



Hand in Hand Organisation for Humanitarian Aid Activity and Progress Report

From 1st April 2021 until 31st March 2022

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Hand in Hand is an [international non-profit organisation for humanitarian aid](#), founded in Vienna in March 2000. This was followed by Hand in Hand USA (2001), Hand in Hand Foundation Germany (2005), Hand in Hand Switzerland (2006), Hand in Hand Foundation Netherlands (2007) and Hand in Hand France.

The present activity and progress report describes the current developments of the Hand in Hand projects in India and summarises the specific activities of the Hand in Hand organisations in Austria, Germany, Holland and France.

The activity reports of Hand in Hand Switzerland and Hand in Hand USA are available at www.handinhand-schweiz.org and www.handinhandusa.org.

All of the organisations listed above work for the conception, planning, financing and implementation of the Hand in Hand aid projects in the areas of education, health and disaster relief in Odisha. Odisha is one of the poorest states in India with an exceptionally high degree of exposure to natural disasters.

The aid projects are implemented in cooperation with the partner organisation of Hand in Hand, the Prajnana Mission in Cuttack, Odisha, India. The structure of Hand in Hand together with an overwhelming voluntary commitment enables up to 95% of the donations to flow into the projects efficiently, and allows for almost all donations to reach those in need.

Hand in Hand pursues exclusively charitable goals. As a result of international cooperation, it is possible to break hopeless cycles of poverty by:

- Giving children living in extreme poverty a home, the chance to grow up healthy, and quality education - and thus a future.
- Providing medical care to people without access to health services and medicines.
- Providing rapid and sustainable aid in the event of natural disasters, to protect people, animals and the environment.

The Hand in Hand health projects - the [Hariharananda Charitable Health Centres](#) - are located in Balighai, Jagatpur, Arua, Athagarh and Bishindpur. More than 30 doctors offer general and special medical treatments in the Health Centres.

The Hand in Hand [education projects](#) are currently:

- The Hariharananda Residential School
- The Chrysalis project, which emerged from the Balashram project
- The Hariharananda Shikshashrams (small village schools)

The Hand in Hand **disaster relief and civil protection** includes:

- Provision of immediate life-support assistance such as medical aid, provision of food, hygiene items and emergency kits;
- Helping to restore destroyed infrastructure, such as building storm- and flood-proof, one-room houses;
- Provision of agricultural land, seeds, massive planting and reforestation.

All Hand in Hand projects stand for an **ecologically-attentive and care for life**, and aim at increasing autonomy. With green ideas for a healthy future the following was achieved:

- The expansion of the gardens and the construction of a well in the Balashram Residential School
- The construction of a farm building for the supply of dairy products and the preservation of The Indian humped cattle (Zebu)
- The construction of a biogas plant
- The instillation of solar panels

In the year 2021 / 2022, with the donations for Hand in Hand and in cooperation with Prajnana Mission, its partner organisation in Odisha (India), the education and health projects as well as the projects in the field of disaster relief and civil protection were successfully continued — despite the enormous challenges caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

