from various to rescue many students from a financial burden to continue their education.

## **Challenge to Teach**

Another challenge emerged from online teaching—the most common platform adopted during the pandemic. First, teaching materials and digital platform compliance

troubled, hindering material accessing online tricky for students. It took time to settle it.

The more formidable challenge came as students struggled to comprehend a given text independently to complete the online teaching-learning process. All this happened, despite improving materials to make it comprehensible. Abstract knowledge like grammar, mathematics etc. further added to the incomprehensibility list among students. Such a problem questioned the way institutions educate children—loaded with too much handholding, even interpreting questions for them—a common practice known to all. The fear of learners mistakes looms large in the education space in India. Much against the pedagogy that warns of creating over-dependent learners to read, write and understand. Independent comprehension skills go beyond Covid. It is needed when everyone seems to look at cyberspace as a future interface between learner and knowledge. Together, the pandemic made a profound remark on the present teaching-learning process. It highlights the urgent need to review the practice of preventing learners from developing independent reading, writing and understanding skills.

For Vidya Bhawan, with schools, colleges, and teaching institutions, a deliberate attempt is needed to get away with it.

## **Digital Education**

As reported, despite the best effort, only 40 to 50% of students took regular online classes. To know the problem, Vidya Bhawan Society conducted an internal household survey of its 4000 students. Lack of independent physical space for students to sit undisturbed for the online class had a limiting factor impacting student participation and regularity. Other than required digital hard and software and internet, modest income background further



limited students' access. That also explains the role scholarship played in saving mass exodus from teaching institutions.

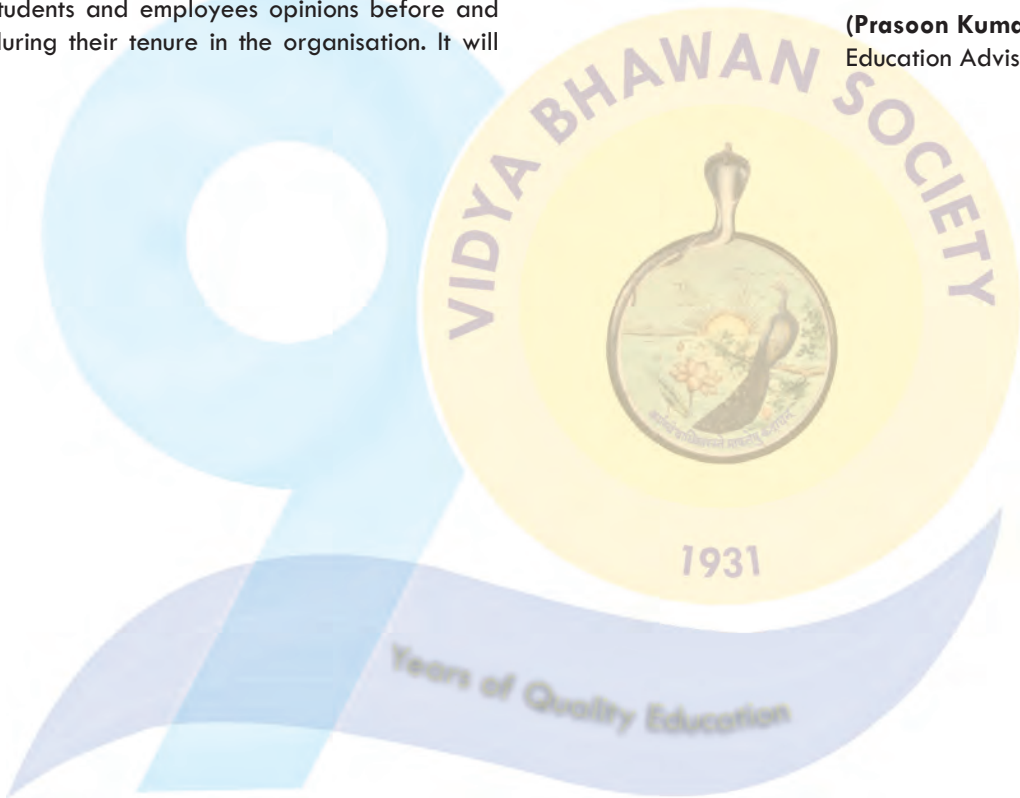
### **Pandemic Learning**

The survey also came with a suggestion for institutions' information management. Without it, the planning process takes time. Had information from the study be available, a better intervention would have been possible.

The future information also needs to capture students and employees opinions before and during their tenure in the organisation. It will

help reflect the internal functioning: from classroom to mess to administration. Further, it will give a sense of the community's cognisance with Vidya Bhawan values. Unlike the current practice, the organisation should frequently refer to factual data for day-to-day decisions. Replacing anecdotal information with well-interpreted empirical data need urgent attention. Be it student's enrolment, academic results, nuances of community interaction, and all that impacts the organisation functioning.

**(Prasoon Kumar)**  
Education Advisor





## CFO'S REPORT

The Covid-19 pandemic impacted all of us, so was Vidya Bhawan Society (VBS). With the worldwide economic meltdown, the financial crisis left none untouched. It started negatively impacting VBS finances quite early, given the modest income background of its students. Despite all this, within a month, the VBS staff got themselves tuned to the changed situation. They quickly learnt the nuances of online communication to continue with the office work as normally as possible.

The financial crisis deepened as the revenue went down with students defaulting on fee payment and the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) projects began downsizing the sanctioned grants, the two primary sources of revenue. Despite the financial meltdown, the VBS continued with its commitment towards employees' welfare and students' education. As a policy, it was decided not to retrench any permanent employee, and this policy has continued till writing of the present report. This led to boosting of morale of the staff during the entire duration of Covid-19 and it continues.

Despite the odds, the VBS ensured minimum displacement of students due to fees default, and continued with regular online classes. This posed a big financial challenge to the VBS because it was forced to raise additional funds in view of the decrease in the recurring revenue. Responding to the urgency, the VBS President issued letters of appeal to all well-wishers, philanthropists and others to generate additional revenue. The President also requested the employees to appeal to persons of their acquaintance to donate. The VBS made efforts to gather revenues through crowdfunding. Besides, non-essential expenses were shortlisted and curtailed to cope with the financial crisis. During this process, Vidya Bhawan Society was able to raise Rs. 1.50 crore

to support 800 students and managed to retain the permanent employees. It could also clear most of the dues and salaries on time, unlike many private and civil society organizations which were struggling with their employees' wages. The employees, however, had to take the burden of deferred compensation. But as soon as the financial situation improved, the deferred salaries were released. At the time of reporting, the deferred salaries till March, 2021 have been released.

As a long-term strategy to cope up with any financial crisis in future, the President has constituted a fund-raising team. The team has been reaching out to the potential donors by communicating regularly with them, and also making all out efforts on the social media platforms to attract crowd funding. The team has also designed a strategy to improve admissions in the institutions. Since it's only a beginning for the fund-raising team, it will keep evolving strategies to improve Vidya Bhawan Society's financial sustainability in the long term.

Vidya Bhawan Society has applied for renewal as per the amendments in the Income Tax, FCRA and CSR Acts for meeting the legal compliances involving finance. The new account in the State Bank of India, New Delhi Main Branch, complied with the FCRA (Amendment) Act, 2020.

Before concluding the report, I take this as an opportunity to thank all the VBS esteem donors for helping the VBS during the unprecedented financial crisis. In the same breath, I thank all Vidya Bhawan employees, governing body members, students, and parents for supporting us during the most hard pressing times in our recent memory.

**(Akhil Prakash Trivedi)**  
Chief Finance Officer



# REPORT ON INSTITUTIONS

## VIDYA BHAWAN SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL, FATEHPURA

Dr. Mohan Sinha Mehta, along with his colleagues, founded Vidya Bhawan Senior Secondary School (VBSSS) in 1931. It was the first school of its kind in Mewar— co-educational, organized around democratic principles, secular, and with a policy of equal treatment to all its students. Unlike other schools in Udaipur, the School took a progressive view of education and learning, much ahead of its time. VBSSS remains committed to its original idea of education even today. It is liberating education from the mind-hand dichotomy, allowing students to take learning as part of their day-to-day experience —software, coding, carpentry, gardening, literary activities, sports and games. This is the 89th year of the institution.

### Academic year 2020-21

Even before VBSSS could properly open its new session, it closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The immediate impact for the school was a change in the mode of the teaching-learning process. The in-person mode followed for decades was no longer possible. The school was forced to switch to the digital mode—as the only option to maintain physical distance for averting person to person

infection. Despite the quick transition to digital teaching-learning mode, ensuring all students' participation was not easy for many reasons. The cost was a significant hindrance for many students irrespective of whether smartphones or computers were used. There was also the additional cost of the internet and data. Moreover, teachers found it difficult to locate material that was digitally compliant. Along with all these problems, the student had to undergo the struggle of their family with Covid related health and income problems.

Apart from planning and implementing online classes, the school contacted children and their parents about their home situation, including family income and health-related issues. All this information helped in further streamlining the school response during the Covid times. The school enabled Wi-Fi in different corners and created exclusive digital studios for undisturbed classes to further smoothen the digital-learning process. Still, about 50% of students were left behind as they could not attend the online classes. To make up for such loss for students, the school started providing hardcopy of work assignments. Parents were requested to collect copies of these assignments from the school



*Sonika is a class 7 student in the school. She comes from a tribal family of Kotra in Udaipur, located in a remote area, making access to internet and regular electricity difficult. Sonika's father runs a flour mill and a grocery shop. Her brother is also in Vidya Bhawan school. During the field visit, the school team found both children attending*

*the online classes from their shop. It is Sonika's passion for education that made her attend classes against all odds. She remains in touch with her teachers.*



campus. Teachers gave regular feedback to students on the study every 15 days. Also, the Video-on-demand (VOD) app—Edmodo, WhatsApp got added to the digital teaching-learning process. Now it was convenient for many children to catch up with their respective classes using the apps at their convenience.

Amid all this, the new academic session started online in July 2020. The unit tests got conducted again online in August and September. From January 18, 2021, the schools began to take on-campus classes for 9 to 12 and February 8, 2021, for 6 to 8. Further, given the loss of time and other issues, the state government reduced the 2020-21 syllabus to 60 per cent of the original. In between March and April, two pre-board examinations got conducted for the 10th and 12th standards.

Schools had to close again from April 17, 2021, due to the second Covid wave.

Covid also left its imprint in the institutions' enrolment drive. It came down from 950 to 800, compared to the preceding year. Closing down the Junior class for the entire session led to zero enrolments in the nursery to fifth grade.

### **Exams and Results**

The results of annual examination of 2020-21 are as follows:

Class	10	12 Arts	12 Commerce	12 Science
Pass %	100%	100%	100%	100%
Total Students	110	41	22	41
1 Division	110	41	22	41
90% +	37	03	00	25
80% +	26	18	12	13
70% +	32	19	09	03
60% +	15	00	01	00

Despite online classes, each class evaluated their students learning from Nursery class to all grades. The junior School conducted online its two unit tests and the annual examinations in March 2021. Two unit tests were conducted online in August and September and campus pre-board in March-April in the Senior School. The internal assessment looked at children's homework.

As in the case of Class 10, all the students in Class 12 have also passed in First Division. More than half the students scored above 80 % marks; in the case of Science, more than 60% scored above 90% marks.

### **Scholarly Activities**

Throughout the year, children got the opportunity to write and think. One activity was writing an essay on Corona—the global pandemic. About eighty student took part in the writing competition. Some got recommended for their performance as best in their categories. Similarly, a debate on 'New Agricultural Laws' in March 2021 allowed children to express their views for and against the recently brought agricultural bills by the Government of India. Those speaking in favour talked about the issue of keeping themselves in government shoes. While those speaking against it gave perceptives from farmers' point of view.

### **Art Activities**

The school organized Painting and Rangoli competitions in February 2021, with many posters on peasant movements expressing solidarity with farmers in Delhi and Singhu borders. Rangoli had a theme around Covid awareness.

The school organized a day workshop on Graffiti Art for class 11 and 12 children in Fine Art. Painters Shrey and Sachin, from Goa, spoke to children about the history of Graffiti Art. Children used the school walls to paint using spray paint. In the entire process, children learnt a new form of art in the workshop.



## **Environmental Activities**

Throughout the year, children and teachers together planted various tree saplings on the school premises. The hostel children voluntarily cleaned the campus, and student volunteers took the responsibility to maintain the school's in-house forest.

On February 10, 2021, Prof. Anil Solanki visited the school to talk to students about his Solar Yatra. An initiative for building a sustainable and clean energy narrative in society. Prof. Solanki spoke to the teachers and students about promoting solar energy for day-to-day living, using his examples and stories. During his visit, students got an opportunity to take a tour of the actual solar bus. It had all modern facilities and equipment to take care of daily life requirements but charged by solar power.

## **Activities with Nursery/Junior Kids**

Along with the online classes, students took part in various social activities that are normally a part of the school life.

On the Teacher's Day, students made cards using cotton, flowers, handprints etc and displayed them online.

On September 12, children used green fruits and vegetables on Green Day and learned how to recycle waste materials. They also learnt how to plant saplings. They prepared a small skit around a story— "Choti Chidiya".

On October 16, children celebrated Garba by learning to cook without fire.

On Children's day, they recited Jawaharlal Nehru poem to mark the occasion. They made videos reciting poetry and presented it before the class.

On November 21, children made cards using impressions from vegetables like potato, okra, onion, lemon and capsicum. As another activity day, November 28, children learnt how to cook nutritious 'Veg chapati rolls' using

fruits and vegetables. Those children who avoid eating vegetables got the message to eat vegetable making chapati rolls. On December 5, a program, 'Our Helper,' looked closely at doctors, teachers, barbers, tailors, potters, vegetable vendors role in our life. On December 11, the "Little Hunger" program taught children to use salad with daily meals, making nutritious meals using different vegetables. On December 19, the students attended the 'Red-Day' program. All the students used red to dress and come with complete information about it.

Students participated in daily yoga. Efforts went into preparing to practice yoga on a regular basis. From time to time, students recited Hindi and English poetry. They made videos of such recitation and posted them on the digital platform. In the online classes, children learnt to make Christmas trees, Santa Claus, using colourful paper. Some also used the Christmas tree that they made to decorate their houses for celebrating Christmas.

## **Need-based Scholarship Support**

Need-based scholarship is a regular financial support system in Vidya Bhawan. This year the scholarship went into compensating students for paying their school fees. Vidya Bhawan Society, Vidya Bhawan's Vidya Bandhu Sangh, Koita Foundation and individual donors gave around Rs 15 lakh to 190 children as Covid need-based scholarship. Koita Foundation supported 16 girl students from class 9 to 12 with education scholarships. The scholarship will continue for the next four years.

## **Obituary**

The school family mourns the loss of its two staff members: Mrs Renu Bordia, Head Junior School. She passed away on April 19, 2020. The school remembers her as a loving teacher who participated with all enthusiasm in the institutional activities. Shri Mukhtiar Ahmed helped the school in ensuring the safe transit of students in the school vehicle. He succumbed





to Covid on May 14 2021. He was a humble and dedicated Vidya Bhawan employee with experience working across many Vidya Bhawan institutions—VBKV, VBRI and Senior School.

### **Key Challenges**

1. Compensating for the learning loss, in general, particularly in the case of junior school students, comes as a challenge. They found it challenging to use the online teaching-learning platform.
2. Corona impacted the income of many families with children in Vidya Bhawan School. It has a direct impact on school revenue as parents will default on paying school fees.
3. Co-scholastic activities suffered; these are an essential part of the teaching-learning process. It may affect the overall development of children's personalities.
4. Examination tests an individual's ability to learn and let the others know that they know. Missing two annual exams and midterms between the last two sessions can shake students' confidence to learn.
5. Live school brings life to the School as a learning community. Continuous closure may impact the school life processes.

