



ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020

Uttar Kshetriya Samaj Vikas Kendra
The Northern Regional Forum



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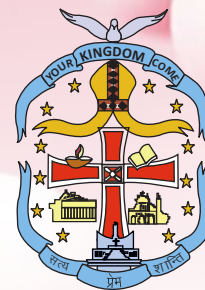
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MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT



Integrated human development is the strength of our society. Human development may have various aspects of social, cultural, religious, moral, ethical, economic and political nature. Any one aspect cannot be exclusive. True human development is inclusive of all aspects that affect human persons. Human society is a well knit web of relationships based on the principles of fellowship, equality, justice and peace. Human society envelopes the concerns of the environment and conservation of creation and safeguarding of the mother earth, our common home.

Uttar Kshetriya Samaj Vikas Kendra as the Northern Regional Forum under the supervision of the Regional Bishops' Council, has a mandate to care and safeguard creation, to restore human dignity and to empower individuals and groups towards self-reliance.

The caste and class-ridden society, rich-poor divide, selfishness, corruption, unethical and immoral practices in view of unjust profiteering in business and life-style are the challenges we face. The fast changing socio-political and economic trends that promote a sharp divide among people, ignorance, illiteracy, prevalent in some areas, unemployment and unequal opportunities

only increase human misery. The rights of women and girl children and certain categories of people and caste discrimination are also our concern. The UKSVK has been ably approaching these with responsibility and ability through the partnership of the Directors of Social Service of twelve Dioceses.

The involvement of UKSVK in the latest pandemic Corona Virus with positive steps is praiseworthy. Awareness creation, relief and rehabilitation of migrants and displaced workers have been the focus of UKSVK these last three months.

In the achievements of UKSVK, the mention of assistance received from MANOS UNIDAS, MISEREOR, CARITAS INDIA is necessary. I appreciate the qualities of hard work and able organization of the Executive Director, the Diocesan Directors of Social Service and other collaborators. May UKSVK strive ahead towards the set goal.

May God bless the efforts of UKSVK towards the formation of a new society.

† **Most Rev. Dr Albert D'Souza**
Archbishop of Agra

Acknowledgement



It's not just us, the UKSVK, which alone did whatever we did, it's all because our Partners, Board Members and Team are with us. They have continuously supported and inspired us to contribute, perform and share things with community.

We are thankful to all our Partners, Board and Team Members for their continued support, guidance and hard work to take UKSVK to new heights.



SUCHETNA
BAREILLY DIOCESE SOCIAL SERVICE CENTRE





ABOUT US

Uttar Kshetriya Samaj Vikas Kendra (UKSVK) “The Northern Regional Forum” is a registered body functioning under the Regional Bishops’ Council of the above mentioned region. The members of UKSVK are the Bishops, Diocesan Directors, and a Women’s Representative each from twelve dioceses. It comprises of 1/5 of the geographical area of India.

It was registered in 1988 under the Indian Societies Registration Act (Act XXI of 1860), (Reg. No. 957/1988-89), which is the social service forum of 12 Catholic dioceses of Agra Ecclesiastical Region of North India. It encompasses the dioceses of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand.

VISION

Formation of a society based on the principles of peace, equality and justice to enjoy the fullness of life.

MISSION

To commit ourselves to the restoration of human dignity through empowerment and self reliance.

ABOUT THE BOOK



The year 2019-2020 initiated a new hope wherein UKSVK along with its partners decided to streamline new initiatives. A series of consultation meetings and situational analysis conducted at ground level, equipped the region in listing the utmost needs of the marginalized residing in the Northern Region. Considering the reality of the region, UKSVK planned to work on the issues of livelihood with the approach of Community-Led Sustainable Livelihood.

UKSVK has been able to instigate a comprehensive partner-participatory approach by the involvement of various stakeholder sectors to provide services to the underprivileged with special focus on the needs of women and adolescent girls for Health and Livelihood in remote rural areas of our region.

The actions of the organization were further strengthened by integrating and practising the four Key Strategic Pillars:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| (i). Empowering Animation | (ii). Dialogue |
| (iii). Volunteerism | (iv). Community Sharing |

Across all intervention series of workshops on Catholic Social Teachings (CST) & Key Strategic Pillars (KSP) were organized for the Laity/Parishioners and members of Faith Based Organizations (FBO) on the aforesaid to develop a sense of responsibility towards the welfare of the society and its people.

UKSVK has managed to establish a pool of **600** volunteers who are the catalyst in streamlining the project interventions. **240** women volunteers are actively involved in disseminating the Social Security Schemes and Services.

The sudden outbreak of Covid -19 and the lockdown has jolted the planned on-going activities and it was difficult to keep the contractual terms. On the other hand numerous events were organized especially ensuring that the poor are getting their basic needs. UKSVK and its partners collaborated collectively in addressing the pandemic.

OVERVIEW OF OUR WORK IN 2019-20

01



Organized a workshop on Catholic Social Teachings (CST) and Key Strategic Pillars (KSP) for diocesan personnel.

02



Organized two workshops on Proposal Development in two intervals. The workshops were facilitated by Mr. Prakash Kumar Layak and team from ASK.

03



Organized residential workshop for the women leaders on: i. Services of banks and financial institutions, ii. Livelihood based skill development for different income generation activities.

04



Workshop on CST & KSP were organized in all 12 DSSS for the laity/parishioners and members of Faith-Based organizations (FBOs).



A good quality project proposal is the key and critical tool to attract grants on such relevant issues / themes. It has been analysed that Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Rajasthan are the states which stand low in almost all human index indicators. Therefore along with its **12** partners UKSVK organized two workshops on proposal development which had **29** participants. The workshop was facilitated by Mr. Prakash Kumar Layak and team from ASK. UKSVK wishes to engage a capacity building process-driven approach in developing a result-based regional project proposal, “Women and Empowerment through access to livelihood, rights and entitlements”.

