



# Driven by Sense



## Annual Report 2011-12

We at Sense India print our annual report in black and white. This helps us to partially understand the world from the perspective of people with deafblindness.

# Celebrating 15 years of...

## Our Growth and Progress

We estimate that there are around 500,000 deafblind children and adults in India. In 1997, an initiative was taken by Sense International, UK to support and promote services for deafblind individuals in India. Since then,

**43,000** deafblind individual's lives have been changed through our services.

**32,000** deafblind children are receiving education through the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme.

**11,000** deafblind individuals are receiving direct services through our partner NGOs across 21 states.

**45** partner NGOs have joined us across the country to support the movement in 21 states.

### India NGO Award- West Region, 2010

Sense International (India) was declared the Joint Regional Awardee (West) at the India NGO Awards, 2010 held by Resource Alliance in collaboration with the Rockefeller Foundation, USA.

The award recognizes professional management and the effectiveness of the organization's activities in improving the lives of the people they serve.

- ↘ Touching Lives
- ↘ Improving Health
- ↘ Teaching Life Skills
- ↘ Fostering Self-reliance

## See the change

**Raj Solanki:** For Raj, being deafblind was as if the entire world could extend only as far as his finger tips could reach. However, after his association with Sense International (India), also known as Sense India, his life was filled with a new ray of hope. Raj made astounding progress after receiving need-based services by trained special educators from our partner NGO, Blind People's Association, Ahmedabad. He gradually overcame the challenges he faced with communication and mobility. Today, he is among the first deafblind students to pass his 10<sup>th</sup> board exams with flying colours.



# Highlights of 2011-12

➔ The project '**Developing a model of services and a sustainable infrastructure for the integration of deafblind people in India**' supported for five years by the European Union has been successfully completed. This project has been a landmark in strengthening the deafblind field in India in more ways than one. The key highlights and achievements include:



**400** new organisations have been sensitised on deafblindness through various programmes and visits organised by the four Regional Learning Centers (RLCs).

**266** participants attended the first ever National Conference on Deafblindness held in Delhi in January, 2011.

**T**he quality of services is quite exceptional, both in Sense India, and in the Regional Learning Centers. Needless to say, some partners needed support in management, financial and administrative areas, Sense India ensured that they were properly guided, trained, supervised and rather strictly monitored financially. All activities were meticulously planned in advance, with collaborative practices and Sense India staff have criss-crossed the country, keeping tabs, with courtesy. The relationship between partners, were assessed quietly, but often, and found to be based on mutual respect.

***Observations of the external evaluator  
Smt Aloka Guha, the first Chairperson of  
the National Trust, Govt of India.***

**19** posters and 16 booklets were developed on issues related to deafblindness for awareness and training purposes.



## Chairman's Message



"What a privilege it is to be a part of the remarkable contribution Sense India is making to the cause of deafblindness in India. Thousands of lives are now being transformed; and numbers are increasing every year. So many organisations and individuals make this possible. Thank you all!"

**Mr Murray Culshaw**

# Our strategy has two elements

## 1. Influencing Government through Advocacy

### Right to Education Act:

The Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha passed amendments to 'The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act 2009'. A significant number of these amendments are concerned with the education of children with disabilities. Sense India through its Director Mr Akhil Paul, was part of the consultation meeting on 1st May, 2012 to discuss issues related to the rights of children with disabilities under the Right to Education Act. As a result, the new amendments in particular talk about giving children with multiple or severe disabilities, the choice of home-based education.

In recent times, we have ensured that deafblindness has been included in the 'Rights of People with Disabilities Bill, 2011'. Following suit we have also secured a three year European Commission (EC) grant under the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) which is aimed at contributing to government legislation and policies, particularly around ensuring that rights of deafblind people are protected and their specific needs are met.



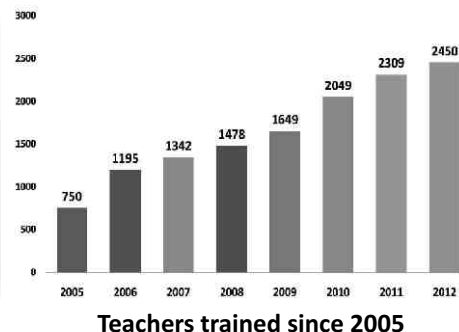
### From Director's Desk

"The highlight of the year for me has been the continued success of our advocacy initiatives, we have secured recognition of 'deafblindness' as a unique and separate category under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan programme and the proposed 'Rights of People with Disabilities Bill-2011'."

Mr Akhil Paul

## Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

Sense India has strategically aligned with Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) a nation-wide Government of India initiative to ensure that deafblind children are included into mainstream education. In order to ensure good quality and need-based teaching to deafblind children within an inclusive set up, a series of training programmes were jointly held with SSA missions in the states of Chattisgarh, Uttarakhand, Kerala, Assam and Sikkim. Through this partnership, over 2,000 government teachers have been trained on issues surrounding deafblindness and on appropriate teaching techniques for deafblind children in mainstream schools.