## **VIDYA BHAWAN SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL, RAMGIRI**

### **Introduction**

Dr Mohan Sinha Mehta and Shri Dayal Chandra Soni, as the Principal of the first Gandhian School in Rajasthan, set up Vidya Bhawan Basic School in 1940. The school was inspired by Gandhian Nai-Talim, which introduced the community vocational skills into its curriculum. This made the Basic School different from any school following a conventional school curriculum. Nai-Talim also challenged the basic idea informing the mind-hand dichotomy—the defining characteristic of the social structure of the Indian Society, such as the caste system. Nai-Talim includes everyday human activities like carpentry, sewing or agriculture to help learners understand how the hand integrates with the mind, and vice versa. As an offshoot, the idea of mixing formal curriculum with vocation skills training brought the community closer, and it replicated their routine occupations. Further, such education attempted to reduce educated students' alienation from and dislike for manual work

### **The Academic year 2020-21**

The year started grimly, and the school had to be shut down due to the Covid pandemic. Within no time, it made teaching-learning virtual, using a live app like zoom, google meet and video-on-demand (VOD) app like WhatsApp.

As expected, the online classes were thin in students' attendance, and they continued to remain low for several technical reasons and also because of the cost involved in attending the online classes.

### **Online Survey**

To explore the reasons for the low online attendance, the school carried out a survey of students' family resources. As expected, the survey found very poor internet connectivity, limited access to a smartphone or similar devices for connectivity, lack of isolated space at home to attend classes undisturbed as some of the important reasons for poor attendance of students in the class. Based on the findings of this survey, the school brought in Video on



demand (VOD) apps like WhatsApp for those who found difficulties attending live classes. As a result, students could now easily send the tasks assigned to them whenever they could access phones, the internet, etc. Teachers made themselves available to students on mobile phones for academic assistance. Later, as soon as the lockdown eased, these students began to attend the off line campus classes once a week for additional learning support.

### **Other Activities**

Social and cultural campus activities keep the school community bound together beyond their classroom and teaching responsibility. We all know how informal communication fosters relations and working conditions. In view of this evading such activities was neither possible nor desirable by the school community. As an alternative for regular activities, the school this year conducted most of these activities through an online portal. The school faculty planted trees to mark Independence Day without students' physical presence, but shared photographs and videos with the students to make them have a feel of having participated. Similarly, the annual teacher appreciation day too had only teachers and supporting staff. The Principal thanked and applauded her staff for their immense cooperation in continuing to carry out their teaching responsibilities during the Covid pandemic.

### **Student Activity**

Cultural programmes were held and festivals celebrated online by the school to maximize virtual participation. Some of the students activities held included drawing activities, a celebration of Gandhi Jayanti, Janmashtami etc.

### **Scholarship**

Vidya Bhawan Society, the parent institution,

organized need-based scholarships for those students who suffered due to economic slowdown.

### **New Constructions**

The Bajaj Foundation, through Vidya Bhawan Society, provided grant for construction of classrooms, an amphitheatre and for renovating the Gandhi Peace foundation building.

### **Challenges**

Lower enrolment and dropout rate during the Covid period led to further decline in the students' population in the school. Even before the Covid, the mushrooming of English medium private schools near the institution had partly led to drop in the number of students seeking admission to the school, even though the use of mother tongue as a teaching medium is recommended as a sound pedagogical model advocated by some of the best-known linguists and language pedagogues. Despite this, parents continue to be fascinated by the instrumental value of studying in English medium schools and throw to the wind the benefits that may accrue from studying through the mother tongue medium schools.

The school needs to strengthen its education narrative with the community's involvement and appreciation of the long term benefits of education that allows mother tongue education to be used as a primary resource for sound education and also allows other languages to grow along with it and not at its cost.

The school also needs think of a plan to provide regular financial support to the students with irregular family income, and thereby encouraging their continuation in school. The school needs financial support to maintain its infrastructure properly, which could come from individual or corporate donors.



# VIDYA BHAWAN PUBLIC SCHOOL

## **Introduction**

India has perhaps the largest population in the world which uses English as a second language. It is English that opens doors to higher education, social mobility, better job opportunities and social prestige. That explains why there is an ever-increasing number of English medium schools in the country. Vidya Bhawan Public School (VBPS), started in 2001, was a response to this scenario. It was based on the idea of sound English-medium education located in a democratic, pluralist and non-elite value framework.

In the last twenty years of its existence, the school has lived up to the expectations of parents and students', making successive improvements in each year's board exam, with commendable achievement in national and state sports, games and other activities. It is now a higher secondary school in all subject streams affiliated to the Central Board of School Examination (CBSE).

## **The 2020-21 Academic Year**

The year 2020-21 goes down in history as most unusual because of the Covid pandemic, with the uncertainty around it continuing. The pandemic intensified overlapping with the 2020-21 academic session—government calling a nationwide lockdown to avoid further infection.

For VBPS, the immediate impact of lockdown was a steep decline in the school new admissions. The biggest fall could be seen in Grade-1. Compared to 2019-20, only ten students took admission, including those under the Right-to-Education (RtE) Act. Overall, too, across all the grades, the total number of students stood at thirty-six. The decline is partly explained by families migrating to native places—as employability declined, family incomes went down. Students' exodus

from school continued to increase in those applying for school transfer certificates. Many students who left joined government schools. It impacted the overall revenue of the school. The revenue got impacted further as many students who stayed struggled with timely fees payment. Only after Vidya Bhawan Society's need-based scholarship, many students could manage their fees. Needless to say, the school revenue, in spite of the help from Vidya Bhawan Society, is still far below the average during the past few years.

## **On the Teaching-Learning Process**

As mentioned above, the public movement got restricted in the second week of March 2020. The school, too, had to close down immediately. It happened when the institution was migrating from the old to the new session, overlapping with planning for it. During this transition, many critical operational decisions got withheld. Some decisions completely lost their relevance with time and the uncertainty around them got intensified. At that time, regular schooling looked difficult. All face-to-face, even classroom teaching, had to be done through digital mode. The responsibility of even planning children's entire day activities became school responsibility. Digital teaching-learning had to take cognizance of the home environment, away from school.

The online classes started right at the beginning of the new academic year. The school provided students with digital copies of all the textbooks. Initially, the school took the pain to regularise students online attendance, and parents helped improve attendance. The school later realized that digital mode by design could not ensure the regularity of all students. The school added WhatsApp and Edmodo to help children who could not reach live online classes cope with it.



### **School Re-opening**

The Senior school classes partially re-opened in January 2021. Revision of syllabus covered online got revised in the campus classes, which helped reduce students' learning gaps. Teachers systematically revised the syllabus for students who missed all their online courses. It made many teachers work beyond the school working hours.

The school strategized to help class-X and XII students with their board exams. Specific learning needs got addressed by forming small groups. The class-XII board practical examination were conducted successfully. Even before the board exams could start, the second Covid wave led to a new lockdown. It forced CBSE to cancel the normal examination and evolve a formula to pass all students. It issued guidelines to all its schools to publish board exam results.

### **Students' activities during the lockdown**

CBSE organized many tasks for the schools to keep students engaged. Some of these are listed below:

- **'Art In Education' Program:** CBSE designed Art-in-Education assignments. It expected students to do complete landscaping— landform, climate, crops, culture Etc. of two states: Assam and Rajasthan. Besides learning how to construct a micro picture of geography, the assignment gave a break to students and teachers from lockdown life confined within four walls. Though all related information was to be collected online.

### **Participation In Online Competitions**

CBSE and other foundations organized many online competitions and workshops to engage students and help them escape from boredom. The list of such activities is given below:

1. Poster Making: 'Balika Diwas' and 'Mera Swaach Gaon' organized by CBSE.

2. Workshop by Dharohar: Warli and Madhubani art and learning to African Masks making.
3. The senior classes English workshop by Ms Ratna Veera.
4. A seminar and online quiz to celebrate Constitution Day, organized by Vidya Bhawan Society.
5. Regular chess coaching and matches for interested students.

### **VBS Wellness Center Initiative**

One of the biggest Covid-induced vacuums for children was being devoid of playing space, meeting friends and going to school. It created lots of anxieties in many students. Vidya Bhawan Wellness Center came forward to rescue such children. Using various art forms, they conveyed to children the need to take precautions to save themselves and family from Covid. They used children's spare time to teach them sign language. Other than engaging children during the spare time, sign language learning allows children to communicate with differently-abled. The Wellness Center team remained in touch with the children to provide them with assistance.

### **Teachers' Capacity Building**

Education is a dialogue with no beginning or end. Each training or workshop reminds of the need to continue with a learning conversation. During the lockdown, the Public School and CBSE continuously conducted general and subject-specific training and workshop around the following topics: Integration of Arts in Geography; Integration of Arts in Curriculum through Experiential Learning; Integration of Arts in English; Integration of Arts in Mathematics Integration of Arts in Business Studies; Integration of Arts in Social Science; Integration of Arts in Science; Data File handling in Python- an orientation for Project work; Guided discovery of interacting CSV files with Python-IP; Data visualization



in Python; Common Errors committed in Math; Problem Based Learning using Numpy Basic in Python; Happy Teachers creating Happy Spaces; Essentials of a Lesson Plan in English; Hindi Bhasha ka Navchari Shikshanshastra-Anubhabnaatmak Adhigam.

### **Challenges**

During the Covid, declining enrolment of students and fees recovery remains a significant challenge. Lay-off due to economic slow-down led to family migration from Udaipur and students joining government Schools with relatively low fees.

- (1) Creating the right mix of improved board exam results and learning to promote understanding remains a challenge.

Deep down, the school understands that concentrating on just one of these two cannot help society at large. Good results play a role for students to find better opportunities; it has instrumental value. Learning promoting understanding is intrinsic to the community and individual—both work together.

### **Future Course of Action**

1. The school intends to introduce additional Class-XI & XII subjects, like Agriculture, Mass Media, Drawing, Entrepreneurship, and Artificial Intelligence.
2. The school needs to upgrade and modernize its library. The library has a structure, but the soul is missing.

## **VIDYA BHAWAN GOVINDRAM SEKSARIA TEACHERS COLLEGE**

Vidya Bhawan started its professional teacher training college Govindram Seksaria Teacher College (GSTC) in 1943 with Dr K.L Shrimali, an eminent educationist, as its first Principal. Initially, GSTC awarded a teaching certificate to its student. From 1949 onward students were offered a teacher training degree in affiliation with Rajasthan University. It became a Postgraduate College in 1951. In 1993, GSTC was recognised as an Institute of Advanced Studies in Education (IASE) under the New Education Policy. Currently, the VBGSTC is affiliated with Mohan Lal Sukhadia University, Udaipur.

### **The Year 2020-21**

The COVID-19 pandemic of 2020-21 brought new challenges of developing online teaching-learning processes. As the lockdown was announced, the College had nearly completed its 2019-20 syllabus. The external and internal exams were postponed and the College remained fully closed till Mid-July 2020.

As soon as the lockdown eased, the teaching institutions were allowed to open in a staggered manner with no campus classes. The lockdown guideline allowed teaching faculty to take classes from the college campus in small batches with students attending their classes online.

In between, another significant change during 2020-21 was the change in institutional leadership with Dr Arvind Asiya taking charge as the new Principal. Dr Asiya prescribed a protocol for online teaching across all the departments in the institutions making PowerPoint presentations mandatory at the beginning of classroom teaching interaction. He further requested all the teachers to provide a digital copy of related reading material to students. Dr Asiya made these changes after discussions with all college faculty members and the Education Advisor, Vidya Bhawan Society.

With relaxations in the lockdown the University emphasized the need to complete



the B.Ed course inspite of the campus classes remaining suspended. Online classes for many students made things difficult for them, especially those who had returned to their homes in rural areas due to the lockdown and had to attend online classes away from the city. One major problem was inadequate internet connectivity and appropriate devices. In addition, most students, even the faculty, took time to adjust to the digital platform for the online classes.

Despite difficulties, the College faculty completed the syllabus in best possible way. They took to ordinary mobile phones to complete the oral exams even if it took more time. Immediately after the internal exams, college teachers started preparing their students for taking the University exam. The online classes resumed in a well-coordinated manner through a well-equipped studio. VOD (video on demand) platforms like WhatsApp, Edmodo, etc. were added to the online tools. It helped those who found difficulty in joining the live online classes. The VOD made it convenient for students to submit their answer sheets whenever they got an internet connection. Even then, attendance remained low, and the college faculty had to persuade students to attend the classes regularly.

In October 2020, due to the lockdown, the admission process was conducted All GSTC seats available for the B.Ed course got filled soon. Of the forty M.Ed seats, thirteen seats found new students. Soon after the admissions, the courses started with online classes.

In January 2021, the government permitted staggered campus classes with 50% attendance in a shift. The entire student cohort was divided into two groups with classes on alternate days. The College adopted a similar strategy for Micro & Simulated B.Ed. teaching. Practical lessons took 5 to 10 days to complete as the college faculty supervised fifty per cent

of the internship classes.

Similarly, the dissertation, central to an M.Ed program, had to be modified with in-house faculty replacing external guides. A one-day workshop was organised for students to select their research topics. They prepared a research synopsis under supervisors' guidance. In between, students also completed their sessional assignments. The theoretical classes began soon after the submission of the overview.

Overall, all credit goes to the College faculty for timely completion of the teaching-learning process. They learnt to use the digital platforms with full understanding.

Apart from the course-related task, the College tried its best to conduct all its co-curricular programs:

1. The College celebrated Independence Day on the College campus, inviting fewer guests and broadcasting the celebration live for others.

On Teachers' Day we invited well-known educationist Prof. Hridaykant Dewan, former Vidya Bhawan Education Advisor and presently with Azim Premji University, to speak about challenges in teacher education. He said that a lifelong interest in learning best defines a teacher. Inclusion and equality must guide her work as a teacher. As a group, teachers should be sensitive towards each other's rights and duties. Dr Dewan emphasized that the new education policy links teacher education to teacher's role as a crusader for social and human development. It is possible only when the teachers start treating mistakes made during teaching-learning as natural and integral to the entire process. He concluded by reminding that the Teachers' day is also for reiterating one's professional commitment. We must all look at teaching-learning not only as



giving students a set of morals but a way of life.

2. A webinar on 'Artificial Intelligence' was organized by the College. Artificial intelligence (AI) is a globally talked-about issue. It is also called the Big-data crusade. According to the claim made by the protagonists of AI, human beings will consult computers only to fix all their day to day problems in the decades to come, including health and education. Though a forceful argument backed by evidence, still many disagree. These people seriously doubt the role of AI in teaching and learning. As a key speaker, Prof. Hridaykant Dewan, Azim Premji Foundation and Shri Prasoon Kumar, Education Advisor to Vidya Bhawan Society, brought their perspective on AI and its relationship with education and learning. Both the speakers acknowledged the growing dependence of AI in human life, including teaching and learning. Both also agreed that health and education will still need human intervention despite the reliance on AI.
3. Another webinar was organized to introduce the students to the Anandam Project. The Central government has issued guidelines to improve undergraduate and postgraduate programs across all Indian colleges. It aims to create leadership qualities in students by helping them appreciate human endeavour, particularly taking note of common professions they come across daily. It could be the management of grocery stores, selling vegetables, or any vocation that provides livelihoods to people. As part of the Anandam project, students get a microscopic view of such professions by studying and appreciating them. They can record its nuances and share them with others by uploading them on the

education department portal. Moreover, students are encouraged to help at least one person a day and maintain a record in a sharable format.

4. As in the normal years, in the Covid year also students participated in different reading and writing events. One such opportunity was an essay competition on the relation between poverty and wealth. It was jointly organized by Ramkrishna Mission, UNIC India, and Heartfulness Educational Trust. Four students from the College participated. In yet another such event, participating students wrote about their experience during Covid-9. All the students from the College took part.

