

# Annual Report

## 2011-12



## ***Glossary***

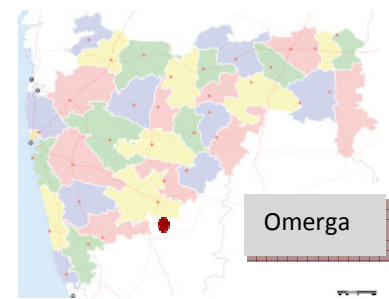
<i>Aanganwadi</i>	Centre for children under 6 years of age under the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS)
<i>Abhiruchi Varg</i>	Classes where interests among children is cultivated through games, stories and songs.
<i>Baal Melava</i>	Children's Gathering.
<i>Dalits</i>	Scheduled Castes, communities which have been the victims of 'untouchability'
<i>Dnayndhara Vachanalay</i>	Flow of education Library
<i>Gram Panchayat</i>	Village council, consisting of elected representatives
<i>Gram Sabha</i>	Village assembly, comprising all adult residents of the village
<i>Kishori Mandal</i>	Adolescent Group
<i>Lakh</i>	Lac; 1,00,000, one hundred thousand
<i>Laman</i>	One of DNTs community, they are also known as Banjara.
<i>Shikshan Deep</i>	Flame of Education.
<i>Tanda</i>	Hamlet or habitation of Laman community.
<i>Ywoak Mandal</i>	Youth Group

## ***Acronyms***

CBOs	Community-based Organisation
DNTs	De-notified Nomadic Tribes
ICDS	Integrated Child Development Scheme
MDMS	Mid-Day Meal Scheme
PDS	Public Distribution System
RTI	Right to Information Act
SHGs	Self Help Groups
Samarthya	Samarthya Kalyankari Sanstha.
VAW	Violence Against Women

## About Samarthya:

Osmanabad district has been destination of large number of de-notified and nomadic tribes (DNTs) communities. Banjara is also known as Laman, is one of the communities found in every rural pockets of the district. Omerga has its more than 38 Tandas. They never became the priority for any developmental work except for vote banks. As a result the deprivation was reached to the level of that the community should take the charge of their own development.



It began with the small initiative by local youth. Alcoholism is widespread in the community. No one knows how to stop this. One day few women along with youth raised the voice and called panchayats meeting to discuss it. Initially it was tough for women to put forth their concerns. After seeing the assertion of women, leaders especially men agreed to stop brewing, selling and consuming the liquor in the Tanda. This small victory made women and youngsters to do something more in concrete for community. A work on improving quality education in primary school was started. After seeing the encouraging results and participation by children, it was needed to continue. It became regular activity. Considering the SWOT, it became essential to formalize the initiative, and hence the Samarthya came into being in 2008.

It was formally registered on Jan 2008 under Societies Registration -1860 and Bombay Public Trust Act-1950.

## Our Mission:

- To raise and maintain Samarthya as an organization committed to building a society for all based on the principles of truth, justice, freedom, equality in solidarity with the poor, marginalized and vulnerable sections of society such as de-notified nomadic tribes, dalits, tribals, minorities, women and children.
- To promote quality education for marginalised children resulting in social transformation based on transparency, accountability, pluralism, equity, justice, peace and respect for all.
- To promote women leadership to participate in the socio-cultural-economical-educational and political spheres actively.
- To eradicate caste based discrimination and ensure social equality and cohesion.

- To achieve our objectives in partnership with like-minded organizations and individuals.
- To enhance the capacity of our human resources in terms of integrity, attitude and orientation.

### Our vision:

“We envision a society where de-notified nomadic, dalits, tribals, minority communities and women, live with dignity, have equal opportunity and social and economic justice.”

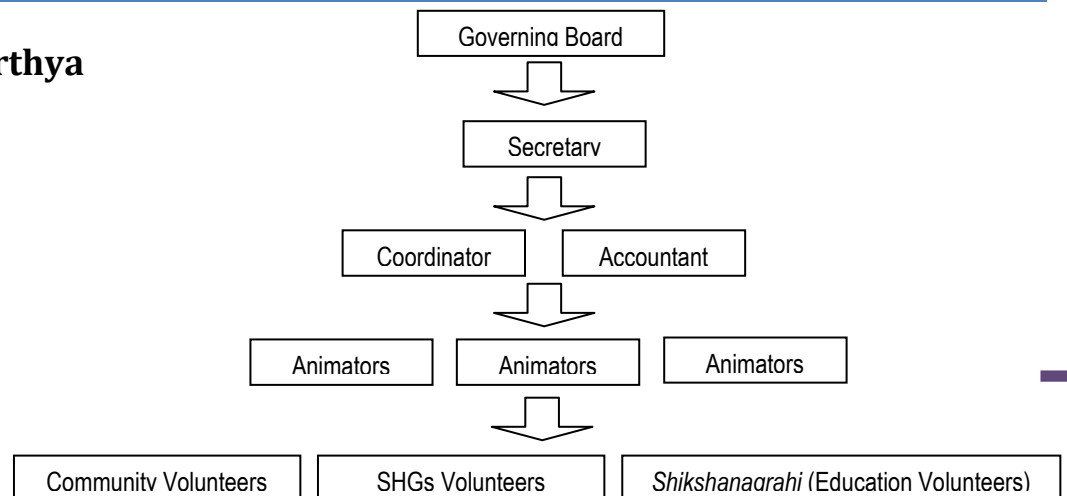
### Registration Details:

