



eyes
can
see
hear



Annual Report 2020-22

Akshar Centre for
Hearing Impaired Children
and Teacher Training



hands
can
hold
speech

Who do we work for?

Based on available data, four in every 1,000 children suffer from severe to profound hearing loss and 100,000 babies are born with hearing deficiencies every year. The access to quality education for a child with deafness is very limited. Roughly only 35% children get this opportunity.

Akshar Trust works for **children with sensori-neural deafness**. Nearly all of them belong to the economically weaker sections of the society. Many parents are not educated but believe in the value of education.

It has become evident to us that by following 'GOOD PRACTICE', the future of these children changes, and they can hope to live a life of dignity and independence.

Our experience of nearly 34 years has shown us that given the appropriate pedagogy, technology and opportunity, a child with deafness can, and does perform as well as the child without deafness.

We believe,

Children with deafness are children first

They have right to

Happy childhood

Literacy

Communication skills and

Livelihood

Notwithstanding the fact that they belong to the poorer and more underprivileged section of society

Message from Hon. Founder Director & Managing Trustee



Dear Friends,

The past two years have been some of the most challenging in the memory of many of us. The educational space has had to negotiate, create, invent and discover ways and methods to circumvent the obstacles.

Many innovative approaches have been explored and some have succeeded but not all. The digital divide has been a focal factor for Akshar. Not one of the students possesses a laptop and many families have had to share a mobile phone between its members.

In spite of these issues Akshar has ensured that not one working day was lost due to the virus. Whether it was through WhatsApp, via the bus, across the telephone, the work reached the students; they replied; the worksheets were corrected and the programme moved on. Gradually, we changed tack and the staff learned to make videos in speech and signs to send on a private Akshar YouTube link.

Studies around the world have demonstrated that investment in human capital through formal education is a vital engine to economic growth.

Ms. Nisha Grover

Message from the Principal



Dear All

The year 2020-21 and 2021-22 saw many ups and downs but alongside much was learned and completed. The students began to come to the Centre as the Government gave permission.

Those students, who could not attend, received their work through specially created videos by the teachers shared on a private Akshar YouTube link. Worksheets and follow-up was done by Whatsapp. **Exams were conducted using Google. The teachers upgraded their skills in an urgent fashion. Unit Tests were held as per schedule and Board Exams were held in July 2021. All academic work was completed in the year.**

Fun and functions did not lag behind. A video of the students singing the National Anthem was uploaded on the RCI portal. Independence Day was celebrated on the playground. Beyond Meds, an NGO, held sessions with the students which included an animated film and fun games.

Ms. Hema Kale

Some quick statistics would include that more than 600 children have been educated by Akshar. 177 students have completed Std. X and XII board exams. More than 95 students have been mainstreamed into regular schools. The Teacher Training, started in 1999, has trained 380 teachers till date. There are 57 aspiring teachers pursuing a Diploma and B.Ed (Distance Mode) degree at the Centre.

Akshar has been working with very young children since 1978. The National Educational Policy 2020 also endorses that, strong investment in ECCE (Early Childhood Care & Education) has the potential to give all young children access, enabling them to participate and flourish in the educational system. This is particularly important for those from a socially disadvantaged background. Studies around the world have also demonstrated that investment in human capital through formal education is a vital engine to economic growth.

The support that Akshar has got from all of you is most special. It has helped us face all the challenges and sustained the activities for children with deafness for 34 years. We are most grateful.

Trust Registration and Banker Details

Akshar Trust is a non-profit, voluntary and secular organisation.

- Registered under the Bombay Public Trust Act 1950, No. E/4063/Vadodara dated 29-03-1989
- Registered under Section 51(2) of the Persons with Disabilities Act 2016 with Government of Gujarat, Director of Social Defense. Registration No. 66/97
- Registered with the office of the Commissioner of Income Tax, Vadodara, under section 12A (a) of the Income Tax Act 1961, dated 28-05-2021, No. AAATA3327JE1989301
- Registered with the Ministry of Home Affairs under Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act 1976, FCRA No. 041960087 dated 09-11-1998
- All donations are 50% exempt under section 80G (V) of the Income Tax 1961 vide order no. AAATA3327JF2021401 dated 28-05-2021 valid till date
- PAN No. AAATA3327J
- The Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) has given 'Permanent Recognition' to the Teacher Training Programme. It has accorded 'Very Good Performance' status to the Programme in 2009
- Registration of the entities for undertaking CSR activities dated 01-04-2021 (SRN-T11188265). Registration number- CSR00000100

Name and Address of Bankers

State Bank of India
Neha Apartment, Alkapuri Branch,
Race Course Road, Vadodara - 390 007

ICICI Bank
42, Haribhakti Colony, Nr. Chakli Circle,
O.P. Road, Vadodara - 390 007

State Bank of India (Delhi Branch)
New Delhi Main Branch {00691}
Foreign Exchange Division, 5th Floor, C Block,
11 Sansad Marg, New Delhi - 110001

DCB Bank
Ground Floor, Startrek Building,
O.P. Road, Nr. Chakli Circle,
Vadodara - 390 007

Name and Address of Auditor

Mr. Alkesh J. Shah
Alkesh J. Shah & Co
Chartered Accountants
203, Opal Square,
B/h. Express Hotel,
Alkapuri, Vadodara - 390 007



about us

Akshar Trust, Vadodara,
was established in 1988 to

Provide education and care to hearing impaired children and guidance to their families

Conduct research, investigation and experiments in the education of hearing-impaired children

Train teachers of the hearing impaired



Mission

The endeavour of Akshar Trust is to enable children with hearing impairment have access to an academic environment which will prove to be their opportunity, perhaps their only opportunity, for a life of self-reliance and dignity.

Vision

To make an individual with deafness lead a useful, happy and fulfilling life.

Overview

Akshar Trust began its work with 5 hearing-impaired/deaf children on 18th July 1988 in a small, rented shed in Fatehsinghrao Gymkhana.

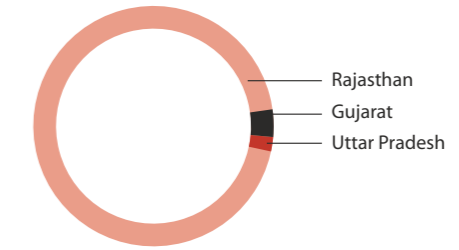
It is today educating 106 children with a staff of 26 including special educator's teachers, an audiologist & speech pathologist, faculty members, consultants, an art teacher, a karate teacher, teacher's aides, interns, voluntary workers, bus drivers and others.

Coverage

Children come to Akshar for education from different places in and outside Vadodara.

They have come to Vadodara from **Shinor, Padra, Chhota Udepur, Anand, Kalol, Bharuch, Halol, Dabhoi, Waghodia, Sadhali** etc. Some come from Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

Trainees from various states 2020-21



Services



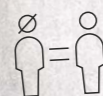
Early Intervention



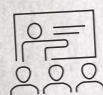
Pre-school



Classes from 1-12



Mainstreaming



Teacher Training Programmes

D.Ed. Spl. Ed. (DHH)
(Deaf & Hard of Hearing) under RCI

B.Ed. (SEDE) (HI) (Special Education Distance
Education) (Hearing Impairment) under Baba
Saheb Ambedkar Open University

Advance Certificate Course for Inclusive
Education (ACCIE) (Cross Disability) under
RCI as a Pilot Project



Capacity Building of other special schools for children with hearing impairment

Salient Features

Mode of Communication Total
Communication since 1996

Two mediums of instruction Gujarati and
Hindi. Akshar is the only school, out of 38,
for the deaf in Gujarat, which also offers
Hindi as a separate medium of instruction,
apart from Gujarati

Parent Involvement Early Intervention
observation/ participation; classes for Sign
System; Individual counselling of parents
and child

Admissions No child with deafness refused
admission; Children with problems
additional to deafness admitted; Admissions
through the year; Older children with
deafness admitted

Students Akshar is the earliest and one of
only 6 schools for the deaf in Gujarat, which
prepares students for Class 12 Gujarat State
Board exams; till date 177 students of Akshar
have completed Class 10 and 12 of Gujarat
State Board

Educational Features

**Adapted Curriculum &
Adapted Textbooks** (Re-writing)

Curriculum & Lesson Planning

Teacher Learning Material Development

Senior and experienced teachers guide,
direct and share ideas with newer entrants

**Development of Language and
Communication Skills** Auditory Training;
Working with Amplification Devices -
programmable H.A.s for 80% students;
Checklist for maintenance; Speech Software;
Speech Trainers

Therapies Special Training in Art and Karate;
Speech Therapy; Psychological Testing

Conferences and in-service training for
teachers

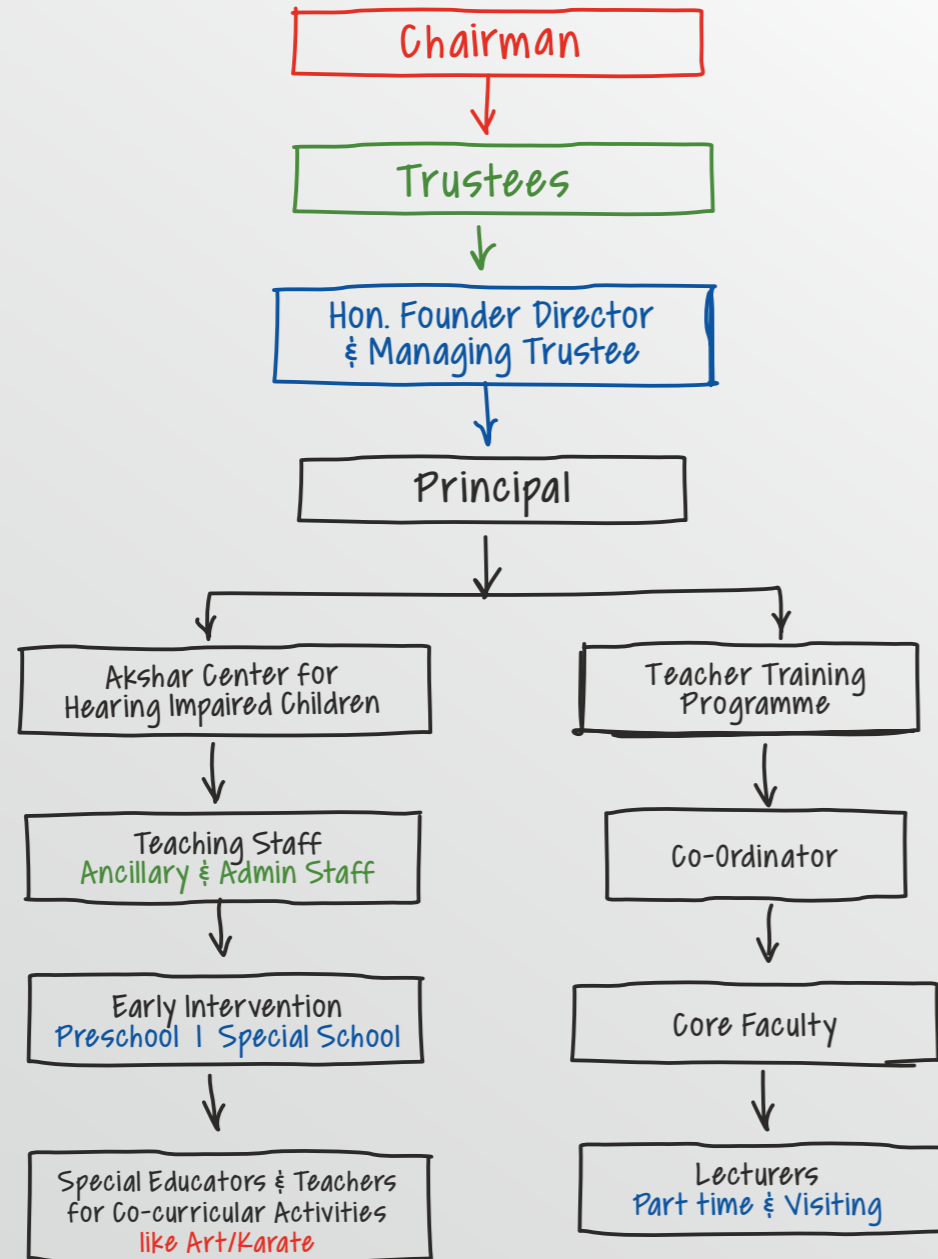
Subsidies Students come from all socio-
economic backgrounds but largely from
the underprivileged section; **100% of the
students are subsidised**, not even one
student has paid the required fees; all
3 buses are subsidised; free hearing aids,
ancillaries and audiogram are provided
for underprivileged students

Mainstreaming Over 95 students have
been completely mainstreamed into hearing
schools over the years

Professional growth is encouraged 16
teachers have completed B.Ed. (Distance)
(HI), 3 teachers their B.A. and 2 teachers
are currently pursuing their B.Ed. while at
Akshar

Report Card Day: Twice a year

Organisational Structure



Trustees Profile



Late Mr. Hasmukhbhai Shah
Chairperson
(2016-2021)

Professional

- President & Trustee, Shram Mandir (Leprosy Eradication)
- Chairman, Kachnar Trust (Public Service)
- Bharatiya Agro Industries Foundation (BAIF) (Rural Development)



Mr. Rajesh Parikh
Trustee

Business

- Partner at Spandan Multi Specialty Hospital
- Senate-Syndicate Member (Govt. Nominee) M. S. University (2007- 2012)
- Municipal Councilor (2005- 2010)
- Member Municipal School Board (1995-2005)



Ms. Nisha Grover
Hon. Founder Director
& Managing Trustee

Educator

- President, National Convention of Educators of the Deaf (NCED), India, (2010-2016)
- Ex-Governing Council Member, Ali Yavar Jung National Institute of Speech and Hearing Disabilities, (2014-2015)
- Executive Council Member Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India
- Founder Trustee - Bhasha Trust



Ms. Shruti Shroff
Trustee | Stepped down, Oct 2021

Professional

- Managing Trustee, Shroff Foundation Trust, Vadodara



Ms. Rati Desai
Trustee | Joined Board, Oct 2021

Professional

- Independent Director on the Board of a Limited Company
- Member of the Executive Committee of FICCI, Flo Vadodara
- Honorary Treasurer with Heritage Trust, Vadodara
- Special Invitee with Gujarat Nature Conservation Society
- Special Invitee with SOCLEEN
- Work for Animal Welfare in the areas of providing food, shelter and rescuing street animals



Mr. Jal Patel
Chairperson | Since March 2022

Consultant

- Trustee, V-One Society, Heritage Trust
- Member Managing Committee-Federation of Gujarat Industries and United Way of Baroda
- Independent Director on the Board of several Companies



Ms. Ishita Verma
Trustee

Educator

- Educational Consultant

Accountability and Transparency

No remuneration, sitting fees, any form of compensation or reimbursement has been paid to any Board Members of the Trust.