In the slogan writing competition organized by 'Make Udaipur a Cycling City' drive,— four students from the College participated.

On the International Mother Tongue Day in the College, Dr Arvind Asiya spoke of his experience as an acclaimed writer in Rajsathani. Similarly, the College Language club organized a 'Meet the Author' event for Ms Manisha Kulshreshtha, known for her writings in Hindi literature. She spoke on ways to 'Develop Creativity among Students'.

The academic year 2020-21 remained one of the most challenging years for the College. An internal survey provided some insight into the reasons behind low student attendance during the online classes. The myth of online courses as a possible solution to physical distancing got busted quickly with the starting of online classes. The future teaching-learning process must take into account the ways to deal with long-distance learning mechanisms. For success, we felt that distance learning needs to build threshold independent learning skills in students to use supplementary resources available in their proximity and cyberspace.



# VIDYA BHAWAN GANDHIAN INSTITUTE OF EDUCATIONAL STUDIES

## Introduction

Vidya Bhawan has a long association with Gandhian Education. It established the first Buniyadi Shikshan or Basic School in Rajasthan in 1941. Mr Riaz Tehsin, a Gandhian and as the President of Vidya Bhawan Society, Udaipur decided to set up a Gandhian Institute to run a bechelor in education program in 2008. By 2016 it was merged with the Vidya Bhawan Kala Sansthan Shikshak Prakshishan Vidyala.

## Academic Year 2020-21

A nationwide lockdown to prevent the spread of the Corona noble virus, Covid-19, led to an unprecedented situation in the country. The announcement of the lockdown was sudden, giving no time to the college to prepare itself to deal with the new situation. The college thus had to rely on the students' WhatsApp groups to keep everyone informed about the changing status and its impact on the functioning of the college. Later, the same WhatsApp group helped the college authorities to conduct online classes, much before the government decided to pursue this alternative.

Shifting face to face classroom practices to the digital mode took its own time. However, availability of advanced audio-video communication system with the college was a great respite to all of us. As soon as the students' online attendance began to stabilize, the college started concentrating on completing the syllabus that had remained incomplete due to the pandemic. But completing the syllabus was not much of help to the authorities because the examination was not an immediate and urgent issue. It created a terrible anxiety among students, particularly the final year students because their career was at stake. Only the junior students could get some relief from the University Grant Commission (UGC),

which allowed them to be upgraded to the next class without any exam, whereas the final year students had to wait for long for exam dates to be announced for them. Though the Covid situation had improved by June 2020, yet no class was allowed to be held in the campus.

Though no university examination date was on sight, the college used the interim time to fulfil all the mandatory requirements needed for the exams, as and when they were announced. As part of the preparation exercise, the college conducted an internal exam and completed the sectional portion of the syllabus. College faculty worked overtime to conduct the internal examination. They used all available resources, including the online tools to ensure all students took the exam. Many of them could not regularly attend their online classes due to some kind of disturbance in their respective internet connectivity. The college allowed the students to submit their assignments through video-on-demand (VOD) platforms (like Whatsapp) to ease their problems. The effort yielded a good result as most of the students submitted their internal exam response sheets on time. In addition, the online tests encouraged faculty to think out of the box and prepare questions encouraging less of memory and more of understanding.

Even within the internal assessment, the assessment of the school internship was most complex and tiring. The training is the most critical part of the entire B.Ed syllabus. Preparing classroom lessons without even visiting the school and knowing about students turned out to be the biggest hurdle for teachers and teacher-students to overcome. Students planned their classroom lessons using their imagination and experience and submitted their lesson plans online, using video clips.





Besides its practical need, the video added life to this year's otherwise mundane classroom lesson plans. The teachers conducted an online viva-voce on the internship lesson plan. Fortunately, the internal exam expense for the second-year students was not that cumbersome because the situation had improved before their exams, and the college could use the campus examination hall.

### **Campus Beautification**

The new Covid guidelines announced in February 2021 allowed teachers to use college campuses for holding online classes. Campus visits and spare time between the classes allowed the teachers to use their time creatively and productively in cleaning the college campuses and growing organic vegetables.

### **Campus Classes**

Campus Classes started for the first time, after the March 2020 lockdown, only in February 2021. The first task which the college did after its reopening was to conduct the sessional exam. It aimed at reviewing students' learning levels because they had been promoted without taking any exam during the lockdown. The college simultaneously decided to encourage students to get to know each other by working in small groups. But soon, towards March 2021 end, the college had to face the second lockdown due to the second wave, which has proved to be deadlier.

### **The College reopening after the summer vacation**

The 2021 academic session started on the 1st of June 2021, after the summer vacation, but it was only online. In the introductory meeting, the students shared their Covid anxieties, and they spoke about how they faced the situation and helped others. This time the college faculty had a better online class plans, drawn from their last year experience. Better planning

could also be seen in how academic reports were submitted through emails, replacing handwritten reports which was a significant shift from the last year.

### **Scholarship**

This year, Vidya Bhawan Society has provided need-based scholarships to 20 students economically burdened by the Covid. The Give-India—a philanthropic organization, offered scholarships to thirty students

### **Internal Survey**

Vidya Bhawan Society survey found grave digital inequality among students from relatively better income backgrounds. The survey led the college to make a midway alteration for more students to join online classes.

### **College Institutional Activities**

The college tried replicating campus activities common in the non-Covid years. Seminars and workshops are the most common activities, mainly conducted online. A webinar on youth development invited Dr Arvind Singh, Director Arth Diagnostic Centre, Udaipur, as the Chair, who listed various human development aspects. Another speaker, Dr Deepak Gupta, Vidya Bhawan Polytechnic, explained the relationship between skills and knowledge acquisition. The third speaker, Ms Supriya, Coordinator, Brahamakumari, cited examples of how to cope with life-related difficulties.

In another online Seminar, Dr Naniclendra Golia, a faculty member of Punjab University, spoke of Hiroshima Day, its relevance with Gandhi's thought, nuclear violence and peace. Dr Anurag Priyadarshani, CEO, Vidya Bhawan Society and Mr Ajay Mehta, President, Vidya Bhawan Society expressed their views on the occasion.

The college at times celebrates anniversaries of past eminent personalities



of Vidya Bhawan Society. This year 99 the birth anniversary of Shri Jagat S. Mehta, ex-President emeritus, Vidya Bhawan Society, was celebrated by organizing a seminar on equality and Covid.

### **Conclusion**

Strengthening institutional support to conduct online classes effectively must get top priority

given the present situation, which is likely to continue. Moreover, students need handholding to get to terms with the apps for online courses beyond the present Covid. Further, the college must plan to prepare students to develop skills to become independent learners. Socio-economic data, collected family-wise, through wealth ranking will help in better planning in the future.

## **VIDYA BHAWAN RURAL INSTITUTE**

### **About VBRI**

Vidya Bhawan was founded in 1931 with the vision to provide uncommon and innovative education to the common man. Presently we are engaged in providing knowledge support to rural sector to usher in a self reliant, self sufficient and self governed society. There are ten different institutions functioning under the Vidya Bhawan Society providing strength and synergy to each other, VBRI is one of them. The beautiful campus is nestled in the Aravali mountain hills in Udaipur district. Pedagogy and class facility are constantly reviewed and upgraded to reflect latest trends and developments in higher education.

### **Emergence of Covid-19- Challenges and Opportunities**

Sudden emergence of COVID-19 crisis in the mid of March 2020 led to complete shutting down of schools, colleges and universities temporarily by state government across the country as a precautionary measure to stop the spread of this novel Corona Virus with no certainty of reopening. It led to experiencing different challenges and disruptions in the institution such as immediate suspension of classes and postponed or cancelled all ongoing university annual exams and internal assessments. This time was very crucial for university examinations and new admission

planning. Complete physical lockdown for few months creates fear as well as anxiety among teacher, parents, students and management too. However this lockdown continues so out of necessity we shifted to conducting online classes and sharing study materials and audiovisual files with students over internet. Though we are trying hard, but honestly our academic staff has little or no prior experience in attending, scheduling and delivering online lectures and meetings. Innovative methods of teaching, IT trained faculty members and their comfort level regarding online teaching were challenges. So, immediate emphasis was given to enhance skills and knowledge of teachers on using ICT as tool for teaching. Infact we get minimal time to redesign the pedagogy but still our teaching and non teaching staff familiarized themselves quickly with online platforms like Zoom, Google meet, Cisco WebEx, Google Classroom etc by attending various online workshops and faculty development programmes conducted by Delhi University and other Universities. However maintaining depth of engagement with students and providing them quality content was an issue.

Conducting exams in the existing infrastructure and fearful environment following protocols and guidelines of UGC and Government has created lot of panic among teachers as well as management. But



everything got managed by strong planning and coordination. Our infrastructure in terms of technology was not of quality for sound delivery of the online classes. Besides stable IT infrastructure, IT trained faculty members and quality hardware and technical challenges like adequate power supply and connectivity were also major issues. Institution purchased high speed internet plans along with certain devices like headphones, tripod stand etc but was not able to purchase any education delivery platforms due to the financial crunch.

The challenges of surviving along with the crisis continued to impact staff retention. Contractual employees were terminated and pay cuts decisions made by the institution was not an easy task for them. Institutions not only shifted to remote learning overnight but also suddenly grappling with grave financial challenges too. The most immediate challenge for the institution is cash flow. Payroll cost and meeting obligations at a time when major revenue streams are shut was the need of the time.

Talking about the students, there has been a feeling of uncertainty among them regarding admissions, modes of teaching and learning, examination, evaluation etc in the new academic session. Despite the ongoing health and safety protocols due to COVID-19, in 2020, once again Vidya Bhawan Rural Institute has successfully given online admissions to 1109 students in various UG and PG courses. Also maintaining good number of faculty and support service staff for catering different needs of students. We supported the students in their admissions by offering them various types of scholarships. For Vidya Bhawan scholarship complete profile of needy students who are not getting any other scholarship or concessions was forwarded online as well as offline to the in charge of VB Scholarship by the faculty chairman of all three streams. Then a committee constituted by the head for proper checking and scrutiny

of the forms on the basis of rules formed by the committee members, in charge. Then the complete list of students was forwarded to the concerned person in VBS who will distribute the sanctioned amount of Rs.5 Lac

S. No.	Course Name	Subject	Students Enrolled
1.	B.A.		288
2.	B.Com		127
3.	B.Sc.	Maths	194
4.	B.Sc.	Bio	218
5.	B.Sc.	Computer Science	130
6.	BCA		35
7.	BBA		36
<b>Total UG Students</b>			<b>1028</b>

Enrollment of Students in Various PG Course in year 2020-21:

S. No.	Course Name	Subject	Students Enrolled
1.	M.A.		16
2.	M.Sc.	Chemistry	53
3.	M.Sc.	Maths	12
<b>Total PG Students</b>			<b>81</b>

We had already done the survey of our students and prepared their complete profile regarding family income, house ownership, family size, devices owned, connectivity etc. It shows that there exist a huge digital divide in urban and rural students in our community. Large percentage of students still depends on financial assistance to make ends meet. Most of the parents cannot afford high data costs, poor availability of mobile connections and devices such as laptop and computers for their wards. Students are pushing back the institutions by arguing that institute cannot expect them to continue with online learning without providing the necessary resources. Thus online teaching is again a challenge because



most of our students are from remote villages with slow and patchy internet access. Besides this every student is not having computer/smart phones, printers and routers with them. Hence in the absence of these hardware and poor connectivity, students will face many issues like attendance, participation in online sessions, unable to listen or there is a lag, stressful to look at phone and computer all day long, lack of clarity, lack of free flowing conversations etc. But by continuous support of the teaching staff we are able to increase the strength of students in the online classes and in overcoming the barriers in their learning. But such prolonged closures of schools, colleges and universities many students get truly affected due to the non continuity of learning of the students and will have far adverse social and psychological consequences overall.

With the beginning of the classes in the new session in July 2020 many new challenges and problem came into light. Adapting to online education was comparatively easier for English medium students and teachers due to ready availability of tools or contents. Teachers tried to help students for joining online classes by providing them instructions and sharing tutorials video to students groups. At that time the patience and cooperation shown by our teachers was incredible. Finally after consistent efforts, students started joining online classes and submitting assignments etc. Internal assessment of students was also carried out using IT tools and teachers have given assignments through online groups, emails and Google classroom. Remedial/extra classes were also organised for those students who missed online classes due to some personal or technical reason. Such classes helped them to progress academically.

Similarly various other online activities was conducted virtually such as plantation, awareness campaigns, quiz competition, presentations etc for students by all departments and NSS wings so that students

can participate actively while staying safe at their home. Yoga sessions were also organised in pandemic period to overcome stress and tensions and for promoting, maintaining health and achieving health equity among students. Students were also motivated to join various online workshops and webinars such as one day workshop by RECD in collaboration with Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural education was organised for BBA students in which two girl students of our college Nikita and Sakshi have submitted their plans. Another student from B.Com, Narendra Chadana got the opportunity to pursue internship at M/s Coral Mineral at Udaipur city. Similarly Krishnakant Solanki, M.A (Political Science) has cleared NET exams of June 2020 while pursuing his PG degree.

Despite the continued coronavirus threat, colleges are gearing up to reopen. Following the guidelines college decided to resumes physical classes in phases adhering to protective measures. Initially we allowed only final year students and the number of such students is comparatively fewer so physical distancing was enforced easily. However students are likely to be given choice between offline and online classes. Later on I year and II year students were allowed to return for academic purposes. Gradually the numbers of students get increased but not more than 50% of the total student body was allowed to present in the class at a time and necessary protocol and UGC guidelines were followed. Different community services was conducted by the students under "Aanandam" programme (new compulsory subject by MLSU) to instill the joy of giving and sharing in young people through community participation, helping them to be responsible citizens and be initiators of change for a healthy society. It will shift the focus of students by understanding that happiness is not in acquiring things but permanent happiness comes from giving, sharing and caring for someone. Orientation



programmes along with certain co-curricular activities were organised for students to make them learn beyond the subjects like essay competition, poem recitation, quiz competition, Sanskrit shloka's recitation, management games etc. These activities will inculcate social skills, intellectual skills, moral values, personality progress and character appeal in the students. NSS volunteers also came forward to serve the marginalized sections of the society by distributing mask and conducted awareness program about Corona virus in rural areas and adopted village. The aim behind such work is to instill the idea of social welfare in students and to provide different services to society in this tough time.

The teaching-research nexus in higher education is beneficial for both students and teachers. During lockdown our eminent faculty members not only become familiar with technology but also published papers in various national and international Journals/ Books. They also developed competency in creating and effectively delivering online educational lectures on various e-platforms not only in VBRI but in different webinars organised by other universities and colleges on issue of national and global importance. Apart from this, faculty members have also been active in attending FDP and webinars at national and international level. Continuous engagement of teachers in creating quality tutorials, e- notes for students, evaluating Ph.D thesis, supervise Ph.D scholars, published books, articles and research paper, supervising IGNOU MBA aspirants in their research/project work. During this period of crisis various laurels were received by our faculty members for their contribution in teaching and research areas such NESAI Scientist of the year award 2020 to Dr. Anita Jain and Swami Vivekananda National Award to Dr. Vidhya Menaria in field of education. She was also appointed as Udaipur district brand ambassador of Shakti Film Production in November 2020. Dr. Kanchan Menaria has completed post doctoral

research work in December 2020 on various problems of adolescent girls. They are always motivated towards acquiring new skills and to gain new knowledge. Few webinars on Intellectual Property Rights and new education policy were organised at our institutional level to keep faculty members tuned with the latest knowledge and to provide a platform for brainstorming. Few faculties also delivers lectures on social issues at All India Radio Air Akashvani Udaipur. Dr. Shri Ram Arya was declared Assistant leader trainer, Rover wing by Bharti Scout Guide in February 2021.