## 2. Providing Information, Support and Training

### In the year 2011-12

**89** community workers were identified and trained to provide services and support to children in remote areas. They now serve about 500 deafblind children.

**52** teachers were trained on deafblindness and appropriate teaching techniques.

**3** 'National Networks' promoted by Sense India saw a tremendous increase in membership. Currently, Udaan comprises of 89 adult deafblind members; Prayaas has 662 families; and Abhi-Prerna now has 389 educators as members.



### Our publications on Deafblindness

- Management of Children with Deafblindness with Cerebral Palsy – Part 1 & Part 2
- Toilet Training for children with Deafblindness and Multi-Sensory Impairments
- Incidental Learning (This book captures the Incidental learning experiences of people involved with deafblind persons.)

### Specialised Training Programmes

- ☞ Advance Training on Deafblindness under the theme, 'Educational Management of Deafblind and Cerebral Palsy' was organised for 40 trained educators in Chennai in August, 2011.
- ☞ National Training on deafblindness under the theme, 'Management of Sexual issues and Parent counseling on sex education' was organised for 35 senior educators, mentors and professionals in Ahmedabad in September, 2011.
- ☞ National level training was organised for 25 project coordinators of deafblind programmes, network members and Regional Learning Centers (RLCs) information officers in Ahmedabad in September, 2011.
- ☞ A national conclave was organised for Network members under the theme of 'Empowering Deafblind through Self-Advocacy' in Ahmedabad in July, 2011. About 120 members participated in the conclave.
- ☞ An extensive training of 18 days on Multi Category disability for 300 master trainers was organised by Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) with assistance from Sense India. The trainers came from across India.



# International Initiatives

## Evolution in Bangladesh:

Our partner organisation Centre for Disability in Development (CDD) has expanded its reach to 482 deafblind individuals in Bangladesh with the help of 16 local NGO partners. We have also aligned with 10 more organisations to provide need-based services to deafblind people and their families. This initiative has helped us to establish services in 15 out of 65 districts of Bangladesh where deafblind individuals and their families are continuously receiving rehabilitation support and counseling. During the year, deafblindness was integrated into the draft Disability Bill of Bangladesh as an outcome of advocacy efforts by the National Resource Center (NRC) on Deafblindness.

## Training in Nepal:

Sense India organised nine days intensive training on 'Deafblindness and Multiple Disabilities' at Bhaktapur, Sanothimi, Nepal for the officers of the Education Department. Mr Sachin Rizal, Sr Officer Programmes and Mr Uttam Kumar, Manager Programmes, Sense India, were the key resource persons.

*"It was a wonderful learning experience. My perception about deafblind people has totally changed and now I am looking forward to plan the curriculum for deafblind children along with sensitising other people about deafblindness and multiple disabilities."*

**Mr Parshu Ram Tiwari, an officer from the National Centre for Educational Development, Nepal**

## New beginnings in Fundraising

With a renewed focus on local resource mobilisation, a fundraising team has been put in place. Our initial efforts have started bearing fruit. For example:

**Rs 75,000**

was raised through the Mumbai Marathon. Fifteen employees from Axis Bank, Mumbai ran for our cause.

**Rs 5 Lakh**

was raised through GivelIndia.org, an online donation platform.



# Auditor's Report

Summary Balance Sheet	As on March 31	
	2012 (In Lacs)	2011 (In Lacs)
Sources of Funds		
Trust Fund	17.11	17.11
Earmarked Fund	51.62	44.36
Reserves & Surplus	5.74	1.60
Grants Received in Advance	14.66	20.35
Total	89.13	83.41
Application of Funds		
Fixed Assets	14.55	15.36
Investment	8.80	10.02
Current Assets, Loans and Advances	66.02	61.98
Less : Current liabilities and Provisions	0.23	3.95
Total	89.13	83.41

\* Detailed audited accounts available on request

## Credibility Alliance Norms Compliance Report

### IDENTITY

Sense International (India) is registered as a Public charitable trust under Bombay Public Trusts Act, 1950 (BOM. XXIX of 1950) dated 29th March 1997, with the Public Trusts Registration Office, Ahmedabad region, Ahmedabad. For general use, we use the name ‘Sense India’.

Sense International (India) is registered u/s 12AA of the Income Tax Act, 1961 w.e.f. 29.03.1997, u/s 80G and u/s 35AC valid till 31.03.2013 (Reg. No. E/11279)

Sense International (India) is registered u/s 6(1) of the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act, 1976 (FCRA Reg. No. 41910231)

**Contact details:** Visitors are welcome to the address given on the 'contact us' link on our website [www.senseintindia.org](http://www.senseintindia.org) and for further information, contact us at: [info@senseintindia.org](mailto:info@senseintindia.org)

**Bankers:** Bank of India, Panchvati Branch, Panchvati, Ahmedabad

**Auditors:** Mr Kalpen Shah, K Pravinchandra & Associates, 1 Harihar Park Society, Nr Old High Court Underbridge, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad 380 009

### GOVERNANCE

**Details of Board Members:** (as on 31st March 2012)

Name	Age	Gender	Position on Board	Area of Competency	Meetings Attended
Mr Murray Culshaw	72	M	Chairperson	Communications and Fundraising	2/2
Dr Bhushan Punani	62	M	Member	Management	2/2
Mr R Ramachandran	64	M	Member	Advocacy and Campaigning	2/2
Ms Gill Morbey	57	F	Member	Strategic Directions	1/2

None of the board members are related to each other.

