

VOLUNTARY ACTION FOR REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024



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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT



Since our inception as a voluntary organization over 20 years ago, VARHAD has been steadfast in its mission to provide "Access to Justice" in the "Criminal Justice System" for the poor and marginalized prisoners, alongside promoting their meaningful reformation, rehabilitation, and dignified reintegration into society. Our commitment extends beyond ensuring basic rights; we focus on helping prisoners reform and reintegrate with dignity, making us one of the few organizations in the country working relentlessly in this unique field. Our efforts have made a significant impact on the criminal justice system, changing lives and shaping a more compassionate society.

At VARHAD, we take pride in uplifting and empowering underprivileged youth by providing education, skills, and livelihood opportunities. Our mission is to tackle the root causes of crime poverty and unemployment by creating pathways for young people to achieve their potential. Recently, we have expanded our work to address other critical challenges in the areas of mental health, education, youth development, and livelihood opportunities, with a special emphasis on supporting women and youth in the Vidarbha region.

Our dedicated team has made a tangible difference in the lives of prisoners, their families, youth, women, and poverty-stricken farmers in the underdeveloped areas of Vidarbha, Maharashtra. However, seeking financial support for our initiatives remains challenging, particularly in the criminal justice sector, where prisoners are often viewed as undeserving of help or rehabilitation. We continue to strive to shift societal perceptions, advocating for a humane and compassionate approach that recognizes everyone's right to rebuild their lives and contribute positively to society.

We are deeply grateful for the unwavering support of our partners, including the Sir Dorabjee Tata Trust (SDTT), JRD Tata Trust (JRDTT), Usha International Limited, Give India, Global Fund for Women (GFW), the Azim Premji Foundation (APF), and most recently, the Paul Hamlyn Foundation (PHF), United Kingdom. Their generous contributions have been instrumental in driving our work forward, and we are honoured to have them by our side as we pursue our vision for a just and equitable world. Together, we are making a positive impact in our communities and beyond, transforming lives and creating a brighter future for all.

RAVINDRA VAIDYA
PRESIDENT, VARHAD

OUR BACKGROUND

Voluntary Action for Rehabilitation and Development (VARHAD) is a registered non-profit organization founded in 2001 by Mr. Ravindra B. Vaidya, an alumnus of the esteemed Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai. Operating under the Societies Registration Act of 1860 and the Maharashtra Public Trust Act of 1950, VARHAD serves the Vidarbha region of Amravati district in Eastern Maharashtra. The organization was established with a core mission to provide "Access to Justice" within the criminal justice system for underprivileged families of prisoners in Vidarbha. By strengthening emotional bonds between prisoners and their families, VARHAD promotes rehabilitation, reformation, and healthy social reintegration, offering those impacted by crime a pathway to a brighter future.

VARHAD operates on the principle that criminal behavior often arises not from inherent traits but from adverse circumstances, such as exposure to negative environments, socio-economic deprivation, rejection, and indignity. The organization acts as a crucial link between all law enforcement agencies, ensuring that justice is accessible to those in need. As the only organization in the region focused on addressing crime at its roots, VARHAD has made significant strides in reforming the Criminal Justice System. Beyond this, we have expanded our scope to address broader developmental challenges, including mental health, education, youth development, livelihood opportunities, and farmer empowerment. Our special focus on empowering women and youth in Vidarbha drives our commitment to fostering positive change and improving the lives of underserved communities.

VARHAD's efforts in prison reform and human rights have been recognized by both government and non-government organizations at various levels. Our advocacy has influenced policy changes that uphold the rights of prisoners and their families. Through persistent efforts, VARHAD has enabled prisoners' families to access critical government welfare schemes, including Balsangopan, BPL ration card, Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Yojana, Shravanbal Yojana, Gharkul Yojana, Mukta Bandi Yojana and Remission Benefits.

Our organization's success is rooted in extensive collaboration with diverse departments, which has enhanced our ability to work towards the welfare of marginalized communities. By addressing a wide range of social issues, VARHAD has positively impacted countless lives across Vidarbha. Our greatest strength lies in our committed leadership, dedicated team members, advocates, volunteers, and partners who work tirelessly to achieve our mission. Their unwavering dedication propels VARHAD forward, making a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve.

