



SAMBHALI TRUST

Annual
Report
2020-21



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OUR MISSION

We at Sambhali Trust are a grassroots non-profit organization aiming at enhancing the lives of underprivileged women and girls in Rajasthan. Founded in Jodhpur in 2007, we want to support these women in gaining “self-esteem, unity, and independence.”

Many of our participants are members of the “Scheduled Castes.” Their lives are shaped by threefold discrimination based on their gender, caste, and oppressive socio-economic situations. Without education, they lack possibilities to overcome this position. With our holistic approach, Sambhali Trust contributes to ending this cycle of poverty and disadvantage as well as to challenge society’s perceptions of gender roles.

By training the women at our Empowerment Centers and Graduate Sewing Centers in vocational skills and providing them with the opportunity to earn a regular income, Sambhali Trust helps women play a more dominant role within their homes and society. Because we see education as an important stepping-stone towards empowering women and girls, our projects include the Boarding Homes, Sheerni Microfinance, Scholarship Program, and our newest Nirbhaya Project.

However, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Primary Education Centers were closed in 2020. Aadarsh, the No Bad Touch Project, and the Setu Rural Project have also, all been temporarily paused.





LETTER FROM THE FOUNDER

Khamaghani Dear Friends,

Everyone knows of the dire situation India is suffering at present. With over 400,000 cases each day (early May 2021), we are all worried and scared what the future holds and how long this crisis will go on. After the magnificent effort that we were able to achieve in Setrawa in 2020 by providing food and supplies to all those families out of work in the Dechu Tehsil region, Sambhali Trust is once again helping as much as we can in Jodhpur and Setrawa. We are working with the local authorities to provide medical equipment for hospitals in both Jodhpur and Setrawa and food rations to all those in need including all our participants past and present. Our new expanded Nirbhaya Project with its telephone HelpLine has opened up to all those in need and those who may be anxious, where we can offer counselling services through our SOS service.

Since October 2020, the Nirbhaya Project has had a new mission to concentrate on those who are suffering domestic abuse and rape. Domestic abuse has increased during the pandemic, so we thought it was only right that we helped by working with local hospitals and police authorities to make sure that those who suffered had access to both psychological counselling and legal advice. To this end, we appointed Advocate Shivani Singh and Psychologist Abhilasha Chouhan to provide this support on phone, in one-to-one meetings, and educational campaigns on ending violence towards women by distributing leaflets on access to women's rights and how to contact Sambhali. The Nirbhaya Project has been one of the successes of 2020. After going through a pilot phase of 6 months, we can increase help and support to those women in our community.

This last 12 months, also saw us needing to consider which projects to try

and keep open and those that needed to close. Given that masks, social distancing, and hand-sanitizers are the norm, we felt that we wouldn't be able to re-open the Primary Education Centers because the children just wouldn't understand the need for social distancing. In fact, schools only re-opened in January and February 2021 for Class 7 and above because of these issues and possible easier transmission of the virus. However, we have managed to keep the Empowerment Centers open when allowed since October 2020, the Boarding Homes, Graduates Center, and the Microfinance Program, although sadly now the Centers are temporarily closed because of the latest second wave. During the re-structuring, we also created two new posts—Head of Educational Services—looking after the academic side of the Projects and Head of Vocational Training—looking after the Sewing side. We welcomed Rajshree Rathore (tutor at Sheerni Boarding Home) and Rashi Kawatra into these posts in August. They have been invaluable since they started and have worked very well together as a team in assisting me with the daily running of all the projects.

The Boarding Home girls are doing well despite not being able to go to school. Their computer skills have improved enormously ever since Sambhali employed a computer tutor who has IT sessions with the girls in both boarding homes every day. This was necessary for the Sheerni girls to do online tutoring with their school, communicate by email, and have Zoom calls! We employed more tutors for the Laadli girls, as they are relying on home-schooling. Four older college girls have now moved out of Sheerni boarding home and are now residing in Sambhali HQ where they have accommodation, are cooking for themselves, and doing their studies on the laptops available. They are enjoying their independence and maturity but are still under our guardianship.

The Laadli girls are doing very well, and they are all staying in the Boarding Home so as to be able to catch up on the lost time in 2020. In December 2021, Padem and the Ministry of Luxembourg, who have been generously sponsoring these 26 girls from rural Rajasthan to have a good education, will have come to the end of their funding program. Therefore, we look to all those friends who might wish to sponsor one of these girls on an annual basis from January 2022. If you would like more information about this, please do get in touch. I would like to thank very much all our Associates in Europe and the US for all the generous support you have continued to provide throughout 2020 and now into 2021. We would also like to thank Dynamique au Feminin for their continuous support and ideas and Frères de nos Frères for their generous support. Sambhali would not be able to operate without the time you and your board members have spent voluntarily in helping Sambhali to create a better future for more and more deserving women. Especially during this time, which has been difficult for everyone throughout the world, physically, financially, and emotionally, I am so glad that we have such loyal friends who continue to want to support our women and children.

Lastly, I would like to say thank you to all our staff at Sambhali for working through one of the hardest times, risking their health to carry on teaching women in our centers on a daily basis and now who are actively seeking out those in need of food and supplies. I am so thankful to such a great team and believe that we can carry on operating our centers. I am also very grateful to Roxanne Näschen, Volunteer Coordinator, and Carin Troll, a long-term volunteer, who both stayed throughout 2020 and were of great support to me and my family through these tough times. Also, many thanks go to Aram Bishop, another volunteer who came to Jodhpur for a few months in late 2020 and provided IT technical support for the Trust.

I wish you, your families, relatives, and friends well and hope that we can all get through this pandemic to meet again soon in the future.

*Warmest Regards,
Govind*





OVERVIEW OF 2020

Sambhali Trust and its projects have been affected in 2020, as have all organisations and countries around the world due to the COVID-19 pandemic. India's full lockdown began on 24 March 2020 when everything shut down except essential services. The Ministry of Home Affairs in India wrote to all NGOs asking for their help in:

- Supplementing government efforts to provide the homeless and jobless with shelter and support
- Extending support of distribution of PPE, sanitizers, soaps, masks, and gloves
- Assisting local governments to identify hotspots and deliver services to the elderly and vulnerable
- Creating awareness about the prevention of COVID-19 by social isolation, hygiene practices, and combatting any stigma
- Working with local government to promote social and behavioural changes
- Offering any large spaces for use as temporary quarantine centers

Govind was already working in Viramdeogarh near Setrawa in the Dechu Tehsil District of the rural Thar desert area 100 km west of Jodhpur when the lockdown started. He and a team of foreign volunteers were working to improve the education in the tiny hamlets in the area and teach English in 3 local schools. This had been a project, six months in the making, while Sambhali has had an empowerment center for women and a Primary Education Center for young children in Setrawa since 2007. Suddenly a full lockdown was ordered, which meant that many of the families living in these hamlets were suddenly without work because they were labourers at the local quarry. As these families live in huts with no electricity or running water and live on a hand-to-mouth existence, they had no means to buy any food or supplies.





Govind worked with the local administration in Setrawa to work out how best to use their resources. Together, they decided that Sambhali's team would survey the area to register all families, make sure they had immediate supplies of food and soap, provide advice, and create a WhatsApp group providing them with all the latest information. All Sambhali's volunteers, including the ones in Jodhpur, came to live in Viramdeogarh with Govind's family.

A team of local volunteers who could drive jeeps on a daily basis was established so the whole area could be surveyed and families provided with supplies.

Volunteers helped by distributing the food rations in sacks that could be given out to the families in need. Some families walked to the Sambhali base to enquire for help and support, but most families were separated by many miles of semi-arid desert.

Lockdown finally began to ease on 31 May, and the quarry near Setrawa reopened, and Sambhali continued to feed 25 families until September. Meanwhile, projects still were unable to be reopened, and the foreign volunteers left to return home, and Govind's family returned to Jodhpur. June, July, and August were a time for Sambhali to think of its staff's future and which projects needed to close. It was decided that the Primary Education Centers wouldn't reopen because social distancing would be an issue with young children; the Aadarsh Project and No Bad Touch project (which depended on the schools and colleges reopening) would be put on hold. The Boarding Homes and Empowerment Centers would reopen as soon as would be allowed. We also did some internal staff training during this time, including computer and IT skills, volunteer management skills, and advice on COVID-19 prevention and hygiene.



As part of the staff restructuring that was necessary, Govind appointed Rajshree Rathore as Head of Educational Services who was in charge of the academic syllabus for the Empowerment Centers and the Boarding Homes, as well as the Scholarship Programme. Rajshree was already teaching in the Boarding Homes part-time and had the experience of teaching in a local secondary school. Rashi Kawatra was appointed as Head of Vocational Training, in charge of the Sewing side of the Empowerment Centers and selected as Business Director of the Boutique, working with Kavita Bihal, who is Manager of the Graduates Sewing Center. Both are now providing an invaluable service in all of these areas of Sambhali Trust.



Govind Singh Rathore with Sambhali Staff members, Mrs Tanwar, Rashi Kawatra, Rajshree Rathore, Kavita Bihal and Shравan Bhati.

1 October 2020 saw the re-opening of 7 Empowerment Centers in Jodhpur and one in Setrawa with Setu (Government) Center in Jodhpur,

following in March. All centers followed good hygiene procedures, and each center was divided into smaller classes who came on alternate days for better social distancing. All centers were functioning well but needed to close for two weeks after Diwali in December because of the rise in the number of infections in Jodhpur (not in the Centers themselves). The 2 Boarding Homes re-opened on 15 October with online tuition in Sheerni and home-schooling in Laadli Boarding Home as well as the Graduates' Center for online orders.

After Xmas, the incidence of the virus appeared to go down in general in Jodhpur, leading people to think that the worst was over. However, 4 Sambhali staff caught the virus in late March 2021 and went into quarantine simultaneously as the second wave took off in India. All projects were then asked to close again on 6 April, with Setrawa EC continuing to 30 April 2021. Now, all India is advised to stay at home with an official lockdown in Rajasthan from 10-24 May 2021, with the 2 Boarding Homes the only projects remaining open with home-schooling at the current time, as well as the Nirbhaya Project and telephone HelpLine with its focus on helping those suffering from domestic abuse. Officially schools are due to return on 3 June 2021 after their summer break.



