

VANI

Celebrating 30 Years

VOICE OF THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR

ANNUAL REPORT
2020-21



MISSION

“Convene to defend and promote Civic Rights of Collectives and Voluntarism”

VISION

Works towards building a society where voluntarism and voluntary organisations play dominant and constructive role in social cohesion, economic empowerment and national building.

- We aim to facilitate the growth of the voluntary sector in India
- Be a catalyst for change through leadership, research and membership engagement
- Work with the government to shape policy on areas governing the space of voluntary organizations
- Provide platforms for members and other stakeholders to interact and network.

OUR CORE VALUES

We are a values-led organization and thus believe in these core values.

JUSTICE

To advocate on behalf of the voiceless and oppressed individuals and groups of people ensuring the access to needed information, services, and resources; equality of opportunity; and meaningful participation in decision making for all people.

EQUALITY

VANI is committed to promote equality and respecting diversity. We offer opportunities and resources with shared cultural needs, preferences and beliefs to make sure that we deliver truly a person-centred working environment.

DIGNITY

We strive to uphold the dignity of every person and believe that each individual should be met with compassion and treated with dignity and respect.

SOLIDARITY

VANI with its National, Regional and Global partnerships extends its solidarity based on collective – civic rights, advocacy and participation

www.vaniindia.org

FOREWORD BY THE CHAIR

We are noticing shrinking space for civil society in India. Civil society legitimacy and its right to operate has never gone unchallenged. And, it is usually the illiberal actions of state and non-state actors to curb civic activism that puts liberal democracies in danger.

The illiberal trend in India involves mass vilification and stigmatisation of International and national Non-Governmental Organisations.

Since the turn of the century, democratic governments in India have increasingly adopted restrictive frameworks and arbitrary methods of suppressing civic space. Political space for civil society operations is therefore highly volatile, and constricted. Although not unique, the situation in India embodies a new wave of contestations in state-civil society relations.

VANI, being an apex body of Voluntary Organizations aims to become the Voice of the Indian Civil Society and it will strive to maintain a strong space in the development of the country. It will play the role of congregator for collectivising the sector. Under the circumstances of shrinking space for CSOs, VANI shall undertake research and convene to generate and share knowledge and take action to strengthen the civil society.

Mr. Binoy Acharya
Chairperson, VANI

PREFACE

COVID-19 mitigation & NITI Aayog

"I would like to reiterate that there was immense response from CSOs during the first wave of the pandemic in the year 2020," Amitabh Kant, NITI Aayog, CEO said.

Kant heads one of the Empowered Groups of Officers, constituted by the Ministry of Home Affairs, for planning and implementation of an effective Covid-19 response. The group is tasked to coordinate with the "Private Sector, NGOs & International Organizations for response related activities. VANI was an invitee to the group along with many major CSOs.

In a letter to all CSOs, NITI Aayog asked Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) seeking their support in fight against the pandemic and to address the issue of "vaccine euphoria", "vaccine hesitancy" and "dispel myths and misconceptions" about Covid-19 vaccination. CSOs were asked to "support and complement" the efforts of the state and district administration. States were urged to mobilise all the CSOs at the field level and designate district level Nodal Officers.

Nodal Officers were asked to maintain a list of all credible NGOs, their area of functioning (health, education, women, elderly and child care, etc.) and contact details of the official.

NITI Aayog asked, The State Governments to engage with the CSO's/NGO/s in executing the plan to reduce the surge of cases across the country.

CSOs were also asked to supplement the government's efforts for "providing shelter to the homeless, migrant workers and urban poor families."

This empowered group was the result of a call of the "Hon'ble PM in his address to all the stakeholders to exercise a "Micro-Containment Strategy" which would help to arrest the spread of Covid-19 locally."

CSOs & COVID-19 mitigation

CSOs have played an active role in mitigating the adverse effects faced by thousands of families due to the pandemic.

CSOs were engaged in distributing personal hygiene items such as masks, sanitisers, sanitary pads, gloves, and PPE kits to community members and frontline workers. They distributed food—dry rations, cooked food, and also provided various kinds of medical supplies—medicines, oxygen cylinders and concentrators, and oximeters.

CSOs helped arrange COVID-19 tests, blood plasma, and hospitalisation of patients, as needed. One-fifth of the respondents also helped organise quarantine centres, encouraged vaccination, and helped conduct vaccination drives. Additionally, more than half of them offered psychosocial counselling and emotional support to distressed families and communities.

Approximately one-fifth of the respondents offered cash support to families in light of job losses and loss of income sources due to pandemic-related lockdowns and curfews.

CSOs had extensive experience of working on the ground, they were able to quickly identify and adapt to the needs of their communities. They conducted door-to-door visits to disseminate relevant information to the communities and provided information about COVID-19 appropriate behaviour such as wearing masks, washing hands, using sanitiser, and social distancing.