OUR VISION AND MISSION

VISION

Our vision is to dynamically adapt to shifting social landscapes, championing social justice and addressing the needs of marginalized communities. We strive to make a significant impact on the lives of underserved populations by enhancing mental health, education, livelihood opportunities, and youth development. Through our steadfast dedication, we aim to forge a more equitable society where everyone has the resources and support to thrive. By empowering those often overlooked, we believe in building a brighter, more inclusive future for all.

MISSION

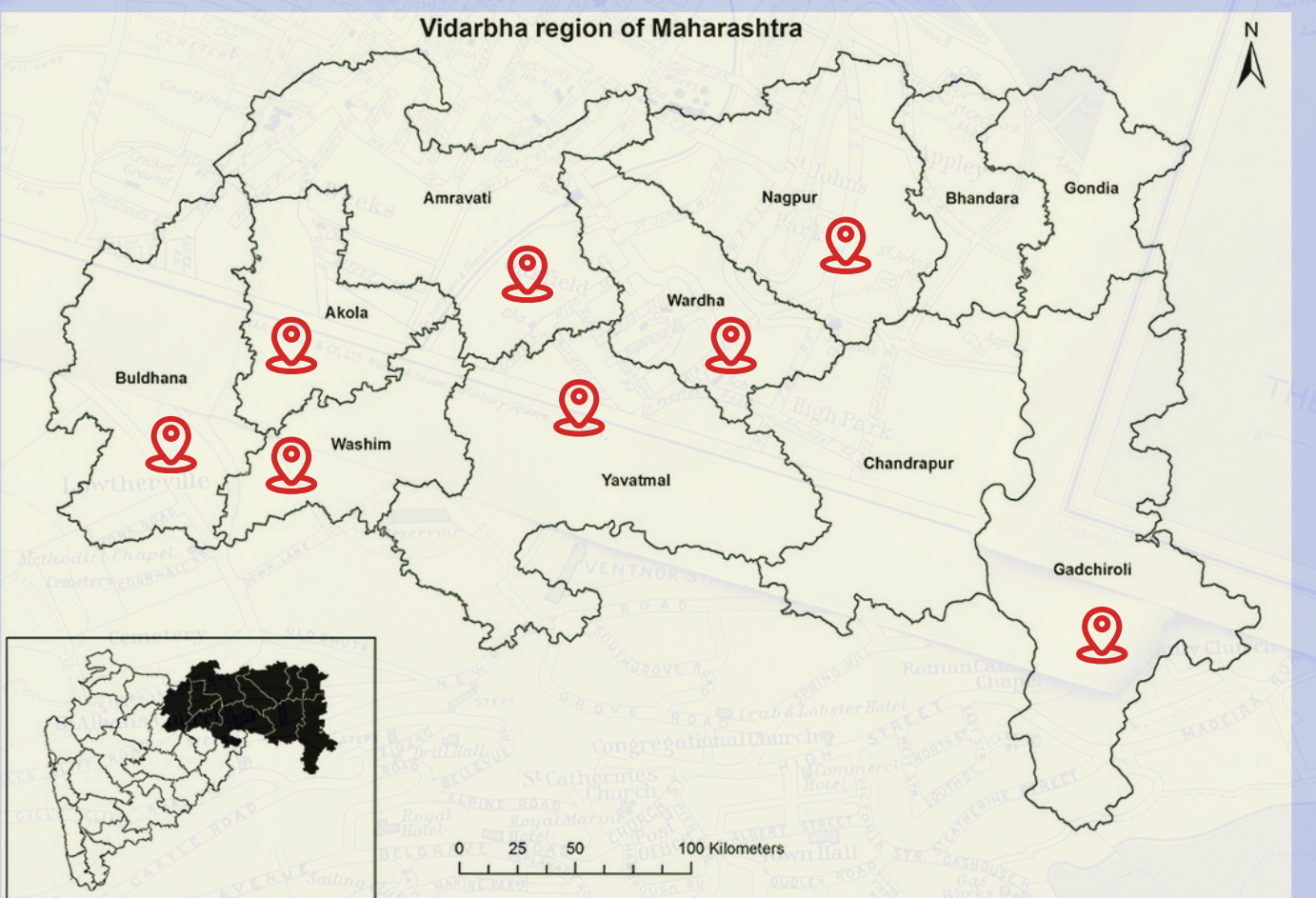
VARHAD is committed to empowering marginalized communities by addressing their diverse needs and enhancing their overall well-being. Collaborating with a wide range of stakeholders and employing innovative strategies, we work to create a fairer society where social justice, education, livelihood opportunities, and mental health support are accessible to everyone. We are dedicated to advancing the rights of prisoners and their families, supporting their reformation, rehabilitation, and reintegration. With a particular focus on youth, women, and underserved populations, VARHAD is dedicated to fostering a sustainable and inclusive future for all.