The workshops were organized as follows:

Date	Venue
01-03 August 2019	Pastoral Centre, Agra
19-24 August 2019	Diocesan Social Work Society, Lucknow

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR 2019-2020



SAKHI

The project SAKHI is being implemented in **12** dioceses of the Northern Region covering around **12000** adolescent girls from **124** villages. The goal of the project is to mainstream the rural adolescent girls by effort of continuous life-skill up-gradation, stay-in-school concept, improved sexual and reproductive health and access to marketable skills. Through a continuous and collective approach the on-going project SAKHI has impacted the lives of **10362** adolescent girls of **124** villages. Many adolescent girls have overcome the formidable obstacles of poverty, patriarchy, child marriage, gender discrimination and gender gap in education. Two adolescent girls, Ms Pooja from Loharwada village, Ajmer and Ms Veena Garacia from Banswara contested the Panchayat Election. Ms Veena won and

became the Ward Member. Both these girls are an inspiration to all. The biggest struggle in many places for the girls was to get as much of the crowd against the political fortunes of the men.

The adolescent girls and their families are delighted and thankful for supporting skill-development-livelihood in Tailoring & Embroidery and Beautician courses for the economically disadvantaged adolescent girls and women. Trained girls and women get orders from neighborhoods to stitch different types of salwar suits, petticoats, blouses, zari work on sarees, decorating the bride etc. With this skill girls and women are earning monthly Rs. **3000-3500** supplementary income for their family.

VOCATIONAL AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT



Enhancing adolescent girls' capacity, our initiatives focus on improving the knowledge, skill, self-esteem and leadership of the adolescent from marginalized communities. As part of their economic empowerment, courses are being given to improve the employability and income-earning opportunities for adolescent girls. The course assisted in removing the disparities between boys and girls thus improving their living conditions.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR 2019-2020

The following are the details of adolescent girls who participated in the vocational courses conducted in all **12** dioceses:

Vocational Course	No. of girls who completed the course
Tailoring and Embroidery	1440
Computer Course	720
Beautician Course	1080

In Dausa - Rajasthan the adolescent group, Kajal Kishori Samuh is involved in handloom work and are making khadi cloth. They are earning Rs. **300-350** per day. Though health risk is associated with the work, with their knowledge they are taking all precautions.



IMPROVED SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Adolescent girls are vulnerable to sexual violence, forced marriage and unwanted pregnancy. The vast majority of births among adolescents occur in low-resource settings, often as a result of societal factors including gender inequality, poverty and a lack of access to education and reproductive health services.

To address these issues a number of interventions were organized such as: home visit, individual counselling, family counselling, sessions on menstrual hygiene and



reproductive health with exhibitions. Around **6000** adolescent girls have benefitted through these health sessions, free sanitary pads distributing to around **4361** adolescent girls. A unique and best sanitation practice is also being followed by the Ags here who have developed a Mutka (Earthen pot) used for disposing of the used sanitary napkins.





EMERGING LEADERS

- **120** Health SAKHI's actively collaborated with the frontline health workers thus exploring the potential of community intervention perspectives for extending the reach and services of health benefits. The following services were availed by the beneficiaries with the help of Health SAKHIs.

Beneficiary	Services Availed of
Pregnant women	440 pregnant women were enrolled at the Anganwadi centre and mobilized for institutional delivery.
Lactating mothers	452 lactating mothers availed of nutritional supplements from the Anganwadi centre.
Ag's & Children's	140 adolescent girls and 66 children got immunized.

- **240** Women volunteers are taking the lead in disseminating information of Govt. Schemes and Services and are using the digital platform for filling in the forms.
- **480** Youth volunteers are involved in addressing. The community issues and play a vital role in organizing open meetings.



ENRICHING EXPOSURE VISITS

As part of the outdoor activities, a few exposure visits were conducted for the adolescent girls in order to expose them to important institutions such as a police station, bank, hospital etc, so as to empower with the knowledge to deal with the uncertainties of life and approach the appropriate authority with knowledge and confidence.



THE MAJOR OUTCOME OF SAKHI PROGRAM

- 507 Adolescent groups formed with 10362 girls.
- 126 Health SAKHI's actively involved in community-led activities and liaising with line departments.
- 4361 Ags received sanitary pads from Govt. institutions.
- 150 Child marriages got postponed.
- 120 Ags started earning Rs. 2500-3000 additional income for their family.
- 925 Kitchen gardens were developed.



CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM / PHASE 1



(Reviving self-capacity of women leaders)

Daksh is a capacity building program being implemented in collaboration with Manos Unidas for reviving the capacity of women leaders. **240** women leaders were identified through the community participatory approach. The appointed women members participated in the training sessions. Effectiveness of training was assessed based on the level of their satisfaction and on attributes pertaining to knowledge, skill, attitude and application of the learning in community.

A series of workshops were organized on the following topics:

Workshop on	No. of women leaders participated
Social Protection Schemes & Services	120
Livelihood-Based Skill-Development Services for Different Income-Generation Activities	120
Services of Banks and Financial Institutions	120

The trained women leaders played important roles such as mobilizing and training fellow-women members, hosting training sessions for **100** women in their vicinity, advocacy with Govt. departments and officials for availing of the benefits.

