

Inspiring Lives



sense
International
INDIA
Working with deafblind people

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20

Our Reach

Deafblindness is a unique disability that combines hearing and visual impairment, making mobility, learning, and communication extremely difficult for about 500,000 people in India.

Since inception in 1997, Sense India started supporting and advocating for better care through early intervention, individualised education and livelihood opportunities for children and adults with deafblindness and multiple disabilities across India and neighbouring countries.

Currently, our programmes in 23 states provide direct quality services through a network of 59 partner NGOs in India assisting 15,783 children and adults with deafblindness. Furthermore, in collaboration with government's Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SMSA) programme 63,500+ children with deafblindness are being included into regular local schools.

We identify children with deafblindness and then work with the child and family towards the most appropriate model of education. Every child under our care is learning through an Individualised Education Plan (IEP) to learn according to their abilities and needs.

15783

children and adults with deafblindness reached directly till now

63500+

children and adults with deafblindness receiving indirect services through SMSA

78000+

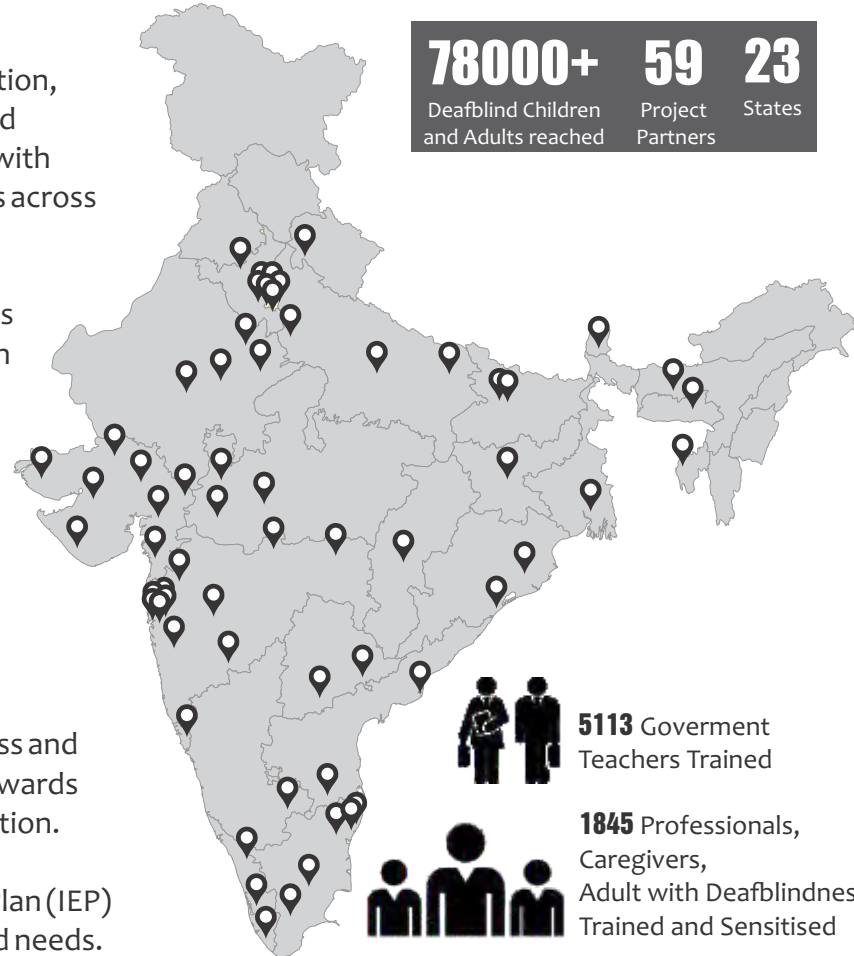
Deafblind Children and Adults reached

59

Project Partners

23

States



The biggest challenge was to successfully establish a two way communication with Persons with Deafblindness who cannot use Braille devices. “Samsung Good Vibes Application” is the latest invention in the disability rehabilitation



273 people were trained on Samsung GoodVibes application

field which enables two way communication just by using a smart phone and learning Morse code. With the help of this application Persons with Deafblindness can communicate with anyone in remote locations too. Sense India in partnership with Samsung facilitated hands-on training to persons with deafblindness, their caregivers and educators to use the app.