<i>Type of Registration</i>	<i>Registration Number</i>	<i>Date of Registration</i>
Societies Reg. Act 1860	Mah/08/2008	07/01/2008
Bombay Public Trust Act 1950	F 9553	03/03/2008
PAN Number	AADAS6459B	07/01/2008
Registration certificate U/s 12 A Income Tax	135/61/2009-10	19/02/2010
U/s, 80-G of the Income Tax	ABD/CIT/TECH/80G/SKS/135/61/2009-10	19/02/2010

### Details of Governing Board:

Sl	Name of Members:	Designation	Sex	Age	Edu.	Address
1.	Ms. Babita Rathod	President	Female	27	B Com	Bramhapuri Colony, Omerga
2.	Ms. Vaishali Chavan	Vice-President	Female	34	BA	At Chavanwadi Tal. Shirur, Pune
3.	Ms. Ranjita Pawar	Secretary	Female	26	D. Ed	Bramhapuri Colony, Omerga
4.	Ms. Shyamal Shinde	Treasurer	Female	42	HSC	Bramhapuri Colony, Omerga
5.	Ms. Vandana Patil	Member	Female	38	SSC	At Post Kader Tal Omerga
6.	Ms. Raeesa Mujawar	Member	Female	34	SSC	Kader Tal. Omerga
7.	Ms. Tereasa Lasrado	Member	Female	54	BA	Kondwa Khurd, Pune

### Structure of Samarthya



## Ensuring Quality Education Among Children:

Seeing the need of children on quality education, Samarthya partnered with QUEST (Quality Education Support Trust) a research-action NGO concentrating on enhancing quality of education based in Thane district. Samarthya team visited the project and shared the issues of children of Laman community using dialect. The methodology devised by them found to be very helpful for children having their own dialects. Request was made by the team the QUEST to visit Samarthya and understand the learning levels of children. Accordingly team of QUEST visited project Tanda of Samarthya and got to know the socio-cultural aspects of the communities. Based on the interaction with the communities, children and staff of Samarthya, it was decided to orient and train Samarthya team and undertake baseline study for the children.

Training on the 'Majhe Pustak' was arranged at the office of QUEST and exposure visits to the Schools was also planned to get the feel of the methodology in holistic way.

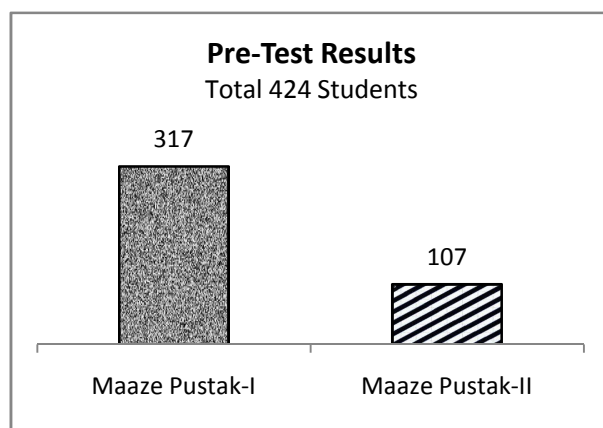
Accordingly team members of Samarthya undergone the training and two Balbhavans Sonale and Gaothan were visited. The functioning of the Balbhavan was observed.

After this visit, team members of QUEST visited Samarthya, and undertaken baseline for the children to ascertain the levels of learning of children.

Following are the findings of the baseline conducted in 15 Tanda of Omerga and Lohara tehsils of Osmanabad District. Total 424 students from Primary Schools were tested. The tests is conducted on the following areas, those are.

1. In this test students are expected to listen and write.
2. Reading out loudly as they see.
3. Comprehension.
4. Reading pictures.