Jaipur
20-21 June 2019
Participants 27



Ajmer
18-19 June 2019
Participants 25



Meerut
15-16 July 2019
Participants 23



**Services of Bank
&
Financial Institutions**



Bijnor
17-18 July 2019
Participants 28



Gorakhpur
07-08 August 2019
Participants 21



Lucknow
05-06 August 2019
Participants 22

LIVELIHOOD-BASED SKILL- DEVELOPMENT FOR DIFFERENT IGA

Ajmer
01-02 November 2019
Participants 17



Lucknow
07-08 November 2019
Participants 20



Meerut
19-20 November 2019
Participants 19



Jaipur
03-04 November 2019
Participants 24



Gorakhpur
09-10 November 2019
Participants 30



Bijnor
21-22 November 2019
Participants 25



RESULT/PROGRESS ACHIEVED

- ◆ UKSVK has a pool of **120** women leaders trained for government schemes and services, online application and livelihood and skill-development-based services.
- ◆ The women leaders disseminated this knowledge to **19,813** community members.
- ◆ **4,463** families benefitted from different government schemes.
- ◆ **1,172** members enquired about services and applied online.
- ◆ Many women members are now able to access the smart phone.
- ◆ A strong network with the village head, line departments and government officials is being formed.
- ◆ The women leaders become part of the on-going various capacity-building programs of the organization.



CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM / PHASE 2

The 2nd phase of DAKSH started in February 2020 and completed the 1st training on “Livelihood-Based-Skill-Development” in six DSSS as follows:



Participation of women leaders from each DSSS

S.No	DSSS Name	Participation of Women Leaders
01	Banswara	30
02	Agra	41
03	Varanasi	27
04	Jhansi	50
05	Allahabad	26
06	Bareilly	35

The trained women leaders after the workshop were involved in propagating their knowledge to **100** women in their vicinity. In many places the women leaders assisted the beneficiaries in availing of the Govt. schemes and services.

STAMBH

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHINGS & CARITAS INDIA 4 KEY STRATEGIC PILLARS

*"We make a living by what we get, but
we make a life by what we give." –
Winston Churchill*

STAMBH... was a capacity building program, wherein UKSVK organized a series of workshops on Catholic Social Teachings (CST) and Key Strategic Pillars (KSP) for the diocesan personnel of Agra ecclesial region. The workshop on CST emphasised matters of human dignity and the common good in society, subsidiarity, social justice and issues of wealth distribution. A CST handbook has also been developed by UKSVK, this manual was developed in association with our 12 diocesan partners. The handbook is available at the following link :

<https://uksvk.org/wpcontent/pdf/Guiding%20Principles%20for%20Development%20Work.pdf>

The session on Key Strategic Pillars focussed on the following :

- (I). Empowering animation
- (ii). Dialogue
- (iii). Volunteerism
- (iv). Community sharing.

These sessions emphasised the streamlining of the strategic pillars and integrating the pillars with the on-going interventions. Concrete strategic plans were developed by the participants thus ensuring the reinforcement of the pillars.

WORKSHOP ORGANIZED

BY UKSVK

At regional level UKSVK organized five workshops participated by 242 participants. The details are as follows:



April 02-03

12 DSSS Directors
and 12 Women
Representatives
in **Agra**

July 22-23

60 participants from
Ajmer, Jaipur,
Udaipur and Agra at
Pastoral Centre,
Jaipur

July 22-23

40 participants from
Lucknow, Gorakhpur,
Allahabad and Varanasi
at Diocesan Social Work
Centre, **Lucknow**

August 13-14

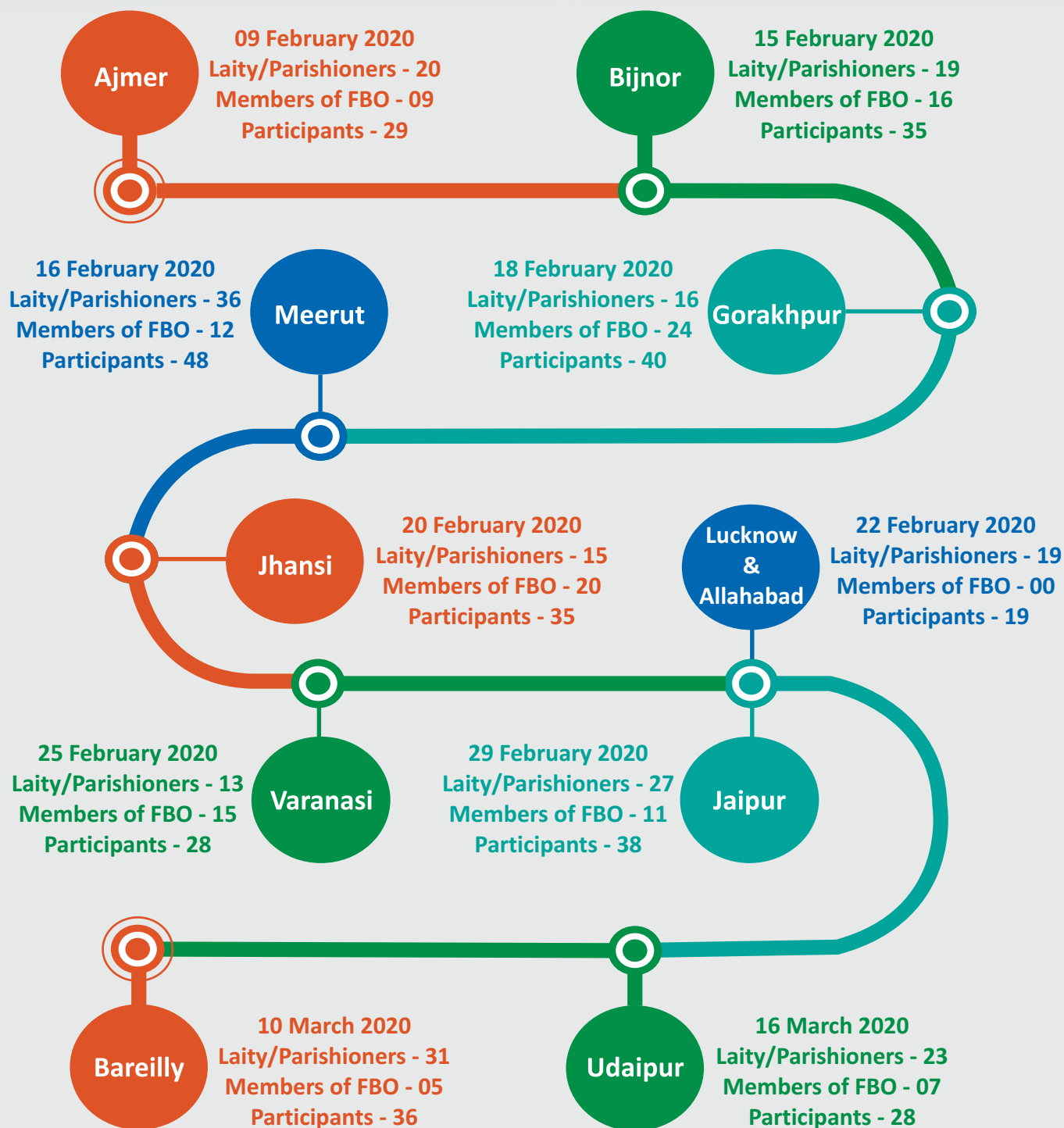
82 participants from
Bareilly, Bijnor
Meerut and Jhansi
at Social Work
Centre, **Kathgodam**