ACTIONS TO FIGHT COVID-19

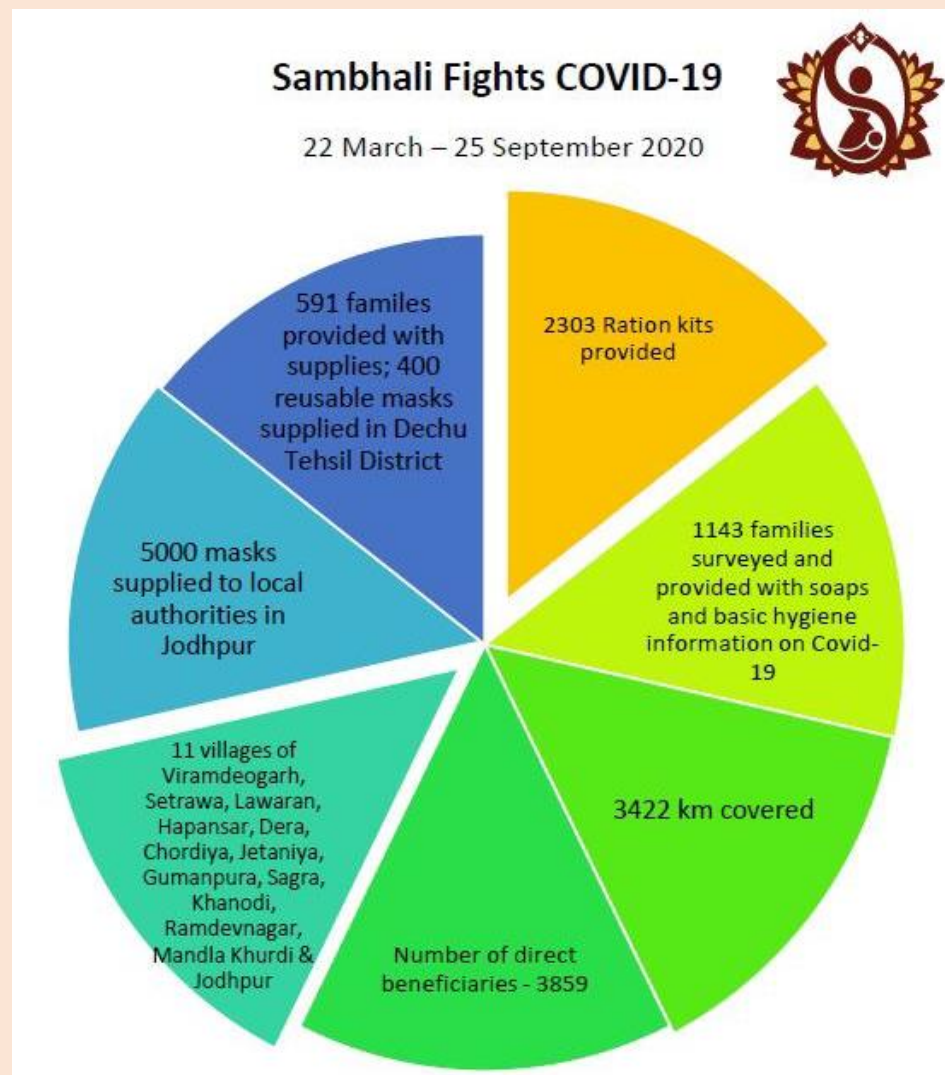
Sambhali Trust reached out to isolated communities in the rural communities separated by kilometres of sand dunes. Many from that desert area of Rajasthan have been experiencing unemployment since the COVID-19 lockdown began on 25 March 2020. Most people rely on the local stone quarries for simple labour jobs, while some rely on farming during the season and others on local commercial jobs. A few weeks into the ongoing pandemic, their already meagre income had become non-existent.

On 20 March, Govind Singh Rathore returned with his family and ten volunteers to his ancestral village of Viramdeogarh, 100 kilometres west of Jodhpur. He observed women were walking long distances—up to seven kilometres at a time—in the extreme heat. They were going to his house to obtain some food after hearing information that Sambhali had started helping 22 local families at the end of March. By the end of April, Sambhali was helping 449 families from 11 villages and hamlets, supplying over 1000 food kits, which consisted of flour, rice, oil, pulses, tea, sugar, spices, jaggery, and soaps, every 10-15 days. Through a local 108 ambulance that travelled back and forth to Jodhpur, Sambhali also distributed medicine to the villagers.

Govind's team of international and local volunteers helped survey the local district on immediate needs and connected over 250 families through a Whatsapp Group to provide the most up-to-date hygiene practices and prevention information on the pandemic.



As the attached pie chart shows, 2303 ration kits have been supplied to 591 families in total from 22 March until 25 September. These families live mainly in 12 villages in the Dechu Tehsil District. 1143 families were surveyed and provided with basic hygiene information and soap and over 250 connected to a WhatsApp group for further up-to-date correct information.



To view 3 videos of Sambhali providing supplies to the villagers in the Dechu Tehsil district [click here:](#)

[Sambhali Trust in Dechu Tehsil](#)
[Sambhali Trust Fights COVID-19](#)
[Ration Kits](#)



Amongst the poor were widows and widowers without families, children without fathers, and those with no other means of support. They had poor living conditions—no electricity and had to fetch water from the local well. In fact, one widow was living on a pension of only 600rs per month to cover all her needs in addition to the added burden resulting from this pandemic. In no time, villagers became fearful of the virus, and their unemployed status did not benefit their situation. Without the food supplies donated by Sambhali, these communities would have become desperate.



Govind's team collaborated with the local administration to provide supplies for migrants in a temporary camp in the Dechu Tehsil district and an isolation camp.

As of 18 May 2020, when the lockdown restrictions eased, many returned to work in the quarries. The food kits were still being provided during this transitional phase.

These poor, uneducated villagers' children need schooling, for most of the population is illiterate. They have no proper sanitation or electricity and need support through the provision of education and essential services. On a positive note, due to the crisis, Sambhali helped build a network among those families who need support to ensure every member of the community can become self-sustainable.





We were also producing reusable face masks which are being made at Sambhali Headquarters by our Graduates and distributed to local government and police authorities in Jodhpur. Until now, more than 3,000 masks have been supplied for free. The funding for these masks had very kindly been donated by Sambhali US.

One ration kit for around 5 family members for a month costs 1,302 Rupees (\$US 18). From 22 March until 31 May, \$US 24,372 was spent on food rations in Dechu Tehsil district (including \$US874 in Jodhpur). In July and August, we spent around 31,000 Rupees per month for the most needy families.

SAMBHALI IN THE PRESS

BBC World article from March 31, 2020:

[Coronavirus: I'm in lockdown with my abuser](#)

The Times of India article from April 15, 2020:

[Jodhpur man vacates house for isolation center](#)

CNN India article from June 4, 2020:

[In India's remote villages, going hungry is as big a fear as catching the coronavirus](#)

BBC News World article from June 11, 2020:

[Coronavirus: Domestic violence increases globally during lockdown](#)

The Times of India, article from September 7, 2020:

[Coronavirus: Jodhpur women distribute free masks risking their own health](#)

CNN World video from October 20, 2020:

[Psychologist on how lockdown harms abuse survivors](#)

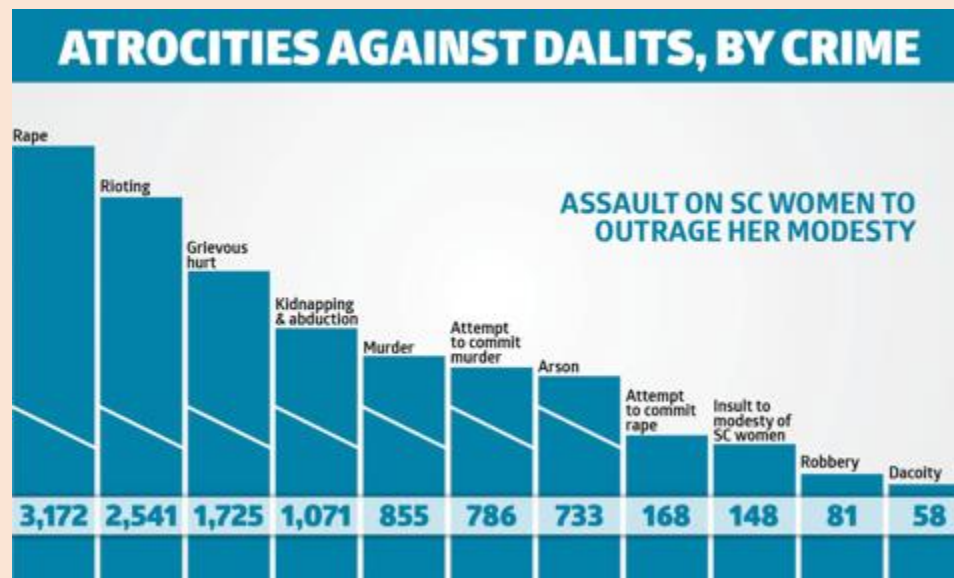




Victims of Gender and Caste-Based Violence: The Women and Girls of India's Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes

The caste system in India is divided into five separate classes, ranking from highest to lowest in the respective order: Brahmins, Kshatriya, Vaishya, and Shudras. The fifth group, Dalits, are seen as being so low as not to deserve being placed in a class.

They are referred to as the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes in Indian culture. Dalit women represent 16% of India's total female population, and they are the most vulnerable to gender and caste-based violence.