The tests is for 30 marks besides oral exams. Those who are able to score marks below 15 are put it in Majhe Pustak-I and those score more than 15 marks are put it in Majhe Pustak-II.



In this way, the tests were conducted for 424 students. Of which, 317 children were in Majhe Pustak-I

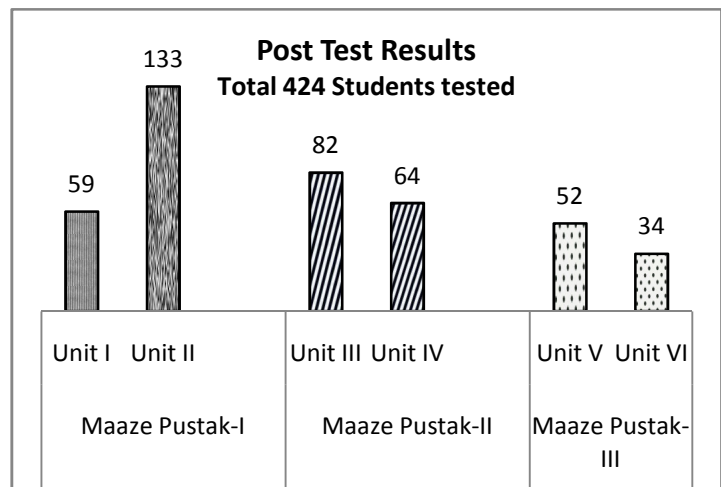
and 107 were in Majhe Pustak-II.

QUEST Team trained Samarthya team members to help students overcome the difficulties of learning language. It focuses on the 18 words and 4 vowels through identifying letters, writing by listening words, writing by seeing pictures, writing by listening sentences and reading by seeing. The student is expected to undergo these tests under Majhe Pustak-I. It is for 30 marks. If it passes all the tests, then it is assumed the student may be taught Majhe Pustak-II. In this, the student is taught different 18 words and 4 vowels. The post-test again carried out to determine the levels of learning. The student is desired to secure 30 marks.

424 students from 15 schools were encouraged to participate in this project. They were taught daily for 2 hours. After completing 6 months of the project, the post test was carried out to ascertain the results of teaching to the children.

The findings of the post-test are

- It was found that the students who were not able to identify the letters and words ie 317 students of which, 125 students moved to next level of learning.
- 86 students are now able to read and write any word and sentences without much difficulties. .



Overall, the methodology that is being developed by the QUEST is much helpful for the students who faces problems of learning Marathi, especially children of Laman who follow dialects at home.



## Summer Camps for children:

Summer camp was organised for children in Sardarnagar. The classes began from 18.04.2011. 123



children from eight tanda took part in the camp. Making toys from waste, handicraft, painting and exposures were undertaken.

## Abhiruchi & Support Classes:

In order to retain the interests of children in school and study well, Abhiruchi and Support classes are run in 15 tanda.. Games, songs, stories and reading are the keys of Abhiruchi Classes. Children enjoy these twice in a week.

Children are given opportunity to demonstrate their innate qualities. Oratory, drawing, team building etc are strenghtned. Similarly they are also provided conducive atmosphere to learn new things and unlearn something that hindrances into continuing the schooling.



Total 538 children are presently benefiting from the Abhiruchi and Support Classes.

## Lightening the candles of Education:

Poor retention, high drop out rates and poor quality education are the key problems face by the

primary schools located at tandas. Samarth planned to address these concerns and make parents and children active in the education process. शिक्षण दिव प्रज्वलन rallies were conceptualized to awake parents and children. They were organized during 14 to 16 June 2011 in fifteen Tanda.

Children were trained to make banners and slogans on education. It had helped in various ways:

- Parents do understand that importance of education, however sensitization on girls education is essential.
- Need of education in ones life is reinforced among children.
- Parents have become more active in Tanda Education Committees.
- Mothers seem to be more active in sending their daughters to schools

Details of rallies conducted and participants in fifteen tanda.

