



# Vidnyanvahini Annual Report 2016-2017



# The year in pictures

Archery practice for Nagaland students



Wave motion demo during Basarge teachers' training camp



**Vidnyanvahini**  
**Members of Dialogue & Action group**

**President : Pushpa Deshpande**

**Secretary : Sharad Godse**

<b>Aparna Ambekar</b>	<b>Kirti Bapat</b>	<b>Mukund Bhadbhade</b>
<b>Madhukar Deshpande</b>	<b>Pradnya Deshpande</b>	<b>Dattatray Dewal</b>
<b>Vinayak Dixit</b>	<b>Vivek Erande</b>	<b>Satish Ghamande</b>
<b>Umesh Godbole</b>	<b>Snehal Godse</b>	<b>Shailaja Joshi</b>
<b>Suvarnalata Kandalgaonkar</b>	<b>Sandhya Khasnis</b>	<b>Shirish Mokashi</b>
<b>Nalini Mungel</b>	<b>Shreedhar Maisurkar</b>	<b>Pushpa Palkar</b>
<b>Nandan Pande</b>	<b>Preetima Pande</b>	<b>Urmila Parchure</b>
<b>Shubhangi Parkar</b>	<b>Jayant Phalke</b>	<b>Kiran Phatak</b>
<b>Ashok Prabhu</b>	<b>Nirmala Rege</b>	<b>Achyut Sapre</b>
<b>Anita Sathe</b>	<b>Atik Shaikh</b>	<b>Ulhas Vaishampayan</b>
<b>Yashashri Wagh</b>	<b>Suresh Yerunkar</b>	

**VIDNYANVAHINI, PUNE**

Public Trust Registration No E 2024, Pune  
Donations tax exempt under section 80G

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# Vidnyanvahini Mobile Science Laboratory

## Annual Report for the period April 2016 to March 2017

### About Vidnyanvahini

Vidnyanvahini's mission is to reduce the gap in the standards of science teaching between rural and urban schools by offering rural school children a means of learning science through laboratory experiments.

The flagship project of Vidnyanvahini is the Mobile Science Laboratory (MSL): a minibus designed to accommodate storage for lab apparatus, audio-visual equipment, laptops, an uninterruptible power supply powered by the engine battery, a generator, portable lab tables and an overhead water tank.

The backbone of Vidnyanvahini is its team of volunteers consisting of retired scientists, engineers, and science teachers collectively called the Dialogue and Action Group (DAG). The MSL carries a team of six or 7 members of DAG to the selected school on a given day. Priority is given to small rural high schools, which lack a science laboratory and do not enjoy state grants. During a tightly organised full-day session, students perform some science experiments themselves in groups of 4 to 6 and observe demonstration of others. The theoretical principles underlying the experiments are explained to them with the aid of educational audio-visual material and/or models. Students are also provided guidance on issues faced during adolescence.

*“During this period (of 22 years) the Mobile Science Laboratory has travelled about 3,09,000 kms while making 3056 school visits and touching the lives of about 3,42,660 rural students spread over 24 districts of Maharashtra”*

In addition to school visits, a few teacher-training workshops are held to enhance science-teaching skills among rural school teachers. An annual student camp seeks to expose rural students to a wide variety of science and technology related topics through presentations from subject experts and visits to factories/ laboratories/ Defence Establishments etc. Several book-bags are also circulated among schools to act as mobile libraries.

Vidnyanvahini is a not-for-profit organization constituted as a public trust, which does not charge schools for its visits and operates solely on public donations. In January 2017

Vidnyanvahini completed 22 years of service. During this period the Mobile Science Laboratory has travelled about 3,09,000 kms while making 3056 school visits and touching the lives of about 3,42,660 rural students spread over 24 districts of Maharashtra. Over the last few years Vidnyanvahini has also been venturing out of Maharashtra through school visits in the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand and Karnataka.

This report summarises the activities of the organisation for the period April 2016 to March 2017.

### **Vidnyanvahini activities at-a-glance**

Number of Mobile Science Laboratory (MSL) visits to rural schools	156
Number of schools visited*	124
Number of schools visited once in the year	92
Number of schools visited twice in the year	32
Number of visits to unaided or partly aided schools	21
Number of students who benefited by the MSL visits	18660
Number of outstation visits (each lasting 3 to 5 days)	9
Number of Kms logged by the MSL	13900
Number of science teachers' workshop days	2
Number of student camp days	10
Number of schools using mobile library	4

These activities are described in detail in the following paragraphs.