OUR GEOGRAPHICAL REACH

VARHAD has significantly impacted the Criminal Justice System across multiple regions in Maharashtra, India. Its efforts have extended to two Central Prisons in Nagpur and Amravati, six District Prisons in Akola, Wardha, Yavatmal, Washim, Buldhana, and Gadchiroli, and an Open Prison in Morshi (Amravati District). VARHAD's notable contributions in criminology, justice, rehabilitation, education, youth development, and women's empowerment have earned widespread acclaim from national and international organizations, as well as the State Government and local administrations.

VARHAD's visionary work culture and commitment have attracted partnerships with renowned organizations such as Sir Dorabjee Tata Trust (SDTT), JRD Tata Trust (JRDTT), Give India, Global Fund for Women (GFW), Azim Premji Foundation (APF), and the Paul Hamlyn Foundation (PHF), enabling it to support underprivileged communities effectively.

OPERATIONAL TERRITORIES OF VARHAD



THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE

In our ongoing commitment to support marginalized and vulnerable communities, VARHAD has concentrated its efforts on several key demographic groups, ensuring targeted interventions that promote reformation, empowerment, and growth:

PROFESSIONAL CRIMINALS OR HABITUAL OFFENDERS:

VARHAD remains dedicated to the reformation of habitual offenders, working towards the betterment of civil society. Our comprehensive training and counseling programs are designed to break the cycle of recidivism, ensuring that individuals do not return to a life of crime after their release. These efforts aim to help them secure dignified livelihoods and reintegrate as productive members of society.

NON-CRIMINALS OR FIRST-TIME OFFENDERS:

VARHAD focuses on providing tailored support for first-time offenders through three primary interventions:

Reformation through Activities: Promoting literary, cultural, and sports activities within prisons to foster a positive transformation.

Advocacy for Reduced Sentences: Working towards shorter sentences to prevent further criminalisation and ensure a quicker return to society.

Family Reconnection: Facilitating connections between undertrial prisoners and their families, encouraging a supportive environment for reintegration.

WRONGLY ACCUSED INDIVIDUALS:

VARHAD is committed to supporting individuals who have been wrongly accused and imprisoned due to systemic flaws. Our legal aid services ensure that these individuals receive fair representation and a chance to seek justice. We believe that everyone deserves the opportunity to defend their rights and pursue a just outcome.

CHILDREN OF PRISONERS:

Recognizing the unique challenges faced by children with incarcerated parents, VARHAD prioritizes their educational needs. In collaboration with state-run and socially responsible private institutions, we arrange free residential education, aiming to mitigate the negative impacts of parental imprisonment and provide these children with a pathway to a brighter future.

WOMEN:

VARHAD actively works to empower vulnerable women, especially those from underprivileged backgrounds. Through targeted skill development and vocational training programs, we strive to promote gender equality and create opportunities for meaningful employment, enabling women to achieve financial independence and personal growth.

UNEMPLOYED YOUTH:

VARHAD supports young job seekers by providing them with access to a well-equipped library, comfortable accommodations, and career guidance. Our goal is to equip them with the necessary resources and skills to navigate the job market successfully and to stay on a positive and productive path.