September 13-14

39 participants
(Coordinators and
Animators) of
Sakhi 12 Dioceses
in **Kathgodam**



The first phase of STAMBH project was highly acclaimed and a need emerged of organizing the aforesaid workshops for laity/parishioners and members of Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs). In October 2019 STAMBH was sanctioned as “Regional Forum Accompaniment” where **11** workshops on CST & KSP were organized for the laity/parishioners and FBOs. Fr Antony Fernandes, secretary of the team was facilitator of the workshops which was attended by **338** participants. The details of the workshop are as follows:



STATUTORY COMPLIANCES

April 02 -03, 2019	Annual General Body Meeting & Governing Body Meeting
June 24, 2019	Extra Ordinary Annual General Body Meeting
November 15, 2019	Governing Body Meeting



MONITORING VISIT TO DSSS

- Project monitoring plays a vital part to understand and observe the on-going process, foresee potential risk and obstacles, gather data and the way forward.
- UKSVK secretariat visited partner organizations to review and learn the progress, project impact and its reach to the beneficiaries and the way forward. The details are as follows:

S.No	Venue	Date	
01	Lucknow	07 August 2019	23 February 2020
02	Agra	08 August 2019	-
03	Gorakhpur	09 August 2019	19 February 2020
04	Allahabad	10 August 2019	27 February 2020
05	Varanasi	10 August 2019	26 February 2020
06	Banswara, Udaipur	26 August 2019	08 February 2020
07	Ajmer	27 August 2019	30 January 2020
08	Dausa, Jaipur	28 August 2019	31 January 2020
09	Jhansi	30 August 2019	03 March 2020
10	Meerut	04 September 2019	17 February 2020
11	Kotdwar, Bijnor	05 September 2019	14 February 2020
12	Kathgodam, Bareilly	06 September 2019	16 March 2020



CHANGE THAT INSPIRE US

"You can only become truly accomplished at something you love. Don't make money your goal. Instead, pursue the things you love doing and then do them so well that people can't take their eyes off you."

- Pooja Nayak
Alampura, Jhansi



This is the story of Ms Pooja Nayak, age 21 from Alampura village in Jhansi. Pooja has been associated with the Sakhi project since 2017 and has been actively involved in all group work sessions like health and hygiene, communicable and non-communicable diseases, exposure visits, health camps etc. Her parents are also supportive and they too accompanied her in most of the group meetings and community mobilization activities. In September 2019 a career guidance counselling session was organized in which around **30** adolescent girls actively participated Pooja being one of them.

There after Pooja communicated with the SAKHI team and expressed her desire of pursuing the Nursing Assistant's course, also called GAD (General Assistant Duty). The SAKHI team assured her of assistance and accompanied her to the village Pradhan, with whose assistance Pooja and the SAKHI team visited the Kaushal Vikas officials and enquired

about the nursing course.

After completing and submitting all necessary documents she was admitted to the six-months general nursing course. After completing the course she did one month's internship at the Government Hospital, Gursarai. Later she had an opportunity to work as a Home Nurse for which she needed to relocate to Gurgoan or Noida around **450** kms from her hometown. Pooja then approached the SAKHI team and shared her plight with them. The SAKHI team then contacted Mrs Janki a nurse by profession and owner of a personal clinic in Gursarai and informed her of Pooja's plight. Mrs Janki agreed to appoint Pooja in her clinic, paying her Rs. **5000/-** per month. Pooja and her parents are content and expressed their sincere gratitude to the SAKHI project and team for their valuable advice, insightful comments and encouragement to Pooja while pursuing the course.

TOWARDS A BRIGHT FUTURE



"Without the SAKHI project, it would have been impossible to resume school. Now, I will study and stand on my feet. I want my parents to feel proud of me".

- Sanju
Ajmer

Sanju, as **18** year old girl never gave a thought to further studies. But her dream came true after she fell in line with SAKHI project.

She belongs to a very poor family. Her father is a daily wage laborer and sometimes her mother also assists him. She passed class VIII successfully. But she was soon drawn into depression due of some family issues. As a result, she had dropped out of school for two years and did not complete her studies. The situation depressed her and Sanju herself lost all hope of resuming studies.

The SAKHI project staff considered her case and took it as a priority to organize counselling sessions with an external counsellor for her to resolve her problem. They also made her parents understand her condition, her desire to pursue academics and its importance for a bright future. Her parents agreed to let her continue her studies. But it was not

enough to plan to continue studies in school. The Principal did not accept her application and even refused to give her admission and the text books. This disheartened Sanju. She lost confidence and felt rejected. When the SAKHI team learned of the situation they instantly contacted the principal and other higher authorities. After a long process the SAKHI team convinced the school authorities and Sanju got admission to the school and is pursuing her studies. Sanju is regular in school and is helping the poor and weak girls of her village in their studies.