COVID-19 as the catalyst for NGOs' digital transformation

While much had been focused on the impact of COVID-19, there was an evolving global humanitarian emergency that was being overlooked. The need for humanitarian and development action had never been greater, but the threat to the continuity of sector operations and the risk to personnel was substantial. This is where the need for digital transformation comes in. It had long been touted as something that NGOs needed to do, but someday. The COVID-19 pandemic has forced the conversation to the here and now.

As organizations implemented emergency social distancing measures and closed offices, this has required even field staff to work from home. For organizations not already well on their way on a digital-first journey, this has forced a significant, "emergency" digital transformation.

With a comparable strategy and investment in digital capabilities, the non-profit sector stands to reap substantial benefits.

Wish the Best wishes!

Harsh Jaitli

Chief Executive Officer

VANI

ABBREVIATIONS

ADA - Asian Development Alliance

ADN - Asia Democracy Network

BBIN - Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal

BRICS - Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa

BIMSTEC - Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation

C20 - Civil 20

CEO - Chief Executive Officer

CSR - Corporate Social Responsibility

CSO - Civil Society Organization

FCRA - Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act

FIDC - Forum for India n Development

GO - Government Organization

GST - Goods and Services Tax

IBSA - India, Brazil, South Africa

IFP - International Forum of National NGO platforms

IMF - International Monetary Fund s

MEA - Ministry of External Affairs

MoRD - Ministry of Rural Development

RIS - Research Information System

SDG - Sustainable Development Goals

UN - United Nations

VANI - Voluntary Action Network India

VO - Voluntary Organization

VDO - Voluntary Development Organization

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Annual Report of VANI FY 2020-2021

The year that was:

Impact of COVID -19 on Communities:

I am pleased to share with you the Annual Report of the Financial Year 2020-2021. The year under report will be remembered as the most devastating period in recent human history. In fact, for India, the lockdown was introduced in March 2020, i.e. beginning of the financial year itself and it continued for almost two years. The lockdown affected the very socio-economic and health realities around us. There was a huge influx of migrant workers from urban locations to rural India, due to uncertainty of livelihood. They were treated like criminals by local authorities. A major portion of the first year was also marked by the increasing number of COVID-19 cases, which exposed the gaps in our health system. The first wave mostly affected urban India. Clear-cut gaps in medicine supply and health facilities could be seen. Makeshift hospitals and isolation centers were created all around the country. The whole atmosphere of not only India but also around the world was filled with human suffering and huge loss of life.

The Voluntary organizations of India came forward and worked very closely with local government, private sector, and communities in providing much-needed services to the people. Although going out and serving people was very challenging as the number of permissions was needed, grassroots groups came forward and provided migrant workers with food, shelter, and even medical facilities. The support was generated at the local level to make these efforts more inclusive and participatory.

COVID-19 exposed fault lines of Enabling Environment of Voluntary Organisations:

The most interesting impact of COVID-19 was observed on the exposure of the weakness of civic space of Civil Society Organizations. Not only in India but globally a systematic effort was undertaken by the governments to limit the space of civil society organizations, either by regressive amendments in laws or reducing the financial resources. The nature and scale of COVID-19 exposed this weakness. Till now most of the disasters were quite localised and were managed by the limited resources of the local CSOs and government, but COVID-19 tested the capacity of each country, each organisation, and even each human, to handle the crisis. We know that attempts were made to reduce and weaken the financial condition of organisations by amending regulatory laws. For example, the taxation law always questions the so-called reserves with CSOs, without recognising the fact that the same reserves are used at the time of emergency. We have seen in the past that at the time of natural disasters like

**DISCUSSION ON
REGULATORY REGIME
CHANGES FOR
VOLUNTARY SECTOR**

Topic of discussion

- Clarity in Admin and Program Expenditures in new FCRR, 2020
- What happens to receipt of sub-grant funds after amendment and rules
- Operational problems in banking and centralization
- Filing annual returns under FCRA, 2020

Join Zoom

Speaker- Mr. Shivakumar, Gandhigram Trust
4th December 2020 at 11:00 am

Meeting ID: 819 2255 6527
Passcode: 388959



earthquakes or floods, the VOs provide emergency relief because of their presence in the field. However, due to certain changes in the financial regulations, CSOs are not supposed to keep the reserve. Unfortunately, the nature and scope of COVID-19 were so sudden and local CSOs had no resources to provide immediate relief to the people. Similarly, local VOs were also struggling to get permission from local administration to go out and provide food, and medicines to people. This also exposed not only a lack of trust between government and CSOs but also a lack of understanding with line officials about the nature of the disaster.