HEALTH PROJECTS

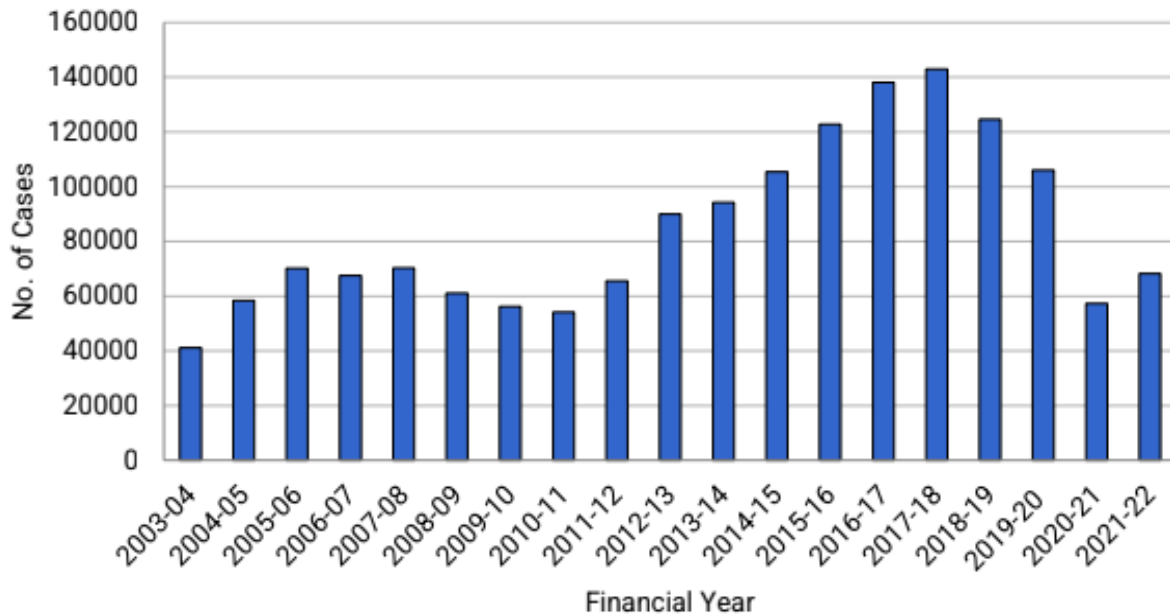
The Hariharananda Charitable Health Centres (HCHC) provide professional medical treatment to people without access to adequate medical and dental care. Since the year 2000, the founding year of Hand in Hand, five Health Centres have been established in the districts of Puri, West Medinipur and in Cuttack. One of the HCHC has been developed into the HCHC Jagatpur Day Clinic.

In addition, Mobile Health Camps are offered in urban slums and in remote rural areas. Via the Village Health Camps, medical care is consistently and continuously offered in regions with insufficient or no access to health facilities.

STATISTICS

From July 1999 until March 2022, the HCHC provided medical assistance and medicines for close to 1.6 million patients. In spite of COVID pandemic, about 57,288 people could avail the medical services during 2020-21 and 40,044 people during 2021-22. The drop in the number of patients since the year 2018-19 is due to the opening of a government urban public health care center in Jagatpur 2018 and also due to the pandemic as only patients not having COVID symptoms were treated at our health centers. The treatment of Covid patients was tied to the state hospitals.

Medical Statistics



FUTURE PLANS

- Cow-based medicine therapy
- Tribal Health Projects
- Establishing preventive services that enable people suffering from poverty in particular to adopt a lifestyle that helps them to maintain their health in the long term.

HCHC JAGATPUR (Day Clinic)

HCHC Jagatpur day clinic celebrated its opening in February 2014 in the new industrial area of Jagatpur. The clinic provides for the poor and offers general medical and therapeutic treatments, as well as health services in centralized medical fields such as pediatrics, gynecology, and surgery. More than 100 patients receive medical help every day in the day clinic.

Though national lockdown was announced by the Government on March 24, 2021 and continued until the end of May 2021, HCHC Jagatpur uninterruptedly continued the essential health services, thereby relieving the pressure of patients without COVID symptoms in the government hospitals who were tied down with COVID care.

OFFERED SERVICES

The day clinic offers outpatient services six days a week. They include EKG examinations, laboratory tests (daily), outpatient eye care (once a month), and other specialist medical care such as cardiology (twice a month), urology (twice a week), neurology (twice a month), obstetrics and gynecology (three times a week), pediatrics (three times a month), orthopedics (twice a week), dermatology etc.

- Laboratory Services: HCHC Jagatpur has been providing laboratory services since August 2014. The laboratory is equipped with a semi-automatic analyzer, centrifuge machine, incubator, water bath, microscope, ESR stand, hemocytometer, refrigerator, DC counter and all necessary reagents. In February 2016, because of added pressure due to the arrival of more patients another semi-automatic analyzer and a CBC machine were added. With increased demand on pathology a fully automatic bio-chemistry analyzer, a Na/K analyzer and a coagulant machine was procured on Aug 10, 2019. A 300 mA Xray of make GE with a Fujitsu CR machine was also installed on February 14, 2020. This has greatly benefited the patients because almost all services required at HCHC Jagatpur are now available here. The patients will now not have to spend money and time to travel to Cuttack to get an X-ray.

