



ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21



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01

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

2021 has been a very different year for the world because of the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic. Despite the restrictions in mobility, because of the Covid-19 related lockdowns, and several other hurdles, empowHER India has given its best on many fronts, changing with the times, benefiting a total of more than 3000 rural households this year through different program verticles. We had also effectively reached out to the primary health care centres to provide them with medication and other necessities during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are excited that we launched the adolescent girl's program for the empowerment of rural girls. The ups and downs during this period have only made us stronger.

We continue to work harder to make our programs more powerful through innovation by prioritizing the most pressing concerns where there is the greatest need. One such program is the 'Adolescent girl's program', where we realized that the issues women face in adulthood stem from a lack of knowledge during adolescence. With the zeal to empower young girls and to help them understand their true potential as equal benefactors to the society we developed the adolescent girl's program. More than 600 young girls are now a part of the Adolescent Girl's Program which envisions providing gender parity and a safe space for young girls to express themselves and become positive change-makers in their villages. empowHER India has long valued women's right to participate in decision-making in areas that affect their lives which has only transformed to enable younger women and adolescent girls to do the same. Our customized curriculum is our instrument for social change, with a specific emphasis on life skills, health, social, and financial education.

We are truly thankful to all of our contributors, partners and volunteers for their contributions to our cause, for their consistent support, which has enabled us to provide rural women and girls with a better future. We hope that you will continue to support us in the future.



02

VISION

To empower women and girls in villages to live a life of dignity and equality.

MISSION

To transform the lives of 1 million women and girls to realize their full potential before 2030.

GEOGRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION



197 villages across Raigad district have been reached by empowHER India.

**67 villages in Karjat
129 villages in Panvel
1 village in Pen**

IMPACT IN NUMBERS

232

new toilets were built this year. A total of 2600+ toilets have been built so far

600+

adolescents girls reached

450

girls and boys enrolled from standard 5th to 10th

1500

households get access to clean drinking water in Panvel and Karjat even during the lockdown.

OUR PROGRAMS: Areas of Intervention

- Adolescent girls Program
- Sanitation
- Clean drinking water
- Education

03

ADOLESCENT GIRLS PROGRAM

Mission: To achieve gender parity by assisting rural girls in becoming grassroots changemakers to drive positive change in their village.

Adolescent girls constitute nearly 10% of India's population. Rural girls are rarely given an opportunity to develop and grow owing to fewer opportunities and a platform to explore themselves. Our program empowers adolescent girls (aged 10 - 19) with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to make informed decisions about their own bodies and lives that lead to an improvement in their sexual and reproductive health, educational outcomes, and independence. It also includes activity-based training in life skills, awareness on Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) as well as sensitization and mobilization efforts with all the stakeholders who make a difference in their lives. Empowering adolescent girls will create a generation of empowered women as it does more than change the life for one gender, it uplifts society at large. With consistent efforts, interaction and engaging sessions after the Covid-19 related lockdown briefly opened up, government support was achieved at the Gram Panchayats of Kashele, Khandas, Pathraj, and Ware in Karjat.

आत्मविश्वास ही यशाची गुरुकिल्ली आहे.



600+ girls reached
42 young women trained as trainers
34 villages reached across Karjat
4 Gram Panchayats reached
34 literacy hubs were set up to
promote safe spaces and reading

Human Interest Story

Asha Thorat is an eighteen-year-old girl from a small tribal village in Karjat, India. It is common for tribal girls her age to marry shortly after finishing their 12th-grade exams. Asha was in a similar predicament, since the pressure to marry intensified once she completed her examination. Ever since the Adolescent Girl's program began in October, by empowHER India, Asha has been a regular attendee. Life skills, health, and gender security were the topics covered in the curriculum through games and fun activities. Every girl has the right to make her own decisions about her future, but not every girl is aware of this. When girls are confident in their abilities, armed with the knowledge about their rights and supported by peer groups of other empowered girls, they can stand up and say "NO". Asha eventually realized that she did not want to marry and instead wanted to be a police officer. Her parents were originally hesitant, but when she showed her determination by enrolling herself in the police academy, they eventually consented.