Our activities

A hearing child develops speech and forms basic language concepts in the critical age of 0-3 years. So, for a child with deafness the training process should start immediately upon diagnosis.

Effective Educational Activities

Early Intervention

Akshar Centre is the first in Gujarat to have started an Early Intervention programme in 1978 before the formal Centre took shape. In this programme the youngest child has been 3 months. Interaction with hospitals, anganwadis and orphanages has ensured that children with deafness are identified earlier.

Working with Amplification Devices

An audiologist and teachers work with the students regularly. All the equipment required for amplification is available. Free hearing aids are distributed to the more needy students through support of other organisations.

Adaptation

Adaptation of curriculum and of textbooks has been done in tune with principles of special education, since 2005. This is undertaken by very few organisations in the country.

Videography & Film

Videos of classroom - teaching for discussion and constructive feedback on improvement of teaching methodology are made. A film on Total Communication was produced by Akshar for Rehabilitation Council of India. Visiting students from China made videos on the 'Sign Dictionary'.

Technology

Paul Mason Consulting India Pvt. Ltd. (PMC) had designed a software for 'Students Management' for Akshar. Powerpoint presentations are used both for teaching trainees and students. Teachers make videos as per the curriculum. There are 12 Smart Boards of which 11 were donated by PMC and 1 by Indian Oil Corporation. 10 laptops have also been donated by PMC alongwith other substantial software.

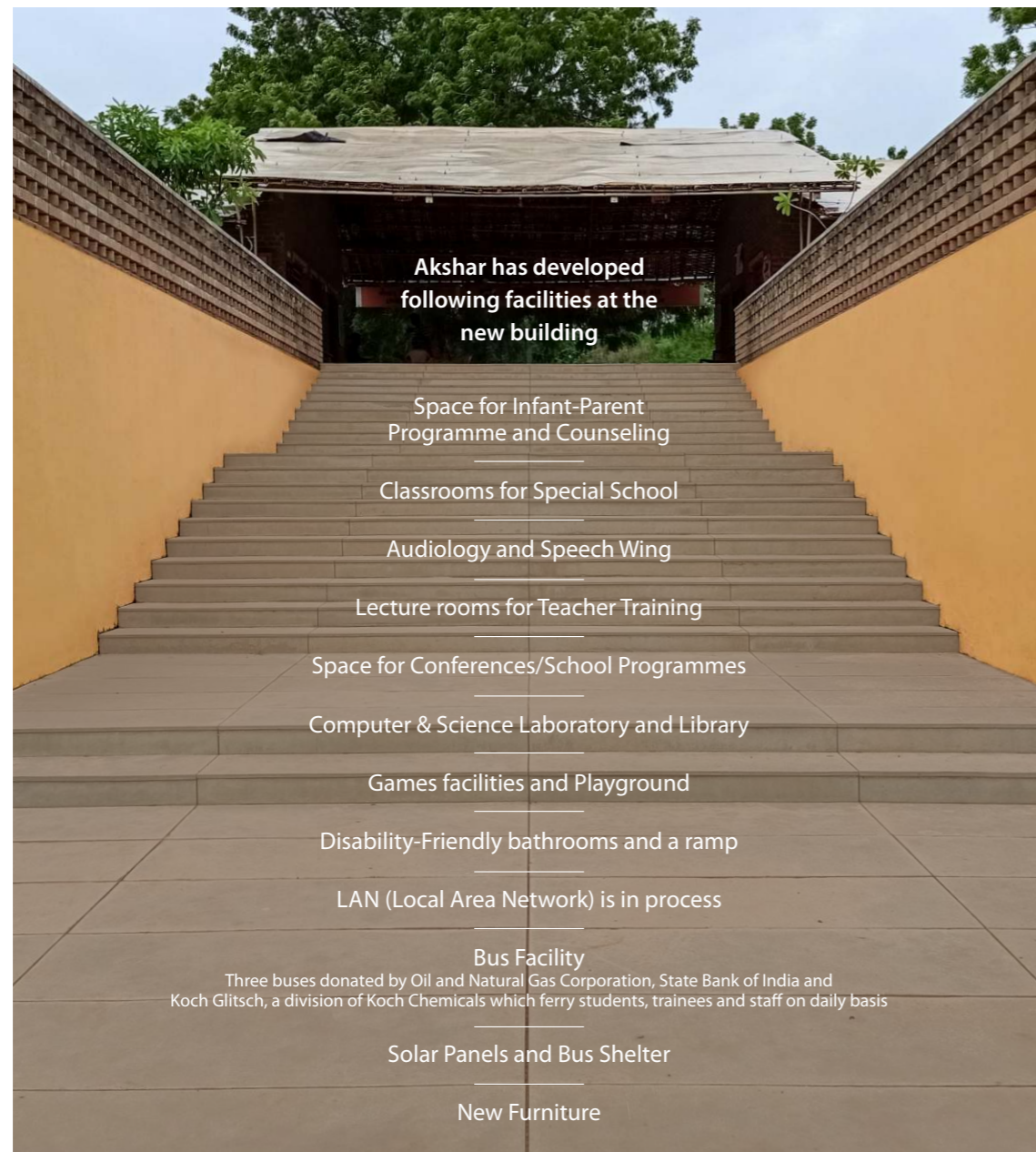


On-going Programmes & Plans

Continuing Rehabilitation Education (CRE)

Akshar has conducted 20 CRE programmes under the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) till date. Special educators, including principals and vice-principals from Gujarat and Mumbai, have attended lectures on deafness and teaching methodology.

New Infrastructure



Playground and Games

The playground and other facilities have been made possible due to the generous donations given by various organisations. The amount received from United Way helped in building the playground and equipping the facility, the funding by GACL contributed towards the multipurpose court; and the Games Coaches sent by GSFC helped the students in improving their skills in various games and sports.

The availability of proper equipment and training resulted in the students participating in the Khel Mahakumbh (Games Competition) of Vadodara District with some getting awards. The students have consistently been participating and achieving in games at 'Prerna', organised by M.S. University for Children with Disabilities.

The retaining wall for the playground was built by Mini and Jagdeep Budhiraja. This protects the students from the Mini River which flows just below. DCB Bank has contributed a drainage system and a Water-Harvesting Tank at the lowest level. This helps in soil retention.



Art

Under the guidance of Art Therapist, Mr. Jaydev Biswal, students are learning new techniques, through practical demonstrations, and learning to work with different mediums.



Karate

The students have been learning Karate since 1995. They have mastered many techniques, earned various 'belts' and participated in many competitions in the city under the guidance of Mr. James George.

Akshar is focussing on the overall development of the students to face their difficulties by training them mentally and physically. All the students are interested in martial art, are very good in Karate and doing well.

Mr. James George



Cost Effectiveness

Free Accommodation

Thanks to the benevolence of patrons and institutions, Akshar has operated from rent-free buildings since 1991.

1988-91 A rented shed in Fatehsinhgrao Gymkhana

1991-96 EME of army gave a small bungalow under Army Welfare Organisation

1996-2016 Muncipal School Board (Shikshan Samiti) permitted the use of various empty schools

In 2000 the Government of Gujarat leased Akshar 2 ½ acres of 'Kothar' land on the outskirts of Vadodara city. After 16 years of great efforts by all trustees, including fighting a case with a squatter, the new campus was **inaugurated on April 29, 2016**, by Dr. J. N. Singh, ex-Chief Secretary, Government of Gujarat

Intermittent Grant from Central Government under DDRS Scheme

Free lunch from Jalaram Temple for students for 20 years from 1996 till 2016

Recycling of paper and cards: all-rough work in school is done on used paper collected from offices and homes

Donations in-kind like computers, furniture, hearing aids, etc. have been a regular practice

Paul Mason Consulting donated old office furniture in 2016

Scholarships from the Government of Gujarat for students coming from a poor economic background

Donations from individuals and corporates

Scholarships for 61 students were organised this year.



Interactions

Noteworthy individuals who have mentored and guided Akshar include **Ms. Mandira Banerji, Dr. Bharatiben Modi, Ms. Tehmina Cawasji, Dr. Prabha Ghate, Ms. Mini Budhiraja, Gen. Bobby Dutta, Dr. Varsha Gathoo and Mr. Karan Grover** among others.

Through the years, many organisations, both Indian and international, have been involved with Akshar and have sent volunteers. **AISEC and International Youth Volunteer Service, Germany** are among them. **Dr. Prabha Ghate** was responsible for Akshar choosing 'Total Communication' as a mode of communication in 1996.

Ms. Kristine Landon-Smith, a well-known theatre personality and her husband, **Mr. Felix Cross**, MBE, an international music composer, from the UK, shared their expertise. They conducted workshops for the students in 2018. This were the second visit for Ms. Landon-Smith. Subsequently, she has conceived and directed a 'Short Long Film' on Zoom. Mr. Felix Cross has composed the music.

Ms. Sophie Williams, a speech pathologist from the UK spent time at Akshar in 2017. Two young girls from Germany, **Ms. Anne Schramm and Ms. Sophie Aschbrenner** taught English to the students, most successfully, for a year.

Ms. Aleyna Brandt worked for a month in 2019. She has also been sponsoring a student since that time.



NGO Expo

Liveweek Business invited Ms. Nisha Grover to participate in the 9th Global Conference in New York in September 2018. Mr. Girish Mehta a donor of Akshar from USA, trustee of VVCT and a well-wisher of Akshar, extended all possible help at the Expo. Ms. Rupande Valera and her daughter, Vaidehi, who live in the USA, volunteered at the Expo. They are related to Manan Patel, one of Akshar's earliest students, now working in the US. In July 2019, Akshar participated in the NGO Expo at Mumbai.

Akshar was also featured in the 'Good Book' brought out by Liveweek.

Skill Development

In 2017 a unique model for Skill Development was sponsored by Paul Mason Consulting India Pvt. Ltd. (PMC), a U.K. based corporate. A development agency was asked to conduct 6-month courses exclusively for Akshar alumni. Drop-outs were also included. PMC has been employing Akshar alumni for the past 10 years.

PMC Initiatives

a) A special English teacher to enhance the English of Akshar students from Std.3 to 8

b) Supporting the upgrading of the English skills of 6 alumni working at PMC



Publications by Ms. Nisha Grover

- Language Acquisition by Deaf Children', 'Setu' Issue No.16. 1987 a quarterly publication by V-One Society (An NGO for rehabilitation of people with disability)
- Article on 'Manisha', Disability Forum Publication
- Article on 'Reading and the Hearing-Impaired Child', NCED Journal 2005
- Unit Writing for B.Ed. trainees on Legislation (Unit 5) Paper I - Subject: 'Education in Emerging Indian Society' for Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for Hearing Handicapped, Mumbai - March 2006. (Unpublished)
- A block comprising 5 units for IGNOU 'Literacy for Deaf Children'(unpublished) 2009
- Contribution to Manual on 'Communication Options for Deaf Students' for RCI, Feb 2011
- Film on 'Total Communication 'for RCI, 2011
- Manual Writing for DISLI (Diploma Indian Sign Language Interpreters-ISLRTC) Course 2019
- Akshar contributed to a volume on Indian Sign Language. Bhasha Research and Publication Centre began the work of People's Linguistic Survey of India in 2010 reporting on 780 living languages in the country. This included the publication on 'Indian Sign Language'. Akshar collated 'Signs of the Western Region' and Ms. N. Grover was also one of the 3 editors of the volume, 2013

Akshar staff has been contributing to the writing of Manuals for RCI till date.

Teacher Training

The Teacher Training Department was established in 1993 and conducts session in both Hindi and Gujarati. The D.Ed. Spl. Ed. (HI) course was recognised by the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), a statutory body governed by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in 1999 for a two-year course.

380 teachers have been trained till now and 74 are in the process of completing their course for Diploma & B.Ed.

(Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar Open University)

Under RCI, Akshar also started offering an Advanced Certificate course of 6 months in 'Inclusive Education - Cross Disabilities', which began in February 2018 with 40 candidates. This is the third teacher training course undertaken by the Trust.



Capacity Building

NCED-India - Vadodara Conference 2020

NCED-India is a national level association of special educators and allied members working to upgrade the skills of educators of children with hearing impairment, the inception of which dates back to 1935. There are 9 State Chapters, an annual Peer Reviewed Journal since 2009 and National and International Conferences which have been held across the country annually.

Akshar was represented at the national level by Ms. Nisha Grover as Vice-President from 2006. She took over as President in 2010 and after completing 2 terms stepped down in 2016 at the Mysore Conference.

The Gujarat Chapter is presently headed by Ms. Hema Kale who is also on the Governing Council of NCED-India as Assistant Secretary. Grassroot work through Continuing Rehabilitation Education workshops and annual conferences have been the hallmark of the body.

For over 16 years, Akshar Trust has been keenly involved in the work of NCED-India.



NCED - Gujarat Chapter

The Gujarat Chapter of NCED-India was formed in 2004 and Akshar Trust, Vadodara became the head office. Since the formation of this Chapter, Akshar has been the nodal body for NCED – Gujarat and two members of Akshar Trust has always been actively engaged in the work.