The following are the tests conducted in the laboratory: ECG, DC, TLC, TPC, Hb%, CBC, ESR, RBS, FBS, PPBS, PGBS, Urea, Creatinine, LFT, Total Protein, Albumin, Serum Calcium, Na+/K+, PTT, APTT, BT/CT, Lipid Profile, Uric Acid, HbA1c, ASO, RA, CRP, VDRL, MX-Test (Mantoux), Blood Grouping, WIDAL, HIV, HCV, HBSAG, TOXO, MP-ICT, MP-Slide, Urine RM, Urine Analyze, U-BHCG/UVT, Urine BS/BP, Urine Micral, Urine C/S (culture), Stool RM, Stool for occult blood.

- Radiography Services: Radiography services were added in December 2019. On an average day, a total of 10 X-rays are carried out. A 300mA Xray was also installed on February 14, 2020.
- Eye OPD: Eye OPD has been running since October 2014 and on an average 50-60 patients being treated on every Wednesday. The OPD is equipped with eye examination chair, Keratometer and I-Chart (LCD), Auto Refractometer and Vision Drum. Because of the non-availability of voluntary doctors on a continued basis, the services were suspended till February 2021. The services were again resumed in March 2021.
- The Dressing Unit for All Types of Minor Injuries: The dressing unit is equipped with Cheatle forceps, artery forceps (straight and curved), sponge holding forceps, sinus forceps, tooth forceps, straight needles, needle holders, stitch cutters, foreign body remover, dressing table with light and a sterilizer machine. This unit handles many kinds of dressing cases such as burn cases, ulcers with maggots, gangrene, etc. Quite a few minor OPD cases are being handled at HCHC Jagatpur. Burn cases, diabetic foot ulcers, lipoma and other similar cases are regularly handled at HCHC Jagatpur.

- ECG Services: HCHC, Jagatpur has been providing ECG Service since the inception of the new HCHC building. This service assists the doctors in the diagnosis of cardiac conditions. Because of the introduction of ECG tests, patients do not have to go to diagnostic clinics for carrying out the tests.
- Dental Services: The dental services initially were restricted to extraction, filling and scaling. With the availability of hydraulically operated dental chairs with all other necessary equipment, HCHC Jagatpur is also carrying out Root Canal Treatment.
- X-Ray: HCHC Jagatpur has installed X-Ray machine was February 14, 2020.
- Physiotherapy: Physiotherapy has become an alternative to medicinal, pain therapy. Since 2016/2017 the physiotherapy department is equipped with all common devices for the therapy required for an average of 30 patients a day.
- First Aid: In spring 2020, a first aid room was set up on the ground floor.
- COVID Measures: HCHC has been working with district authorities on measures to counter the spread of Covid-19. A COVID vaccination drive for people above 18 years of age was launched in May 2021 at the Jagatpur Day Hospital. So far, about 35,000 people have been vaccinated with doses 1 and 2.
- Oxygen – The Life Saver: Oxygen is essential for the people affected by COVID and to strengthen the hands of the government in its efforts and to reduce the bottleneck of crucial life saving devices, HCHC has worked with the health officials to provide Oxygen cylinders and necessary medical supplies for the affected. In June 2021, Prajnana Mission with the help of Hand-in-Hand donated 100 D-type jumbo cylinders, oxygen concentrators, oxyflowmeters, pulse oximeters, etc. to hospitals and Covid care centers.

STATISTICS

The monthly average of the number of people taking OPD treatment during 2020-21 was 2,631; but it increased to 3,337 during 2021-22. The number of people who utilized other services is as below:

HCHC Jagatpur (Day Clinic)	2020-21	2021-22
Laboratory Services	14.508	13.360
Surgical Services	1030	607
ECG	325	467
Physiotherapie	2.964	8.354
X-Ray	800	1.120

HCHC BALIGHAI

Hariharananda Charitable Health Centre HCHC in Balighai, Puri, in the state of Odisha is offering conventional general medical treatments and specialist health services.