Meeting with Finance Officers of Voluntary Sector

A Discussion on Voluntary Sector's Regulatory Challenges

Time: Dec 9, 2020 11:00 AM (Wednesday)

Meeting ID: 817 1726 3541
Passcode: 265916

Discussion Points:

- Who will be the regulator of FCRA?
- How will Income Tax renewals be like?
- What are the registration challenges in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu

The year was also marked with restrictive amendments in the regulatory framework regarding Voluntary Organisations. The last parliamentary session, just before declaring the lockdown saw the passing of the Financial Bill without any debate. This amendment changed the very nature of the charitable status of Voluntary Organizations. Now onwards, the charitable organizations must get their tax exemption status renewed after every five years. On one hand, VOs were trying their best to serve the community, but on the other hand, there was the immense pressure of compliance. The movement was restricted, but enforcement agencies kept on pressuring to complete compliance obligations. It was very unfortunate to note that the private sector

was getting special packages and relaxations, but VOs were made to follow systems without even considering any relaxation. Most of the corporate sector was operating from home space but VOs were providing basic services to people. The year 2020 also saw changes in FCRA without any consultation or debate in the parliament. The new law restricted the classification of expenditure between administrative and project heads. It also provided blanket power to MHA to investigate and indefinitely delay the renewals. The most challenging amendment was the necessity to open a bank account in the New Delhi Branch of the State Bank of India. Most of the energy and time of VOs went into explaining to local branches to act and open the account. Even now many organisations are either struggling with opening a bank account or renewal of their credentials.

Depleting Financial Resources

Making CSR an effective financial resource for CSOs

स्वैच्छिक संस्थाए के लिए सी एस आर को प्रभावी वित्तिय संसाधन कैसे बनाया जाए

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 810 617 1893
Passcode: CSR

22ND OCTOBER
3:00 PM

Most of the VOs providing basic services in COVID -19 mitigation, needed additional financial resources, but this period also saw depleting avenues of finances for VOs. The first major change was the formation of PM-CARE which swept the CSR funding. By amendment in CSR Act, the government made it permissible to fund PM-CARE as CSR. Even individual donors, salary persons, public sector undertakings, high net worth Individuals were asked to donate for PM-CARE. Eventually, all traditional sources of finances for Voluntary Organisations were wiped out. Many CSR donors and Indian foundations expressed their

inability to support VOs. COVID also had an impact on the foreign donors as some of them closed their operations and some came forward with flexibility. Interestingly, many grassroots organisations got massive support from the local community, in providing food, shelter, and medicines.

Promotion of Participation with Government and Private Sector:

The year saw a typical love and hate relationship between the government and VOs. Although, on one hand, restrictive laws were made by the government, it also supported and appreciated the efforts of VOs in COVID-19 mitigation. Hon'ble Prime Minister formed empowered groups to minimize the impact of COVID. One such group was formed consisting of Voluntary Organisations. This group was facilitated by NITI Aayog and VANI along with many prominent civil society organisations, was part of it. It also became a platform to share the challenges, innovations, and suggestions from CSOs.

Extensive use of Online Technology:

COVID-19 came along with restrictions of movement. Most of the population was confined inside their homes with no access to workspaces. It had a two-way impact on VOs. One group was that which was going out in such a challenging environment to serve the people. In our initial discussions and survey, it was realized that many of these frontline workers were not trained about safety and precautions as very little information was available. VANI worked with many organizations in providing input for making the workplace safe for the frontline workers. The second change was the use of technology to share, learn, and mutually collaborate. Even in our initiatives, we started using technology for online conversations through zoom, etc. for sharing extensive use of applications like WhatsApp was used by organizations. The sector used this crisis as an opportunity to update their skills of using social media to enhance their organizational goals.

VANI and COVID-19

Use of Online Technology:

As mentioned above VANI used online technology to enhance the participation of organizations in national, global, and local conversations. A platform like Zoom was used to have interactions for learning and sharing purposes. A variety of topics was covered in these events. We also created opportunities for experts to interact with grassroots groups, which otherwise was very difficult. Many such events were also in regional languages and local issues. One learning we all get was that if the opportunity is given VOs can do extraordinary

work in limited resources. VANI also organized capacity-building conversations on the use of online media so that grassroots organizations can highlight their challenges and innovations. At the beginning of lockdown, we invited organizations to share their work with us so that it could be shared with the external world through E-Newsletter. We were surprised to note the high response from the grassroots groups. In the initial days, we came out with several issues. All this information was shared with the government through NITI Aayog and other Ministries.

Promoting Partnership with Government:

Being the national platform of Indian VOs, VANI is part of various committees of the government. The objective of such membership is to promote partnership between government and VOs towards nation-building. VANI also organised online conversations between Ministries and VOs on issues of mutual concern.