Vishnu, a 16 year old deafblind from Wayanad, appeared for his 10th standard State Board Exams and cleared the exams securing 99% marks. The educational journey of Vishnu, who is the youngest child of daily wage earner parents, has been a continuous struggle of financial constraints coupled with his low vision and hearing impairment.

Over the years Vishnu's educators were trained in curriculum adaptations and American Sign Language followed by regular feedback and hand holding regarding his performance and challenges. Vishnu dreams to become a computer engineer and has set an example of what sheer will power and determination can do.

Story of determination and grit:

Sense India motivated and supported 18 youths with deafblindness and multi-sensory impairment to continue with mainstream education syllabus and appear for the State board exams.

Inspiring Educators/Caregivers and Professionals

On its 20th anniversary, Sense India started first ever online course 'Web Education on deafblindness' also known as Web Ed. (Db) in year 2019. Sense India is responsible for promoting, maintaining, monitoring and coordinating the specialised online course designed and executed to meet the increasing demand of trained human resource in the field of Deafblindness in India. This course is approved by Rehabilitation Council of India as Continuing Rehabilitation Education (CRE) programme.



Currently, Sense India is conducting two online courses aimed towards professionals and parents/caregivers. These 3 months courses are designed to enhance skills of special educators and professionals working with persons with deafblindness. The second course is aimed towards building skills and capacity of parents/caregivers for better understanding of the needs of their children.

827

ANGANWADI AND
ASHA WORKERS
SENSITIZED AND
TRAINED ON
DEAFBLINDNESS

399

SMSA
EDUCATORS
TRAINED AT
STATE LEVEL
TRAININGS

402

PARAMEDICAL
AND MEDICAL
PROFESSIONALS
TRAINED THROUGH
STATE LEVEL TRAININGS

185

SMSA EDUCATORS TRAINED ON CURRICULUM
ADAPTATION IN 5 DISTRICTS OF MAHARASHTRA

59

SPECIAL EDUCATORS TRAINED THROUGH
NATIONAL TRAINING

120

CBR WORKERS AND NGO OFFICIALS REACHED
THROUGH 5 REGIONAL TRAINING ON
DEAFBLINDNESS

“A short term course equipped me to bring changes in the lives of persons with deafblindness.”

- Alaguraj P

A special educator from Bangalore

Sense India works towards sensitizing trainers of National Career Service Centres for Differently Abled (NCSCDA) established by government in different states of our country to build skill building opportunities for young Persons with Deafblindness. We were successful in collaborating with NCSCDA in six states. Young adults with deafblindness along with their family members were able to visit the centres and meet government appointed trainers.



The visits were an eye opener for the family members of deafblind adults. This was also an opportunity for the trainers at government skill building centres to understand the needs and capabilities of young adults with deafblindness whom they could groom to seek suitable employment for themselves.

19 year old Sana Javed Khan Manyar from Dhule, Maharashtra has faced severe challenges owing to her deafblindness and poor financial condition of her family. However these challenges could not dampen her interest to learn new skills and earn a living. Supported by Sense India, Sana got herself enrolled in the Beauty and Wellness course from the Government institute "Jan Shikshan Sansthan" in Dhule. She is now a trained beautician and ready to open her own Beauty Parlour. She is now prepared to earn a livelihood and be an active member of the society .



**INCOME
GENERATION
SUPPORT**

**10 Adults with Deafblindness and Multiple Disabilities
(3 Males, 7 Females)**

**The Government systems and
Sense India**

Sense India started services in NorthEast with the project 'Developing Comprehensive Services and Infrastructure for Children and Adults with Deafblindness and Multi-Sensory Impairments (MSI)' which is being implemented in 4 States i.e. Assam, Meghalaya, Sikkim and Tripura. In Assam, our partner - Shishu Sarothi is providing necessary rehabilitation services to children with deafblindness and MSI in Kamrup Metro and Kamrup Rural district of Guwahati. As Deafblind Regional Centre (DbRC) for North East, the organisation aims to create awareness in entire Assam and other neighbouring States. DbRC project team visited disability-based organisations in Manipur, Mizoram and Nagaland.

