

HELP THE BLIND FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT

2022-23



OUR VISION

To successfully elevate the economic status of the Visually impaired and improve their image in the eyes of the society.



OUR MISSION

To provide access to university Education, thereby enabling visually impaired students to get jobs in today's modern economy.

OUR HISTORY

Mr. D.K. Patel, former Senior Economist at HSBC Hong Kong retired in 2005 and established the Help the Blind Foundation in India in 2010.

Based on research showing integrated education better prepared visually impaired students for employability, Mr Patel pivoted the foundation's focus to providing university access. Appointing academics and professionals as Trustees, in the past, Mr Patel has helped HTBF India in fulfilling its mission of empowering visually impaired youth through higher education.

We have made significant contributions in translating his dreams to reality, and have vastly improved our reach, from 9 to 2600 visually impaired college students, within a decade.

We aim to provide access to university education for visually impaired students in India, enabling them to obtain jobs in today's economy.

We offer skills training, coaching, and personal development initiatives through our EMET program.

As inadequate facilities disproportionately hinder the poorest visually impaired from accessing higher education, our efforts focus on this socioeconomic group.

Help The Blind Foundation in India is supported by HTBF affiliates in Hong Kong and America, who fundraise internationally.

We are managed by experienced trustees and over 75 volunteers, who identify and assist deserving visually impaired youth through our sponsorship programs and initiatives.

Walking with a friend in the dark is better than walking alone in the light.

~Helen Keller





TOP STUDENTS OF 2022-23



P. SRINIVASAN

Overcoming academic hurdles due to vision impairment, Srinivasan excelled in technology through the EMET program. Supported with a laptop and benefits, he added his fathers' restaurant's address to Google Maps, earning a "Novice Reviewer" Award. Adept at studies and photography, and aiming to become a web developer, he secured a customer support role at Sutherland. After six months at Sutherland, he received the "Best New Employee Award".

AMIT K TRIPATHI

Hailing from a small city in Uttar Pradesh, Amit transformed challenges into triumphs after losing his sight. Joining HTBF's EMET program marked a turning point, providing him with a laptop that catalysed his academic success. Embracing technology and Braille, he excelled, eventually becoming a dedicated "Special Educator" in Delhi. Amit's journey showcases resilience, positivity, and a commitment to empowering students.



B.GOWTHAM

He rose above vision loss and transformed into an amazing student with unwavering support. Joining EMET in 2021, he mastered computer applications, earned certifications, and delved into Smart Vision Glass research. Thriving at Sutherland, he rapidly ascended, epitomising a journey of resilience and achievement, showcasing how adversity can be triumphed with positivity and determination.

A DECADE OF EMPOWERING VISION WITH HTBF INDIA



By Mr. B Krishnamurthi sir, A Senior Volunteer from Mumbai

My association with Help The Blind Foundation started in 2013 when we both Shri J V Ramani & me were with and ther NGO.

Shri. J V Ramani has initiated me into our foundation when he request me to refer him if any blind student from Mumbai colleges. I was asked to interview three students from Ruia college. Thats how my partnership with HTBF started and steadied thereon.It was a good opportunity for me to spend my time in my second innings as I have already left my ICICI group career to give back to society in terms of time and effort. This partnership came as a blessing. Then, the driving force was in the form of our dear late Shri. Patel saab who demonstrated the care for visually impaired students.

His words are good for me. That is, that no visually impaired student should stop their studies for want of financial help.

In fact this is the principle i follow when reaching out to visually impaired students, be at interviews, be at when speaking with them, be at discussing with college principals, HODs, of course, adhering to the norms laid by the foundation in selection. Of course, i pitched for sponsorship of students, despite the marks are less than the cut off set purely on the basis of meeting personally at the interviews along with the college principal and HODs.

It's a cosmological coincidence that i was associated with St.Louis institute of deaf & blind, Adyar, Chennai during my college days on National Social service programme and our Patel saab initiated this foundation with his association with the same institute.

A decade long association with our foundation is truly a time worth spent in terms of opportunity to give back to the society. I should admit that visually impaired students, per se, are a lot more determined in facing the odds, their boldness in refusing to be sympathised. Yes, they say, demonstrate that they are not pushovers and they prove that they can compete with sighted ones too in many fields.

I feel proud in associating with our foundation on its vision and mission to lift the status of life of the visually impaired students through sponsorship for education. The process of selection of students and expanding our mission to entire Bharat that too through volunteer model which is very unique.

Rising to the demand of situation owing to corona and still catering to the visually impaired students with sponsorship program is a feather in the cap for the management and volunteers supported the new online process initiated by the management.

Devising eMet program for the visually impaired students in making them employable is another success story, which only shows the willingness of the foundation to adapt itself to the demands of the situation when there is a demand for such initiative.

There are many such other initiatives such as providing laptops,vision glasses, canes.

Humbly suggesting to have these sponsored students checked through a systematic periodic say yearly or twice a year eye check ups so that the further deterioration is stopped if not further improvement is anticipated.

To tie up with an university to see that the eMet program is adopted as a curriculum, per se which will pave a way for adoption by others PAN India.

This work with centre and states' education department and NAB like organisations to know the number in which we are catering and understand our position and bend ourselves to fine tune our mission.

THE STRENGTH OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT: CHHONZIN ANGMO DEFIES THE ODDS

Interviewer: Could you tell us about your childhood and how it was growing up?