COVID-19 changed the nature of the relationship between government and CSOs, the government was found very open to learnings from the field in mitigation processes. VOs also came forward in sharing the concerns of government with the people. The messages like COVID-19 appropriate behavior and information about vaccination were transmitted by VOs. Unfortunately, on the other hand, many restrictive laws were made without any consultation with the CSOs. Many economic packages and relief in taxation for the commercial sector were announced by the government but no such measure was announced for the VOs. Whereas VOs was the only sector that was working hand in hand with the government.

Recognition of Frontline workers:

The devastation of the second wave demonstrated the heavy loss of human life. Thousands of victims were seen gasping for oxygen, medicine, and beds in the hospital. The VOs went out of their way to support such victims. This took a heavy toll on the lives of frontline workers in the sector. Many people working in the sector got exposure to COVID-19 and experienced loss and suffering in their families.

VANI initiated the process of recognizing the sacrifices of frontline workers of the sector. We also recognized the fact that most of the workers at the grassroots do not get any social security. VANI was joined by PRIA, CYSD, Unatti, Samarthan, NFI, SSK in taking this issue further. We started a process of recognizing the contribution and 'Ivolunteers' paid cash relief to 15 victims.

Internal Strengthening of the sector:



There were two challenges in front of the sector during this time. One was compliance with extremely complex laws and the shrinking of financial resources. VANI started a series of webinars on capacity building and interactions with experts in understanding and implementing newly amended laws. The webinars were organised with the State Bank of India to facilitate the opening of Bank Accounts. VANI also organised webinars to provide opportunities to share strengthening accountability and transparency during such challenging times. VANI also organised interaction with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, and Corporate Sector to help VOs in raising resources.

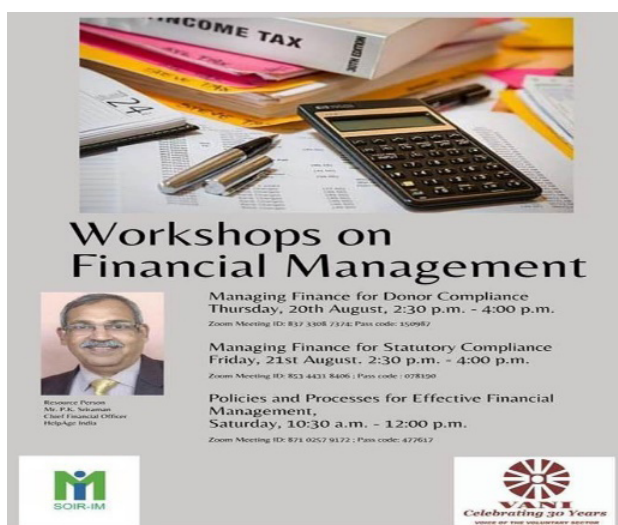
Media Campaign:

In collaboration with Save the Children, CRY, and others VANI organized media interactions to appraise them about the challenges faced by the sector. VANI also provided information about the achievements of the sector to the media. These issues were widely covered by print and electronic media. VANI also produced short clips on YouTube about the sector.

Motivating people working in the sector:

It was realised that there was a general trend of depression among people during the second wave. The frontline workers in the sector were facing these challenges headed. VANI organised motivational talks and campaigns to motivate frontline workers. VANI also realised that many organisations lost their employees in the COVID-19 wave. It was felt that now in changing times one needs some different capabilities to work in the sector. One needs a strong emotional and mental state in managing diseases and deaths around. After recognising this fact VANI started webinars on this issue.

Online Conversations



Workshops on Financial Management

Managing Finance for Donor Compliance
Thursday, 20th August, 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Zoom Meeting ID: 837 3308 73742 | Pass code: 150982

Managing Finance for Statutory Compliance
Friday, 21st August, 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Zoom Meeting ID: 853 4431 8406 | Pass code: 078190

Policies and Processes for Effective Financial Management,
Saturday, 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Zoom Meeting ID: 871 0257 9172 | Pass code: 472617

Resonator Partners
Mr. P. K. Subramanian
Chief Financial Officer
Hyderabad, India

SOIR-IM

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Celebrating 30 Years
United for the voluntary sector

Strengthening the Sector



Workshops on Human Resource Development
20th & 21st October; 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Workshop 1:
20th October : 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Workshop Human Resource Management
Meeting ID: 881 1573 4716
Passcode: 809080

Workshop 2:
21st October : 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Workshop on Retention Strategy and Compliance
Meeting ID: 882 97181018
Passcode: 122234

Ms. Sangeeta Narula, Lead – People Practices, Save the Children (Bal Raksha Bharat)

Ms. Priti Jadhav, Lead – HR- Centre of Excellence, Save The Children (Bal Raksha Bharat)

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United for the voluntary sector

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INDIVIDUAL. RESPONSIBLE. SWEDISH DEVELOPMENT PARTNER

As mentioned above, the face-to-face conversation mode was changed to online conversations. This led us not only to expand the outreach of VANI but also to cover many new topics. This provided new avenues of innovations to VANI as well as its members.