Asha eventually realized that she did not want to marry and instead wanted to be a police officer.



04

WaSH PROGRAMS SANITATION

Mission: To provide safety and dignity to women and girls, by promoting good health and hygiene behavioral change practices to end the practice of open defecation

Our 'Let's build toilets' program developed gradually over the years, ensuring better access to sanitation and the overall well-being of rural women and girls. We accomplished this by collaborating closely with women and encouraging them to participate in decision-making that affects their dignity, safety, health, and cleanliness. We also conducted an internal survey to assess the usage and upkeep of the individual Household toilets which were built one year back. The findings revealed that 83 % of the toilets were being used regularly and the beneficiaries took care of the toilet with regular upkeep and maintenance. Few toilets were affected because of the Nisarg cyclone. To ensure that the behaviour change is certain, empowHER India regularly conducts an in-depth 'Behaviour Change Communication Program' along with the toilet construction for lasting impact. This program resumed soon after the COVID-19 lockdown opened up. The program consisted of games and focus group discussions on mitigating the effects of open defecation and protecting the community women.

Human Interest Story



80-year-old Malti lives in a village called Sagarwadi in Pen Taluka, Raigad. The village is surrounded by creeks, because of which it gets submerged in water for a period of 3-4 months due to the heavy rains. The community toilet in the village has been impractical and unhygienic to use because it was hardly cleaned or maintained. Everyday would be a new challenge to find a place to relieve herself. But all of this changed with the construction of an individual household toilet just next to her house. The toilet is built at a height and she lives tension free.

- 232 toilets built in 2020-21
- Impacted 1000+ beneficiaries in 2020-21
- 31 villages are reached in Karjat so far for this program.
- Since the 'Let's build toilets' program commenced in 2014, more than 2600+ toilets have been built so far.

05

CLEAN DRINKING WATER

Mission: To ensure that people have access to safe and clean drinking water

Since 2019 empowHER India has been making clean drinking water accessible and affordable for the rural areas of Chindhnan and Waje in Panvel through the Water ATM plant. Even during the lockdown period, empowHER India was able to provide clean drinking water to more than 1000 households. To adhere to the norms and to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, the people were encouraged to maintain social distancing from each other while collecting the water, and payment through PayTM was encouraged. A bi-weekly Marathi SMS campaign was initiated to educate the community members about the importance of clean drinking water. To help the regular beneficiaries, empowHER India provided 20 L Jars with taps and started a Free Water Scheme- where a person purchasing water was able to get one jar of 20 L water for free after purchasing 10 jars of 20 L to help more people drink clean water. Different nodal points were also identified for the sale of water other than the water ATM of Chindhnan so that the crowd was reduced near the plant and people were able to maintain social distancing.

Human Interest Story

When Akshara was a young girl, she used to walk more than 5 kilometres just to fetch a pail of water from a community well. Recently the water started having an odd flavour to it, as well as several visible impurities as a result of many industries mushrooming in the area. Young children in her family would often complain of cough and cold. Commercial water ATMs slowly gained popularity in the area, but they were expensive, at Rs. 50 for 20 litres, which her family could not afford. All this changed as she is now a regular consumer of the water from empowHER India's water ATM facility. She purchases water since it is pure, filtered, and only costs Rs.0.50 paise a litre. In addition, she no longer needs to walk in the scorching heat of the sun or wait in long queues to get water. The price of empowHER India's water is pocket friendly and has helped her family stay healthy.

She purchases water since it is pure, filtered, and only costs Rs.0.50 paise a liter.



06

SCHOOL EDUCATION

Mission: To support upper primary and secondary students to get access to education and other activities at Rakesh Jain Secondary High School, Shivkar.