In 2005 a National level Conference was organised at Vadodara, where 22 papers were presented for 350 participants. Dr. I. G. Patel, Former Governor, Reserve Bank of India, Former Director, London School of Economics was the Chief Guest and Mr. Philip O'Keefe, Lead Social Protection Specialist for India, World Bank, was the Key-Note speaker.



Apart from the first national conference at Vadodara in 2005, six State conferences have been organised: the first at Nadiad, 2011, with 139 participants; Second at Himatnagar, 2012, with 156 participants; Third at Nadiad, with 300 participants, Awards for Best Papers were introduced during this conference; Fourth at Nadiad, December 2015 with 283 participants. The fifth conference was at Vadodara, December 2016 with 205 Participants, the sixth conference at Bhavnagar December 2017, with 153 Participants and the seventh at Navsari in 2018. The 85th national conference was organised at Vadodara in February 2020.

Awards

Faculty Awards

- M. C. Sen Award for Best Theme Paper presented to Ms. Nisha Grover and The Kadar Khan Award for Best Innovative Paper presented to Ms. Kavita Thakkar and Ms. Hema Kale at the national conference of the National Convention of Educators of the Deaf (NCED-India), organised by Akshar Trust in 2005
- The Nalanda Knowledge Foundation presented the Institution Building Award to Ms. Nisha Grover in 2007
- Ms. Shweta Khare received an Award from Rotary Club of Baroda in 2007
- Mr. Premal Desai, Best Paper Award at NCED-Gujarat, 2015 Nadiad
- Ms. Varsha Patel, 2nd Best Paper Award at NCED-Gujarat, 2016 Vadodara
- Mr. Om Parkash Meghwal, 3rd Best Paper Award at NCED – Gujarat, 2016, Vadodara. Mr. Om Parkash Meghwal, NCED-Gujarat, 2017, Bhavnagar
- Ms. Hema Kale got 'Certificate of Appreciation' Lions Club of Baroda-Taramandal, on Teacher's Day 2017
- Mr. Om Parkash Meghwal got 'Young Researcher' award for paper on 'A key for Map Reading: Mnemonics', at 83rd NCED-India Conference, Lucknow, 2018
- Mr. Pradeep Patwa, Best Paper for 'Technology in the Classroom', NCED-India 85th Conference, 2020
- Ms. Nisha Grover for her 'Outstanding Social Services' by the International Association of Lions Club District 3232 F1 Region in 2020

Institution Awards



Akshar Trust received an award for 'Mentorship of Masters of Social Work Students' of Sardar Patel University, 6th March 2018



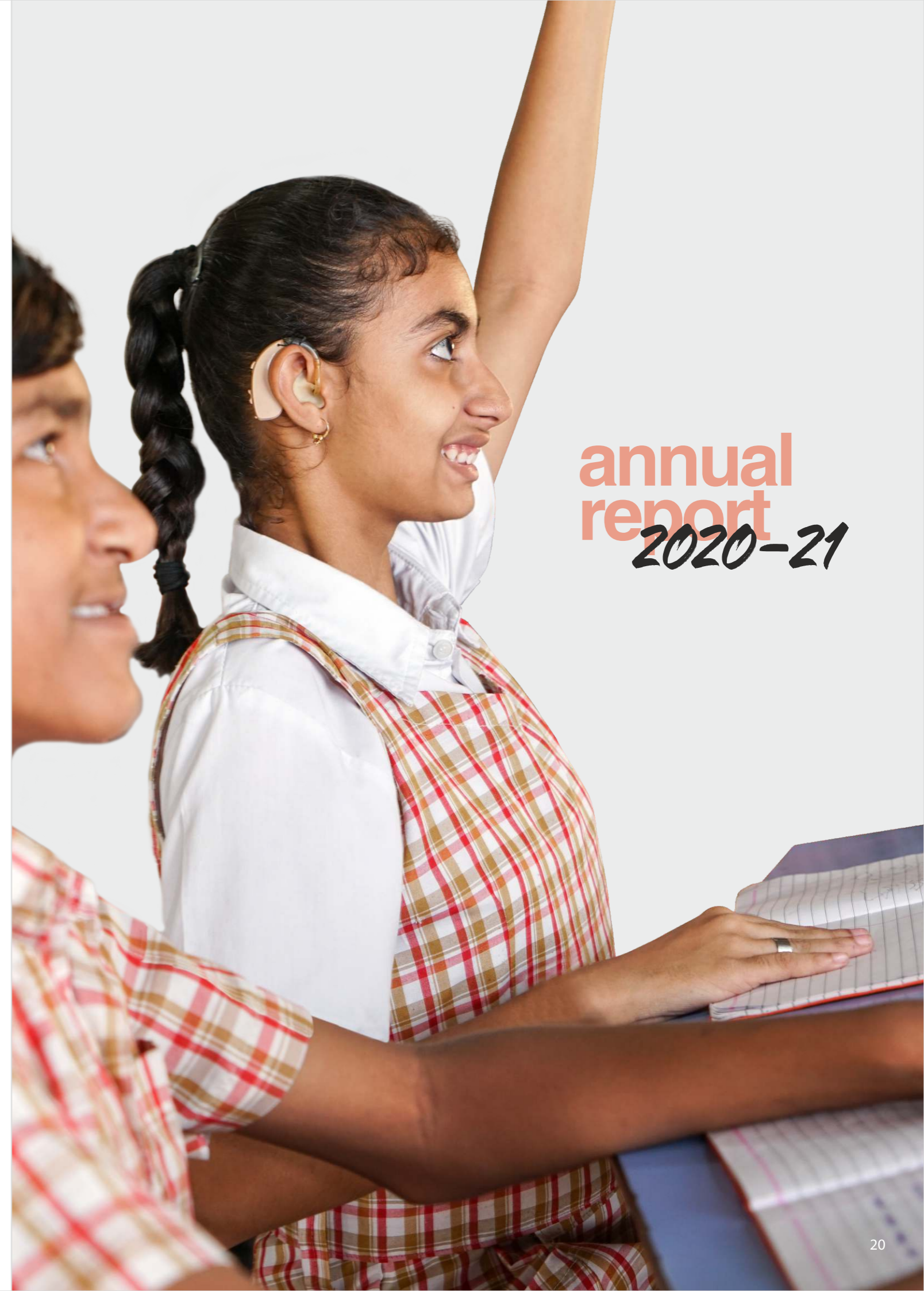
Akshar Trust received Certificate of Appreciation from Polestar Foundation in recognition of our exemplary work in community development and participation in the 19th Annual Polestar Awards held on 27th October 2017



Akshar Trust received True Impact Award, 2016 in the NGO category by the District CSR Cell of Vadodara under the Chairperson of Ms. Avantika Singh, IAS, District Collector, Vadodara in February 2016



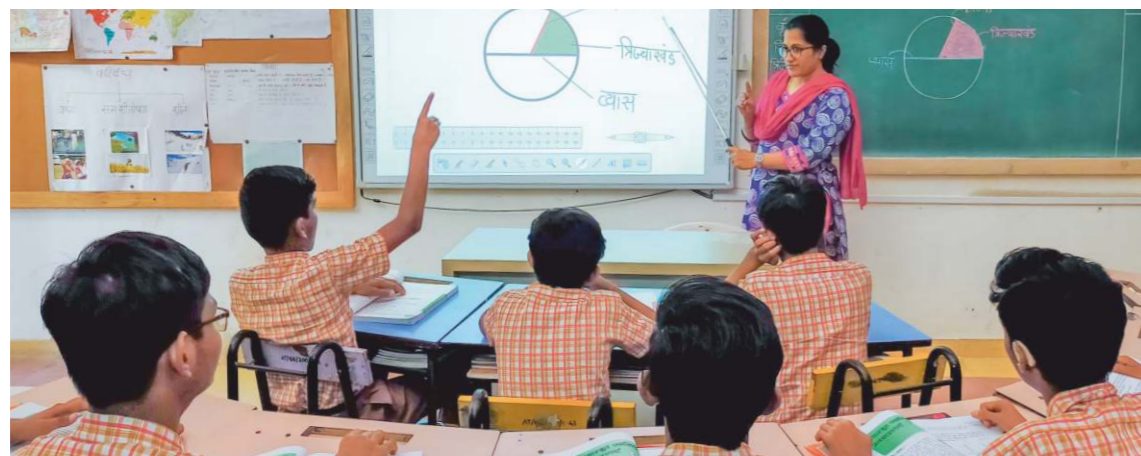
Akshar Trust received Award for Excellence 2011 for Social Welfare by Institution from the Federation of Gujarat Industries in September 2012



annual
report
2020-21

Academic Achievements

177 students have completed School Board exams. Many students are graduates from M. S. University, Gujarat University and Sardar Patel University in Commerce, Arts and Family Studies.



Six students have completed M.Com., very few children with deafness attain these qualifications.

Educational Activities during lockdown & after

- During the lockdown from 25th March 25 to 2nd June 2020, work did not stop. In fact there was no Summer Holidays. During this time teachers prepared the yearly curriculum, made three lessons plans per week and sent them to Ms. N. Grover and Ms. H. Kale for approval. A Digital Vocabulary Dictionary was made by each teacher for their classes. A Zoom meeting was held twice a week with teachers by Principal, Ms. H. Kale and Ms. N. Grover.

- Teachers attended Workshops and Webinars: Social Role Valorization, Audiology and Challenges for Teaching Online, Digital Access for Children with Disability etc.

- Initially from 7th May 2020, for Std.12 (Gujarati), worksheets for Accounts, Statistics, Business Organisation, Economics, English, Gujarati and Computers were sent to students on a Whatsapp group. Online classes started from 29th July and continued till 22nd January 2021. The students started coming to Akshar for classes from 25th January. This continued

till 18th March. Due to the spread of COVID once again, online classes were re-started from 24th March and continued till the students' Study Leave from 30th April 2021. Online Preliminary exams were conducted from 30th March to 5th April.

- For Std.1 to 10, in the first phase, worksheets and assignments for all subjects, Math, Language, Social Studies, Art, Science, Computers, English, were sent to students on WhatsApp groups. From 25th July 2021, teachers made videos of lessons of the Gujarat Board. These lessons included powerpoints presentations and the teacher communicating from the classroom in 'Total Communication'. These lessons were accompanied by worksheets. The videos were sent to the students on a private Akshar YouTube Channel. The students completed their home-work and sent it back by WhatsApp. Attendance was also maintained.

- A total of 554 educational videos were made by the teachers till May 2021.

During COVID Times

- Posters about 'Prevention of COVID-19' in English, Gujarati and Hindi were created for the community, parents, alumni, trainees and friends on WhatsApp. Videos on 'Prevention' were made in 'Total Communication' by Mr. P. Patwa and Ms. V. Patel for students, alumni and other educational Institutes on YouTube.

- With the support of Ms. Priti Sanghavi, Akshar worked to donate INR 750 to 25 economical weak families. The money was transferred to their bank accounts. Ms. G. Parmar and Mr. P. Patwa were involved in the project.

- Ms. Shalini Agarwal, Collector of Vadodara, initiated an online education programme for students with disabilities. Akshar prepared worksheets for Maths, Language, Science and fun activities for 3 levels of children. Ms. G. Parmar and Ms. N. Sevak made videos for 'Fun Activities'.



<https://youtu.be/6zU-edaSKzQ> | <https://youtu.be/5riinwdUINY>



Workshops attended by Staff in 2020

Date	Topic	Organiser	Participants
25th April	Teacher, what is your Future?	The Teacher.in	Ms. N. Grover, Ms. H. Kale, Ms. H. Akolkar, Ms. B. Varghese, Ms. N. Sevak
4th May	Cochlear webinar series	AYJNISHD	Ms. H. Akolkar, Ms. H. Kale, Ms. B. Varghese
18th June	21st Century Learning Model	AYJNISHD	Ms. N. Grover, Ms. H. Kale, Ms. G. Parmar, Ms. H. Akolkar, Ms. B. Varghese, Ms. N. Sevak
30th June	Perspective & Challenges of Virtual Teaching to Students with Special Needs	AYJNISHD	Ms. N. Grover, Ms. H. Kale, Ms. H. Akolkar, and Ms. B. Varghese
3rd July	Planning an Online/Virtual Lesson for Students with Special Needs	AYJNISHD	Ms. B. Varghese
7th July	Creating e-content	AYJNISHD	Ms. N. Grover, Ms. H. Kale, Ms. H. Akolkar, Ms. B. Varghese, Ms. N. Sevak
3rd & 8th August	Learning & Innovations for Inclusive Education	AYJNISHD, FDP Research, RCI	Ms. N. Grover, Ms. H. Kale
29th August	I see, I think, I wonder... Learning language through play	Resonances, Early Childhood Educators Zone	Ms. N. Grover, Ms. H. Kale

Paul Mason Consulting India Pvt. Ltd. (PMC)



- PMC has offered to support new enrichment programmes for English and computers at Akshar. Additional English work will start from Std.3 and for computers from Std.5 in 2021-22. In this regard, Ms. N. Grover and Ms. H. Kale attended virtual meetings with PMC on 8th and 14th October 2020. PMC was represented by Ms. Monali Dhavasker, Ms. Moumita Dey and Ms. Urvi Parekh.
- Akshar will also be working to upgrade the English skills of the six alumni working at PMC. This will be supported by the Company.
- A meeting was held on 10th March 2021 with senior members of PMC, Mr. Paul Mason, Mr. Richard Lowe, Mr. Carl Haggas and Ms. Monali Dhavaskar to outline the PMC involvement with Akshar for computers and English in 2021-22.
- Mr. T. Dhruva, IT Administrator, PMC and Mr. H. Marathe, Design Engineer, PKEL came to set up a Local Area Network (LAN) which will be supported by PMC on 19th March 2021.



Sol's ARC

Ms. N. Grover was invited to join Sol's ARC expert network to validate a web-app based screening tool under SOL'S ARC, Red Flag Project, August 2020. The Project aims to screen students with disability in inclusive settings and train regular teachers in disability and mental health awareness. A series of meetings took place.