Almost 66 online events were organized by VANI in which almost 2000 people participated. We covered states like Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, North-East, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan, etc. The prime focus of each such event was to promote the participation of grassroots groups. The online conversations covered, three categories, strengthening the Sector, promoting learnings, and sharing and developing the partnerships of Voluntary Sector with Government and Private Sector.

To strengthen the sector from within various issues were addressed. Some of the contemporary topics covered were social stock exchange, management (Financial, programmatic human Resources), governance, compliance, Pandemic mitigation strategies. VANI also carried forward its efforts to strengthen the gender and women leadership in the sector. The process of revisiting the national policy of Voluntary Organisations was also undertaken during this period. The National Policy of Voluntary Sector was the result of an initiative of former Prime Minister Shri. Atal Bihari Vajpayee which was never implemented by successive regimes. VANI organised a review of this policy by organising state-level online consultations. The final report was submitted to NITI Aayog.

VANI also organised a roundtable of Chartered Accountants, Finance Officers, and experts to seek their advice on changes in taxation laws. The state covered were Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Northeast, etc. VANI even workers with CSOs and their networks in Nepal, Bhutan, and Bangladesh in helping them promote accountability and transparency

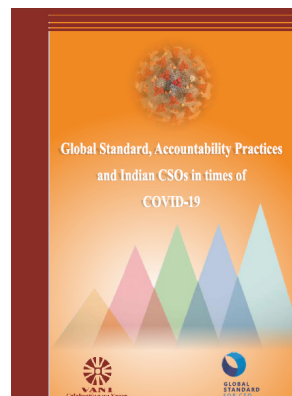
Promoting Partnerships with Government, Private Sector, and Media



The major realisation of the COVID-19 mitigation process is that no one can alone manage the scale of a pandemic. We need to develop a mechanism for mutual collaboration between countries, and diverse stakeholders. In India, government, the Private sector, and VOs have to collaborate and work together and VANI organised a series of webinars to have consultations.

The objective was to create synergy in the interest of the country and humanity. Dialogues with private sector and CSOs on effective CSR were covered and also diverse topics like philanthropy, enhancing outreach, media collaboration, and education were also covered.

Enhancing Participation of Indian CSOs in Global Platforms



Indian VOs have always played a prominent role on the global stage by taking the local innovations for the benefit of humanity. These innovations include programs, technology, and knowledge. VANI has been working towards strengthening these efforts. VANI is a founding member of the Forum for Indian Development Cooperation (FIDC), which is a unique initiative of the Ministry of External Affairs, CSOs, and Academia. This year was also significant as C20 as a platform for CSOs because both Saudi Arabia and Italy conducted their presidency online. VANI is a member of the International Advisory Group and member of the steering group of C20. India also hosted CIVIL BRICS this year. VANI was also active on international platforms like ICNL, CIVICUS, FORUS, AGNA, ADA, and ADN. The objective of VANI's engagement in this platform is to enhance the role and contribution of Indian CSOs.

Some Significant Documentations/ Studies:



The lockdown even impacted the method of knowledge creation. Most of the research was done online and as desk research. VANI conducted many such documentations to record the learning and challenges. The objective is to create knowledge at the time of crisis so that sector is prepared for the future. Some of the contemporary issues addressed were financing for development in India, the Impact of COVID -19 on Indian VOs, its impact on south-south cooperation. VANI also collaborated with PRIA in documenting the response of CSOs. VANI also covered specific states like Assam, Northeast, Jharkhand, UP, and Uttaranchal.

Communication

As mentioned above communication became a major tool during this period. VANI produced E-Newsletter documenting the experiences and challenges of Indian VOs in COVID-19 Mitigation. Not only there was a heavy inflow of information but it also got heavy demand. VANI had to buy extra cyberspace to enhance its communication capacities. Similarly, we used e- posters and other short message applications to initiate social media campaigns. Event online capacity building initiatives were organised to introduce grassroots groups to this technology. VANI also produced and collaborated in creating audio-video messages.

Social Media Campaigns

- World Environment Day
- World Humanitarian Day
- International Day of Democracy
- Day of Universal Access to Information
- Mahatma Gandhi's Birth Anniversary
- Global Accountability Week
- Campaign for demanding social security for grassroots workers
- Videos on G20 and C20
- Republic Day
- National Policy on Voluntary Sector
- International Women's Day
- Campaign for a safe workplace for staff members after vaccinated
- Campaign for Responsible information sharing on social media
- World Day for Safety & Health at Work
- Frontline Warriors of Voluntary Sector



E-News Letters

- A Vehicle for learning, exchange, and Sharing at the time of COVID-19
- Challenges and Innovations
- Horizontal and Vertical Exchange
- Circulation
- Number – 28 approx.