Chhonzin: I was born in the small village of Chango in the Kinnaur district of Himachal Pradesh. When I was 8 years old, I lost my eyesight and was engulfed in darkness. It was devastating and I lost all hope, confining myself within four walls. I had to start over and adapt to a new life.

I: That must have been incredibly difficult. How did you eventually find the motivation to move forward?

C: I met someone from the Mahabodhi International Meditation Centre in Ladakh who told me about educational opportunities for the VI. This helped me realize I was not alone, and there was still a whole world left to explore.

I: Who helped motivate you to pursue your education despite the challenges?

C: Venerable Sanghasena, the founder of Mahabodhi, blessed me and motivated me to start a new journey. His encouragement gave me the spark to move forward.

I: What was it like learning new skills and attending college?

C: Learning to read and write Braille was very hard at first when I started at Miranda House College in Delhi. But I felt education could open up my life. With enthusiasm and the support of HTBF Trustees like D.K. Sharma, I completed my bachelor's and master's degrees at Miranda House.

I: How was Help the Blind Foundation able to assist you?

C: HTBF provided critical financial help and emotional encouragement during my 5 years in Delhi. The mentors felt like family, supporting me in academics and extracurricular activities like mountaineering, cycling, swimming and sports like cricket, football, kabaddi, judo, etc. HTBF enabled me to thrive in the city and pursue my interests.



I: What motivates you to keep achieving and participating in activities today?

C: I strive to change perspectives about the disabled through my accomplishments. I work professionally now but also pursue sports, marathons and my dream of climbing Mount Everest. My motto is "Disability is not my weakness but my strength."

I: What message would you like to share with others facing challenges?

C: Never lose hope. With determination and support, you can achieve your dreams. Focus on your abilities, as there is still a whole world left to explore. I am deeply grateful to those who empowered me along the way.



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS OVER THE YEAR

Scholarships to visually impaired students

HANS INDIA

HANS NEWS SERVICE
Vijayawada

SOCIETY must come forward to support and help visually impaired persons on par with any other persons, said P. Subramanyam, the vice-president of Andhra Loyola College. He addressed the 50th Anniversary Programme for Mentally Organized by Higher Education for Persons with Special Needs (HIEPNS) wing of Andhra Loyola College in order to bring out the talent of students with visual impairments and make them successful in life.

In all, five computer courses were conducted, for 45 visually impaired students from Vijayawada and Guntur. The unique opportunity like Talent Hangers First on-Board students to explore their latent capabilities on a large scale. In a vision that the students need to identify the subject and govern them using the two senses touch and smell. There were also competitions like speech on the given topic, singing and quiz. Visually impaired students presented to Andhra Loyola College with 160,200 points. In the afternoon, scholarships were distributed. Chennai-based Help the Blind Foundation provided scholarship worth Rs. 5 lakh each to visually impaired students each one receiving Rs. 10,000 for the academic year.

Operational Director of Village Reconstruction Organisation (VRO) P. Peter Daniel, who was the chief guest, said that if any person can do something as a person and achieve, the same can be done by all including visually impaired persons. "You must only see sense whereas other persons are not. You can do better anything if you have passion." Srinivas P.V.K. from Sarathacharya Trust, trustees of Help the Blind Foundation, Srini Basu, Deoga Kathaamamorthy and Nataraj Sankaran also spoke.

Former provincial P. Ramu, Coordinator of HIEPNS in Guntur, Nataraj Sankaran and trustees of HIEPNS attended the function. Visually impaired students thanked the Foundation for the financial support.

Chennai-based 'Help the Blind' Foundation distributing scholarships to visually impaired students at Andhra Loyola College in Vijayawada on Monday

Guests from AC College, Keert Durga College and Hindu College from Guntur, Andhra Loyola College, SRG College, Maris Stella College and Acharya Nagarjuna University participated in all the five competitions.

65 Annual Medal trophy for the overall champions was bagged by the students of Hindu College, who have scored 120,200 points. The Runner's trophy was



Sponsorship distribution at Andhra Loyola College Vijayawada



Sponsorship distribution at Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.



Dhinesh was felicitated at IGNITE 2023 Sports Event For The VI, by the chief guest Mr. Udhayanidhi Stalin



HTBF beneficiary, Ms. Sunitha wins Para-Climbing championship



Distribution of smart vision glasses in cities like Chennai, Nagpur, Bangalore, etc.



HTBF Team at Cognizant World Wide Partners and Directors Meet



One of the Awareness Classes for Visually Challenged Students



Two-day Basic Awareness training program in Tanjore



Distribution of laptops and sponsorships for EMET students in Coimbatore.

MESSAGE FROM OUR MANAGING TRUSTEE

Mr. N. Sivaji Rao



I am honoured to present before you today, as the Managing Trustee of Help The Blind Foundation, a report on our progress over the past year and to share our vision for the future.

As we gather here, I am filled with a deep sense of gratitude for the unwavering support and dedication of our donors, volunteers, staff, and the community at large. Over the past year, Help The Blind Foundation has continued to make significant strides in fulfilling our mission to empower and support individuals who are blind or VI.

Through our various programs and initiatives, we have been able to improve the lives of several individuals, providing them with access to education, skills training, and opportunities for personal and professional growth. I am proud to announce that, thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we have been able to expand our reach and impact

During the year under review, we supported 2600 students with a sponsorship amount of a little over Rs 3 Crores, our skills training programme under the Education, Mobility, Employability Training (EMET) initiative helped around 580 students at 10 different centres in the country.