59
PARTNERS
23
STATES
ACROSS
INDIA

Rahul, the undefeatable

7 years old Rahul Ali from Kamrup Rural district from Assam neither could go to school nor did his parents imagine that he will ever be enrolled in a school. At the age of 1-year Rahul was diagnosed with deafblindness and due to the challenges faced in mobility- orientation arising out of dual sensory impairments, Rahul missed the essential early years of school. In 2019 Rahul was referred to Shishu Sarothi's regional centre for persons with deafblindness and multi-sensory impairment in Guwahati. Today, Rahul is enrolled in 1st grade in nearby School and the special educators are working towards preparing him for inclusive education.





Many a times, Educators in a newly initiated deafblind programme face problems in addressing the needs of deafblind children due to lack of practical and hands-on experience. Sense International India regularly facilitates specialised mentoring support in education and training to Educators of deafblind children of our partner organisations. This year 30 partner organisations were supported under mentoring programme.

The role of the mentor is of a coach and a facilitator. Ms. Anuradha Bagchi is one of our mentors who has been associated with Sense International India since 2007. She tells that while providing mentoring support to educators, she understood about Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) programme, its highlights and challenges. She also realised that how in spite of limited resources educators, CBR workers and parents can be miracle workers.

“The condition of deafblindness is described as 'isolating' disability. As we all know, the condition of deafblindness impacts largely on the abilities to communicate, access information and move independently, this results into isolation and loneliness. You can have the best experiences of life in being a special educator. As a teacher, you possess tremendous power to make a student's life more joyous. You can be an instrument of inspiration to them and it is you who can make them personally adequate, socially competent and economically independent. Your sincerity, knowledge and dedication will enable them to lead a quality life.”

- Anuradha Bagchi

Director, Dept. of Education and Course Coordinator for the Diploma Course in Deafblindness at Helen Keller Institute for Deaf and Deafblind, Mumbai.

Empowering LOCAL Networks



Sense India supports parents, teachers and adults with deafblindness to form networks and come together to raise their voice. An inspiring story of mothers of 9 children and adults with deafblindness bringing together 60 families in Bangalore in Ektha Parents Association. The journey of coming together was not easy as they built their understanding of networks over the years through frequent participation in state network meetings of Sense India.

Ektha is aspiring to achieve much more by meeting and sensitising local political party leaders and government officials regularly for ensuring inclusion and rehabilitation of their children with deafblindness. Their local network is continuously making further plans to expand vocational services for adults with deafblindness.

Regular local meetings inspired father duo (P Madhu and Sanjay Lalit), fathers of young adults Moushumi and Tejus respectively, to bring together the local parent group AbhiVyakti Abhibhavak Society at Ujjain. Both convinced other parents and brought them under one roof to work out their future plans for their children. With AbhiVyakti Abhibhavak Society a local phenyl production agency has collaborated and soon the parent group will procure daily utility items (hand wash, phenyl etc.) for repackaging and will sell it under AbhiVyakti Abhibhavak Society branding. Adults with deafblindness in this program are now going to be gainfully engaged in packaging work supported by their parents.

TOTAL
2701
NETWORK
MEMBERS



267
NETWORK
MEMBERS



871
NETWORK
MEMBERS



1563
NETWORK
MEMBERS

COVID-19 Pandemic Support

COVID-19 crisis has posed unprecedented challenges. The sudden lockdown followed by uncertainties and fear of infection, made all our plans go haywire. The regular education and rehabilitation services for children with deafblindness came to a halt due to closing of centers and restrictions imposed on travelling. It was challenging to stay in touch with all our stakeholders and continue supporting them.



I am glad to share that Sense India rose up to the occasion and came up with alternative strategies. This included immediate relief measures of ration and medicine supplies and long term strategies of extensive use of technology to continue training and education, reviving Income Generation Activities, addressing other psychosocial needs of children and adults with deafblindness.

We are grateful to all our donors and supporters who stood with us. We are envisaging tough times ahead but continuously reworking on our plans to carry on our work smoothly. We look forward to your continued support and encouragement.

- Akhil Paul, Executive Director

RATION KIT SUPPORT	INCOME GENERATION ACTIVITIES	EDUCATION OF DEAFBLIND CHILDREN	GUIDANCE TO PARENTS/FAMILIES	TRAINING OF TEACHERS AND COORDINATORS	SUPPORT THROUGH WEBINARS
1,000 families of children and adults with deafblindness	For youths with deafblindness who have lost their livelihood and income during pandemic.	To continue their education using online and video calling modes.	Created What's App group and providing regular support to families	Online sessions targeting teachers and coordinators for support and guidance.	Skill building of professionals/educators working with children with deafblindness

Our Amazing Supporters

A big thank you to all our supporters who donate funds for our programmes, volunteer at events, contribute to our staff salaries and operating costs to help us do what we do. We wouldn't exist without you.