A Zoom Film



Work-started on an exciting new project on 24th March 2021. This is a short film on Zoom during COVID. It was conceived and is being directed by Ms. Kristine Landon Smith of the UK, a well-known theatre personality. It is being produced by 3 Peepul Productions, the Producers being, Neena Arora, Priya Krishnaswamy and Suchitra Parikh. It has 4 actors, Nazreen Pathan, Sherly Pandya, Ajay Sharma and Het Suthar from Akshar along with 2 siblings and 10 hearing students of 'Page to Stage', a youth theatre group.

It revolves around a day in the life of domestic workers employed in an apartment building, speaking across Zoom to each other about their day. There are 7 professionals involved as director, assistant directors, editor, translator, interpreters, and those working on subtitles from across the globe. Felix Cross, an MBE of the U.K. is composing the music.

Akshar provided laptops donated by PMC to Nazreen Pathan and Ajay Sharma for the film. Ms. Geeta Parmar is co-ordinating. More than 16 sessions were held virtually from March 24 to May 16, 2021 to complete the filming. Technical work is now underway.

Papers & Books

- A paper on 'Inclusive Education' was presented by Ms. N. Grover at a webinar for CSR heads on '**Empowering Children with Disabilities: Role of CSR**' on 6th November 2020. The webinar was organised by Consortium for Inclusive Education (CIE) which works for inclusion of children with disabilities in mainstream schools. Mr. Manoj Agarwal (IAS) Secretary, Dept. of Social Justice & Empowerment, Gandhinagar and Mr. Ravi Saxena (IAS), retired Chief Secretary, GOG were Chief Guests.
- The book, '**When Abilities Take Flight**' was launched by CIE on 5th February 2021. Two students of Akshar, Ruchit Shitole and Dhara Panchmiya feature in this book which looks at inspirational stories from the lives of people with disability. Ms. B. Bharathi, Director SSA was the Chief Guest.
- The National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Visual Disabilities (NIEPVD), Dehradun and Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, Assam Government organised an online teaching programme on, '**Inclusion of Children with Disability**'. On 2nd February, Ms. N. Grover was invited, as a resource person to give two lectures:
 - **Teaching Language & Literature in an inclusive setting**
 - **Teaching History and Geography in an inclusive setting**
 On 7th April 2021 teachers of Akshar watched the online Inauguration Dr. Himanshu Das, Director, NIEPVD and Mr. Kalyan Chokrowarthy, IAS, Assam, addressed the inauguration.

Social Role Valorization

Akshar Trust organised the first conference in Gujarat on 'Social Role Valorization' for Keystone Institute India, virtually, with 25 participants on 16th April 2021. Social Role Valorization is 'a in-depth understanding of promising ways to treat and teach those who are impacted by disability and a critical disability theory. Ms. N. Grover, Ms. H. Kale, Ms. A. Limbasiya and Mr. A. Kushawaha attended.

Niti Aayog

A visit was made for the Deen Dayal Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) by Dr. Richa Sharma and Ms. Archita Anand from Niti Aayog, (ex-Planning Commission of India), New Delhi.

Corporate Social Responsibility



A proposal had been made to GACL for solar panels as a bus shelter. The project is supported partly by GACL (75 %) under CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) and the rest by Akshar. Construction began on 26th March 2021. Solar power is now available with Akshar Trust.

Rubamin Ltd., Halol, sponsored the 'Upgradation of the Roof' of 25,000 sq. ft. under CSR. This is a long-standing requirement as the polycarbonate of the roof had begun to crack under the sun. Temperatures had become uncomfortable in the classrooms. The bamboo and chatai (straw-mat) cover was very necessary and work on it started in March 2021. Upgradation of the roof had been long required, and was most appreciated by the students and staff.

Other Activities

Ms. Arya Patel, a school student from the U.S., visiting with her mother, Ms. Avni Patel gifted 100 cotton masks to students at Akshar. These were distributed on 12th March 2021.

Early Intervention

On 28th September 2020, alumni of Akshar, Dhara and her husband, Mr. Sarvesh Jain visited with Mr. Ketan Shah, trustee of Behra Munga Mitra Mandal, (Deaf & Dumb Society) Ahmedabad. The couple enrolled their two-year-old son, Arjun, who is hearing impaired in Akshar and commenced one-to-one training from 8th October 2020.



Arch Development Foundation (ADF)

- Arch Development Foundation (ADF) organised an online workshop, 'The Mind Math' for rapid calculation with Vedic math. Six teachers attended the workshop held on 13th September 2020.
- A Zoom Webinar on 'Learning Techniques' was organised by ADF on 17th October 2020. Ms. H. Akolkar, Ms. G. Parmar, Ms. D. Dindorkar and Ms.V. Mahajan attended the webinar.
- ADF organised 'Science Experiments on Color Fun' for classes 6, 7 and 8 on a virtual platform. 7 students joined the event held on 19th October 2020.

Google Forms

- Mr. P. Patwa took a tutorial class with staff for the making of a Google Form for exam purposes, for 3 days in October 2020.
- The First Term exam was held from 23rd – 27th November 2020. This was the first time in Akshar, that an online exam was held. Some test papers were sent on Google Forms and some were sent as hard copies in the bus to students. The Second Term exam was held between 1st -7th April 2021. Results were declared on 15th April 2021.

Digital Trimmer BTE Hearing Aids

SSA had given a few Digital Trimmer BTE Hearing Aids for students. Due to the pandemic, the distribution of the hearing aids was delayed but re-started from 12th January 2021 under the supervision of Ms. F. Shah, Audiologist. The task was completed by 19th February 2021.

Other Events

- The staff and students watched the launch of the Virtual Dictionary by the Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC) on 15th February 2021. The dictionary has 10,000 words. Ms. N. Grover is on the Executive Council of ISLRTC.
- Dr. R. G. Aiyar, Head of SSG General Hospital and Dr. Rahul Gupta helped to coordinate the renewal of the student's Disability Certificates when COVID was raging.
- Ms. N. Grover was called by Ms. Shalini Agarwal, Collector Vadodara, on 27th January 2021 for a meeting.

Charity Commissioner

Several visits have been made to the Charity Commissioner between October 2020 to June 2021. Trustee Mr. Rajesh Parikh was present for many. The work is still pending and the next date is 13th August 2021.



Inspections & Staff Activities

Date	Staff	Programme	Organizer	Remarks
4th Sep 2020	-	Inspection	Social Defense Officer, Vadodara	Deendayal Disability Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS)
3rd April 2021	Ms. H. Kale	Annual Executive Committee Meeting	All Gujarat School Trustees Mandal, Nadiad	Virtual
26th April 2021	Lecturer, Mr. A Kushawaha	Awareness, Empowerment & making Strategies for Pandemic by NGOs	Niti Aayog	Virtual

Trustees Meeting

Date	Trustees	Programme	Organizer	Remarks
28th Sep 2020 26th Feb 2021 21st May 2021	Ms. N. Grover	14th, 15th, 16th Executive Council Meetings	Indian Sign Language Research & Training Centre (ISLRTC)	Virtual
1st Dec 2020	Ms. Ishita Verma Ms. Rati Desai Mr. Rajesh Gupta	-	-	An In-house Meeting

Accounts Work

Date	Staff	Programme	Organizer	Remarks
20th Oct 2020	Mr. D. Jani	7 Webinars on FCRA Regulations	Navjivan Centre for Development - FCRA compliances	Virtual
8th, 9th, 26th April 2021	Mr. D. Jani	Expenditure Advance Transfer EAT) Public Financial Management System (PFMS)	DDRS, Dept. Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment	Virtual

Teacher Training

Teacher Training entered its 22nd year in 2020.



Educational Activities during the year of lockdown

- Due to the lockdown online lectures commenced for the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) recognised Diploma Special Education (HI) Batches 18-20 and 19-21 by the faculty from 1st May 2021.
- The online lectures continued till January 2021. There was a short break in November 2020, due to the Gujar Andolan.
- The trainees were at Akshar from 25th January till 19th March 2021. Online lectures re-started in March 2021. These continued during the summer vacation for two batches, 19-21 and 20-22.

Other Activities

- An online workshop was conducted by the Psychology lecturer for trainees on, 'How to Appear in an Online Exam'. This was followed by a trial session, 7th & 8th August 2020.
- Admission procedure of 2020-22 batch held virtually by Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) on 8th September 2020.
- Completion & submission of Practical work of Second Year trainees was held virtually on 4th October 2020.

Examinations Diploma

Theory

Date	Trainees & Batch	Remarks
14th – 22nd Aug 2021	24 Trainees (2018-2020)	Online Internal
14th – 22nd Aug 2021	22 Trainees (2019-2021)	Online Internal
14th – 19th Dec 2020	22 Trainees (2018-2020)	External Final Xavier Technical Institute, Sevasi

Practicals (Offline)

Date	Trainees & Batch	External Examiner	Internal Examiner	Programme
18th Nov 2020	2017-2019	Mr. U. Ghadge	Ms. C. Gandhi	Final lesson plan & Viva (Language)
29th – 31st Dec 2020	2018-2020	Mr. R. Pandya & Mr. R. Brahmbhatt	Ms. H. Kale & Mr. A. Kushawaha	Final lesson plan & Viva (Language)
30th Dec 2020	2018-2020	Mr. D. Chaudhary	Ms. F. Shah	Supplementary Speech Viva

RCI Approval for Diploma Programme

Akshar received the Certificate of Approval from RCI for D.Ed. Spl.Edu (HI) course for five academic sessions i.e. 2020-21 to 2024-25 with letter No.8/194/D.Ed.Spl.Edu (HI)/07-RCI, dated 3rd August 2020.

New Batch

- A Virtual Orientation for Akshar Centre for Sp.Ed. (HI) Batch 2020 – 2022, was held on 1st January 2021.
- A 'Welcome' of Batch 2020-2022 was held on 13th March 2021. Arranged by senior trainees, there were welcome speeches, a prayer, a drama, dances, games and songs. The seniors gave gifts to the new entrants along with snacks and refreshments. Mark sheets of Batch 2017-19 were distributed by Ms. N. Grover and Ms. H. Kale.

Results of older Batches

Final results of D.Ed.Sp.Edu (HI) Batch 2018-20 were declared on 7th April 2021. Of 22 trainees, 3 trainees got Distinction and 11 trainees got a First Class.



B.Ed. Course (Distance Mode)

Affiliated to Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University, Ahmedabad. The B.Ed. (Distance Mode Course was ongoing in Covid times, through online Contact Programme.

Contact Session 1 - 8th – 25th June 2020
Contact Session 2 (Virtual) - 25th Oct – 7th Nov 2020

Trainees

No. of Trainees	Programme	Semesters
29 trainees	5th Batch	5th and Final completed
7 trainees	6th Batch	3rd
9 trainees	7th Batch	1st and 2nd



Interesting Events

Virtual Visit

A virtual visit of Akshar, for students and lecturers of Primary Teachers Certificate (PTC) Course at District Institute for Education and Training (DIET) was arranged by Ms. Hema Kale. 49 students and 4 faculty members, including Mr. Yahya Sapatwala, joined the visit. This was the first virtual visit of Akshar to take place, 1st January 2021.

Social Role Valorization

Keystone Institute India, New Delhi, organised a two-day virtual workshop on 'Social Role Valorization' on 12th and 13th April 2021. Social Role Valorization is a new and encouraging approach to people with disability.

51 trainees of First Year and Second Year of D.Ed. Sp.Edu (HI) participated. Ms. Geeta Mondol and Ms. Leela Raj were the speakers from Keystone Institute. Some faculty members and 10 teachers of Akshar participated.



Workshop on use of a mobile phone for educational purposes

Teacher, Pradeep Patwa took a session with the trainees on how the mobile phone can be used for making powerpoint presentations, recording voice within a PPT, making a video, adding voice within a video, adding GIFs & pictures to PPTs, and speech to script.



Volunteering



- Trustee, Ishita Verma has been helping in the HR areas of the Centre most actively since October 2020. She decided to come once/twice a week. On 6th January 2021, Ms. Ishita Verma treated the Akshar staff to goodies as a New Year celebration.
- Ms. Rupal Joshi has been taking a keen interest in the work of Akshar. She has been coming for 4 days a week. She has contributed to many aspects of the activities, particularly HR.
- Ms. Priti Sanghavi has been helping Akshar in many respects since 2008. She has helped in getting jobs for the alumni and most graciously helped in fund-raising.
- Mr. Rajesh Gupta is actively helping in all account-related matters of the Trust. He has also been raising funds.
- 5 students from Faculty of Social Work, Parul University came for their Field Work for three months from 15th March 2021.

Visitors

- Ms. Priti Shanghavi with Mr. Rishi Kartik, writer, director and producer who is interested in making a film on Akshar, visited on 6th August 2020.



- Mr. & Ms. Rajesh Gupta, visited on 9th October 2020.
- Ms. J. Panchmiya with Alumni Dhara's mother-in-law, Ms. Mamta Jain, visited on 26th October 2020.
- Dr. Ruchi Mehta, Founding Trustee, Ms. Promila Zalpurie, Secretariat-in-charge, with colleagues from Consortium for Inclusive Education, visited on 12th February 2021.
- Ms. Urva Panchal, student of Architecture & Interior Design, Vallabh Vidyanagar, for her Final Year Dissertation, visited on 23rd February 2021. She is hearing impaired.