IMPACT RESULTS, 2023-2024



EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT

At least **90** Children of Prisoners were provided with Educational Essentials by VARHAD



SOCIO-LEGAL SUPPORT

At least **20** prisoners have been granted bail by the High Court, while **165** have received bail from the Session Court. Additionally, **10** individuals were acquitted by the Session Court



REHABILITATION SUPPORT

A minimum of **10** recently released prisoners were provided with free post-release Rehabilitation Support at the VARHAD Rehabilitation Centre



EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Emergency Assistance was provided to **29** Released Prisoners immediately upon their release from Prison



COMMUNITY KITCHEN

VARHAD's community kitchen provides free meals to marginalised individuals, including persons with disabilities and extremely needy older adults. To date, it has served nearly **100,000** meals



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

A minimum of **20** unemployed youth received training in Hospitality Management and were subsequently employed in the Hospitality Sector

REIMAGINING CRIMINAL JUSTICE: THE VARHAD WAY

The VARHAD model for criminal justice intervention focuses on supporting impoverished prisoners and their families. It adopts an integrated approach that emphasises "Access to Justice" by creating connections between families of prisoners particularly children and women and necessary resources. VARHAD collaborates closely with prisoners to ensure they gain access to justice and successfully reintegrate into society, allowing them to lead a dignified life after their release. The model is illustrated in the diagram below



The diagram illustrates how VARHAD's intervention model supports the entire criminal justice system, starting with assessing the needs of incarcerated individuals and extending to assisting their families in navigating legal processes and addressing the challenges they face.

OPERATIONAL DYNAMICS, 2023-2024

REIMAGINING CRIMINAL JUSTICE: THE VARHAD WAY

JUSTICE WITH COMPASSION: SOCIO-LEGAL SUPPORT FOR INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS

CONNECTING FOR JUSTICE: VARHAD'S LEGAL AID NETWORK

EMPOWERING CHILDREN OF PRISONERS: VARHAD'S TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES

STRENGTH BEHIND BARS: VARHAD'S TRAILBLAZING INITIATIVES FOR WOMEN PRISONERS

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VARHAD'S ADVOCACY: SECURING JUSTICE AND SUPPORT FOR PRISONERS' FAMILIES

SERVING THE UNDERSERVED: VARHAD'S COMMUNITY KITCHEN INITIATIVE

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DRIVING TRANSFORMATION: VARHAD'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2023-2024