Our employability efforts have led to awareness among employers that helped promote a greater understanding of accessibility and inclusion for individuals with visual impairments. While overall, 350 of our students have taken up jobs, our employability efforts led to the employment of over 50 of our students in one single BPO.

As a part of the EMET and Employability programme, we distributed over 600 laptops to the visually impaired (VI) students. Additionally, our initiatives have helped raise awareness and understanding of the challenges faced by the visually impaired within our communities.

Looking ahead, Help The Blind Foundation is committed to furthering our efforts to create a more inclusive and equitable society. As a part of this initiative, we tested and started towards the end of 2022-23, a program to supply Smart Vision Glasses and this has picked up pace in the current year.

We also drew out a plan last year, for a pilot project to start an Early Implementation Programme (EIP) preparing children in their middle and senior secondary school years, to start training them in Digital Literacy, English Communication, Mobility and other soft skills.

This programme is being implemented on a pilot basis during the current year in two schools and once the pilot programmes go through successfully, the EIP will be implemented in more schools next year.

Early next year, we shall look at taking up teaching STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) subjects on a pilot basis to the visually impaired students in one or two schools. Thus we will continue to focus on expanding our programs, enhancing accessibility, and advocating for the rights of individuals with visual impairments.

We are dedicated to fostering a world where every person, regardless of their visual abilities, has the opportunity to live with dignity and independence. There are, of course, challenges. The challenge comes both from within the visually impaired community as well as from the NON-visually impaired (sighted) community.

The visually impaired community, particularly the students at the college level suffer from low morale, having been subjected to continued neglect and apathy. And then there are the fears and hesitancy in moving to different areas for higher education and more so to places where jobs are available.

They need a lot of motivation as well as material and emotional support to make them believe that they can achieve a lot many things with community support but first, they have to put in their share of effort.

The NON visually impaired community particularly at the Employers level will need to shed their inhibitions of working with the visually impaired and understand that with basic minimum accommodations in the workplaces, the visually impaired youth can turn out to be quite a productive workforce and that employing the visually impaired does make good business sense.

Then there are challenges coming from the Education system concerning colleges/universities where there are delays in conducting examinations and releasing of results and mark sheets – which are the legacy effects of the COVID years.

There has also been a marked decline in the educational standards leading to the visually impaired students not measuring up to our minimum criteria for grant of the sponsorship.

However, we are determined to work around these challenges through intensive dialogues with the visually impaired youth motivating them with the success stories of our students and sustained interactions with the corporates to get more of our visually impaired youth into the workforce.

None of our achievements would have been possible without the dedication and hard work of our team, the generosity of our donors, and the steadfast commitment of our volunteers.

Thanks to all of you, our reach has spread to 15 states and we propose to spread to new areas like Orissa, W.Bengal and several of the North Eastern states. I extend my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for your ongoing support.

In closing, I would like to emphasize that our work is far from over. With around 2 million of the visually impaired youth in the age group for higher education and employment, there is unlimited potential to work in this segment of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).

But with your continued support, I am confident that we can make even greater strides in the coming year and beyond.

Let us stand together in our mission to create a world where the potential of individuals who are blind or visually impaired is realized to the fullest and we bring real difference and transformation in as many lives of visually impaired as possible in this country.

I must acknowledge the pivotal role being played by HTBF HK in building up a great team of donors that has been supporting the organization from the very beginning but also motivating and counseling us throughout in our journey for over a decade. HTBF America have also started contributing and supporting us progressively over the last few years. With such support coming from people of Indian origin overseas, we are energized to take on challenges and new programs and activities .

Trustee's Name	Email	Telephone Number
N Sivaji Rao	Sivaji@helptheblind.in	7259156291
S Narasimhan	snnhtbf@yahoo.com	9994993649
D K Sharma	sharmadk30@yahoo.com	9930855711
Nataraj Sankaran	nataraj@helptheblind.in	9845022336
K M Kanthi	kmkqmc@gmail.com	9003153049
Deepa Krishnamoorthy	deepa@helptheblind.in	7022035299
R. Sunder Kumar	sunderkumar@helptheblind.in	9840936336

Ms Vijayalakshmi, and Mr Ramesh Puri joined as Trustees in May 2023..



Help The Blind Foundation staff, trainers and Trustees at the EMET Annual Meet held at Bangalore

HOW MENTORSHIP AND AID TRANSFORMED MY JOURNEY



Greetings,

I am Akash, a young professional from Chennai.

Despite facing vision impairment, I have pursued higher education and career development opportunities that have proven empowering. I completed my B.Com. and am currently undertaking the Chartered Accountancy Intermediate Examination. My journey thus far has unlocked my potential.



I recently completed a one-year internship and am continuing my articles with the same reputable firm to build my skills in finance. A pivotal moment came when I participated in the EMET employability course offered by HTBF in Madurai in 2021.

This opportunity exposed me to critical resources designed to assist visually impaired individuals like myself in accessing education and employment.

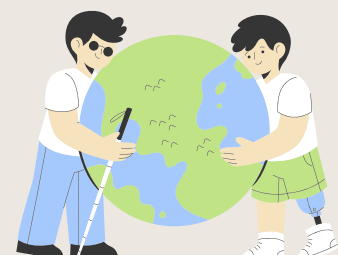
Through EMET, I learned of a government-issued disability certificate that unlocks various benefits, making my academic and professional path forward more seamless. The course itself honed practical skills in computer use with visual aids, English proficiency, confidence in mobility and conversation, and overall employability.