Unlike HCHC Jagatpur, health services at HCHC Balighai were interrupted due to COVID pandemic. It has been in full operation again since the summer of 2021.

OFFERED SERVICES

HCHC in Balighai is open 6 days a week. In addition to the regular health services, HCHC Balighai is offering Ayurvedic and Homeopathy health services. Ayurvedic treatments have been carried out since February 2018 and homeopathic treatments since February 2021. Physiotherapy services are usually offered twice a month. Special camps with the help of local ayurvedic specialists are organized for specific diseases. The centre also offers specialist skin consultations, as well as dental treatments twice a month.

Eye OPD services were being offered on alternate months at HCHC Balighai using Eye examination equipment viz., mobile Keratometer and Vision Drum. Because of the non-availability of voluntary doctors on a continued basis, the services are currently not being provided. Efforts are on to search for doctors or cooperation-partners who will come and serve on a voluntary basis.

In addition, Special allopathy medical camps in the HCHC health centre at Balighai for ENT, gastroenterology, and cardiovascular diseases are also being organized. These camps can reach areas where people normally have limited or no access at all to medical facilities.

STATISTICS

The following is the number of patients who took treatment during April 2021-March 2022.

HCHC Balighai	2021-22
OPD Allopathy	2.195
OPD Ayurveda	3.674
OPD Homeopahty	711

HCHC BHISHINDIPUR

Hariharananda Charitable Health Centre in Bishindipur in the state of West Bengal offers conventional general medical treatments and specialist health services.

OFFERED SERVICES

HCHC Bishindipur offers homeopathic treatments on two days every week.

Eye OPD services were being offered on alternate months at HCHC Balighai using Eye examination equipment viz., mobile Keratometer and Vision Drum. Because of the non-availability of voluntary doctors on a continued basis, the services are currently not being provided. Efforts are on to search for doctors or cooperation-partners who will come and serve on a voluntary basis.

STATISTICS

The OPD services at Bhisindpur were utilized by 2,331 patients in 2021-22.

VILLAGE HEALTH PROJECTS

OFFERED SERVICES

The Village Health Project Athagarh (Upavanam), offers homeopathic treatments 6 days a week and dental care twice a month.

The Village Health Project Arua, situated on the premises of the Hariharananda Balashram Residential School, offers four days a week allopathic treatment and twice a month dental care. Regular homeopathic treatment has also been carried out since 2019/20.

STATISTICS

The OPD services at the Village Health Project at Athagarh and Arua was utilized by 7,206 patients and 4,172 patients, respectively.

EDUCATION PROJECTS

HARIHARANANDA BALASHRAM RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

Since July 2004, the Hariharananda Balashram Residential School project has been offering children of extreme poverty—without primary care and educational opportunities—a safe home, health care and high-quality education. The children living in urban slums or in severely underserved, hard-to-reach rural areas are selected by a specially qualified commission. Each year, 40 children aged between 4 and 5 years can be enrolled in the school for 14 years.

The school has a nursery (Nursery 1 and Nursery 2) and offers children, starting at the age of 6, quality-certified schooling up to grade 10 (secondary level 1) and, since July 2017, up to grade 12 (secondary level 2) by the Central Board of Education (CBSE). The final exams for secondary level 1 and secondary level 2 are public and are conducted by CBSE.

As of March 2021, the total number of students during the academic year 2019-20 was 447. Owing to the pandemic, some students have gone home to stay with the parents or guardians.

During the year 2021-22, Balashram has 457 students (234 boys and 233 girls); 28 teachers and 36 non-teaching staff. From November 2021, students of Std. VI to XII are having classes in classroom.

During 2021-22, 47 Nursery and 46 Kindergarten students got admitted.