Rakesh Jain Madhyamik Vidhyamandir (RJMVM) stands out as a unique school in Shivkar village, Panvel because of the quality of education, its playground, and unique activities. However, due to the Covid-19 epidemic, all the schools were shut down to prevent the spread of Coronavirus among students as it had a high mortality rate. Children were unable to physically attend school, therefore schools had to find other ways to continue the children's education. The urban-rural difference was striking, with urban students routinely studying online compared to only 8% of rural students. The RJMVM students used the Zoom platform on their working parent's phones or would huddle together with neighbouring children to share the resources. To encourage the teachers and to uplift their morale, Training sessions were completed for the teachers by Dr Varsha Deshmukh to continue the education efforts during the pandemic. The teachers went out of their way to visit the students wherever possible and circulated study notes on Student WhatsApp Groups. They came up with a book donation drive where older students lent their used textbooks to younger students. Throughout the lockdown, the girls continued to attend online classes and were more focussed about their education than boys. The school had briefly opened from the end of December 2020 until the end of March 2021 and during this time Republic Day, Science Day and Marathi language appreciation day was celebrated in small numbers.

- empowHER India teamed with Urmila Jain Foundation to award scholarships to 20 exceptional students to pursue their higher studies.
- 80 students were in standard 10 in the year 2020-21.
- 50% of students at RJVM school passed with a distinction, while 30 students achieved Grade I and 10 students passed with Grade II.
- The topper of the school was Sneha Ramvilas Singh who passed with an overall of 92%, followed by Ugresar Rasik Besara with 90%.

Human Interest Story



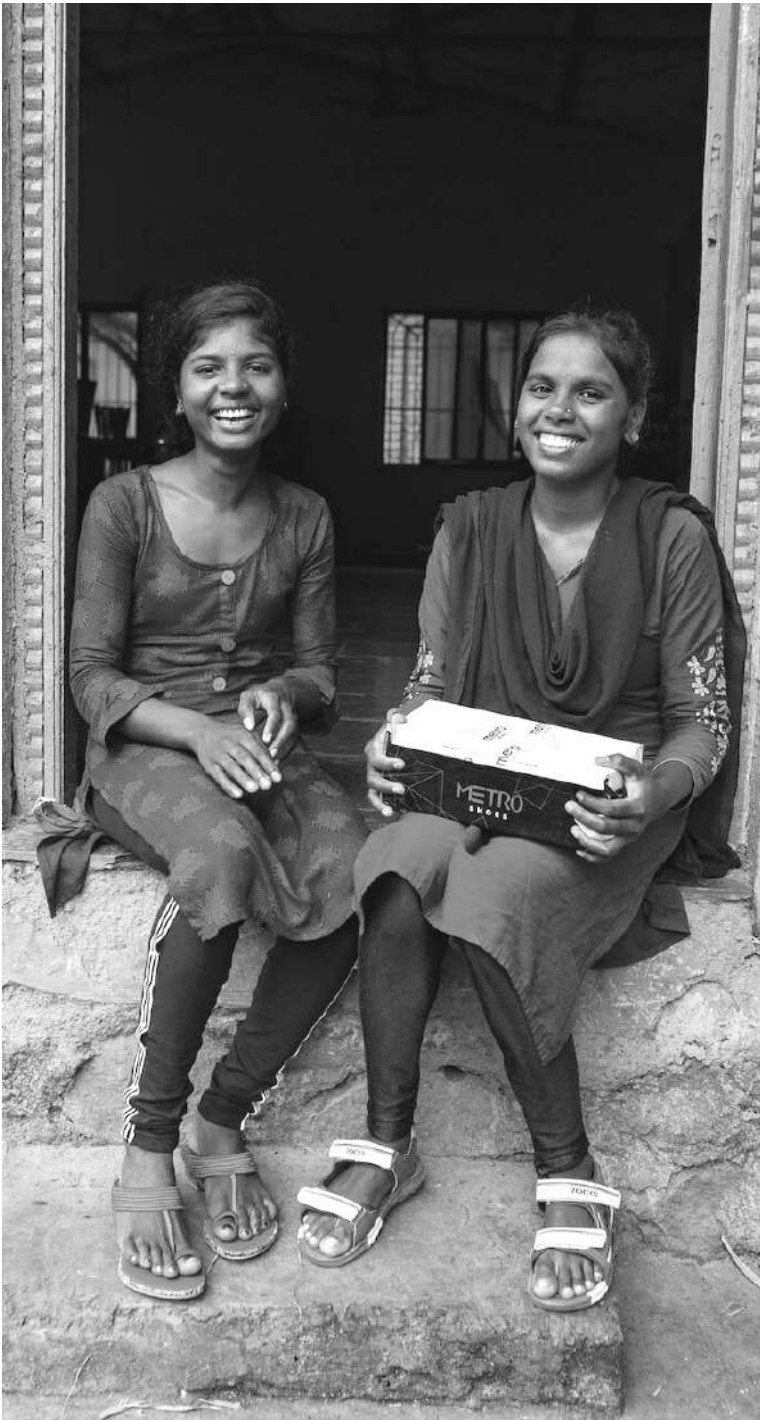
Sneha is the SSC topper at a Rakesh Jain Madhyamik Vidhyamandir, a school supported by empowHER India for the past 20 years. Sneha secured 92% in the 2021 SSC final results. She depended solely on school notes available on WhatsApp and Zoom classes. The pandemic forced all the students to study online but living in a village, poor internet access and electricity outages were frequent. Sneha said that her family was unable to buy a WIFI router, so she attended her online classes from the terrace of her house for better receptivity. Sneha aspires to be an IAS officer and has started her journey towards it by opting for the science stream.

