

Annual Report 2015-16



15 years of enabling change, since 2001

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Cover page photos: Top left: Pragna class picture (Standard 1 and 2 combined) where pupils are learning together; Primary School, village Atali, block Vagra, district Bharuch (Gujarat). Top right: Girls and boys at Haldar village, Bharuch block, practicing 7 steps of handwashing. Bottom left: Youth (women) learning tailoring at the Vocational Training Centre at Jhagadia town and block, Bharuch district. Bottom right: Manishaben Bachubhai Vasava, 13 years, standard 7, village Khata Amla (Jhagadia block) received bicycle to go to school at Jhagadia town.

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Programme Area

(Gujarat, India)



Amreli, Bharuch and Narmada Districts

Approaches

- Child rights
- Women's empowerment
- Capacity building
- People's participation
- Partnership (with government and other stakeholders)

Vision, Mission and Goal



Mrs. Amita Pandya, Government Teacher (left) and Mrs. Sonal Gohil, Specialist Teacher (right), both co-teaching Standard 1 and 2 in groups (i.e. Pragna approach). Primary School, village Bhensali, block Vagra, district Bharuch.

Vision

We are committed to creating a strong and independent society without inequalities and discrimination, where everybody enjoys equal opportunities.

Mission

To foster democratic and equitable living environment, where all vulnerable people, especially the underprivileged, children and women have access to education, health, sustainable livelihood opportunity and essential infrastructure services irrespective of their economic and social status.

Goal

Overall socio-economic development of the underprivileged communities, especially children and women.

From the President's Desk...

Greetings from Gram Vikas Trust!

The reporting year 2015-16 remained quite exciting as we rolled out an ambitious Quality Education Project in 35 schools of Bharuch district in partnership with Reach to Teach, UK and the District Primary Education department. As a result of the successful beginning, by the end of the year, the decision was made to expand the project in another 35 schools in Bharuch district. The year also remained exciting from other initiatives as briefly described here.



We reached more than 9,000 pupils in primary schools through focus on increasing regular attendance in classes, improved quality education and improved sanitation facilities in rural public schools. This was achieved through multiple strategies. To understand and address the attendance related challenges, GVT and Reach to Teach recruited and trained 35 village-based Community Facilitators working in socio-economically marginalised communities. Furthermore, 35 Specialist Teachers were recruited, trained and mentored to co-teach along with the government teachers in standards 1 and 2. Thanks to our partner, Reach to Teach UK, for their financial, technical and managerial support in this quality education project. Our other achievements include construction of 15 new sanitation units and renovation of 5 existing ones in the same number of government primary schools through financial support from Charities Aids Foundation, New Delhi. Our food, nutrition and health as well as vocational training for sustainable livelihood initiatives benefitted 45 malnourished children and 742 community members.

We also took our accountability and transparency practices to higher level by further strengthening our monitoring, evaluation, learning and sharing system. Global Giving supported us through their Feedback Fund conducting surveys of 208 programme participants to know their feedbacks in ranks from 1 to 10 (least satisfied to highly satisfied, respectively). Over 95 per cent participants ranked the benefits received within a range of 6 to 10. We also received their suggestions for continuous improvements.

We attained Empanelment with Implementing Agencies Hub at Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) and National CSR Hub supported by Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. GVT also got Quality Education project under section 35 AC of Income tax certificate. We welcome corporate donors to join our journey of changing lives positively in rural areas. GVT also drafted its first Strategic Plan 2016-2020. GVT grew from under 18 staff strength to over 80 in 2015, and now all set to cross 185 in 2016.

I thank you all our partners for being with us in growth, and we look forward to forging new partnerships in continuing positive difference in the lives of children, especially strengthening their primary education.

Sincerely,

Ramesh J. Kasondra
Founder President

From Executive Director...

Warm greetings!

It gives me immense pleasure to present this 15th Annual Report that highlights our successes and pleads for rising support for the causes of education, health, sanitation and sustainable livelihoods – all of which positively contribute to alleviating the poverty conditions for the most marginalised communities.



Through a survey conducted in partnership with CII (Confederation of Indian Industry) ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development, it was sad to know that – right in the villages of industrial hub such as Dahej Special Economic Zone (SEZ) – the poverty level is more than 40 per cent (compared to around 30 per cent national level). This fact indicates the reality of increasing social inequality while economic progress is still to benefit the poor. As indicated by numerous studies, nearly half of the pupils in government primary schools in rural areas of Gujarat do not attain reading and Maths skills as appropriate to their ages. We learned that 'sicknesses' is one of the major reasons for the highly irregular pupils in rural areas. Job opportunities are rare and unemployment is high. As GVT continues to make a positive difference in this challenging situation, we realised that a lot more needs to be done.

We are proud to have made a positive difference in 9,864 people's lives, especially children and women, during the reporting year. This has been possible due to active participation by the local community members from more than 100 villages of Bharuch district, and due to great support from our partners that include national and international organisations and the district government departments. We are especially thankful to the District Primary Education Officers, Block Resource Centre Coordinators (education), and Block Resource *Pranga* Coordinators for their active support.

To address the larger challenges ahead, GVT has been working to strengthen its internal organisation as well as external reach. Formulation of the Strategic Plan 2016-2020 is a step towards taking a longer term approach for sustainable development. As the staff strength has been growing from under 18 to over 180 in just one year's time, transition management towards balanced organisational growth is being addressed continuously. We formed Board of Advisors to take the organisation to a newer height, safely and smoothly.

I feel cautiously ambitious thinking that GVT has a great potential to expand its positive impact among the marginalised communities through strategic partnerships. If you are excited to contribute to the causes we care for, I heartily welcome you to join hands with us for satisfying results.

Sincerely,

Ghanshyam Jethwa
Executive Director

1. The Year in Review: Key Highlights

- ❖ During the reporting year, GVT touched lives of 9,864 community members, including 9,122 children, with positive impact in their lives.