SCHOOL CURRICULUM

The lessons are mainly held in English. The school follows the CBSE curriculum, which integrates a Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) according to the guidelines of the CBSE. In the school curriculum, English is the first language, Odia is the second language and Hindi is the third language. It covers the areas of mathematics, natural sciences, social sciences and environmental sciences. The lessons follow concepts of activity-based learning.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Vocational Training and Basic Skill Development

In order to provide the best possible space and support for the development of each child's individual talents and potential, extracurricular offerings in the areas of art & culture, nature & environment, and sports & games are available to the children. The children and adolescents are encouraged to dream of a life that they freely choose for themselves, and to realize their dreams actively and through their own efforts. This is reflected in the school's logo which bears the inscription "Make Your Dream a Reality" and in the Balashram's pedagogical approach, and ultimately in the organisation of care in the residential school, as well as in the actual teaching.

In addition to the regular education, extracurricular courses in IT, general knowledge, as well as ethics and values education are offered. Since the academic year 2013/2014 the children also receive vocational training as part of a competence-oriented programme. The students from Std-VIII to Std-X undergo vocational training and life skills to empower them and inculcate in them the value of work.

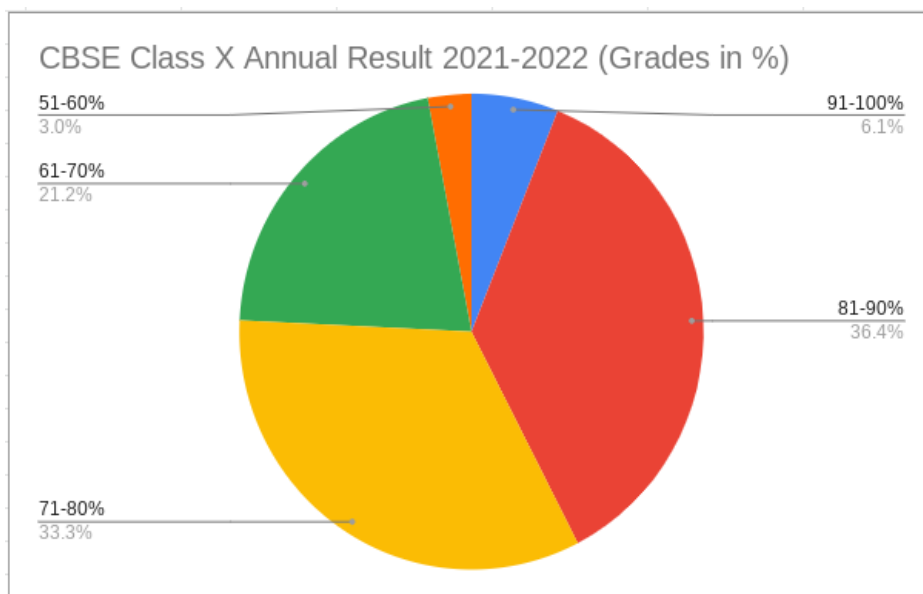
Courses are available to the girls and boys in tailoring, gardening, desktop publishing, computer hardware assembly, plumbing, electrical house wiring, bicycle repair, hair cutting and cooking, among others. Each student enrolls in at least one vocational training course. Students may enroll in more than one course depending upon their interest. The basic life skill courses are compulsory. These classes are once a week on Sundays. The class duration is two hours.

Samkalpa - Ethical-Moral Education Camps

SAMKALPA means firm determination. One should be clear about the goal of life and be determined to achieve this. The goal of life in turn is determined by his/her inculcate ethical-moral values. Ethik Education Camp was a step towards inculcating high ethical-moral values among the senior students of Hariharananda Balashram.

Moral education camps were held in April 2021 and October 2021. The camps were held in April 2021 and October 2021. The courses are held on the topics of "learning", "helpfulness", "practising patience" and "freedom from suffering", among others.

ACADEMIC RESULTS OF CLASSES STD. X



Academic results of Std. X

In the class of 33 students, only one student has scored below 60%, while the rest reached above 60%.

The highest marks are 93% and 96% respectively.

With these results, Balashram looks back on its most successful final year to date.