### **School visits**

During the year 155 visits were made to rural schools falling in states of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand by the Vidnyanvahini team.

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\* Some schools are visited twice in the year. Hence the number of school visits is less than the number of MSL visits

Apart from visits to schools in and around Pune (which are covered during a single day) Vidnyanvahini also undertook nine out-of-town visits, typically lasting three to five days each, to the following places: Islampur (Sangli District) twice, Junnar (Pune), Shevgaon (Ahmednagar District), Kolhapur (Kolhapur District), Rajapur (Ratnagiri District), Gadhinglaj (Kolhapur District), Alibag (Raigad District), Gaganbawada (Kolhapur District) .

These visits were sponsored by organisations/schools in those places and were used to cover rural schools in the surrounding areas. In addition to the above visits 14 schools were visited using a hired vehicle to schools whose requests for Vidnyanvahini visits could not be fitted in the regular schedule of MSL visits.

As in the previous year, Vidnyanvahini continued to visit schools located in the thickly forested areas of Pench in Maharashtra and MP at the invitation of the NGO 'Conservation Wildlands Trust' which is active in the area. During the year two visits were made to this backward area covering four schools during the months of December 2016 and January 2017.

Vidnyanvahini broke new ground this year by visiting schools in the predominantly tribal state of Jharkhand. This visit was made in the month of November 2016 at the invitation of Shri Aditya Ranjan I.A.S., the Deputy Collector of Deoghar district who wanted to start a similar mobile lab. The team of 5 members of Vidnyanvahini covered 11 government schools. Even though all the schools were large the team managed to do justice to their task by working continuously for 13 days non-stop (except for a short lunch-break everyday) from 10 am to 6 pm.

### **Teacher training workshops**

Vidnyanvahini conducted one teacher training workshop lasting two days at Basarge, Kolhapur district. Twenty teachers attended the workshop. The subjects covered included atomic structure, radioactivity, chemical bonds, periodic table, sound, electricity and light. The purpose of the workshop was to demonstrate how concepts associated with the above topics could be explained with ease to students.

“... या सात जणांचा संघ प्रत्येक ठिकाणी नव्या जोशाने कार्य करताना पाहून सर्वांचा उत्साह द्विगुणीत होत होता. ज्येष्ठ नागरिक असूनही त्यांचा उत्साह तरुणांना लाजवणारा होता ”

Extract from a report by Mrs Vibhavari Sawant, Teacher at the NGO 'Helpers of the Handicapped', Kolhapur who coordinated Vidnyanvahini's visit.

## Student camps

Vidnyanvahini has been conducting an annual *Vidyarthi Shibir* (student camp) in Pune for many years. The camp attended by students of rural schools seeks to widen their knowledge horizon by exposing them to a diverse range of experiences through factory visits, presentations from experts and so on.

This year two such camps were held – one for the students of rural schools of Maharashtra as usual and, another for students of schools from Nagaland.

The six day camp for the students of Nagaland was conducted from 31 May to 5 June 2016. As in the previous year, when a similar event was held for students of Arunachal Pradesh, the students from remote schools of Nagaland found it an exciting experience having travelled out of their state for the first time. It was attended by 14 students and 2 teachers.

Some of the main presentations/ activities at the camp were:

- ‘Tour of Antarctica’ by Shri Suhas Kane
- Archery and rifle shooting by Shri Ranjit Chamle
- ‘Electronics’ by Shri Manjunath Naik
- ‘Origami’ by Shri Hrushikesh Sabnis
- ‘Paramveer chakra’ by Brig. (Retd.) Talwalkar
- ‘Stem Cells’ by Ms Soumya Koppikar
- ‘What you can do’ by Shri Avinash Dharmadhikari
- Visit to IUCAA and observing science experiments conducted by Shri Ashok Rupner
- ‘Mathematics’ by Ms Geeta Mahashabde
- ‘Basic Chemistry’ Dr Vijay Chavan
- ‘Flora of N E States’ by Dr Ritesh Choudhary
- ‘Bio-technology’ by Dr Aniket Kuvalekar
- ‘India : Corridor of the World’ Dr Sanjay Upadhye

The participants also visited IAF airbase at Lohegaon, Naval Training ship ‘ Rahman’ at Nhava Sheva (Uran), and the Tata Motors plant at Akurdi.