Attendance during Shikshandeeep Rallies					
Sr. No	Name of Tanda	Date of prog held	Attendance		
			Children /Youth	Parents	Total
1.	Sevanagar	14-06 -2011	43	59	97
2.	Maharanapratapnagar	14-06 -2011	28	42	60
3.	Sudhakarnagar	14-06 -2011	22	28	50
4.	Saradarnagar	14-06 -2011	47	68	115
5.	Vyankatnagar	14-06 -2011	38	43	81
6.	Jetalalnagar	15-06-2011	36	48	84
7.	Sewalalnagar	15-06-2011	45	58	113
8.	Sheetalnagar	15-06-2011	32	39	71
9.	Anandnagar	15-06-2011	35	67	112
10.	Manoharnaiknagar	15-06-2011	34	46	80
11.	Krishnanagar	16-06-2011	22	35	57
12.	Balajinagar	16-06-2011	45	58	103
13.	Turorinagar	16-06-2011	38	47	85
14.	Jadhavnagar	16-06-2011	20	43	63
15.	Jai bhavani nagar	16-06-2011	32	39	71
		Total	517	725	1242





# Glimpses of Teacher Training Programme.



## Spreading the Education through Mobile Library:

In order to reach out more numbers of children in Tandas, mobile libraries were introduced in the five Tandas. 30 books of children given to each Support Classes. Small story books, cartoon books, books on scholarships and autobiographies kept at each Support Classes. More than 140 Youth, adolescents girls and children have read books of their interests

### Key Results Achieved:

- ✓ 100% Enrolment at primary schools has been ensured during. Tanda Education Committees have been encouraged to send their children to schools.
- ✓ Women from tandas are participating actively in the gramsabha. The concerns related Tandas have raised but them and also put it up on agenda.
- ✓ Total 412 persons sensitized through popular theaters on the subjects like alcoholism, girls education, Infant mortality, Gender bias in serving food & educational opportunity, child marriage, dowry death & domestic violence etc.

## Fresh Enrolment to Primary School:

Samarthya has been able to promote enrolment of children to schools through sensitization programme, home visits and campaigns. The following table shows the number of children have enrolled to primary schools.

Fresh Enrolment in Primary Schools				
Sr. No	Name of Tanda	Boys	Girls	Total
1	Jai bhavani nagar	04	02	06
2	Sevanagar	07	04	11
3	Maharanapratapnagar	04	03	07
4	Sudhakarnagar	02	02	04
5	Saradarnagar	03	02	05
6	Vyankatnagar	06	04	10
7	Jetalalnagar	05	03	08
8	Sewalalnagar	05	02	07
9	Sheetalnagar	07	03	10
10	Anandnagar	04	03	07
11	Manoharnaiknagar	05	06	11
12	Krishnanagar	04	02	06
13	Balajinagar	03	02	05
14	Turorinagar	02	02	04

15	Jadhavnagar	04	02	06
	<b>Total</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>42</b>

## Celebration of National Days and Festivals:

### Celebration of Savitribai Phule Birth Anniversary:

Savitribai Phule was the pioneer social worker who fought against all odds to promote the girls' education. In order to imbibe the values of girl's education in community and promote girl's education, programme was conducted. Girls from Laman tanda performed skits and played group songs.



Samarthya organized the programmes in 13 tanda. More than 840 parents and children took part in the programmes. Celebration of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Birth Anniversary:



Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar has been the idol for the children. Dr. Ambedkar spread the message of 'educate, organize and agitate', so the programme of his birth anniversary was celebrated in 8 tanda. Children, youth, women and men participated in the programme. The guests Adv. Jadhav who studied upto LLB delivered speech, and set examples of India's great personality before children and encouraged students to study more and serve society for its good.

### Celebration of Shri Vasantnaik Birth Anniversary:

Late Chief Minister Shri Vasantnaik, who hails from the same community, served the State of Maharashtra. Community has high regard towards this great personality. Every year people of all Tanda participate in this programme enthusiastically. Persons who hold good position and studied more attend the programme and addresses community.

This year on 1<sup>st</sup> July, the programme of birth anniversary celebrated at larger level, in all tanda. The folksongs were



performed by the women and men together. The dance program was also performed in a traditional way. The sweets were distributed with the money contributed by the community.

### **Celebration of Independence Day:**

The Independence Day is special to all the communities. The flag hosting is done by the elders in all the Tanda. Guests from Omerga were invited to share the importance of Independence Day.

### **Educational tour of children:**

Children from 5 tanda were taken on educational tour to near villages. The met other children and



interacted with them. Games and songs were played. Total 48 children participated in the tour.



## Classes that Ignited Minds of Children.

..back to the school

### Prerana Pawar



Tanda: Sardarnagar  
Age: 9 yrs  
Class: 3<sup>rd</sup> std  
School: Zilla Parishad Primary  
School, Kader.