HEALTH AND MEDICAL CARE

The school has its own Hariharananda Health Centre to check the children's health and dental health and ensure their well-being. Additionally an assistant nurse and a female health worker take care of children's health regularly.

Most of the students normally enjoy good health barring common fever, cold and flu due to seasonal changes, and skin injuries and sometimes bone fractures while playing.

As part of a Village Health Project, health camps are organized four times a week. Thus, the Health Centre is also open to the inhabitants of Arua, the village in the district of Kendrapara where the school is located. To protect the children from the pandemic currently this facility is not open to the general public. Homeopathic camp is also suspended because of the pandemic. Dental camps are organized twice a month for the treatment of students and the local populace. However, because of the pandemic this service is intermittently conducted only for the students.

Amidst the throes of COVID-19, Prajnana Mission has managed to keep Hariharananda Balashram COVID-free to a greater extent except for a few random cases. Hariharananda Balashram managed to achieve this by taking strict hygiene measures inside the campus and in the surrounding areas:

- Proper COVID protocols including sanitization, mask and social distancing were followed by the teachers and students on the school campus and the Boys' Hotel.
- No out-side people entered the school or Hostel campus.
- Proper mechanism was in place for getting all necessary things from the market for students and the teachers.

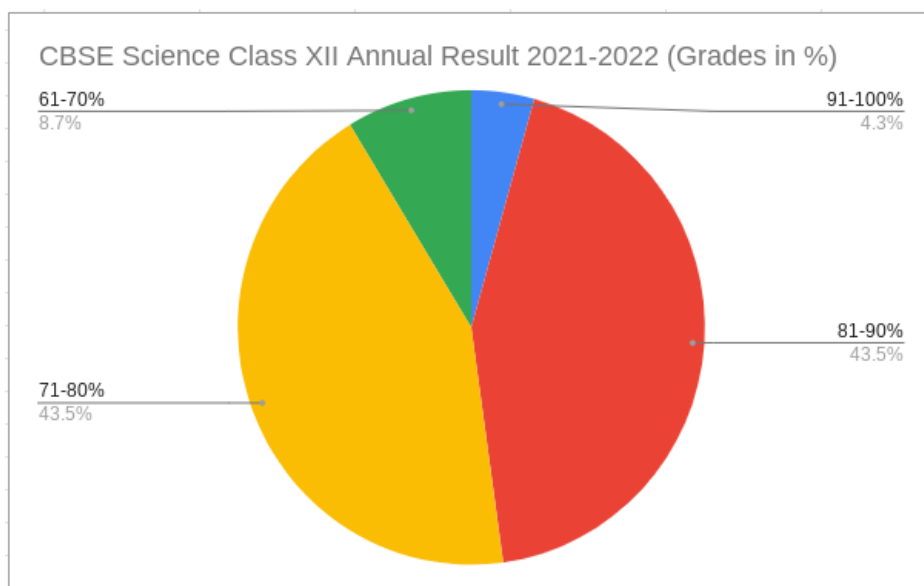
FACILITIES

- The residential school has 26 dormitories for girls and 23 dormitories for boys. There are currently 24 teachers and 36 non-teaching staff employed at Balashram.
- The school is well equipped with a computer laboratory that has 45 computers and a projector for teaching information technology. Since 2013-14, Balashram has introduced an audio-visual learning system that encourages teachers and students to integrate information and communication technology in their teaching-learning process. Balashram teachers also extensively utilize the three digital Teach Next facilities for the benefit of the children.
- In December 2019, construction work began on the mini auditorium, and was completed in August 2020. The ceremonial opening of the auditorium was on 16 February 2021.
- In April 2020, the improvements to the staff quarters and painting work on the buildings were completed.
- The renovation of the old main school gate was completed in January 2021.
- The new central library was completed in February 2021.
- The biogas plant, commissioned in 2018, currently covers 80% of fuel requirements. LPG is used for the remaining requirements. Wood is no longer used to run the kitchen.
- Solar Power Project: The solar power project was commissioned in December 2019 and it supplies electrical power of 50 kVA to school campus. Requirement for Balashram is 100+ kVA. Based on the success of this project, we are working on installation of 10kVA off-grid solar power project on the school terrace. Completion date was March 2022.
- The renovation of the kindergarten building to improve natural lighting and ventilation and to add more toilet facilities was completed in 2021.
- Tuition Center in Arua: A building for tuition center was finished in March 2022.
- Another future project is construction of a Tuition Centre Building for providing tuitions to the children of neighbouring villages. This project costs Rs. 2,800,000 and targeted for completion by March 2023.
- LAN connectivity: Plans are underway to have LAN connectivity for boys and girls hostel campuses so that in the event of present circumstances like COVID, classes can be held through LAN without gathering the students and teachers in a classroom. Teachers can teach from their staff quarters and students can learn in their respective hostels.