SECURING THE FUTURE WITH SKILL DEVELOPMENT

She is also give tailoring classes to other poor girls in her area. She feels humble and thanks Meerut Seva Samaj for providing her a platform which has brought a visible change in her life.

- Pinki
Janikhurd, Meerut



Ms Pinki Rani D/o Shri Rajendra is a resident of Jani Khurd village, Meerut District. Pinki is the eldest girl in her family and has three sisters and a brother who are studying. Her father is a daily wage laborer and the sole earner of her family, her mother is a homemaker. The financial condition of the family is humble with difficult to bear the expense of daily bread. Pinki has passed the matriculation and then dropped out of studies due to the family circumstances.

When the SAKHI project was launched, Pinki got associated with it and enrolled as a member of the Kalpana Chawala group of 20 members. Since Pinki could not continue her studies she ensured that she participated in all the group meetings and training sessions organized. Through group meetings Pinki managed in brushing up her knowledge and skills and enrolled herself in the Tailoring course. She actively participated in it and learned the necessary skills of tailoring. Things were sailing smoothly when suddenly her father had a heart attack. Since then things

have worsened for the family. The meager savings the family had, were exhausted in her father's treatment and other household needs. Pinki's father now stays at home and the family's responsibility is taken over by Pinki. The villagers too offer their support to the family by giving Pinki orders for stitching. Her hard work is making her earn Rs. **2,500/-** a month.

Beside stitching, she is also conducting Tailoring classes for the village girls. Pinki is thankful to the SAKHI team for providing her a platform which has brought a visible change in her life. Her father's poor health has not depressed her. She has development skills which have brought a turning point in her life and which she uses successfully and with which she has secured her future.



HARD WORK AND SELF-DETERMINATION LEAD TO A SUCCESSFUL LIFE...

She is very happy. She has improved her health and has come out of herself and has become very brave and energetic. She is now a free person. She is very grateful to the animator, coordinator and society who helped her to come up in life.

- Mamta Kumari
Shakarpur Kalan, Varanasi

Mamta Kumari hails from a poor family in Shakarpur Kalan village, Kasimabad Block, Ghazipur District. There are three children in the family, a brother and two sisters and she is the youngest in the family. Her father is a home guard and mother does not live with them. From childhood she was deprived of a mother's love. Since her parents could not live together the children were deprived of parental love and care. She was a very timid and quiet child; even at home not much attention was given to her.

In **2017**, during the month of October, SAKHI project was initiated in this village and the SAKHI team started making adolescent groups. Mamta joined the group titled 'Roshni Kishori Samuh'. Mamta did not participate in group meetings. When her friends insisted, she did go but she hardly uttered a word in the meetings.

During the home visits the SAKHI team observed that Mamta was with them but in groups she felt neglected. Thereafter regular counselling sessions were organized for Mamta and she gradually regained confidence and started participating in the group meetings with more ease and enthusiasm.

In one of the group meetings, the SAKHI team

shared on the livelihood opportunity and informed them about the KITEK Company based in Kerala (Southern India). The group was informed of the selection process and that participants need to complete a three months tailoring course on High Speed Machine organized by Purvanchal Gramin Chetna Samiti (PGCS) Raghapur. After the completion of the course and a test the selected girls will be accompanied to Kerala for job placement.

Mamta expressed her interest to join the course, but her father and other relatives did not favour her desire. There was lot of objection from the family but she was adamant to go and finally she managed to convince her family. Further she joined the course organized by PGCS and successfully completed it. Thereafter she left for Kerala and joined the KITEK Company to work and is earning **10-12** thousand rupees every month. She is very happy, her health has improved and she has come out of herself and become bold and energetic. Mamta is very grateful to the animator, coordinator and society who helped to come up in life.

UPGRADING THE HEALTH STATUS



Km Tanu D/o Mr Suresh Chand hails from Sisola Kala Village and is a member of the Krishna Kishori group. Tanu, the leader of this group was selected as the Health Sakhi and participated in various capacity-building sessions like leadership quality, health and hygiene, social security schemes and services, skill training etc.

As a Health Sakhi, she is actively involved in health activities and coordinates with frontline health workers in executing the health services like immunization and health camps, distribution of supplementary food to pregnant and lactating women, organizing girls for BMI (Body Mass Index) and haemoglobin tests and information. distribution of free sanitary pads to adolescent girls.

She has also assisted her mother and other women of government cards. Her mother and others availed of various government schemes meant for cardholders. She has also applied for a marriage subsidy for her sister and has obtained it too!.

"You can only become truly accomplished at something you love. Don't make money your goal. Instead, pursue the things you love doing and then do them so well that people can't take their eyes off you".

- Kumari Tanu
Sisola Kala, Meerut

During the current lockdown she is voluntarily serving the community by delivering messages on social distancing covering the face with a cloth mask and distributing pamphlets on adhering to the guidelines given by the GOI.

She feels happy as she is contributing to the development of peer groups and will continue to do this work. She thanks Sakhi project for guiding and nurturing her with the capacity and with the information.

AN ORDINARY VILLAGE GIRL OF “SAKHI” BECOMES THE WARD PANCH OF THE AREA - BANSWARA

Miss Veena Garaciya a resident of Chattrakutta Panchayat, Sajjangarh Tehsil, Banswara District, Rajasthan is a Bhil Aadiwasi girl from a poor family. Her parents are farmers. She is the eldest among six children. At present she is a B.A 2nd year student in college.

Two years ago she joined the kishori group initiated by SAKHI project. She regularly participated in the meetings, trainings, awareness programs and many other activities run by the project which enabled her to become active and enthusiastic.

She says she had a dream to become a leader and do something for the betterment of society especially for women. She knew women were no longer to be channels as producers or collectors of meals and of taking care of children. She realized that each women/kishori has to struggle in one way or the other against discrimination to win self-respect and self-confidence.