COVID-19 relief work



empowHER India provided triple masks, N-95 Masks, hand Sanitizers, Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) Kits, hand gloves, and Infrared forehead thermometer to the Primary Health Care Units of Kadav, Neral, Kalamb, Khandas, Mohili and Ambiwali villages.

Why donors choose empowHER India?



- We have a systematic "Monitoring & Assessment" framework to assess true social impact & sustainability of the project.
- We have been registered for 10+ years as a Trust with FCRA.
- We provide transparency.
- Regular Project Completion Reports.
- Scheduled Visits and Unrestricted Access to the Project Site.
- Our grassroots level presence at 197 villages across Raigad district.



07 INSTITUTIONS AND CORPORATE PARTNERS

- Bombay Midtown Rotary Trust
- Essjay Ericsson Private Limited
- Kismet Exports and Investments Ltd
- LSR Speciality Oils Pvt. Ltd.
- Metro Brands Limited
- Millennium Aero Dynamics Pvt. Ltd.
- Team Spreading Smiles
- TLD MEAI FZE & TLD Europe
- Unnathi Estate
- Urmila Jain Foundation

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

- Abhay Chopra
- Anamara Baig
- Christophe Lesbaudy
- Hina Kamra
- Mridula Maluste Sood
- Rachna Shamsi
- Rajeev Vohra
- Renu Vinod Vohra
- Rishabh Parekh
- Shobha Gopal Motwane
- Sonit Singh
- Tanya Vohra
- Utsav Kapadia





FRIENDS OF empowHER India

- Arisya Nath
- Bharath Vikas Parishad
- Blood
- Chirag Sable
- Graficali
- Hemali Surve
- Power to Her
- Project Rise
- Rotaract Club of Bombay Uptown
- Saifee Hospital
- Shailesh Kudale
- Shravan Agarwal

08

Leadership and Board of Trustees

- **Founders**

Mr Nirbhay Jain
Mrs Urmila Jain

- **Board of Directors and Trustees**

Mr. Utsav Kapadia
Mrs. Varsha Jain
Mr. Vishal Jain
Mr. Pradeep Jalan
Ms. Shefali Kapadia

