



*Remote Communities we serve, Saarigad.*

# ***SOCIETY FOR MOTIVATIONAL TRAINING & ACTION***

***Annual Report 2017-18***

## **ABSTRACT**

This year SMTA suffered an irreparable loss as our long time president, guardian and educationist, Shri Kripa Ram Joshi gave up the mortal frame, on 17th Jan 2018, at the age of 87, having played a long and significant inning in Jaunsar as a social activist, teacher and worker. SMTA programs and activities have continued and gains were consolidated.

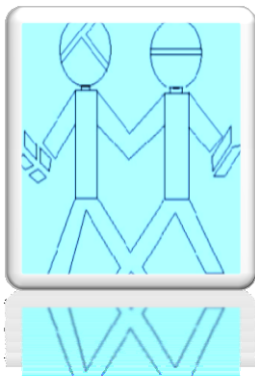
**Dr Satyendra Srivastava**

Director & Secretary

# *Annual Report 2017-2018*



Figure 1 SMTA Primary school at Jakhdhar (Chakrata)



## **Society for Motivational Training & Action (SMTA)**

S.K.C.C. Hostel Premises, Village Bhimawala via Chiranjipur Danda  
P.O. Vikas Nagar-248 198, District-Dehradun, Uttarakhand

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## *Kripa Ram Joshi : A tribute*



Figure 2 Ruben (Left) with Kripa Ram Joshi ji

Shri K R Joshi was born in 1931, on 2nd June, at village Thana, near Chakrata. His mother was Smt Narayani Devi and father was Ratiram Joshi, in a reputed family of Sadar Sayana. His father had his business in Chakrata but he had a deeper abiding interest in the Cultural Revolution taking place in the country at that time. He was active member of Arya Samaj, a reform movement. As such, his home frequently hosted intellectuals, activists and writers like, Pandit Indra Vidyavachaspati (son of Sw Shraddhanand), Sw Satyadev etc. Later, he came in touch with Sri Dharmdev Shastri,

of Ashok Ashram, Kalsi. At the age of 14, Kripa Ram volunteered with a charitable medical organization of Kolkata and visited

remote areas of Jaunsar Bawar. These were the early influences, which made him aware of the superstitions and caste inequities prevalent in the region and inspired him to work against them for his entire life.

He passed High school in first division in 1947 from Asharam School in Vikasanagar. He completed his graduate and post-graduate studies at DAV College Dehradun. He played a central role in establishing Jaunsar Bawar student union. Even though he volunteered for Indian National Congress, he was deeply influenced by luminaries like JP, Lohia and Ambedkar. Gandhi remained a role model for him throughout his life. Finally, while still a student, he decided to serve his region as a teacher.

He started teaching at Cantt School in Chakrata on 1 may, 1952. Working steadily with devotion, he became Vice Principal and retired on 30th June, 1989. In this period of 37 long years, he not only taught but also made sure that no student stopped learning for want of school fee. His commitment to education was so deep that while he was in class nine, he ran a night school in his own village. Through his efforts, many girl schools were opened in the region based on Ashram principle, since 1973. Not only education, he actively contributed in the area of women' empowerment, rural enterprise, family planning, immunization, watershed, social forestry, social justice etc.

He was a family friend to Late Dr Lehman of Herbertpur. He worked closely with him as a translator and a reliable support/ companion, when the Herbertpur Christian Hospital was being established in those early years. He was very close to Dr Lehman's son, Donald and others.

In 1995 he became president of SMTA and stepped down in 2013 due to his frail health. In this long period, as president, he encouraged the team to open many schools in remote villages, develop the local skills and talents and connect Jaunsar Bawar with the mainstream of social development. He was in touch with NCERT and as such, constantly worked for quality education. He regularly conducted teachers' training for SMTA teachers. He ran a self help group in his own village to inculcate small savings in the community. This self help group in Thana village is doing well even today.

He was the guiding spirit behind Uppal gaon watershed project in his village which ran for seven years and changed the landscape. The eight villages under this project, still remember Joshi ji and his vision of "beginning the change from one's own home". He was in touch with and deeply influenced by social workers like, Anna Hajare, Bankar Roy, Aruna Roy, Chandi Prasad Bhatt etc.

Besides, social work, Joshi ji was a prolific writer too. His letters and articles were regularly published in Jaunsar Mail and in other dailies. He wrote many socially relevant stories and also a brief introduction to Jaunsar Bawar, at a time, when this region was known only to few Anthropologists and researchers. His work through SMTA and the community of Uppal gaon, will continue to unfold and touch many lives. He left for heavenly abode on 17th January 2018, at the age of 87.

# *Society for Motivational Training & Action*

## **Annual Report (2017 -2018)**

The year 2017-2018 added one more year to our continued services of three decades to the needy people of our project area. We commence our Annual Report with the prayer of peace of St. Francis of Assisi.

*Lord make me a channel of your peace*

*That where there is hatred,*

*I may bring love*

*That where there is wrong*

*I may bring a spirit of forgiveness*

*That where there is a discord, I may bring harmony*

*That where there is error, I may bring truth*

*That where there is doubt, I may bring faith*

*That where there is sadness, I may bring joy*

*That where there are shadows, I may bring the light*

*Lord, grant that*

*I may seek rather to comfort than to be comforted*

*To understand, than to be understood*

*To, love, than to be loved*

*For it is, by giving that one receives*

*It is by self-forgetting, that one finds*

*It is by forgiving, that one is forgiven*

*It is by dying that one awakens to eternal life.*



# Preface

The year 2017 is a year when we have completed 32 long years of service to the people of Jaunsar Bawar. We the team members of the Society for Motivational Training and Action (SMTA) had unique experience of facing many unforeseen events, especially the unforeseen funding situation.

Since our main source of financial support come from various development funding agencies, the current difficulties have given us the insight to re-think and plan our future development activities. During the reporting year because of the financial constraint, we have tried to maintain the ongoing support to state programs – minority scholarship of the central government and the Open University of Uttarakhand and sundry initiatives.

Watershed Development Projects, financially supported by Manos Unidas, Spain (near Tiuni) and NABARD, Dehra Dun (near Saarigad) have been implemented as per the sanctioned plans. The new proposal for the new watershed projects has been submitted to NABARD, and is very likely to be sanctioned in 2018-19. Another horticulture project has been submitted to Aajivika (IFAD), Dehradun. We have also been empanelled by SWAJAL for district Dehradun for upcoming WATSAN initiatives. We are also in touch with Smile Foundation of India, which supports educational initiatives.

Manos Unidas, Spain, continues to support our watershed intervention near Tiuni for the second year too, to lessen the work load on women and to help them regain their high status in the mountain society.

The part of the SKCC hostel premises has been rented out to The Himalaya Trust, a social work organization, working in Uttarkashi, Garud and Pithoragarh.