Table 1: Number of community members covered

No.	Programme	Community members covered	Children covered (approx. 50% girls)	Total
1	Education	-	5,825	5,825
2	Food, nutrition and health	118	45	163
3	Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion	-	3,252	3,252
4	Sustainable livelihood-vocational training	624	-	624
	Total	742	9,122	9,864

- ❖ In quality education programme, GVT provided education support in 35 government schools covering 5,825 pupils mainly as part of Quality Education Project supported by Reach to Teach UK as well as as part of Shikshana project. As a result, the primary school children improved in reading, writing and Maths skills.
- ❖ In government schools where there were inadequate number of teachers, GVT provided 6 para-teachers to about 3 schools to ensure quality education to pupils. This initiative improved regular attendance of the children and their learning in school.
- ❖ GVT also supported 40 needy and poor children by providing them educational aid (e.g. school bag, note books, stationery items and so on), which improved their attendance in government primary schools.
- ❖ In higher education, GVT supported 94 girls by giving them bicycles to attend schools that are farther from their own villages. This initiative helped the girls (14 years or above) to re-enrol in schools and continue their higher education. These girls also report that the bicycles helped them to save time of commuting e.g. after school hours completing at 5pm, they used to reach home by foot at about 8:30pm (also the protection issue due to dark), but with bicycles they could reach home by 6:30pm.
- ❖ In skill building training programme, GVT trained 624 youth, especially women youth. They learned tailoring, beauty parlour, handicraft and computer operating skills. Following the training, many youth received jobs and or started as self-employed, earning incomes that helps in coping with poverty situation (refer to case story in sustainable livelihood section).
- ❖ GVT provided food kits to 45 children (3-5 years age) who were malnourished to improve their health, and also conducted meetings with their parents to make them aware about providing nutritious food. As a result, a majority of children marked healthier in the health chart of pre-primary school.
- ❖ GVT also supported 118 poor elderly women and men in 6 villages of Vagra and 2 village of Bharuch through monthly ration to prevent them from hunger. These elderly people have been left own their own by their families and struggle through their daily lives.
- ❖ Based on the needs assessment in education sector with technical support from Reach to Teach, UK, an ambitious quality education project was started in 35 schools of Bharuch district from June 2015.

2.1 Education

The issue and the need

The children have right to education, and delivering it is the government's responsibility. In spite of the best efforts of the local government, including involvement of local people in School Management Committees (SMCs), there are challenges in the public schools affecting the learning outcomes. For example, a majority of the students having passed 8th standard cannot read, write and perform basic arithmetic sums as appropriate to age. Such a poor level of primary education negatively affects higher education for those students, and also discourages parents to regularly send their children to schools. The parents and the schools also lack adequate resources (e.g. parents' low economic status and school lacking education materials). Therefore, the government is encouraging private entities to get involved in making a positive impact in the quality of education in these schools. Gram Vikas Trust has been working in partnership with the local government for more than a decade.

Programme Objective, Outcomes and Impact

The objectives of GVT's Quality Education programme is to improve primary and higher education through people's participation and strengthening school governance. The expected outcomes include increase in enrolment in primary and higher education; increase in school children's regular attendance; improvement in quality education; and people's involvement and contribution in improving school governance. So far, in all the past years, GVT has had direct impact on more than 35,000 children, and indirect impact on more than 1,10,000 children in its programme area.

Starting from April 2015, in partnership with Reach to Teach UK and the district primary education department, GVT launched Quality Education Project in 35 schools (21 in Vagra and 14 in Jhagadia blocks) in Bharuch district. The major objectives of this ambitious project include (a) improving attendance of the irregular and highly irregular pupils in standards 1 to 8, and (b) providing high quality education in standards 1 and 2 through co-teaching by government teachers together with Specialist Teachers. The project team also support the schools in enrollment of the eligible girls and boys in standard 1 and ensuring community participation by closely working with parents and village leaders through village-based Community Facilitators. Thanks to Reach to Teach UK for their financial, technical and management support in this project.



Ms. Sharmila Rohit (centre, in blue-pink dress), Community Facilitator (CF), Kaladara village engages pupils in co-curricular activities after school hours.

Sharmila Rohit, 20 years, engaged the pupils in games, plays and other activities, resulting in strong bond between the two, which contributed to children's interest in learning and attending school. Regular attendance is the first step towards gaining quality education in school. The CFs like Sharmila in 35 villages actively helped the children and communities for improving regular attendance in government primary schools.



Ms. Jalpa Motaval, Specialist Teacher (left side group) and Mr. Haribhai Vasava Government Teacher (right side group) in Primary School, Mortalav village are co-teaching the Standard 1 and 2 pupils.

Co-teaching is the innovative research-based approach to ensuring that the pupils gain the best quality education right from the Standards 1 and 2. Co-teaching helps transfer of skills between the teachers involved, and therefore is a sustainable approach. Thanks to Reach to Teach for their technical expertise in this regard.



After Deepavali (festival of lights) holidays, the pupils find it hard to warm up for the regular school attendance. GVT and Reach to Teach organised 'Deepotsav' programme in project schools. Through street plays by a district-based professional group (as in picture), the children and their parents received messages of importance of regular school attendance. (Village Mortalav, block Jhagadia, district Bharuch).

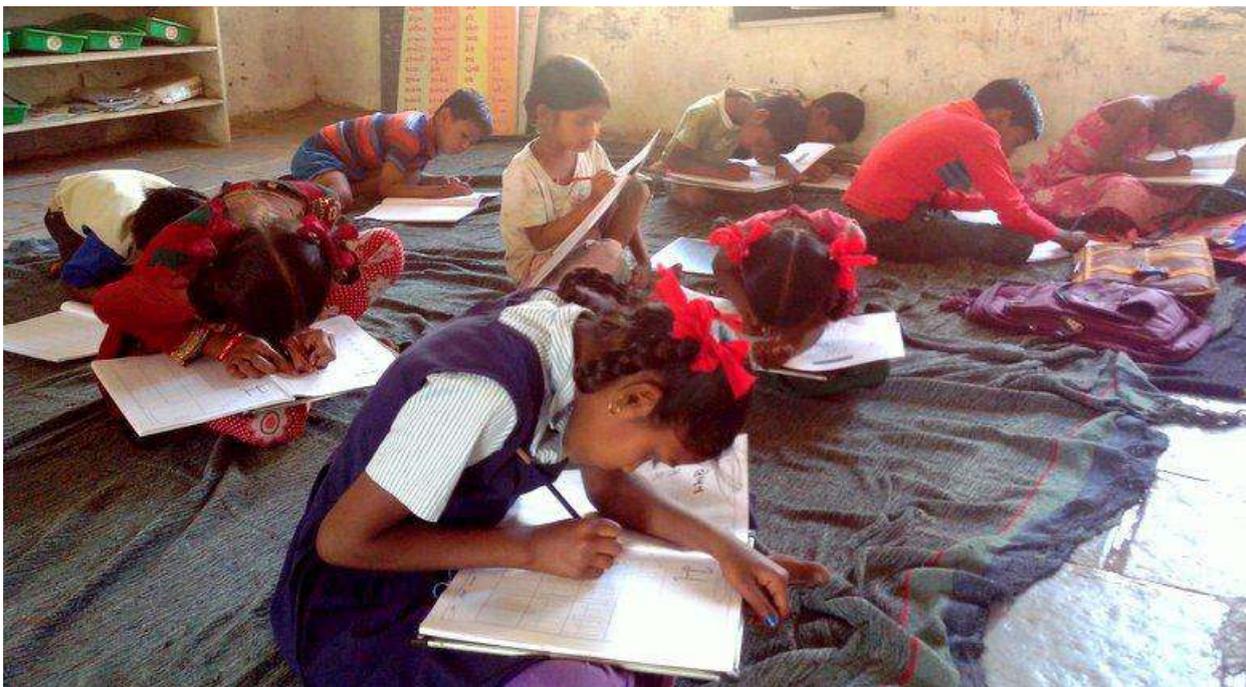
Success and expansion of Quality Education Project starting from academic year 2016-17.