Donations in Kind

Date	Donor	Item
20th June 2020	Ms. Mini Buddhiraja	Pedal Sanitizer
20th November 2020	Lupin Human Welfare & Research Foundation	Sanitizing Material
16th February 2021	Mr. & Ms. Jayesh Parikh	Cake For All
12th March 2021	Ms. Aarya Patel	100 Masks

Fund Raising F.Y. 2020-21

Donor Name	Amount (INR)
Paul Mason Consulting India Pvt. Ltd., Vadodara	10,80,000
Mr. Parth Amin, SLK Software Service Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru	10,00,000
The Rumi Foundation, U.K.	9,99,144
Mr. V Shreedharan, Sud-Chemie India Pvt. Ltd., Vadodara	8,00,000
Mr. Rajesh Bansal, Shakun Polymers Ltd., Vadodara	7,50,000
Mr. & Ms. Vimal Patel, Banco Aluminum Ltd., Vadodara	6,50,000
Mr. & Ms. Ajay Desai, Axtel Industries Ltd., Vadodara	5,00,000
Shri Brihad Bhartiya Samaj, Mumbai	5,00,000
Mr. A. Nopany, Rishi FIBC Solutions Pvt. Ltd, Vadodara	5,00,000
Mr. & Ms. Atul Dalmia, Rubamin Pvt. Ltd. Vadodara	4,20,000
Mr. & Ms. Girish Mehta, USA	4,03,811
Ms. Daksha Mehta, Mumbai	2,25,500
Mr. & Ms. Atul G. Shroff, Transpek Industry Ltd., Vadodara	2,00,000
GACL Education Society, Vadodara	1,73,175
Mr. Bharat Chokshi, Grand Polycoats Company Pvt. Ltd., Vadodara	1,51,000
PCI Pest Control, Mumbai	1,35,517
Gaekwad Foundation, Vadodara	1,00,000
Mr. & Ms. Shivinder Chawla Reinhardt Teknik, Vadodara	1,00,000
G.H. Patel Charitable Trust, Vadodara	1,00,000
A well-wisher, Vadodara	1,00,000
Mr. & Ms. Paresh Sariya, Transpek Silox Industry Pvt. Ltd., Vadodara	1,00,000
Scarlet Sabine Clivia, Germany	69,443
Sitaram Jindal Foundation Philanthropic Organisation, Bengaluru	50,000

Donor Name	Amount (INR)
Mr. & Ms. Nirmal Bhogilal, Leherchand Uttamchand Trust Fund, Mumbai	50,000
Mr. & Ms. Hector S. Patel, Abu Dhabi	50,000
Mr. Pankaj Mehta, Mumbai	50,000
Mr. & Ms. Ashokkumar Nehru, New Delhi	50,000
Ms. Neeta Wig, Ms. Sakshi Wig, Vadodara	41,000
Ms. Jayashree H. Swami, Vadodara	41,000
Mr. Jal R. Patel, Vadodara	35,000
Mr. & Ms. Hasmukh Shah, Kachnar Trust, Vadodara	30,000
Mr. & Ms. Atul Patel, Shantaben Jamubhai Patel (C. H. Trust) Memorial Trust, Vadodara	25,000
Ms. Sarojben D. Patel, Vadodara	25,000
Ms. Nalini V. Patel, Vadodara	25,000
Mr. Ketankumar J. Patel, Vadodara	21,000
Shri Kamleshbhai R. Bhavsar, Vadodara	20,000
Ms. Nilima Sheikh, Vadodara	15,000
Mr. & Ms. K. G. Ramanathan, Mumbai	15,000
Mr. Sanjivbhai Pandit, Navneet Foundation, Ahmedabad	12,000
Mr. Jitendrankumar C. Joshi, Vadodara	11,000
Ms. Pushpa Sundar, Delhi	10,000
Ms. Manisha D. Vaishnav, Vadodara	10,000
Ms. Anupam Khanna, Mumbai	10,000
Mr. & Ms. Ruston Ginwalla, Vadodara	10,000
Ms. Renukaben J. Parikh, Vadodara	10,000
Ms. Sujata Mathur, U.K.	9,400
Yamuna Ice & Cold Storage, Vadodara	5,000
Ms. Amar P. Amin, Vadodara	5,000
Ms. Malini Bhat, Vadodara	5,000
Ms. MVL Kameshwari, Vadodara	5,000
Mr. & Ms. Dilipbhai Patel, Vadodara	3,000
Ms. Miral Trivedi, Vadodara	2,000
Mr. Sunil Aggaarkar, Vadodara	1,000



annual
report
2021-22

Academic Achievements

177 students have completed school board exams. Many students are graduates. 7 have completed M.Com.



Dhara S. Jain
Ex. Assistant Branch Service
Operations Manager,
DCB Bank, Ahmedabad



Rahul Kanojiya
B.E. Mechanical Engineering –
Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
Institute of Technology.
Quality Controller at CEAT Tyres



Manushi Gandhi
Bachelor of Architecture.
M. S. University, Vadodara.
Practising Architect



Harshit Kandoi
B.Com - Finance Trainee,
Paul Mason Consulting
India Pvt. Ltd.



Sakshi Sharma
Bachelor Computer Application
HR Administrator – Paul Mason
Consulting India Pvt. Ltd.



Harshal Desai
Operation Support Department
Paul Mason Consulting India
Pvt. Ltd.



Dheeraj Suthar
Project Manager –
Arch Development Foundation



Mustakim Mansuri
CNC Machine Operator



Vandana Gurnani
Bachelor of Computer
Application | Operation
Support Analyst – Paul Mason
Consulting India Pvt. Ltd.



Ruchit Shitole
B.Com M.S.University.
PGDCA – IGNOU
Software Test Analyst, Paul
Mason Consulting India Pvt. Ltd.



Vishal Badgujar
M.Com
Deputy Manager -1
DCB Bank



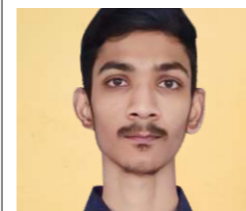
Kanaka Bhatt
M.Com
Home Maker



Pinal Pirojpara
Graphic Designer -
Nivida Web Solutions



Ayaz Shaikh
Computer Operator &
Programming Assistant



Lay Gandhi
Graduate
Shri Govind Guru University



Shrenik Shah
Customer Service Executive –
DCB Bank



Gajendra Solanki
Working at GSFC – Urban
Agricultural Outlet, Vadodara



Mayank Patel
High School Diploma of 12th
Quality Control Laboratory
Chemist Analyst
Pharmaceutical Company
Quality Control.



Pratik P Shah
B.Com – Gujarat University.
Software Test Analyst – Paul
Mason Consulting India Pvt. Ltd.



Manisha Sindkar
M.Com
Home Maker



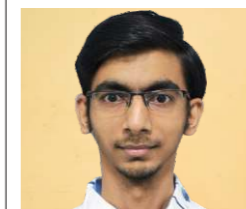
Payal Presswala
12th Gujarat Board Teacher –
Umang School Ahmedabad



Pooja Patel
Diploma of Interior Design.
Interior Designer & 3D



Anshu Jha
12th Gujarat Board
I.T.I course in Computers



Rinkal Parikh
M.Com
Shri Govind Guru University



Neha Valand
3rd year SNDT college
B.Com



Kavya Patel
3rd year S.N.D.T
B.Com

Interesting Events

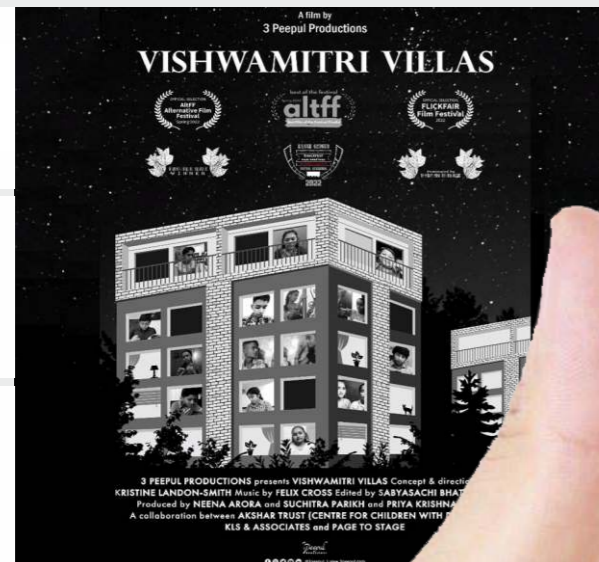
A Film on Zoom

In collaboration with 3 Peepul Productions and KLS & Associates, London, Akshar Trust has been involved in the creation of a film over Zoom conceived and directed by Kristine Landon Smith and produced by 3 Peepul Productions. The project evolved from wanting to have a fund-raising play for Akshar to be directed by Kristine Landon Smith in Vadodara in 2020. COVID changed that thought!

From 24th March - 16th May 2021, a total of 16 sessions were held over Zoom to create the film, 'Vishwamitri Villas'.

The Premiere of the 'Long Short film', 'Vishwamitri Villas' took place on 16th November 2021 in Vadodara.

Of the 16 actors, 4 are students from Akshar, along with 2 of their siblings. Sherly Pandya, Het Suthar, Najreenbano Pathan & Samreenbano and Ajay Sharma & Shivani Sharma.



From L to R: Ajay Sharma, Sherly Pandya, Het Suthar, Shivani Sharma

The film is now being submitted to film festivals and has a nomination from

- █ Alternate Film Festival (Alt FF) as a Category
- █ Award Nominee of Best Experimental – Long Short (Film).



During the premiere each participant was interviewed and video messages from the Director, Ms. Kristine Landon Smith and Assistant Director, Ms. Charlotte Everest, in the U.K., was conveyed to the students. There was a distribution of certificates.

A Film for Fund-raising

A short documentary film on Akshar, for fund-raising purposes is being made. The first session of the shooting was done between shooting 3rd and 7th January 2022. Ms. Manushi Gandhi, an architect and Akshar alumni and some parents were interviewed. Classroom activities were also filmed.

Visit

Vice Admiral R. Hari Kumar PVSM, AVSM, VSM Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Naval Command and Ms. R. Hari Kumar visited Akshar on 26th October 2021.

Chairperson, Mr. Hasmukh Shah, Trustees, Ms. Ishita Verma, Mr. Rajesh Parikh and Managing Trustee, Ms. N. Grover were at Akshar to receive the dignitaries. Mr. Rajesh Gupta and Mr. Samir Parikh from Baroda Management Association, both well-wishers, were present. Pritika Parikh, daughter of trustee, Mr. Rajesh Parikh was also present.



A short presentation on Akshar was shown and a visit to the classes was made. The students presented Karate and an Aerobics Display. The National Anthem in Sign Language concluded the visit.

Het Suthar, Std. 9, gave the 'Welcome Speech' and Nazreen Pathan, Std.12, gave the 'Vote of Thanks'. Vice Admiral Hari Kumar gave a cheque to Akshar along with numerous educational material to the students.

Keystone Institute India Workshop

Akshar partnered with Keystone Institute India, for a Two-Day Workshop, 14th – 15th March 2022 at Hotel, Taj Vivanta . The Workshop was on 'The Power of Roles: An Orientation to Social Role Valorization' and 'The Road Most Traveled: Using the Culturally Valued Analogue'. Akshar identified 25 participants from across Gujarat. Ms. N. Grover, Ms. H. Kale, Ms. H. Akolkar and Mr. A. Kushawaha attended the most interactive and thought-provoking sessions.



'Shark Tank' - FLO Event

Akshar was invited to participate in a 'Shark Tank' for a FICCI Ladies Organisation (FLO) event. This was one of the earliest events of FLO in Vadodara, on 27th April at Alembic City.

Ms. N. Grover made a proposal for an Early Intervention Project which included identification of children in nearby villages. Fortunately, the 'Sharks' doubled the requested funding to Akshar. Ms. I. Verma and Ms. H. Kale attended.



Academics

Time Table

Date	Class	Mode
3rd Aug 2021	Std. 9 -12	Offline Classes
2nd Sep 2021	Std. 6 - 8	Offline Classes
24th Nov 2021	Std. 1 - 5	Offline Classes
11th Jan 2022	Std. 1 - 8	Online Classes
17th Feb 2022	Std. 1 - 8	Offline Classes Restart

- The first Unit Test was held online from 12th – 16th July 2021. Papers were sent on Whatsapp. Students wrote the test in their Unit Test notebooks and sent them to the class teacher by handing over at the bus stop.
- First Term Exams 2021-22 were held online from 10th – 27th October and Report Day was on 29th October 2021.
- Gujarat State Board exams of Std.10 and 12 were held from 15th – 28th July 2021 in an offline mode. A total of 12 students appeared.
- For Board exams of 2022, Hall Tickets were distributed to students on 23rd March 2022. Ms. V. Patel, coordinator, provided guidelines.
- Second Term exams 2021-22 were held from 11th – 19th April. Report Day was on 26th March 2022.

New Admissions

- In Early Intervention, Meet Rajput, 3.5 years of age was a new admission. After guidance from Akshar, he had undergone a cochlear implant in March 2021. Ms. G. Parmar made a one- month curriculum and sent it home in 9th June 2021. Meet joined Early Intervention from 17th June 2022, attending thrice a week.
- Priya Mistry, 12 years came for admission from a regular school. An entrance test was taken and she was admitted in Std 6.
- Vaidehi Raval, 7 years joined Early Intervention on 6th October 2021. She had never attended any school.

- Akshar initiated Remedial Classes for 'late intervened' students. Classes began for three students, Priya Mistry, Eithen Pillai and Mitesh Makwana from 9th August 2021.

Activities of Students

- Election for House Captains, Head Boy and Head Girl were held, 14th September 2021.

	Captains	Vice Captains
Nehru House	Devika Patanwadia	Chandrakant Baria
Gandhi House	Khushi Prajapati	Rushabh Devre
Tagore House	Chandan Kushawaha	Varun Parmar
Head Boy	Kunj Kushawaha	
Head Girl	Sherly Pandya	

Beyond Meds Foundation

- 'Beyond Meds Foundation', an NGO, visited Akshar and held their first workshop on 25th August 2021 in a face to face mode. A team of 6 persons organised games and movies for the older students.
- The second workshop was held on 31st August 2021. Animation movies, games and exercises for the eyes and hands were included.
- Akshar made two videos on the Indian National Anthem in Sign for RCI. An individual video by student, Kunj Kushawaha and a group video. These were uploaded on the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) portal on 9th August 2021. They were to be merged with other such videos and shown nationally on 15th August by RCI.