TRANSFORMING LIVES: A VARHAD CASE STUDY-1,2,3

VISUAL CHRONICLES OF VARHAD'S IMPACT IN ACADEMIC AND LEGAL SPHERES

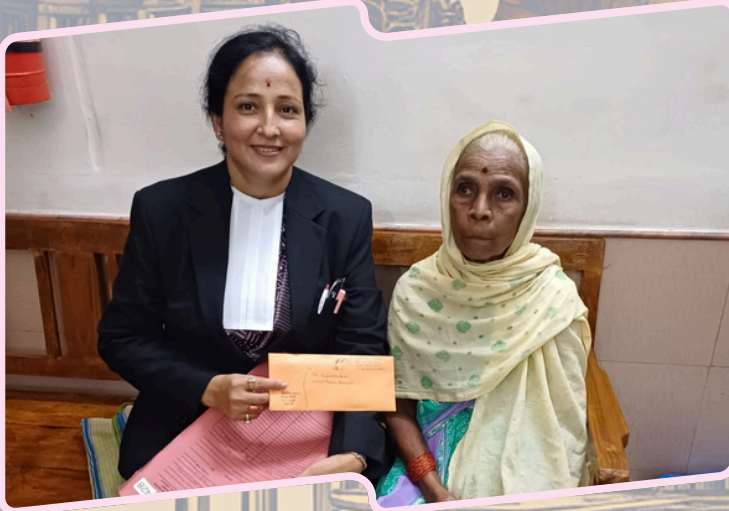
MEDIA PRESENCE OF VARHAD

JUSTICE WITH COMPASSION: SOCIO-LEGAL SUPPORT FOR INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS

VARHAD is dedicated to providing legal assistance to prisoners and their families, ensuring equitable access to a fair trial regardless of their background. Given the delays and negligence often seen in the current state legal system, VARHAD serves as a crucial link between prisoners and the criminal justice system. The organisation offers comprehensive legal aid and judicial guidance to those in need, facilitating a smoother process for bail, trials, and appeals. In addition to direct support for prisoners, VARHAD actively engages with their families, encouraging their involvement in the reformation and rehabilitation process. This family-oriented approach helps mitigate the psychological stress faced by both prisoners and their loved ones. VARHAD also assists convicted prisoners in accessing parole and furlough provisions, striving for a more efficient and just legal process. Through its holistic approach, VARHAD aims to uphold the legal rights of prisoners while supporting their reintegration into society.



In India, nearly 75% of the prison population consists of undertrial prisoners who are still awaiting a fair trial in court. This stark statistic highlights the severe challenges faced by accused individuals who have not yet been convicted. The primary cause of this issue is the lack of adequate legal aid for prisoners who need it the most.



Indian law upholds the principle that a person is innocent until proven guilty. However, prisoners, especially those from poor and marginalised communities, endure considerable hardships during their time in custody. Due to inefficiencies in the judicial system, many undertrial prisoners are forced to remain behind bars for extended periods sometimes months or even years while awaiting their day in court and the chance for justice.



Over its two decades of experience, VARHAD has found that a large number of prisoners are not hardened criminals but rather petty offenders, first-time offenders, or even innocent individuals. Many remain in jail for extended periods due to a lack of legal knowledge, illiteracy, and poverty. The bail system is inherently biased against the poor, as courts often require financial sureties that many cannot afford. Although the state offers free legal aid to indigent prisoners, it is largely ineffective. Government-appointed lawyers are frequently unmotivated to advocate for those who cannot pay, leaving poor prisoners hesitant to seek help from the State Legal Services Authority out of fear of losing their cases. To address this gap, VARHAD has established a network of skilled advocates across 11 districts in eastern Maharashtra. These lawyers are not only committed to providing quality legal assistance but are also sensitive to the unique challenges faced by underprivileged prisoners, ensuring that justice is accessible to those who need it most.



VARHAD addresses the complex legal challenges faced by underprivileged prisoners by enhancing state legal aid services and collaborating with skilled advocates to ensure effective representation. The organisation has built a network of dedicated advocates across 11 districts in eastern Maharashtra, focused on defending the rights of poor prisoners. These advocates take on cases referred by VARHAD, charging only minimal fees to cover essential expenses, with VARHAD covering the remaining costs. This network offers vital legal support to prisoners at all judicial levels, from lower courts to the Higher Court. Each year, VARHAD assists hundreds of undertrial and convicted prisoners who lack the financial means to pursue appeals in higher courts, ensuring access to justice for those who need it most.

ACCESS TO JUSTICE: VARHAD'S COMPREHENSIVE INTERVENTIONS FOR PRISONERS

VARHAD is dedicated to providing holistic legal assistance to underprivileged prisoners and their families, supporting them at every stage of the judicial process—from initial incarceration to final acquittal.

Enabling Access to Bail:

For indigent prisoners, securing bail—whether through cash or surety—is a critical necessity, yet the procedural requirements can be complex and time-consuming. VARHAD addresses this issue by offering essential support to navigate the legal formalities, ensuring timely access to bail.

Support for Trials:

VARHAD's team of skilled and committed lawyers provides free legal aid to accused individuals. Their work includes conducting detailed investigations into the accused's background, collecting all required evidence and documents, and maintaining continuous follow-up. This ensures that the accused's legal rights are upheld and that their cases are presented in a well-structured manner.

Seeking Justice Beyond Lower Courts:

Recognizing the lack of adequate legal aid for impoverished prisoners, VARHAD bridges the gap by presenting their cases in higher courts, such as the High Court and Supreme Court. The organization ensures that cases are well-documented, effectively argued, and receive a fair hearing.



Facilitating Personal Bonds:

VARHAD assists prisoners in accessing personal bond provisions, helping them draft applications and gather necessary documentation from relevant authorities and families. This initiative enables the release of individuals who have committed minor offenses, offering them a second chance.