As she was involved in different programs and activities with projects on property rights, domestic violence and gender equality, child marriage and so on, she found that it is necessary to understand the system which keeps women dominated over and subordinated. As she grew up and became more active in the group she expressed her wish to her parents and friends. They supported and motivated her at their level best. She decided it is time to start her career as a leader. Really it was challenging, but she was determined. The recent Panchayat election 2020 brought a golden chance to make her dream come true. She stood as a candidate for ward panch. There were four candidates against her. She prepared well and contested the elections.

Finally her dream came true and she won the election. She got 127 votes and was declared the ward panch.

She is very much appreciated and respected by the villagers and panchayat authorities. Thus she has become a role model for the village and for other kishoris. She states that if women leaders unlike male leaders do not pass domestic legislation that benefits women and increases gender equality, then no one will be able to do it. She questions if female facilitate the adoption of gender-specific measures and policies that benefit women, then it can be argued that women's political empowerment, particularly in the developing world can be a tool to bridge the gap and improve the social conditions of women and society as a whole. Now she wants to bring about changes in the villages by changing the life of women. She is determined to make available to them all the government schemes for the needy.

In conclusion she gives all the credit to SAKHI project through which she developed her knowledge and awareness. It helped her to think of doing something for the women/kishoris. Whole-heartedly she thanks UKSVK for the SAKHI project and thanks SJVS for the implementation of the project in the villages. Surely her success is an achievement and an inspiration for every kishori to come up in future with a new hope.



HEALTH IS WEALTH



Shiv Murti father of Sonam says **“Good health is a big challenge for the family”.**

Sonam aged **14** is from Saimaha village, Allahabad district and is studying in class IX. Her favourite subject is Hindi and she likes to play badminton. She belongs to a poor family. Her father is an agricultural labourer and mother housewife. She has three brothers and one elder sister.

Sonam joined SAKHI program in **2018** and became a member of the adolescent girls group. After joining the group, the first training which she attained was on ‘Knowing our Body’ (menstrual hygiene), where she learn about the body, their function and how to practise hygiene during the menstrual cycle. She shared with her mother and aunt about the various hormonal changes that take place in our body as we grow. Thereafter Sonam actively participated in all sessions like healthy cooking, personality development, domestic violence, property rights, advocacy, jago SAKHI etc.

Her active participation in group work activities and her zeal to learn was highly appreciated by the community members who

rewarded her with the post of Health SAKHI. After becoming the Health SAKHI she rigorously accompanied and assisted the frontline health workers and ensured that health services are being rendered in her community. Earlier the Asha and ANM were not regular in the village, but when Sonam started assisting them their services improved. Soon the pregnant and lactating mothers were registered by Sonam and availed of all benefits, even receiving the amount under the Jannai Suraksha Yojana.

Sonam has been interest in gardening and agriculture work. The SAKHI team briefed her on the concept and importance of Kitchen garden. Sonam decided to have a kitchen garden; accordingly she contacted the SAKHI team and with them visited the Krishi Vigyan Kendre where she received free seeds and learned also the process of sowing the seed. She took regular care of her garden and soon the garden was full of green and leafy vegetables. Presently Sonam and her family are consuming the vegetables grown in their garden and are able to save some money w h i c h earlier they spent on vegetables.



Sonam and her kitchen garden

A RAY OF HOPE



Sakhi staff inspired both teenage girls to teach village children. Now both the girls are teaching children for two hours for free after school.

Rekha Saini & Guddi Saini
Dausa, Jaipur

The on-going adolescent girls' program being implemented in the **10** villages out of **864** is impacting the live of adolescent girls. Many adolescent girls are taking initiatives for their own well being and prosperity. Two such examples are of Rekha Saini and Guddi Saini from Gokulwadi village. These two adolescent girls are associated with the project since its inception and are active members of their group.

Their active participation in group meetings and community-led initiatives has been appreciated by the community and as per the suggestions of the community members, both were elected Health SAKHI's. As Health SAKHI's they assisted the frontline health workers in organizing health and immunization camps. Many adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women were associated with the anganwadi centre for health check-ups, supplements and sanitary pads.

They also conducted house visits and had interactions with parents to ensure that drop

outs are getting enrolled. During the group meetings Rekha and Guddi expressed their desire of initiating free tuitions for the adolescent girls of their village. Since their parents were not in favour of organizing free tuitions, they urged the SAKHI team to motivate their parents to allow them to organize tuition classes. Thereafter the SAKHI team visited their parents, though initially the SAKHI team thought this task easy, it wasn't! the only concern of the parents was that their ward will not be getting any remuneration for the hard work they will be doing. After much persuasion the parents agreed and thus both, Rekha and Guddi started organizing free tuitions for the weak and needy students. The classes were thrice a week for two/three hours after school. Around **40** girls have benefitted from the tuition class.

The village Pradhan and other community leaders acknowledge and appreciated the effort of Rekha and Guddi and assured all possible help in organizing classes for the needy. It has also been decided that the village Pradhan will give a remuneration to these girls.

MAKING UNDERPRIVILEGED YOUTH EMPLOYABLE



Annu Kumari is an example of hard work and perseverance. Annu lives in Koran village in Allahabad. Her

father works as a daily wage labourer in Agricultural fields and mother is a housewife. She has three sisters and one brother. Annu hails from a scheduled Tribe (ST's) community. Even today majority of Adolescent Girls of her caste are the victims of society, where they have no rights to avail of better health, better education and basic resources.

Annu came to know about SAKHI program working for the uplift of rural adolescent girls. In 2018 she became a part of the program and joined Adolescent Girls group formed by SAKHI.

Annu participated in the group activities conducted for the holistic development of AGs. Through SAKHI program she learned personal hygiene, healthy food, tricolour food, how to file an FIR and RTI government schemes for rural development and about AG's rights. She also learned to draft applications to govt. offices to avail of the benefits of social security schemes and

services.

Annu was a part of the three months beautician course organised under SAKHI project.