Communication E-Newsletter

FlushtheVirus: A short report of Pune's Experience to Contain the spread of COVID-19 Virus

- Civil society covid -19 response in images
- s in slum settlements with a special focus on Community Toilets
- Civil society covid -19 response in images
- Experience to Contain the spread of COVID-19 Virus in slum settlements with a special focus on Community Toilets
- Civil society covid -19 response in images
- s in slum settlements with a special focus on Community Toilets
- Civil society covid -19 response in images



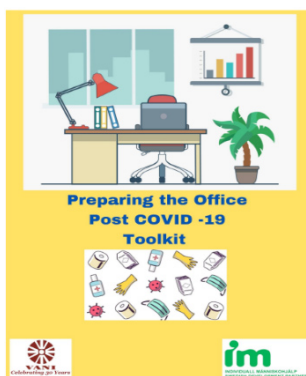
Communication – E-Newsletter

- *#FlushtheVirus: A short report of Pune's Experience to Contain the spread of COVID-19 Virus*
- *Civil society COVID -19 response in images*
- *s in slum settlements with a special focus on Community Toilets*
- *Civil society COVID -19 response in images*
- *Experience to Contain the spread of COVID-19 Virus in slum settlements with a special focus on Community Toilets*
- *Civil society COVID -19 response in images*
- *s in slum settlements with a special focus on Community Toilets*
- *Civil society COVID -19 response in images*



Communication Collaterals

- VANI's COVID-19 Response E-Brochure
- VANI Membership E-Brochure
- Toolkit – Office preparedness post-COVID-19



Audio-Video

- Webinars highlight videos
- COVID-19 film on the sector
- YouTube Channel regular updates



#Budget #SSX #Webinar
Social Stock Exchange Webinar - Highlights



COVID-19
Get the latest information from the MoHFW about COVID-19.

LEARN MORE

Media Coverage

21st SEPTEMBER 2020

Scroll.in

<https://scroll.in/latest/973703/fcra-amendments-will-be-a-death-blow-for-ngos-says-voluntary-action-network-india>

Business Standard

https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/fcra-bill-passed-in-lok-sabha-civil-society-says-it-will-throttle-ngos-120092101396_1.html Outlook India

Outlook India

https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/fcra-bill-passed-in-lok-sabha-civil-society-says-it-will-throttle-ngos-120092101396_1.html

22nd SEPTEMBER 2020

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2020/sep/22/throttlesspirit-of-cooperation-civil-rights-bodies-urge-government-to-send-fcra-bill-to-select-com-2200377.html#>

The Wire

<https://thewire.in/rights/fcra-amendment-ngo-sector-impact-grassroots-activism>

24th SEPTEMBER 2020

Daily Hunt

<https://m.dailyhunt.in/news/india/english/eastmojo-epaper-estmoj/vani+appeals+president+of+india+not+to+sign+fcra+bill+2020-newsid-n217242508>

India Today

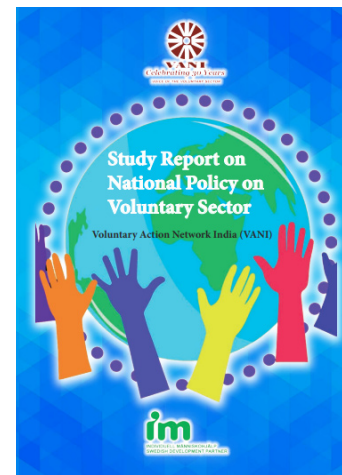
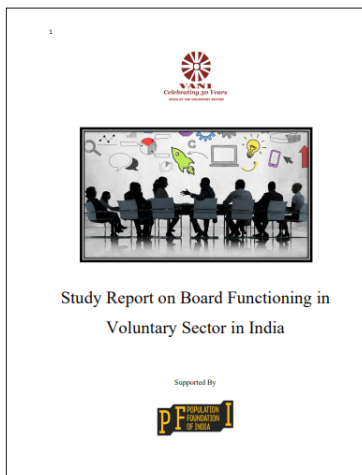


<https://www.indiatoday.in/india-today-insight/story/why-ngos-fear-the-new-fcra-regulations-1725077-2020-09-24>

Research Studies

The publications undertaken by VANI are research studies on various issues that concern the voluntary sector. These studies are based on primary and secondary data and conducted by the VANI team. These studies are published and shared with VANI's members and non-members. In the year 2020-21, the research and studies undertaken are as follows:

- Study Report on Status of Civil Society Organisation in Uttar Pradesh (July 2020, English & Hindi)
- Social Stock Exchange and Indian Civil Society Sector (Oct 2020, English & Hindi)
- Study Report on Status of Civil Society Organisations in Uttarakhand (July 2020, English & Hindi)
- Study Report on National Policy on Voluntary Sector (Dec 2020, English & Hindi)
- Study Report on Status of Gender Centric Policies and Practices in Civil Society Organisation (May 2020, English & Hindi)
- Study Report on Status of Civil Society Organisation in Himachal Pradesh (July 2020, English & Hindi)
- Financing for Development in India – A Civil Society Perspective (Oct 2020, English & Hindi)
- Global Standard, Accountability Practices and Indian CSOs in times of COVID-19 (Oct 2020, English & Hindi)

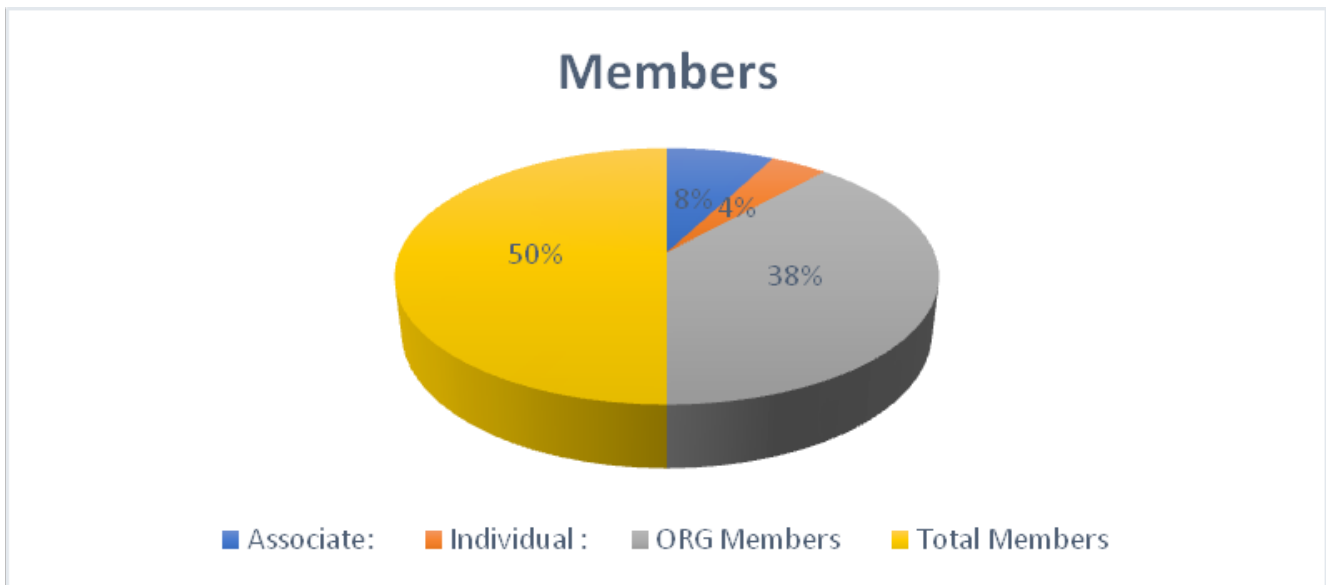


Membership Management

Category	Paid	Due	Total
Associate:	36	52	88
Individual :	21	25	46
ORG Members	151	289	440
Grand Total	208	363	574

Note:-

New member from April 2020 to March 2021 = 31



Fee Received FY 2020-21 = 10,20,000/-

Expenditure Account

Year Ended 31.03.2021
 Extracted from Audited Statement of Accounts 2020-21

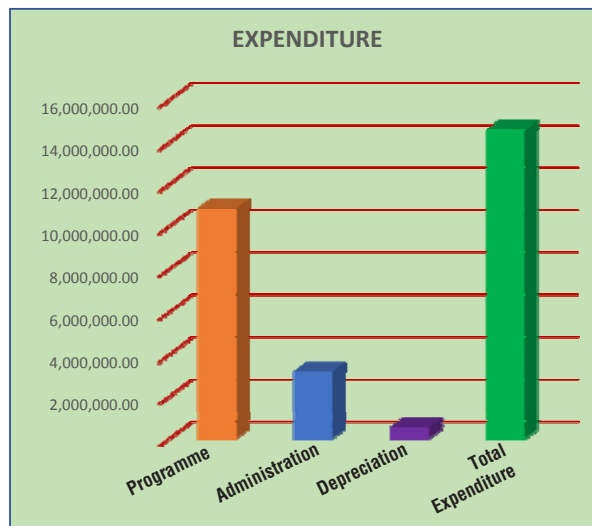
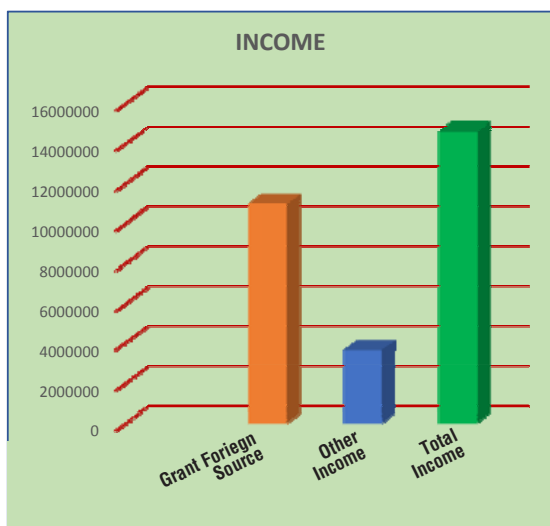
In INR