On 17<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2018, we received the sad news of demise of Shri K R Joshi, at the age of eighty seven. He was our long time president, guardian and educationist; he played a long and significant inning in Jaunsar as a social activist and teacher. May his soul rest in peace. We have dedicated this Annual Report to his memory. We take this occasion to thank all our people of our project area, our active funding financial partners, our active Governing Board Members, General Body Members and our dedicated active team members for their valuable support, encouragement and cooperation in our endeavors.

Another development was, Dr Satyendra Srivastava (“sachin”), who has been our president since 2013 and a SMTA friend/ volunteer since 1998, took over as director and secretary since April 2017. We started a blog, a Facebook page, and a Whatsapp group, to promote online sharing of information and interaction with a wider group of volunteers and well-wishers.

A few old colleagues left and moved on: Sanjeev John, Kedar Singh. We wish them all the best in life and career. A few old colleagues have re-entered: Sohan Singh, who left SMTA as a teacher some years ago, rejoined us as Technical supervisor to Retrieving Woman’s Pride project, in Tiuni. Chain Singh, another old teacher returned to our Primary school, a move which was hailed alike by the village community and the students.

Dr Satyendra Srivastava  
Director & Ex-President, SMTA



## *Society for Motivational Training & Action (SMTA) an overview*

Name of the organization	:	Society for Motivational Training & Action (SMTA)
Legal Identity	:	Registered under Societies Registration Act XXI, 1860 with Registration Number 821/1986-87
Registered Address	:	SMTA Niketan, 27th K.m. Lakhamandal Road P.O. Chakrata-248 123, District-Dehra Dun-Uttarakhand
Postal Address	:	SMTA Co-ordination Office S.K.C.C. Hostel Premises Village Bhimawala via. Chiranjipur Danda P.O. Vikas Nagar-248 198, District-Dehra Dun, Uttarakhand
Year of establishment	:	1983 {as SWRC-UP Chapter}
Year of registration	:	1986 {as SMTA}
Working area	:	Entire Uttarakhand
Governing Body	:	President- Ms Rekha Sundriyal Vice president- Mr. Rachit Gupta Director/Secretary- Dr Satyendra Srivastava Governing Body members- Rekha Thapliyal, Rachit Gupta, Sultan Singh Rawat, Kundan Lal Sehgal, Sri Belam Dass and Ms. Dhaneshwari Rawat
Director	:	Dr Satyendra Srivastava
Auditors	:	Matta Garg & Co., Chartered Accountants 15, Astley Hall, Rajpur Road, Dehradun
Core issues	:	-Natural Resource Management -Watershed Development -Quality Education through Open University -Local Self Governance -Gender Equality and Development -Right to food and nutrition
Major interventions	:	-Capacity building & Vocational Training -Right Based Advocacy especially for Minority Community and other underprivileged groups -Networking, lobbying and alliance building -Information and knowledge sharing -Research and documentation -Promotion of livelihood opportunities

## Regional Context

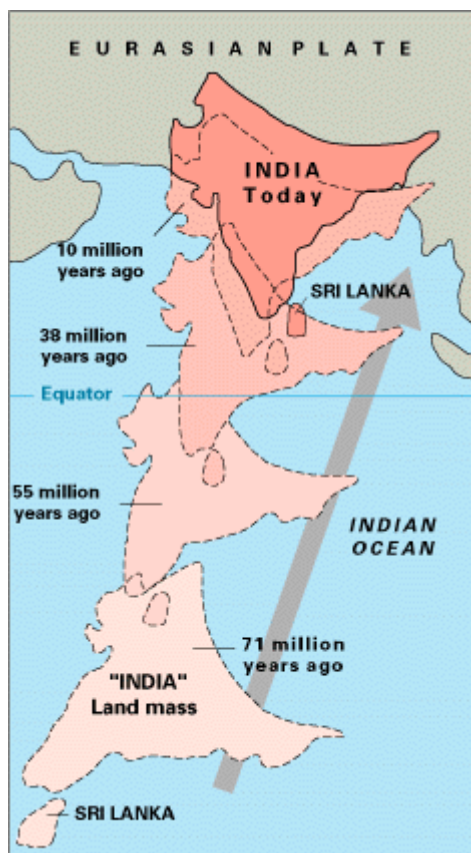


Figure 3 Growing Himalaya (Source: Wiki)

The Himalayas form a mountain range in Asia separating the plains of the Indian subcontinent from the Tibetan Plateau. The Himalayan range has many of the Earth's highest peaks, including the highest, Mount Everest. The Himalayas include over fifty mountains exceeding 7,200 meters (23,600 ft) in elevation, including ten of the fourteen 8000m peaks.

This range spans eight countries with an estimated length of 2500 km. Indian Himalayas are divided into two distinct geographical flanks-the Western Himalayas (Jammu Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand) and the Eastern Himalayas (Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland).

The mighty Himalayan Mountains are mother source of river systems like the Brahmaputra, the Indus and the Ganges, which are the life lines for millions of people living on the hills as well as flood plains. They are also provenance of rich biodiversity and act as a climatic fulcrum for the Indian subcontinent. Yet, the people inhabiting the Himalayan

States are trapped in the vicious poverty cycle, owing to a whole gamut of reasons- indifferent approach in official policies, skewed developmental planning, collapse of traditional form of governance as well as community managed institutions, annexing the localized natural resources from communities to state, and above all, steep depletion and degradation of the eco-system. Ironically, these communities maintaining a symbiosis with nature since centuries are today being blamed for ecological deterioration and their own plight.

Technological interventions, in the form of environmentally unfriendly developmental activities have eventually turned out to be death-knell of the environment, on the one hand and played havoc with the life of traditional and indigenous communities, on the other, increasing their plight manifold. Thus, an acute need was felt to make an intervention in the mountain areas and undertake a multi-dimensional and multi-purpose approach in the life of hilly communities aimed towards their empowerment making best use of the existing people's institutions and forums, through a participatory process, eventually enabling them to attain self-reliance.

## *Rationale*



Figure 4 A dilapidated house telling tales of ongoing migration (Arvind Moudgil/HT Photo )

*Why do Himalayan communities require development intervention?* The mountain ranges pose many specific problems, in addition to those prevailing in the flat plains like Indo-Gangetic areas. First and foremost, is that the life and livelihood of the inhabitants of the hilly areas is directly dependent on the health and richness of their eco-system and neighboring environment. Forests are the mother source for their daily requirement of fodder, fuel and part of essential daily intake ingredients.

Similarly, water sources, especially spouts, acquire a much greater significance in their life. The uninterrupted flow of spouts is directly dependent on the ecological wellbeing in an area. If the spouts go dry, as a result of depleting forest cover, massive erosion and blockage of their natural channels due to mining and construction activities, then dependent population is forced to travel a much longer distance in search of other water sources, like rivers. This also means devoting a large part of the day only in fetching water and it drastically affects their productivity, finally leading to lesser resources, which are now under the direct control of the state, has put additional pressure on the inhabitants of hilly areas.

Another area of concern that deserves attention is the unemployment. Though unemployment is rampant throughout the country, it assumes graver proportions in the mountain areas, as employment avenues are further restricted due to lack of industrialization. The spread of education has inspired the younger generation to scale new heights but lack of adequate employment leads to utter frustration, wasting this vibrant manpower.