Based on the success in 35 schools, GVT and Reach To Teach expanded the Quality Education project by taking up 35 more government primary schools (cumulative being 70) in Bharuch district, to start from new academic year, June 2016. These 70 schools (40 in Jhagadia, the tribal block, and 30 in Vagra, multi-caste block) will have the project's positive impact, particularly in Standard 1 and 2, where qualified and trained teachers will co-teach with the government teachers. The strategy, developed by Reach to Teach, and agreed upon jointly by GVT and District Primary Education department, is four-pronged: (a) increasing school attendance by focusing on irregular girls and boys, (b) providing quality teaching-learning in government primary schools, (c) working with parents and communities to raise awareness about education, and (d) ensuring child protection while working with children.

GVT continued its bicycle distribution project in the reporting year also. Total 94 bicycles were distributed to the same number of girls studying in standards 6, 7 and 8. These girls have to travel long distances on foot to reach the school, or to reach the main road from where they can catch a bus to the school. Many girls drop out due to such hardship. In fact, many parents do not even enroll their girl children in schools after 5th or 8th standard, as it comes to shifting to the higher secondary schools in other towns. Providing a simple and cost-effective solution such as a bicycle helps the girl child to continue her study to higher standards. Therefore, GVT has been implementing this activity since 2009.



Girls with their newly distributed bicycles, excited to go to school (at Girls' Primary school, Jhagadia town and block, Bharuch district).



Pupils using writing sheets to improve reading and writing skills.

Table 2.1.1: Activities Conducted and Achievements during the Year

Activities conducted	Achievements
1) Implementation of quality education project (as reported above) with focus on increasing regular attendance of pupils in Standards 1 to 8, and quality teaching-learning in Standards 1 and 2. 2) Bicycle distribution. 3) Activities in the project schools (e.g. story writing, drawing, indoor and outdoor games, English learning (for upper primary), and general knowledge). 4) Providing para-teachers in the project supported schools. (GVT provides the salaries of the para-teachers, and the schools manage them.) 5) Overall Observation (monitoring) in Shikshana supported schools' performance.	✓ Intensive quality education in Standard 1 and 2 in 35 government primary schools started as pilot project. ✓ Children's interest developed to attend schools regularly. Their enrolment and regular attendance improved significantly. ✓ Students' handwriting, speed of writing, writing neatly, reading and Maths skills improved significantly. ✓ Students got stars as they progressed in their learning performance, and improved in personal hygiene and participation in school activities. ✓ Students developed a habit of being organized, e.g. maintaining their folders with their writing sheets.

Table 2.1.2: Primary education in Bharuch, Jhagadia and Vagra blocks

No	Details	Girls	Boys	Total	Donors
1	Quality Education Project	2,593	2,589	5,182	Reach to Teach UK
2	Primary Education	225	225	450	Asha for Education and VDC London
3	School supplies	27	13	40	Give India and GVT
4	Bicycles for girls	94	0	94	Asha for Education, Give India, Global Giving and GVT.
5	Higher Education	38	19	57	Asha for education
		2	0	2	GVT
Total		2,979	2,846	5,825	

Case story 1: Supporting girls' continued education



Riding Towards the Future (scholarship)

Sushma, 17 years, Standard 12 from Padal village (Jhagadia block) received school kit containing school bag, notebooks, guides, pen, tuition fees, uniform, and so on. Sushma comes from a socio-economically poor family as her parents work as agriculture labourer with erratic income. Though Sushma faces lots of challenges to continue her education, she is regular in attending school and works hard gaining new learning continuously. GVT provided school kits to 22 such school girls in 3 villages (Mortalav, Padal and Panvadi of Jhagadia block), who otherwise fight odds to continue higher studies. Thanks to Asha For Education for the funding support.

Donor support for activities

Following donors supported GVT in above programme activities.

1. Reach to Teach UK: supported in jointly designing and implementing Quality Education Project in partnership with district government education department.
2. Village Development Council, London: supported in providing education materials (e.g. writing sheets, books etc.)
3. ASHA for Education: supported in providing education materials as well as scholarship to 62 girls and boys.
4. Global Giving: provided bicycles to girls to access schools for grade 6 and above.
5. Give India: provided bicycles to girls (similar as Global Giving) plus provided school kits to pupils.
6. Give India, and individual and corporate donors provided support of 9 para-teachers in 4 schools.

Current and Future Needs

Though GVT supported many children to access primary and higher education during the year, there are thousands of children in Bharuch and Narmada districts who are in need of such support. In order to meet such a need, GVT welcomes donors' interest and support in following ways:

- An individual or other donors can support a girl child to access higher education by donating a bicycle or \$67 (INR 4,500) approximately.
- An individual donor can sponsor a child for as little as \$24 (approximately Indian Rupees 1,600) per month until the child completes higher education. GVT will facilitate communication and meetings between the donor and the child.
- A group of individuals (e.g. a company's employees), corporate donor or any donor organisation can support a number of children in selected villages for children's primary and higher education.
- Corporate and other donors may also work with GVT to develop a longer-term project for quality education in tribal blocks of Bharuch and Narmada districts.