In this way we are continuously striving hard for higher performance in all domains in this hard-hitting time. Looking at the brighter side when various challenges of traditional learning methods such as repetition, cost-effectiveness and monotonous design, limitation to the classroom boundaries, fixed timing and fixed concept for learning, can now be overcome through e-learning advancements. But high speed internet connectivity, rise in numbers of Smartphone/ Computer users and incredible enthusiasm in the students will definitely push the growth of the digital/ online education.

Despite the unknown realities of the Covid-19 second wave spread in 2021 VBRI is continuing with online teaching and learning. We are planning to increase course fee for the next session to meet financial needs and also have designed a document for donation appeal. This document will be forwarded to various donors for financial assistance

### **Tentative Plan for New Academic Year 2021-22**

1. Promote various online departmental activities, sports and other events.
2. We will focus on increasing student-teacher interaction in online mode.
3. We are planning to constitute different clubs for student engagements.
4. Website of the institution will be made more attractive and interactive.



5. We are putting efforts for seeking research affiliation from the university and development of common research lab. Minor and Major Research Project will be prepared in the coming session for different funding organizations like UGC, ICSSR etc in upcoming session.
6. We will motivate students for pursuing adds on courses from IGNOU Centre.

## VIDYA BHAWAN POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE

### Introduction

Vidya Bhawan Polytechnic was established in 1956 with a Diploma Programme in Rural and Sanitation Engineering, which was named as Diploma in Civil Engineering after some years. The Polytechnic introduced several new courses after 1992 and presently provides three-year engineering diplomas in five streams namely Civil, Electrical, Electronics, Computer Science and Information Technology. It also provides a post diploma course in Polymer Science and Rubber Technology; and Certificate Courses in Mechatronics. The institution runs many new short-term and parallel training programs to match the growing need for technical and skilled person power. The institute's pedagogy has undergone significant modifications, primarily focusing on narrowing the gap between theory classes and practical knowledge. The institute to produce students who are sensitive to social and environmental issues that impact common people.

### The Academic Year 2020-21

The year 2020-21 will go down in history as one of the most challenging years in recent years, with the Covid-19 pandemic killing lakhs of people worldwide. Maintaining human-to-human distance while saving life also changed the way students and teachers interacted in a formal classroom across the teaching institutions. Students attended their classes online, far away from the populated classroom, using distance digital mode. At least for the first few months of Covid, the teaching and learning process got reduced to

digitalized communication.

Vidya Bhawan Polytechnic too adapted to the new normal of digital classroom practices. Both teachers and students participated in the digital classes from isolated, safe locations. The immediate impact of digital learning was a steep decline in student regular classroom attendance. As the days passed, Covid further impacted students' enrolment. It was not possible to take internal class tests, and external exams had to be abandoned. The cumulative impact led to deep cut in the institutions' revenue. It led to cutting down expenses and taking the decision to defer the salary payment of Polytechnic employees partly.

Despite the challenging situation, Polytechnic staff did not let their spirit go down. They gave their best to improve teaching-learning, even with limited resources at their end. An effort was made to make the best possible use of the digital medium providing students with more self-reading materials and assignments.

The national lockdown that started in mid-March 2020 started easing out towards July end as the situation improved. The new government guideline allowed teaching institutions faculty to work from their campuses in small batches. Later, students too were allowed to take campus classes in small groups. The reopening itself was not so easy, given the fear syndrome that engulfed the general mindset. Moreover, institutions had to follow strict Covid protocol, which allowed limited office staff at a given point in time.



Sanitization and maintaining distance were indeed critical elements of the protocol. As things started normalizing towards February 2021, the college faced the second lockdown as Covid resurfaced. The dates for the second and third exams had to be shifted to June 2021. Students did not get enough time even to get to know their college campus well. Once again, all campus classes went online.

Economic hardship among the already underprivileged people was one of the most dreadful consequences of Covid. Many families of students in Vidya Bhawan found even paying tuition difficult. To cope with the economic crisis, Vidya Bhawan Polytechnic allowed students to deposit fees in small instalments. Even after that, many students found even paying fees difficult. Vidya Bhawan Society created a common corpus, through which it helped such students from across its institutions to subsidize their fees directly. Polytechnic also created its corpus through organizations like Shiksha Shakti Foundation and AICTE Pragati to provide scholarships

### **Other Important Events**

**Students Results:** The 2020-21 session had 396 students, with 348 boys and 48 girls. The first and second Year students got promotions through internal assessment, without any external exam. The Board of Technical Education, Government of Rajasthan conducted examination for the third year students. Seventy-seven per cent of students cleared the final year examination in all the five engineering branches. The Polytechnic students secured the merit positions in the state merit list. Ms Varshang Shrimali, Mohd. Farhan and Lokesh Dangi secured first, second and third positions respectively in the Information Technology branch. Deepesh Kumawat and Ankit Kumar got the second and seventh positions in Electronics Engineering. Jaydeep Mali acquired the fifth position in Civil and Lokesh Vyas secured eighth in Computer Science & Engineering. This year 52.52

% of students of 2016-17 received their engineering Diploma.

**New Admissions:** There are 396 students in the Polytechnic this year. A total of 147 students were enrolled this year including new admission in the First Year and second year lateral entry and also admissions in Polymer Science and Rubber Technology.

**Webinars:** Given the movement restriction in the current academic year, all academic discussion and meetings, either between faculty and students or internally between faculties or with faculties outside the institution, was done through webinars., The details of these webinars is given below:

**Career Counselling:** This particular webinar suggested 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> school students' career choices after completing their school education. Of the many options, they got informed about possible technical courses available to them in Polytechnic, including short-term skill courses Mechatronics and Industry: The webinar informed participants about job opportunities after six months of doing the Saraswati Mechatronics Centre (S.M.C.) certificate course in advanced S.M.C. laboratories industrial use.

**Interaction on Energy Swaraj:** Essence of Sustainability: Prof. Chetan Singh Solanki I.I.T., Mumbai, also known as 'Solar Gandhi', visited Polytechnic on his solar bus. He interacted with the students and faculty to create awareness of solar energy as an alternative energy source. In the process, Prof. Chetan Singh Solanki also spoke about how people's energy use is linked to growing pollution. He said that without checkmating pollution, it would be challenging to stop the earth from becoming warmer. Unless a consistent effort gets made to save the planet for the next generation, traditional energy sources will die sooner than later. Those who visited Prof. Chetan Singh also got the opportunity to look at his specially designed solar bus with a built-in home and office. It was an out of box experience for



most of the visitors to witness facilities and equipment in the van using solar energy.

**Workshop on Water Day:** Polytechnic's internal units organized a seminar on Water to mark World Water Day, allowing students and participants to deliberate about water conservation and save it from pollution. Plastic remains the biggest polluter in recent times, and its unregulated use harms animals health as many swallow it with their foods. On how to check water pollution, many participants talked about ways to recycle it, like converting it into Eco-bricks. Dr Anil Mehta participated in the Indian Institute of Mass Communication (New Delhi) as a guest invitee in a similar talk on Water.

**Faculty Development Programs Participation:** Knowing and letting others know what one knows is the best way to refresh one's knowledge. As an mindful institution, Polytechnic does this across the year, all its discipline and related subjects. Even this year, despite the pandemic, Polytechnic leadership created various such opportunities for its faculty. Following is a brief on such deliberations:

- A national webinar organized by Industry Institute Interactive Cell (I.I.I. Cell) and Directorate Technical Education (DTE) discussed what industries should be doing to help academic institutions during Covid. It concluded advising enterprises to organize skill training, internship, and projects that had declined during the Covid times, which might impact the industry in the future.
- In another national webinar on Environment and Sustainable Development, Dr Anil Mehta, as a panellist, along with the State Minister of Technical Education, discussed the need for programs that help identify renewable energy sources and demarcate prudent use of water in agriculture and the overall impact of global warming on sustainable development.

**The following is the list of similar other webinars that the faculties attended:** Online-The New Normal in Education; Enhancing and Upbringing of Learning in Technical Education with Digital Platform for Conducive Outcome; Industry's Dimensions–Job Market; Opportunities and Challenges During COVID, Reforms in Polytechnic Diploma-Lockdown and New Normal, Joy of Giving and Yoga and Health.

**Industrial Visits:** Students industrial visit is part of critical pedagogy in Vidya Bhawan Polytechnic. Because of Covid, only the Final Year Civil Engineering students could go for an industrial visit in Mewar Polytex Pvt. Ltd. The visit helped students get an insight into practical knowledge on new technology for dome construction.

**Industrial Training:** The As pr the curriculum of Board of Technical Education , Industrial Training is mandatory for all Polytechnic students. This year the second-year students attended such trainings in various governmental and Private industries that partly curtailed online training due to pandemics. Many students attended their industrial training in the in-house Saraswati Mechatronics Centre.

**Projects planning:** Knowledge of projects is integral to the Polytechnic curriculum. It helps students understand using technical know-how, gain practice, and know ways to use skills they learned in the courses. Along with this, it gives students the confidence to prepare themselves for industrial jobs. Following is the list of projects done by the students during the reporting year: Second Home, Duplex Bungalow, Residential Apartment, Commercial Complex, and Row Houses, detailing Of One Duplex Bungalow, Sensor-Based Automatic Street Light System, Sensor-Based Touch-free Chemical Dispenser, Timer Based Fully Automatic Star Delta Starter, Single Axis Solar Tracking System, Speed and Direction Control Of DC Motor by Android-based mobile phone, Automatic Railway Crossing Gate, Wireless





Power Transmission, Event Management Website, Toll Plaza System Using Smart Card, News Website, Automatic Irrigation System Using Microcontroller, Design And Prototyping of a Low-Cost Portable Mechanical Ventilator, Wireless Power Supply, College Insights, Code Share, Easy Trade, Hospital Management System and College Social Network Project.

**Campus Placement:** The pandemic negatively impacted campus recruitment as most industries tended to hold new recruitments as their income went down due to reduced business during the lockdown. Only two private companies— L&T and Mewar Polytex Ltd, came for campus recruitment, leading three students jobs in the industries.

**Campus Activities:** Besides syllabus based tasks, the institution conducted ancillary activities during the reporting period.

#### **'Integrated Water Resources Assessment of Upper Berach Basin (Ahar River), Udaipur District:**

Under the Indo Denmark Green Startegic Cooperation Vidya Bhawan Polytechnic is partnering in the research project on Integrated Water Resources Assessment of Upper Berach Basin (Ahar River), Udaipur District with Copenhagen University Geological Society (Denmark), D.H.I. India, Development Alternatives (Delhi). The research is sponsored by the Danish Development Agency ( Danida) . The research duration is from October 2020 to September 2023. The inception workshop was held on on 26th March 2021to discuss research objectives , methodologies and outcomes. with . It also highlighted the specific role of Upper Berach Basin stakeholders in the project. In the workshop, the participants discussed about hydrological parameters, sources of information, project stakeholders commitment, and expectations from Upper Berach Basin citizens in the research. Informing about the need for such research in the Udaipur city, the workshop listed challenges related to its water resources. Fixing groundwater quality is a challenge, and the city will face severe

water scarcity. The project outcome looked at sustainable collaboration on Water between Denmark and India, focusing on making Udaipur water sustainable.

**Industry-Academia Conclave:** Dr Anil Mehta, the Institutes Principal, participated in a Conclave— How to bring Industry and Academia Closer organized by the Udaipur Chamber of Commerce & Industry (UCCI). Dr Mehta highlighted the relationship between academia and industries, giving examples from how Vidya Bhawan institutions and many Corporates are working across various fields of human development. He spoke about the Unchi Udan project with Vedanta. Saraswati Singhal Foundation Mechatronics Centre in collaboration with Polytechnic, and similar such projects on Rubber Technology. He concluded appealing to participating entrepreneurs to contribute towards strengthening work on nutritional diets in rural and tribal areas and strengthening school education. Both these areas need resources for improving their effectiveness.

#### **Interaction with UCCI officials on Industry**

**Institute Relation:** In-house Faculty deliberated with leading Udaipur industrialists on Industry-Institute Relationship. UCCI President, Mr Komal Kothari, impressed by the talk, offered his Vocational Training Centre to Polytechnic to learn about the latest technology pedagogy in the skilling programs. Later, in turn, Mr Komal Kothari , President , UCCI visited Polytechnic labs— Automation, Mechatronics and Advanced Production.

**Polytechnic Routine Renewals:** The Board of Technical Education and the All India Council for Technical Education renewed the institutional affiliation, and it is a routine process undertaken every year,at regular intervals. Similarly, the Saraswati Mechatronics Centre received its affiliation from Rajasthan Skill University.

**Suggestions to Technical Board:** Every ten



years, the Board of Technical Education seeks suggestions from Polytechnics to revise its education scheme. In this review, the Polytechnic Computer Science department advised exploring changes in the syllabus to suit industrial needs. As a part of routine alteration, the Board introduced a new Semester Scheme in the Polytechnic courses from 2020-21.

**Other Achievements:** Dr Anil Mehta participated in a Water Conclave—Sixth India International Science Festival. The Ministry of Science and Technology organized the Conclave, Ministry of Earth Sciences, and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Government of India). Dr Mehta spoke about the need to work for better Water Harvesting and Pond Rejuvenation. The Conclave was inaugurated Honourable Prime Minister of India with Honourable Vice-President of India as chair in the Valedictory ceremony.

**Smart Studio by V.B. Alumni Association:** The Polytechnic Alumni Association funded the institution to build a new multipurpose interactive Smart Studio that can sit for 70-80 students. The advanced tools will provide better learning resources to students to help them grip the concepts better.

**Parent-Teacher Meeting (P.T.M.):** This year, Parent-Teacher meetings predominately focussed around online teaching and learning. Generally, parents appreciated organizing the P.T.M. In the question-answer session, parents had queries on online classes, examinations, and the possibility of college reopening Etc. Those present at the meeting ensured taking proper note of parents' suggestions with clear intention to implement them after internal scrutiny.

**Activities of National Service Scheme (NSS):** The National Service Scheme (N.S.S.) is a Central Sector Scheme of the Government of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports. It provides the opportunity to the student youth of Technical Institution, Graduate & Post

Graduate at colleges and University level of India to participate in various government led community service activities & programmes. The sole aim of the N.S.S. is to provide hands-on experience to young students in delivering community service.

Polytechnic N.S.S. undertook the following activities in 2020-21:

- **Tree Plantation:** In the Polytechnic campus tree plantation, 25 neem and 15 bottle palm trees got planted.
- **Sanitisation and Food Packet Distribution:** N.S.S. volunteers sanitized neighbourhood colonies and distributed food packets to those in need during the peak Covid lockdown.
- **Awareness Program & Mask Distribution:** An awareness program with daily wagers during Covid explained how following safety protocols could save lives.
- **Webinar on “Ayu Samvad: My Health My Responsibility”:** Polytechnic and Madan Mohan Malviya Govt. Ayurveda College organized a webinar on Ayurveda role in the prevention and treatment of COVID. The webinar was called: Ayu Samvad—My Health, My Responsibility”. Senior Ayurveda College Faculty shared their views on prophylactic measures, yoga, ways to build immunity diet for managing COVID infection, and lifestyle for post COVID management. (NSS report ends here)
- **Need-based Scholarships:** Families of many Polytechnic students faced an income crunch due to Covid. Some even lost their jobs. It created lots of anxieties in many students. To help students cope with these anxieties, Polytechnic allowed staggering of payment of tuition fees. Further, an internal Departmental committee identified students in need of tuition fee scholarships. Thirty-Four students got a need-based scholarship



from Vidya Bhawan Society General Scholarship. Fifteen got a scholarship from Shiksha Shakti Foundation and ten from the Department of Social Welfare, Minority Board, V.B. Alumni and Pragati & Saksham Scholarship AICTE.