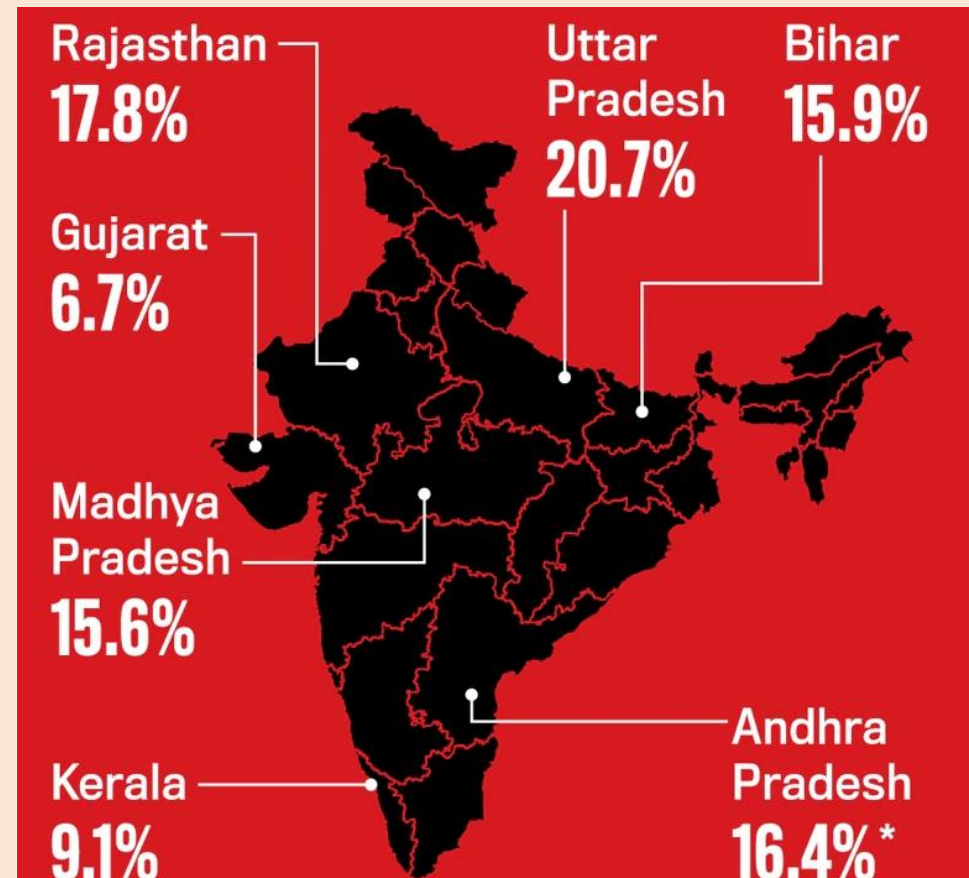


NCRB 2018

In 2019, the National Crime Records Bureau reported on average ten cases of rape of Dalit women throughout India daily.

Their vulnerability to rape has increased by 44% in the last ten years. Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Andhra Pradesh account for more than half of the cases of atrocities against the Dalits.

2019 Percentage of crimes targeted towards Dalits in major Indian Cities



The NCRB reported cases of physical attacks on women have been increasing throughout India. In 2019 alone, there were over 405,861 cases of assaults on women — 7 percent more than was reported in 2018. The crimes include beating, stripping, kidnapping and rape. Of these, 13,273 assaults, which included 3,486 cases of rape, were against women from Dalit communities.

IPC Crimes against Women (Crime Head-wise & State/UT-wise) - 2019

I = No. of Cases; V = No. of Victims; R = Crime Rate per lakh population

S. No	State/UT	Murder with Rape/Gang Rape			Dowry Deaths (Sec. 304B IPC)			Abetment to Suicide of Women (Sec. 305/306 IPC)			
		I	V	R	I	V	R	I	V	R	
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
STATES:											
1	Andhra Pradesh	6	6	0.0	112	112	0.4	407	423	1.6	
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	0.1	1	1	0.1	3	3	0.4	
3	Assam	26	27	0.2	156	164	0.9	53	53	0.3	
4	Bihar	4	4	0.0	1120	1127	1.9	8	8	0.0	
5	Chhattisgarh	3	3	0.0	76	76	0.5	159	161	1.1	
6	Goa	0	0	0.0	1	1	0.1	3	3	0.4	
7	Gujarat	7	7	0.0	9	9	0.0	344	344	1.1	
8	Haryana	6	6	0.0	248	248	1.8	225	226	1.7	
9	Himachal Pradesh	13	13	0.4	4	4	0.1	61	61	1.7	
10	Jammu & Kashmir	1	1	0.0	8	8	0.1	26	28	0.4	
11	Jharkhand	4	4	0.0	299	305	1.6	51	53	0.3	
12	Karnataka	23	23	0.1	194	203	0.6	332	343	1.0	
13	Kerala	14	14	0.1	8	8	0.0	42	42	0.2	
14	Madhya Pradesh	37	37	0.1	550	550	1.4	599	607	1.5	
15	Maharashtra	47	47	0.1	196	196	0.3	802	808	1.4	
16	Manipur	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	2	2	0.1	
17	Meghalaya	6	6	0.4	3	3	0.2	0	0	0.0	
18	Mizoram	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
19	Nagaland	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	
20	Odisha	3	3	0.0	342	342	1.5	9	9	0.0	
21	Punjab	0	0	0.0	69	70	0.5	176	180	1.2	
22	Rajasthan	7	8	0.0	452	453	1.2	186	187	0.5	
23	Sikkim	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	1	1	0.3	
24	Tamil Nadu	8	8	0.0	28	28	0.1	236	241	0.6	
25	Telangana	20	20	0.1	163	163	0.9	400	400	2.2	
26	Tripura	0	0	0.0	38	38	1.9	9	9	0.5	
27	Uttar Pradesh	34	35	0.0	2410	2424	2.2	359	362	0.3	
28	Uttarakhand	2	2	0.0	57	57	1.0	22	23	0.4	
29	West Bengal	6	6	0.0	444	444	0.9	445	462	0.9	
	TOTAL STATE(S)	278	281	0.0	6988	7034	1.1	4960	5039	0.8	

In 2020, the Center for Dalit Rights group examined 100 incidents of sexual violence against Dalit women and girls across 16 districts in India. According to the study, 46% of the victims were aged below 18 and 85% less than 30 years old.

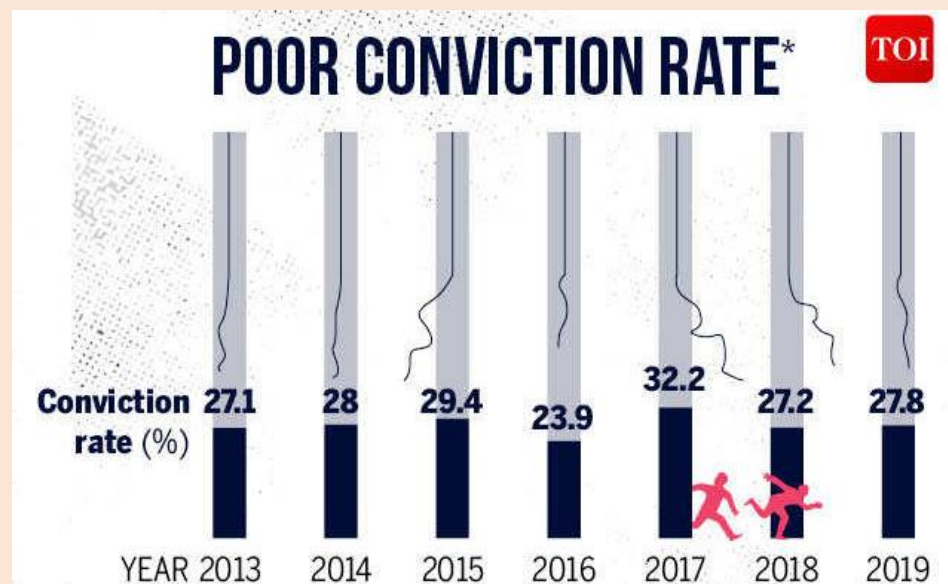
Without formal schooling, female literacy rates in some Indian states are as low as 30% (Dalit women have a literacy rate of 24.2%), compared to the literacy rate worldwide for aged 15 or above at 79% as of September 2020.

Particular	Lower caste (Dalit)			Upper Caste (non-Dalits)			National
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
Literacy Rate	43.7	24.2	33.8%	79.5	55.9	67.5%	54

Since the 1850s, the Dalits have experienced consistent denial of education, so the Dalit literacy rate drastically remains much lower than that of the rest of the Indian population. Dalit women, in particular, tend to suffer most from a lack of access to education.

Nearly 170 years later, the disproportionate percentage of unschooled girls continues to challenge India's progress toward a literate population. In 2018, the National Statistical Office reported Rajasthan is the worst performer in the literacy of girls with a literacy rate of 57.6%. In fact, 43.7% of women aged five or above have never received any formal education. In response, the Rajasthan education system is working towards change. In 2020, to encourage more girls to complete secondary education, the state implemented various programs like Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, the Gargi Award and the Chief Minister Higher Education Scholarship of up to Rs 1 crore with added financial benefits of Rs 51,000 for a girl who graduates from Class 12th of a government school.

Despite such initiatives to promote positive change, Dalit women continue to face unemployment. They do not have financial independence, representing the majority of India's landless laborers and scavengers. A significant percentage of them are forced into prostitution or sold into brothels as their only source of income. As a result, Dalit women often encounter landlords and enforcement agencies who easily exploit and abuse them.



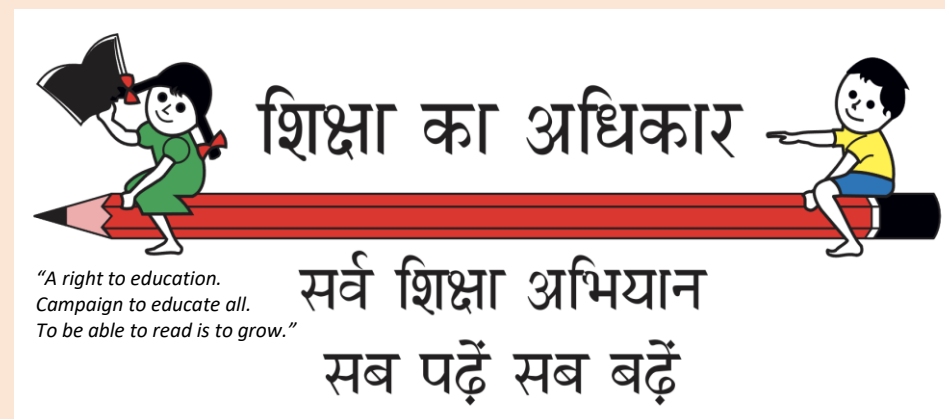
Despite the alarming counts of atrocities, the conviction rate was merely 27.8% in 2019. While poor police investigation is partially to blame, Dalit women are unaware of their legal rights, failing to approach the legal system to seek redress. This results in a vicious cycle of uninvestigated rape prosecution trials and allows crimes against women to continue unabated. As a result, it reinforces further violence and assaults against Dalit women to be left unreported and not examined.

