



2024-25

ANNUAL REPORT



**GRAMINA
ABYUDAY
SEVA
SAMSTHE**



www.gassindia.org



9482084090

Doddaballapur, Bangalore Rural District, Karnataka, INDIA.

Voices from the stakeholders



- ✦ *"We are grateful to GASS for visiting our college and conducting an informative and engaging session for us. The team shared valuable insights on menstrual health and hygiene, including details about the menstrual cycle, the use of menstrual cups, cloth pads, and aprons. The session was useful and well-presented"* - Lavanya. S, 12th std student, Government PU College, Tubagere.
- ✦ *"I come here every day to meet my senior friends. I get peace of mind when here enjoy the food and games we play together"* – a senior citizen in the Day Care Centre.
- ✦ *"I can dance in the stage without fear. The school students join me when I dance"* – a student of Inclusive Education Center, Palanajogihalli.
- ✦ *"With hard work and determination, every dream can shine like bangles"* – Anitha, Bagepalli taluk, Chikkaballapur.
- ✦ *"Your struggle today is your strength tomorrow. Thanks to GASS"* - Mallikarjuna, Tumkur, entrepreneur trained by GASS.
- ✦ *"Hope is the light that guides us, even in the darkest times"* – Bhanupriya, a beneficiary of Santhwana project.
- ✦ *"After my rebirth, when my father donated a kidney to me, I took it as a challenge to rebuild my life. With the support of the GASS team and after completing a beautician course, I am now able to prove myself, earn a livelihood, and help my family live with dignity"* – Deepika who took beautician training from GASS.



Message from the Executive Director

Gramina Abyuday Seva Samsthe will complete 30 years of dedicated service to marginalized communities across seven districts of Karnataka next year. Over the years, we have experienced both challenges and growth in terms of the number of active projects. Yet, through it all, we have steadily gained the trust and cooperation of our community partners, as well as support from government bodies and the private sector.

The financial year 2024–25 has been particularly challenging in ensuring a steady flow of funds. The withdrawal of long-standing projects such as Childline and Swadhar Greh by the State and Central governments has had a serious impact on beneficiaries. At the same time, one of our earliest supporters and mentors, Marika, closed her global charity Miblou, which had been a strong pillar of support for our home for persons with intellectual disabilities.

Additionally, funding from CSR initiatives also saw a decline.





Despite these setbacks, our commitment to the community has remained unwavering, thanks to the dedication and resilience of our staff team. To address the funding gap, we have strengthened our fundraising efforts with focused teams, and encouragingly, we have already received positive signals from three potential funders who plan to support initiatives in mental health, inclusive education, and research in the coming year.

We are also proud to have received two national level awards this year for our work in disability and livelihood, which we dedicate to our partners and supporters. As we step into our 30th year, we are preparing for a busy and meaningful journey ahead, reaching out to even more beneficiaries across Karnataka.



Amali Naik

Organizational Overview

Mission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •To enable the groups living in rural and least served areas i.e., marginalized groups by playing a proactive and promotional role in advancing their rights.
Vision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •A world where marginalized groups are empowered to have equal opportunities, justice, peace and love, where the abundant resources are equitably shared, and they are able to enjoy their human rights, fully participate in the societal mainstream and lead a quality life.
Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •empathy, rights, inclusion, empowerment
Registrations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Registered as Society in Bangalore in 1996 •Society Registration: SOR/162/1995-96 •NITI Ayog Registration: KA/2016/0099768 •FCRA Number: 94420768
Promoters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Mr.Gopal Naik and Mrs.Amali Naik
Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •4th Ward, Court Road, Rojipura, Doddaballapura, Bengaluru Rural District, Karnataka -561203. INDIA
Contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •email1: gass.organisation@gmail.com •email2: admin@gassindia.org •phone: 9482084090 (Director) •phone: 7795838239 (Office)
Social media	   
Website	www.gassindia.org

Key Programs and Activities

Gramina Abyuday Seva Samsthe (GASS) continues to hold high priority in reaching out to people with disabilities throughout its interventions.

There has been considerable decline in the number of interventions and programs during the year due to huge changes in the priorities and policies of some of major funders – both Indian and foreign. The policies at the national level have restricted and limited the amount and scope of external aid flowing into the country which has also affected our sources despite the strong partnerships built over the years and their recognition of the need and the capacity of the organisation to implement with satisfying results. Internally some of the CSR funds were also dwindled with changing priorities and guidelines. The third major development was the decision of the Central and State governments to end engagement of NGOs in the implementation of certain long-standing projects like Childline and Swadhara. All these developments have clearly affected the delivery of services to the beneficiaries as planned.

However, with these limitations, GASS was able to continue the essential services and interventions it has committed under the themes of health, education, livelihood, protection and environment. Efforts were also made to secure newer projects under health and education sectors during next year. In this report, we will capture the key programs and activities during 2024-25.