### **Skill Development Programs**

Polytechnic undertake many skill training targeting general people: rural youth, women, school dropouts and other socially and economically vulnerable group. This skill development is routed through Community Development through Polytechnic Scheme. Following is the list of 2020-21 skill development training:

- Sewing Training at Khanjipeer Training Centre that trained women. Twenty-seven got the formal job after the training, while 46 started their business. All activity had to discontinue most months of 2020-21 due to the pandemic.

### **Challenges**

The COVID-19 pandemic radically transformed the world, and even technical education got impacted by it. The Engineering Education's future looks weaker. Over the last few years, students' enrollment in engineering courses has declined due to sluggish economic growth and mushrooming of engineering institutions producing more diploma/ degree holders in comparison to actual needs.

Despite all these odds, Polytechnic is making efforts to attract enrolment. A rigorous admission campaign using extensive digital platforms like Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp, and the institute website are being increasingly used. A database of 10th and 12th class students from RBSE and CBSE will help plan to reach as many more students as possible with the message on how Polytechnic courses can make them economically and socially more productive.

## **VIDYA BHAWAN KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA**

The Vidya Bhawan Krishi Vigyan Kendra (Farm Science Centre) is a science-based institution established to enhance the agricultural production and socio-economic conditions of the farming community including farmers, farm women and rural youths of district Udaipur of Rajasthan State. The VBKVK was established in year 1984 under the affiliation of ICAR and completed 36 years in technology transfer to the farming community of the district.

The farming community as provided knowledge about new technologies and skills for various complex agricultural operations. The value of the KVK is further enhanced by location specific, need based and resource oriented front-line demonstration, cluster demonstration and on farm testing of new technologies. Skill oriented trainings programs for creating business opportunity,

job opportunities for rural youth were also conducted. It also acts as facilitator to coordinate the extension activities of allied department for the benefits of the farmers. VBKVK have demonstration units, techno-park, orchards, dairy unit, vermi-compost unit etc. motivated farmers to update their knowledge and adopt the technology in their field.

During Covid19 pandemic, Vidya Bhawan Krishi Vigyan Kendra played key role helping rural youth working in different cities of the country as they returned to their home. VBKVK organized sixteen vocational training under Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyan (GKRA) for them of three days' duration in each block headquarter. These training changed their mindset and some of them (10-20%) rural youth stayed and started their own occupation. VBKVK team also prepared food packets at



their hostel and provided food ration and distributed to the most needed families near Badgaon during long Covid19 lockdown when most of the labour families were not able to earn anything.

Another initiative, VBKVK team taken with the support of Basic Healthcare Services i.e. selection of most under nourished families and started small backyard poultry, nutri-garden and goat breed improvement program which in turn provide them ample opportunities of eating eggs, vegetables, meat and milk. This helped families fight malnutrition under Covid19 situations.

VBKVK works with more than 35 villages of Jhadol, Phalasiya, Gogunda, Kotra, Salumber, Bhinder and Mavli blocks of the district. Major activities carried out by the KVK are with tribal communities and the most vulnerable sections of rural society. KVK conducted trials to improve pulses, oilseeds, vegetable cultivation, cereals, goatry, poultry, farm implements, pest management and water saving.

### **Training and Demonstrations**

Training of farmers, farm women, rural youths and extension personnel has emerged as an important intervention to improve their capabilities and increase in productivity with a purpose to accelerate the rate of agricultural development. VBKVK is continuously making efforts for capacity building on agriculture and allied fields for farming community. In the year 108 on and off campus trainings were conducted for 3747 farmers on crop production, integrated farming system, dairy development, poultry rearing, goat farming, artificial insemination & infertility treatment, farm machinery, value addition, seed production technology, integrated farming system, green fodder cultivation, seed production system, soil health, integrated pest management, vegetable cultivation, nursery raising and water saving techniques.

Skill development programs for 81 men

and women under ARYA was conducted on the poultry farming, goat farming, nursery raising and vermi compost enterprises. After training 57 entrepreneur units were established.

With the trainings, demonstrations of different crops on farmers fields were conducted for technology transfer, enhancing production and income. During the period 1193 demonstrations of Blackgram (PU – 1), Soybean (RKS-24), Groundnut (GJG -9), Sesame (RT-351), Gram (GNG 1958 and CSJ 515), Mustard (Giriraj), Cauliflower (Kashi Gobi-25), Red reddish (Kashi Lohit), Maize Sheller (Motor Operated), IPM, Poultry (Ankleshwar), Goatry (Sirohi) and Storage Bins with package of practice were conducted. The average yield under the demonstration was increased by 18-30% in comparison to local practices. At the time of production satge, 12 field days were organised at farmers field. 652 partner farmers along with the other farmers were invited to see the results. The 132 demonstration of integrated pest management in vegetable cultivation on 30 ha area was conducted under NCIPM program. These all demonstrations are supporting in increase in availability of agriculture and allied produce at farmers door. Under seed hub program, 362 Quintal of gram seed of variety GNG-1958 were produced and provided to farmers for further replication.

To assess the new technologies, on farmer's field, On Farm Trials (OFT) were conducted to assess:

- Need based use of pesticides for management of whitefly and Jassids in Okra.
- Pest management on Blackgram.
- Assessment of high yielding variety of pigeon pea.
- Artificial and natural probiotics feed for growth rate in male kids of goats.
- Effect of mineral vitamin in milk production in Buffalo.



- Assessment of efficacy of single phase motor operated maize sheller.

#### **Extension Activities**

- Krashak Gosthi - Sh Arjun Lal Meena, MP Udaipur addressed the farmers and thereafter visited the working villages of the KVK.
- Celebration of important days – Constitution day, ICAR, day, International women day, Kisan Diwas, Mahila Kisan Diwas, World Soil Day, World Water Day, National Science Day, World Bee Day
- Awareness week – Swacchata Pakhwada and Parthenium Awareness Week
- Animal Health Camps – Seven animal health camps were organized.

#### **Future plan and initiatives**

- Organic agriculture cultivation through

farmer's producer organizations.

- Increase availability and production of planting material, vegetables seedlings and improved seed varieties.
- Promotion of organic farming with emphasis on bio-pesticides and bio-fertilizers.
- Livelihood and nutritional project would be implemented in the selected blocks of Udaipur with the support of two prominent organization i.e. Seva Mandir and Basic health care services.
- Training of rural youth in artificial insemination and pregnancy diagnosis.
- Skill oriented trainings for rural youth in field of goattary, Nursery, Poultry and vegetable cultivation.

## **VIDYA BHAWAN EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTRE**

This report covers progress in VBEC's programmes in the period 2020-21. The period in question marked 25 years of Vidya Bhawan Education Resource Centre (VBEC). It was a year of quiet introspection rather than celebration; shaped in part by the pandemic and in part by our work ethos. VBEC was established due to the efforts of our illustrious seniors but it was the work of an entire team, both newcomers and old hands, which ensured that we reached this milestone and survived the challenges of the past year. I thank all of them for their support and hard work.

VBEC's work is driven by the vision to ensure quality education for all irrespective of caste, class, religion and gender. Our attempt is to foster a feeling in the students and teachers in government schools as well as in our field staff that that they are central to all our efforts and activities.

Two things stand out this year. Firstly, despite the pandemic and ensuing financial and resource crisis, VBEC was successful in

retaining its partnerships and even persuade one partner for potential program expansion. Secondly, through Whatsapp, videos, home-visits, and online classes we ensured that our belief that school band hai, padhai nahin was not just a slogan but a reality for the students – and more importantly, girl students – in our project schools.

#### **School Education**

VBEC has been actively working with government school children across different grades for over a decade and a half. Our strategy so far had consisted of gaining access to children in the school and improving their learning through innovative material facilitated by a team of dedicated field personnel. With the schools being closed for a prolonged duration due to the pandemic, we were compelled to explore alternative avenues such as digital media and door to door visits in order to mitigate learning loss. The programme teams were quick to overcome initial challenges – such as unfamiliarity with



the medium, lack of devices and connectivity in the student community, a sense of distrust in a few parents – and were even able to improvise new solutions to meet the field level problems.

Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) has been a long-term partner in our school education efforts where we support them in the Shaikshik Sambal Project (SSP) running in 64 secondary and senior secondary government schools. We completed five years of the partnership and covered a little over 7300 students in 2020-21.

During complete lockdown, we managed to reach nearly 90 percent of the students through mobile phones and community visits, sharing learning material and guiding them in studies. In the summer, after two months of limbo, class X students had to face Board Exams. With intensive counselling and coaching provided by us, nearly all of them appeared for and cleared the exams.

Since school closure had taken place before start of the new session, students lacked even basic learning material such as textbooks. The SSP team designed workbooks and worksheets in SEM subjects and ensured that these were made available to all students. A month-long winter camp was organised as soon as schools reopened to compensate for the learning loss during the lockdown.

This was the second year of our partnership with IndiGo Reach CSR wherein as part of the Shaikshik Samvardhan programme we are working in Kurabad and Badgaon blocks of Udaipur, covering 5000 students and 150 teachers. After lockdown in April, we were able to reach only a fifth of them in the first month due to issues such as lack of devices, connectivity and/ or the means to recharge. As soon as lockdown was lifted in August, we went to the villages and formed small study groups (following proper safety protocols). In this manner, we expanded our reach to nearly three-fifths of the students.

Our experiences with Shaikshik Samvardhan and Shiksha Sambal this year have shown that VBERC is capable of meeting any unexpected challenge on the ground and learning and improving from it. We have continued to refine our strategies of working with students and will retain them in the coming years as additional means of improving learning.

Within VB institutions, we continued to support Bageecha children under the Seva Mandir-Colgate scholarship. The students belong to remote regions of Jhadol and Kotra and were hit hard by the lockdown. Reaching them via Whatsapp and phone proved difficult; therefore, as soon the pandemic showed signs of relenting the parents of the students were persuaded to send the children back to school hostels where they could resume their studies. Those students who are enrolled in the Open School Programme were tutored to give them confidence towards appearing in the exams.

Some attempts were made to sustain the Language Plus Program through online and in-person meetings. We are in the process of developing a framework of activities and will hand-over the programme to the schools in the next session.

### **Material Development and Publications**

The learning material prepared by VBERC played a vital role this year in ensuring learning in students. We prepared SEM material for students of grades VI to XII. We also prepared innovative, accordion style Poem Books (Lal Tamatar and Pahadi per Ped) for pre-school students. Science project modules on topics in optics, botany and chemistry were developed along with worksheets on foundational Physics content for CARE India.

In October 2020, VBERC along with V-shesh received a grant by the NASSCOM Foundation to develop an Application for Access Audit (AAA). Designed using the standards



incorporated in the Harmonised Guidelines (developed by Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD), this DIY tool enables robust manual evaluation of physical accessibility of a premise and generates automated reports for fixing accessibility issues.

Two issues of Language and Language Teaching (LLT) Journal, a joint publication of Vidya Bhawan Society and Azim Premji University were published in this period. The manuscript of “Bhasha Evam Bhasha Shikshan” Volume 4, is in preparation. We also translated a manual on COVID related protocols and a handbook for teaching Primary Level Mathematics for APF. This was alongside the numerous translation we undertake for Azim Premji University throughout the year.

### **Curriculum and Research**

In continuation of our work with SCERT, Telangana this year we were approached to help the State team design the science and mathematics curriculum for Open Schooling. VBERC team was instrumental in framing the syllabus and in writing chapters for Telangana Open School Students of Class X.

As part of research collaborations, six members of VBERC were identified to work on small projects on Realistic Maths Education (RME). This undertaking was supported by a grant from Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU), UK. School closure due to the pandemic prevented actual trialling of ideas but the team benefited from interacting with the MMU scholars.

VBERC continued to provide resource and academic support on the RAISE research project undertaken in collaboration with the University of Leeds and University of Bristol. Manuscripts detailing the research findings are in preparation. We are also involved in a project on developing materials and teacher education programs for the deaf community in collaboration with the University of Central Lancashire. Our team has been instrumental

in developing language games as part of the research.

### **Work with Community**

Our work with the community intensified in this session. Our team members were in continuous touch with parents and students, guiding them on dealing with the pandemic, counselling the children where necessary and encouraging them to continue their studies. In the process, we came to know various aspirations and fears amongst our student population and will devise strategies to engage in a deeper manner with them in the next session.

The lockdown impacted our work in Godda and Ramgarh, two districts in Jharkhand state. Our Udaipur team could not visit the sites in person but continued to provide online guidance as part of the PRIDE project supported by Pradan and TRI. We managed to form a group of volunteers consisting of 234 members who held Mohalla classes for primary school students. The volunteers comprised of local youth, SHG members, college students, and community members. The volunteers organised mohalla classes in 36 different locations over a period of 6 months. The classes were crucial in retaining students in the school who would have otherwise dropped out due to lack of support and break in learning.

### **Training, Workshops, Webinars**

Training and workshops are integral to VBERC learning process. The restrictions on gathering and movement this year impacted our ability to hold in-person workshops. Therefore, we organised a series of online capacity building sessions around different topics in maths, science and language for our field teams in different projects.

We also conducted a five-day online workshop for science educators and DIET faculty from UP in the month of February. The workshop was sponsored by CARE India and sessions were taken by Kamal Mahendroo and Snigdha Das. Prof. Rama Kant Agnihotri



held online language sessions for the staff and faculty of the Language and Learning Foundation (LLF), Delhi.

VBERC marked its 25th anniversary on 30th September 2020. With webinars being the new norm, we organised a small online reflective session. Current and former VBERC staff members; Heads of other Vidya Bhawan institutions; Riaz Tehsin, former President, VBS; Ajay Mehta, President, VBS; Anurag Priyadarshie, CEO, VBS; and Hriday Kant Diwan participated in the discussions. The reflections and experiences focused on the thoughts behind establishing VBERC, its growth over the years, the elements necessary to foster learning amongst its members and the vision for the coming years.

### **Team Capacity Building**

While VBERC has always had a reading and learning culture, this year we decided to partially formalise the process by establishing a monthly reading Day. The Fourth Saturday of each month was designated for reading and discussion on articles related to various aspects of education. The activity continued even during the lockdown period with the day-long discussions being moved online. Articles on gender, curriculum, evolution, climate change, economics, geometry teaching, language teaching were covered over the year. The session on gender was facilitated by an external resource person, Prof. Sadhna Saxena. In the next session, we will add a writing and research component to the exercise.

Our team members attended external seminars and presented papers as part of self-development exercise. Rishi Raj Rai published two articles in Srot, a popular science magazine and Sangeeta Dave contributed poems and stories to different online forums. Neha Yadav, Anjana Rao and Adesh Kumar presented papers, which will now be published, in a seminar on Pedagogy of Language and Literature in School Education,

jointly organised by Jamia Milia Islamia and Azim Premji University.

### **Plans and Challenges**

VBERC is becoming increasingly aware that we need to make inroads into using digital media in our interventions if we are to remain relevant. This is not to say that we will discard our current models of work but our team will have to be equipped to utilise alternative teaching mediums as well. In addition, we need to maximise our web presence be it through better representation on the Organisation's webpage or through showcasing our material on different platforms such as YouTube, Facebook and Instagram.

Several of our experienced team members moved on to other organisations leaving behind a space which needs to be filled quickly to avoid a human resource crisis. It is not easy to recruit and retain dedicated staff but we have been successful in identifying a few promising candidates whom we are grooming to take on full-time roles.

We have plans to take on more assignments and consultancies related to assessment. As a first step, we have been awarded a small consultancy to review the curriculum and learning model of IIMPACT, a pan India organisation. We are in negotiations with STCI, Mumbai and Matru Schaya, Palghar to carry out a baseline evaluation of their projects.

The partnership with Azim Premji University towards bringing out the Language and Language Teaching (LLT) journal ends in 2021. We are fortunate that two other organisations - LLF and NMRC, JNU – have already expressed their support in continuing LLT publication.