*I was in 2<sup>nd</sup> std when I left Mumbai and came to Sardarnagar with my parents. They kept me at home to look after my younger brother. I had great interest in school. My father could not understand this. I had no friends. I used to remain alone...doing something at my house.*

*Once I saw that children of my age used to go to the class held by some of our youth from other Tanda. Children used to play there. They used to make so much noise. Express their joys. I too wanted to join in them. One day I made my mind and stood up there. Teacher asked me to join in.*

*Today I liked painting. Children and teacher promoted my painting skill. Teacher informed my father. He too liked it. Next day, he arranged to enroll me in the school. Thanks to the support class that helped me make come-back to the school.*

From hesitation to steady..

### Shweta Pawar



Tanda: Sardarnagar  
Age: 10 yrs  
Class: 4<sup>th</sup> std  
School: Zilla Parishad Primary  
School, Kader.

*I was not able to do math. Subtraction, multiplication and division was tough to do. Today I can do it confidently without error.*

*I can also read paragraph properly without hesitation. It all happened with the new methods of counting with resource material.*

*Thanks to the method introduced by the teacher of Samarthya.*

## Doing it confidently..

**Nisha Sunita Ram Rathod**



Tanda: Sardarnagar  
Age: 13 yrs  
Class: 7<sup>th</sup> std  
School: Lokmany Vidyalay, Kader.

*My father was died when I was 1 yr old. We are three sisters. My mother works as daily wage laborer on other fields'. She wanted us to study and become good person. I used to be introvert and never liked to mix-up with other children. Fear and less confident was the major problems I was facing. But today I can speak up properly. Even I have participated in oratory and bagged prizes too. I have drawn many pictures and made one comics depicting my family story. I like reading, painting and speaking. Thanks to the teacher of Sakav School, who have helped me open up and try new things.*

## Towards family without poverty..

**Shantaram Dhanraj Rathod**



Tanda: Sardarnagar  
Age: 48  
Marital Status: Married  
SHG: Shri Shri Ravi Shankar  
IGA: Rearing buffalo.  
Loan amount: 15,000  
Monthly Income: 2,500

*We are seven members in family including four sons and a daughter. My husband is meson. Earlier I used to work in agriculture on daily wage. The money we both used to earn was inadequate as all are studying and expenses were high. I was a member of Shri Shri Ravishankar SHG started by Samarthyia. I shared my story in the group. Everyone listened to my sorrow. They supported me with Rs 15000 as loan. I purchased a buffalo to add to the monthly income. Today I two more buffalo which gives me earnings of Rs 150 daily. My sons are persuing BCom, MSc, and 12<sup>th</sup>. Their studies motivates us to work and earn something to realize the dream family without poverty!*

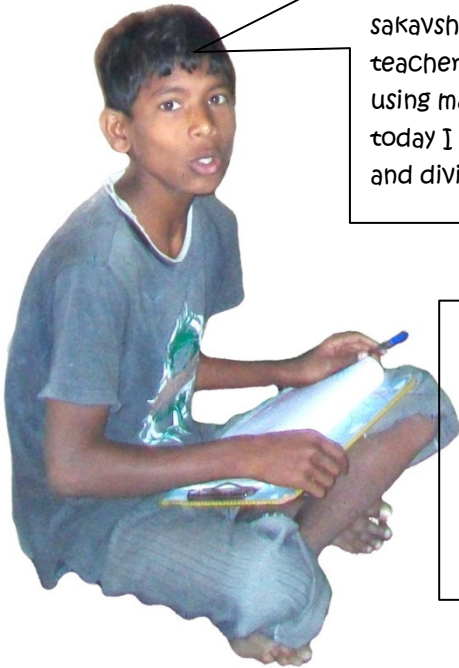
"I go to Achler village school, studying in 9<sup>th</sup> std. Our school never organizes any cultural program. Thanks to the Samarthya for organizing Balmelava (Children's gathering) and providing us space to show our talent."

....Balasaheb Rathod



"I never liked math. I used to be afraid. I never got good marks in the paper. I joined sakavshala for fun and play. Gradually teacher in the sakavshala taught me with using material. I started doing it as fun..and today I can do subtraction, multiplication and division at ease ..."

... Vikas Pawar



"I dropped out from 5<sup>th</sup> std. When I saw children of my age attend class of Sakav shala, I too joined. The volunteers encouraged me and my parents to continue my schooling. I have joined school again, now studying in 6<sup>th</sup> std..."

....Manisha Rathod



"Various programme organized by Samarthya has benefited me greatly, I overcome from low confidence, fear etc, today I participate in any public programme..thanks for the volunteer of samarthya who has pushed me..."

....Aishwarya Jadhav



## **Leadership Development Workshop for Youth:**

Leadership development workshop was organized 17 to 21 Feb 2012 was conducted in Sardarnagar Tanda. The purpose of the workshop was to make youth aware on the socially relevant issues like girls education, atrocities against SC/STs, legal measurements to protect vulnerable section of society, village development and environment.