This camp was followed by the one held for students from rural schools of Maharashtra which was held from 12 to 16 June 2016. It was attended by 32 students and 8 teachers selected from schools visited by Vidnyanvahini. The highlights of the camp were the following presentations/ activities:

- ‘Rights of students’ by Shri Govind Gadgil
- Archery and rifle shooting by Shri Ranjit Chamle
- ‘India and Pakistan’ by Shri Arvind Gokhale
- ‘Stem Cells’ by Ms Soumya Koppikar
- ‘Everybody likes a drought’ Dr Vishwambhar Choudhary,
- ‘Light’ by Dr Prakash Borale
- Presentation of projects made by the group of students from each participating school.  
Judges and Guidance : Prof Dilip Sathe and Uday Thatte
- ‘Independence is my birth right - Lokmanya Tilak’ by Prof. Sadanand More,
- ‘Bio-technology’ by Shri Aniket Kuvalekar,
- ‘Paramveer Chakra’ by Brig.(Retd.) Talwalkar,
- ‘Celebrated escapes’ – Ms. Smita Erande
- ‘Artificial rain’ by Dr Prakash Kulkarni,
- ‘Indian economy’ Shri Yamaji Malkar
- ‘The making of scientists’ Shri Ganesh Kare-Patil
- Self defence techniques by Shri Chandrakant Bhosale

The participants were also taken for visits to the IAF airbase at Lohegaon, Science Park at Chinchawad, MCC Laboratory and New Life Pharmaceuticals.

### **Mobile Library**

To encourage the habit of reading among students, Vidnyanvahini has been circulating book bags among schools. The bag contains about forty books on science and related subjects and is kept in a school for a term. During 2016-17 this ‘Mobile Library’ was used by four schools.

### **Meetings of the Dialogue and Action Group**

The Dialogue and Action Group (DAG), comprising volunteers who work with Vidnyanvahini, meets periodically to review performance and discuss operational changes. During 2015-16 these meetings were held 5 times.

The 22nd annual meeting of DAG was held on 14 and 15 March 2017 This meeting was utilized to review the activities of the previous year, make plans for the activities of next year, make changes to the list of schools and outstation visits, decide on changes to curricula and experiments etc. One of the major projects agreed for the next year was to set up a science laboratory to be shared by a group of rural schools which are located in close proximity.

## **Surodi**

Vidnyanvahini has been involved in a water conservation project at Surodi, a village in Ahmednagar district about 120 kms from Pune, with financial support by Association for India's Development (AID), USA. As described in the previous annual reports this project has been highly successful with the village showing significant increase in the household incomes as a result of the increased availability of water for farming and consequent increase in agricultural production of onions and lemon, in particular. The primary school in the village was awarded the trophy for the best school in the Taluka.

## **Grameen Vidnyan Kendra, Anadur**

In the year 2003 a *Grameen Vidnyan Kendra* was established by Vidnyanvahini jointly with Halo Medical Foundation at Anadur in Osmanabad district. This facility comprises a well equipped laboratory and is running quite well. Students from nearby schools come regularly to the Vidnyan Kendra for doing experiments and learning science. The centre also conducts various activities such as essay competition, science fair, quiz and so on. During the year about 900 students from nearby schools visited the *Kendra* to conduct experiments. It is estimated that about 15000 students have taken advantage of the facility during the period 2003 to 2017.

## **Benefactors**

Numerous donors and well-wishers have been helping Vidnyanvahini through contributions in cash and kind. We are grateful for their generous gestures and the trust they have reposed in Vidnyanvahini. Some of the prominent benefactors are mentioned below.