In-Home Consultations:

VARHAD promotes family engagement by regularly visiting the homes of prisoners' families and their communities. These visits help assess the family's needs, facilitate communication, and take appropriate actions. Through this proactive approach, VARHAD has successfully secured the release of over 100 deserving prisoners annually without the need for sureties or legal representation, setting a benchmark in Maharashtra.

Counseling Services:

To address the psychological and emotional challenges faced by prisoners and their families, VARHAD provides regular counseling sessions. The organization also educates prisoners about their legal rights, including parole and furlough, as outlined in the Prison Manual. By working closely with families, prison authorities, police, and the judiciary, VARHAD ensures deserving prisoners can utilize these provisions to secure their release.

Legal Rights of Prisoners:

In the Indian criminal justice system, parole and furlough are critical mechanisms to help prisoners maintain connections with society and their families. Parole allows temporary leave from prison under continuous monitoring and strict conditions. Furlough, in contrast, is a short two-week leave granted without the need for a specific reason, aimed at preserving familial ties and supporting prisoners' psychological well-being. However, many prisoners remain unaware of these rights, and VARHAD works to bridge this gap.

Bridging Emotional and Legal Gaps:

VARHAD plays a pivotal role in maintaining communication between prisoners and their families by facilitating letters and messages. By fostering these emotional bonds, the organisation builds trust in the judicial system and discourages illegal or desperate acts, such as prison escapes. This approach encourages prisoners to rely on the legal process and patiently await justice.

Social Work-Driven Intervention Model:

VARHAD's intervention model is deeply rooted in the principles of social work, emphasizing empathy, empowerment, and holistic support. The organization identifies the specific needs of prisoners and develops tailored intervention plans to address their legal, emotional, and social challenges. Its team actively collaborates with all stakeholders, including families, authorities, and legal professionals, to gain firsthand insights and keep family members informed of case progress. VARHAD also extends emotional support to prisoners, helping them maintain familial connections through letter-writing and home visits on their behalf. Additionally, VARHAD's approach encourages prisoners to engage in personal development and social reintegration by facilitating access to education, skill-building, and counseling services. This comprehensive model not only fosters trust in the judicial system but also reduces recidivism, paving the way for successful rehabilitation and reintegration into society.

CONNECTING FOR JUSTICE: VARHAD'S LEGAL AID NETWORK

VARHAD, a pioneering organization in the Criminal Justice System, recognizes the critical importance of building a robust network with state legal service authorities. Its mission is to ensure access to justice for indigent prisoners and their families, who often lack the financial means to hire legal representation. Understanding that access to justice is a fundamental human right, VARHAD is dedicated to raising awareness among the families of prisoners about the availability of free legal services. The organization actively educates and sensitizes these families, emphasizing the importance of seeking legal assistance for their incarcerated loved ones who are awaiting justice.



VARHAD also recognizes that many underprivileged families are not only financially disadvantaged but often unaware of their right to legal aid or how to access it. The organization takes on the responsibility of spreading awareness and empowering these families to exercise their legal rights.

To make the process of securing legal aid smoother, VARHAD provides comprehensive guidance and assistance with the necessary documentation. By simplifying the legal procedures, it ensures that families are not burdened with navigating the complexities of the judicial system on their own. Maintaining open and constant communication with state legal service authorities is a cornerstone of VARHAD's approach. The organization regularly facilitates meetings to explore the scope of services and enhance coordination. These efforts have strengthened relationships with legal service providers, leading to more effective and efficient support for indigent prisoners.

In conclusion, VARHAD remains steadfast in its commitment to upholding access to justice as a fundamental human right. By fostering a strong network of legal service providers and empowering marginalized families to seek justice, VARHAD continues to champion the cause of the underprivileged with dedication and purpose.

EMPOWERING CHILDREN OF PRISONERS: VARHAD'S TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES

VARHAD acknowledges the profound challenges faced by the families of prisoners, particularly their children, who often bear the brunt of societal neglect and vulnerability stemming from their parents' incarceration. The absence of a breadwinner or family leader severely impacts the socio-economic stability of these households, leaving children particularly disadvantaged. Social stigma and ostracism further exacerbate their mental health struggles, often relegating education to a secondary concern. This neglect contributes to a rising number of school dropouts among these children, leading to social alienation and eccentric behavior.