Project locations

Bangalore Rural district

- Swadhara, Santhwana, Manasadhara, Pushpini, Inclusive Education Center, Day care center for senior citizens,, Shishupalana kendras, School renovation, Supplementary teachers in Govt schools, Skill training for BPL women, Entrepreneurship training for youth, Diabetic foot care and camps, Depression Reseaerch Study

Other districts of Karnataka

- Entrepreneurship for youth (Anekal, Gulbarga, Chamarajanagar, Kolar, Chikkablapur, Tumkur)
- Marikampa day care for children with disabilities (Gulbarga district)
- Lake rejuvenation & water conservation (Tumkur district)
- Diabetic foot care and camps (Tumkur & Chikkaballapur districts)

Health sector projects/activities and outcomes

Diabetic footcare and awareness

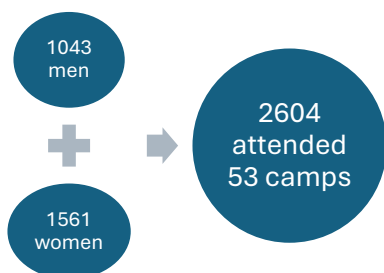
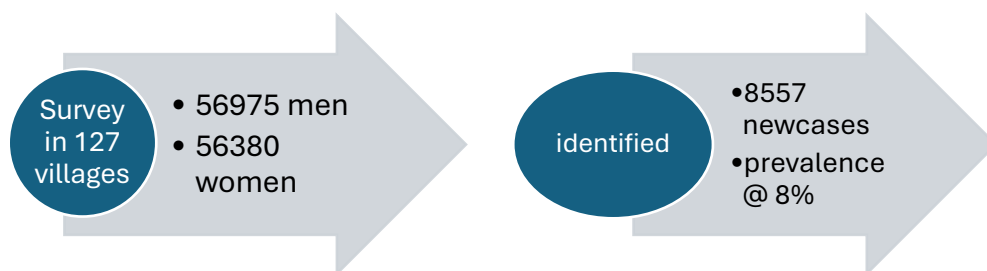
Gramina Abyuday Seva Samsthe (GASS) and Jain Institute of Vascular Sciences (JIVAS), a unit of Bhagwan Mahaveer Jain Hospital, Bengaluru, has been working for vulnerable and marginalized people in three districts of Karnataka since four years reaching out to more than 2 lakhs people who have been helped in preventing and treating diabetes and its foot complication.

The current project area includes 3 Taluks in 3 districts:

- Tumkur District (Korategere Taluk)
- Chikkaballapur District Chikkaballapur Taluk)
- Bangalore Rural District (Doddaballapur Taluk)

The main activities of Jivas project includes Health education & Awareness of diabetes, treatment, etc. by providing awareness materials like leaflets, audio visual materials, etc., co-ordination for diabetic foot screening and treatment with Jain Hospital team by undertaking surveys in the villages and training Health care workers on diabetic screening and follow-up. During last year (July 2024 to June 2025), 113,255 people were surveyed in the project areas; 53 diabetic camps were organized. A total of 2604 people attended the camps from the three districts in the camps. During this year, 13 training sessions were organised with the resource person Dr. Vinaya, for health workers in the project areas. Participants included ASHA workers, Anganwadi teachers, women from Self-Help Groups, and volunteers.

The field staff visited 127 villages in the project area and identified 8557 new cases after surveying 113,255 people which includes 56,975 men and 56,380 women. The average prevalence rate is 8% in the project area.



WHO Self Help+ Pilot Research Project

Self-Help Plus (SH+), a multimedia, guided self-help stress management course developed by WHO is designed to be delivered over a period of five weeks to groups of up to approximately 30 people at a time. The SH+ course is delivered by supervised, non-specialist facilitators who complete a short training course and use pre-recorded audio and an illustrated guide to teach stress management skills. Daniel Bennett, Associate Professor (Research) of Economics, University of Southern California has contacted Gramina Abyuday Seva Samsthe (GASS) to conduct this course in Doddaballapur Taluk with the technical support of DAI Research & Advisory Services, Bangalore.

The intervention/ study took in Doddaballapur Taluk in Bangalore rural district. The list of villages in the Taluk were randomized to select 5 cohorts. Each cohort consisted of 8 groups of women. Each cohort had 5 intervention groups (2 large and 3 small) who attended the SH+ sessions spread over 5 weeks while 3 others were control groups. DAI did the survey in the selected villages and shared the list of study participants to GASS after collecting their baseline data. GASS organized the SH+ sessions as per a schedule developed in consultation with the field staff and the facilitators who come from the local communities. DAI identified 150 women for each cohort (45 for two large groups and 20 for three small groups). GASS facilitators met these women at their homes before the session and informed and invited them for the session. The Facilitators after the training were divided into five teams – each team consisting of 2 Facilitators. Each team was given 3 small groups (SG) and two large groups (LG) to facilitate. All 5 teams together managed 25 groups (15 small and 10 large) spread across Doddaballapur Taluk in Bangalore Rural district. All the sessions were scheduled to be held at 10am in the morning on weekdays from Monday to Friday. The first SH+ session was organized on 2nd December 2024 at Tubagere village. The last session of the intervention was held on 28th March 2025 at Melekote.

The first phase of the pilot intervention is completed by 28th March 2025. On completion of the first phase, 12 small groups were selected for a booster session and the sessions are scheduled to start on 6th May and end by 20th June 2025.



‘Puspini’ Phase2 -Menstrual health and hygiene

In April 2023, GASS launched a one-year pilot project called Puspini in Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural district, with support from Lokya Yoga and Miblou. The initiative aimed to address three key issues: menstrual health and hygiene, environmentally safe disposal of sanitary products, and women’s livelihood. As part of the project, trained data collectors surveyed 2,000 women from six villages near Doddaballapur to understand their menstrual health practices. A series of awareness sessions were conducted for women in the villages, as well as for girls in schools and pre-degree colleges, focusing on menstrual health and environmental sensitivity. Public awareness meetings, attended by government officials, were also held, and street play performances in the target areas helped further publicize the cause. In addition to awareness activities, the project sought to promote reusable cloth sanitary pads as an eco-friendly and health-conscious alternative to single-use pads. An outcome study conducted after the project revealed promising results.