- M/s Cognizant Foundation have donated a mobile science laboratory vehicle and related equipment.
- M/s Saraswat Hitawardhak Mandal, Mumbai have provided staunch support for many years by sponsoring school visits and teacher workshops in Ratnagiri and Raigad district of the Konkan belt in the state.
- Shri Ambar Naik and his associates have been preparing the financial accounts and audit reports of Vidnyanvahini at no cost to the Trust for many years now.
- The Vidyarthi Sahayyak Samiti, Pune has helped by providing lodging facility at their hostel at concessional charges for Vidnyanvahini's *Vidyarthi Shibir* year after year.

- Jnan Prabodhini, Pune provided lodging facility for the participants of shibir for Nagaland students and class room/auditorium for programs free of cost as was done last year.
- Ms Sharmistha Chiplunkar ,Chartered Accountant, helped Vidnyanvahini with renewal of their FCRA registration by promptly preparing and uploading financial returns as per FCRA rules with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India
- Shri Namadeo Salunkhe of Sahyadri Chemicals has been supplying the chemicals required for Chemistry experiments free of cost.
- Shri Vasant Nehate of Corona Systems has been supplying equipment required for some Physics experiments free of cost.
- Mr. Rambhau Dimbale provided his area's Community Hall for two full days for our annual meeting without any charge.

In addition to the above Indian corporates, and charitable trusts as well as many individual donors have made generous financial donations to Vidnyanvahini. A list of donors is enclosed at annexure 1.

## **Financial Statements**

Copies of the audited balance sheet and income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 March 2017 are enclosed.

## List of donors

### Donations of Rs 10000/- and above

Suresh Purushottam alias Dada Deshpande  
Sandeep Sen & Bharat Tirtha  
Saraswat Cooperative Bank  
Poona South Rotary Club  
Innerwheel Club of Pune Midtown  
Marcons  
Ratna and Shrinivas Hegde  
Amita Yadwadkar  
M.V.Date  
Nikita Transphase Pvt Ltd  
Ajit Wagle  
Kasegaon Education Society  
Vibha Vaze  
Trapeze Pictures  
M.G.Deshpande  
Suresh R. Hegde  
Deepak Dandekar  
Pradeep Pradhan  
Shilpa and Rajan Gupte  
M.P.Jagtap  
Ujjwala Kelkar  
Nalini Vaidya  
Madhusudan Gaikawaiari  
R.V.Sant  
S.S.Gurjar

### Donations of Rs 5000/- and above but less than Rs 10000/-

Beena and Sunil Sadekar  
Lata Mohan  
A.G.Khandekar  
Aruna Sakhalkar  
Malavika Limaye- Pitre  
Supriya and Amar Pradhan  
Rekha and Jatin Wani  
Ravindra Bhide  
Jyotsna and Suhas Pawar  
V.S.Maisurkar  
Priyadarshan Phaltankar  
B.W.Bhagwat  
B.G.Khare  
Saraswat Hitawardhak Mandal

**Donations of less than Rs 5000/-**

Nulife Pharmaceuticals

Neela Vidwans

P.S.Oze

Anjali Bapat

Sonia Patankar

Shaila Damle

S.S. Bhilwadikar

Vishambhar Chaudhari

Aniket Kuvalekar

Smita Erande

Uday Thatte

THE BOMBAY PUBLIC TRUSTS ACT, 1950

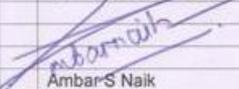
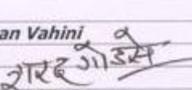
SCHEDULE IX