CHRYSALIS

Chrysalis supports graduates of the Balashram Residential School on their flight into life after school. This special project of Hand in Hand, guided by Prajnana Mission, has the scope to give graduates, with their different prerequisites, the best possible support. The school received the Composite Provisional Affiliation for Secondary School from the Central Board of Secondary Education, New Delhi, in 2017. The approval for education up to secondary level 2 is a result of the Chrysalis project, which emerged from the Balashram project in 2016.

This year, students achieved the best results so far in the final examinations of Grade 12 in the science and humanities branches:

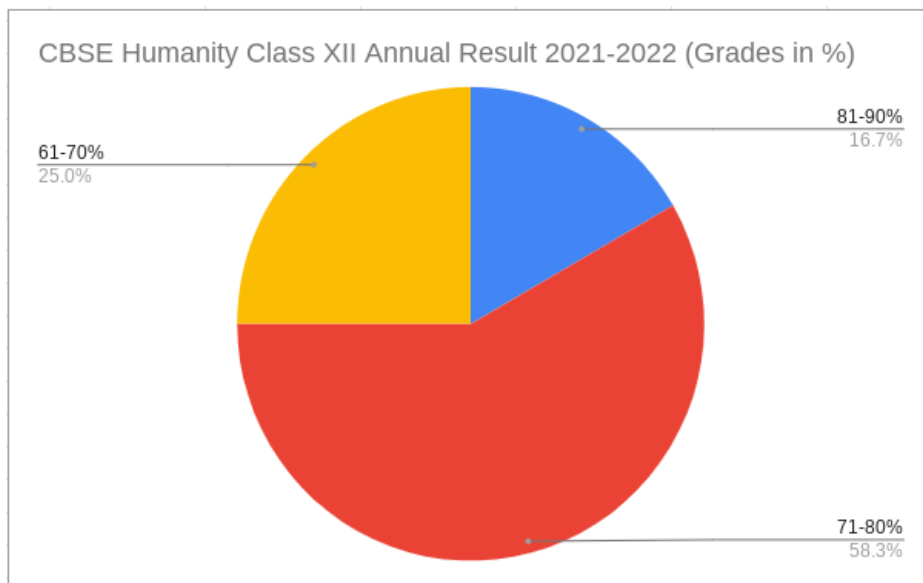


Academic results of Std. XII (Science)

In the class of 23 students, all students scored above 60%.

The highest mark is 96%.

With these results, Balashram looks back on its most successful final year to date.



Academic results of Std. XII (Humanities)

In the class of 12 students, all students scored above 60%.

The highest mark is 82%.

With these results, Balashram looks back on its most successful final year to date.

HARIHARANANDA SHIKSHASHRAMS: New small village schools

The Hariharananda Shikshashrams project started as a further educational project in 2018/2019. Independent village schools have been created in several districts of Odisha, where children receive, at a minimum cost, basic and good quality education with special focus on the English language.

School fees are calculated based on parents' means and ability to pay, so to ensure that all children in the area can attend school. Two of the 30 planned schools have already opened. They are all called Hariharananda Shikshashram, followed by the name of the village the school is located in.

The first school was built in 2018/2019 in Rajanagar, in the district of Athagarh and a second one in Mayurbhani. Both schools had to close due to the pandemic.