Individuals

Amandas Mala
Amita Bharat Bhate
Anil Sabharawal
Anupam G Gupta
Arun Kothari
Aseem Paranjape
Ashootosh V Ambade
Balaji Aradhanari
Balasubrahmanyam Achanta
Bhagwati K Gandhi
Bommy Farookh Lashkari
Devraj Sirohi
Dr. B. V. S. R Murty
Dr. Manjula K
Eileen Hirwale
Ghanshyam Manu Kyada
Harsh Vardhan Thakur
Harsha H R
Jayanti Prasad Khaitan
Jayashri C
Kalpesh Babubhai Dalal
Krishna Iyer P
Krishnasami Temple Bharathi
Kunal Rathod
Lalubhai
Lochana Krishna Murthy
M N Subramanian
Manmohini Rastogi
Manohar Swaminathan
N.V.Raman
Nalini Z Mehta
Narendran G
Neelam R Deshpande
P C Nagesh
Praveen Kenneth
Priyanka Bhille

Puneet Bhatia
R Natarajan
Rachelle Anne Rego
Roopak V Vaidya
Rushabh Shah
Sandeepa Moparthi
Sanjay Kumar Garg
Subrahmanyam Kollimarla
Sudhir S Shanbhag
Sumati Batra
Sumit Shankar Sinha
Sushil Golcha
T V Ramakrishnan
Tushar Arvind Mavani
Usha Subramanyam G
Vivek Madhwal

Institutions

A.T.E. Enterprises Private Limited
Adobe Foundation
Adobe Systems India Pvt. Ltd
Alkyl Amines Chemicals Ltd
Alphageo (India) Limited
Amdavad Distance Runners
Americares India Foundation
Australian High Commission
Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives
Azim Premji University
Bahar Infocons Pvt Ltd
Bai Freny Darab Pader Charitable Trust
Bajaj Auto Ltd.
Bandhan Bank Ltd
Birlasoft Limited
CAF America
Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) India
Cheil India Pvt. Ltd

Cole Parmer India Pvt Ltd
Cursor Control Pvt Ltd
Foundation Standup4talent
Give India
Goodera
Gruh Finance Limited
H T Parekh Foundation
Hemendra Kothari Foundation
India Cares Foundation
Indian American Education Foundation
Intercon Real Estate Developers Pvt. Ltd.
K Pravinchandra and Associates
KHS Machinery Pvt. Ltd
KRYFS Power Components Ltd
LML School
Manav Kalyan Trust
Mid Valley Health Care Services Private Limited
Nitin Charitable Trust
Paul Hamlyn Foundation
Pesi Pocha Trust
Pratibha Rani Aggarwal Charitable Trust
Rangoonwala Foundation (India) Trust
Rotary Club of Bombay Pier Charities Trust
Seiko Investments Pvt. Ltd
Sense International
Shamdasani Foundation
Shashbindu Construction Pvt Ltd
Shree Agro Industries
Shree Naman Developers Pvt. Ltd
Sonata Information Technology Ltd
Tekni Plex India Private Limited
The Benevity Community Impact Fund
The Hans Foundation
Truetzschler India Private Ltd
United Way of Mumbai
V Care
Yatayat Corporation of India
Zebar School for Children

Note: Random names of donors who have contributed Rs. 10,000 or above. We are delighted to record that we have now more than 20,000 donors.