2.2 Food, Nutrition and Health

The issue and the need

Food and nutrition for good health are very important issues as human development is directly linked with a person's good physical and psychological development. In remote rural areas of Bharuch district, food and nutrition are serious issues that affect people's health, particularly child health. In 2012, GVT surveyed over 80 project villages covering a total of 5,716 children (2,887 boys and 2,829 girls) between the ages 1 and 5 years. The survey identified 4,573 children in Green zone, 909 in Yellow zone and 234 in Red zone. While 909 (4 per cent) children were in Yellow Zone, the combination of Yellow and Red zones, i.e. 1,143 (20 per cent) are malnourished. The children in Red zone are not able to walk more than a few steps on their feet, and remain sick for longer duration.

Food and nutrition related problems have been found in old age people also, particularly single old-age women. Nearly three out of five single older women in rural areas are very poor, and two out of three rural elderly women are fully dependent on others for want of appropriate livelihood opportunities towards economic security in Bharuch district. With poor social security arrangement for the elderly, it is not surprising that around 37 million elderly in India need to work hard in order to survive. A majority of these workers are illiterate or have limited literacy level. GVT had conducted baseline surveys in 40 villages of Vagra and Jhagadia blocks in 2014, and identified 1,107 widow women in need of adequate food and nutrition intake. These old age women, not cared for by their families, suffer from homelessness, live in unsafe huts, and engage in labour work in the village, including few of them doing bagging for daily meals.

Therefore, this programme focuses on children in Red zone as per the Government of Gujarat supported Anganwadi (child care) centres, and the old age people, especially widow women.



Dhaval Manharbhai Rathod, 1.5 years, with her mother from Keshrol village (Bharuch block) was suffering from malnourishment, and received the nutrition kits.



Ambaben Chhaganbhai Rathod, 71 years, Ambhel Village, Vagra block (Bharuch district), received food kit.

Programme Objective, Outcomes and Impact

The objectives of GVT's Food, Nutrition and Health programme are as follows:

- To improve health conditions of the children in Red zone and elderly poor people by providing nutritious food.
- To prevent malnourishment in children up to the age of 5 years.
- To generate awareness among the parents regarding nutritious food to ensure proper food intake by the children.

Activities Conducted and Achievements during the Year

The main activity is providing the food kits as per the following contents: six different types of beans, rice, wheat flour, vegetables, oil, milk powder, iodine salt and biscuits.

Table 2.2.1: Activities Conducted and Achievements during the Year

Activities conducted	Achievements during the reporting period
1) GVT is helping malnourished children, and elderly women and men on monthly basis with the objective to improve their health by providing nutritious food.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A total of 45 children provided with food kits. ✓ A total of 118 old age women and men provided with food kits. ✓ Old age women and men received much needed food and nutrition support. ✓ Achieved age appropriate health status of the otherwise malnourished children.

Table 2.2.2: Coverage of community members

Malnourished Children	Old age people in need	Total	Blocks
45	118	163	Bharuch and Vagra

Donor support for activities

- Give India provided food kits support for 113, and GVT's individual and corporate donors provided support for 5 elderly and poor women and men.
- Give India provided food kits support for 45 children.

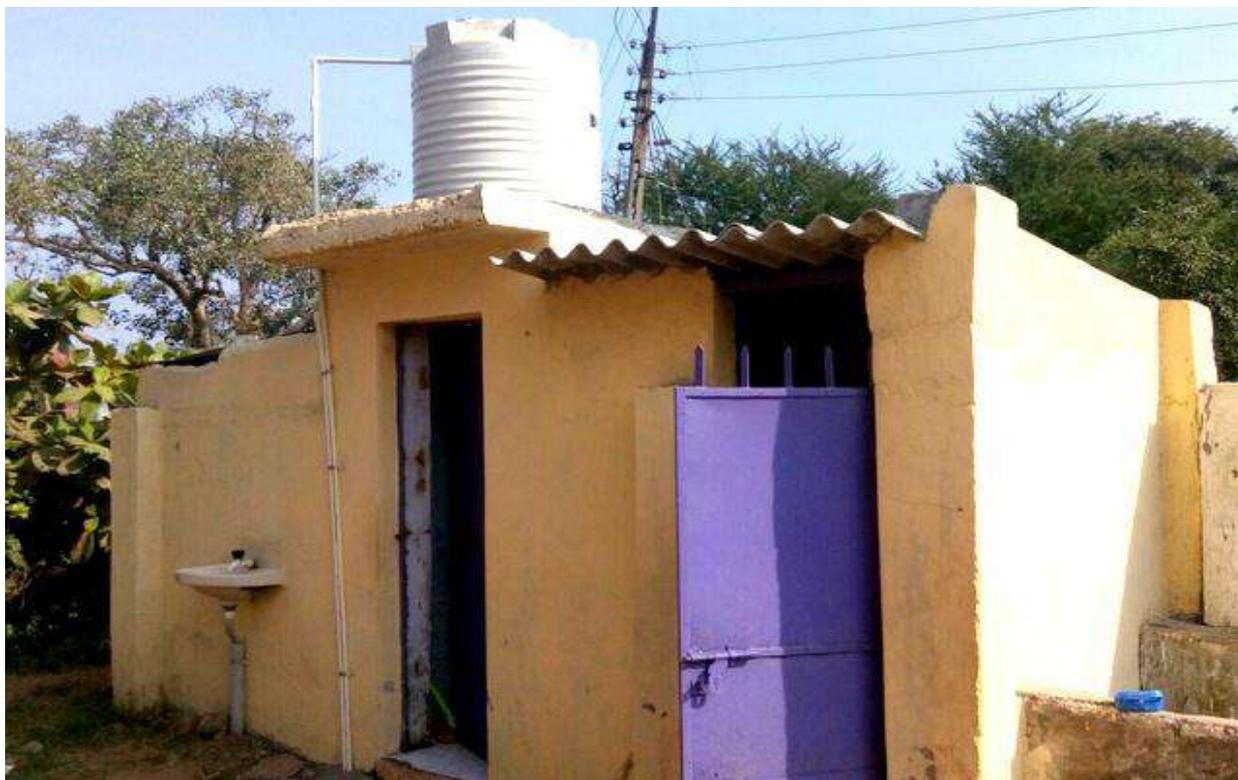
Current and Future Needs

On the one hand, there is a need to provide immediate food kits support to the malnourished children and elderly poor women and men. On the other hand, in the longer-term, there is a need to link such identified children and elderly people with appropriate government schemes e.g. Anganwadi (child care) centres and old-age pension schemes, especially widow pensions scheme. GVT undertakes this support work through its staffs and volunteers. Support from individual and organisational donors is welcome.