The second phase of the project aimed to prioritize underserved groups, including women with disabilities, members of self-help groups (SHGs), and boys and girls in schools, colleges, and hostels. Special emphasis is placed on collaborating with Disabled Persons’ Organizations (DPOs) to promote safe, economical menstrual health practices, particularly the use of reusable cloth sanitary pads.

The team developed a Handbook in Kannada on ‘Menstrual health and Adolescent development among boys’ which is widely used in the training sessions for the students in schools and colleges. An awareness song in Kannada was also scripted, tuned and recorded for playing in the waste collection vehicles in the town to create awareness on menstrual health and safe disposal of sanitary waste. The Puspini team also organised a number of awareness sessions and camps among the Self Help Groups of women, Disable Peoples Organisations (DPOs) and the general community.



Education sector projects/activities and outcomes

Inclusive Education Centre for children with disabilities

In September 2023, CBM came forward to support GASS in setting up a project to be implemented at Doddaballapur taluk Bengaluru Rural District for reaching out to about 150 children with severe disabilities in the region who were out of school. By opening an Inclusive Education Centre at Palanajogihalli Government Middle School, the project covered 75 children with disabilities to mainstream school.

Currently there are 50 children with disabilities in the Centre. Out of 50 children in the centre, 32 are with intellectual disabilities. 28 children attend the centre regularly on a daily basis to continue their special education while another 22 children are being followed with by the teachers who visit them at their homes and other schools.

ADL (Activities of Daily Living) skills are imparted to the children while they are at the centre. The trained teachers and assistants are involved in the training. ADL is something which needs to be continued, and we ensured that the parents are following the instructions at home also during the home visits. The physiotherapist designs customized interventions for the children in the Centre, and it helps them to get rehabilitated and integrated with other children in the school and the community.

The Centre offers opportunities for the children to attend exposure trips, participate in schools activities and functions and enables them to access all services from the govt school and schemes.



Marikamba Day Care Centre, Kalburgi

GASS with support from MIBLOU runs 'Marikamba' - a Day Care Center for children with special needs at the Government Primary School, in Narona Gram Panchayath of Alanda Taluk in Kalburgi District (renamed from Gulbarga), Karnataka to lessen the burden of families with special children. It has been a sought-after center in the area reaching out to about 25 children with special needs from economically background families.

The center provides personalized care and training to children with life skills such as eating, personal hygiene, reading and writing. They slowly learn to pick up ADLs with the support of the teacher and the helper. For some children and their parents, it is a great achievement if they start eating by themselves. Some show extra talent in dancing, singing or playing. The Center is active most of the time and children prefer coming to the center every day.

One of the important inputs of the center is the provision of physiotherapy for the children to improve their movements of limbs and strengthen them for better balance and use. During the year 8 students have been facilitated UID cards and another 4 with scholarships. Every year the center celebrates a number of special days along with the children in the school. It gives them an opportunity to mingle with the children in a regular stream and get motivated to continue their studies.

The Marikampa Center was one of the farthest projects for GASS from its head office. Yet, we were able to run the center successfully and provide children with disabilities from the poor families a new hope and future. Miblou has been the source of inspiration and support for GASS to sustain and manage the facility despite challenges. Finally, we are winding up the project from GASS as the conditions are favourable now to hand over the center to the government.



Supplementary Teachers in Government Schools

Being an organization committed to the welfare of children and women in rural areas, GASS has been approached by the school authorities and parents in the rural areas to support the development of schools especially by facilitating supplementary teachers. GASS has been facilitating supplementary teachers in government schools in Bangalore rural district in the past 3 years with the CSR support from companies. The Supplementary teachers play a crucial role in bridging the gap caused by the shortage of regular teachers in government schools. Their contribution has become increasingly important in ensuring continuity and quality in education, especially in underserved and rural areas.

Essilor supports one English subject teacher who works in three government schools in Doddaballpaur taluk namely Kasavanahalli, Bisuvanahalli, and Moparahalli government schools. As of the 2024–25 academic year, ITC Filtrona is supporting a total of five teachers across two government schools—one in Doddaballapur Taluk and the other in Devanahalli Taluk.

GHS - Bhashettihalli - English Teacher
GHS - Bhashettihalli - Hindi Teacher
GHS - Bhashettihalli - Kannada Teacher
GHS - Bhashettihalli - Physical Education Teacher
GHPS - Doddasone - English Teacher
Govt school - Kasavanahalli - English Teacher
Govt school - Bisuvanahalli - English Teacher
Govt school - Moparahalli - English Teacher

In many cases, supplementary teachers also provide remedial classes for academically weaker students, support co-curricular activities, and assist in administrative duties. Their presence helps maintain continuity in education, reduces the burden on existing teachers, and boosts student engagement and retention. By filling critical teaching gaps, supplementary teachers significantly contribute to improving the overall quality of education in government schools.



Shishupalana Kendra

Shishupalana Kendras provide care for the children of laborers and government or non-government employees while they are at work. These centers serve as a strong support system for parents who may be unsure about how to foster their children's overall development from an early age. By offering childcare close to their workplace, parents are able to focus on their jobs with peace of mind.