Financials and Legal Matters

* All figures are in ₹ Lakh

Balance Sheet	As on March 31			
	2020	%	2019	%
Sources of Funds				
Corpus Fund	18.03	4%	18.03	6%
Endowment Funds	29.29	6%	29.29	10%
Trust Fund	189.55	39%	87.79	29%
Grants received in advance	244.44	51%	169.67	56%
Total	481.31	100%	304.78	100%
Application of Funds				
Fixed Assets	20.43	4%	24.39	8%
Investment	25.45	5%	18.40	6%
Current Assets	458.22	95%	263.74	87%
Less: Current Liabilities and Provisions	(22.79)	-5%	(1.75)	(1%)
Total	481.31	100%	304.78	100%
Income and Expenditure	Year ended March 31			
	2020	%	2019	%
Income				
Rent	0.15	0%	0.60	0%
Interest	12.25	1%	10.93	1%
Donations	249.58	30%	270.62	36%
Programme Grants	568.90	68%	464.65	62%
Other Sources	1.13	0%		
Total Income	832.01	100%	746.80	100%
Expenditure				
Expenditure in respect of properties	5.92	1%	9.15	1%
Establishment Expenses	5.31	1%	7.48	1%
Audit Fees	3.64	0%	3.85	0%
Depreciation	5.20	1%	6.46	1%
Expenditure on Objects of the Trust	717.26	97%	792.96	97%
Total Expenditure	737.32	100%	819.90	100%
Excess of Income over Expenditure/(Expenditure over Income)	94.69		-73.10	

Receipts	Year ended March 31		Payments	Year ended March 31	
	2020	2019		2020	2019
Opening Balance	245.18	305.97	Acquisition of Fixed Assets	1.24	5.85
Grants & donations	879.82	749.02	Amount spent for the object of the Trust	719.88	820.46
Interest Income	15.38	16.49	Closing Balance	419.26	245.18
Total	1140.38	1071.49	Total	1,140.38	1,071.49

* Detailed audited accounts will be available on request

Credibility Alliance Disclosure Norms

Credibility Alliance is an independent organisation established by the NGO sector to promote good governance and the public accountability of NGOs. Sense India is a fully accredited member. Registration No. CA/79/2011 valid till 15.12.2021. For more information refer to: www.credibilityalliance.org

Identity

Legal Information: Sense International (India) is registered as a Public Charitable Trust under Bombay Public Trusts Act, 1950 Registration No. E/11279 dated 29 March 1997, with Public Trusts Registration Office, Ahmedabad, Gujarat. For general use we use the name 'Sense India'. Sense International (India) is registered u/s 12AA and u/s 80G of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

Contact details: Visitors are welcome to the address given on the back page of this report and on our website www.senseindia.org.in

Bankers: Bank of India, Panchvati branch; ICICI Bank, Drive-In branch; HDFC Bank, Vejalpur and Panchvati branch, Ahmedabad

Auditor: CA Kalpen Shah, K Pravinchandra & Associates, 1 Harihar Park Society, Nr. Old High Court Underbridge, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad 380 009

Internal Auditor: K C J M & Associates, Jahir Mansuri, D-407, The First, Near Keshawbaug Partyplot, Vastrapur Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Governance

Details of Board Members as on 31 March, 2020

Name	Age	Sex	Position	Area of Competency	Meetings
Mr. Amit Dholakia	53	M	Chairperson	Management	2/2
Ms. Kris Murali	64	M	Member	Strategic Direction	2/2
Ms. Divya Bhalla	40	F	Member	Communication	1/2
Mr. Rajiv Raturi	61	M	Member	Human Rights	1/1
Ms. Nandini Rawal	62	F	Member	Management	1/1
Ms. Shrutilata Singh	27	F	Member	Advocacy	1/1

None of the board members are related to each other. A Board Rotation Policy exists and is practiced.

The Board met two times in the Financial Year 2019-20 on 1st June 2019 and 9th August, 2019. Minutes of Board meetings were documented and circulated.

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. Travelling and other expenses to attend Board meetings have been: Rs. 61,354/-.

Staff Remuneration - per month:

CEO's Remuneration: Rs. 1,89,448/-. Remuneration of three next highest paid staff members: Rs 1,10,617/-.

Remuneration of the lowest paid staff member Rs. 12,110/- (as on 31st March 2020)

Distribution of staff (as on 31st March 2020)

Slab of monthly gross salary (in Rs.) plus benefits paid to staff	Male	Female	Total
<5,000	0	0	0
5,000 - 10,000	0	0	0
10,000 - 25,000	2	8	10
25,000 - 50,000	5	7	12
50,000 - 100,000	7	0	7
100,000 >	4	1	5
TOTAL	18	16	34

Distribution of staff (as on 31st March 2020)

Gender	Paid (Full Time)	Paid (Part Time)	Paid (Consultants)	Unpaid (Volunteers)	Paid (Volunteers)
Male	18	0	0	0	0
Female	15	1	0	1	0