The gap between male-female literacy ratio remains a matter of grave concern. Therefore, the scope of local employment, in the constructive income generating activities, needs to be explored. Promotion and production of folk craft, local artifacts, local products of cottage industries, smaller units for agro-and horticulture produce, medicinal and aromatic plants including herbs for pharmaceuticals and other analogous enterprises should be promoted in this direction. Involvement of Panchayats in this area on a sustainable basis is necessary.



Another important problem is the lack of accessibility. The mountain ranges, especially the Himalayan Mountains, are very fragile in nature as the Himalayas are the only mountains in the world, which are considered “living Mountains” since the plate tectonic activities are still in operation. As a result, the height of the Himalayas is increasing 1-2 centimeters every year. This also presents a scenario where *pucca* roads cannot be built everywhere as it might destabilize the environmental equilibrium. All in all, the inaccessibility, at times even going from one hamlet to the other, within the same village consumes a considerable time.

To circumvent these problems, watershed based planning for restoring natural resource base has now been proved as an important tool for overall development. Watershed is a complex web of natural resources such as soil, water, air, plants and animals. It is actually referred to as the area of land, which drains into a lake or a river. However, under broader aspects, it includes everything on which the community is dependent for its survival. It is also an integrated process of utilizing the natural resources available around without degrading the natural system. Promoting integrated watershed development programs through effective participation of local people is instrumental to prevent further ecological imbalance.

An integrated approach is needed for conserving, upgrading and using the natural resource base of land, water, plant, animal and human resources. In addition, promoting alternative livelihood opportunities, particularly through development of employment schemes that increase the productive base, will have a significant role in improving the standard of living among the large rural population living in mountain eco-system.

## ***SMTA - Historical background***

In the year 1983 Social Work and Research Center (SWRC) Tilonia Rajasthan opened a State Unit at Chakrata. Till 1986 it was known as SWRC U.P. The year 1986, when it was felt that there is the need for a mechanism to strengthen the capacity of local folk in watershed development, including Right Based Advocacy, Networking, lobbying and alliance building, Information and knowledge sharing, Research and documentation along with promotion of livelihood opportunities, saw the birth of Society for Motivational Training and Action, also known as SMTA.

### ***Project Area***

SMTA is operating predominantly in the Mid Himalayan ranges of Chakrata, Kalsi tribal blocks of Jaunsar Bawar and Vikas Nagar of District Dehra Dun and remote areas of Tiuni. There are number of towering peaks in the region with an elevation of more than 5,000 to 10,000 feet above sea level. Most of the villages are situated 3000 to 4,000 feet above sea level.

The climatic conditions in the region depend largely on the elevation. In winter, November to February, the climate is cold and the lofty peaks are covered with snow. In fact the snow at these peaks starts melting only after April, May and June are the hottest months in the area, with rain setting in early July and continuing till the end of September.

### ***People***

SMTA is presently working in three blocks located in the districts of Dehra Dun and Uttarkashi. In the former, SMTA is working in Vikas Nagar and Chakarata blocks of District

Dehra Dun and Naugaon block of District Uttarkashi in the State of Uttarakhand. Of these, Chakrata and Naugaon are backward population blocks.

## ***Economy***

The economy of the area is primarily rural, with agriculture and animal husbandry being the main source of livelihood. The main occupation of the area is agriculture that largely follows traditional practices. Cultivation, especially, at higher elevations is essentially for self-sustenance, rarely for cash. Irrigated area is a mere 10 percent of cultivated area. Agriculture is supplemented with animal husbandry that largely consists of rearing cattle, sheep and goats. Milk, wool and meat are the common animal products of the area.

The rugged hills and sharp decline limits the availability of land for agriculture. The fields are scattered and cultivation is carried on terraces by leveling whatever fields are available. This not only makes agriculture expensive, but also requires considerable amount of labor for repairing terraces every year. Agriculture is manual and demands labor of all the hands available in the household. As a result during agriculture season entire household - men, woman and children are engaged in agriculture operations. This limits the time available with the children for attending school.

## ***Basic Services***

The region is predominantly rural in characteristics with settlements spread over a large area. Generally, the villages are small and have inadequate transportation system. People of the region have to walk over the tough hilly terrain to access these facilities. The region is inadequately served in terms of basic services in health and education. In terms of health the major diseases of the area are mainly of water born nature and an unhygienic way of living. Sexually Transmitted Diseases, especially Gonorrhoea and syphilis, are also common. Though the incidence of this disease has come down on account of sustained campaign and curative camps by Government, but still the danger of HIV/AIDS is lurking. Most of the diseases in the area occur due to lack of awareness and an unhygienic way of living.



*Figure 5 SMTA headquarter at Jakhdhar, near Chakrata*

# Organizational Values

## Vision

People centered sustainable process of development based on security, equity and harmony in the society with Gender just, decentralized governance for promoting restoration and preservation of Himalayan Ecology for equitable development.

## Mission

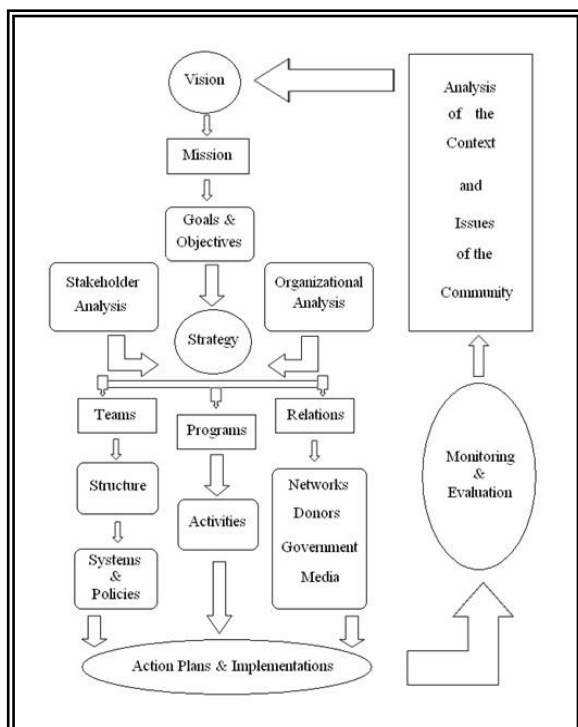
SMTA's mission is to work for exploring, supporting and providing opportunities of development for a better quality of life to socially deprived and economically marginalized people in furtherance to influence policies and programs for eco-friendly and gender just development of the society in the Himalayan region.

## Our Core Values

- *Respect: We affirm the dignity, potential and contribution of participants, donors, partners and staff.*
- *Integrity: We are honest and accountable for what we do and say.*
- *Commitment: We work together to serve the larger community.*
- *Excellence: We strive towards the highest level of learning and performance.*

## Approach

SMTA recognizes that community works through community members for integrated development are indispensable for the success of development initiatives in the Himalayan States. We believe in pooling expertise and resources (-otherwise impossible for marginalized community to avail), developing capacities and in turn articulating the collective voice of its members to impact larger issues.