Other Activities

- Akshar celebrated Independence Day on 15th August 2021. A March Past, Flag hoisting, National Anthem in Sign, and a Speech by the Chief Guest, Trustee, Ishita Verma, was a part of the program.
- The Centre celebrated 'Teacher's Day' on 6th September 2021 as 5th September was a Sunday. The students watched a presentation on Dr. S. Radha Krishnan made by student, Sherly Pandya from Std.10. Some students became teachers for a few hours.
- Students of Std.10 made a visit to the Stepwell at Sherkhi, which is of heritage value on 24th December 2021
- Garba celebrations were held on 14th October 2021 for students of Std.6 onwards.
- Students of Std. 8, Ajay Sharma & Jiyan Sheikh, attended an online Science Experiment & Demonstration Competition, 24th December 2021 with Ms. H. Akolkar, organised by Arch Foundation.
- P.M Narendra Modi interacted live with students, teachers and trainees for 'Parikshape Charcha' (Discussion on Exams), 1st April 2022.
- 20 Akshar Students participated in 'Khel Mahakumb', a sports event organised by Gujarat Sports Authority on 28th April 2022.



Paul Mason Consulting Pvt. Ltd. (PMC)



PMC has extended wonderful support to Akshar for the past 14 years.

- PMC has been supporting two innovative programmes at Akshar this year. The first is a parallel English teaching programme from Std.3 to 8.
- Another valuable project is the Local Area Network (LAN). Installation work started on 27th September 2021. Mr. Tejas Dhruva from PMC has visited many times.
- Officers from PMC, Ms. Moumita Dey, HR, and Urvi Parekh, Finance, made a visit for future support to Akshar on 19th April 2022.
- Mr. Richard Lowe, C.E.O, PMC, visited with the Vadodara team, Ms. Monali Dhavasker (Country Head), Ms. Moumita Dey (HR), Mr. Dhaivat Trivedi, Finance Controller, on 26th November 2021. They observed the Akshar Presentation and made a visit to the classrooms. The students presented an Aerobic Dance and a Karate Display. The 'Welcome Speech' was given by Hetal Parmar Std. 10 and the 'Vote of Thanks' by Sakshi Tiwari from Std. 12.

Trustees

As usual the trustees gave much of their time, expertise and guidance.

Trustees



Ms. Ishita Verma



Mr. Rajesh Parikh



Ms. Rati Desai



Mr. Jal Patel



Ms. Rupal Joshi
Volunteer

- Trustee, Ms. Ishita Verma has been coming regularly, every week, and has streamlined the HR area completely. Various compliances are now in place. A new PF person is also on board. She has been working ceaselessly for strengthening Akshar. Many new educational areas have been explored and strengthened.
- Mr. Rajesh Parikh had been following up work for the renewal of Lease of Land of Akshar Trust. The renewal was applied for in August 2020, the due date. As it was COVID times, there was little response. Under the guidance of Mr. Parikh, several reminders were sent. All his efforts bore fruit and the order for Renewal was received by the end of April 2022.
- Ms. Rati Desai, Trustee and Mr. Rajesh Gupta had a meeting with Ms. N. Grover on 7th March 2022. Ms. Desai and Mr. R.Gupta met Mr. Alkeshbhai Shah, Chartered Accountant with Ms. N. Grover at a later date.
- A Trustee's Meeting was held on 29th December 2021 to condole the sad demise of the Chairperson, Mr. Hasmukhbhai Shah, on 3rd December 2021.
- A Trustee's Meeting was held on 28th March 2022 at Akshar. Mr. Jal Patel, Mr. Rajesh Parikh, Ms. Ishita Verma and Ms. Rati Desai were present along with Ms. N. Grover. It is an honour for Akshar that Mr. Jal Patel has graciously accepted the key position of Chairperson of Akshar Trust.
- Trustee, Ms. I. Verma and Ms. R. Joshi had a meeting with Mr. B. Padhiyar for PF compliances on 7th April 2022.
- Ms. I. Verma took capacity-building lectures on Computer Literacy, Social Science, Science and Mathematics with teachers from 26th April to 6th May 2022.

Volunteers

- Ms. Rupal Joshi has been helping Akshar since June 2019. She comes four days a week in a voluntary capacity. She is looking after HR and other related matters. She has been instrumental, along with Ms. Ishita Verma, to reform the HR section.
- Mr. Rajesh Gupta, a Chartered Accountant and a well-wisher, has been advising Akshar on various compliances and matters related to accounts since October 2020.

Ms. Nisha Grover

Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI)

- Ms. N. Grover was invited to be a part of an Expert Committee for 'Syllabus Revision of D.Ed.(HI)' Courses, May 2021. Several meetings were attended.
- Was invited for a meeting on 'Inclusion of Sign Language in the Syllabus of Diploma (D.Ed Hearing Impairment)'; October 2021.
- For the writing of Content for a Manual on 5 Day in-service program on Inclusive Education for General Teachers, December 2021: Teaching of Language using Universal Design for Learning.
- Was part of a team to 'Finalize Norms of Guidelines to set up special schools for respective areas of Disability' in December 2021. Akshar also contributed to the Guidelines.
- Was appointed by RCI to Assess a new Centre at Gangapur, Rajasthan for a Fresh Proposal for D.Ed.Spl.Ed.(HI). The inspection was done on 8th April 2022.

Charity Commissioner

Ms. N. Grover made several visits to the Charity Commissioner's office. These were for change of trustees, residential change address etc. The last meeting was on 4th April 2022.

Cross Disability Early Intervention Centers

These centers are to be set up by the Dept. of Persons with Disabilities under Ministry of Social Justice, Govt. of India. Ms. N. Grover was invited by Ali Yavar Jung National Institute and Pratham to be a part of a team, as a Disability Expert in December 2021.

This was to create a Curricular Framework for Cross Disability Early Intervention Centers across India. She made a visit to the new CDEIC (Cross Disability Early Intervention Centre) set up at AYJ in Mumbai on 11th February 2022.

Webinars

Global Tipping Point (GTP), Mumbai Was invited to be a Panelist for a webinar on Inclusive Education for the GTP Summit, 26th February 2022. Several Zoom meetings were also attended.

Consortium for Inclusive Education (CIE), Vadodara Was a Resource Person for a webinar on 'Understanding Hearing Impairment' organised by CIE, Vadodara on 31st March 2022. This was the 5th webinar in their series.

Meetings

Ms. N. Grover virtually attended the 16th, 17th & 18th Executive Council Meetings organised by Indian Sign Language Research & Training Centre (ISLRTC), New Delhi on 21st May & 12th August 2021 and 1st February 2022.

Staff Activities

Date	Staff	Programme	Organizer	Remarks
9th June 2021	Ms. H. Akolkar	Online UDISE forms	UDISE	Virtual
30th June 2021	Ms. H. Akolkar	Annual Schedule of Science Activities	Arch Foundation	Virtual
1st & 16th Dec 2021	Ms. H. Akolkar	Science Fair	Arch Foundation	Virtual
5th Dec 2021	Mr. A. Khushawaha	International Webinar	Voice of Specially Able People's Charitable Organization	Attended
29th Jan 2022	Ms. H. Kale	Webinar	AISHE (All India Survey on Higher Education)	Attended
15th Feb 2022	Ms. H. Akolkar	Meeting of G-Shala E learning Platform	Gujarat Education Dept.	Virtual Attended



Ms. H. Kale was the resource person for a virtual Workshop on 'Textbook Adaptation' organised by 'Badhir Shala Sanchalak Mandal' (Organisation of Trustees of Deaf Schools), 18th September 2021.

Guidance

- Mr. C. Parikh, father of a student, Mimansa Parikh, studying in C.H. Vidhyalaya Std.10, came for guidance, 7th June 2021.
- Parents of Moin Khan a child with intellectual disability came for admission on 29th Nov 2021. Ms. N. Grover arranged an appointment for them at Disha Charitable Trust.
- Mr. Viral Gohil, elder brother of a boy with hearing impairment, on 4th Aug 2021 for literacy classes and help for the marriage of his brother.
- Ms. Sonal Patel visited with her two children who have intellectual disability, Ms. Sanjana, 15 years, and Dhruva, 9 years, for advice on 10th Aug 2021.

Interns

5 Students of 1st year Bachelors of Social Work, M.S University, started their 6-month Field Work from 28th October 2021 and completed on 28th April 2022 and were involved in administration and classroom activities.

Visitors

- Mr. Divyesh Shah and his son, Mr. Param Shah, well-wishers of Akshar, visited from Mumbai on 22nd November 2021.
- Mr. Daxesh Patel, father of Mr. Manan Patel, USA, visited on 28th January 2022. He gave a handsome donation. Manan Patel had been a student of Akshar in 1988.
- 50 trainees with 4 faculty members from Shri P. K. Mehta College of Special Education, Palanpur, Gujarat visited on 30th March 2022.



Corporate Social Responsibility

- Ms. Charul Solanki from GACL visited for inspection of Solar Roof & Bus Shelter structure, 5th July 2021.
- GEB people came for meter fitting of Solar Panels on 6th July 2021. From that date Solar Energy at Akshar began.
- A CSR team from Heeru Corrosion Protection Services (I) Pvt. Ltd., Ms. Ratna Srinivasan, CSR Head, Mr. Sanjay Zala, Gen. Manager and Ms. Shilpa Rohit HR visited on 30th March 2022.
- Mr. & Ms. Atul Dalmia & Mr. Mitesh Surti from Rubamin Ltd., Halol, visited on 4th April 2022.

Inspections

- Inspection for DDRS (Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme) was held on 23rd November 2021 by Mr. Mayank Trivedi, Social Defence Officer.
- Sunil Bhai, from the Mamlatdar's office came for Akshar Trust's Land Renewal Inspection on 23rd June 2021.

Other Occasions

Mr. & Ms. Jindesh Narsana, founder of MVD Corporate Services Pvt. Ltd. visited on 4th March 2022 to recruit PwD (Persons with Disability) for their venture. A list of 10 Akshar alumni was sent to them for placement.

Parents

A Parent's Meeting for Std. 10 & 12 Board Exams was held on 21st December 2021.

Teacher Training

First Year trainees Batch 2020-22 restarted offline classes on 26th July 2021.



Results

The result of Batch 2019-21, Semester I and II was declared on 27th September 2021.

Of 24 trainees, 5 got above 75%, 7 got above 70%, 11 got above 60% and 1 got under 60%. It was a 100% result.

Workshops and Webinars

- Ms. H. Kale, Mr. A. Kushawaha and the students attended a webinar organised by Indian Sign Language Research and Training Institute (ISLRTC) on the occasion of 'World Sign Language Day', 23rd September 2021
- A Workshop on the making of Flash Cards, Sentence Strips and Charts was held on 25th September 2021 for trainees of Batch 2020-22. Ms. G. Parmar was the Resource Person.
- Ali Yavar Jung National Institute of Speech Hearing Disabilities (Divyangjan) celebrated

'International Week of Deaf People', 21st – 24th September 2021. First Year trainees, Batch 2020-22, attended a webinar on 'Sign Language'. The resource person was Dr. Rangasayee, former Director, AYJNISHD (D).

- Second Year trainees, Batch 2020-22, submitted 'Project Work', on 11th March 2022. As per the curriculum they made presentations, charts and models for Science, Social Science and Mathematics.
- First and Second Year trainees celebrated 'World Science Day' on 28th February 2022. They made charts on Indian scientists and organised an exhibition for students of the school, Std. 8 upwards. Ms. H. Akolkar supervised the exhibition.



Celebrations

- Trainees and students of Akshar jointly celebrated Independence Day on 15th August 2021. Trainees took an active part in the March Past, Flag Hosting and Speeches.
- Batch 2020-22 celebrated 'Teacher's Day' on 6th September 2021. Speeches and cake cutting were followed by 'Cards' for faculty members and teachers of the Special School.



- A 'Farewell Party' was arranged by First Year students of Batch 2020-22, for Batch 2019-21 on 14th October 2021.
- A 'Welcome Party' for First Year students, Batch 2022-24 was organised by Second Year students, Batch 2021-23, 23rd April 2022.

This and That

- Trainees of both years watched a virtual 'Discussion on Examinations' by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, 1st April 2022. A big screen was specially arranged.
- For 'Syllabus Revision of D.Ed. (HI) 'courses under RCI, Ms. N. Grover, Ms. H. Kale, Ms. H. Akolkar and Mr. A. Kushawaha had a series of meetings in June 2021. Dr. Varsha Gathoo was leading the Revision.