Name of the Trust : Vidnyan Vahini

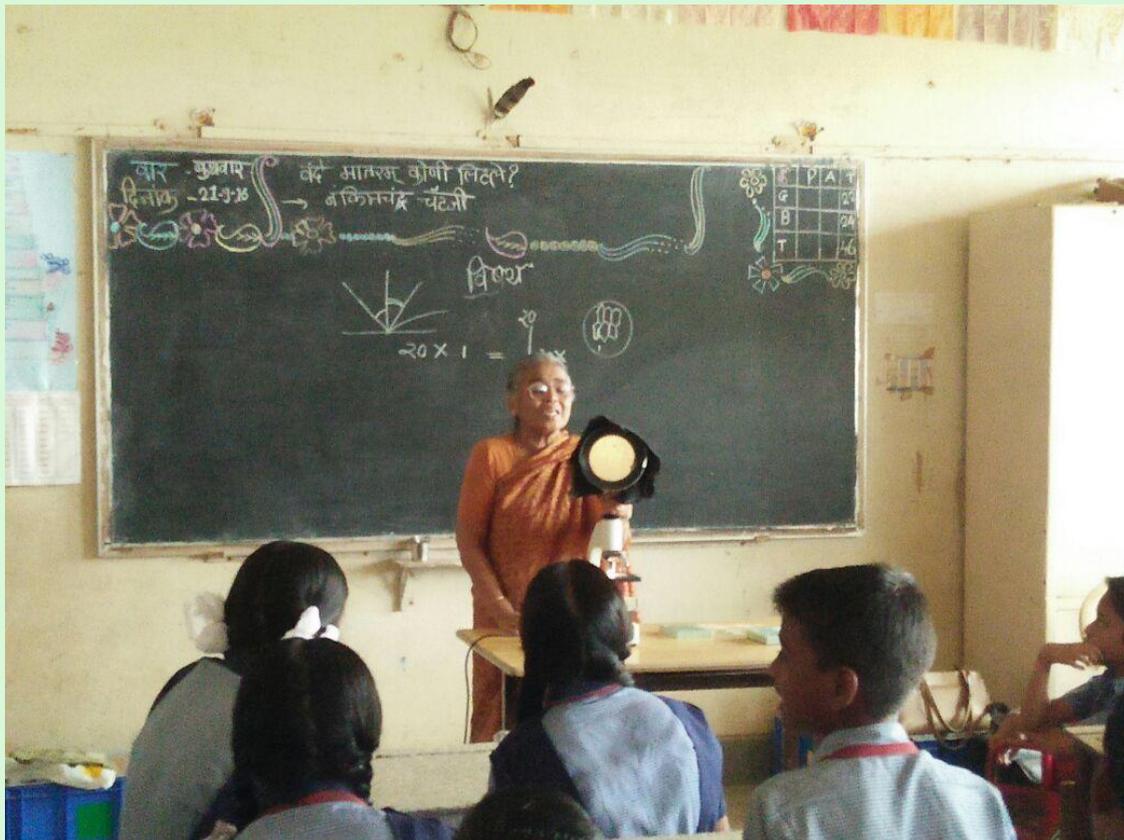
Registration Number: E-2024/Pune

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended on 31st March 2017

Particulars	Amount(Rs)	Particulars	Amount(Rs)
To Expenditure in respect of properties:-	2,38,895.52	By Rent [accrued]	Nil
Rates, Taxes, Cess		By Interest [accrued] ( Refer Schedule 6)	3,88,635.00
Repairs and Maintenance	51,392.00	On Securities	-
Depreciation	1,54,893.52	On Bank Fds	3,76,086.00
RTO Taxes paid	-	On Loans	
Vehicle Insurance	32,610.00	On Bank Account (Saving Bank )	7,876.00
		On Int Income Tax Refund	4,673.00
		On FCRA Saving	-
Depreciation [by way of provision or adjustment]	-	By Dividend	Nil
To Establishment Expenses	-	By Donations is cash or kind	6,13,282.00
To Remuneration to Trustees	-		
To Remuneration [in case of a math] to the head of the math including his household expenditure, if any	-	By Income from other Sources [in details as far as possible] Interest on Bond	97,609.00
To Legal Expenses	-	By Sale of Books	560.00
To Audit Fees	-	By DVD's and CD's Sales	300.00
To Contribution and Fees	-	By Misc Income ( Y20 Receipts)	17,300.00
To Amount written off			
(a) Bad Debts	-		
(b) Loan Scholarships	-		
(c) Irrecoverable Items	-		
(d) Other items	-		
To Miscellaneous Expenses	15,341.00		
To Expenditure on objects of the trust	9,10,127.00		
(a) Religious			
(b) Educational ( incl.surodi activity) ( Schedule 7)	9,10,127.00		
(c) Medical Relief			
(d) Relief of poverty			
(e) Other Charitable objects		By Transfers from Reserve	
To Surplus carried to Balance Sheet		By Deficit carried over to Balance Sheet	46,677.52
<b>Total (Rs.)</b>	<b>11,64,363.52</b>	<b>Total (Rs.)</b>	<b>11,64,363.52</b>
For Ambar Naik & Associates Chartered Accountants ICAI FRN - 137450W		For Vidnyan Vahini विश्वस्त शरद गोडसे विश्वस्त विज्ञानवाहिनी, पुणे सार्वजनिक न्यास कोषाची क्र. ई-2024 Trustee विज्ञानवाहिनी Place: Pune "सितीज", सहकार भवन क्र. २, Date: ०७/०४/१७ पुणे-४११००९ ☎:(020)-2422-2127 9623079949	