SMTA's programs are distinctive because right from the beginning community members are involved in project planning, implementation and management. Gender mainstreaming has been integrated in all its program components to enable women's access to and ensure their participation in community decision-making. SMTA believes in decentralized administration, with a mechanism for effective control and supervision. Decision-making is collective with a hierarchical process of monitoring and supervision. Each hierarchy has its own prescribed roles and responsibilities and within their sphere, they have a right to decision-making.

## Strategy

SMTA develops relationship with different

institutions, departments and agencies by liaison with them or participating in their programs and activities. To attain SMTA's overall working for bringing about building, strengthening and maintaining bridges of understanding, cooperation and friendship, following strategy and activities are in focus:

- *Establishing linkages*
- *Knowledge Sharing and Information dissemination*
- *Capacity building of local folks*
- *Right based Advocacy and Networking*
- *Research & documentation*
- *Promotion of voluntarism and strengthening voluntary efforts*
- *Meetings, workshops, seminars, symposium and training courses*

Here is how SMTA Works-

**Strategic interventions:**

SMTA catalyzes sector-wide changes by investing in Scalable Innovations, and replicating and sharing best practices.

**Leveraged investments:**

Through its community philanthropy model, SMTA achieves Exponential impact with various resources.

**Cost-effective management:**

SMTA's professional staff identifies effective projects in our target area, plan, develops, implement and monitors their progress.

## ***SMTA Visualizes***

The establishment and strengthening of a social order wherein basic needs of all are fulfilled, economic inequalities removed, individuals and society have access to creative thinking and democratic decision making, enjoy equal social status regardless of sex, religion or place of origin, and where power is exercised by all in a responsible manner for the common good. Such a social order, based on human dignity, should emerge from among the people themselves.

Concretely this means a just distribution of resources, their regeneration and growth in which opportunities are created for all to enjoy the fruit of their work and according to their need. Such a social order would require, therefore, the elimination of exploitative factors from society through programs that create social awareness and organization of people for their rights through peaceful means.



# The Year under Review

In 2017-18, we have focused on Open University of Uttarakhand, Bachelor of Arts program and Minority Scholarship program, offered by Central Government, besides supporting other ongoing initiatives, as in the previous year.

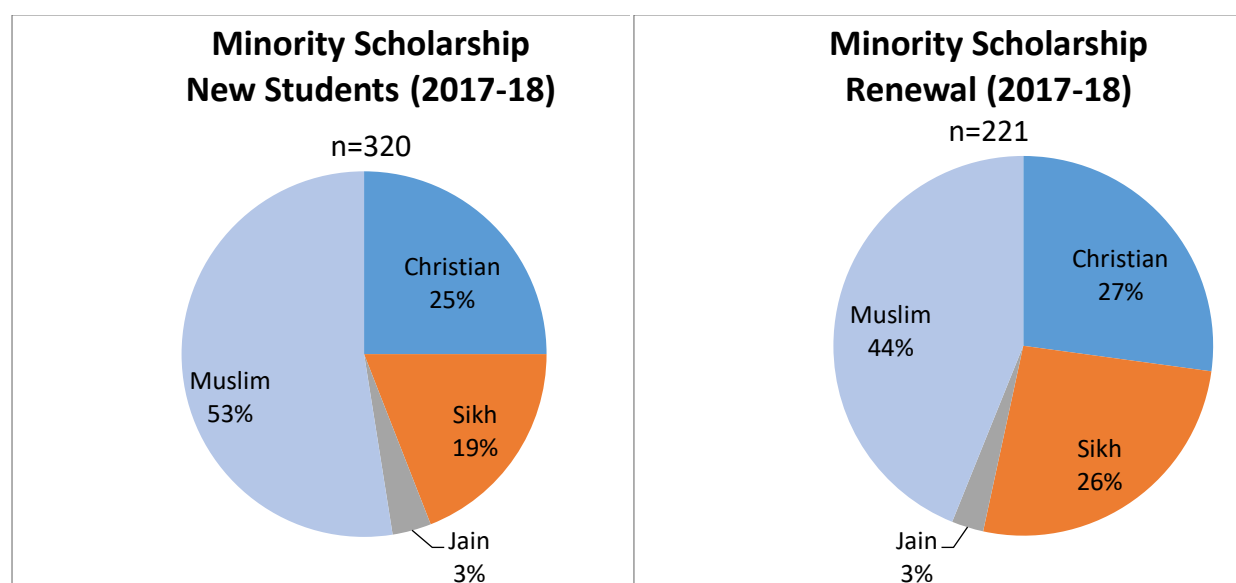
## Minority scholarship program

The **Minority scholarship program** is being administered through National Scholarships Portal; it is one-stop solution through which various services starting from student application, application receipt, processing, sanction and disbursement of various scholarships to Students are enabled. Students from minority community and students with disabilities, fulfilling the Scheme guidelines of various Ministries are eligible to apply for these scholarships. This initiative aims at providing a Simplified, Accountable, Responsive & Transparent system for faster & effective disposal of Scholarships applications and delivery of funds directly into beneficiaries account without any leakages. SMTA's role is to share information and facilitate online submission of testimonials.

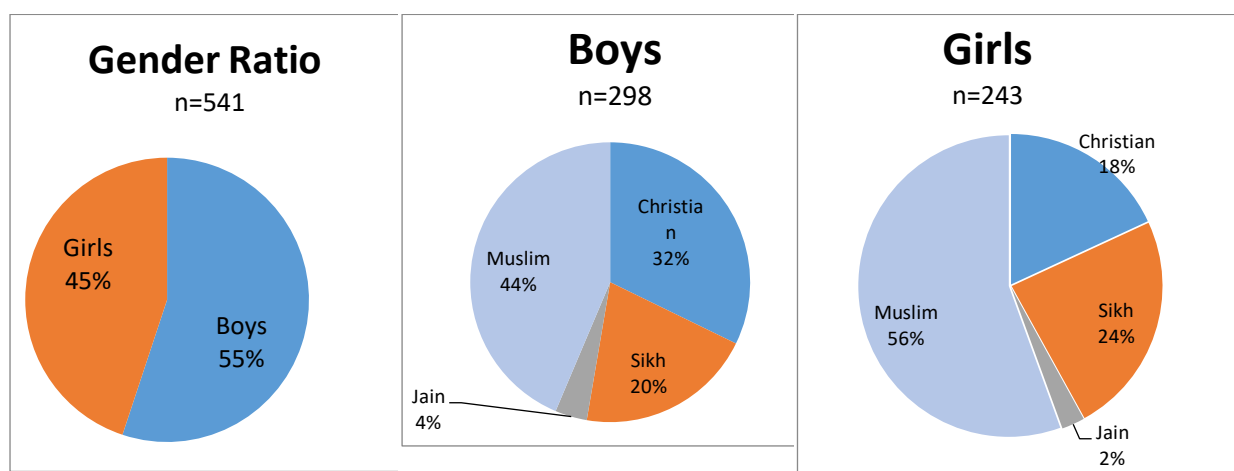
**Number of students helped by SMTA  
to access the scholarships (2017-18)**

	Fresh			Renewal			Grand Total
	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	
<b>Christian</b>	51	29	<b>80</b>	45	15	<b>60</b>	<b>140</b>
<b>Sikh</b>	30	31	<b>61</b>	31	27	<b>58</b>	<b>119</b>
<b>Jain</b>	7	4	<b>11</b>	4	2	<b>6</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Muslim</b>	62	106	<b>168</b>	68	29	<b>97</b>	<b>265</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>541</b>

This region has a substantial number of Muslim, Christian and Sikh communities, which is reflected in the charts below, both in the numbers of the new as well as old students:



**Gender Ratio:** Boys outnumber the girls in the total but community wise, more Muslim and Sikh girls are taking the advantage of this government scheme to promote literacy and education.