VARHAD's education initiative seeks to address these pressing issues by empowering the children of prisoners and paving the way for a brighter future. Alarming data from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) highlights the deep-rooted issue: a significant portion of India's prison population is illiterate and comes from underprivileged socio-economic backgrounds, predominantly from SC and ST communities. This systemic disadvantage extends to their families, subjecting them to social discrimination and perpetuating cycles of poverty and marginalization.



Children of prisoners face immense hurdles in envisioning a hopeful future, often growing up with limited opportunities and struggling to find meaning in life. The absence of a stable support system and the stigma attached to having an incarcerated parent further compounds these challenges. VARHAD's dedicated efforts aim to break this cycle by providing essential educational support, fostering social acceptance, and creating an environment where these children can thrive despite the odds.

VARHAD became a pioneer in launching groundbreaking initiatives that could address the unique needs of these children, offering them the opportunities to overcome the hardships caused by their parents' incarceration. Through innovative programs VARHAD attempted to reshape their futures and break the generational cycle of neglect. Through its transformative approach, VARHAD is not just offering hope, but also creating lasting change, empowering these children to realize their potential and build brighter, more promising futures.

VARHAD'S PIONEERING INITIATIVES FOR THE WELFARE OF PRISONERS' CHILDREN

Distribution of Educational Essentials:

VARHAD, through home visits and thorough need assessments, identified the pressing need for educational support among the children of prisoners, whose education was often disrupted due to the incarceration of their parents. To address this, VARHAD initiated a pioneering program to distribute educational essentials, providing these children with the resources necessary to continue their studies. This initiative not only encouraged affected children to stay in school but also inspired other civil society organisations to step forward and offer similar assistance. Additionally, for children whose both parents were incarcerated, VARHAD arranged for their enrolment in residential schools, ensuring they had a stable and supportive environment to pursue their education. Through this forward-thinking approach, VARHAD set a benchmark in educational support for children of prisoners, paving the way for greater societal involvement in securing their future.



Pioneering Pre-Schools (*Balwadis*) for Children of Prisoners:

VARHAD was the first to address the unique challenges faced by children of prisoners, who are often exposed to violence, abuse, and fear within prison environments. To protect and nurture these children, VARHAD established pre-schools (*Balwadis*) located within prison premises. These (*Balwadis*) provided a safe space for learning and growth, along with essentials like food, clothing, and educational materials. The initiative extended beyond the children of prisoners, benefiting children of prison staff as well. The success of these pre-schools was driven by a team of dedicated and skilled educators who created a positive impact on the lives of these young learners. Believing it to be the state's responsibility to safeguard the childhood of these vulnerable children, VARHAD successfully set up *Balwadis* in all eight central prisons in Maharashtra. This pioneering effort eventually inspired the government to establish its own pre-schools for these children. VARHAD's work remains a model of innovation and commitment, ensuring a brighter future for children impacted by incarceration.

Mass Meetings:

VARHAD initiated innovative programs to foster emotional connections between prisoners and their children. Monthly prison meetings allowed families to engage in cultural activities, games and creating a platform for bonding. This program, later adopted by the state as the 'Galabhet' scheme (meaning "to hug"), strengthened relationships and brought families closer. Additionally, VARHAD provided counseling to help families navigate the challenges of reintegration and offered vocational training to prisoners to enhance their employability post-release. These efforts created a brighter future for both the children and their incarcerated parents.



One-to-One Meetings:

VARHAD also facilitated direct contact between prisoners and their children, an uncommon initiative within prison systems. These interactions allowed children to maintain a sense of connection with their incarcerated parent, helping preserve the parental bond. By making these meetings possible, VARHAD supported families in maintaining meaningful relationships, fostering hope and resilience.