2.3 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene promotion

The issue and the need

Open defecation is a huge issue with India at the top in the world with largest number of people (597 million or 59.70 crores) practicing it, which particularly affects children and women in terms of their education, health and poverty status (<http://www.indiasanitationportal.org/newsfeed-view.php?title=Mw==>). In rural areas of Bharuch and Narmada districts, GVT has observed widespread practice of open defecation due to lack of household level sanitation units. Particularly in monsoon season, it leads to increased incidents of illnesses, and is evident in the large number of primary and higher secondary school children remaining absent in the classes. GVT works on promoting household level as well as school level sanitation units in Bharuch district.



School sanitation units for boys and girls

Renovation of safe sanitation units separate for boys and girls in primary school of Vantheval. Thanks to Charities Aids Foundation and Herbal Life International India Pvt. Ltd. for the funding support. A total of 20 village primary schools have been covered under this programme (15 for new construction and 5 for renovation of existing units). Safe sanitation in school contributes positively to school attendance and children's learning.

Programme Objective, Outcomes and Impact

Following is the main objective of the WaSH programme:

- To improve water, sanitation and hygiene conditions in households and schools in targeted villages of Bharuch district.

Following are the sub-objectives:

- To generate awareness of safe sanitation in schools.
- To promote making clean streets - clean villages.
- To make people aware about safe sanitation in the target villages.



Girls and boys at Haldar school (Bharuch block and district) practice 7 steps of handwashing after the health and hygiene training delivered through educational video show and brainstorming conducted by GVT team. Thanks to Charities Aids Foundation and Herbal Life International India Pvt. Ltd for their management and financial support.



More than 190 girls and boys of Primary School, Shahpura village (Bharuch block and district) conducted a rally in their village as part of awareness generation on sanitation, health and hygiene promotion. The GVT team supported the children with slogans, posters and overall organisation of the rally. The school teachers and members of the School Management Committee participated actively in this activity, and highly appreciated the implementation support from GVT.

School sanitation – Bal Panchayat

With the support of school teachers, GVT organised the election of Bal Panchayat in Ochhan primary school on 23 September 2015. A total of 95 students and 6 teachers participated in the election. (Supported by Charities Aids Foundation and Herbal Life International India Pvt. Ltd.).

Sonal Ataliya was elected as Sarpanch and Chirag Patel as Deputy Sarpanch, both from Standard 7th. Hygiene and Svachchata (cleanliness) activities have been started in the project schools so that the renovated or newly built sanitation units are well maintained with children's and teachers' participation. GVT ensured and supported the schools in Bal Panchayat process wherever required in 20 project villages under school sanitation.



Bal Panchayat election in Ochchan village of Vagra block

Table 2.3.1: Activities Conducted and Achievements during the Year

Activities conducted	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of 15 new sanitation units separate for girls and boys in 15 schools. • Renovation of 5 existing sanitation units separate for girls and boys in 5 schools. • Use of audio, visual and printed materials to promote safe hygiene practices, including a film show "Let's make it rights for community". • Handwashing activities in schools for children's awareness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A total of 20 villages of Amod, Bharuch, Jhagadia and Vagra blocks reached in WaSH programme. ✓ School children and teachers in 20 village schools reached by positive messages on safe sanitation and hygiene practices. ✓ Teachers and volunteers from the villages joined in writing slogans in the villages, and promoting positive messages.

Table 2.3.2: Community members covered

No	Direct beneficiaries	village	Block	Details
1	4,000 children	20	4 (Amod, Bharuch, Jhagadia and Vagra)	Coverage under school sanitation units, and awareness meetings and trainings.

All children were taught how to wash hands through demonstration and a movie followed by practicing of hand washing. The children observed lot of dust being washed out during hand washing activity. They learned the importance of washing hands with soap before and after having meals, and after excretion. GVT is thankful to teachers, children and villagers who joined in writing slogans on walls to promote safe sanitation and hygiene practices.

Donor support for activities

Charities Aids Foundation (CAF), New Delhi provided support for the construction of 15 new sanitation units, renovation of 5 existing units and hygiene promotion activities in 20 schools of Amod, Bharuch, Jhagadia and Vagra blocks of Bharuch district. FINISH society provided technical and financial support in WaSH programme. The district government provided funding for the construction of the sanitation units at the household level.

Current and Future Needs

There is a need to promote safe sanitation and hygiene practices in the schools and villages of Bharuch district. The needs revolve around construction of safe sanitation units at the household level as well as in the schools. Awareness activities during the pre-project and post-project periods and availability of adequate water are the key factors in ensuring effective use of the constructed sanitation units. Such key factors are well addressed by GVT while the government has been providing funding for the construction of the household level sanitation units. Corporate and other donor organisations may play crucial role of supporting GVT in ensuring that the constructed sanitation units are effectively used. Furthermore, donor interest in building safe separate sanitation units for girls and boys in schools is also a need.

2.4 Sustainable Livelihood

The issue and the need

The socio-economically marginalised youth in Bharuch district face the challenges in terms of lack of employment and also lack of employable skills. Furthermore, life skills such as self-confidence and entrepreneurship are also the primary needs that the youth have in high demand. The marginalised youth living in poverty lack the financial resource to access the required employable skills, further keeping them trapped in poverty. Effective skill building programme is a need that also addresses poverty eradication cause.



Tailoring training camp at Jhagadia town, district Bharuch.

Gram Vikas Trust promotes vocational training programme in Bharuch district in 4 blocks i.e. Ankleshwar, Bharuch, Jhagadia and Vagra aiming at enabling and empowering youngsters from families that are below poverty line. The 30 to 90 days training programme equips unemployed youth (18 Years and above) with vocational skills that ensure employment with organizations at the end of training programme or starting up income generation activities. It helps rural youth of Bharuch district to gain skills by which they can earn income and be self-reliant. In Addition to imparting knowledge and skill sets in these vocations, Gram Vikas Trust trains youth in life skills and English speaking. A special attention is given to inculcating personal and community values in youth.

Objectives

The major objective of the programme is to empower the underprivileged and marginalized youth, especially young women, through vocational training. Training programme addresses all the aspects of the individual, and not just the skills such as handicraft or computer operating.

The vocational training centres have been located in Dahej and Vagra blocks, right within the needy village centres. Tailoring, Beauty Parlour and Computer Operating were the main skills imparted in the training centres during the reporting year.