It is interesting to see that unfortunately, their participation in this program begins to fall off beyond class ten. This is the time when there is pressure (from peers and family) to earn. In some cases marriage and other family events (sickness/ death of the bread winner) forces young students to go for informal jobs at the cost of the further studies. Please look at the detailed chart below:

### Students taking Minority scholarship in 2017-18

Class	Fresh Students (numbers)								Renewals (numbers)							
	Muslim		Sikh		Christian		Jain		Muslim		Sikh		Christian		Jain	
	Boy	Girl	Boy	Girl	Boy	Girl	Boy	Girl	Boy	Girl	Boy	Girl	Boy	Girl	Boy	Girl
1	2	1	7	1	2	5		1					1		1	
2	4	5	2		4	1			2		2	2		1		
3	3	1	2	2	1	2		1		1	3	2	23	3		
4	4	6	4		2	2			2	2	3	4	2	2		
5	3	4	2			2	1			2	4		2	1	2	1
6	9	2	2	3	24	2			1	3	1	4	1	4		
7	4	9	2	2	5	2	3	1	1	2	4	2	4	2		
8	5	6	2	8	3	1	1		3	2	3	4	5			
9	17	29	3	4	1	3	1	1	55	7	1	5	2			
10	2	18	3	4	4	5	1		1	1	4	1	2			
11		10		4	2	1			2	4	2	1	2	1	1	
12	7	4		1	1	1			1	3	4	1	1			
BA-1		5		2		2										1
BA-2		1												1		
BA-3		2														
B com1		1														
B com2											1					
B com3									2							
B.Sc1																
B.Sc2					1											
B.Sc3		2														
BBA	1															
LLB	1															
MBA			1													
BEd					1											
Total	62	106	30	31	51	29	7	4	68	29	31	27	45	15	4	2

## Primary Education

This year SMTA sustained from its internal resources, our primary school in our head office premises at SMTA NIKETAN-Chakrata, and 34 primary age group children participated in quality primary education for the session 2018-19. The number has gone down because 18 children, who were in class five, have passed out in March 2018. Class wise detail of students is as follows:

Class	Boys	Girls	Total	Scheduled Tribe		Scheduled Castes	
				Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
1	4	1	5	3	0	1	1
2	4	3	7	1	1	3	2
3	4	1	5	1	0	3	1
4	2	3	5	2	1	0	2
5	5	7	12	2	5	3	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>

## The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)

We have facilitated admission of following four students to class ten under NIOS. All four of them come from poor background and are supporting their families by doing odd jobs- hair cutting, petty sales and running errands for shops etc.



## Higher Education

SMTA has been allotted a Study Centre (Code 11102-SMTA Institute of Academic Excellence) of Uttarakhand Open University (UOU), Haldwani-Nainital (Uttarakhand) to run Graduate level course. Here is the list of students who passed out in 2017:

### Passed Out Students(2016-17)

S. No.	Name of Student	Enrollment No.	Program Code/Year	Subjects
1	Indreyas William	14048259	BA-12	English,Sociology,Education
2	Gulnaaz Bano	14049322	BA-12	Hindi,Sociology,Education
3	Shyam Lal	14053582	BA-12	Hindi,Sanskrit,Education
4	Monica Martha	14054234	BA-12	English,Sociology,Education

5.	Suman	14051294	BA-12	Environment,English,Hindi
6	Priyanka	14053580	BA-12	English,Sociology,Education
7	Bharti	14054236	BA-12	Environment,Economics,English,Sociology,
8	Kamini	14056256	BA-12	Environment,Economics,English,Sociology,
9	Naresh Kumar	14057143	BA-12	Environment, Political Science,English,Sociology,
10	Meena Kumari	14057145	BA-12	Environment, Political Science,English,Sociology,
11	Preeti	14056259	BA-12	Environment,Hindi,Political Science,Sociology,

## Continuing Students

Sl.No	Name of Student	Enrolment. No	Program Code
BA Final Year 2017-18			
1	Km-Dpeeka	15075398	BA.-12
2	Km-Reshma	15075417	B A-12
3	Km-Anchal Kashyap	15075413	BA-12
4	Ashif Hussain	15075406	BA-12
5	Reeta Kumari	14049314	BA-12
BA 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year Students 2017-18			
1	Zabir	16089544	BA-16
2	Km-Anjali Elias	16088846	BA-16
3	Nazir Hasan	16088891	BA-16
BA 1 <sup>st</sup> , Year Students 2017-18,			
1	Km-Sahista	17111010	BA-17
2	Sunita	14053474	BA-12
3	Sahin	17111000	BA-17
4	Vikas Dass	16088850	BA-16
5	Km-Waseema	17107960	BA-17
6	Jiyoti	16096508	BA-16
7	Akhil Thomas	18132102	BA-17
8	Km Sonam	18135912	BA-17
9	Mohina	18137660	BA-17
10	Sony Victoriya	14053584	BA-12



### *Education at your doorstep*

**Case Study:** Mr Shyam Lal (photo below) comes from a poor tribal family from village Moltadi, near Purola. He could complete only high school due to financial difficulties and then began working as unskilled worker. Later on, he got a temporary contractual teaching job in Junior High school in Kandial gaon, near Purola. Soon he discovered that even as a teacher for lower classes, he needed to brush up his academics. He studied privately and passed class 12 from open school system. He had crossed 45 by then but he did not give up. His promotions depended on his qualifications.

He joined the open university BA course at SMTA, because it offered the subject combination which was needed for his career: Hindi, Sanskrit and Education. He completed his BA last year with good grades and is teaching class 6, 7 and 8



now. He was so happy with this accessible system of ongoing education that he encouraged his daughter (Deepika) and daughter in law (Reshma) to join open BA from SMTA. Both are pursuing BA course with us.