Annu goes to school regularly and in her free time she does beauty parlour work at home through which she has some income. During the marriage season she goes to decorate the bride women and adolescent girls and earns Rs. **3000/- to 3500/-** per bride, by which she pays for her studies and supports her family with their the basic needs.

Annu's parents are happy that she has become self-dependent and is continuing her studies regularly. She has set an example for others in the community to come out of their bondage of family and society and avail of better education, skill and good health and live a better and sustained life.

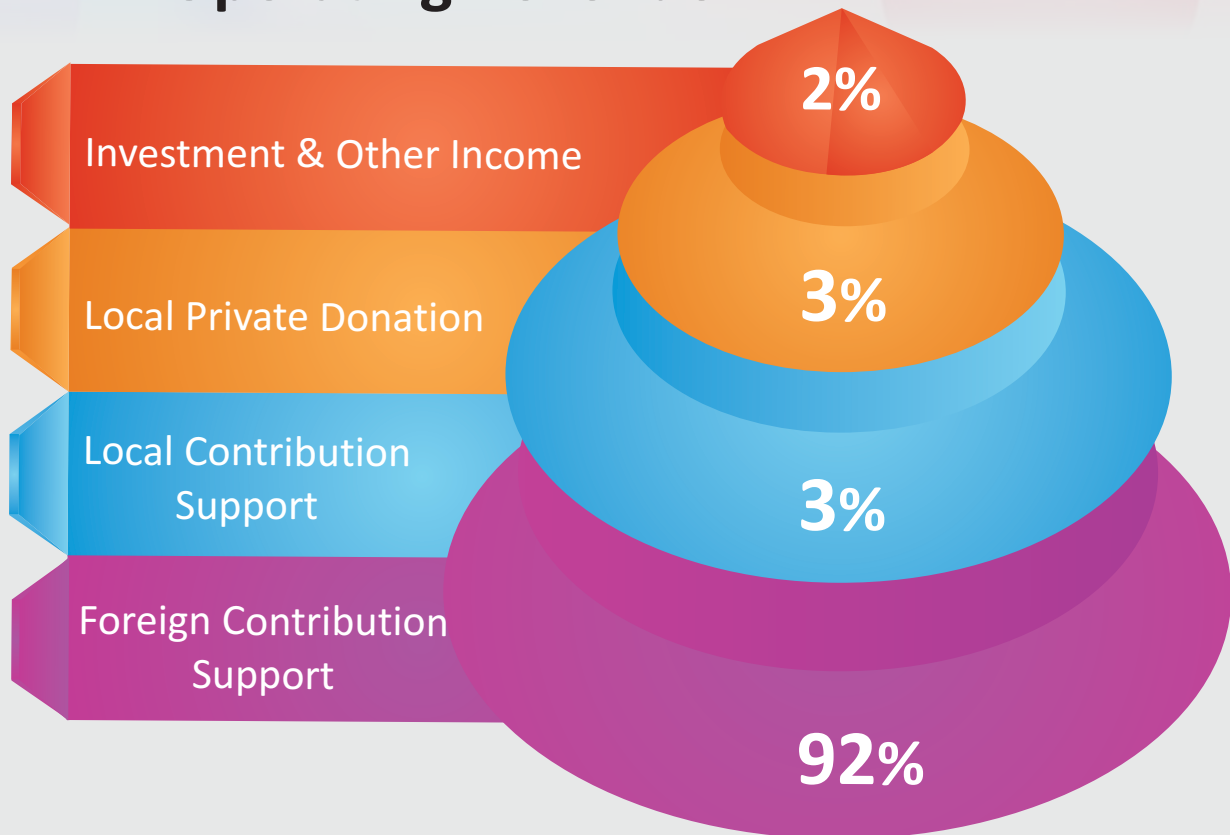
Thus, through her proactive steps, behavioural changes can be seen in the lives of other AG's. Today AG's are attending school, practising hygiene, undergoing regular health check-ups in PHC's and CHC's, raising their voice against domestic violence and avoiding early marriages. Annu has become an agent of transformation in her community.

She says that "Earlier she did not have the courage to speak and was just living to survive but now after joining SAKHI program she has understood the importance of life and her role towards society and family".

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

RECEIPTS

Operating Revenue



Operating Revenue		
	Amount	%
Foreign Contribution Support	18,494,160	92%
Local Contribution Support	581141	3%
Local Private Donation	618250	3%
Investment & Other Income	315150	2%
Total	20,008,701	100