Ensuring equal access to education for the Dalits, especially girls, has the potential to decrease violence and assault rooted in the caste system.

With proper education, Dalit women can be financially independent and empower themselves both socially and politically, resulting in social or economic equality. Universal access to education regardless of gender, race, or ethnicity has been an area of focus for the past decade. UN SDG 4 aims to “ensure inclusive and equitable quality education.” While there is much work to be done, both the Indian government and non-profit organizations like Sambhali Trust are paving the way for a better future for these women.

Nationwide sanctioned projects like the approved Rs 7 crore under the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) from 2019 outlays a “gender and equity” education component in the program. They consist of interventions such as KGBV, self-defense training, female empowerment projects, and accessible sanitary pad vending machines.

As a subprogram to SSA, the Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat is being implemented in major cities in a twin-track approach—early reading and writing with comprehension and early mathematics. Doing so could result in improved language development and create a natural and positive interest for self-development and empowerment. Thus, it could potentially result in decreased caste-based and gender-targeted crimes in the future.



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Sambhali Trust Organigram 01/2021

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 Dr. Mahendra Singh Tanwar
 Dr. Kunjan Trivedi

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General Secretary and HR Manager	Shyama Tanwar
Office Manager	Shravan Bhati
Trust Administrator	Corinne Rose (h)
Accountant	CA Gurdeep Minhas
Volunteers Coordinator	Govind Singh Rathore
Web Admin	Cornelia Uebscher (h)

h = honorary

Founder/Managing Trustee
 Govind Rathore

Head of Vocational Skills Training
 Rashi Kawatra

Empowerment - Jodhpur (Urban)

Sambhali Jodhpur Empowerment Centre
 Sewing Tutor Anju Choudhary
 Tutor Anju Sharma

Sambhali Abhivaykti Empowerment Centre
 Sewing Tutor Anju Choudhary
 Tutor Anju Sharma

Sambhali Abhaya Empowerment Centre
 Sewing Tutor Aliya Koshier
 Tutor Asha Bhati

Sambhali Fatima Empowerment Centre
 Sewing Tutor Aliya Koshier
 Tutor Asha Bhati

Sambhali Shakti Empowerment Centre
 Sewing Tutor Sunita Prajapat
 Tutor Manju Solanki

Sambhali Laadli Empowerment Centre
 Sewing Tutor Sunita Prajapat
 Tutor Manju Solanki

Sambhali Sakhi Empowerment Centre
 Sewing Tutor Shehnaz Bano
 Tutor Hawlesh Kanwar

Sambhali Setu Empowerment Centre
 Sewing Tutor Mumtaz Bao

Empowerment - Setrawa (Rural)

Sambhali Setrawa Project (Vocational Training)
 Tutors Pooja Sharma, Kanwaru Kanwar

Sambhali Nirbhaya Project

Sambhali SOS Service & Sambhali Nirbhaya Helpline
 Manager Shyama Tanwar
 Counsellor Dr. Abhilasha Chouhan
 Adv. Shivani Singh

Head of Educational Services Empowerment Centres and Primary Education Centres
 Rajshree Rathore

Education (Urban)

Sambhali Scholarship Project
 Coordinator Rajshree Rathore

Sambhali Sheerni Boarding Home
 Housemother Nirmala Kanwar
 Tutor Rajshree Rathore, Kailash Kanwar
 Helper Rekha Pandit

Sambhali Laadli Boarding Home
 Housemother Chand Kanwar
 Tutor Rajshree Rathore, Monica Jod,
 Vimlesh Solanki, Kailash Kanwar
 Cook and Helper Prem Devi and Rekha Pandit

Education (Rural)

Sambhali Setrawa Project (Primary Education)
 Tutors vacant

Sambhali Setu Rural Schools Project
 Manager vacant

Business Director Sambhali Boutique
 Rashi Kawatra

Sambhali Sewing Centre
 Product Developer and Manager Kavita Bihal

Sambhali Boutique
 Sales Managers (Sambhali HQ) Rashi Kawatra and Kavita Bihal

Special Education & Self-Help Group
 Manager: Vimlesh Solanki

Special Education

Sambhali No Bad Touch Project (temporarily closed)
 Coordinator Rajshree Rathore
 Vimlesh Solanki

Sambhali Aadarsh Project (temporarily closed)
 Coordinator Rashi Kawatra
 Vimlesh Solanki

Self-Help Group

Sambhali Sheerni Self-Help Group Project
 Supervisor Jodhpur Asha Bhati
 Supervisor Setrawa Pooja Sharma

Drivers: Ladhu Singh Bhati
 Arun Solanki
 Office Housekeeping: Parveen Bano



CURRENT PROJECTS

EMPOWERMENT CENTERS

These are the core projects of Sambhali Trust. These centers were established to provide underprivileged women from deprived areas of Jodhpur an opportunity to have a good basic education and vocational skill training in sewing and embroidery through Hindi, English, Maths, and Sewing and Embroidery tuition. The women and girls attend for a 12-month course, after which time the aim is to provide each graduate with a sewing machine to enable them to continue sewing at home and potentially provide an income for themselves.

- Sambhali Jodhpur Empowerment Center (2007)
- Sambhali Abhiviyakti Empowerment Center (2013)
- Sambhali Abhaya Empowerment Center (2014)
- Sambhali Fatima Empowerment Center (2014)
- Sambhali Shakti Empowerment Center (2015)
- Sambhali Laadli Empowerment Center (2016)
- Sambhali Sakhi Empowerment Center (2018)
- Sambhali Setu Empowerment Center (2019)

BOARDING HOMES

A total of 46 girls and 2 boys from the rural Thar desert area live in our Sheerni Boarding Home established in 2012 and Laadli Boarding Home established in 2017. Thanks to attending a private school and the additional lessons provided by Sambhali staff, they receive a good education, which otherwise would have been impossible for them. Furthermore, they can develop their own personalities and interests in a series of workshops.



NIRBHAYA PROJECT

Since its creation in 2014, women from Rajasthan and nearby areas can contact the Nirbhaya Helpline. The service provides emergency support for women who have become victims of domestic violence, forced marriages, or sexual abuse, and it gives support for legal and medical concerns. It is free of charge and accessible all day.

GRADUATES CENTER AND SAMBHALI BOUTIQUE

Established in 2009 for the very first graduates, the Graduates Center provides currently up to 20 women with paid employment by producing hand-made items for the Sambhali Boutique, which itself has been running since 2010. The women use the skills they have gained during their vocational training and produce block-printed scarves, hand-made and embroidered toys, clothes, bags and accessories. The women also receive national and international orders through our [Boutique catalogue](#). In 2020 however, the Boutique has not opened due to the pandemic but we have worked on customised orders from all around the world.

SHEERNI MICROFINANCE

In Setrawa and the surrounding villages in the rural desert area of Rajasthan, 100km west of Jodhpur, women are disadvantaged with illiteracy and little recognition for their capabilities, meaning they receive unequal access to job opportunities and are reliant on their husband to provide the family income. Established in October 2009 to help these women, Sheerni Microfinance provides them with a means of saving money and having access to loans, thus enabling them to create small enterprises of their own and work towards financial independence. Women are given financial and business management training. Currently the program includes around 85% Dalit women, many of whom are

widows, whose husbands have died working in the stone quarries, a common but dangerous occupation in the area. There are 10 groups in Setrawa each with about 10 to 13 women in each group. Since 2016, three groups have also started in Jodhpur with a total of 34 women, as well as a few groups in Jodhpur, especially with women who have graduated from the Empowerment Centers.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Sambhali Scholarship Program was established initially to enable children of the women who attend Sambhali's empowerment centers to receive an education. Many of the children do not attend school because of either lack of the basic equipment/uniform necessary to attend school or because of family responsibilities at home. Children are sponsored through individual scholarships to go to a good local school from donors worldwide. An annual letter with a school report is provided to all sponsors as well as photo and family background. There were 193 children being sponsored in 2020-21.

RURAL PRIMARY EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING

The Sambhali Setrawa Project, established in 2007, was Sambhali Trust's second project and can be considered as Sambhali's first Primary Education Center. It was created to give young children access to a good educational program in Hindi, English, and Maths as well as incorporating educational workshops, medical check-ups, and washing facilities for those children in rural hamlets with no water supply. Currently in 2020-21, this center is only operating as a Women's Empowerment Center, where about 20 women are receiving a vocational training in Sewing and Embroidery.



EMPOWERMENT CENTERS

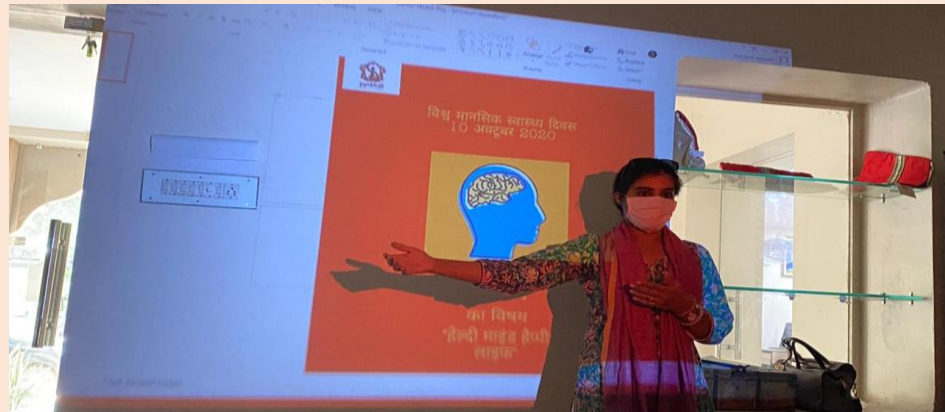
Despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the empowerment centers were open from October 2020 under protocols to create a supportive learning environment. The following centers re-opened: Abhaya, Abhiviyakti, Fatima, Jodhpur, Laadli, Sakhi, Setrawa, and Shakti.