#### Some of our promising BA students:



Monika



Nazir



Suman

### Watershed Initiatives

We have submitted to **NABARD** a Feasibility Study Report (FSR) of SARIGAD Watershed Project comprising of 1277.467 Hac. area covering *Kalojgaon, Matari, Khirmu, Oadgaon, Jhimangaon* and *Lodan* villages in Godder Patti Area of Naugaon Block (Uttarkashi). The proposal had to be reworked a few times due to changing requirements from the donor. Finally, we heard from Nabard and a field visit was conducted by Ms Sapna Bisht (RO) in May (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>) 2018. After this satisfactory visit, we will be starting this project soon.

**Manos Unidas** has granted our RWP project. The implementation began soon after our FCRA renewal was cleared – in June 2017. It is an innovative Program on drudgery reduction & women empowerment, entitled RETRIEVING WOMEN'S PRIDE; All the first year activities have been completed in time (see below). The second year implementation will begin soon.

S. No.	Description	I <sup>st</sup> Year		Location
		Proposed	Achieved	
1	Orientation of Staff	1	1	Vikas Nagar
2	Study on resource gap and drudgery related activities of women	1	1	Jithar, Banpur
3	Organization of SHGs	4	4	Jithar, Banpur, Donri, Kathang
4	Capacity building of SHGs	2	2	Jithar, Banpur
5	Training of SHG on grass land development and nursery raising, livestock management etc.	3	3	Jithar, Banpur, Donri
6	Distribution of Seeds/ fodder seed	2	2	Jithar, Banpur
7	Poly House/Nursery & demonstration farm setup for fodder root stock and saplings	Change to Rajma seeds 2	2	Jithar Banpur
8	Development of family (women) orchard 34 Plants per Family @ 82.00 per Fruit Plantlet from	9000 Plants	9000 Plants of Apple distributed (169)	Jithar, Banpur, Kathang, Rawalidhar, Donri, Bhadali basti

	certified nursery		families)	
<b>9</b>	Plantation of fodder species with participation of SHG and villagers	1300 Plants	700 Banj,200 Reetha,200 Guriyal, 200 kanoor	Jithar,Banpur,Kathang, Rawalidhar, Donri, Bhadali basti
<b>10</b>	Revolving Fund to SHGs	4	4	7500 to every SHG in year 1 and 2
<b>11</b>	Rainwater harvesting Tanks (Hauz)	7	7	Kathang,Nalu Khad,Dungbag,Jithar, Negi basti Banpur,Badali basti,Rawalidhar
<b>12</b>	Construction of irrigation canals (Ghuls) /pipelines	2	One Ghul-300 Mtr & One pipeline 3100 Mtr: total two	Ghul constructed in kathang & pipeline in Bhadali basti banpur
<b>13</b>	Poly Ponds	2	2	Banpur,Donri
<b>14</b>	Catchments treatment	1	1	Retaining wall-Jakhari banpur Land Leveling-Saini jithar Gully plugging-Tachiya banpur
<b>15</b>	Health Training Camp	1	1	Pandranu, Tiuni
<b>16</b>	Workshop and Meetings	2	2	Forest Guest house Tiuni & Vikas Nagar, St. Mary's School Dehradun

## Other Salient Events

1. **Azim Premji Foundation** conducted a four day workshop in April 2017, for government school principals in the region on joyful education.



Figure 6 Azim Premji Workshop for Principals at our campus

2. **Counselling:** Many young people have visited SMTA, for counselling with Dr Srivastava. Many of them have been dealing with stress due to stammering and other issues in their lives. Pankaj (from Almora) and Vaibhav (from Baluwala) are good example of how a little attentive listening and some strategic questions can help a young man deal with his issues, solve problems creatively and move on.

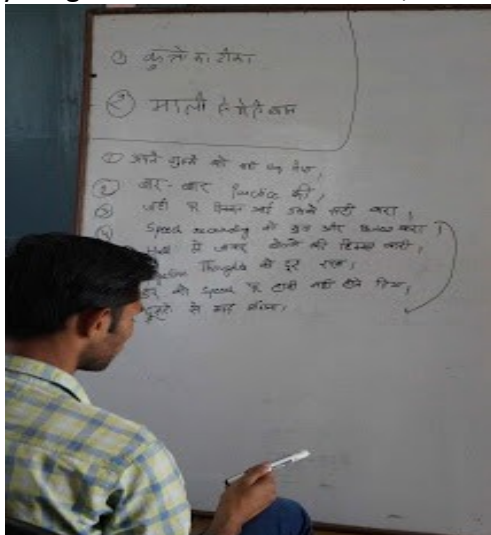


Figure 7 A counselee sharing his thoughts in writing

3. **Parent Teacher Meeting:** Dr Srivastava and Sultan attended a parent teacher meeting in our primary school at Jakhadhar on 10th June 2017. About six women and twenty or so men, most of whom have a child studying in the school were there. An important decision taken at this meeting was that parents will provide a second set of uniform to their children, so that they can rotate it every three days and the child could be more presentable.



Figure 8 PTA meeting at Jakhdhar. Hopeful parents

4. **Resource Gap Analysis:** As a foundational exercise, Pawan (an old SMTA staff) conducted a resource gap analysis in Jhitaar and Banpur in June 2017: to understand how this gap impacts women's life and workload. This will guide our up-coming activities in the field, under RWP.
5. SMTA was recognized as a **PMGDISHA** center (as a partner of P-Tech, Agra) in August 2017. We were to recruit students from Bhimawala village. The response was poor. But in the process our team has learned the content of PMGDISHA and how to use biometric technology.
6. **FRUITS FOR ALL** : A one year Short Grant Proposal proposal for ORCHARD DEVELOPMENT through a focused fruit producer group, connected through social media, linked to technical experts and markets, in Chakrata mountains, in a tribal belt – was submitted to IFAD (Aajivika) in February 2018, for consideration.
7. SMTA was successfully empanelled with **SWAJAL** in August 2017. The process got delayed due to internal / bureaucratic issues.
8. SMTA school children observed Independence day (15th Aug 2017) and Republic day (26<sup>th</sup> Jan 2018) in a cultural function with great enthusiasm. In September 2017, they participated in a **block level sports event** at Quansi and won much recognition.



Figure 9 SMTA students winning a Kabaddi match at Quansi



9. On 2<sup>nd</sup> October, SMTA school children took out a **cleanliness rally**, followed by a cleanliness drive in the Jakhdhar market area.



Figure 10 SMTA students taking out a cleanliness rally

10. **Manos Unidas** paid us a visit in November 2017. Margaret (a founder member) also visited us about this time for a week. Meeting with Manos Unidas representatives was held in St Mary's convent in Dehradun on 17<sup>th</sup> Nov 2017. The project progress was reviewed and possibility of a tentative field visit (via Shimla) was explored. Community members have sincerely invited Manos Unidas representatives to their villages.



Figure 11 Alexandra and Gloria of Manos Unidas with Mangat Ram ji of Tiuni

11. **MMR vaccination in school:** Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccination is offered for free by the government health team at our Primary school near Chakrata. 37 out of 40 kids, received this benefit in the second week of December 2017. Three left out kids, were subsequently covered in their village- Majhgaon. Children were also encouraged to play games in the field which was recently re-surfaced with community help.