Beyond technical skills, EMET introduced me to dedicated mentors who provided guidance and encouragement. The camaraderie and support from my cohort, volunteers, and trustees enriched my experience tremendously. Their faith in my potential motivated my continued progress.

With financial assistance from HTBF, I am currently undertaking CA Intermediate courses to continue building expertise in finance. I am thankful for this support and optimistic about my future prospects.

I appreciate you allowing me to share my continuing journey and look forward to providing future updates on my development.

Regards,
Akash



SWATHY'S JOURNEY: TRIUMPH OVER VISUAL CHALLENGES TO PROFESSIONAL SUCCESS

I am Swathy, a resilient individual hailing from Trichy, born with Retinitis pigmentosa. Despite facing visual challenges, my educational journey began in a regular school, alongside able-bodied peers. Growing up, my family's protectiveness, instilled by my disability, contributed to timidity and a lack of confidence. However, post my Class 12, I embarked on a new chapter at the Government Law College, Trichy.

While my law studies flourished, fear lingered in speaking before audiences and travelling independently due to limited awareness surrounding my disability. The turning point came when I learned about the Center for Differently Abled People at Bharathidasan University, Trichy.

A certificate course in office automation and assistive technology equipped me with newfound expertise, empowering me to navigate assignments and access study materials online.

Post-law degree, I enrolled with the Bar Council of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry, subsequently pursuing a Master's in Labour and Administrative Law. During this time, I volunteered to teach computer and smartphone skills to fellow visually impaired individuals.

Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic's challenges, I completed my Master's in 2020 and ventured into the legal field, drafting documents for an advocate's office. Recognizing the need to enhance my skill set, I enrolled in a Trainer certification course offered by EnAble India, leading me to the extraordinary organization—Help the Blind Foundation (HTBF).

Joining HTBF was transformative. Not only did I become an employee, but HTBF played a crucial role in shaping me into a skilled and confident woman. In September 2021, I took on the role of a trainer in Madurai, building strong bonds with my team lead and inspiring students.



In 2023, I embraced a new challenge, becoming a trainer for the newly inaugurated region of Trichy & Thanjavur. May 2023 marked another milestone with my promotion to Team Lead. Leading the Early Intervention program in Thanjavur, I crafted curricula, interviewed trainer candidates, and prepared insightful reports.

Throughout my HTBF career, I honed my mobility skills by travelling alone for work, sharpened my presentation, PowerPoint, and advanced Excel skills, and developed strong communication abilities.

This newfound confidence not only fuelled personal growth but also granted me financial independence, enabling me to support my family. My colleagues, managers, trustees, and volunteers at HTBF were all supportive and encouraging throughout my tenure at HTBF. They pushed my boundaries to grow, celebrated my success as their own, and constantly motivated me.

Motivated by these positive experiences, I utilized my free time for further learning, completing a Digital Accessibility Testing course from Vision Aid and receiving instruction in Mathematics and Reasoning from Ms. Odeta Kapur.

In April 2023, I achieved a significant milestone—clearing the UGC NET with JRF in Law on my first attempt. Additionally, I cleared SSC CGL on my first attempt and secured a position as a Postal Assistant at the Trichy Head Post Office.

My colleagues and understanding superiors at the post office have been equally supportive, discussing my abilities and inabilities and allocating work accordingly. They encourage experimentation with new tasks, fostering an inclusive workplace and allowing me to contribute my skills to the workforce.

I am excited about the opportunities ahead and deeply grateful for the support that has paved the way for my success.

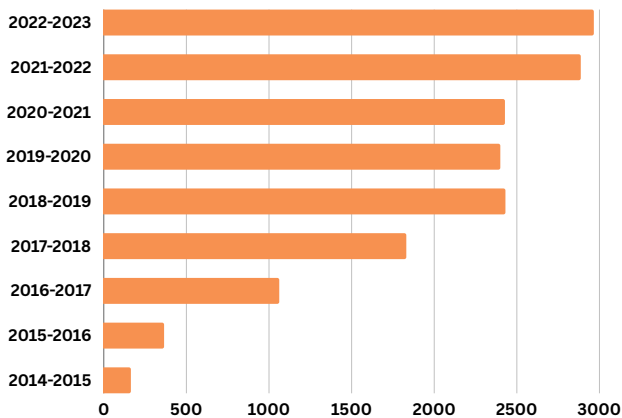
Best regards,
Swathy



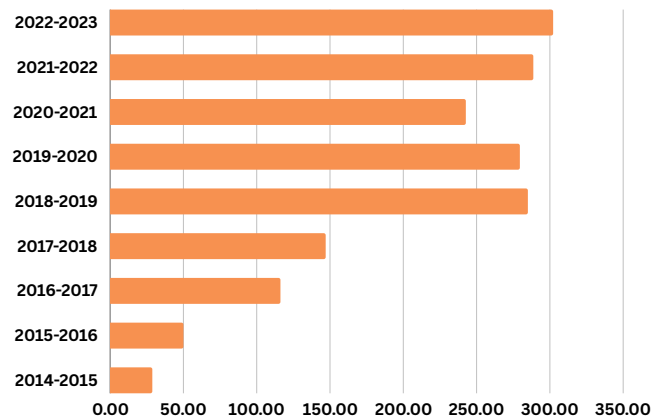
THE YEAR IN NUMBERS: 2022-23 BY THE STATS

2022-2023 has been an eventful year, when global activities sprang back to normal life and the economy back on its wheels, almost to pre-covid levels. Team HTBF has moved ahead with the same progression during the Covid days, and became more tech-centric this academic year.