Adv. BB Jadhav and Mr. Renke were invited to address and motivate youth. Adv. Jadhav shared the kind of cases he had handled. Civil Rights Act, DVA-2005, RTI-2005, SC/ST Atrocities Act-1989 were explained. What is FIR and How to file FIR was also explained.

Mr. Renke shared the plights of de-notified and nomadic tribes communities. The historical background of the communities was informed to the youth. The importance of education was emphasized. The youth were encouraged to study more.

In order to make youth mentally fit and disciplined, sessions of yoga were conducted. Total 30 youth participated in the workshop.

## **Yuvak Melava:**

Many youth today are educated without employment. They are tend to give in to addiction and get into conflict with family members. As a result the family get disorganized. Hence, Samarthya conducted camps for youth with the purpose to explore the possibilities of self-employment and civil services.

District Entrepreneurship Centre was contacted. The training programme of self-employment was planned. Hardware and computer software was started for youth. Total 146 youth benefited through the training programme.

Orientation programme on opportunities in competitive civil services was organized for youth. 23 youth chosen this field and decided to follow the civil services.

## **Organising Women Through Building SHGs:**

Samarthya has been able to promote 132 SHGs in 15 Tanda of Omerga and Lohara block. SHGs were helped to avail the loan from Banks to start income generating activities. Goat /cows/ buffalos rearing, grocery and general stores, garment shops

**Total SHGs promoted: 132**

**Total Women in SHGs: 1815**

**Total Saving: 25,47,550**

**Total Loan mobilized: 27,95,000**

**Women started IGAs: 51**



were initiated by women.

Presently women are earning in the tune of Rs 1500/- to 2500/- PM.

Sr. No	Name of SHG	Village	Type of IGAs	Loan Amount	Subsidy
1	Nirman	Sardarnagar	Goatery	200000	180000
2	Sri Sri Ravishankar	Sardarnagar	Buffalo Rearing	300000	180000
3	Saraswati	Sewanagar	Cow Rearing	25000	10000
4	Naval	Sewanagar		25000	10000
5	Renuka	Sewanagar		25000	10000
6	Jaibhavani	Vyankatnagar		25000	7500
7	Krishna	Jetalnagar		20000	7500
8	Banjara	Jetalnagar		20000	7500
9	Karimshahwali	Kader		25000	10000
10	Savitri	Kader		25000	10000
11	Baghyawanti	Kader		25000	10000
12	Mangal	Sardarnagar		20000	5500
13	Om Sai	Kader		20000	10000
	<b>Total</b>			<b>755000</b>	<b>458000</b>

### **Joint title in the name of couple:**

It has been observed that the women are thrown out of houses during the conflict/crisis time. It is because women had no property on her name. Samarthya took up this issue and campaigned through SHGs to make women aware on the need of having title of house in their name. The campaign succeeded in making 117 women feel proud by putting their names on house title.

### **Women's Health Camp:**

Anemia has been very common among women in villages. Hence testing of HB level was organized in the 10 Tanda. Total 462 women have undergone testing. It was found that the more than 80% women do have HB level below 11 mg.

In order to increase the level of HB, home based treatment was offered by the Doctors. They appealed to increase the intake of groundnuts, jiggery, reddish etc. And also suggested to cook in iron utensils



to increase the level of iron in diet.

### **Eye camps:**

Samarthya in collaboration with Rotary Club, Osmanabad held an eye checking camp on 27.11.2011. Blur vision, blindness were diagnosed. Dr Deepak Popale, Dr. Diggikar were there to provide consultancy free of charge. Total 87 people benefited.



### **De-addiction Awareness Programme:**

Street plays were organized from 28.11.2011 to 30.12.2011 in all tanda. Alcoholism, tobacco chewing were taken to generate the awareness on its ill effects.

Total 308 persons were made aware of that.

### **Save The Girls Campaign:**

Skewed sex ratio has changed the social fabric of society. Samarthya took this up and undertaken the campaign in all tanda through comics. The campaign was started from 15.10.2011 to 18.10.2011.

Street plays, comics and village meetings were conducted in all the 15 tanda. The campaign touched 1080 families of tanda.

### **Tailoring Training:**

In partnership with the Dist Entrepreneurship Centre and MITCON, Pune Samarthya organized a tailoring course free of charge to 30 women. It was started on 31.02.2011. 4 women started the shop after completing the course.