In the spirit of combatting the consequences of COVID-19 and taking preventing measures, students learned how to create masks. In particular, Jodhpur students participated in a COVID-19 workshop on 7 October, discussing virus awareness, learning sanitation methods, and taking precautions.

Besides pandemic related education, students at Jodhpur also participated in sewing classes led by Instructor Anju Choudhary, practicing embroidery, Chickenkari, and stem, chain, and simple stitches. In terms of academic subjects, Instructor Anju Sharma taught the students Hindi, English, and Mathematics. In order to effectively deliver tailored, personalized instruction, the students were divided into three groups—Beginner, Middle, and Advanced. Starting off with the Beginner group, students learned the Hindi alphabets and basic words or phrases. They also learned how to count from 1 to 100, and in English class, they learned the alphabet system. The Middle group students focused on more complex topics than those of the Beginners and were able to successfully learn how to read in Hindi. Besides reviewing counting from 1 to 100, they also learned addition, as well as multiplication. In English, students developed their communication ability by identifying vowels and consonants. Last but not least, the Advanced group, comprised of government school students, learned Indian Geography and History.



Jodhpur students of all groups participated in workshops aimed to teach the girls about representing, empowering, and advocating for fellow girls and women. For instance, in October, students gathered for the Women's Rights workshop and discussed about essential topics like living free from discrimination, violence, and slavery. Similarly, students learned about the Domestic Violence Act of 2005 during the Legal Awareness workshop. During the International Girls Day workshop, students celebrated the advancement of women's rights and successful empowerment movements throughout the years. Having knowledge in such topics is vital for these girls, the future leaders of India, to organize and establish further women's rights policies for gender-equal representation in the future.



Abhivyakti students participated in a Nutrition workshop in November. They covered various topics, including the process by which animals or plants utilize food substances; essential nutrition and macronutrients groups; and the process and importance of balanced human nutrition and diet. The global world obesity trend is expected to increase at an alarming, unprecedented rate. Nevertheless, many from developing countries living in poverty are malnourished, contributing to high infant mortality rates and decreased life expectancy. Sambhali Trust students are given the basic education that lays the foundations for engineering well-balanced diets to reverse the obesity trend among developed countries and decrease the number of malnourished people in developing countries.

SUCCESS STORY



NB: Photos without masks taken before lockdown in March 2020

A 17 year old girl named Nirma Solanki came from a very poor family with only two years of government education.

When Nirma first came to the Shakti Empowerment Center, she could not read, write, or stitch. She could not even speak properly and was afraid to talk. She had difficulty completing the work she was given. Initially, even the instructors had a hard time teaching her the curriculum.

Now, the very same girl writes, reads, sews, and dances very well. There has been a lot of change after coming to the Shakti Center. She says she has learned so much from Sambhali Trust and sincerely thanks for everything Sambhali did for her.



PUSPHA DEVI is a student who attends the Setrawa Empowerment Center. She lives with her husband and three children—two boys and one girl. Despite living two kilometers away by foot, she always arrives on time. She learned sewing very diligently, and she successfully completed two types of frock and salwar suits sewing. She also started sewing a Marwari dress because she wants to earn money by selling dresses to the people who live in her community.

21st CENTURY VISION

Sambhali Trust Empowerment Centers teach girls and women of all ages essential life skills through classes and engaging, hands-on workshops that cover topics relevant to the students. It creates a supportive learning environment where fellow students can empower each other to be more independent and ready to tackle the various obstacles in the twenty-first century. Various technological tools are part of the learning process at Sambhali, preparing these females for the digital economy and adapting to the changing labor structure in India.

TAKE A VIRTUAL 360° TOUR

Please click below:

[Laadli Empowerment Center](#)

[Setrawa Empowerment Center](#)

[Shakti Empowerment Center](#)



TOILET

BOARDING HOME: LAADLI GIRLS HOME

After a seven-month hiatus due to the ongoing pandemic, the Laadli Girls Home finally re-opened its doors on 16 October 2020. Schools have been closed as per the government's administrative order; therefore, to guarantee that the girls do not lose a valuable year of education, Sambhali Trust took the initiative and decided that regular home tuitions be the new normal. The housemother took preventive measures to ensure that the teachers and students were appropriately practising social distancing. The Laadli family also grew in size compared to last year; we appointed three teachers to teach the girls every day, and four girls (Harshita, Krishna, Jyoti and Kalpana) from the Sheerni boarding home joined us because they were also in Class 5. Those in Sheerni were all Class 6 and above and thus did online tuition.

Despite the extended closure, the girls' schedules were packed and more exciting than ever. In addition to the regular tuition classes—picking up where they left off last year in English, Mathematics, and Hindi—the girls regularly participated in yoga, exercise, and self-defense sessions in the mornings.





The Laadli Girls Home is not just an educational institution but a family. In the week leading up to Diwali on 4 November, under the guidance of Ms. Kailash, the girls read and wrote essays on the festival.

In December, Theater Teacher Mr. Dilip and Computer Teacher Ms. Kailash joined Laadli. Besides computer classes, Ms. Kailash taught Environmental Studies and Moral Values to the girls. Ms. Vimlesh taught Math and Hindi; Ms. Monica taught Hindi Grammar; and Ms. Rajshree taught English and English Grammar.

The girls were especially excited during **Computer Class**. Ms. Teena explained the importance of technology and its diverse usages in the twenty-first century. Together, they explored Microsoft Paint and practiced drawing different shapes and adding colors. Besides, they also learned about the vital word technology plays in sharing messages or ideas across borders. Using keyboards, the girls learned how to write paragraphs, format text, change size and color, add effects, and insert pictures in Microsoft Word. To keep the content engaging, the girls had supervised free time to play educational games on their laptops. *To view daily life in Laadli Boarding home – Click here [Laadli](#)*

Taking a step further to foster creativity and imagination, the girls drew diyas in their notebooks and learned some traditional dances. On the day of the festival, the house mother bought sweets, candles, and decorations to celebrate the special occasion with the Laadli girls and staff members.

DAILY TIME-TABLE

7:30 AM	Wake Up, Shower, and Personal Hygiene
8:30 - 9:00 AM	Breakfast
9:00 - 10:00 AM	Theater Class
10:00 - 12:30 PM	Tuition Classes
12:30 - 1:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 - 2:30 PM	Computer Class
3:30 - 5:00 PM	Tuition Classes
5:00 - 6:00 PM	Evening Snack
6:00 - 7:00 PM	Playing Time
7:00 - 8:00 PM	Dinner
8:00 - 9:00 PM	Personal Hygiene and Free Time

A VOICE FOR THE FUTURE

Besides academic instruction, the girls took part in **Theater classes**, specifically within performing arts like plays and musicals. Mr. Dilip led numerous self-confidence-boosting activities and games. He worked individually with each of the girls on body language, facial expression, voice, and imagination workshops.

Initially, the girls were shy and reserved because they were not used to this type of instruction, but after a couple of fun, entertaining lessons, the girls could explore their unique personalities and each develop their voice.

At Sambhali Trust, we recognize the importance of communication in cultural, social, economic, and political advancement in the modern age, so we highly prioritize preparing the girls to be effective communicators as future leaders of this world.

BOARDING HOME: SHEERNI GIRLS HOME



Girls in the Sheerni Boarding Home are in Class 6 -12, as well as four girls studying at college. Sheerni reopened its doors on 30 September 2020. These girls started to do online tuition through St. Francis School and received daily tuition from two Sambhali staff members, Ms. Rajshree and Ms. Kailash. We were fortunate to receive eight new laptops very generously donated by Freunde fur Sambhali and Sambhali US, which have made their online studies possible.

Sheerni girls took comprehensive Computer Classes. They learned:

- MS Word (File, Home, Insert, Design, Layout, and Reference)
- Bookmark, Cross Reference, Header, Footer, and Borders
- Reference, Table of Contents, and Citations and Bibliography

Ms. Rajshree taught Math, English, Chemistry, Physics, and Biology to Classes 10th and 12th. In Classes 6th, 7th, and 8th, she taught Math, Science, and Computer. She completed almost seven chapters in her subjects. Ms. Kailash focused on Class 10th and some smaller girls.

Ms. Sunita visited Sheerni every Sunday to teach the girls Sewing Classes. They learned how to stitch clothes, and Manisha, Sangeeta, Priya, Lalita, Aasu, and Pushpa also made masks for the rest of the girls at Sheerni.

ACTIVITIES TIME-TABLE [Click to view daily life Sheerni](#)

Monday	Yoga Day & Group Discussion Tutoring: Ms. Kailash 1:30 - 3:30 & Ms. Rajshree 3:30 - 5:00 PM
Tuesday	Self-Defense & Picture Perception Task Tutoring: Ms. Kailash 1:30 - 3:30 & Ms. Rajshree 3:30 - 5:00 PM
Wednesday	Exercise Day & Story Telling
Thursday	Yoga Day & Group Discussion Tutoring: Ms. Kailash 1:30 - 3:30 & Ms. Rajshree 3:30 - 5:00 PM
Friday	Self-Defense & Current Affairs Discussion Tutoring: Ms. Kailash 1:30 - 3:30 & Ms. Rajshree 3:30 - 5:00 PM
Saturday	Sports Day & Current Affairs Discussion Tutoring: Ms. Kailash 1:30 - 3:30 & Ms. Rajshree 3:30 - 5:00 PM
Sunday	Sewing Class by Ms. Sunita



DAY IN THE LIFE OF SHEERNI





PROFILE: SANGEETA NAYAK

Sangeeta has been a part of Sheerni Girls Home for nine years. She comes from a big family in Setrawa. Her mother is a housewife, and her father is a stone worker. She also has five brothers and five sisters.

Sangeeta was admitted K.N. College to pursue a Bachelor of Arts degree in October 2020, but she could not attend due to COVID-19. As a result, she took her college courses online from Sheerni. At the boarding home, she studied advanced topics like History, Sociology, and Public Administration. As one of the oldest girls at Sheerni, she takes on a lot of responsibility, taking care of the other girls making sure they feel welcome and loved. There are four ministers at the home (Kitchen, Cleaning, Education, and Sports), and currently, she is the Kitchen Minister, cooking food for the other girls. She can prepare a variety of dishes, such as Samosas, Aloo Gobi, Rogan Josh, and much more.