*Children play carrom during the break*



*Students play Kho-Kho during the break*

12. **Digital literacy in Jaunsar:** Sultan and Dr Srivastava participated in a two day workshop, on the above theme, organized by Digital Sarathi, on 19 and 20 January in Vikasnagar.
13. **The new office on Campus:** The Himalaya Trust, a Dehradun based organization has moved into their new rented office at our Vikasnagar campus in January 2018. THT is working on livelihood, Women's development, skill development, IT education, environment and culture.
14. **SMTA School** at Jakhdhar has started spoken English classes and computer skills for its students. They are being shown child centered movies too.



*Figure 12 Smta students practice on computers at Jakhdhar*

## **SMTA Resource Centre**

SMTA collects, analyses and disseminates the information on a regular basis to a wider target group of our project area and social activists. In doing so the organization adopts a selective approach and focuses only on sectoral issues. The sources used for collecting information include various schemes and policies of the government, reports of national commissions, working groups, publications of UN agencies and other national and international agencies, newsletters, workshops and seminar reports etc.

Apart from this, SMTA shares platforms with other like-minded organizations for knowledge sharing and information dissemination on various issues that need urgent redress by VOs. SMTA office provides various organizational inputs to local voluntary agencies. The Himalaya

Trust plans to collaborate with us, on the theme of reviving mountain campus of voluntary agencies in this region, through Youth exchange program.

### ***Organizational Developments***

With last director resigning on 22 April 2017, the then president, Dr Satyendra Srivastava took the charge as the director. Ms Rekha Thapliyal was elected as President, and Sri Rachit Gupta, as Vice President, in a subsequent Governing Board meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

Our FCRA registration with Home ministry was renewed for next five years, in June 2017. This cleared the way for the RWP project, funded by Manos Unidas (Spain). The activities quickly began within a week.

Shri Tika Ram Sharma resigned from the general body and governing body of SMTA in May 2017, because of his delicate health. He was presented a commemorative plaque and a gift for his memorable services to the community and the organization.

**Bereavements:** Kundan, our senior staff in Accounts, lost his father, Shri Fataru Das, on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2017. Shri K R Joshi passed away on 17<sup>th</sup> Jan 2018. Mr. Gulab Ramchandani, our founder, long time friend and guardian, died on 13 April 2017 at the age of ninety. Fr Freddie too, who had been a great support and friend for SMTA all these years, passed away in August 2017. We pray for the souls of the departed and hope to stand up to their expectations in the time to come.

### ***Membership Management***

SMTA is essentially a member-run organization and is driven by collective wisdom of its members committed for overall development of the society with an essence of People Centered Development. Therefore, ensuring participation of members in each and every activity is of utmost importance. Expanding quality membership and inculcating values of accountability and transparency in its members is one of the major tasks of our organization.

#### **Updating list of membership**

SMTA updates its membership on regular basis and as on March 31, 2018 following persons were part of the Governing Board and General Body with the society:

## Governing Board of SMTA

S. No.	Name	Designation	Contact No./e-mail	Address
1	Ms Rekha Thapliyal	President	09758908689 09536110733	25, Sundarwala, Raipur, Dehradun
2	Mr. Rachit Gupta	Vice President	09917469007 09412053945 bjtravelsdoon@yahoo.co.in	24/4/B, Teghbahadur Rd, Dalanwala, Dehradun Uttarakhand
3	Dr. S.K. Srivastava	Secretary	01360-250600 09412058272 satksri@gmail.com	Lehmann Hospital Road, 478/1, Eden Bagh, Herbertpur-248 142, Dehradun, Uttarakhand
4	Mr Sultan Singh Rawat	Member	09412174911 08126144076	5, Village & Post Kothi, Bamtad, District Dehradun, Uttarakhand
5	Mr Kundan Lal Sehgal	Member	09536819316 09412152249 kundanlalsehgal@rediffmail.com	Near Shiv Temple, Bhimawala, Vikasnagar Dehradun, Uttarakhand
6.	Ms Dhaneshwari Rawat	Member	0759003276	5, Village & Post Kothi, Bamtad, District Dehradun, Uttarakhand
7	Mr Belam Dass	Member	08449214069 07252810706	42, Village Koruwa, Dist Dehradun, Uttarakhand

### Out going:


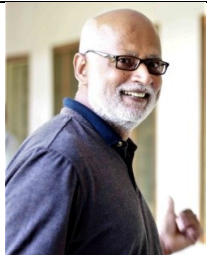




Mr Tika Ram Sharma  
Mr Sanjiv John

### In coming:






Ms Dhaneshwari Rawat  
Mr Belam Dass



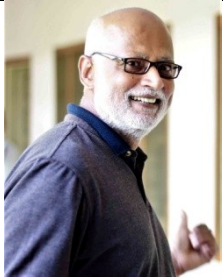





## General Body of SMTA

S. No.	Name	Address	Contact No.
1.	Baraf Singh	Vill Mohana, Post Sujau, Chakrata, Dehradun	Mob: 9412018946
2.	Genevieve Arvind	Banglore	jenny@azimpremjifoundation.org
3.	Jacob P J	Delhi	Mob: 9999848083 pjjacob4@gmail.com
4.	 Nishant Furtado	430/1 Pragathi Layout, matoshree krupa, 21st a cross , Doddanekundi, Kartik Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560037	nishantjohnfurtado@gmail.com
5.	 Dr. S. K. Srivastava	Lehmann Hospital Road, 478/1, Eden Bagh, Herbertpur-248 142, Dehradun, Uttarakhand	01360-250600 09412058272 satksri@gmail.com
6.	 Mr. T. R. Sharma	277 – 11 Vasant Vihar, Dehradun Uttarakhand	09410994746
7.	 Mr. R. R. Furtado	430/1 Pragathi Layout, Matoshree krupa, 21st a cross , Doddanekundi, Kartik Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560037	07060739033 gbsmta@rediffmail.com
8.	 Mr. N. D. Joshi	Sadar Bazar, P. O. Chakrata – 248123 Dehradun Uttarakhand	09456176494
9.	 Mr. Rachit Gupta	B J Travels 15-B, Rajpur Road, Dehradun Uttarakhand	0135-2621042, 0135-2651745 09917469007, 09412053945 bjtravelsdoon@yahoo.co.in