Children aged 6 months to 6 years are cared for at these centers. The staff are well-trained and skilled in providing proper care and attention to the children. These centers also lay a strong foundation for a child's future by supporting their growth in education, health, and a nurturing environment, helping them become responsible and well-rounded citizens. GASS runs 2 centres – one at District Collector's office and another at the district hospital at Doddaballapur.

Facilities Provided at the Shishupalana Kendra

- ✓ Children receive attentive and nurturing care.
- ✓ Learning is imparted through play-based activities and lessons.
- ✓ A stress-free and child-friendly environment is maintained at the center.
- ✓ Activities are designed to support learning through play and hands-on experiences.
- ✓ Nutritious meals are provided to prevent malnutrition and support healthy growth.
- ✓ Monthly health checkups are conducted to monitor children's well-being.
- ✓ National festivals are celebrated to promote cultural awareness and participation.
- ✓ Outdoor trips are organized for recreation and exposure.
- ✓ Children participate in cultural programs conducted at the Shishupalana Kendra.



Livelihood sector projects/activities and outcomes

GarvSe entrepreneurship training for youth

GASS GSC (Garv Se Center) Livelihood Program aims at providing rural livelihoods for (People with Disabilities) PwDs in the State of Karnataka through eco system building in Bangalore rural Anekal, Kalburgi, Chamarajanagar, Kolar, Chikkaballapur and Tumkur districts. By operating GarvSeCenters, the program reached 834 PwDs and their stakeholders across the 7 centers during 2024-25. The main objective of the program is to empower persons with disabilities (PwDs) through livelihood support, training, and access to government schemes. Major interventions included skill training and business establishment across seven centers in Karnataka, along with support for various livelihood enterprises such as cow, goat, sheep, and bull rearing; retail units like petty shops, tea stalls, stationery and photocopying outlets; Common Service Center (CSC) digital service outlets; and sugarcane juice shops.

District	Participants	Settlements
Chamarajanagar	250	213
Kolar	104	87
Tumkur	250	198
Chikkaballapur	70	54
Bangalore Rural	70	54
Gulbarga (Kalburgi)	75	60
Total	834	685

Each training program follows Enable India EDP Model, which is a 9-step process involving multiple stakeholders joining hands and centrally managed by a dedicated resource person – the GarvSeCenter Officer.



- Other Activities for PwDs apart from EDP Program in the Year 2024-25 included;
 - Through Mobility India, 21 persons with disabilities were assessed and 19 received walkers, wheelchairs and customized wheelchairs.
 - 100 PwDs given dry fruits kits (nutritional supplement) from CBM
 - 50 PwDs were facilitated initial investments for small business activities with the assistance of CBM; each received Rs.9500. Skill training also arranged.
 - Unique Disability ID (UDID) facilitated for 100 PwDs.
 - One day exposure trip arranged for the beneficiaries.
 - Students' scholarship facilitated for 50 deserving students from BPL families.
 - Five wheelchairs were sourced and distributed from BRC – Govt. dept.
 - Two hearing aids mobilized. ("limo - california and roleta hearing aids)
- Number of Enabler Committee formed during the year-2024-25 - 27
- Number of Influencer Group formed during the year-2024-25 – 7.



Skill training for BPL women

The project aims to provide competitive skill training to 150 young women from the economically backward communities of Doddaballapur Taluk for their gainful employment after the completion of the course. Among them 100 youth opted to undergo tailoring training while another 50 preferred beautician training. GASS has arranged to facilitate the training at Doddaballapur.

With 100 youth enrolled in the tailoring training program, the trainees were divided into two batches of 50, with classes held in the morning and afternoon. The training began with theoretical lessons on cloth cutting, hemming hooks, and thread stitching. This was followed by practical exercises in stitching shirt buttons and Kaja buttons onto fabric.

On February 4, we were delighted to welcome Ms. Muskan and Mr. Mathi from United Way Bengaluru, who visited our training center to observe the women actively practicing their skills in both tailoring and beautician training.

Ashwini's Testimonial

"The beautician course has been a game-changer for me. It has given me the skills and confidence to pursue my dreams and support my family. I am grateful for the opportunity to learn and grow, and I am excited to see what the future holds for me. I would highly recommend this course to anyone who is looking to improve their lives and gain a new skill."



Green skilling project by Craftizen

The integral plan of this project is to provide income-generating opportunities for people with no other sources of sustainable income. The project adopts a comprehensive approach to skill development that in addition to skill training it also involves support in production design and marketing support for persons with mental health issues and women with disabilities from underprivileged backgrounds including victims of abuse.

During this year 125 beneficiaries got training in silk and fabric and flower vocational activities. They also earned money for their contribution and work. Totally 235 beneficiaries got training in different trades/ activities. Some of the products made them include Agarbathi, Holi/ rangoli powder, tealight holders and trophies.

The master trainers get training from Craftizen and they in turn train the beneficiaries. Care is taken to ensure that the products are environment-friendly. We collect the waste flowers from the marriage halls and temples and convert them as colorful harmless skin friendly powders for festivities like Holi.

Sl.No	Product Details	Quantity
1	Rice powder for Rangoli & FSK	33 kg
2	Trophy	153 pcs
3	Tea light holder	16000 numbers
4	Holi color	797 kg
5	Flower powder	114 kg
6	Agarbathi	267 packets
7	Pre-mix	60 sets

By providing targeted skill development programs—such as vocational training, digital literacy, handicrafts, or service-based skills—we equip them with practical abilities that enhance their employability or support self-employment. This not only fosters financial independence but also boosts their confidence and social inclusion.