She is always independent, careful, open-hearted, and happy. Her bright personality is perhaps what made her so interested in public service. In the future, she would like to join the Police Academy or become an English teacher in Setrawa, her home town. Therefore, she is working hard on her studies and keeping up with current events by reading the Times of India every day. In her free time at Sheerni, she enjoys watching Bollywood movies, listening to songs, and drawing. According to her, the most memorable memory from Sheerni was celebrating International Girls Day on 11 October. On this day, the girls created posters and sang unity songs. Instead of regular tuition classes, the tutors taught the girls about the importance of the day, its story behind it, and its rich, long history.

She mentioned how Sambhali opened up many opportunities for her future career—everything from sewing activities to learning how to ride the bicycle and use the computer.

[Click here](#) to meet Sangeeta!



NIRBHAYA PROJECT

The Nirbhaya SOS project seeks to empower Rajasthani women and girls through the prevention of early marriage and gender-based violence by providing services directly or through referrals to survivors of violence with a focus on domestic violence, sexual abuse, harassment, rape, and acid attacks.

The project is managed by Mrs. Shyama Tanwar and led by two counsellors, Advocate, Ms. Shivani Singh and psychologist, Ms. Abhilasha Chouhan.

This project serves women and girls of Jodhpur City, with a current population of 1.47 million. Suppose a caller contacts the HelpLine from outside of this area. In that case, she is given an initial phone counseling session, including referrals to local services to the extent Sambhali Trust is aware of those services.

Although anyone can call the HelpLine, outreach efforts are focused on poor areas where caste, poverty, and gender create more significant barriers to knowing about and pursuing legal rights and access medical and psychological care.

During the six-month pilot project from October to March, we:

- Developed and deployed educational efforts to prevent gender-based violence and provide knowledge of legal rights and services available to survivors
- Increased awareness of the current HelpLine and services provided by Sambhali Trust
- Enhanced services available to survivors of gender-based violence both directly and through referrals to other private and government resources



Photo: Left Shivani Singh, Advocate; Right Abhilasha Chouhan Psychologist Nirbhaya Project

The program promoted awareness through developing campaigns, brochures, and workshops to educate women and girls about gender-based violence and their rights. It strengthened and motivated survivors by providing moral support, legal and psychological counseling, and rehabilitation programming. In short, it would lead to better education of women and girls in the community about early marriage and gender-based violence, making them less prone to early marriages and better able to take action to prevent violence and to respond to acts of violence, including obtaining needed services. Those who receive direct services will be able to get the medical, legal, and psychological services they need to respond to the crisis and begin to rebuild their lives.

During the six months, there were 28 workshops and 11 campaigns to distribute leaflets. Apart from local newspaper coverage, we have reached over 1750 people directly, as well as holding a press conference. We have also received 433 calls in total from all over Rajasthan and beyond. There were 77 cases within the state of Jodhpur, including 49 Domestic violence, 5 Rape, 2 Verbal Harassment, 2 Child marriage, 5 Cybercrime, and 1 Marital discord.



After campaigns and workshops, there has been a surge in calls from Jodhpur. Women have been feeling confident in raising their voice against violence after counseling sessions, whether on a phone call or in person. Those who have been victims of injustice for many years are finally having the courage to talk about it with us. Through discussion, they get clarity to take the next step.

The women who reach out to us for counseling sessions get their doubts cleared regarding law and order, get acknowledged with their rights available to them, scholarship programs for their children, welfare schemes about the Sambhali empowerment centers, etc. The workshops have also played a vital role in awareness. Many women have reached out from the workshops. There have been many women who have learned from the workshop and taught to other women in their neighborhood. Due to this reason also there has been an increase in calls from Jodhpur.



CASE STUDY

Names have been kept anonymous to respect the family's private information.

The couple have been married for thirteen years. The husband is self-employed and works in stitching and embroidery, earning around 20K rupees per month. They have three children, but unfortunately, their education is at risk because the couple is unable to pay their fees.

According to the wife, the husband has alcohol addiction, and he physically and verbally abuses her when he is drunk. Her husband also financially abuses her by keeping track of all of her expenditures. She claims that he doesn't provide sufficient money to buy clothes and other personal things for herself. The husband threatened to kill himself and had suffered from a fractured hand in 2018 due to a suicide attempt. He threatens her that he will jump in the tube well and that he will leak the gas.

In November, she called the Helpline and explained the patterns, domestic abuse cycle, and legal remedies available to her to the Nirbhaya counselors. We fixed an appointment for her to come in shortly.

After taking multiple factors into consideration, we decided to have couple-counseling sessions because she does not want to take any legal action. We collaborated with AIIMS hospital to fix the husband's alcohol addiction, and we had regular follow-up calls taken with the wife. She hopes that her husband can fix his addiction and live happily together like during their first year of marriage.



GRADUATE SEWING CENTER AND BOUTIQUE

A lot of changes took place in 2020-2021. As everywhere in the world due to the pandemic all the businesses are impacted so is ours. From 24 March 2020 it was complete lockdown in the city, so we had to close everything. The clocktower boutique inside the city was closed permanently due to the impact of Covid as the inner part of the city is highly densely populated and has the busiest areas of the city. Also, all tourism had ceased.

In July 2020 staff returned to Sambhali Office and under the supervision of Kavita Bihal the sewing tutors from the empowerment centers were practising stitching and embroideries and tried to enhance their work with everyday practice and this extended through to September.

In August we welcomed Rashi Kawatra as the new Business Director of Sambhali Boutique. Rashi has experience in her family business and would now manage liaising with customers, creating invoices, receiving payments and working with Kavita Bihal (Manager of the Graduates) to make sure deadlines were met. Rashi's role is 50% Boutique and 50% in charge of the Vocational Training in the empowerment centers.

As part of the efforts to help in the pandemic the local government administration needed masks for their employees and so Sambhali produced 5000 masks which were made by the graduates working from home. Meanwhile various small worldwide orders started to come in from September.

10-12 graduates have returned to the Graduates' Center since re-opened in October 2020.



From this time, we have had about 20 orders varying from large orders of customised kimonos, 65 customised tote-bags, embroidered photo-frames, 800 jewellery bags, various Xmas orders from the catalogue, embroidered masks. We also designed a new selection of items for Xmas decorations and nearly 600 various items were sent to a Xmas fair in the UK held by one of Sambhali UK Board members, Jenny Morisetti, who helped to raise over £4000 for the Boutique. Additionally, we also had Annelise Paulin, President of Sambhali France in Jodhpur since January in a collaboration with brands she had worked with in France. Samples of designs were worked on for kimonos, pouches, 4 types of dresses all of which were sent to France for confirmation. Whilst the Graduates Center worked hard on producing the designs and the samples and had confirmation of one order for the embroidered kimonos and separately 600 pouches so far, the logistics of this scheme were unfortunately just too complicated to make it workable and so this had come to an end. Fortunately, we still have a few orders to process.



The new products made for Christmas and New Year, were very much appreciated by everyone. Our customers supported us by giving us orders and from that women could earn some money. We are still struggling to sustain the boutique and graduates because of lockdown, curfew, and restrictions in the city. Graduates cannot come to regular work and even minor illness, cough, cold or fever they cannot be regular at work with any such conditions. We are taking all safety measures and follow strict guidelines for Covid precautions, but this curfew has restricted everyday work.



Elephant String made with pure linen fabric (6 elephants)
ID-EP1 Rs. 1450/-



The women associated with Graduates Center have a lot of issues at their home. Lack of money, lack of food, loss of work and jobs in their families affected their lives a lot. All wanted to return to work and earn to contribute at home.



orange for Xmas decorations
ID-OR1
Each Rs. 650/-



The Boutique in Sambhali HQ did not take pick up sales because of pandemic. There are no tourists and very less foot fall has impacted monthly sales in boutique. We introduced few new designs in kurtis so as local customers visit, they can pick kurtis which are semi casual regular wear and prices are not very expensive, but there very few customers who visited the boutique. And as we approach anyone, they give the reason of pandemic.

We got to work on few export orders and got a lot of appreciation, which keeps us motivated for good work and keep it going. One of the orders from Jennifer Morisetti for a Xmas Fair, which was a very big support in the tough phase and another order from Shereen Arent, ordered for New Year was a big help for these women's livelihood.

As of now, (April 2021) the city is in curfew and strict restrictions in the city for safety reasons. We have closed the Empowerment centers and had to close the Graduates as well. Some embroidery orders have been given to do at home, but we are worried how these women and girls will do without their income at home. It is once again the same situation that we faced in March 2020 and since then lives have changed, situations have changed in a very negative way.



To view the Graduates Center click here: [Embroidering for an order](#)

We are struggling to sustain the business and continuous approach for orders bring us very little success due to this pandemic phase.

We have launched our new catalogue for customers which we hope you will enjoy and orders keep rolling in for the graduates. We aim to also produce a mini-catalogue at the end of the summer that has all the Xmas items.

[Sambhali Boutique Catalogue 2021](#)

We hope and wish the situation changes and we can get orders so these women can continue to earn an income and provide for themselves and their families.