### **Training programme on Domestic Violence Act 2005 :**

A training program was organized on 15.10.2011 at Kader to train women on Domestic Violence Act

2005. Adv.BB Jadhav and Shri DR Madane, Manager, Maharashtra Gramin Bank, Omerga had come to address the participants.

How DVA can be used to protect the rights of women, similarly Manager of Gramin Bank explained the role of Bank in helping women to stand on their own feet.

Total 118 women attended the programme.



### **Women Counselling through SHGs:**

Many women of SHGs face injustice in the form of battering by men. Women used to share in the meeting. Women with the help of staff of Samarthyaa tried to address these issues. Couple and in-laws are asked to come to the meeting and put forth their say before all other members. The differences are resolved amicably. 16 couples so far visited and resolved their differences.

### **Celebration of International Women's Day:**

8th March was observed for the celebration of women's rights. The importance of the day was explained to the participants. The situation of women and ways to ameliorate the same was also discussed.

Few games for women were also designed to retain the interest of women. The prizes were given to them. Total 285 women participated in the programme.

## Livelihood With Dignity

### From Fear to Confidence



**Zajubai Kamlakar Rathod**

Tanda: Sewanagar  
Age: 39  
Marital Status: Married  
SHG: Naval  
IGA: Goatery  
Loan amount: 2000  
Income: 8000

*I used to make money from brewing liquor in my Tanda. People used to come from surrounding villages. There was huge demand. I used to get handsome money. However it was never peaceful activity. Police raid and ask for money. Hardly any penny used to get in hand. Besides, women whose husband drink and beat, come and quarrel with me. Meanwhile, I happen to be a member of Naval SHG. Training on domestic violence, women empowerment, gender and livelihood helped raise my understanding. This directed me to quit brewing liquor and think of something else which restore my dignity and humanity. I started to work in agriculture on daily wage. My SHG helped me with loan of Rs. 2000. I purchased a goat. Today I have three goats and balance of Rs 12000. Today I live confidently...without fear!*

### From Zero to Hero



**Lalita Vijay Rathod**

Tanda: Sardarnagar  
Age: 28  
Marital Status: Married  
SHG: Nirman  
IGA: Grocery shop  
Loan amount: 20,000  
Monthly Income: 6000

*I have three daughters and a son. We used to live in joint family. One day the entire family disorganized on account of the dispute over land. We were left with small piece of land which was insufficient to make living. I enrolled in Nirman SHG and after completing six months availed Rs 20,000. It was utilized for starting grocery shop. Initially it was tough for me. Gradually gained confidence.*

*Today I earn Rs 200 daily. It helps me to repay my loan and spend on family needs.*

*My husband is very happy and that I am supporting family. Seeing my progress, he too learned the masonry work. He too is now earning around Rs 300 daily.*

*We are model for other families in our own tanda...a family*

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## Happy second innings..



**Lalubai Kashinath Pawar**

Tanda: Sardarnagar  
Age: 53  
Marital Status: Married  
SHG: Nirman  
IGA: Goatery  
Loan amount: 20,000  
Monthly Income: 2,000

*We had five sons and four daughters, today nobody is with us. All left us with no money in hand. It was bit difficult to make both ends meet.*

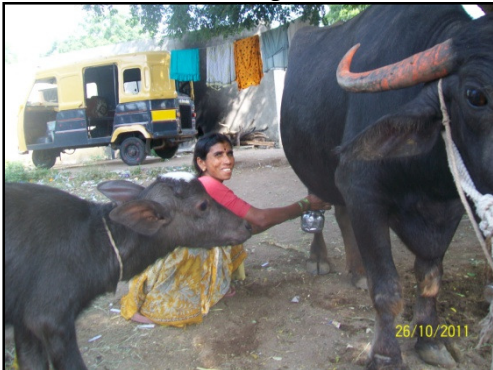
*I was in Nirman SHG promoted by Samarthyya. Regular meetings always encouraging in directing the path of life. I got Rs 20,000 and purchased six goats.*

*Today, I earn more than Rs 2000 monthly. My husband is also helping me grazing goats. He too got employed.*

*Our sons do not look after us in our old age, but yet we do not have any complaints against them. Contrary, we are thankful to their deeds that they put us aloof which motivated us to stand up on our own feet.*

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## Towards family without poverty..