- **Advisory Board**

Mr. Sanjiv Anand,
Mr. Sushil Kumar Jiwarajka
Mr. Paras Chowdhary

- **Director**

Ms. Anandi Vangal, Director,
Rakesh Jain Secondary School

- **Volunteer IT service providers**

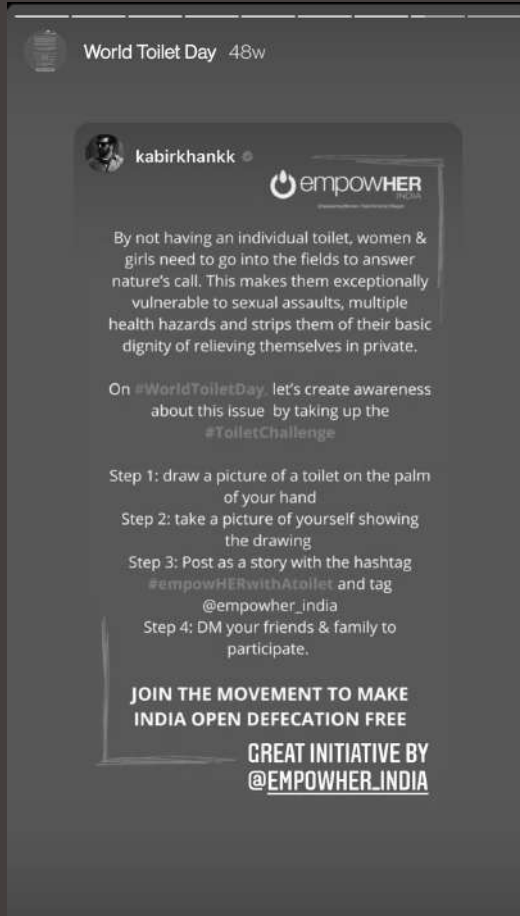
Mr. Saif Shehabi and Mrs. Rashida
Shehabi

- **CEO**

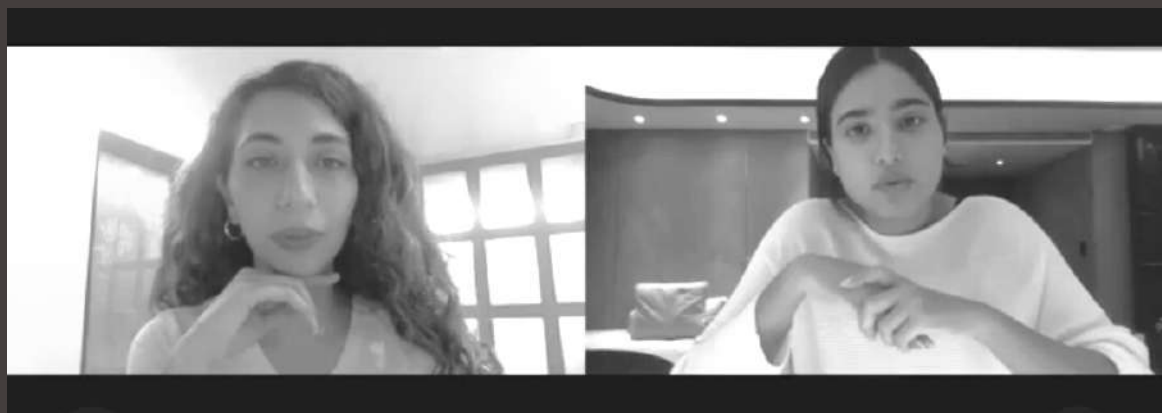
Anamara Baig

09 ONLINE EVENTS

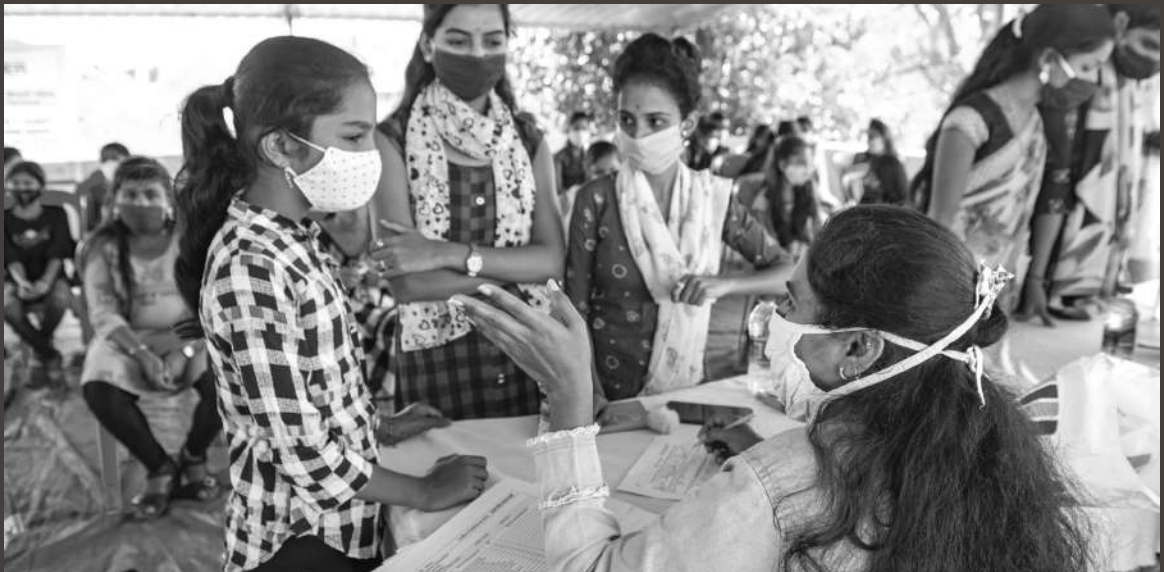
World Toilet Day Challenge was conducted to drive awareness on the need of toilets for rural women and adolescent girls