In spring 2022, the village school named HARIHARANANDA SHIKSHASHRAM BETAKHOLI in Rajanagar Panchayat of Athagarh Subdivision of Cuttack District could be reopened. The school has received approval from the District Education Officer, Cuttack to open as well as recognition as a public educational institution for 5 years (2022-23 to 2027-28).

Currently, the school is run in a rented house with 3 rooms and a dormitory with 50 students, 5 different classes (Kindergarten I, Kindergarten II, Grades 1 to 3), five full-time teachers, one part-time teacher (Art), as well as a caretaker and a field worker. The management is done by a foundation called HARIHARANANDA SHIKSHASHRAM, RAJNAGAR.

DISASTER RELIEF AND ONGOING DISASTER CONTROL

Cyclone "YAAS" hit the coastal region of Odisha between the north of Dhamra and the south of Baleswar near Bahanaga on 26 May 2021. Due to the heavy rains, many areas were flooded. Chuda rice, molasses, chatua, biscuits, hygiene items, candles and matchboxes were distributed to 278 families in Budhigadia, Nanda Chhak and Telagodia villages.

GENERAL ACTIVITIES

- In the financial year 2021/22, Hand in Hand produced two newsletters, Christmas mail, and an issue of the donor magazine Spotlight and sent them out by post and email. The newsletters were published in German and English in 2021 and additionally in French, Hungarian, Polish and Spanish from spring 2022. The Spotlight appeared in German, English and French and was published on the website www.handinhand.at and www.handinhand.fr respectively.
- In May and November 2021, the Hand in Hand Joy Concerts were held in aid of Balashram. The live stream charity concerts, held in cooperation with Prajnana Mission and Hand in Hand supporters in Europe and India, were given by artists DANA DEVI and JADOO ANANDA and broadcast live via Zoom, Facebook and You-Tube.
- In the same year, Paramahansa Prajnanananda, the founder of our partner organisation in India, Prajnana Mission, visited the Hand in Hand organisation in Austria. He participated in a fruitful exchange on the continuation of our joint projects, especially against the backdrop of the alarming situation caused by COVID-19 in Odisha and worldwide.
- Also Swami Achalanandaji Giri, the Managing Director of our partner organisation in India, Prajnana Mission, visited the Hand in Hand organisation in Austria this financial year. There was a fruitful exchange about the continuation of the joint projects in India and the building of a new database for Hand in Hand.
- Members of Hand in Hand, Prajnana Mission as well as supporters and donors from Europe exchange information about the implementation of the projects and the further development of the international organisation Hand in Hand at least monthly, often weekly in Zoom meetings. Important questions for further cooperation are discussed.
- Current cross-organisational projects are: Hand in Hand website and social media, online edition of the fundraising magazine Spotlight, sponsorships, corporate-fundraising.
- Monthly meetings are held with Hand in Hand USA with the aim of strengthening and expanding Hand in Hand's international and worldwide cooperation. The Joy Concerts will be organised in cooperation with HIH USA in the future.

- The President, Vice-President and Executive Director of Hand in Hand were also able to raise funds for the projects in India during Europe-wide events in the financial year 2021/22. Fundraising programmes in various European cities are planned, organised and carried out cooperatively.
- In addition to the annual general assembly, board meetings, as well as working meetings via Zoom, were held during this financial year. Apart from that, the board members are in telephone and/or email contact.
- The exchange of information between the Prajnana Mission in India and the Hand in Hand headquarters in Vienna is extremely constructive thanks to web conferences, internet telephony, email and mutual visits.

Thanks to the international collaboration of Hand in Hand Organisations in Europe, "Stiftung Hand in Hand Deutschland", "Hand in Hand Schweiz", "Stichting Hand in Hand Netherlands", "Hand in Hand France" and Support Groups in Poland, Hungary and the UK and non-European Hand in Hand supporters, we can look back to a successful business year. Also, Hand in Hand USA makes a significant contribution to the planning, coordination and financing of the humanitarian aid projects. In India, Europe and in the USA many voluntary helpers and coordinators are participating in the different projects.

Vienna, May 2022