Table 2.4.1: Activities Conducted and Achievements during the Year

Activities conducted	Achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managing two training centres (Dahej and Vagra). Training courses on tailoring, beauty parlour and computer operating. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A total of 710 youth trained. ✓ Trained youth received jobs or earning income by self-employment. ✓ Programme contributed to poverty reduction (refer to case story 2).

Table 2.4.2: Community members covered

Sr No	Vocational Trade	No of person Trained
1.	Tailoring	540
2.	Beauty parlour	100
3.	Computer operating	70
	Total	710

Case story 2: Vocational training helps overcome extreme poverty



Mrs. Dinar Sheikh, 41 years, lives in Sultanpura area in Jhagadia town. Her husband, Saiyad Mahommed, earns approximately Rs. 8,000 per month from a small shop selling toys etc. They have a family of 6 that includes Saiyad's mother and three children. Considering the low income per head, it is clear that they are living in extreme poverty. Therefore, Dinar Sheikh decided to join the vocational training centre supported by GVT, and within 2 months, learned sewing girls' and women's cloths, carry bags, pillow covers, window curtains etc. Now Dinar earns at least Rs. 1,000 per month from this work, and she is happy to support her family. Dinar spends her earning on her children's education.

Beauty parlour training at Jhagadia town, Bharuch district.



Total 48 women youth participated in beauty parlour training for 3 months, and learned eye brow, bleaching, waxing, bridal make up, threading and so on. After the training, the participants have started practicing and earning money to support their families. As they report, this activity brings more incomes during the marriage and festival seasons.

Donor support for activities

Asha for education provided funding support resulting in 320 youth trained in tailoring, beauty parlour and computer operating.

Give India provided funding support resulting in 390 youth trained in tailoring and beauty parlour skills.

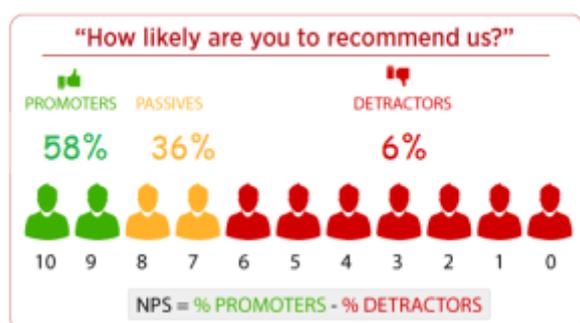
Current and Future Needs

There is a need to expand this programme that contributes to three development areas –vocational skills building, life skills building and poverty reduction for the youth, especially women. GVT, with the appropriate donor interest, wishes to expand this programme to reach out to the youth in Bharuch and Narmada districts.

2.5 Programme Quality

In addition to regular monitoring as part all the projects, GVT started working on establishing Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and re-Designing (MELD) function to strengthen its programme quality through research-based approach. Thanks to Global Giving for funding support worth \$2,000 to conduct Feedback Surveys to know about communities' views and feedbacks about the benefits received by them. The full report has been prepared and is available at the following web link: <http://tools.blog.globalgiving.org/2016/02/24/gram-vikas-trust-with-an-ear-to-the-ground-taking-lessons-to-heart/>, and a summary has been given as follows.

We asked people in our community how satisfied they were with our work (on a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being dissatisfied and 10 being highly satisfied).



*This gave us a **net promoter score of 51.***

58% ranked our service at 9 or 10. 36% ranked it as 7 or 8. Only 6% ranked us between 0 and 6. We are delighted the way our survey has worked and provided us useful lessons.

A simpler survey to carry out

We work in about 200 villages of Bharuch and Narmada districts in India. We were curious to know how our community members felt and about the benefits that they received. GlobalGiving encouraged us to start with just 3 questions.

1. What rank (from 1 to 10) will you give to the benefit that you received?
2. Why did you give that rank?
3. Suggestions for us to improve in our future service

This 'customer satisfaction' approach helped us to understand our programme impact and the ground reality through another perspective. It was applicable to many projects and was less complicated than a full impact analysis. We covered three projects:

1. Giving bicycles to school going girls
2. Providing scholarship to needy students who were economically poor
3. Providing food kits for malnourished children and destitute old age people .

Lessons

Findings from 217 responses in 47 villages.

94% rated the benefits between 7 and 10. Girls who had received bicycles said they could attend the schools timely, were able to learn better, and cycling improved physical fitness.

"It feels good and it helped me to become regular in school especially in the monsoon season, and this covered my distance of school in a very short time" – Aaushiben Kamlesh Vasava from Mota Sanja village.

Only 6% ranked the benefits from 0 to 6. We got to know that the quality of 4 of 77 bicycles delivered was not up to the mark (and the recipients had to repair them).

Food kits and milk powder were not good quality in 2 cases out of 134 recipients. We learned to strengthen our monitoring system further.

"The quality of the food kit is good. My daughter is healthier now as compared to before. Komal (age-5 years) was only 9.5 kg and in Red Zone in 2014, but after taking the food she gained her weight to 12kg and became safe"- Lalitaben Vadiya, Komal's mother, Govalli village.

All four respondents who received scholarship support for higher studies gave rank from 8 to 10 and were happy about it.

We learned that Gram Vikas Trust sounded similar to Gram Vikas Agency (a government agency), and therefore we needed to communicate more clearly and repeatedly through verbal (in addition to written) communication to avoid any confusion.

We learned that such feedback should be obtained within one month of delivering the bicycles and within a week of delivering food kits, so that the identified problems can be taken up with the supplier sooner.

Taking it to heart

We included these lessons in our organisation's five year Strategic Plan (2016 -2020). Thanks to Global Giving for providing us with a tool that helps us to complete the loop of programme design, delivery, listening to communities, learning lessons, and re-designing the programme.

It was amazing that the simple 3 question technique could help us discover our blind spots!

Special thanks to interns, Janak Gohil and Sunil Gamit, who visited 47 villages in Jhagadia and Vagra blocks, met with 217 community members, and recorded their feedback using the half-page survey form. Thanks to volunteer Sanghamitra Pradhan who entered all data into SurveyMonkey.

Authors: Sanghamitra Pradhan and Ghanshyam Jethwa from Gram Vikas Trust, Bharuch, India.

GVT is a GlobalGiving organization that Listens, Acts, and Learns.