The beneficiaries of this project also get paid for the products they make during the training and get opportunities to pursue that post-training with marketing support. They also spend their time in GASS interacting with others and participating in celebrations, events and exhibitions organised periodically. The skill training contributes to poverty reduction and helps build a more equitable and inclusive society.



Protection sector projects/activities and outcomes

Partho Homes for people with intellectual disabilities

Partho Home was established with the aim of providing rehabilitative care for young abandoned and destitute people with disabilities by GASS at Doddaballapur in Bangalore Rural district. Started with the support of MIBLOU and Partho team, the program was given extended support from Lokya Yoga from this year to give shelter to 30 persons with severe disabilities in two shelters exclusively maintained for male and female beneficiaries. Most of the beneficiaries are from economically backward families or with no one to care for. The Partho home not only provides them with food, shelter and health care, it also encourages them to express themselves and use their skills productively so that they feel worth and motivated.

Partho Home promotes order and discipline by guiding residents through a structured daily routine. Caregivers assist with personal hygiene, meals, and morning activities like yoga and vocational training. Afternoons include outdoor play, followed by indoor activities such as watching TV. Sundays involve laundry, cleaning, and outings to parks or temples for relaxation.

Three inmates were discharged during the year as their families migrated from the villages. In their place, three others with intellectual disabilities were admitted. Four children enrolled in regular government schools are progressing well and were promoted to the next class. They get additional support from the special educators at our Inclusive Education Center. The monthly Mental Health camps with support from the District Mental Health Team continue to be held on the 1st Thursday of every month. Physiotherapy sessions are held four days a week which have significantly benefited the participants, leading to notable improvements in their overall health and well-being. One of the main activities in the Partho home is training in vocational skills for the inmates as per their interest and capacities. About 25 inmates of the home were involved in various skill activities.



Manasadhara

Manasadhara is a Community Mental Health Day care and Rehabilitation centre Programme, funded by the Govt. of Karnataka. The center for Bangalore rural district functions from GASS since 2014 for the recovered mentally ill persons. It can accommodate up to 40 people and offers a range of services, including day care facilities, medical monitoring, expert counseling, psychiatric treatment, yoga, meditation, skill development and vocational training, various craft skills, and job placement support.

The Center accommodates 20 male and 20 female individuals for a three-month period per batch. At the end of this period, they are discharged to make space for another group of 20 male and 20 female persons with mental illness identified from the project areas. Those who return home are monitored through follow-up visits by the psychiatric social worker and other staff to ensure the continuity and sustainability of rehabilitation efforts. The following table gives the number of people rehabilitated during the year through the project.

Months	Male	Female	Total
April to June 2024	9	24	33
July To September	5	33	30
October to December	6	25	31
January To March 2025	6	26	32

In addition to the Center's regular staff, the District Mental Health Program (DMHP) team—comprising a Psychiatrist, a Psychiatric Social Worker, and a Psychologist—visits to provide expert advice and support to the residents every month. Individual files are maintained for each resident to document their progress during their stay.

The important component in Manasadhara is the engagement of the beneficiaries in productive work by giving them the skills to make environmentally safe products. This activity triggers their self-confidence and motivates them to involve in activities with their peers and get rehabilitated quickly and also earn small income.

The center celebrated regional and national festivals such as Independence Day, Deepavali, Christmas, and Holi, along with special observances like Women's Day, World Mental Health Day, Disabled Day, and International Disability Day.

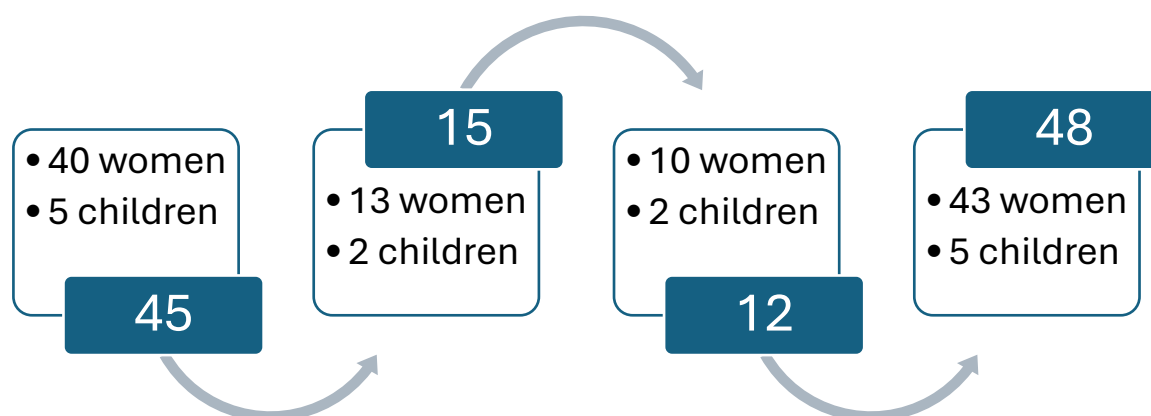
Particulars	Quantity
Tea Light holder	16000 pcs
Holi Powder	797 Kgs
Agarbathi	220 pck
Trophies	125 pcs
Key Chain	50 pcs
Ear ring	50 pairs



Swadhara

Swadhar Greh Scheme by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Govt of India, targets women victims of difficult circumstances who are in need of institutional support for rehabilitation so that they could lead their life with dignity. The services offered include temporary residential accommodation with provisions for food, clothing, and medical facilities; vocational and skill enhancement training for the economic rehabilitation of women; counselling, awareness programs, and behavioural training; legal aid and guidance; and telephone-based counselling support.