Examinations Diploma

Theory

Date	Trainees & Batch	Remarks
22nd – 29th April 2021	24 trainees (2019-21)	Offline Internal
10th – 18th May 2021	27 trainees (2020-21) 24 trainees (2019-21)	Online Internal
12th July 2021	24 trainees (2019-21)	Offline External
21st – 27th Oct 2021	24 trainees (2019-21)	Offline External
7th – 12th Feb 2022	27 trainees (2020-22)	Offline External

Practicals

Date	Trainees & Batch	Remarks
25th – 28th May 2021	24 trainees (2019-21)	Online Internal
22nd – 24th July 2021	24 trainees (2019-21)	Viva Audiology & Speech
12th – 14th Oct 2021	24 trainees (2019-21)	Final Language
14th – 15th Feb 2022	27 trainees (2020-22)	Viva Audiology & Speech

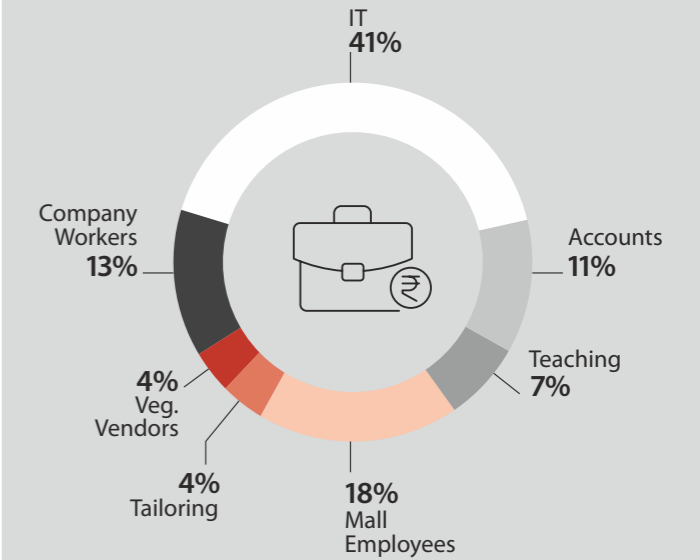
Exams

Board Exams

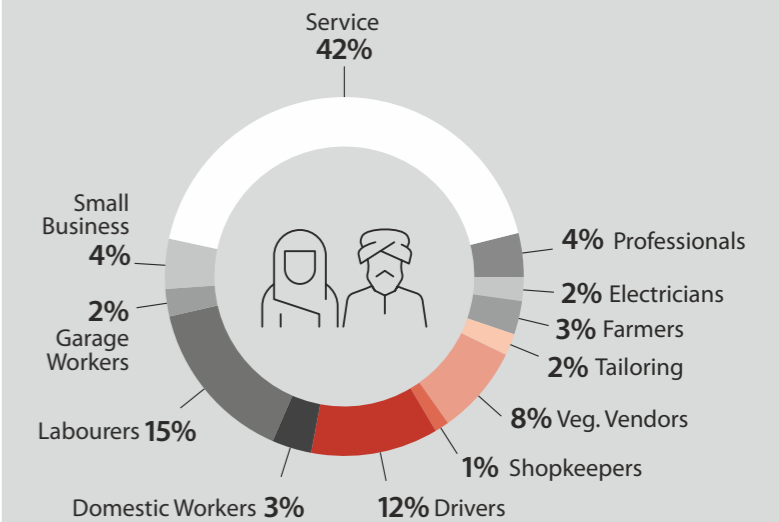
Year	10th (SSC)	12th (HSC)
NIOS – National Indian Open School		
2005	5	--
2006	7	--
GSEB – Gujarat Secondary and Higher Secondary Education Board		
2008	10	2
2009	2	–
2010	11	10
2011	–	1
2012	10	8
2013	4	–
2014	10	8
2015	7	1
2016	2	2
2017	10	5
2018	8	7
2019	10	5
2020	4	2
2021	1	4
2022	9	4



Employment



Occupation of Parents



From Our Students' Notebooks

મારું નામ શર્લી પંડ્યા છે. હું ધોરણ 10 માં ભણું છું. બે વર્ષ પહેલાં પહેલાં લોકો મારી સ્કૂલ અક્ષર ટ્રસ્ટ માં બાબા. તેઓ લેડનરી વહેણ ચલાવ્યા. તેમને નામ ફિસ્ટીબલને કહ્યું. ગયા અક્ષર તેમણે અને અક્ષર સ્કૂલના વિદ્યાર્થીઓને વહેણમાં આવી મુડી બનાવ્યું. હું અને અમી વિદ્યાર્થીયા વિલાસ અમીના પ્રિયંકામાં ગયા ફો. એ આંક દિલ્લમાં ભાગ લીધો હતો. શિલાનું નામ વિદ્યામિત્રી વિલાસ છે. આ શિલા ફિસ્ટીબલને વિદ્યામિત્રી વિલાસ બનાવી ફો. આ શિલા કોમ્પ્યુટર રૂમ પર બનાવી ફો. અને બહુ મજા આવી ફો. આ અક્ષર સ્કૂલ માટે ગર્વની વાત છે. મને મારી સ્કૂલ ખૂબ ગમે છે.

Ms. Sherly Pandya
Class 10



મૈરા નામ નાજરિન બાનો છે. મેં અક્ષર સ્કૂલ મેં 12 ક્લાસ મેં પઢતી છું. મેરે આર્ટ્સ કે વિષય છે. મૈરા સ્કૂલ હિન્દી, વાર્ટ, યિત અલ સિચાગા છે. મૈને એક પ્રિલ્મ મેં જાગા લિયા ઠા. ઉસકા નામ વિદ્યામિત્રી દિલાસ ઠા. મૈરા મેં આચરિ વર્ષ છે. મૈં ઇસ વર્ષ બોર્ડ કી પરીક્ષા ઠુંગી. મૈરા સ્કૂલ English પઢેન મેં મદદ કરતા છે. મૈં બડી હોંકર શિક્ષક વરુંગી. ઊંર અક્ષર સ્કૂલ કે વિદ્યાર્થીઓ કો પઢાઈગી.

Ms. Najreen Pathan
Class 12



From Parents



Ms. Binita Pandya
Sherly's Mother

Date: 23/12/2021
TO, The Akshar Trust.
I am Binita Pandya, Mother of Sherly Pandya from Akshar Trust. Thank you for helping to make education such a positive experience for Sherry. With all love, Sherry has achieved a lot. I really appreciate the way in which Akshar Trust helped her learn all the subjects. I thank you again for all the wonderful work Akshar Trust have done and wish you all the best for your future endeavors.
With sincerest appreciation
Binita Pandya

[અક્ષર ટ્રસ્ટ સ્કૂલ]
classmate
Date _____
Page _____
મૈરા નામ રાજેશ તિવારી છે. મેં સાક્ષી કા ઘાપા હું. સાક્ષી ક્લાસ 12 મેં પઢતી છે. આજ મેં ગર્વ સે સાક્ષી બતા સકતા હું કે ઇસને 10 ક્લાસ બહુત અલ્ટે નમ્બર સે અક્ષર સ્કૂલ મેં પઢતે હુસ ઘાસ હુડ. જલ મુમે સાક્ષી કે ડિસએબીલિટી કા પતા હુઆ તો મેં ઉમકે મલિગ્ય સવં અધ્યયન કે વૈરે મેં બહુત મિનના હુડ થી, પર અક્ષર સ્કૂલ મેં આને કે બહુ મુમે વિશ્વાસ હુઆ કે સાક્ષી યહાં અધ્યાસ કર સકતી છે. અક્ષર સ્કૂલ મેં ખિસ તરફ સે બંચો કો પ્રોત્સાહિત સવં અધ્યયન કરકો છે. ઇસ તરફ યહાં કે સમી રિચર સવમ પ્રિસિપલ કરકો છે. ઇસકે લિલ મેં અક્ષર સ્કૂલ કે સમી શિક્ષનો સવમ પ્રિસિપલ કા શુક્ર ગુજાર છે.



Mr. Rajesh Tiwari
Sakshi's Father
Class 12 student

Donations

Donations in Kind

Date	Donor	Item
13th August 2021	Mr. James George	Arranged lunch for all at Akshar
24th August 2021	Ms. Sherly Pandya's Parents	Distributed sweets & snacks
27th August 2021	Ms. Pragna Shah	Clothes for poorer students & their parents
13th September 2021	Ms. C Gandhi	Two blackboards and geometry boxes
15th September 2021	Mr. Mahavirsingh Rajpurohit	Packets of sweets for staff
9th December 2021	Ms. Kokila Joshi	Sponsored lunch

Fund Raising F.Y. 2021-22

Donor Name	Amount (INR)
Mr. & Ms. Girish Mehta, USA	36,05,371
Mr. Parth Amin, SLK Software Service Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru	15,00,000
Paul Mason Consulting India Pvt. Ltd., Vadodara	12,35,000
Mr. & Ms. Raju Shroff, UPL Limited	10,00,000
Mr. & Ms. Rajesh Bansal, Shakun Polymers Ltd., Vadodara	10,00,000
Mr. A. Nopany, Rishi FIBC Solutions Pvt. Ltd, Vadodara	5,00,000
Mr. & Ms. Ajay Desai, Axtel Industries Ltd., Vadodara	5,00,000
Mr. & Ms. Jagdeep Buddhiraja, Sukhmani Charitable Trust	5,00,000
Mr. V Shreedharan, Sud-Chemie India Pvt. Ltd., Vadodara	5,00,000
Mr. & Ms. Vimal Patel, Banco Aluminum Ltd., Vadodara	5,00,000
Mr. & Ms. Atul Dalmia, Rubamin Pvt. Ltd. Vadodara	4,20,000
Hindustan Export & Import Corporation Pvt. Ltd.	2,50,000
Grover Design & Research Foundation	2,50,000
Blue Star Foundation	2,00,000
Mr. & Ms. Atul G. Shroff, Transpek Industry Ltd., Vadodara	2,00,000
GACL Education Society, Vadodara	1,73,175
Western Naval Command	1,00,000
Dr. K. Chawla, CTC Geotechnical Pvt. Ltd.	1,00,000

Donor Name	Amount (INR)
A well-wisher	1,00,000
Mr. & Ms. Daxesh J Patel, USA	1,00,000
Mr. Jal R. Patel, Vadodara	50,000
Mr. & Ms. Hector S. Patel, Abu Dhabi	50,000
Mr. & Ms. Ashok Kumar Nehru, New Delhi	50,000
Mr. & Ms. Atul Patel, Shantaben Jamubhai Patel (CH Trust) Memorial Trust	50,000
Ms. Jayshree Swami, Lions Club Society of Baroda	41,000
Ms. Neeta Wig, Ms. Sakshi Wig, Vadodara	41,000
Ms. Scarlet Sabine Clivia & Alyena Brandt	35,432
Ms. Nilaben H. Shah, Kachnar Trust, Vadodara	30,000
Ms. Nalini V. Patel	25,000
Manav Jagriti Foundation	25,000
Ms. Bhavanaben J. Patel	21,000
Mr. & Ms. K. G. Ramanathan, Mumbai	20,000
Ms. Nenaben Sodha	12,000
Mr. Sanjubhai Pandit, Navneet Foundation, Ahmedabad	12,000
Ms. Lata Agarwal	11,000
Mr. Rohanbhai Dave	11,000
Ms. Manisha Darshak Vaishnav	10,000
Ms. Parulatta Lakhani	10,000
Ms. Pushpa Sundar, Delhi	8,000
Ms. Amarben Patel	5,000

Major Donors Overtime

Donor Name	Donor Name
Ms. Amar Patel Amin, Vadodara	Mr. & Ms. Percy Muncherji, Singapore
Mr. & Ms. Chirayu Amin, Vadodara	Mr. & Ms. Sudhir Munjal, Vadodara
Mr. Parth Amin, Bengaluru	Mr. & Ms. Ashok Nehru, Gurgaon
Mr. Chris Andre, London	Dr. R. D. Pandit, Mumbai
Mr. Shirish Beri, Kolhapur	Mr. & Ms. Atul Patel, Vadodara
Ms. Jill Beckingham, Mumbai	Mr. & Ms. D. Patel & Mr. Manan Patel, USA
Mr. & Ms. Jyoti Bhatt, Vadodara	Mr. & Ms. Hector Patel, UAE
Ms. Malini Bhatt, Vadodara	Mr. Indubhai Patel, Vadodara
Mr. & Ms. Nirmal Bhogilal, Mumbai	Mr. Jal Patel, Vadodara
Ms. Aleyna Brandt	Ms. Jyoti Patel, Vadodara
Mr. & Ms. Jagdeep Budhiraja, Vadodara	Mr. & Ms. Phiroz Patel, Vadodara
Mr. & Ms. Boman Cama, Vadodara	Mr. & Ms. Vimal Patel, Vadodara
Mr. & Ms. Shivinder Chawla, Vadodara	Mr. & Ms. E. J. Paul, New Delhi
Mr. Vijay Chowgule, Goa	Ms. Priya Paul, New Delhi
Mr. & Ms. Tushar Dayal, Vadodara	Mr. & Ms. K. G. Ramanathan, Mumbai
Mr. & Ms. Atul Dalmia, Vadodara	Mr. Greg Romine, China
Mr. & Ms. Nandkishore Dalmia, Vadodara	Mr. & Ms. Paresh Saraiya, Vadodara
Mr. & Ms. Ajay Desai, Vadodara	Mr. & Ms. Arun Sawhney, Mumbai
Ms. Neela Desai, Vadodara	Mr. & Ms. Kamal Sawhney, Mumbai
Ms. Rini Dhumal, Vadodara	Mr. & Ms. Hasmukh Shah, Vadodara
Ms. K. R. Dorabji, Vadodara	Mr. Piyush Shah, Vadodara
Mr. & Ms. Jamshyd Godrej, Mumbai	Mr. Sanjiv Shah, Vadodara
Mr. K. K. Grover, Mumbai	Late Sunderben C. Shah, Mumbai
Mr. & Ms. Kapil Grover, Mumbai	Mr. & Ms. Gulam Sheikh, Vadodara
Mr. Karan Grover, Vadodara	Mr. & Ms. Atul Shroff, Mumbai
Ms. Karishma Grover, Mumbai	Mr. & Ms. Rajju Shroff, Mumbai
Ms. Neha Grover, Mumbai	Ms. Sandra Shroff, Mumbai
Mr. & Ms. Jitendra Jain, UK	Mr. Praveen Singh, Vadodara
Mr. Kavirath Jain, USA	Ms. Trupti Singh, Vadodara
Mr. Baljit Kapur, New Delhi	Mr. Essam Al Tamimi, UAE
Mr. Dalbir Kapur, New Delhi	Mr. & Ms. Chandrahas Thackersey, Mumbai
Ms. Nargis Katpitia, Vadodara	Lord Rumi Verjee, London
Mr. & Ms. Ashok Krishnadas, Vadodara	Ms. Daksha J. Vyas, Vadodara
Mr. & Ms. Girish Mehta, USA	Mr. A. Neopany, Vadodara
Ms. Anjali Ela Menon, New Delhi	