3. Governance and Governing Board



A step towards strengthening governance and programmes

GVT formed Board of Advisors by inviting experienced and well qualified members from development sector (government, non-government and corporate). The Board members conducted their first visit to the programme area and held meeting to guide the Strategic Planning process during 12-13 December. They expressed satisfaction on seeing the programme implementation, and also provided suggestions for further strengthening. Based on their inputs and other ongoing organizational review processes, GVT started drafting its first Strategic Plan 2016-2020 that will provide a strategic framework to the organization for the following five years.

Table 3.1: Governing Board Details

Sr.No.	Name	Designation	Remuneration	Primary Affiliation
1	Ramesh Kasondra	President	NIL	Reliance Industries Ltd.
2	Mulabhai H.Patel	Trustee	NIL	Hindalco Industries Ltd.
3	Vasant N.Santoki	Trustee	NIL	Laxmi Colour lab
4	Manjula R.Patel	Trustee	NIL	Housewife

Table 3.2: Governing Board Meeting Details

Sr. No.	Name	Designation on board	Meeting date	No. of meetings attended
1	Ramesh Kasondra	President	04.07.2015	4
2	Mulabhai H.Patel	Trustee	17.10.2015	3
3	Vasant N.Santoki	Trustee	30.01.2016	3
4	Manjula R.Patel	Trustee	26.03.2016	4

4. Organisation's Team – 31 March 2016

Table 4.1: Summary of Organisation's Team

Staff Details: Slab of Gross Monthly Salary (in Rs.) Plus Benefits Paid to Staff	Female Staff	Male Staff	Total Staff
< 5,000	0	0	0
5,000-10,000	29	8	37
10,000-25,000	32	12	44
25,000-50,000	0	0	0
50,000-1,00,000	0	0	0
1,00,000>	0	1	1
Total	61	21	82

5. Audited Accounts

	<p>CHIRAG TAMBEDIA & CO. CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS</p>	<p>Phone No. (0)263682 Chirag Tambedia FCA</p> <p>Muntazir Patel ACA</p> <p>Krunal Desai ACA</p>
<p>9- Pruthvi Nagar 1st Floor, Station Road, Bharuch. 392 001</p>		
<p>REPORT OF AN AUDITOR RELATING TO ACCOUNTS AUDITED UNDER SUB-SECTION(2) OF SECTION 33&34 AND RULE 19 OF THE BOMBAY PUBLIC TRUSTS ACT.</p>		
<p>Registration No.: <u>E-2675 Bharuch</u> Name of the Public Trust : <u>GRAM VIKAS TRUST</u> For the Year Ending : <u>31.3.2016</u> Date of Registration: <u>30/06/2001</u> Address of the Trust's office: <u>A-8 Ganesh Township, Link Road, shravan chokdi, Bharuch.</u> Bank Account No. of Trust for transaction of Foreign Contribution: <u>10328800592</u> F.C.R.A.No.: <u>041990061</u> Date: <u>01/03/2006</u></p>		
<p>(a) Whether accounts are maintained regularly and in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the rules:</p> <p>(b) Whether receipts and disbursements are properly and correctly shown in the accounts:</p> <p>(c) Whether the cash balance and vouchers in the custody of the manager or trustee on the date of the audit were in agreement with the account :</p> <p>(d) Whether all books, deeds, account, vouchers or other documents or records required by the auditor were produced before him:</p> <p>(e) Whether an inventory, certified by the trustee of the movables of the public trust has been maintained:</p> <p>(f) Whether the manager or trustee or any other person required by the auditor to appear before him did so and furnished the necessary information required by him:</p> <p>(g) Whether any property or funds of the Trust were applied for any object or purpose other than the object or purpose of the Trust :</p> <p>(h) The amounts outstanding for more than one year and the amounts written off, if any.</p> <p>(i) Whether tenders were invited for repairs or construction involving expenditure exceeding Rs. 5000/-:</p> <p>(j) Whether any money of the public trust has been invested contrary to the provisions of Section 35:</p> <p>(k) Alienations, if any, of the immovable property contrary of the provisions of Section 36 which have come to the notice of the auditor:</p> <p>(l) Any special matter which the auditor may think fit or necessary to bring to the notice of the Deputy or Assistant Charity Commissioner:</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>No</p> <p>Nil</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>Nil</p>	
<p>Dated : 22-08-2016 Place : BHARUCH</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: right;">  Chirag Tambedia & Co. Chartered Accountants Registration No: 101849W </div> </div>		

Full set of audited statements can be requested by writing to contact@gvtbharuch.org.

THE BOMBAY PUBLIC TRUST ACT, 1960
[S C H E U L E I X (Vide Rule 17(1)]



Phone : (O) 263682
CHIRAG TAMBEDIA & CO.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Chirag Tambedia
FCA

Muntazir Patel
ACA

Krutarth Desai
ACA

9-Pruthvi Nagar, 1st floor, Station Road, BHARUCH-392 001

Name of the Public Trust: GRAM VIKAS TRUST, BHARUCH
Trust Registration No. E-2875
Date of Registration: 30/06/2001
Address of the Trust's office: A-8 Ganesh Township, Link Road, shraavan chokdi, Bharuch.
Bank Account No. of Trust for transaction of Foreign Contribution: 10328800592
F.C.R.A.No.: 041990061 Date:01/03/2006

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31.03.2016

LOCAL FCRA CONSOLIDATED

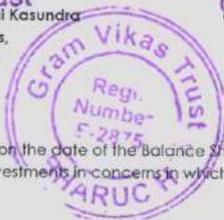
FUNDS & LIABILITIES	Amt.Rs.	Amt.Rs.	PROPERTY & ASSETS	Amt.Rs.	Amt.Rs.
Trusts Funds or Corpus :- (As per Annexure-1)		116993.00	Immovable Properties :- (at cost)		
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	116993.00		Balance as per last Balance Sheets	0.00	
Adjustment during the year(give details)	0.00		Additions during the year	0.00	
			Less: Sales during the year	0.00	
			Depreciation up to date	0.00	
Other Earmarked Funds :- (As per Annexure-1)		921151.05	Movable properties		1611776.52
(Created under the provisions of the trusts deed or scheme or out the income)			(As per Annexure-2)		
Depreciation Fund	453496.17				
Sinking Fund	0.00				
Reserve Fund	0.00				
Any other Fund	467654.88				
Sundry Creditors					
			Investments :-		0.00
			Note: The market value of the above investments is Rs.		
			(As per Annexure-2)		
Loans (Secured or Unsecured) :-		48000.00	Loans (Secured or Unsecured):		364902.31
From trustees	0.00		Good/doubtful		
From others	48000.00		Loans Scholarships	0.00	
As per Annexure			Other Loans - Debtor	364902.31	
Liabilities :- (As per Annexure-1)		1,201,162.93	Advances :- (As per Annexure-2)		690898.62
For expenses	0.00		To Trustees	0.00	
For advances	0.00		To Contractor	0.00	
For rent and other deposits	0.00		To Employees	0.00	
For sundry credit balances	1,201,162.93		To Lawyers	0.00	
			To others	690898.62	
Income and Expenditure Account :-		2168123.70	x Income Outstanding :-		1787853.24
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	867703.63		Cash and Bank Balances :-		
Less: Appropriation, if any	0.00		(a) In Current (Saving) Account with:		
Add: Surplus as per income and	1300420.07		in Fixed deposit account with		
Less: Deficit Expenditure Account	0.00		(b) With the Trustee Cash on hand.	62263.00	
			(c) In F.C.R.A. Account	1725590.24	
			or in Fixed deposit Account	0.00	
Total Rs.		4455430.69	Total Rs.		4455430.69