Podcast: Power to Her collaborated with empowHER India to understand more about the life of rural women and young girls.



OFFLINE EVENTS



Anaemia Health Camp was conducted for 400 tribal girls along with Project Rise, Saifee Hospital, Bharath Vikas Parishad and the Rotaract Club of Bombay Midtown

10 FINANCIALS

The Maharashtra Public Trusts Act, 1950

SCHEDULE - VII
[Vide Rule 17 (1)]

Name of the Public Trust : **EMPOWERER FOUNDATION (Formerly Known As SKS CHAKSHU FOUNDATION).**

Registration No E - 14582

FUNDS AND LIABILITIES		Rs.	Rs.	PROPERTY AND ASSE	Rs.	Rs.
Trusts Funds or Corpus : (As Per Annexure "A")				Immovable Properties : (A) Cost/(As Per Annexure "B")		
Balance as per last Balance Sheet		4,90,56,063.00	4,90,56,063.00	Balance as per last Balance Sheet	2,44,39,517.00	
Add: Donation Received during the year (as per details attached)				Additional:		
				i) Land of training centre		
				ii) Building of training centre		
				iii) Building - School		
				Less: Sales during the year		
				Depreciation up to date		2,44,39,517.00
Other Earmarked Funds :				Investments : (As Per Annexure "C")		
(Created under the provisions of the trust deed or scheme or out of the income)				Note: The market value of the above investments is Rs. 4,40,07,599.91/-		
Depreciation Fund				Fixed Assets : (As Per Annexure "D")		
Sinking Fund				Balance as per last Balance Sheet	8,65,595.00	
Reserve Fund				Additions during the year	2,88,477.00	
Class Room Fund				Less: Sales during the year	6,250.00	
Any other Fund (As Per Annexure "A")		2,62,00,354.00	2,62,00,354.00	Depreciation up to date		11,45,792.00
Loans (Secured or Unsecured) :-				Loans (Secured or Unsecured): Good / doubtful Loans/Scholarships (As Per Annexure "E")		
From Trustees				Other Loans	9,21,730.00	
From Others				Advances :-		
Liabilities :-				To Trustees		
For Expenses		4,53,229.00	6,28,074.00	To Employees	80,003.00	
For Micro Financing Scheme		1,20,000.00		To Contractors		
For Rent and Other Deposits		38,720.00		To Lawyers		
For Others		16,625.00		To Deposits	1,11,000.00	
Income and Expenditure Account :-				To Income tax refunds / TDS credits	4,94,919.00	6,86,822.00
Balance as per last Balance Sheet		(35,28,900.23)		Assets:		
Less: Appropriation, if any				Rent Receivables		
Add/(Less) : Surplus/(Deficit) as per Income and Expenditure Account.....		(30,64,296.37)	(65,93,196.60)	Interest Receivables		
				Other Receivables	22,719.00	22,719.00
				Cash and Bank Balances :-		
				(a) In Saving Account with		
				(b) In Fixed Deposit Account	41,00,550.29	
				(c) With the Trustee	4,88,995.11	
				(d) With the manager		
				Income and Expenditure Account :-		
				Balance as per Balance Sheet		
				Less: Appropriation, if any		
				Less: Surplus as per Income and Expenditure Account		45,89,545.40
Total Rs.	Total Rs.	8,92,91,294.40	8,92,91,294.40	Total Rs.	6,92,91,294.40	