**Shantaram Dhanraj Rathod**

Tanda: Sardarnagar  
Age: 48  
Marital Status: Married  
SHG: Shri Shri Ravi Shankar  
IGA: Rearing buffalo.  
Loan amount: 15,000  
Monthly Income: 2,500

*We are seven members in family including four sons and a daughter. My husband is meson. Earlier I used to work in agriculture on daily wage. The money we both used to earn was inadequate as all are studying and expenses were high. I was a member of Shri Shri Ravishankar SHG started by Samarthyya. I shared my story in the group. Everyone listened to my sorrow. They supported me with Rs 15000 as loan. I purchased a buffalo to add to the monthly income.*

*Today I two more buffalo which gives me earnings of Rs 150 daily.*

*My sons are pursuing BCom, MSc, and 12<sup>th</sup>. Their studies motivates us to work and earn something to realize the dream family without poverty!*

## Community Development:

Samarthya has been working towards making communities self-reliant. Most of the tanda are devoid of basic facilities, which include water, road, electricity connection, sanitation facilities and housing etc. Similarly, the issues of livelihood addressed.

## Bringing light...

Many tanda in Omerga and Lohara blocks are deprived of electricity connection. Samarthya took the initiative to bring electricity connection in the Sardarnagar, Krishnanagar and Sevanagar tanda of Omerga block. The continuous follow up with the Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) resulted in providing the connection to the Tanda. The connection was sought under the govt. scheme at minimal rate.

Sr. No.	Name of Tanda	Connection under DRDA Scheme Rs 15	Connection under reservation category Rs 300.	Connection under general category-Rs 1000.	Total connections
1.	Sardarnagar	18	14	04	36
2.	Sevanagar	00	10	03	13
3.	Krishnanagar	10	03	01	14
	Total conn.	28	27	08	63

## Access to livelihood programmes through government schemes.

Samarthya facilitated the entitlement of election voters ID in the light of Panchayat election held recently in the Maharashtra. Left out and fresh applicants were informed about its importance and camps were organized to get the election voter ids. The following are the details:

Entitlement of Government welfare measures facilitated by Samarthya						
Sr. No	Name of Tanda	Fresh Eligible Voters	Rationing cards	Caste certificates	Old age pensions	Aadhar Card
1	Saradarnagar	00	14	05	00	268
2	Vyankatnagar	00	17	03	00	168
3	Balajinagar	00	12	00	00	00
4	Turorinagar	60	25	00	00	00
5	Jadhavnagar	10	23	00	05	00
6	Jetalalnagar	27	36	03	09	00

7	Sewalalnagar	21	09	04	06	00
8	Sevanagar	00	18	07	05	385
9	Krishnanagar	00	12	00	00	00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>821</b>

### **Promoting Sanitation through mass cleaning and construction & use of toilets:**

A drive of cleanliness and use of toilet was undertaken in 9 tanda. Youth, women and children took part in cleaning Tanda. Common places like temples, streets and corners were cleaned. Cleaning of surroundings of houses done by the families. Nallah and gutters were cleaned. Total 76 soakpits constructed through the community shramdaan (volunteer labour). The water stagnation was prevented through planting drumsticks and custard apples. 1230 households participated in the drive, and shown behavioral change towards keeping the surrounding clean and hygienic.

The day of 8th June 2011 was observed as dry utensil day. On the day, everyone was asked to keep the utensils and common storage places dried. It helped to reduce the menace of mosquitoes.

Demonstrations of washing hands were also organized in Anganwadis and Schools. The importance of washing hands before and after having food was shared with all the students. Total of 430 students benefited through the information and now they are practicing it.

### **Banjara Saptah and Public Hearing on Obtaining Revenue Status to Tanda:**

Street plays were conducted to make people on the revenue status to the tanda. The tanda whose population is more than 300 populations are deserved to be recognized as revenue. Samarthya conducted series of meetings with communities through Banjara Saptah. Total of 896 people contacted. People made aware on the revenue status for Tanda. 20 tanda of Omerga teshil are qualifying to be recognized as revenue village. The proposal of the same has been submitted to the Govt. Authorities.

### **Cultural Festival of Laman communities:**

Laman community has its own culture and rituals. Annually the communities celebrate through performing traditional dance and songs. This helps to express themselves. The awards are given to those perform best.

### **Looking Within:**

The Samarthya has been proactively taking up the issues of communities and achieving the success. The participation of the communities is been active at all levels. Some of the initiatives of promoting women leadership at tanda and village level are praiseworthy. However, the sustainability need to be closely monitored.

### **Acknowledgements:**

This year has brought achievement and satisfaction to Samarthya. The organization has mobilized children, women, youth from Tandas and villages towards realizing their rights. For this we thank all our well-wishers and supporters especially Dalit Foundation, New Delhi, Training Development and Scholarship Society (TDSS), Pune, Commutiny - The Youth Collective, New Delhi, CORO-Mumbai and Manuski-Pune.

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*For more details, get in touch:*



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