10.	 Mrs. Margaret	430/1 Pragathi Layout, Matoshree krupa, 21st a cross , Doddanekundi, Kartik Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560037	07895189342 gbsmta@rediffmail.com
11.	 Dr. M. C. Joshi	The Doon School Dehradun Uttarakhand	09412155745 mcj@doonschool.com
12.	 Mr. Robert Kumar	Director-Anugrah, Lehmann Hospital Premises, Eden Bagh, Herbertpur Dehradun Uttarakhand	09412050738 Robert@eha-health.org
13.	 Ms. Manju Khatri	Village Ramgarh, Shimla Bye Pass Road, Vikasnagar, Dehra Dun, Uttarakhand	09917520478 08171207079
14.	 Ms. Rekha Sundriyal	Apna Vidhya Mandir, Mullockchand, Shimla Bye Pass Road, Vikasnagar, Dehra Dun, Uttarakhand	09758908689 09536110733
15.	 Mr. K. L. Sehgal	SMTA S.K.C.C. Hostel Premises Village Bheemawala via Chirinjipur Danda, P.O. Vikas Nagar Dehradun Uttarakhand	09536819316 09412152249 kundanlalsehgal@rediffmail.com gbsmta@rediffmail.com
16.	 Mr. S. S. Rawat	SMTA Niketan Jakahadhar, Chakrata, District Dehradun, Uttarakhand	09412174911 08126144076
17.		SMTA coordination office	08057943308

	 Mr. K. S. Chauhan	S.K.C.C. Hostel Premises Village Bheemawala via Chirinjipur Danda, P.O. Vikas Nagar – 248198	09411732402
18.	 Mr. Chain Singh	SMTA Niketan Jakahadhar, Chakrata, District Dehradun, Uttarakhand	09456771459 09411729533
19.	 Ms. Dhaneshi Rawat	SMTA Niketan Jakahadhar, Chakrata, District Dehradun, Uttarakhand	01360-262230 09411780405
20.	 Pawan Kr Arya	c/o Sh. Mitthan Lal, Jalaliya Ambari p.o. Jeewan Grah Vikas Nagar, Dehradun	9410354004
21.	 Kunwar Singh Chauhan	c/o Shri Rati Ram Chauhan Vill: Kulha Post: Mundhol Dehradun, Uttarakhand	9410378837

### SMTA-Staff {2017-2018}

S. No.	Name	Designation	Placement	Date of Joining/Leaving
1.	 Dr Satynedra Srivastava	Director, Secretary	SMTA	22.4 2017
2.	 Mr. Sultan Singh Rawat	Development Coordinator	SMTA Niketan Chakrata	09.05.1986
3.	 Mr. Kundan Lal Sehgal	Manager of Accounts	SMTA Co-ordination office Vikas Nagar	08.08.1986
4.	 Mr. Kedar Singh Chauhan	Teacher	SMTA School, Jakhdhar, Chakrata	08.08.1988
5.	 Mrs. Dhaneshi Rawat	Community Development Worker	SMTA Niketan Chakrata	24.11.1997
6.	 Chain Singh	Teacher	SMTA School, Jakhdhar, Chakrata	14.5.2017

## *Organizational Matters*

SMTA held four governing body meetings in the reporting period: First on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2017 in SMTA office at Vikasnagar. Herein, Dr Srivastava, the president took the charge as director, subsequent to the resignation of the then director. Second one was held on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2017, at Central Hotel, Dehradun. Here in, Ms Rekha Thapliyal was elected unanimously as the president and Mr Rachit as the vice president. Belam Dass and Ms Dhaneshi were co-opted in governing body. Third governing body meeting was conducted on 18<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2017 at SMTA office, Vikasnagar. Herein, the annual report and the financial statements for 2016-17, were presented, discussed and approved. The fourth meeting was held on 11 Feb 2018 at SMTA office, Vikasnagar. It approved the tentative budget of SMTA for 2018-19.

We conducted two general body meetings, first on 18<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2017 at SMTA office, Vikasnagar. It was attended by our founder member, Maragret Furtado. It was recommended that four new members should be inducted in the general body: Baraf Singh, P J Jacob, Geneviev Arvind and Nishant Furtado. The second was conducted on 11 Feb 2018 at SMTA office, Vikasnagar. It approved the tentative budget of SMTA for 2018-19.

## *What Future Holds*

As donor fatigue overtakes international donors, and the focus shifts to sub-saharan Africa, voluntary agencies in India have to be creative and must think out of the box. We have to find causes that do not require massive funds, but can be influenced with a nudge and good will. We are trying to negotiate with Indian donors who may consider giving us matching grant for the school. SMTA is self-funding the primary school near Chakrata and we are trying crowd funding as well as Indian charities focusing on education, like Smile Foundation of India.

Natural resource base of this land continues to be under seize, by the population, its changing life-style and the short-sighted policy making. The world is heading for an "ecological credit crunch" far worse than the current financial crisis because humans are over-using the natural resources of the planet, an international study warns today. The problem is also getting worse as populations and consumption patterns keep growing faster than technology finds new ways of expanding what can be produced from the natural world<sup>1</sup>.

On the basis of its acknowledged strength and expertise in the field of natural resource management, SMTA has a responsibility to meet those challenges, in its own small ways. We have a commitment towards this end. In the process, if we can serve women to regain their central place in the society – as empowered, educated, healthy and content women, we will consider our efforts blessed.

We will continue to strengthen existing village institutions and play an instrumental role in the creation of new village institutions. We are dedicated to seeing them progress and become federated into strong social organizations.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2008/oct/29/climatechange-endangeredhabitats>



Diversification in the off farm income generating activities including livestock development, livelihood generation and any other suitable land based activity will be encouraged.

The Training Institute will be a focal point for enhancing the existing programs, dealing with the requirements of the future expansions and also providing inputs to the NGOs and GOs in the field of natural resource management. Apart from this we will be taking forward quality higher education for the community.

Advocacy in influencing government policy changes and spreading the successful natural resource management programs in other regions will be taken up more intensively.

With our rich experience and knowledge in the field of natural resource management, the funders, government, NGOs, and international agencies will find in us dependable partners worth supporting.

### ***Vote of thanks***

When we look back we are encouraged by our steady progress in the field of development, despite many ups and downs. The encouragement of our Governing Body Members, dedicated commitment of our field team members to the cause of the needy people and the generous donor partners' support inspires us to look ahead, to meet the new challenges in the field of Human Development. We take this occasion to thank one and all for joining hands to achieve the process of community participated development work. We sincerely thank our active members of General and Governing Body, our dedicated office and field workers, the members of the participating communities and above all our generous Donors including Manos Unidas-Spain and NABARD-Dehra Dun. May you flourish and touch many more lives!

### ***Closing Thoughts***

We would like to place this report in your considerate hands with a few concluding thoughts on education by an eminent Indian:

*We have come to this world to accept it, not merely to know it. We may become powerful by knowledge, but we attain fullness by sympathy. The highest education is that which does not merely give us information but makes our life in harmony with all existence. But we find that this education of sympathy is not only systematically ignored in schools, but it is severely repressed. From our very childhood habits are formed and knowledge is imparted in such a manner that our life is weaned away from nature and our mind and the world are set in opposition from the beginning of our days. Thus the greatest of educations for which we came prepared is neglected, and we are made to lose our world to find a bagful of information instead. We rob the child of his earth to teach him geography, of language to teach him grammar. His hunger is for the Epic, but he is supplied with chronicles of facts and dates...Child-nature protests against such calamity with all its power of suffering, subdued at last into silence by punishment.*

*( Rabindranath Tagore, Personality, 1917: 116-17)*

### **The End**