Jenny Morisetti Sambhali UK



Business Director Rashi Kawatra

लोकाः समस्ताः सुखिनो भवन्तु

MAY ALL BEINGS EVERYWHERE

BE HAPPY AND FREE

MICROFINANCE PROJECT

ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21 FOR JODHPUR

Month	Group	Name	Amount	Expenses
JUN	2	Kiran Sarwata	12,000/-	Electricity Bill
	2	Monica Jod	20,000/-	Pay Someone
AUG	2	Sunita Boyat	5,000/-	Daughter's Education
OCT	3	Jeenat	10,000/-	Pay Someone
FEB	2	Shilpa Tejwani	9,000/-	Personal
	2	Priya Gharu	10,000/-	Computer Training
	3	Mumtaj/Ayuub	10,000/-	Relative's Wedding
	3	Rukhsana	5,000/-	Personal
MAR	2	Mamta Gharu	15,000/-	Relative's Wedding



ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21 FOR SETRAWA

Month	Group	Name	Amount	Expenses
JUL	5	Swaroop	8,000/-	Father-in-Law's Treatment
	5	Luni/Dula Ram	20,000/-	Cow
	6	Resu Devi	6,000/-	Goat
	10	Khetu Lawar	10,000/-	Cow
AUG	2	Jubaida	19,000/-	Cow
	2	Ful Kanwar	20,000/-	Cow
	2	Imrat	20,000/-	Shop
	4	Indra/Rawad Ram	9,000/-	Son's Treatment
	4	Champa	15,000/-	2 Cows
	5	Samda	13,000/-	Shop
	10	Surja Devi	10,000/-	Cow Food
SEP	2	Raju Kanwar	18,000/-	Cow
	5	Jasu Devi	15,000/-	Personal Treatment
	10	Sohan Devi	29,000/-	New Shop
	10	Guddi Kanwar	20,000/-	Cow & Shop
	10	Anita Devi	7,000/-	
OCT	4	Indra/Gukal Ram	10,000/-	Goat
	4	Bhawari	6,000/-	Personal
	4	Mangu	6,000/-	Goat
	4	Rekha	15,000/-	Cow
	5	Sugna	18,000/-	Cow
	5	Sunita	20,000/-	Cow
6	Sita Devi	20,000/-	Cow	
DEC	5	Anchi Devi	15,000/-	Personal
JAN	6	Vimla Devi	5,000/-	
	6	Pooja Sharma	5,000/-	Personal
FEB	5	Sua/Rikha Ram	16,000/-	Daughter's Wedding Rental and Arrangement Fees
MAR	10	Gajra Devi	15,000/-	Personal



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Sambhali Trust's Scholarship Program supported 193 children this year: private school scholarships for 122 girls and 71 boys. Since the beginning of the organization in 2007, this has been one of our most essential programs, striving to increase the education and literacy of the girls and boys in Jodhpur.

Each year, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the individual donors worldwide who ensure that these children can be empowered and learn important values via education.

The majority of the children, 165 kids precisely, currently sponsored live in Jodhpur, while 28 students attend private schools in Setrawa or other villages.

Out of the 165 students, 28 attend junior school (Nur. – 3rd), 74 go to primary school (4th – 8th), and 63 received scholarships this year to enroll in secondary school. The remaining 28 are at university.

Starting in February 2021, schools were open for the 10th and 12th grades. All 9th – 12th returned to school in March and 6th– 8th grades mid-March. However, due to the pandemic, schools took an early summer break in early April and are due to return on 3 June 2021.

The students were excited to go back to school after staying home and practicing social distancing for so long. Unfortunately, students younger than Class 6th will have to continue online learning and tuition until they move up a grade next year.



FEATURE PROFILES

BHANU



Bhanu's father had spent all of the family's money on his liver operation due to alcohol addiction. They were evicted for not paying rent. Her father is currently unemployed, and her mother is doing picu*, barely supporting the family with minimal income. Ever since, she has been receiving a scholarship for the past eight years. She recalls how the scholarship saved her life and how thrilled she is to continue her studies without interruption. She dreams of joining the police force in the future.

* picu = hemming garments

NEETU



Neetu is another scholarship student who lives with her grandparents and is studying with the help of Sambhali's scholarship. Her father is a security guard, and her mother is a housewife, so the family's financial situation is unstable, which makes it impossible for them to fund Neetu's education. Recognizing the problem, Sambhali granted Neetu with a scholarship from our program. Now, she can continue her studies without income being a barrier towards achieving her future career goals.

GARIMA



Garima is a student whose mother came to Sambhali for help. Her mother had daily fights with her father and needed help. The household was unstable and in poverty, for they got married without parental permission, resulting in grave financial consequences. Sambhali gave the mother support by providing scholarships for her children. Garima has been receiving a scholarship for the past three years, and she wishes to become an independent, intelligent young woman one day.

लोकाः समस्ताः सुखिनो भवन्तु
MAY ALL BEINGS EVERYWHERE
BE HAPPY AND FREE



SPECIAL EVENTS

The CSW65 (Commission on the Status of Women Sixty-fifth session) took place in New York from 15 to 26 March 2021.

“Priority theme: Women's full and effective participation and decision-making in public life, as well as the elimination of violence, for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls”

Sambhali Trust has been granted Special Consultative Status by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations on 23 July 2015.

This allows Sambhali Trust to:

- Designate official representatives to the UN Headquarters in New York and the UN offices in Geneva and Vienna.
- Sambhali Trust can provide a Written Statement of up to 1500 words. These statements are relevant to the work of the Council on subjects in which Sambhali Trust has special competence.
- Sambhali Trust may provide an Oral Statement to the UN, which has been recommended to the Council by the ECOSOC Committee.
- Commissions and other subsidiary bodies of ECOSOC be consulted by Sambhali Trust, and such consultations can be arranged at the request of Sambhali Trust.
- A commission of ECOSOC may recommend that Sambhali Trust with an area of special competence in a particular field undertakes studies or investigations or prepare papers for commission.
- Use of UN facilities including arrangement of informal discussions and use of the UN libraries.

Please [click here](#) to access the 2021 Written Statement, written by members of Sambhali US on behalf of Sambhali Trust.



Commission on the Status of Women

Sixty-fifth session

15–26 March 2021

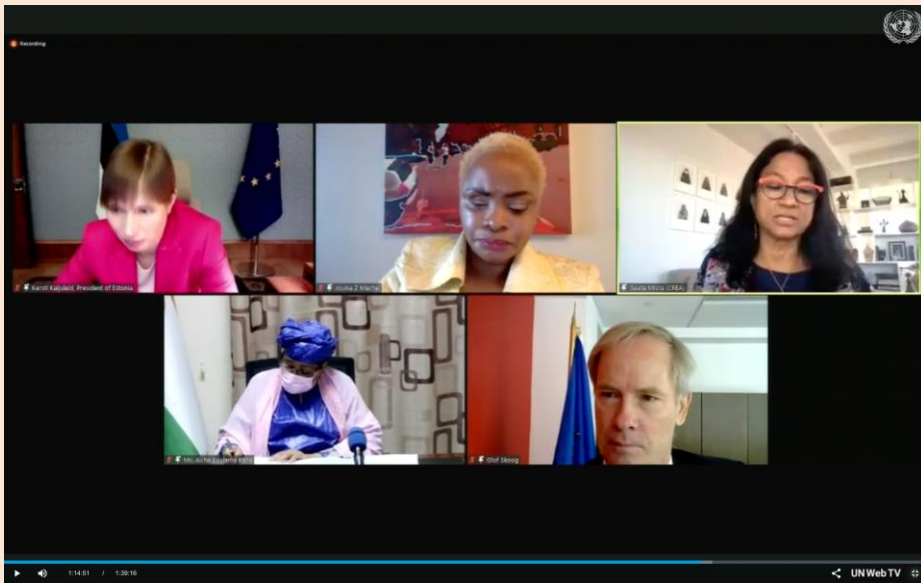
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”

Statement submitted by Sambhali Trust, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* The present statement is issued without formal editing.

NIRBHAYA PROJECT CONNECTION



Legal Advocate at Sambhali Trust and one of our Nirbhaya Project counselors, Shivani Singh provided an in-house statement in response to Ms. Geetanjali Misra (Co-Founder and Executive Director of CREA, member of the Global Reference Group of Spotlight, India) during the [“Group of Friends for the Elimination of Violence against Women and Girls”](#) CSW65 side event, (pictured above).



Ms. Shivani Singh (Counselor)

- B.A. LL.B
- Lawyer at Rajasthan High Court, Jodhpur and Central Administrative Tribunal, Jodhpur Rajasthan with expertise in Criminal Law and Civil Law matters
- Member of Bar Council of Rajasthan, Jodhpur

"I agree with her points being made about finding the root cause of gender based violence and working on them and how severe punishment won't suffice in eradicating the gender based violence. Laws and policy don't provide much help when people are not aware of them, reaching out to people and creating awareness is of paramount importance so that women can protect themselves before their rights are infringed. Knowledge of laws, policies and rights gives strength and security to people. Unfortunately in some situations where a survivor has gone through rape/domestic violence/forceful marriage etc., they are deeply affected mentally where most of the times they become hopeless or could not fight for themselves.

Working under Nirbhaya project as a legal counsellor, I have experienced women who were suffering abuse but due to lack of knowledge could not gather strength to fight for themselves. A lady whose partner had stolen money from her bank account was fearful of filing a police complaint because she thought that the police will charge money for it whereas there is absolutely no charges in filing a police complaint. Widows who were completely dependent on their husband financially were not aware of the schemes, legal aid provided by the government, policies for widow women or women from minority. Many times there have been cases where women did not understand what domestic violence is or what sexual harassment at workplace is. When workshops are taken, awareness campaigns are taken, when rights, cycle of abuse, types of abuse, things that constitute as sexual harassment, legal rights available to women are explained - women come out with their doubts and feel relieved to find a support system.

Gender based violence can only be eradicated when everyone is aware of the rights that they behold. Punishments are given for reformation, but when the abuser doesn't believe himself to be the abusing one then there is no point of death penalty or any severe punishments. So I absolutely agree with Geeta ma'am. Whenever a gender based violence takes place, it not only affects the victim but the whole society. So awareness and economical independence is the most important thing." Shivani Singh

STAFF TRAINING

Sambhali Trust organized experts to come to our office and conduct workshops related to Team Building, Quality Management, and Story-telling for our Team Leaders.

Learning has no age; we think with such exercises, we can strengthen Sambhali's team to execute our aims and objectives more powerfully. Our team was delighted with their interactions with the experts and meeting each other in an educational, playful environment.



Lockdown due to COVID-19 and its consequences have given a lot of pain and shown very unpredictable times. All of us coming together, sharing, and learning for a few days were very enjoyable and informative.



Smita Sawant, (*below*) working as a Director in a leading NGO in Mumbai, led a workshop on February 4th, 2021. It was a real learning opportunity for our tutors, and she showed us how to maintain professionalism and work ethics in an NGO. In her workshop, tutors learned about the policies of an NGO: the Key Results Areas (KRAs), goals to meet, and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to work, all of which are necessary to complete assignments. Tutors were very responsive to all the questions asked by Smita Ji and absorbed all the new information. It was a session that will benefit Sambhali and upgrade the tutors' work.