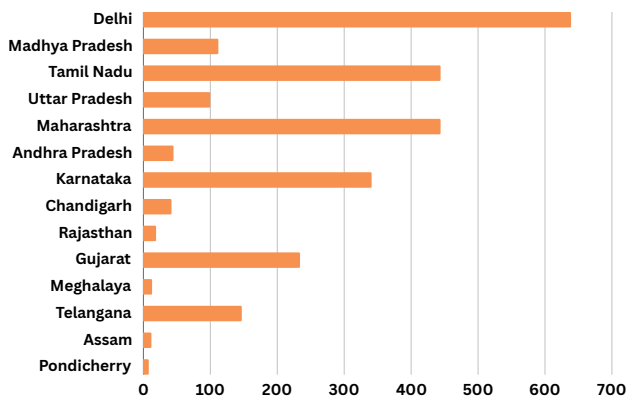
NUMBER OF VISUALLY IMPAIRED STUDENTS



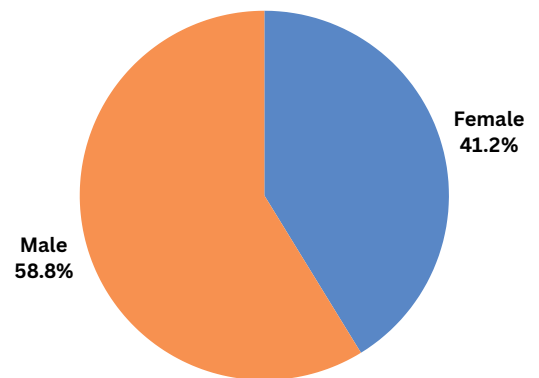
SCHOLARSHIPS AMOUNT DISBURSED IN INR (LAKHS)



SCHOLARSHIPS BENEFICIARIES BY STATE



MALE TO FEMALE RATIO OF SCHOLARSHIP DISTRIBUTION

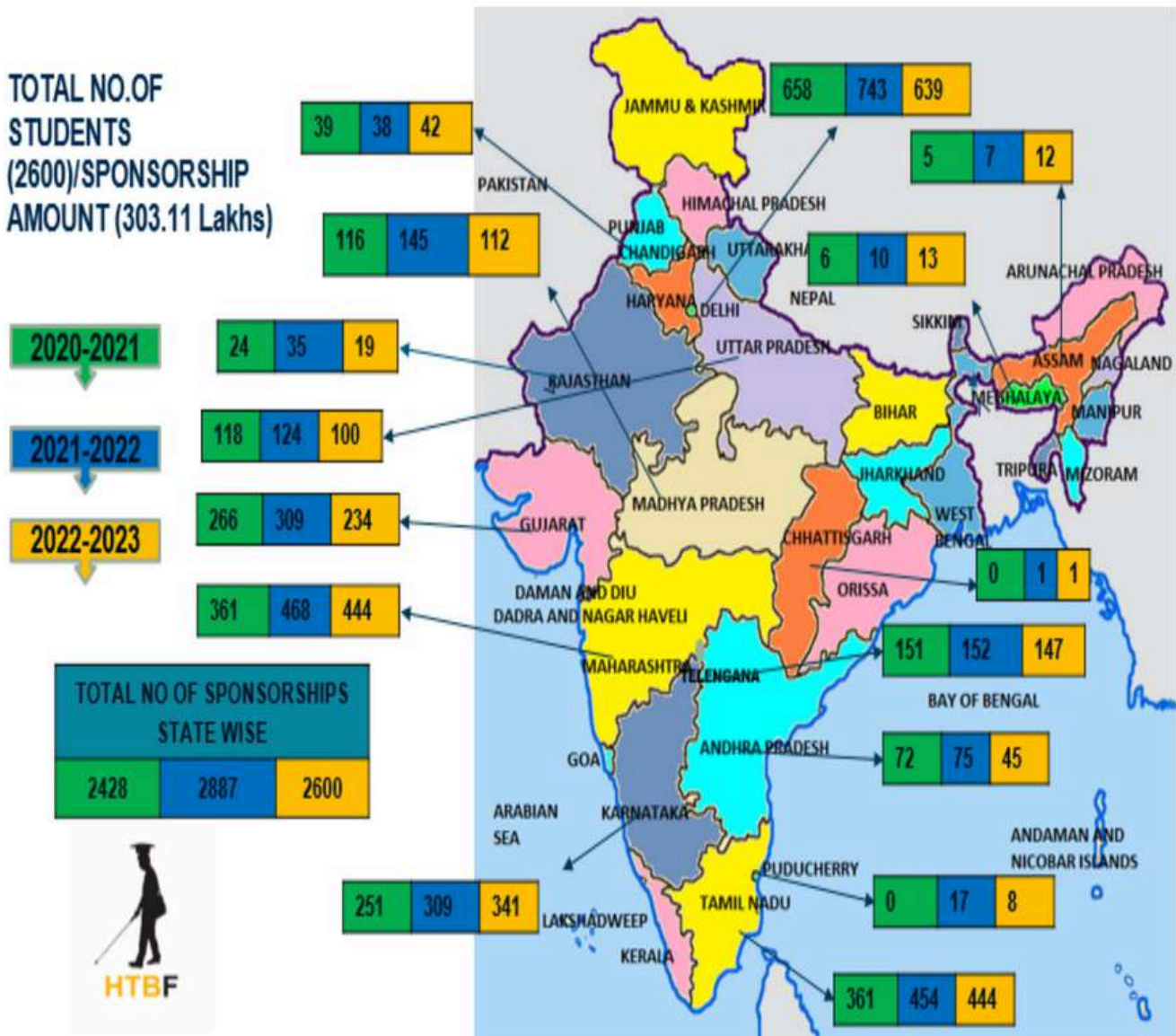


This past academic year, our organization focused heavily on scholarship enrollment and confirmation for new and continuing students. Through dedicated efforts, we successfully supported 2,600 students with scholarships totaling Rs. 3.02 crores for 2022-2023.