* Income Outstanding (if accounts are kept on cash basis)
Rent
Interest
Other Income
TOTAL RS

As per our report of even date
FOR M.L. SHARMA & CO.
FIRM REGN NO. 1099633W
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



Place : MUMBAI
Dated : 29 DEC 2021

The above Balance Sheet to the best of our belief contains a true account of the Funds and Liabilities and of the Property and Assets of the Trust.

For empowerER Foundation
S. N. K. Kapadia
Authorized Signatory

For empowerER Foundation
S. N. K. Kapadia
Authorized Signatory

TRUSTEES
Authorized Signatory

10 FINANCIALS

The Maharashtra Public Trusts Act, 1950

SCHEDULE - IX
(Vide Rule 17 (1))

Name of the Public Trust : **EMPOWERHER FOUNDATION (Formerly Known As SKS CHAKSHU FOUNDATION)**

Registration No. - **E - 14592**

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ending 31st MARCH, 2021

EXPENDITURE	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	INCOME	Rs.	Rs.
To Expenditure in respect of properties :- Rates, Taxes, Cesses Repairs and maintenance Salaries Insurance Depreciation (by way of provision of adjustments) Other Expenses	-	-	52,84,288.61	By Rent By Interest On Securities (Gross TDS - NIL, P.Y. - NIL) On Fixed Deposits with HDFC	-	14,85,000.00
To Establishment Expenses (As per Annexure "F")	-	-	-	On Income Tax Refund On Bank Account	1,34,947.00	-
To Remuneration to Trustees	-	-	-	i) On Fixed Deposit (Gross TDS -A)	30,408.31	-
To Remuneration (in the case of a math) to the head of the math, including his household expenditure, if any	-	-	1,58,216.00	ii) On S. B. A/C	99,527.00	2,95,280.31
To Legal & Professional Charges	-	-	23,600.00	Dividend	-	2,157.00
To Audit Fees	-	-	-	Donations in Cash or Kind	-	50,000.00
To Contribution and Fees	-	-	-	Capital gains on Mutual Fund Units	-	7,96,003.93
To Amount written off : (a) Bad Debts (b) Loan Scholarship (c) Irrecoverable Rents (d) Other Items	-	63,550.00	-	Grants	-	-
To Security Charges (EBU)	-	-	63,550.00	Income from other sources	-	-
To Depreciation	-	-	-	Transfer from Reserve	-	-
To Capital Losses on Mutual Fund Units	-	-	-	Deficit carried over to Balance Sheet	-	30,64,296.37
To Amount transferred to Reserve or Specific Funds	-	-	-			
To Expenditure on Objects of the Trust (a) Religious (b) Educational (c) Medical Relief (d) Relief of Poverty (e) Other Charitable Objects (Sanitation Project Expenses)	-	1,35,083.00	1,35,083.00			
To Surplus/(Deficit) carried over to Balance Sheet				Total Rs.....		56,62,737.61

As per our report of even date

FOR M.L. SHARMA & CO.

FIRM REGN NO. 109959W

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



Place : MUMBAI

Dated : 29 DEC 2021

* Strike off whichever is not applicable

For empowerHER Foundation

M. L. Sharma
Authorized Signatory

For empowerHER Foundation

S. W. Koppala
Authorized Signatory

TRUSTEES

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Design: Aniket Gawade and Annie Cardoz

Publisher: empowHER India

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Panvel Field Office Address: The Nav Bharat Co-operative Society, Row House No. 4, Sector 2, New Panvel, Raigad, Maharashtra- 410206, India.

Karjat Field Office Address: C/O Prabhakar Rane, Katkar Wadi (Adiwasi Wadi), Near Murbad Road, at post-Kashele, Taluka Karjat, District: Raigad, Maharashtra- 410201, India.