The Board met two times in the FY 11-12 on 26<sup>th</sup> August, 2011 and 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2012. Minutes of Board meetings are documented and circulated.

A Board Rotation Policy exists and is practiced.

Summary of Income and Expenditure	Year ended March 31	
	2012 (In Lacs)	2011 (In Lacs)
Income		
Programme Grants	218.71	219.82
Donations	14.56	18.32
Interest	2.57	3.41
Other Income	-	2.48
Total Income	235.84	244.02
Expenditure		
Expenditures in respect of properties	6.32	5.03
Establishment Expenses	5.01	5.28
Legal expenses	1.01	
Audit fees	2.00	0.41
Depreciation	1.97	2.23
Amounts transferred to Earmarked Fund	4.00	
Expenditure on Objects of the Trust	211.39	232.60
Total Expenditure	231.70	245.56
Excess of Income over Expenditure	4.14	(1.53)
B/fwd from the previous year	1.60	3.13
Balance carried to the balance sheet	5.74	1.60

The Board approves programme plans, budgets, annual activity reports and audited financial statements. The Board ensures the organization's compliance with laws and regulations.

### ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

No remuneration, sitting fees or any other form of compensation has been paid since the inception of the organisation, to any board member. Traveling expenses to attend board meetings have been: Rs 63,622/-.

#### Staff Remuneration:

CEO's Remuneration: Rs 95,820/-. Remuneration of three next highest paid staff members: Rs 68,130/-, Rs 40,883/-, Rs 38,308/-. Remuneration of the lowest paid staff member: Rs 14,350/-

Slab of gross salary (Rs) + benefits paid to staff	Male	Female	Total
<5,000	0	0	0
5,000 - 10,000	0	0	0
10,000 - 25,000	2	4	6
25,000 - 50,000	7	1	8
50,000 - 100,000	2	0	2
100,000 >	0	0	0
TOTAL	11	5	16

Gender	Paid (Full Time)	Paid (Part Time)	Paid (Consultants)	Unpaid (Volunteers)
Male	11	0	0	0
Female	5	0	0	0

#### Travel Costs:

National travel for staff: Rs 4,83,418/-.

International travel for staff: Rs 8,16,244/-.

# Thank You

Sense India gratefully acknowledges the extremely thoughtful and considerate gesture of our donors who understand the importance of our cause. We could not have done what we did without their untiring support. Special thanks to all our donors.

- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| ○ Amit Motilal Sancheti     | ○ Axis Bank Foundation  |
| ○ Amit Vishnuprasad Jani    | ○ Give India  |
| ○ Anupam Gupta              | ○ K Pravinchandra & Associates                                  |
| ○ Ashutosh Pandit           | ○ Kentalis International, The Netherlands                       |
| ○ Ateet Sharma              | ○ Kore Digital  |
| ○ Bharti Bindrani           | ○ Meghraj Foundation  |
| ○ Bipul Roy                 | ○ Paul Suryavanshi Endowment Fund - Mr Akhil Paul               |
| ○ Danabhai Somabhai Solanki | ○ Sadashiv and Saraswati Prasad Endowment Fund - Dr Niru Prasad |
| ○ Darpan Pandya             | ○ Sense International (UK)                                      |
| ○ Devraj Sirohi             | ○ Shamdassani Foundation  |
| ○ Divyang S Pandya          | ○ Sir Dorabji Tata Trust  |
| ○ Jennifer R Tampal         | ○ Shodhana Consultancy Pvt Ltd                                  |
| ○ Indira and Murray Culshaw | ○ Stars Foundation  |
| ○ Naman Vyas                | ○ Sun Sterifaab Pvt Ltd   |
| ○ Rajeev Kakkar             | ○ The European Union  |
| ○ Sam Boman Balsara         | ○ United Way of Mumbai  |
| ○ Shalin Gandhi             | ○ Vitol Foundation  |
| ○ Ton Visser                | ○ Voice and Vision India  |

**All donations enjoy 100% exemption from Income Tax u/s 35AC of the Income Tax Act, 1961.**

## Contact:

Sense International (India)  
Andhjan Mandal Campus, Vastrapur, Ahmedabad 380015, India

Phone: +91-79-2630 1282  
Email: [info@senseintindia.org](mailto:info@senseintindia.org)

- To receive this Report in another format such as Braille, large print, CD, audiotape,
- To find out more about deafblindness and our work,
- To be a volunteer or support us in any other way,

**Deafblind Helpline - 1800 233 7913**

**[www.senseintindia.org](http://www.senseintindia.org)**