Funding, as always, remains an issue. Aligning the fund requirement with our capacity to take on additional assignments is crucial. However, we are confident that VBERC team is capable of taking on all challenges head-on and forging new paths to success.





## VIDYA BHAWAN PRAKRITI SADHNA KENDRA

Understanding the way learning occurs and what stimulates environmental behaviour is as important as environmental information. The goal of environmental education is to develop a world population that is aware of and concerned about the environment and its associated problems, and which has the knowledge, skills, attitudes, motivations, and commitment to work individually and collectively toward solutions of current problems and prevention of new ones. The ultimate objective of environmental education is to encourage actions towards the resolution of environmental problems. Environmental education meant to help children learn and care for the environment requires those responsible for implementing these aims know the forms of learning experience that encourage and produce active and informed minds.

The above captures Vidya Bhawan Society's defining reasons to set up a centre—VBPSK (Nature Interpretation Centre) in 2009. It is located in a picturesque 300 acres virgin forest, surrounded by Aravali hills, not far from Udaipur city limits.

### **Centre Activities in 2020-21**

The details of 20-21 programs are as follows:

- Khama Utsav, a non-government organisation, gave finishing touches to its school curriculum, adding environmental issues. The institute prepared these texts for rural children, and it took them three days to complete the task through a workshop housed in VBPSK.
- Similarly, Jatan Sansthan, a Udaipur NGO, had an internal institutional review for two days in the VBPSK. During the workshop, they participated in the Center environment activities. Note: All

participating organisations that house their programs in the VBPSK campus have to participate in one of the core in-house environment programs. Generally, organisations prefer nature walk, allowing VBPSK to speak to them about nature-human interaction.

- VBPSK celebrated World Environment Day by planting medicinal plants. VBPSK campus by choice promotes locally available medicinal plants. This year, it chose medicinal plants to mark the environment day celebration.
- For running a self-sustaining Center, VBPSK market its forest by-products this year, selling its matured bamboos grown on the campus. Given the quality of bamboo, finding buyers is difficult for the Center.
- Pacific Pharmacy College, Udaipur, took its staff for a day nature trekking in the VBPSK campus. We shared information about the Flora and Fauna found on the campus, their medicinal value and their importance in sustaining the environment.
- Bharat Vikas Parisad planted medicinal plants in July 2021. Dr Pushpa Sharma and Dr Anand Singh Jodha were also present. The program ended with a discussion on the way we need to grow medicinal plants.
- VBPSK organised the launching of a medicinal plant project at the VBKVK campus. The project distributed medicinal plants during the inauguration. The project objective is to create awareness about medicinal plants among students.
- Shree Badri Narayan Bareth, a renowned Environmentalist from Jodhpur, volunteered to associate with Prakriti Sadhana Kendra.



## VIDYA BHAWAN WELLNESS TEAM

### Introduction

The idea of wellness in Vidya Bhawan is as old as the institution. It has tried to ensure good spirit for all in the organisation—students, staff, parents or those associated with it for a limited purpose.

Wellness requires an institutionalised effort, and someone in the organisation needs to continuously worry about it and keep reaching people, making sense of staff mental or physical wellness. Knowing well that stress and anxiety know no boundary, it travels from people's experiences unrelated to institutional work or interaction.

The above is the defining task of the wellness team—reach those requiring wellness and run programs to help individuals cope with stress and anxiety.

This year, the Wellness team travelled extra miles because of the Pandemic that impacted all of us, in one way or the other. The Wellness team created forums and occasions to deal with this new stress, and it made systems so that those in need could reach them easily. Below is the report of wellness team activity in 2020-21.

### Wellness team Report—2020-21

**Counselling Support:** The wellness team intensified its effort to reach those within Vidya Bhawan impacted by the Covid-19 Pandemic. It circulated bi-lingual posters (English & Hindi) sharing helpline numbers among all. It was available 24\*7 to VB students. As a preventive measure, it organized Zoom sessions for 120+ Unchi Udaan (HZL hostel students). The sessions helped in multiple ways to cope with anxiety, uncertainty, insecurities, fear Etc. The Wellness team spoke to students parents to allow their children to make a call and use the phone as frequently as possible. Such conversation was meaningful as many had shared household responsibilities coming on their way to devote

time to studies.

**Know Your Emotion Workshop:** During the lockdown in May-June 2020, 24+ Vidya Bhawan staff got help through a workshop to deal with the stress they faced due to Pandemic related issues. The workshop was regular, once a week for four weeks. The workshop mapped their negative feelings, was given the opportunity to self-reflect, followed, and taught guided meditation and breathing exercises.

**Disability Inclusion:** Team V-Shesh conducted a series of workshops on disability with selected 45 staff members from all the institutions. The workshop led to auditing Vidya Bhawan premises for the accessibility of Persons with Disability (PwD). It is to develop Vidya Bhawan “Center of Inclusion” in the future, with the ability to conduct “Access Auditing” services to Government Offices, Educational Institutions, Etc. To take the idea of inclusion forward, the Wellness Team learned basic sign language. They also produced two videos for the institution YouTube during the Deaf Awareness Week. The video focused on understanding sign language, and the second video on entry sign language for general use.

**Open Letter:** A video and scripted message using a multilingual approach and sign language was put on social media and circulated internally in Vidya Bhawan as a gesture to make the world inclusive with no discrimination towards differently-abled persons with disability across the globe.

**Psychology Classes:** The wellness team grounding with Psychology helped them take the Psychology subject discipline classes for 11th and 12th students of Vidya Bhawan Public School. The purpose of interacting with the children is to gain insight into coping with various social issues like religious



discrimination, caste discrimination, gender inequality, attraction towards the opposite sex, adolescence, Etc. In the process, students shared their emotional issues, ideological conflicts, and related stress, anxiety with the wellness team member.

**Online Meditation & Yoga Sessions:** Once the lockdown eased and the office started operating, the Wellness Team organized online and physical yoga sessions as a preventive health endeavour of the team.

**International Changemakers Olympiad (ICO):** The International Changemakers Olympiad (ICO), by Better Plus Education, annually conducts an international Olympiad to encourage young students to take social initiative for driving positive change at home, school, or community. The Wellness Team used this occasion to make students solution-oriented, harnessing creativity and innovation and sensitizing them to look at society's more significant problem and help them become respectful, inclusive and responsible citizens. The students work in small groups on real-life issues and come with their respective solutions. This year, three teams from Grade 7-12 from Vidya Bhawan Public School participated.

The problems they identified are:

1. Sensitivity towards stray animals.
2. Removal of Caste-based discrimination in school, changing the admission form layouts
3. COVID effect on Jobs and education of the marginalized.

**Discussion on Constitution of India:** The

Wellness team organized an online on 26th Nov. 2020 to mark Constitution Day. It brought students and teachers together to interpret the Preamble of the Constitution of India by knowing terms like Secular, Democracy, Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity at length. This understanding may help them understand their rights, be respectful and inclusive to others in society.

**Awareness of Menstrual Health & Hygiene:** Talking about menstrual health and hygiene is taboo in our society. It leads to stress, anxiety and the feeling of being discriminated against in young girls. A session with hostel girls of Unchi Udaan (HZL hostel students) engaged them through activities in knowing their bodies and the menstrual cycle. Though hesitant initially, they started talking about it as biological differences between a male and a female body.

**Hostel Stay:** One team member started living in the VBS girls' hostel. It is to build good rapport, understand their problems closely, and help them cope with emotional needs. It helped some students to overcome their anxieties, fear of failure and resolve internal in-group conflicts.

**Committee of Supporting Relieved Employees:** The Wellness Team and others provided guidance and counselling to ex-employees in finding new jobs and providing financial support. The committee got the backing of the Aajeevika Bureau to look for jobs. Vidya Bhawan Society separately raised Rs. 3 lac to provide financial support. Ten ex-employees got help through this initiative



## REPORT ON ESTATE

Vidya Bhawan Society has ten institutions on 600 acres of land, including an Environment Center 10 km from Udaipur-city limits.

Similar to the last several years, this year, Vidya Bhawan received a generous donation from individuals, corporate houses, and organisations to improve infrastructure facilities. Vidya Bhawan used these funds for infrastructural maintenance and construction of new buildings in different government institutions.

1. Vidya Bhawan Senior Secondary School: Bajaj holdings and investment Ltd (BHIL) donations improved the school's hockey and football ground facilities, including water retention through non-paved walkways and trench construction. Mr Ajay Dasotar, an alumnus helped renovate school security's quarter: the kitchen and a new toilet attached to the house. With support from R.K Marbles, the school developed two in-house gardens. Mr Babel, school alumni and ex governing body member donated to build a park near the girls' hostel.
2. Vidya Bhawan Campus, Ramgiri: With support from BHIL, three classrooms got renovated along with the staffroom. A new amphitheatre was constructed with a sitting arrangement for 500 participants making it convenient for the school and GIES to conduct its cultural and other programs. The fund was used for renovating many parts of this historic campus including the Gandhi Peace Centre building.
3. Vidya Bhawan Rural Institute Siphon Badgaon: Rural Institute got its building map digitalised, and it converted an old gym into a classroom and built a new parking stand.
4. Vidya Bhawan Krishi Vigyan Kendra: Vegetable Kiosk on the main roadside of VBKVK got a new look.

### Urgent next year task

About a hundred staff quarters exist in different Vidya Bhawan Campuses some of these need repair. Other than this, Estate also needs to fix the boundary wall of various Vidya Bhawan institutions, as they are in poor shape.

Years of Quality Education



# HR REPORT

Formerly Vidya Bhawan Finance Secretary and Staff Selection Committee Chairman managed the Human Resource (HR) portfolio in Vidya Bhawan. In 2010 Vidya Bhawan created a full-fledged HR department. A designated HR Manager heads the department since then. Now, all HR issues and policies of 450 Vidya Bhawan employees get regulated through this department.

## **2020-21: the year that it was**

- The year 2020-21 brought a major upheaval in our lives as the world got infected by the deadly Corona virus. At the time of reporting, more than four lakh Indians have lost their life because of the pandemic. The inevitable act of lockdown by all the governments worldwide further brought misery to the people in the form of economic deprivation. It impacted the people informal sector and the small businesses the most.
- In India, the national lockdown started in mid-March 2020. Vidya Bhawan institutions too had to close down following the government order.
- Despite closing down its regular operations, Vidya Bhawan continued to function. Caring for its landed property and other assets, spread over 600 acres in 11 institutions, was one such issue. To coordinate both academics and administrative activities, a regular system of digital communication was established.
- The national lockdown continued uninterrupted for three months. Towards the end of June 2020 the lockdown began to ease. The office started functioning in a staggered manner following government directives. As soon as the office work got normalized, the HR department facilitated appointment of 17 academic and administrative staff across all VBS institutions. It also notified the yearly contracts of existing contract staff.
- The most difficult of all related lockdown decisions was laying off contract staff

associated strictly with routine maintenance operations. They had no job to do without everyday operations in institutions. Later, when the regular offices started, the HR department reached out to these laid-off staff to help them find gainful employment.

## **Routine Task**

This year Vidya Bhawan President agreed to amend casual and medical leaves rules. Now staff can take a half-day casual leave as compared to earlier when staff could take a casual leave only for the entire working day. Similarly, upto five days of unavailed medical leave will get credited to an employee's account at the beginning of the year. Apart from the leave rule, some procedural changes have made the operation of the staff welfare fund and Vidya Bhawan staff quarter allotment more transparent.

Besides these reforms, the department will undertake an internal HR audit of all Vidya Bhawan institutions. Such audits will promote informed HR decisions in the institutions and provide leverage to improve human resource planning. HR audit of two Vidya Bhawan institutions, the Public School & Krishi Vigyan Kendra, was completed this year

## **Future Task**

One of the long-pending challenges for the HR department is to prepare a scheme for yearly performance appraisal for all Vidya Bhawan staff. Developing an appraisal scheme is a critical task for human resource development. It is expected to lead to a better work culture in the organisation. Good interpersonal relations at all levels must precede before an effective scheme can be designed. Sanchalak Mandal, Heads weekly meeting, etc., are platforms activated to create a conducive environment for employees across the institutional hierarchies to talk among themselves on contentious issues.



# CREDIBILITY ALLIANCE NORMS COMPLIANCE REPORT

Vidya Bhawan is registered as a Society under Section 5 of the Certificate of Registration under Societies Registration Act No. VII of 1941 bearing No. 5079/1941 dated 10-09-1941. Tax exemption is granted to it under section 80(G) of Income Tax Act 1961. The Unique registration number is AAAAV1234A/08/2017-18/S-026/80G and is valid unless specifically withdrawn. Its FCRA Registration No. is 125690033 dated 04-08-2016 and is valid for five years w. e. f. 01-11-2016.

## **Main Bankers**

- (i) ICICI Bank Ltd., Vidya Bhawan Society Branch, Udaipur
- (ii) State Bank of India, New Delhi Main Branch, 11 Sansad Marg, New Delhi
- (iii) HDFC Bank, Chetak Circle, Udaipur

**Auditors :** M/s. Shashi Kant Mehta & Co.,  
32, Arvind Nagar, Sunderwas (North), Udaipur, Rajasthan.

## **Distribution of staff according to salary levels:**

Slab of Gross Salary (in Rs.) plus benefits paid to staff per month	Male Staff	Female Staff	Total Strength of Staff
Less than 5000	0	0	0
5000 - 10000	15	5	20
10000 - 25000	168	124	292
25000 - 50000	72	51	123
50000 - 100000	14	4	18
Above 100000	9	0	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>462</b>

Staff remuneration [Gross salary + benefits] in Rupees:

Head of the organization: (including honorarium):	NIL
Highest paid person in the organisation (staff or consultant):	26,63,544/-
Lowest paid person in the organisation (staff or consultant):	86,736/-

Staff International Travel: None

Cost of National Travels by Board Members/Staff/Volunteers: Rs. 80,106/-.

Remuneration paid to members of Statutory Governing Body for attending meetings: Nil



# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



## SHASHI KANT MEHTA & CO.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

32, ARVIND NAGAR, SUNDERWAS (NORTH), UDAIPUR (RAJ.) 313001

☎ 9414352762

☎ 0294-2490494

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of VIDYA BHAWAN SOCIETY, Udaipur, which comprise the Balance sheet as at March 31, 2021, and the Income and Expenditure Account for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements of the entity are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in India.

#### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Standards on Auditing (SAs). 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 other responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Emphasis of matter

***Without qualifying our report, we draw attention to the note No. 11 of Schedule D (Notes on accounts) regarding 82 pending legal cases in High court and RNGEIT involving claims of Rs. 536.45 Lakhs. Outcome of these cases may affect the financials of the Society to that extent.***

#### Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in India 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.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the entity's financial reporting process.





## Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole 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.

As part of an audit in accordance with SAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- i) Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control
- ii) Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.
- iii) Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- iv) Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.

We communicate with those charged with governance 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.