- As per our report of even date
- This above Balance Sheet to the best of my/our belief Contains a true account of the Funds and Liabilities and of the Property and Assets of the Trust.
- x Income Outstanding:- (If accounts are kept on cash basis)

Place: Bharuch
Dated at :22/08/2016

Rameshchandra Jerajbhai Kasundra

Trustee
Gram Vikas Trust
Rameshchandra Jerajbhai Kasundra
A-18 Pushpdhan Banglows,
Opp. HDFC Bank, link road
Bharuch
Phone No-9662006293



Muntazir Patel

Trustee
Gram Vikas Trust
Bharuch



Chirag Tambedia & Co.
Chartered Accountants
Registration No: 101849W

Note: (1) Market value as on the date of the Balance Sheet should also be given by way of a note.
(2) Particulars of investments in concerns to which the trustees are interested shall be given separately by way of a note.

Full set of audited statements can be requested by writing to contact@gvtbharuch.org.



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CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

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Trust Registration No. E-2875
Date of Registration: 30/04/2001
Address of the Trust's office: A-8 Ganesh Township, Link Road, shravan chokdi, Bharuch.
Bank Account No. of Trust for transaction of Foreign Contribution: 10328800592
F.C.R.A.No.: 041990061 Date: 01/03/2006

Income Expenditure Account For The Year Ended on : 31.3.2016

EXPENDITURE	LOCAL FCRA CONSOLIDATED		INCOME	LOCAL FCRA CONSOLIDATED	
	Amt Rs.	Amt Rs.		Amt Rs.	Amt Rs.
To Expenditure in respect of properties As per Annexure			By Rent (accrued) x (realised)		110000.00
Rates, Taxes, Cesses	0.00	4730.00			
Repairs and maintenance	0.00		By interest (accrued) x (realised)	0.00	145030.00
Salaries	0.00		On Securities	0.00	
Insurance	0.00		On Other interest	0.00	
Depreciation (by way of provision or adjustment)	0.00		On Loans	0.00	
Other expenses	4730.00		(As per Annexure-4)		
To Establishment Expenses (As per Annexure-3)		0.00	On Bank account	145030.00	
To Remuneration to Trustee		0.00	(As per Annexure-4)		
To the head of the math, including his household expenditure, if any		0.00			
To Legals Expenses		28410.00	(As per Annexure-4)		
To Audit Fees		25000.00	By Donation in cash or kind		1022063.65
			Domestic	351898.55	
			International (FCRA No. and Date)	670165.10	
			(As per Annexure-4)		
To Contribution			By Grants		1810860.47
To Amount written off :-			Domestic	706909.69	
(a) Bad debts	0.00		International (FCRA No. and Date)	17401150.78	
(b) Loan scholarship	0.00				
(c) Irrecoverable rent	0.00		By Income from other sources (in details as far as possible) (Educational Fees)		261516.08
(d) Other items	0.00		(As per Annexure-4)		
To Miscellaneous Expenses		0.00			
To Depreciation		75441.03			
To Amount transferred to Reserve or Specific Funds Trust Fund		0.00			
To Expenditure on object of the trust (As per Annexure-3)		18209669.10	By Transfer from Reserve		0.00
(a) Religious	0.00				
(b) Educational	14142915.27				
(c) Relief of poverty	0.00				
(d) Medical Relief	0.00				
(e) Other charitable objects	4066753.83				
(As per Annexure-3)					
To Surplus carried over to Balance Sheet		1300420.07	To Deficit carried over to Balance Sheet		0.00
Total Rs.		19646670.20	Total Rs.		19646670.20

As per our report of even date
x Strike off whichever is not applicable

Dated at : 22/08/2016
Place : Bharuch

Rameshchandra Jirajbhai Kasundra
Trustee
Gram Vikas Trust
A-18 Pushpdhan Banglows,
Opp. HDFC Bank, link road
Bharuch
Phone No-9442006293

Munlazi
Trustee
Gram Vikas Trust
Bharuch



Chirag Tambda
Chirag Tambda & Co.
Chartered Accountants
Registration No: 101849W



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6. Joy of Giving - an inspiring contribution by Glenmark Foundation

Glenmark pharmaceutical company provided food, nutrition, health and hygiene awareness in one day event in primary school, Ambheta village, Vagra block, Bharuch district. Glenmark's employees contribute regularly from their salaries, and then once in a year, celebrate the "Joy of Giving" day with school children. GVT suggests a school and provides coordination support.



7. Our Supporters

1. Asha for Education – USA
2. Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) India
3. Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) – ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development
4. Corporate organizations e.g. Reliance industries, LNG Petronet, BASF (Chemicals), PI Industries, Fermanic Industries and so on
5. FINISH Society, supported by WASTE, the Netherland
6. Give India
7. Global Giving, UK
8. Government of Gujarat
9. Government of India
10. Individual Donors
11. Individual Volunteers
12. KASA India
13. National Council of Rural Institute (NCRI) – India
14. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)
15. Nasscom Foundation
16. Reach to Teach, UK
17. Sai Baba Organisation, UK
18. Save the Children UK
19. Sikshana, Bangalore
20. Vibha – USA
21. Village Development Council – London

Gram Vikas Trust is a voluntary organisation committed to children's education and development



Children marching in rally for awareness on sanitation. Primary School, village Kharia, block Jhagadia, district Bharuch (Gujarat)