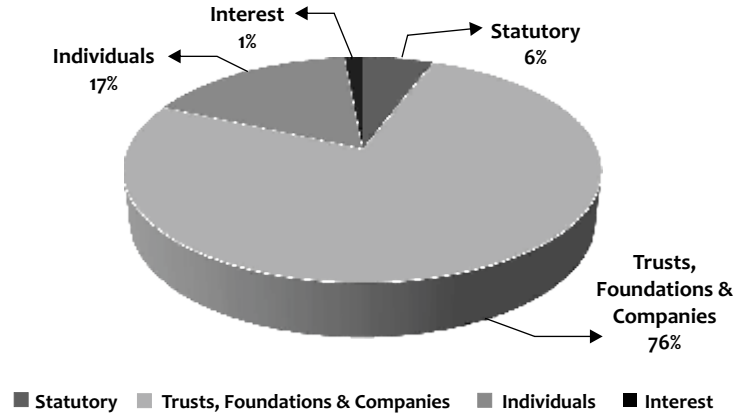
Travel Costs

National travel for staff to visit programme and projects throughout India: Rs. 12,12,980/-

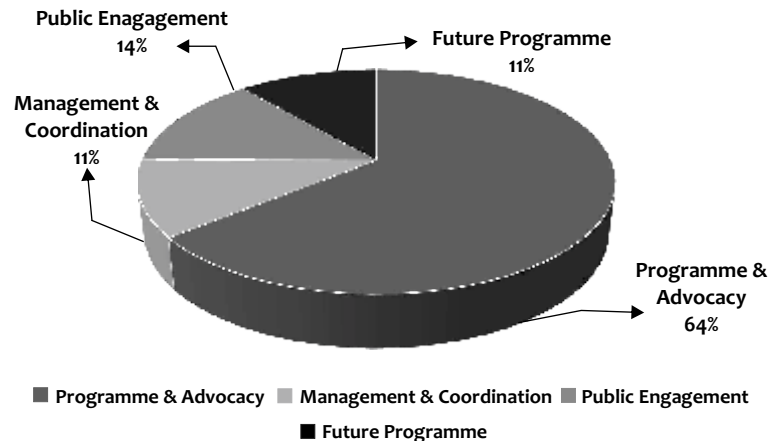
International Travel for staff sponsored through Sense International and other sources Rs. 6,31,435/-

Sr.	Name of employee	Country Name	Purpose of travel	Amount
1	Akhil Paul	Bangladesh, UK	Monitoring and Global Strategic Planning	86,553
2	Deepak Krishna Sharma	Bangladesh	Capacity Building of Networks	25,356
3	Sachin Rizal	Nepal, Bangladesh	Monitoring, Onsite & Training on Deafblindness	96,740
4	Uttam Kumar	Bangladesh, Srilanka, Nepal & UK	Monitoring, Training on deafblindness	1,23,524
5	Richard Mascarenhas	Bangladesh	Financial Monitoring	40,775
6	Dhara Mali	Bangladesh	Financial Monitoring	24,762
7	P Srinivasan	Bangladesh, Nepal, Australia	Monitoring, Presenting Paper in World Conference	1,05,120
8	Parag Namdeo	Bangladesh, Geneva	Network Meeting & UN Conference	41,577
9	Rashmikant Mishra	Nepal	Training on Deafblindness	14,016
10	Kanu Priya	Nepal	Training on Deafblindness	13,873
11	Reflino Fernandes	Australia	Presenting Paper in World Conference	59,139
	TOTAL			6,31,435

Money In 2019-20



Money Out 2019-20





BOOK POST

All donations enjoy 50% exemption from Income Tax u/s 80G of the Income Tax Act, 1961

To receive this report in another format such as Braille, Large Print, CD or Audiotape

Please contact us: Sense International India, 2nd Floor Andhjan Mandal Campus, Vastrapur, Ahmedabad 380 015

Phone: +91 79 26301282 Email: info@senseintindia.org Website: www.senseindia.org.in Deafblind Helpline: 1800 233 7913

Note:

- We at Sense India print our annual report in black and white. This helps us to partially understand and present our work from the perspective of people with deafblindness.
- Sense India is going green, and to support this initiative, we have sent to most of our donors an e-version of the annual report. Download yours from our website.