There were 45 residents in the Greh at the beginning of the year. There were 15 admissions during the year and 12 discharges thus making a total of 48 residents at the end. Most of the discharged were reunited with their families after addressing their needs.



The inmates of Swadhara are encouraged to undertake skill training programs so that they can get equipped with a skill to take care of their livelihood which is affected. It also helps them to get away from their frustration and hopelessness because of their hardship they underwent. Some pursue work elsewhere like domestic aids while staying in the shelter. There were 19 women who opted for skill training during their stay.

Name of training	Number of inmates completed
Tailoring	8
Jewellery making	2
Holi colour	9
Total	19

Santhwana

Santhwana is a scheme implemented by the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of Karnataka. It offers a comprehensive support system for victims of rape, sexual harassment, domestic violence, and dowry-related harassment. The scheme provides counselling, legal assistance, temporary shelter, and financial relief, with the overarching goal of empowering women by helping them become self-reliant through skill development and training.

Since 2011, GASS has been operating a Santhwana Centre in Doddaballapur, Bangalore Rural District. The centre specifically addresses the needs of women victims from rural and economically disadvantaged backgrounds, especially those from remote villages. This 24/7 facility remains active and responsive, serving women from all four taluks of the district: Doddaballapur, Nelamangala, Hoskote, and Devanahalli. The program is supported by a dedicated team consisting of one family counsellor and three social workers who provide a range of essential services.

- ✚ During the reporting period 16 candidates were referred to the Swadhar Gruh project.
- ✚ 36 women were engaged in various livelihood activities through partnerships with organizations such as Bangalore Stores, Silver Starc Garments, private hospitals, hotels, Paxon Company, and as domestic workers.
- ✚ 53 women received skill development training in areas such as tailoring, beautician services, mat making, and wire basket weaving.
- ✚ Legal aid support was provided to 4 women.
- ✚ Awareness programs were conducted for various groups, including Self-Help Groups (SHGs), Anganwadi workers, ASHA workers, and the District Human Rights team.
- ✚ GASS's achievements were also highlighted by a television channel.



Day care center for senior citizens

The Senior Citizens Day Care Centre being run at Doddaballapur is dedicated to ensuring the well-being and dignity of elderly individuals by offering a safe space for engagement, nourishment, and holistic care. The centre operates under the guidelines of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act.

Impact Summary

- Total Beneficiaries: 158 senior citizens
- Health: Enhanced physical and emotional well-being among participants
- Family Support: Strengthened family bonds through outreach and counselling
- Community Spirit: A renewed sense of belonging, dignity, and social connection



The daily routine at the Senior Citizens Day Care Centre includes prayer, newspaper reading, yoga and light exercises, group discussions, storytelling, and cultural or entertainment activities that keep the elderly engaged and active. Health and wellness are given priority through monthly health check-ups conducted with the support of government health staff, covering services such as blood pressure and sugar level monitoring, eye check-ups, physiotherapy sessions, and the provision of basic medicines. In addition, nutritious mid-day meals are served every day, with special attention to hygiene and cleanliness within the premises to ensure the well-being of all participants.

The centre organizes regular awareness programs, including legal sessions on senior citizens' rights and the Maintenance and Welfare Act, with experts such as lawyers and social workers invited for interactive discussions. Counselling and family outreach form an important part of the

services, with home visits conducted for bed-ridden elders and family counselling provided to support better home care and integration. In addition, various recreational and therapeutic activities such as handicrafts, drawing, painting, music therapy, memory-enhancing games, and the celebration of birthdays and milestones help promote creativity, joy, and emotional well-being among the elderly.

Environment sector projects/activities and outcomes

Solar street lights for villages

As an NGO having experience in rural integrated development programs, we approached DESMET to support us provide three remote villages in SS Ghatti Panchayath in Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural district with solar streetlights as these villages were at constant threat of wild animals entering the villages during nights and constant power failures which makes them to loom in the darkness in fear. The education of children were also affected with the frequent power cuts.

The management of DESMET has positively considered our request and did the initial assessment to verify the need and the capacity of the NGO to carry out the task. On satisfaction with the importance of the request, the company has agreed to extend support to install 20 solar streetlights at strategic points in three villages in SS Ghatti Panchayat.

S.No	Name of the Village	No of Lights
1	Melenanakarandahalli	08
2	Thanda	10
3	Kelage nanaya karandahalli	02

The 25-watt solar streetlights with dusk to dawn charge controller with voltage dimmer has an 80-watt solar panel with 12.8V/24AH lifepo4 batteries with 3 years warranty.