Donations from Trusts, Foundations & Corporations

Donor Name
Amway Opportunity Foundation, Vadodara
Blue Star Foundation, Mumbai
Conmat Systems Pvt. Ltd., Mr. Premraj Kashyap, Vadodara
G. H. Patel Charitable Trust, Vadodara
Gujarat Alkalies & Chemicals Ltd., Vadodara
Gujarat State Fertilizers and Chemicals, Vadodara
H. F. Patel Memorial Trust, Vadodara
HNG Float Glass Ltd., Mr. Kailsh Jain, Mumbai
Koch-Glitsch, a division of Koch Chemical Technology Group (I) Pvt. Ltd., Vadodara
Lupin Human Welfare & Research Foundation
Mehta Charitable Trust, Mumbai, Mr. & Ms. Jitendra Mehta
Natubhai V. Patel Charitable Trust, Mr. Mayur Patel, Vadodara
Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd., Vadodara
Paul Mason Consulting (India) Pvt. Ltd., Mr. Paul Mason, UK
Pirojsha Godrej Foundation, Mumbai
The Scorpion Charitable Trust, UK
Prosea International Ltd., Mr. James Fitzgerald, South Africa
Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, New Delhi
The Rumi Foundation, Lord Rumi Veerji, London
Samaj Kalyan Trust, Vadodara
Sanskriti Foundation, Porbandar
Shapoorji Pallonji Charity Trust, Mumbai
Share & Care Foundation, USA
Shroff Foundation Trust, Vadodara
Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, Mumbai
State Bank of India, Bhadra, Ahmedabad
Sterling Biotech Ltd. Sandesra Group, Vadodara
SLK Software Services Pvt. Ltd.
United Way of Baroda, Vadodara
United Technologies Corporation, USA
Vidya Vikas Charitable Trust, Mr. Ashok Mehta, USA

Donor Options

Non-recurring expenses at New Building	Amount (in lacs)
Multipurpose Hall (2,000.sq.ft.)	50.00
Recurring Expenses	
Education of a Student	00.45
Therapy Staff	02.00
Adopt Bus (3 buses/month)	01.00
Adopt Bus (3 buses/year)	12.00
A Hot Mid-Day Meal	10.00
Maintenance of Computer Laboratory	00.15
Strengthen Early Intervention	03.78
A Digital Camera	00.60
Inverter for Office	02.00
Hearing aids with moulds for 1 student	00.17

Our Special Gratitude to

- Mr. Karan Grover, Mr. Ishan Grover and the staff of Karan Grover & Associates Mr. Kishore Mohite & Mr. Bal Mukund Jha.
- Mr. Manishi Bhatt of Manishi Enterprise for the construction of the new building and ongoing work.
- Mr. Alkesh Shah, Chartered Accountant, for handling accounts since 1988 in an honorary capacity.
- Mr. Jatin Vakil for legal matters.
- Mr. Harsh Purohit and his team from Cognito for the designing of the Annual Report for the past 9 years in a Pro Bono capacity.
- The Late Chairperson, Mr. Hasmukhbhai Shah, present Chairperson, Mr. Jal Patel, Trustees, Ms. Shruti Shroff, Mr. Rajesh Parikh, Ms. Ishita Verma and Ms. Rati Desai who have generously given their time and expertise



Late Mr. Hasmukhbhai Shah
Chairperson | 2016 - 2021

Hasmukhbhai Shah was the Chairperson of Akshar Trust from 2016 till his sad demise on 3rd December 2021. He had been a trustee from 2005.

What does one say about Hasmukhbhai? He had worn so many hats in his long and illustrious career and to each he brought his own sagacity and keen intelligence.

One had the privilege of working with him in organisations such as Heritage Trust for a length of time. There are happy memories of him advising us, still young, whenever challenges appeared to block the way. Needless to add, it was always valuable advice.

His faith in Akshar Trust kept us moving forward, working to improve our record, year upon year. We were introduced to potential well-wishers; encouraged to scale up and be visible; advised

about the ways to negotiate narrow straits; take all the steps that would help the organisation to establish a firmer footing. An NGO, by its very nature, is vulnerable. Hasmukhbhai through the years, ensured that Akshar acquired some innate strength and could withstand obstacles.

On 29th April 2016, Hasmukhbhai had invited the then Add. Chief Secretary, Finance, Govt. of Gujarat, Dr. J. N. Singh, to inaugurate the new Akshar campus at Sherghi. As he was in Mumbai for a Board Meeting, Hasmukhbhai flew back to Vadodara for the event and returned to Mumbai immediately. That was his commitment to his chosen responsibility.

The students of Akshar have gained immensely from Hasmukhbhai's generous trusteeship and mentoring. We will miss his special and astute leadership.

Current Office Bearers

Chairperson
Mr. Jal Patel

Trustees
Mr. Rajesh Parikh
Ms. Ishita Verma
Ms. Rati Desai

Managing Trustee
Ms. Nisha Grover

Audit Certificates

CA ALKESH J. SHAH & CO.
Chartered Accountants
203, Opal Square,
Behind Hotel Express,
Alkapuri,
Vadodara - 390007
(M) 98250 28121
Email - alkeshshah@yahoo.co.in

Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended on March 31, 2021

Particulars	Current year	Previous Year
Income		
Donation Received	94,63,654	83,39,752
Grant Received (Under DDRS)	4,49,258	16,95,474
Interest Received	88,888	44,985
School / Day / Teacher Training Programme Fees	9,88,500	12,79,000
Other Income	---	3,221
Expenses over Income	282582	---
Total	1,12,72,682	1,13,62,432
Expenditure		
Direct Programme Expenses	5,78,044	46,62,002
Educational Programme Expenses	4,60,381	12,65,865
Administration	11,05,140	12,00,088
Expenditure in respect of properties	5,94,581	6,66,866
Depreciation	33,32,536	35,18,573
Income over Expense	---	49,638
Total	1,12,72,682	1,13,62,432

As per our report of even date attached for Alkesh J Shah & Co. Chartered Accountant (Firm Reg. No. 1002803V) Date: 27/07/2021 Place: Vadodara UDIN: 21038932AAAAGG1500

For Akshar Trust
Nisha Grover
Managing Trustee

CA ALKESH J. SHAH & CO.
Chartered Accountants
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Akshar Trust

Balance sheet as at March 31, 2021

	Current Year	Previous Year
Source of Funds		
Trust Fund	1,000	1,000
Corpus Fund	3,00,000	3,00,000
Other earmarked funds	3,95,93,848	3,90,00,673
Teacher Training Fees Deposit	0	6,000
Contd:-	---	---
Total	4,00,82,648	3,93,07,673
Application of Funds		
Fixed Assets	2,76,52,959	2,88,74,025
Investment	3,00,000	3,00,000
Net Current Assets	1,21,29,681	1,01,33,648
Total	4,00,82,648	3,93,07,673

As per our report of even date attached for Alkesh J Shah & Co. Chartered Accountant (Firm Reg. No. 1002803V) Date: 27/07/2021 Place: Vadodara UDIN: 21038932AAAAGG1500

For Akshar Trust
Nisha Grover
Managing Trustee

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR REPORT

To,
The Trustees of
Akshar Trust

The Management of Akshar Trust has prepared financial statements and it's approved by the trustees, for the period 01/04/2020 to 31/03/2021.

We have examined the books of accounts of Akshar Trust for the period from 01/04/2020 to 31/03/2021. Based on Data, submission and explanation given to us during the audit, we certify that the Income & Expenditure accounts and Balance Sheet are in agreement with the books of accounts maintained by the trust.

Subject to the above, we have obtained all the necessary and required information and explanation that were necessary for the purpose of audit and to the best of our knowledge the following show the true and fair view of the affairs as it appears from the books of accounts.

- 1) Deficit as per Income and Expenditure Account for the period from 01/04/2020 to 31/03/2021.
- 2) Balance Sheet as on 31/03/2021.

Place: Vadodara
Date: 27/07/2021
UDIN: 21038932AAAAGG1500

For Alkesh J Shah & Co.
Chartered Accountant
(Firm Reg. No. 1002803V)

CA ALKESH J. SHAH & CO.
Chartered Accountants
203, Opal Square,
Behind Hotel Express,
Alkapuri,
Vadodara - 390007
(M) 98250 28121
Email - alkeshshah@yahoo.co.in

Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended on March 31, 2022

Particulars	Current year	Previous Year
Income		
Donation Received	1,28,08,969	64,63,654
Grant Received (Under DDRS)	11,86,690	4,49,258
Interest Received	1,77,792	88,888
School / Day / Teacher Training Programme Fees	6,94,200	9,88,500
Expenses over Income	2,42,382	---
Total	1,48,67,711	1,12,72,682
Expenditure		
Direct Programme Expenses	49,84,793	17,80,044
Educational Programme Expenses	3,16,490	4,60,381
Administrative	17,46,231	11,05,140
Expenditure in respect of properties	10,31,528	5,94,581
Depreciation	30,57,702	33,32,536
Income Over Expenses	1,28,967	---
Total	1,48,67,711	1,12,72,682

As per our report of even date attached for Alkesh J Shah & Co. Chartered Accountant (Firm Reg. No. 1002803V) Date: 23-08-2022 Place: Vadodara UDIN: 22038932APRAAF2636

For Akshar Trust
Nisha Grover
Managing Trustee

CA ALKESH J. SHAH & CO.
Chartered Accountants
203, Opal Square,
Behind Hotel Express,
Alkapuri,
Vadodara - 390007
(M) 98250 28121
Email - alkeshshah@yahoo.co.in

Akshar Trust

Balance sheet as at March 31, 2022

	Current Year	Previous Year
Source of Funds		
Trust Fund	1,000	1,000
Corpus Fund	3,00,000	3,00,000
Other earmarked funds	3,95,93,848	3,90,00,673
Provision	3,94,631	---
Contd:-	---	---
Total	40,207,484	4,00,82,648
Application of Funds		
Fixed Assets	2,53,03,348	2,76,52,959
Investment	3,00,000	3,00,000
Net Current Assets	1,46,03,716	1,21,29,681
Total	40,207,484	4,00,82,648

As per our report of even date attached for Alkesh J Shah & Co. Chartered Accountant (Firm Reg. No. 1002803V) Date: 23-08-2022 Place: Vadodara UDIN: 22038932APRAAF2636

For Akshar Trust
Nisha Grover
Managing Trustee

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR REPORT

To,
The Trustees of
Akshar Trust

The Management of Akshar Trust has prepared financial statements and it's approved by the trustees, for the period 01/04/2021 to 31/03/2022.

We have examined the books of accounts of Akshar Trust for the period from 01/04/2021 to 31/03/2022. Based on Data, submission and explanation given to us during the audit, we certify that the Income & Expenditure accounts and Balance Sheet are in agreement with the books of accounts maintained by the trust.

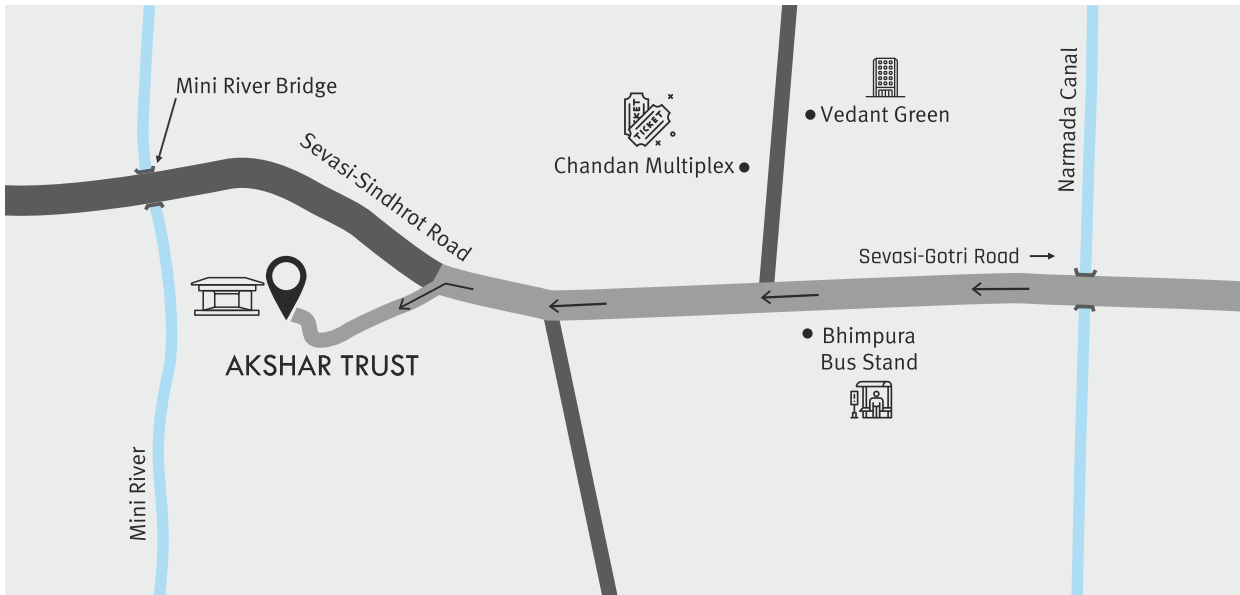
Subject to the above, we have obtained all the necessary and required information and explanation that were necessary for the purpose of audit and to the best of our knowledge the following show the true and fair view of the affairs as it appears from the books of account.

- 1) Surplus as per Income and Expenditure Account for the period from 01/04/2021 to 31/03/2022.
- 2) Balance Sheet as on 31/03/2022.

Place: Vadodara
Date: 23-08-2022
UDIN: 22038932APRAAF2636

For Alkesh J Shah & Co.
Chartered Accountant
(Firm Reg. No. 1002803V)

Route to Akshar Centre from Vadodara



AKSHAR TRUST

Office Address

11th Floor, Kirti Towers,
Next to Kirti Mandir,
Tilak Road, Vadodara-390 001
(Gujarat) India
Ph.: +91-265-2427522 / 2427544

Centre Address

Near Nandanvan Farm, Before Mini River Bridge,
Sherkhi-Sindhrot Road, Ta. & Dist.: Vadodara-391 330.
Ph.: +91 8460058117 | Fax: +91-265-2427599
Email: akshartrust@gmail.com
Website: www.akshartrust.com

Online Donation <https://eazypay.icicibank.com/eazypayLink?P1=OOpEwHbWv/LO7Tm18hiE+A==>