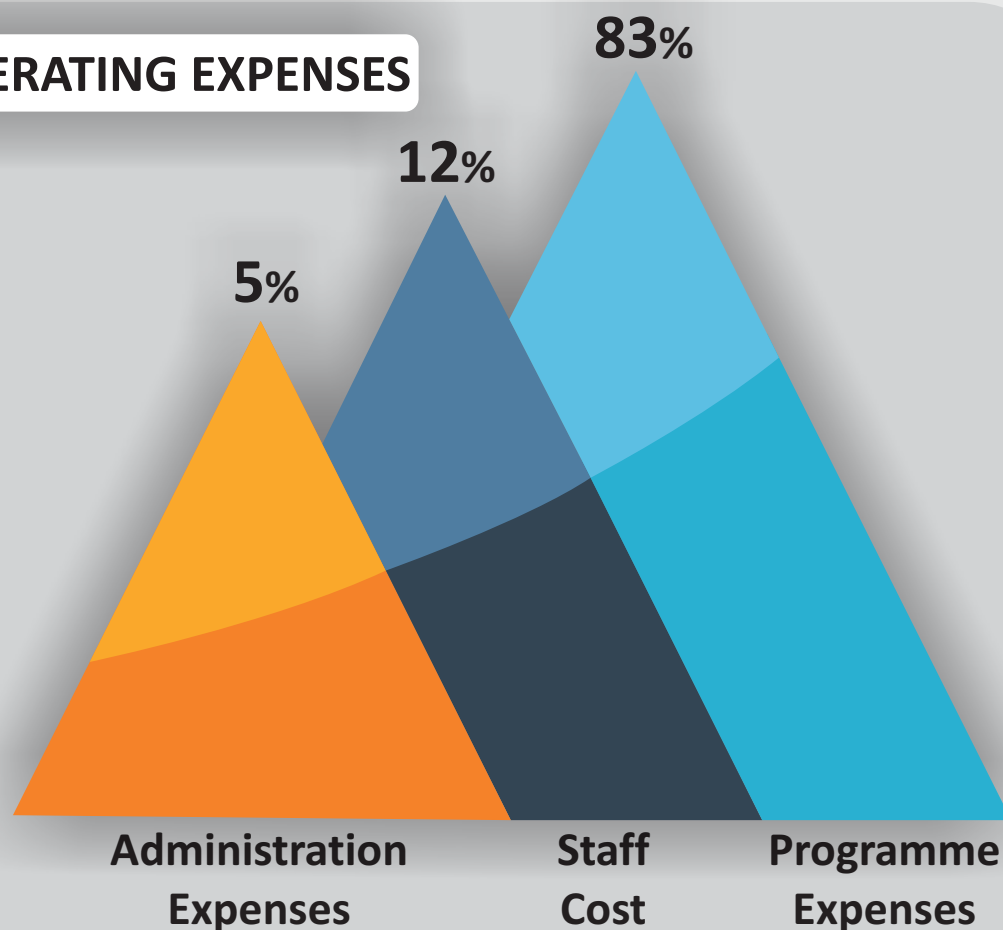
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

EXPENSES

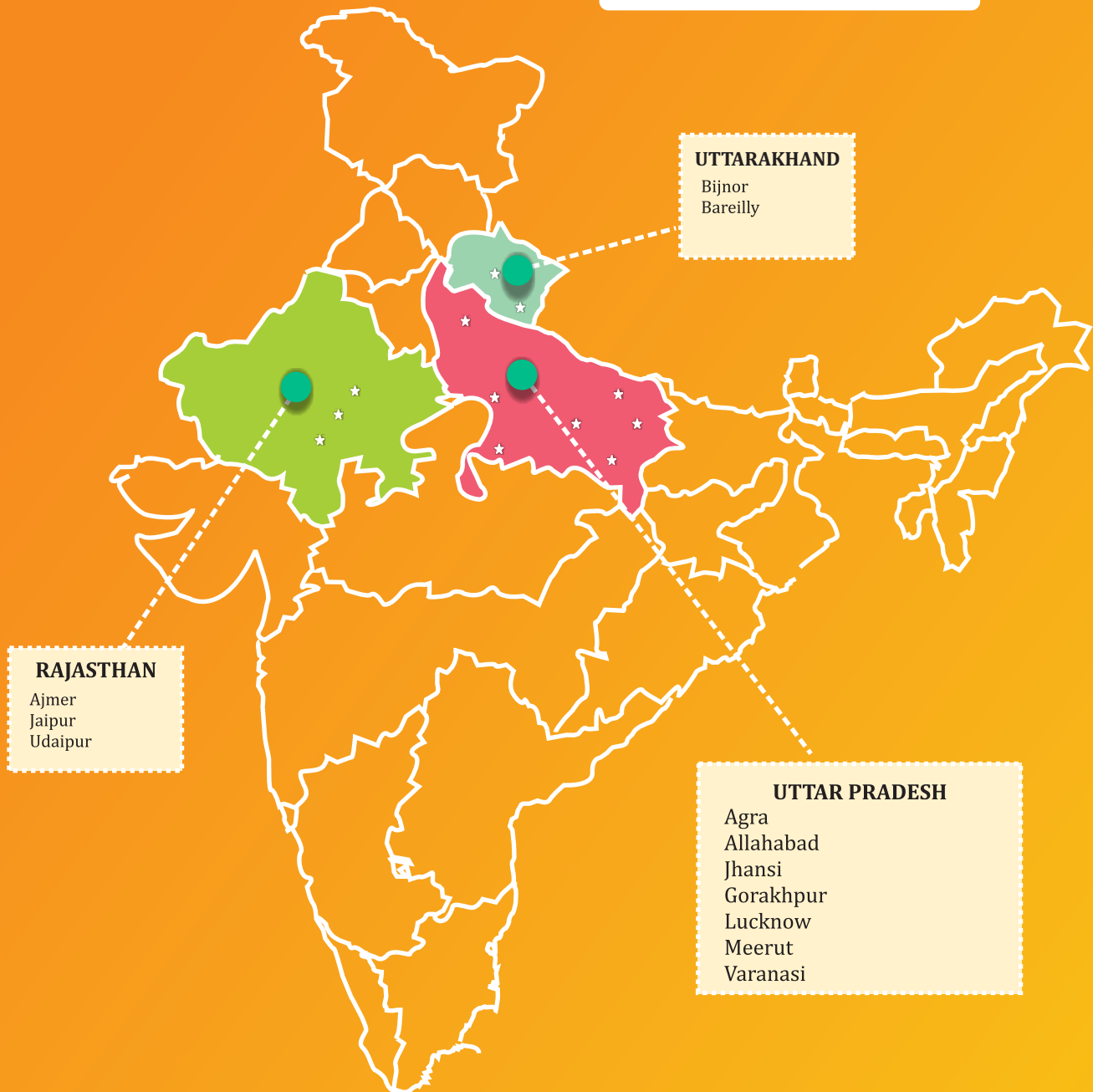
Operating Expenses		
	Amount	%
Programme Expenses	15,900,367.00	83%
Administration Expenses	10,46,046.19	5%
Staff Cost	23,08,590.00	12%
TOTAL	19,255,003.19	100



OPERATING EXPENSES



FOOTPRINT OVERVIEW



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