For **SHASHI KANT MEHTA & CO.**  
Chartered Accountants  
Firm Reg. No. 002564C



*S K Mehta*

**CA S. K. MEHTA**  
Proprietor  
Mem. No. 071384

Udaipur  
Sept 15, 2021  
UDIN 21071384AAAACM2588







## Vidya Bhawan Society, Udaipur (Raj.)

Balance Sheet as at 31st March, 2021

Funds and Liabilities	Sch.	Amount (Rs.) 31.03.2020	Assets	Amount (Rs.) 31.03.2021	Sch.	Amount (Rs.) 31.03.2020	Amount (Rs.) 31.03.2021
General Fund	A	20,69,19,663.77	Fixed Assets	19,34,35,100.54	B	24,83,65,687.17	25,39,03,421.99
Other Funds & Reserves	A	9,69,37,080.34	Stock / Inventories / Live Stock	9,65,15,966.96		1,03,44,888.95	85,66,828.91
Secured Term Loan from Bank		16,696.75	Security and Other Deposits	-		14,89,419.50	13,46,377.50
Bank Overdraft		1,10,10,320.70	Overspent Grants / Balances	1,40,82,203.24		4,14,76,141.07	3,52,97,660.94
Security Deposit Payable/ Caution Money		1,50,94,938.00	Receivables	1,48,39,593.00		8,25,74,169.17	10,36,86,938.01
Unspent Grants/ Donations/ Balances		1,75,47,468.55	Advance Income Tax (TDS)	86,20,536.45		1,36,88,231.56	52,91,282.93
Statutory Deductions		38,15,494.00	Cash and Bank Balances	47,06,205.00	C	7,55,23,718.59	7,56,28,443.71
Payables		12,21,40,593.90		15,15,21,348.80			
			<b>D</b>			<b>47,34,82,256.01</b>	<b>48,37,20,953.99</b>

Notes on Accounts

For VIDYA BHAWAN SOCIETY

*Akshay*

Akhil P. Trivedi  
Chief Finance Officer

Place: Udaipur  
Date: 15.09.2021

*Hemant Bohra*

Hemant Bohra  
Hon'ble Secretary

*Ajay S. Mehta*

Ajay S. Mehta  
President



As per our report of even date  
For SHASHI KANT MEHTA & CO.  
Chartered Accountants  
Firm Reg.No.002564C

*Shayan*

CA S.K. Mehta  
Proprietor  
Mem.No. 071384



## VIDYA BHAWAN SOCIETY , UDAIPUR (RAJ.)

**Schedule 'A'**  
Amount (in Rs.)

### GENERAL FUND AND OTHER RESERVES

Particulars	31.03.2020	31.03.2021
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>		
Balance as on 01.04.2020	20,03,83,992.83	20,69,19,663.77
Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure		
Educational Units	(2,17,05,738.99)	(71,37,198.48)
Service Units	1,32,79,021.93	<u>(1,14,81,743.75)</u>
		(1,86,18,942.23)
Grant/ Donations Capitalised	1,42,54,921.00	51,71,064.00
Fees Capitalised	7,07,467.00	60,973.00
Less - Grant/ Donation Decapitalised		<u>(97,658.00)</u>
<b>Closing Balance as on 31.3.2021</b>	<u><b>20,69,19,663.77</b></u>	<u><b>19,34,35,100.54</b></u>

### OTHER FUNDS AND RESERVES

Contingency Fund	5,99,72,553.84	5,99,72,553.84
Assets Reconstruction & Modernization Reserve	40,65,891.00	40,48,191.00
Staff Welfare Fund	14,59,862.00	15,51,480.00
Student Welfare Fund	65,74,300.15	65,72,076.15
Resource Centre Reserve	(12,10,248.83)	(12,10,248.83)
Depreciation Reserve	20,26,647.00	18,09,888.00
ICAR Revolving Fund	24,19,147.91	25,54,303.91
KVK Seed Hub Revolving Fund	98,46,999.41	99,44,337.11
Medicine Bank	30,661.00	30,661.00
Centre of Excellence for Animal Infertility (KVK)	9,53,184.00	8,44,151.00
Book Bank Fund	32,16,881.00	36,22,055.00
Equipment Reserve Fund	1,40,011.00	85,381.00
Scholarship Funds	29,41,190.86	32,06,316.78
Building Fund (Bajaj Holdings & Investment P.Ltd.)	45,00,000.00	34,84,821.00
<b>Total (Rs.)</b>	<u><b>9,69,37,080.34</b></u>	<u><b>9,65,15,966.96</b></u>

*Francis*





## VIDYA BHAWAN SOCIETY, UDAIPUR (RAJ.)

### Schedule 'B'

FIXED ASSETS				Amount (in Rs.)
S.No.	Particulars	Balance as on 31.03.2020	Addition/ Ded.	Balance as on 31.03.2021
1	Land and Buildings	12,54,64,090.53	2,76,285.00	12,57,40,375.53
2	Furniture and Equipments	10,01,85,327.08	19,89,969.82	10,21,75,296.90
3	Library Books and Equipments	83,89,438.70	5,522.00	83,94,960.70
4	Vehicles	1,05,73,054.86	-	1,05,73,054.86
5	Software	22,25,013.00	-	22,25,013.00
6	Building Work-in-Progress (Bajaj)	15,48,763.00	32,45,958.00	47,94,721.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>24,83,85,687.17</b>	<b>55,17,734.82</b>	<b>25,39,03,421.99</b>

### Schedule 'C'

CASH AND BANK BALANCES			
Particulars	Amount 31.03.2020	Amount 31.03.2021	Amount 31.03.2021
<b>Fixed Deposits:-</b>			
For Gratuity	2,32,21,346.30	2,33,44,888.20	
Accrued Interest	45,87,512.00	15,04,204.00	2,48,49,092.20
Staff Welfare Fund	8,74,930.00	8,74,930.00	
Accrued Interest	11,688.00	64,843.00	9,39,773.00
Scholarships Fund	16,29,438.00	17,21,294.07	
Accrued Interest	77,930.00	48,439.00	17,69,733.07
<b>Other Balances:-</b>			
Fixed Deposits	1,27,16,265.55	85,06,914.55	
Fixed Deposits for Affiliation	1,30,97,974.00	1,30,70,117.00	
Accrued Interest on F.D.R.	10,43,518.00	14,78,845.00	2,30,55,876.55
Saving & Current Accounts	1,78,03,618.07		2,41,20,430.22
DD & Cheque in hand	54,228.00		4,81,664.00
Cash on hand	4,05,270.67		4,11,874.67
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,55,23,718.59</b>		<b>7,56,28,443.71</b>

*Arora*



**VIDYA BHAWAN SOCIETY, UDAIPUR**  
**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED ON 31st MARCH, 2021**

	AMOUNT (Rs.) 31.03.2020	AMOUNT (Rs.) 31.03.2021	INCOME	AMOUNT (Rs.) 31.03.2020	AMOUNT (Rs.) 31.03.2021
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>					
To Opening Stock / Live Stock	69,56,678.00	70,46,426.00	By Fees	9,31,21,970.00	7,33,67,116.00
To Purchases	97,02,258.50	80,84,651.95	By Donation	1,04,55,197.50	1,46,45,599.64
To Salary & Allowance	13,70,90,568.00	12,86,10,703.00	By Rent	1,17,36,322.00	1,03,10,282.48
Add: Gratuity	55,39,368.00	1,22,97,464.00	By Honorarium Charges	1,63,12,818.00	1,63,63,075.00
<b>Net Salary &amp; Allowance</b>	<b>14,26,28,936.00</b>	<b>14,08,98,167.00</b>	By Sales	1,49,67,789.50	1,52,78,299.00
To Activity Expenses	36,43,410.72	3,29,804.20	By Grant in Aid	4,51,127.00	98,57,127.00
To Administrative Expenses (Ann.1)	1,72,86,969.72	69,66,700.10	By Administrative Overhead	26,04,815.00	12,98,737.00
To Affiliation Fees	9,66,636.00	12,01,700.00	By Boarding & Lodging Charges	70,38,065.00	17,14,104.00
To Audit Fees (Statutory Auditor)	86,400.00	1,05,137.00	By Royalty	1,78,966.00	1,05,571.00
To Bank Charges & Interest Expenses	9,45,953.91	6,86,945.10	By Bank Interest	38,65,902.90	47,47,476.67
To Boarding & Lodging Charges	46,47,192.56	29,31,900.44	By Miscellaneous Income	29,94,545.05	29,33,867.69
To Entrance/ Internal Examination Expenses	5,36,698.00	1,34,152.00	By Seminar/Workshop Organising Charges	94,400.00	79,350.00
To Expenses against specific purpose donation	3,05,275.00	3,01,360.00	By Support for Development of Infra Structure	40,000.00	-
To Functions, Celebrations & Cultural Activity Expenses	8,46,505.00	46,409.00	By Closing Stock / Live Stock	70,46,426.00	78,88,687.00
To Honorarium & Remuneration	5,67,550.00	5,88,168.00	By Programme Exp. Contributed by FCRA	1,06,49,412.00	1,52,54,460.00
To Internal Audit Fees	1,38,650.00	-	By Grants/ Specific Donations (to the extent utilized)	15,16,38,925.85	11,72,54,019.46
To Library Books, Newspaper & Periodicals	2,90,353.00	42,486.00	Less: Received for Fees	(1,16,60,640.00)	(87,92,900.00)
To Local Conveyance & Vehicle Running Expenses	26,83,064.00	8,74,101.00	Less: Received for Administrative Overhead	(26,04,815.00)	(12,98,737.00)
To Publicity & Advertisement	11,00,934.00	4,48,590.00	Less: Received for Rent	(53,32,900.00)	(32,72,500.00)
To Rent (Building, Equipment etc)	1,13,347.00	2,05,060.00	Less: Programme Exp. Contributed by FCRA	(1,08,49,412.00)	(1,52,54,460.00)
To Repair & Maintenance	54,40,246.00	16,98,408.00	Net Grants of Projects	12,13,91,156.85	8,66,35,522.46
To Relationship, Legal & Professional Expenses	6,52,400.00	4,06,831.00	By Excess of Expenditure over Income	85,55,392.46	1,85,91,366.31
To Urban Development Tax	1,20,356.00	1,47,945.00			
To Grants/ Specific Donations (to the extent utilized)	15,18,38,925.85	11,72,54,019.46			
Less: Programme Exp. Contributed by FCRA	(2,89,65,038.00)	(1,52,49,970.00)			
Less: Charged by Society	11,20,24,475.85	8,67,49,589.46			
Net Grants of Projects	-	1,92,350.00			
To Provision for Doubtful Receivables	-	1,00,000.00			
To Contribution to Staff Welfare Fund	-	2,03,71,650.00			
To Contribution to Gratuity Provision	-	-			
	<b>31,17,06,306.26</b>	<b>28,07,70,741.25</b>			
By Balance B/f	85,55,392.46	1,85,91,366.31	By Balance B/f	31,17,06,306.26	28,07,70,741.25
To Fund Interest transferred	-	-	By Depreciation Reserve Fund utilised	3,12,324.00	1,55,786.00
Staff Welfare Fund	56,232.00	60,036.00	By Excess of Expenditure over Income	84,26,717.06	1,86,18,942.23
Scholarship Fund	1,27,416.60	1,23,325.92			
	<b>87,29,041.08</b>	<b>1,87,74,728.23</b>			
	<b>87,29,041.08</b>	<b>1,87,74,728.23</b>			

For VIDYA BHAWAN SOCIETY

*Shweta*  
Asha P. Trivedi  
Chief Finance Officer

Place: Udaipur

Date: 15.09.2021

*Manoj*  
Manoj Bohra  
Hon'y. Secretary

As per our report of even date for SHASHI KANTI MEHTA &amp; CO. Firm Reg. No. 002594C



*Anwela*  
Anwela S. Mehta  
President



*Shravan*  
CA. S. K. MEHTA  
Proprietor  
M. No. 071394

## Annexure 1

Heads of Accounts	Educational Institutions	Servicing & other Units	Total	Inter Dept.	Net
<b>Administrative Expenses</b>					
-Balance Written Off	11,550.00	1,65,725.18	1,77,275.18	-	1,77,275.18
-DG Set Expenses	1,700.00	22,969.00	24,669.00		24,669.00
-Electricity & Water	14,18,727.00	20,56,723.00	34,75,450.00	6,14,856.00	28,60,594.00
-GST Expenses	-	432.00	432.00	-	432.00
-Insurance Expenses	41,050.00	8,89,998.75	9,31,048.75	-	9,31,048.75
-Loss on Sale of Fixed Assets	-	50,244.00	50,244.00		50,244.00
-Meeting Expenses	5,050.00	23,449.00	28,499.00	1,200.00	27,299.00
-Membership Fees Exp.	8,260.00	-	8,260.00	-	8,260.00
-Miscellaneous Expenses	1,91,313.00	6,30,199.17	8,21,512.17	260.00	8,21,252.17
-Office Expenses	34,207.00	83,476.00	1,17,683.00	-	1,17,683.00
-Printing & Stationery	2,43,552.00	2,85,845.00	5,29,397.00	-	5,29,397.00
-Printing of Prospectus	-	25,200.00	25,200.00	-	25,200.00
-Prior Period Expenses	3,52,029.00	3,05,192.00	6,57,221.00	-	6,57,221.00
-Telephone, Postage & Communication	3,17,277.00	60,045.00	3,77,322.00	-	3,77,322.00
-Travelling, Boarding & Lodging	9,791.00	70,315.00	80,106.00	-	80,106.00
-Veterinary Medicine & Service	-	2,78,697.00	2,78,697.00	-	2,78,697.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,34,506.00</b>	<b>49,48,510.10</b>	<b>75,83,016.10</b>	<b>6,16,316.00</b>	<b>69,66,700.10</b>



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VIDYA BHAWAN SOCIETY, UDAIPUR  
INCOME & EXPENDITURE A/C - INCLUDING SERVICE UNIT - FOR THE YEAR ENDED ON 31ST MARCH, 2021

INCOME	EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTRE	SR. SEC. SCHOOL	S.S. SCHOOL RAMGIRI	GST COLLEGE	POLY. COLLEGE	PUBLIC SCHOOL	GANDHIAN INSTITUTE	RURAL INSTITUTE	VB SOCIETY	TOTAL
Administrative Overhead	10,09,204.00	1,84,533.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	45,000.00	12,98,737.00
Printing & Binding Charges	1,05,971.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19,60,924.00	19,60,924.00
Donation	-	33,96,800.00	-	-	-	-	-	1,30,355.00	1,11,19,444.84	1,46,45,599.84
Concessory Royalty	-	2,03,91,955.00	22,21,554.00	1,03,73,528.00	1,40,60,889.00	62,76,045.00	66,72,820.00	1,32,34,825.00	5,32,500.00	7,37,64,116.00
Fees	-	-	-	-	94,06,000.00	-	-	4,51,127.00	-	98,57,127.00
Grant in Aid	1,69,39,469.00	62,500.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,44,197.00	1,80,46,166.00
Honorarium Charges	22,484.00	15,909.00	5,187.00	11,487.00	19,266.00	24,866.00	5,182.00	4,06,920.19	42,47,175.48	47,47,476.67
Interest Income	62,881.00	2,80,929.00	29,259.00	1,47,009.00	5,59,912.46	20,497.00	14,027.00	2,11,181.00	21,79,895.23	35,05,290.99
Miscellaneous Income	4,18,012.48	8,27,676.00	4,320.00	22,38,342.00	-	-	-	11,17,080.00	88,26,682.00	1,34,32,112.48
Retent	-	32,600.00	-	94,500.00	-	-	-	2,12,200.00	-	1,77,81,778.00
Salaries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	78,39,300.00	78,39,300.00
Stamp/Workshop Organising Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	78,39,300.00	78,39,300.00
Change Stock / Live Stock	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,86,17,321.48</b>	<b>2,51,92,902.00</b>	<b>22,60,320.00</b>	<b>1,28,64,866.00</b>	<b>2,41,78,667.46</b>	<b>63,21,408.00</b>	<b>66,92,029.00</b>	<b>1,57,57,688.19</b>	<b>5,51,27,733.35</b>	<b>16,70,12,935.48</b>