Lake rejuvenation and water conservation

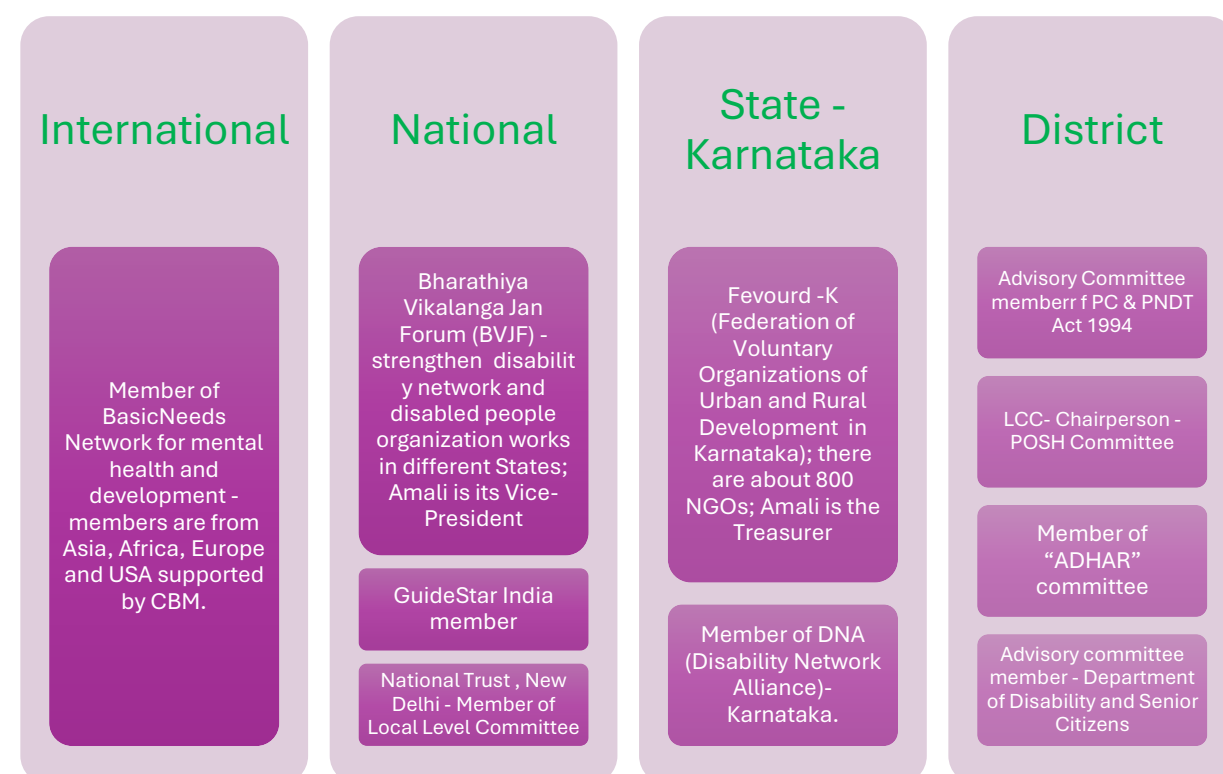
Water bodies such as rivers, lakes, and wetlands are essential for ecological balance, biodiversity, and human survival. However, in recent decades, these resources have been severely degraded due to pollution, deforestation, unsustainable water use, and other human-induced activities. The Water Rejuvenation Project has been initiated with the intention of restoring these water bodies to their natural health and functionality. The project was successfully implemented in two lakes:

- Naranahalli Lake – Rejuvenated with a storage capacity of 35,000 CUB.
- Narasaina Agrahara Lake – Rejuvenated with a storage capacity of 8,000 CUB.

The primary aim of the Water Rejuvenation Project is to restore the health and vitality of degraded water bodies by improving water quality, revitalizing ecosystems, and promoting sustainable water management practices. These efforts have not only increased water storage but also contributed to improving groundwater recharge, supporting biodiversity, and meeting the water needs of the surrounding communities.