A pivotal development was the comprehensive transition of all sponsorship processing activities to online platforms. Manual verification and approvals have been phased out in favor of more efficient digital systems. Additionally, all scholarship payments were processed via net banking.

This critical change significantly streamlined and simplified payment distribution. In summary, the 2022-2023 academic year saw two major accomplishments: the verified enrollment and funding of 2,600 scholarship students, and the transformation of systems and processes for recruitment and payment to optimize efficiency.

We are proud of these achievements which will enable greater access to education through scholarships, powered by scalable technology.



EDUCATION, MOBILITY, EMPLOYABILITY, TRAINING

Over the past year, our organisation's Skill Development (EMET) Team has continued supporting students' professional growth with great enthusiasm.

We have provided EMET training to 579 students across 10 centers, completing 3 training projects so far.

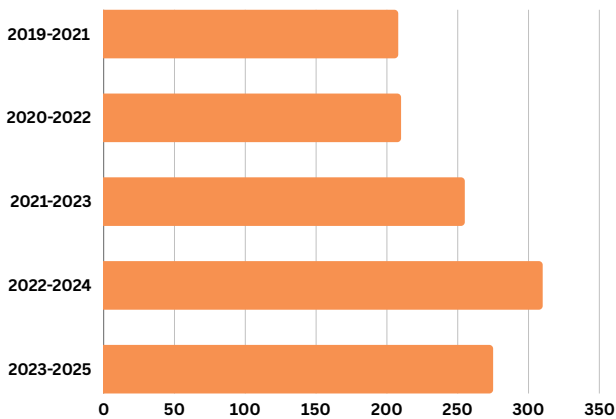
The EMET program transitioned from in-person to virtual due to COVID-19 and is now refining a hybrid online/offline model. Program outcomes have been encouraging, with measurable skill improvements for EMET students compared to peers who did not participate.

A logical next step has been expanded efforts around employability career readiness. In 2022-2023, we have focused on enabling opportunities in the BPO industry for visually impaired (VI) students.

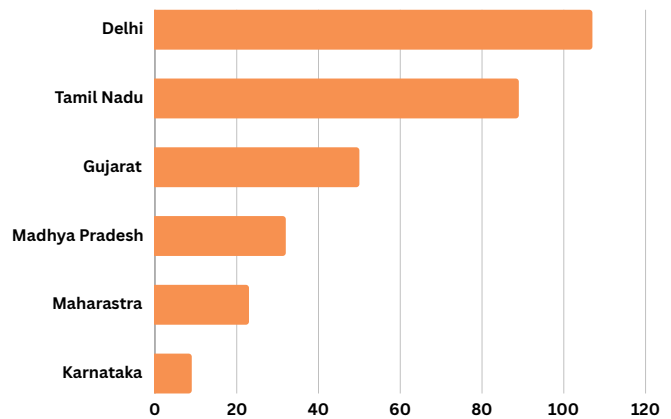
We partnered with a leading American BPO firm to understand their hiring needs and requirements. Recognizing Visually impaired students needed targeted preparation, we conducted specialized short-term training programs in Coimbatore, Chennai, and Bangalore to build specific skill sets.

While increasing visually impaired student employability has posed challenges, including apprehension and limited employer exposure, we remain dedicated to this mission.

STUDENTS INTAKE FOR EMET (YEAR WISE)



STUDENTS INTAKE FOR EMET (STATE-WISE)



By actively engaging with employers and visually impaired students, we seek to tackle issues surrounding workplace accommodations, relocation assistance, and general accessibility that often act as barriers to employment.

Through transparent dialogue and creative solutions, our goal is to showcase the capabilities of visually impaired applicants in order to open up new professional opportunities.

We aim to match students' skills and interests with roles across various industries and fields. This initiative requires dedication and patience as we work to shift mindsets and make workplaces more inclusive. But by building strong partnerships between employers, universities, and advocacy groups, we can gain momentum.

We are confident that with collaboration and perseverance, this effort will empower visually impaired students to launch meaningful careers where they can thrive and excel.



SMART VISION GLASSES FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED STUDENTS

Our organisation recently partnered with SHG Technologies Pvt. Ltd., an Indian company producing an innovative assistive device for the visually impaired (VI) community. Their "Smart Vision Glasses" incorporate artificial intelligence, machine learning, and computer vision to enable functional vision assistance.

Key features allow wearers to identify surroundings, read text, navigate spaces, recognize faces, control the device via voice, and leverage GPS for location guidance.

After successfully piloting the glasses with 25 visually impaired students and closely evaluating the technology's viability, we have established an official collaboration with SHG Technologies. This will expand access to their transformative product among our visually impaired beneficiaries.

In the upcoming academic year, we will conduct a 400-student pilot program and provide user feedback to the manufacturer to optimize the glasses' utility.