SCHEDULE OF TOTAL INSTITUTIONS WISE EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED ON 31ST MARCH, 2021

EXPENDITURE	EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTRE	SR. SEC. SCHOOL	S.S. SCHOOL RAMGIRI	GST COLLEGE	POLY. COLLEGE	PUBLIC SCHOOL	GANDHIAN INSTITUTE	RURAL INSTITUTE	VB SOCIETY	TOTAL
Salary & Allowances	1,43,50,196.00	2,26,83,708.00	74,96,729.00	1,17,09,946.00	2,37,13,501.00	64,79,276.00	78,69,858.00	1,70,66,366.00	2,95,28,589.00	14,08,98,167.00
Total Pay & Allowances	<b>1,43,50,196.00</b>	<b>2,26,83,708.00</b>	<b>74,96,729.00</b>	<b>1,17,09,946.00</b>	<b>2,37,13,501.00</b>	<b>64,79,276.00</b>	<b>78,69,858.00</b>	<b>1,70,66,366.00</b>	<b>2,95,28,589.00</b>	<b>14,08,98,167.00</b>
Opening Stock / Live Stock	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	70,424.00	70,424.00
Activity Expenses	47,383.00	-	-	1,34,780.00	21,082.98	21,236.00	-	68,470.12	41,844.00	3,20,804.00
Administrative Expenses - Sch.1	9,119.00	18,02,341.18	1,87,129.00	9,60,798.00	9,26,785.00	1,82,699.00	1,61,169.00	7,08,175.00	26,14,556.82	75,32,772.10
Affiliation Fees	-	2,000.00	2,000.00	-	1,20,000.00	-	2,74,000.00	8,03,700.00	-	12,01,700.00
Audit Fees (Statutory Auditor)	-	797.87	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,05,197.00	1,05,197.00
Bank Charges & Interest Expenses	2,97,237.00	32,71,071.00	1,315.15	-	739.51	236.00	222.98	131.83	6,63,510.76	6,86,945.10
Book Binding Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,95,173.44	4,95,173.44
Book Bank Fees	-	8,767.00	7,172.00	35,916.00	21,481.00	19,776.00	35,716.00	8,474.00	-	1,37,302.00
Entrance/ Internal Examination Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,91,935.00	3,91,935.00
Expenses against specific purpose donation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,059.00	8,059.00
Functions, Celebrations & Cultural Activity Expenses	2,28,437.00	21,079.00	3,186.00	2,085.00	4,03,800.00	5,281.00	500.00	6,719.00	3,61,431.00	9,94,168.00
Honorarium & Remuneration	-	14,592.00	3,351.00	7,630.00	1,690.00	3,260.00	4,110.00	3,623.00	4,240.00	42,496.00
Library Books, Newspaper & Periodicals	660.00	5,340.00	31,972.00	9,750.00	6,890.00	9,605.00	8,086.00	14,997.00	7,86,781.00	8,74,101.00
Printing & Stationery Expenses	9,195.00	34,730.00	39,424.00	35,120.00	73,088.00	34,048.00	8,916.00	1,08,924.00	1,36,305.95	2,90,954.00
Purchases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	87,35,305.95	87,35,305.95
Provision for doubtful receivables	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,92,350.00	1,92,350.00
Rent	37,972.00	4,26,613.00	92,248.00	33,412.00	1,83,248.00	2,32,588.00	27,600.00	3,18,223.00	2,24,109.00	37,54,109.00
Repair & Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,49,489.00	19,01,643.00
Relationship, Legal & Professional Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,08,831.00	4,08,831.00
Urban Development Tax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,47,945.00	1,47,945.00
Loss on Sale of Fixed Assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50,244.00	50,244.00
Loss on Sale of Life Insurance Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,00,000.00	1,00,000.00
Gratuity Provision	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,03,000.00	2,03,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,49,33,416.00</b>	<b>3,18,48,420.05</b>	<b>78,60,526.15</b>	<b>1,29,27,483.00</b>	<b>2,58,69,825.59</b>	<b>69,68,004.00</b>	<b>83,90,427.98</b>	<b>1,91,02,892.95</b>	<b>7,29,57,856.07</b>	<b>20,08,58,761.79</b>
<b>SURPLUS/DEFICIT OF THE YEAR Before FCRA Contribution</b>	<b>36,83,905.48</b>	<b>(66,55,518.05)</b>	<b>(56,00,206.15)</b>	<b>(62,817.00)</b>	<b>(16,91,158.13)</b>	<b>(6,48,596.00)</b>	<b>(16,08,398.98)</b>	<b>(33,45,114.76)</b>	<b>(1,79,30,122.72)</b>	<b>(3,38,45,826.31)</b>
Add: Programme Expenditure Contributed by FCRA	6,57,883.00	44,64,810.00	22,33,221.00	16,12,620.00	-	12,12,330.00	20,45,004.00	26,37,727.00	3,91,665.00	1,52,54,460.00
<b>GROSS SURPLUS/DEFICIT after FCRA Contribution</b>	<b>43,40,888.48</b>	<b>(21,90,708.05)</b>	<b>(33,66,985.15)</b>	<b>15,50,003.00</b>	<b>(16,91,158.13)</b>	<b>5,65,734.00</b>	<b>3,46,605.02</b>	<b>(7,07,387.76)</b>	<b>(1,74,38,457.72)</b>	<b>(1,85,91,366.31)</b>



*Arjun*



	INCOME	EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTRE	SR. SEC. SCHOOL	S.S. SCHOOL RAMGIRI	GST COLLEGE	POLY. COLLEGE	PUBLIC SCHOOL	GANDHIAN INSTITUTE	RURAL INSTITUTE	VB SOCIETY	TOTAL
Balance b/d		43,40,988.48	(21,90,708.05)	(33,66,985.15)	15,50,003.00	(16,91,158.13)	5,65,734.00	3,46,605.02	(7,07,387.76)	(1,74,38,457.72)	(1,85,91,366.31)
Disp. Res. Fund		-	-	-	-	1,55,786.00	-	-	-	-	1,55,786.00
Total		43,40,988.48	(21,90,708.05)	(33,66,985.15)	15,50,003.00	(15,35,372.13)	5,65,734.00	3,46,605.02	(7,07,387.76)	(1,74,38,457.72)	(1,84,35,580.31)
	EXPENDITURE	EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTRE	SR. SEC. SCHOOL	S.S. SCHOOL RAMGIRI	GST COLLEGE	POLY. COLLEGE	PUBLIC SCHOOL	GANDHIAN INSTITUTE	RURAL INSTITUTE	VB SOCIETY	TOTAL
Fund Interest		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-Staff Welfare Fund		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60,096.00	60,096.00
-Scholarship Fund		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,23,325.92	1,23,325.92
Total		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,83,421.92	1,83,421.92
<b>SURPLUS/DEFICIT OF THE YEAR</b>		43,40,988.48	(21,90,708.05)	(33,66,985.15)	15,50,003.00	(15,35,372.13)	5,65,734.00	3,46,605.02	(7,07,387.76)	(1,76,21,819.64)	(1,86,19,942.23)
Less: Inter dept. Transaction (Income)		13,75,734.00	93,67,734.00	6,000.00	21,74,400.00	78,000.00	-	-	74,904.00	90,10,808.00	(1,86,19,942.23)
Add: Inter dept. Transaction (Expenditure)		1,41,080.00	49,55,931.00	1,345.00	1,800.00	7,83,000.00	-	3,240.00	-	9,41,214.00	2,20,87,580.00
Less: Surplus transferred from Projects		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,52,49,970.00	1,52,49,970.00
<b>NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>		31,06,334.48	(66,02,511.05)	(33,71,640.15)	(6,22,687.00)	(8,20,372.13)	5,65,734.00	3,49,845.02	(7,82,291.76)	(1,04,41,443.64)	(1,86,19,942.23)



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**Vidya Bhawan Society, Udaipur**

**Abridged Receipt and Payment Account for the year ended on 31st March 2021**

	Receipts	Payments	Amount
To Cash and Bank Balances as on 01.04.2020	9,63,36,687.91	By Acquisition of fixed assets	50,77,434.00
To Grants for Projects	1,12,09,309.15	Out of Grants	60,973.00
To Misc. receipts in projects		Out of Fees	93,630.00
To Income of the year		Out of Donation	
Fees	6,46,35,289.00	Out of Own sources	5,35,048.00
Grant in aid	98,57,127.00	By Grants Utilised	7,57,12,443.46
Donation	1,49,44,229.64	Returnded / adjusted	
Honorary	1,63,63,075.00	By Expenses of the year	
Interest	52,05,273.31	Salary and Allowances	14,14,86,335.00
Rent	70,37,782.48	Administrative exp	18,41,787.00
Boarding and Lodging charges	17,14,104.00	Bank charges and Interest	6,86,945.10
Seminar/workshop organising	79,350.00	Activity, functions, celebrations expenses	3,76,213.20
Other	1,07,75,446.74	Light and water	28,85,263.00
Less Recd from Projects	13,06,11,677.17	Legal and professional	4,08,631.00
		Repairs and Maintenance	16,98,408.00
		Conveyance/Vehicle running	9,54,207.00
To Scholarship Fund	74,64,771.27	Insurance	9,31,046.75
To Income Tax refunds (net of TDS)	83,96,948.63	Printing and stationery	5,54,597.00
To Book Bank	4,05,174.00	Communication exp	3,77,322.00
To Equipment reserve fund	39,000.00	Publicity and Advertisements	4,48,590.00
To Sale of Fixed assets	50,300.00	Prior period expenses	6,57,221.00
To Centre of Excellency for Animalinfertility	35,400.00	Boarding and Lodging expenses	29,31,900.44
To Staff welfare Fund	1,73,810.00	Expenses against specific donation	3,01,360.00
To Decrease in Inventories	17,78,060.04	Urban Tax	1,47,945.00
To Decrease in security deposits	1,43,042.00	Other Expenses	11,85,308.17
To Increase in Sundry Payables	90,08,904.90	By Scholarship	15,80,83,281.66
To Increase in Statutory Deductions payable	8,90,711.00	By Fund Utilisation	73,22,971.27
To Increase in Bank Borrowings	30,55,185.79	By Seed Hub Deficit	14,76,367.00
		By Contribution to Staff welfare Fund	2,25,302.94
		By Decrease in Caution money and Security deposits	1,00,000.00
		By Increase in sundry receivable	2,55,345.00
		By Donations utilised	1,40,04,464.95
		By Cash and Bank Balances as on 31.03.2021	2,05,000.00
			7,56,28,443.71
	<b>33,91,62,988.45</b>		<b>33,91,62,988.45</b>

Above Receipt and Payment Account is based on the Audited Balance Sheet of the Society

for VIDYA BHAWAN SOCIETY

*[Signature]*  
Hemant Bohra  
Hon'y. Secretary

*[Signature]*  
Akshil P. Trivedi  
Chief Finance Officer

Place: Udaipur  
Date: 15.09.2021



*[Signature]*  
AJAY S. MEHTA  
President

For SHASHI KANT MEHTA & CO  
Chartered Accountants  
FRN 002564C

*[Signature]*  
CA S. K. MEHTA  
Proprietor  
M. No. 071394





## VIDYA BHAWAN SOCIETY, UDAIPUR – 2020-21

### Schedule – D

#### NOTES ON ACCOUNTS

1. Significant Accounting Policies
  - i) Accounting convention – The financial statements are prepared under historical cost convention.
  - ii) Fixed Assets – All fixed assets are stated at cost of acquisition.
  - iii) Depreciation – No depreciation provided on fixed assets.
  - iv) All expenses and income are generally being accounted on accrual basis. Fees from students for academic session 2020-21 treated as income of financial year 2020-21.
  - v) Any assets acquired under projects out of grants received or from out of fees or donation have been capitalized under respective heads by simultaneously crediting equal amount to General Reserve.
  - vi) Grants received for specific purposes treated as income to the extent utilised.
  - vii) Balances and receipt of fees earmarked for specific purposes and remained unspent treated as liability and not shown as Income. The utilisation of specific fees shown as Expenditure of the Society and equal amount shown as income in Income and Expenditure appropriation account.
  - viii) Livestock is valued at net realizable value and other inventories are valued at cost or realizable value, whichever is lower.
2. Interest incomes on Staff Welfare Fund ₹ 60,036.00 and Scholarships Fund ₹1,23,325.92 have been credited to respective funds by debiting Income & Expenditure Appropriation Account.
3. Interest earned on deposits and balances of Revolving Fund of ICAR ₹ 1,35,156.00 and Seed Hub ₹ 3,22,640.64 is added directly to the Revolving Fund.
4. Grant received for specific purposes treated as income of the year to the extent utilized – ₹8,86,35,522.46 during the year.
5. Amount received from Foreign Contributions kept in separate account and shown as income and expenditure to the extent utilised. Balance unutilized/ receivable shown under the head unspent grant or overspent grant as the case may be.
6. ₹1,55,786.00 incurred out of Depreciation reserve Fund have been debited to respective expenses accounts and credited the equal amount to Income and Expenditure Appropriation Account.
7. There is a liability of ₹ 810.11 Lakhs towards gratuity for which society has taken policy from LIC. Against this liability society has paid a sum of ₹ 5 Lakhs to LIC.
8. Income and Expenses of the year are net of expenses amounting to ₹152.50 Lakhs charged from Projects (Previous year's – 289.16 Lakhs).
9. Income tax Assessments completed up to Assessment Year 2020-21.

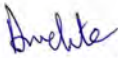
*Shree*






10. A sum of ₹448.50 Lakhs receivable from Govt. of Rajasthan towards salary & allowances of some employees of V.B. Polytechnic College. Same has not been accounted due to uncertainty regarding percentage to be shared by Government. A sum of ₹ 94.06 Lakhs have been received in the financial year 2020-21 against these outstanding balances. Society has represented the matter with appropriate authorities and intend to take suitable action to recover the same.
11. Claims of ₹ 536.45 Lakhs against the Society towards Gratuity, leave encashment, VI pay arrear, delayed payment of Gratuity, leave encashment, VI pay arrear etc. not acknowledged as debts and same are disputed by the Society. 34 cases are pending in Rajasthan High court towards claims of ₹ 110.86 Lakhs and 48 cases are pending in RUGEIT towards claims of ₹ 425.59 Lakhs.
12. Previous Year's figures have been re-grouped / re-arranged wherever considered necessary.

For VIDYA BHAWAN SOCIETY

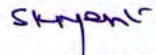
  
AJAY S. MEHTA  
President

  
HEMANT BOHRA  
Hony. Secretary

Place: Udaipur  
Date: 15.09.2021

As per our report of even date  
For SHASHI KANT MEHTA & CO.  
Chartered Accountants  
Firm Reg.No.002564C



  
CA S. K. MEHTA  
Proprietor  
Membership No.071384

  
AKHIL P. TRIVEDI  
Chief Finance Officer



No one could have imagined the kind of uncertainties that the past 2 years have thrown us into. The first wave of Covid-19 pandemic came and we were suddenly locked in homes. Schools got closed. People lost their jobs and all this happened in such a way that no one was left with any alternative options for earning. One of the major adverse impact was on the education of students coming from a low economic background. The challenge before the students were to continue the education. On the other hand, educational institutions were struggling to continue their education without getting fee or full fee from such students. Vidya Bhawan is accommodating about 70% students coming from families having marginalized financial backgrounds. These families suffered a lot from the unprecedented situation as their financial conditions were already not very sound. From the very beginning, we realized that in view of these conditions, most of our parents would not be able to pay the fees of their children. Vidya Bhawan, due to its commitment to the larger Society, could not let this happen at all. So Vidya Bhawan took it as a mission and started efforts to raise funds to support cost of education of these students.

We were so fortunate to have donors like you who supported our mission wholeheartedly. Your cooperation to Vidya Bhawan has really made a big change to the Society. With your help, we were able to raise 1.5 crores rupees. Through this report, we are thankful to all our well-wishers, being individual, organisation or company to support this important cause. This amount was utilized to support around 800 students across its 3 schools and 4 colleges on need cum merit basis. Without your cooperation and support, they would have drop out of school losing all hopes of further education and the possibilities for their bright future. It is difficult to thank you enough for your generous contribution which has proved very important for Vidya Bhawan in fulfilling its commitment to provide quality, inclusive and all-round education.

Vidya Bhawan is grateful to all its donors whose support helped our students continue their education during this difficult period.



## **VIDYA BHAWAN SOCIETY**

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