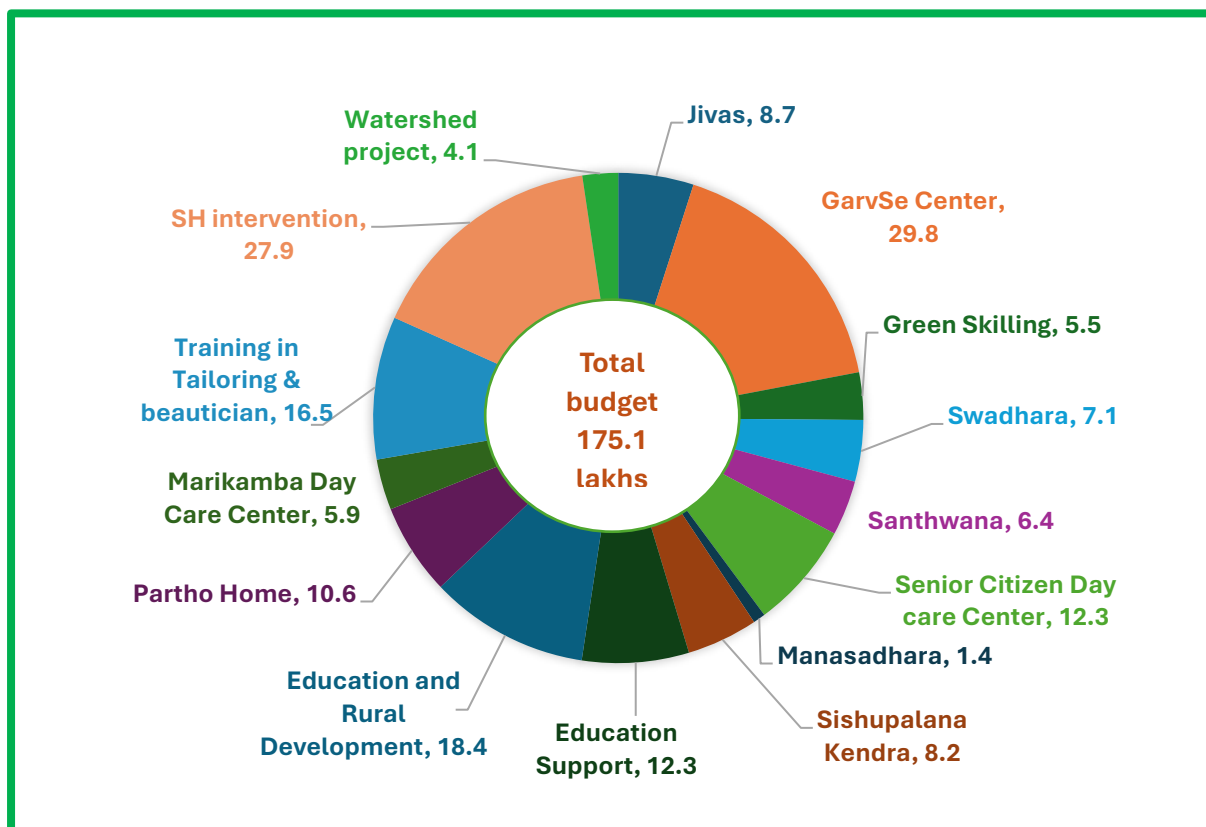
Advocacy and Networking

While establishing our firm footing in the grassroots community among the marginalised people, GASS simultaneously maintains and nurtures partnerships at State, national and international levels to showcase, influence and advocate for the rights of people. GASS has also been entrusted with responsible positions in various committees and associations in the district considering its reputation and experience.



Financial Summary

The financial year 2024-25 was relatively less active compared to the previous three years due to the completion of some projects and delays in the dispersal of funds from some funders. The following graph presents the expenditure patterns for various projects during the reporting year.



Partners and Donors

Collaborators of GASS include volunteers, interns, fieldwork students, Networks, Women cooperative, SHGs, Disability groups, and Mental Health Champions.

We acknowledge the contribution of all donors towards the fulfilment of our objectives.

CBM India Trust	UnitedWay, Bengaluru	Ministry of Women and Child Development, Govt of India
Miblou, Switzerland	Enable India	Department of Women and Child Development, Government of Karnataka
Lokya Yoga, Switzerland	Essilor	University of Southern California
Jain Institute of Vascular Sciences, Bengaluru	ITC Filtrona	DAI Research & Advisory Services, Bangalore
Craftizen	DESMET	Govt of Karnataka

Governance and Management

Board of Directors

S.No	Name & Position	Date of birth & member since	Address & Mobile number	Qualification & Occupation
1	Dr. K Kishore Kumar, President	04/01/1958 2015	S/o K V Venkatesh #24, 4th Main, Nataraja Layout, JP Nagar 7 th Phase, Bangalore South-560078. Mobile-95000 99759	MD in Psychiatry Social Work Consultant
2	Sidhaganga B, Vice President	15/08/1962 2023	S/o Bheema Naik, Behind Okkaligara Bhavana, Gangadharapura, Doddaballapur, Bangalore rural District -561203. Mobile - 94481 03560	BA, B.Ed Retired Techer
3	Amali Naik, Secretary	08/07/1966 1996	W/o Gopal Naik, Court Road, Rojipura, Doddaballapur, Bangalore rural District - 561203. Mobile -94820 84090	MA in Sociology Social Worker
4	Girish H, Treasurer	01/09/1971 2015	S/o Late Hari Hara Rao, No.177, T2, Puja Elite Apartments, 1st Main, Vittalanagar, Kumaraswamy Layout 2nd stage, Bangalore-560078.Mobile- 94835 17875	BE Electronics Engineer
5	Renuka Murthy, Director	08/04/1974 2022	S/o M Mariyappa, #1219, Near Anjaneya Temple, 14th ward, Kuchapanapete, Doddaballapur- 561203. Mobile- 98862 48165	BA, LLB Advocate
6	Dr. Vinaya Ananad Suratkai, Director	02/04/1969 2024	No.307, Pyramid Greenwood Apartments, Ayyappa Temple Street, Shankar Nagar, Bytarayanapura, Bangalore- 560092. Mobile -78995 96263	MA PhD Podiatry Doctor
7	Sekhar Srinivasan, Director	03/03/1961 2020	S/o Late H Srinivasan No.161, 8th Main Road, BEML Layout, Near Veerabhadreshwara nagar, Bangalore-560079. Mobile -79756 49885	SSLC Part-time music teacher

Executive team

Executive Director -Program Director – Coordinators – Field staff- Office/ shelter staff



Consultants – Program, Finance/audit, Civil, Fund raising, IT.

Future Plans

Scaling of the Flagship programmes

Inclusive Education for the children with intellectual disabilities
Livelihood programmes for Persons with different kinds of disabilities
Strengthening and expanding Research projects

Organisation structure

The existing structure will be reviewed and revised based on the organisation strengths.
Revisiting and redefining KRA's for the team.

Standardisation of Programs

Programs will be standardised with indicators for effective monitoring and evaluation

Partnerships

New partnerships will be developed at state, national and international level.

Capacity building

Staff capacity building will be planned during the year on different aspects relating to programs, operations and management skills

Preparation for 30th Anniversary celebration of GASS

Drawing **strategic plan** for the next 5 years (2026-2031).

Activate the **social media** tools and website for better digital presence and influence

Contact us

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