Pending positive results from the expanded pilot, this technology partnership has enormous potential to empower visually impaired individuals with greater autonomy, accessibility, and inclusion in educational and professional settings.

We are thrilled to facilitate cutting-edge assistive solutions that can increase independence and quality of life for the visually impaired community.

Expanding access to assistive technologies and career opportunities for the visually impaired will be a core focus in 2023-2024. Our organization moved to a new Chennai office this year to accommodate additional staff and scale up key initiatives like professional training programs and job placement services.



We aim to build on this growth in the coming year through new partnerships and community engagement.

While proud of our organization's impact thus far, we recognize there is always more work to be done. Our continued progress relies on the generous support of our donors, collaborators, volunteers and staff. We are deeply grateful for their guidance, dedication and shared mission of empowering the visually impaired community.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to enhancing accessibility and inclusion. By working together, we hope to make measurable improvements in the daily lives of the VI. We welcome innovative ideas and feedback from all stakeholders as we chart our course for the next phase of this rewarding journey.

THANK YOU TO ALL THE FRIENDS OF HTBF

- To all the donors in India and around the world, for their continuous and increased support, for the cause of HTBF.
- Cognizant Foundation for their Outstanding Support in all our partnership project initiatives.
- Saint Gobain India Pvt Ltd, Koshambh Multitred Private Limited, Guru Krupa Foundation, Centbank Home Finance, KCF, Brookefields and GLG group for their Outstanding Support in all our partnership project initiatives.
- Enable India for their continuous support as our knowledge partner.
- State Bank of India, Bank of India, and Karnataka Bank for their valuable contribution.
- Richard Hua, Zoroastrian Charity Foundation and our founder donors from HK, which has been most valuable for our growth.
- Mr M. Balasubramaniam, the Director, Brookfields, has supported in enabling a good office address to HTBF.
- Our Bankers in India – IOB, HDFC Bank, SBI – for their immense support.
- Our lawyer, Mr Sridharan, for his honorary services.
- Our auditors, A.John Morris & Co., for their support & and guidance.
- Mr. Harish Kota, our honorary IT Consultant, for his guidance & and support.
- The Principals and staff of the 260 college partners.
- All the respected friends & and colleagues in Hong Kong, the USA and Singapore.
- Our esteemed Team of Volunteers, Staff & and well-wishers have enabled the efficiency and growth of our service.
- Guidestar India for recognising our efficiency and awarding us the Guidestar Gold Award for 2022-2023.
- Our respected Founder Mr. D.K. Patel's Family and Directors of HTBF HK for their support & and guidance.



SUMMARY OF BALANCE SHEET

SUMMARY OF BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31.03.2023			
LIABILITIES	Amount in Rs	ASSETS	Amount in Rs
CAPITAL FUND	10,000.00	FIXED ASSETS	0.00
GENERAL FUND(NON FCRA)	11,949,998.68	INVESTMENTS(LOCAL DEPOSITS)	7,500,000.00
GENERAL FUND(FCRA)	15,500,385.58	INVESTMENTS(FCRA DEPOSITS)	53,000,000.00
ENDOWMENT FUND	42,000,000.00	LOANS & ADVANCES	338,830.00
EAR MARKED FUND(NON FCRA)	4,041,876.00	CURRENT ASSETS	1,127,207.70
EAR MARKED FUND(FCRA)	29,081.00	CASH IN HAND & AT BANK	11,799,165.56
CURRENT LIABILITIES	233,862.00		
TOTAL	73,765,203.26	TOTAL	73,765,203.26

The total assets of **Rs. 73,765,203** are comprised primarily of investments and cash holdings. Investments are largely made up of Endowment Funds as desired by the Founder and Donors from Hong Kong - **Rs. Rs 42,000,000**, which is 57% of the total assets. This provides financial stability and generates investment income.

Besides strengthening the Foundation, this also ensures that the interest income accruing is available for administrative expenses thus making most of the donations free for the needs of the beneficiary students. Cash holdings are also substantial at **Rs. 11,799,165**, accounting for 16% of total assets. This cash availability is on account of some of the donations, coming at the end of the financial year and couldn't be deployed. The remaining assets are smaller proportions - loans and advances are 0.5% at **Rs. 338,830**, while current assets are 1.5% at **Rs. 1,127,207**. The total liabilities of **Rs. 73,765,203** consist mainly of designated funds for specific purposes. The largest liability is the Endowment Fund at **Rs. 42,000,000**, making up 57% of the total. Next is the General Fund (FCRA) at **Rs. 15,500,386**, comprising 21% of liabilities.

This is followed by the General Fund (NON FCRA) at 16% (**Rs. 11,949,998**), Ear Marked Fund (NON FCRA) at 5.5% (**Rs. 4,041,876**), Ear Marked Fund (FCRA) at 0.04% (**Rs. 29,081**), and Capital Fund at 0.01% (**Rs. 10,000**).



For Complete Audit Reports:
<https://shorturl.at/ceCS9>



For more information,
Scan the code.



INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Expenditure	FCRA	Non FCRA	Amount In Rs	Income	FCRA	Non FCRA	Amount In Rs
Direct Expenses:				Direct Income:			
Scholarship Payments	13,665,784.00	13,993,704.00	27,659,488.00	Donation Received	19,533,921.03	53,967,805.00	73,501,726.03
Emet Programme Expenses	802,516.00	36,185,282.64	36,987,798.64				
Indirect Expenses:				Indirect Income:			
Annual Meet Expenses	0.00	375,871.00	375,871.00	Interest Income	2,327,650.00	268,215.70	2,595,865.70
Depreciation Expenses	0.00	552,815.00	552,815.00				
Rent	458,987.00	113,037.00	572,024.00				
Salary	851,596.00	839,854.00	1,691,450.00				
Other Admin Expenses	251,291.63	1,257,694.37	1,508,986.00				
Excess Of Income Over Expenditure	5,831,396.40	917,762.69	6,749,159.09				
Total	21,861,571.03	54,236,020.70	76,097,591.73	Total	21,861,571.03	54,236,020.70	76,097,591.73

Total income was Rs. 76,097,591, comprised of FCRA income of Rs. 21,861,571 and NON-FCRA income of Rs. 54,236,020. The vast majority came from donations, which were Rs. 19,533,921 under FCRA and Rs. 53,967,805 under NON-FCRA, totalling Rs. 73,501,726.

This donated income made up 97% of total income. Interest income was Rs. 2,327,650 for FCRA and Rs. 268,215 for NON-FCRA, totalling Rs. 2,595,865 and accounting for 3% of total income.

Total expenses were Rs. 69,348,432, including FCRA expenses of Rs. 15,830,658 and NON-FCRA expenses of Rs. 53,517,774. The largest expense was the EMET programme at Rs. 802,516 under FCRA and Rs. 36,185,283 under NON-FCRA, totalling Rs. 36,987,799. This comprised 53% of total expenses.

Direct expenses, including scholarship payments, were Rs. 13,665,784 under FCRA and Rs. 13,993,704 under NON-FCRA, totalling Rs. 27,659,488 or 40% of expenses. The remaining 7% were indirect expenses like salaries, rent, depreciation etc. amounting to Rs. 1,561,875 under FCRA and Rs. 3,139,271 under NON-FCRA totalling Rs. 4,701,146.

The surplus of income over expenses was Rs. 6,749,159, indicating financial health and controlled spending aligned with control spending beside this cash availability is on account of some of the donations, coming at the end of the financial year and couldn't be deployed.



For Complete Audit Reports:
<https://shorturl.at/ceCS9>



RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

Receipts	Local	Foreign	Amount	Payments	Local	Foreign	Amount
Opening Balance:				Direct Expenses:			
Cash In Hand & At Bank	5,119,304.26	2,939,016.27	8,058,320.53	Scholarship Payments	13,993,704.00	13,665,784.00	27,659,488.00
				Emet Programme Expenses	36,118,272.64	802,516.00	36,920,788.64
Donations Received:	53,967,805.00	19,533,921.03	73,501,726.03				
In-Direct Income:				In-Direct Expenses:			
Interest Income	290,192.00	1,631,396.91	1,921,588.91	Annual Meet Expenses	375,871.00		375,871.00
				Rent	113,037.00	458,987.00	572,024.00
Endowment Fund	2,000,000.00	10,000,000.00	12,000,000.00	Salary	839,854.00	851,596.00	1,691,450.00
				It And Internet Expenses	342,962.87	21,178.97	364,141.84
Fcra Deposit Interest Receivable		117,370.00	117,370.00	Other Admin Expenses	1,073,561.50	123,473.60	1,197,035.10
Ear Marked Fund	4,041,876.00	21,635.00	4,063,511.00	Fixed Deposit	2,500,000.00	16,500,000.00	19,000,000.00
Statutory Payables	127,222.67		127,222.67	Ear Marked Expenses		209,775.00	209,775.00
				Closing Balance:			
				Cash In Hand & At Bank	10,189,136.92	1,610,028.64	11,799,165.56
Total	65,546,399.93	34,243,339.21	9,97,89,739.14	Total	65,546,399.93	34,243,339.21	99,789,739.14

Total receipts for the year were Rs. 99,789,739. This included donations of Rs. 53,967,805 NON-FCRA and Rs. 19,533,921 in FCRA contributions, totalling Rs. 73,501,726 which was 74% of receipts.

Interest income was Rs. 290,192 NON FCRA and Rs. 1,631,397 in FCRA interest, totalling Rs. 1,921,589, making up 2% of receipts.

Endowment fund receipts were Rs. 2,000,000 NON FCRA and Rs. 10,000,000 in FCRA funds, totalling Rs. 12,000,000 or 12% of receipts. Earmarked funds received were Rs. 4,041,876 NON FCRA and Rs. 21,635 in FCRA funds, totalling Rs. 4,063,511 and accounting for 4% of total receipts.

Total payments for the year amounted to Rs. 87,990,573. Direct expenses of Rs 36,118,273 (NON FCRA) and 802,516 under FCRA. Scholarship payments were Rs. 13,993,704 NON FCRA and Rs. 13,665,784 in FCRA scholarships, totalling Rs. 27,659,488 or 31% of payments.

Investments made were Rs. 2,500,000 NON FCRA and Rs. 16,500,000 in FCRA deposits, totalling Rs. 19,000,000 or 22% of payments. The remaining indirect expenses for salaries, rent, admin costs etc. totaled Rs. 4,410,296 or 5% of payments.



or



For Complete Audit Reports:
<https://shorturl.at/ceCS9>

Scan Me!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



BECOME A PART OF THE MOVEMENT



Help The Blind Foundation
Unit No. B3A, Phase 1, Office Lobby
Basement, Spencer Plaza,
769 Anna Salai, Chennai 600002

Email: info@helptheblind.in



www.HelpTheBlindFoundation.org