THE BOMBAY PUBLIC TRUSTS ACT, 1950				
SCHEDULE VIII				
Name of the Trust : Vidnyan Vahini				
Registration Number: E - 2024 / Pune				
Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2017				
Funds and Liabilities	Amount(Rs)	Fixed Assets	Amount(Rs)	
<b>Trusts Funds or Corpus</b>	<b>96,19,970</b>	<b>Immovable Properties - (at cost)</b>	<b>11,33,240</b>	
<b>Schedule 1</b>		Bal. as per last Balance Sheet	11,33,240	
Bal. as per last Balance Sheet	96,19,970	Additions during the year	-	
Add: During the year	-	Less : Sales during the year	-	
		Less : Depreciation upto date	-	
<b>Other Earmarked Funds (Schedule 2)</b>	<b>63,494</b>	<b>Movable Fixed Assets</b>		
(Created under the provisions of the Trust deed or scheme or out of the Income)		Bal. as per last Balance Sheet	8,55,887	
Opening Balance	63,494	Additions during the year	-	
ADD: During the Year	-	Less : Sales during the year	-	
Less: Transfer	-	Less : Depreciation upto date	1,54,894	7,00,993
<b>Loans (Secured or Unsecured)</b>		<b>Investments</b>	<b>34,26,222</b>	
From Trustees		<b>Schedule 4</b>		
From Others		HDFC and RBI Bonds	-	
Add : During the year		Bank fixed Deposits	34,26,222	
<b>Liabilities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>Loans (Secured or Unsecured) :</b>		
For Expenses	-	Loan Scholarships	-	
For Advances		Other Loans	-	
For Rent and other deposits		<b>Advances Schedule 5</b>		
For Sundry Credit Balance		To TDS	3,18,630	
		To Trustees	-	
		To Employees	-	
		To Contractors	-	
		To Lawyers	-	
		To Others	11,00,000	14,18,630
		<b>Income Outstanding</b>		
		Rent	-	
		Interest	9,410	
		Other Income - cheque in hand	20,000	29,410
		<b>Cash &amp; Bank Balances</b>		
		(a) In Current / Saving account	25,53,807	
		(b) With the trustee	-	
		(c) With the Manager	-	
		(d) Cash Balance	13,943	25,67,750
		<b>Grant Receivable ( From ICSSR )</b>	<b>-</b>	
<b>Income and Expenditure Account</b>		<b>Income and Expenditure Account</b>		
Bal. as per last Balance Sheet	-	Bal. as per last Balance Sheet	3,60,541	
Less : Appropriation if any		Less : Surplus	-	
Add : Surplus	-	Add : Deficit	46,678	4,07,218
Less : Deficit				
<b>Total (Rs.)</b>	<b>96,83,464</b>	<b>Total (Rs.)</b>	<b>96,83,464</b>	
For <b>Ambar Naik &amp; Associates</b> Chartered Accountants ICAI FRN - 137450W		For <b>Vidnyan Vahini</b>		
				
Ambar S Naik Membership No. 157493 Place : Pune Date :		Place : Pune Trustee Date : पुणे-411009 ☎(020)-2422-2127 ☎922676049		

# The year in pictures



Biology inside the classroom...



...Biology outside the classroom



Chemistry in PENCH school

*We are happy to inform you that the visit of your team (Vidnyanvahini Mobile Science Laboratory) to our five high schools (during the period from 11.07.2016 to 15.07.2016) has been very much successful and fruitful to our students as well as to our science teachers for which we wish to put on record our special thanks to your whole team.*

*Further we have to specially mention here that we have been very much impressed by the enthusiasm and devotion of your team towards the social cause. Also we have to appreciate the strictly followed time schedule by your team, the most of the members of which are senior citizens.*

Prin. R D Sawant  
Secretary, Kasegaon Education Society