Income

Grant Foreign Source	10,976,147.00
Other Income	3,604,670.99
Total Income	14,580,817.99

Expenditure

Programme	10,858,645.00
Administration	3,209,961.53
Depreciation	542,490.91
Total Expenditure	14,611,097.44
Excess/(Deficit) of Income Over Expenditure	(30,279.45)



Governing Board Members

(as of 31st March. 2021)

Chairperson

Mr. Binoy Acharya, Director, Unnati, Organisation for Development Education

Treasurer

Ms. Anuja Bansal, Executive Director, Plan India

Chief Executive Officer

Mr. Harsh Jaitli, Voluntary Action Network India, New Delhi

Working Committee Members

Ms. Jaswant Kaur, Executive Director, Deepalaya

Mr. Saradindu Banerjee, SHG Promotional Forum

Ms. Hemal Kamat, Director & Secretary, Concept Society

Dr. K. Panchaksharam, Secretary & CEO, SIPA-Federation of South India Producer Associations

Ms. Puja Marwaha, Chief Executive, CRY - Child Rights and You

Mr. G. Placid, Director, SAHAYI- Centre for Collective Learning and Action

Mr. Basant Yadav, President, Sahabhagi Samaj Sevi Sanstha

Mr. K. N. Tiwari, Director, Disha Social Organisation

Mr. Amod Kanth, Founder & General Secretary, Prayas JAC Society

Team @ VANI
(as of 31st March. 2021)

Ms. Apurva Ajmani, Programme Officer

Mr. Arjun Phillips, Programme Manager

Mr. Dheeraj Kumar, Facility Supervisor

Mr. Harsh Jaitli, Chief Executive Officer

Ms. Mamta Soni, Programme Secretary

Ms. Nivedita Datta, Programme Manager

Ms. Neha Shrivastava, Account Assistant

Ms. Pallavi Rekhi, Programme Officer

Mr. Ravi R Rawat, Accounts Officer

Mr. Ram Lal Mehra, Office Assistant

Ms. Richa Sharma Puri, CIVICIUS Fellow, Communications

Ms. Ritu Sharma, Secretary to CEO and HR - In charge

Mr. Sagar Yadav, Accounts Assistant

Mr. Syed Abdul Rafey, Secretariat Support

About Voluntary Action Network India (VANI)

VANI is a national platform of voluntary organizations of India, which was formed in 1988. Currently, it has a strong network base of over 620 direct and outreach to over 15,000 organizations, spread across 24 states and one Union Territory. VANI is widely known for its evidence-based advocacy for an enabling environment and efforts in collectivizing the voluntary sector for its sustainable development. Through its network, VANI disseminates pertinent information around policies, legislation, taxation, sustainable development, concerning the sector to its members as well as non-members in an effective and timely manner. VANI builds the capacities of Voluntary Organisations on issues of critical importance including improved governance and effective leadership, legal compliances, accountability, transparency, strategic resource mobilization and Financial Management, for internal system strengthening and resilience building. Through stakeholder dialogues, VANI builds both intra and inter-sectoral convergences, thereby bringing government, corporate, civil society, donors on a common platform for cohesive and effective action. Through its created specialized forums a) Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) and Leaders; b) Chief Financial Officers (CFOs) Chartered Accountants and Legal experts, VANI is able to steer inter and intra peer learning on issues of common interest. VANI encourages partnerships for national-level policy reforms on the basis of the evidence-based narrative. VANI plays a pivotal role in establishing the global footprints of Indian voluntary organizations on the global development discourse. It is a member of various international networks like FORUS, CIVICUS, Affiliation Group of National Associations (AGNA), Asian Development Alliance (ADA), Asia Democracy Network. It has partnered with Accountable Now, International Civil Society Centre and eight accountability initiatives across the world to draft Global Standard for CSO Accountability and is presently engaged in encouraging voluntary organizations across India and South Asia to adhere to accountability and transparency standards for enhanced credibility. VANI has played an extensive role in drawing the attention of Civil Society and encouraging its enhanced role play on several international development agendas and partnerships including SDGs, BRICS, BBIN, BIMSTECH, Blue Economy and their social implications.



Voluntary Action Network India (VANI)

(An Apex Body of Voluntary Organisations)

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