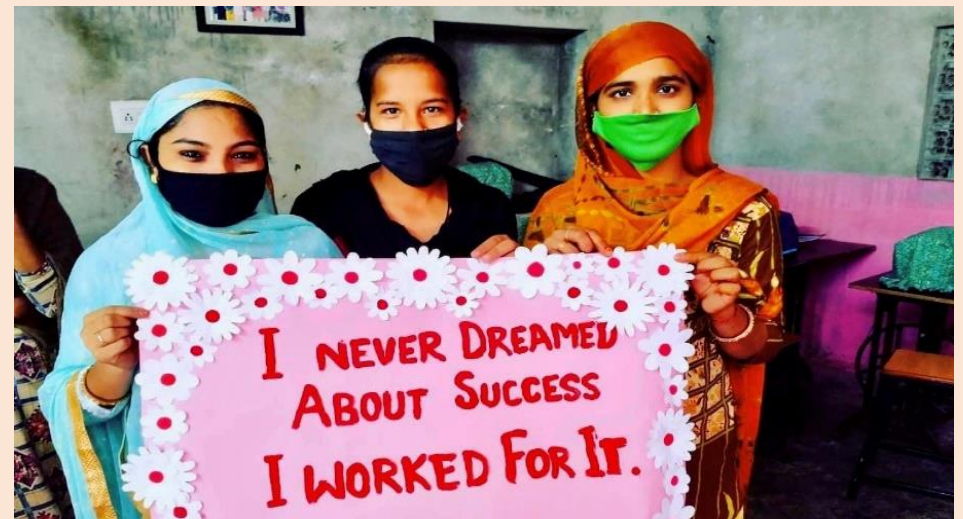
Another workshop was led by Geetanjali Soni, (*above*), multi-talented and highly-educated with experience in contrasting work fields, on 4 February 2021. She has experience in teaching, and she has worked with NGOs. One part of our tutors' work is storytelling. They convey our participants'

stories that should reach our customers, donors, and international team. Most importantly, when tutors write their monthly reports, they should use correct words to convey the exact story. The team-building capacity workshop for our tutors was very beneficial.

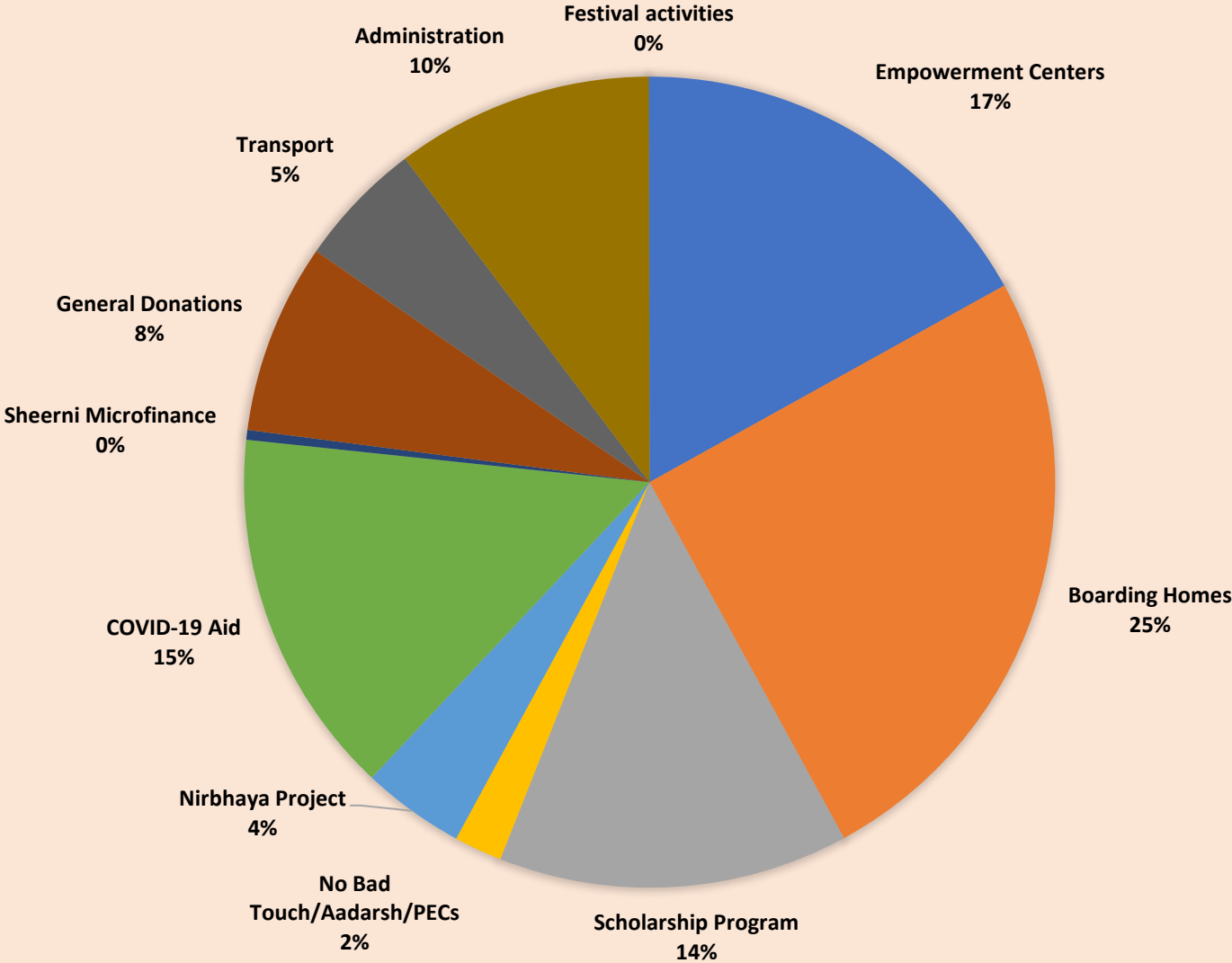


Enduring challenging times due to the pandemic with little ease in restrictions, Geetanjali Ji made this workshop full of fun and laughter through engaging games and activities.

We will continue to have such workshops to upgrade our tutors to improve their confidence, improve their work and give better results.

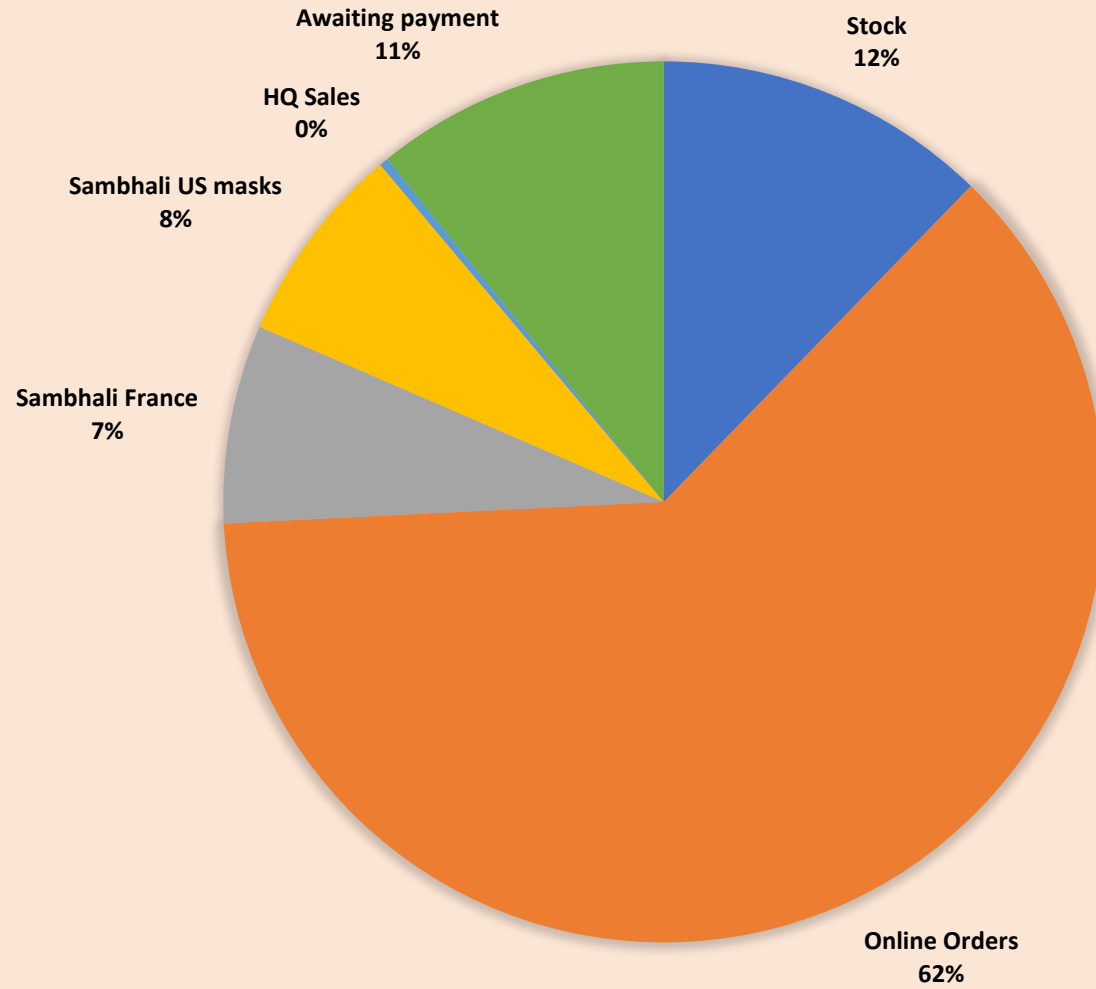


SAMBHALI TRUST PROJECT EXPENDITURE



Sambhali Trust Audit Report available on request

SAMBHALI BOUTIQUE SALES



PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS AND SUPPORTERS



SAMBHALI TRUST

COMMUNITY

Building networks of lasting support

KNOWLEDGE

Nurturing the next generation

SKILLS

Achieving financial independence



Sambhali Trust
Jodhpur, Rajasthan, INDIA
www.sambhali.org
info@sambhali.org