Advocacy for Inclusion in the *Balsangopan* Scheme:

In 2008, VARHAD successfully lobbied to extend the Government of Maharashtra's *Balsangopan* scheme to include children of prisoners. Originally designed to assist children in need, the scheme now supports up to two children per prisoner's family until the age of 18. VARHAD's advocacy has provided vital aid to vulnerable families and continues to benefit many children until 2025. VARHAD actively encourages and assists eligible families in accessing this support.

Recreational Support for Prisoners' Children:

VARHAD organised leisure trips and outings for children of prisoners during school vacations, offering them a chance to enjoy carefree experiences and connect with peers from diverse backgrounds. These outings provided encouragement and a sense of belonging, boosting confidence and instilling hope in children often stigmatised due to their family circumstances. Through these multifaceted efforts, VARHAD has profoundly impacted the lives of prisoners and their children, fostering connection, resilience, and a sense of possibility for the future.



STRENGTH BEHIND BARS: VARHAD'S TRAILBLAZING INITIATIVES FOR WOMEN PRISONERS

In India, women are often revered as goddesses in cultural narratives, yet they face significant vulnerability and suppression in a predominantly male-dominated society. This reality is especially stark for women from economically and socially marginalised communities. For those who end up in prison, the secondary status of women further compounds their struggles, leading to heightened stigma and a severe toll on their mental health. Many female prisoners sever ties with their families to shield them from societal judgment, resulting in the loss of crucial social support systems. The emotional trauma of such separation often drives them to extreme actions, including self-harm, suicide, or violent behavior during moments of crisis. This grim reality highlights the urgent need for targeted intervention and comprehensive support for women prisoners to address their unique challenges and vulnerabilities.

VARHAD'S TRAILBLAZING INITIATIVES FOR EMPOWERING THE WOMEN PRISONERS

VARHAD, a trailblazer in the realm of women prisoner rehabilitation, initiated groundbreaking programmes to uplift incarcerated women. Though these initiatives set a precedent, VARHAD is no longer directly involved, leaving prison authorities to carry forward these transformative efforts.



Adult Literacy Programme for Women Prisoners:

VARHAD spearheaded Adult Literacy Programmes (ALP) to empower incarcerated women through education. With the support of the Maharashtra Government's Education Department, VARHAD ensured the successful conduct of 4th standard board examinations within prison premises—a pioneering step. Collaborating with municipal corporations, VARHAD also established literacy centres for illiterate female prisoners and their children. Through these efforts, numerous women and their children transitioned from illiteracy to basic literacy, showcasing inspiring success stories. Beyond academics, VARHAD emphasized cultural and sports events to enhance mental and physical well-being, fostering camaraderie and morale among prisoners. These initiatives laid the foundation for helping women reintegrate into society with dignity, though VARHAD has since passed the baton to prison authorities.

Vocational Training and Livelihood Support:

VARHAD's vocational training programmes revolutionized the rehabilitation process by offering skills for self-sustenance. Courses such as sewing, wax making, and incense stick production equipped women with employable skills, regardless of their age, caste, or class. The six-month sewing course enabled participants to master 15–20 garment types, including embroidery, while the shorter-term courses in wax and incense stick making provided quick skill-building options.

Beyond skill acquisition, VARHAD incorporated health awareness into the programme, teaching women about menstrual hygiene and other crucial health practices for an improved quality of life. The organization also organized special celebrations like International Women's Day and Rakhi Din to foster a sense of community among the women.

After mastering these skills, many women became self-reliant, thanks to VARHAD's livelihood support mechanism. The team connected released prisoners with potential employers willing to offer second chances and provided micro-loans for women aspiring to start their businesses. These initiatives significantly boosted their self-esteem and financial independence, setting the stage for a dignified post-incarceration life.



A Legacy of Rehabilitation:

While VARHAD's direct involvement has ceased, its pioneering interventions continue to inspire and guide ongoing efforts by prison authorities. These programmes not only addressed the immediate needs of incarcerated women but also laid a sustainable framework for their rehabilitation and reintegration into society. VARHAD's legacy serves as a benchmark for holistic support, transforming lives and setting an enduring example.

REBUILDING LIVES: VARHAD'S REHABILITATION INITIATIVES FOR RELEASED PRISONERS

The challenges faced by released prisoners are often overlooked, leaving many struggling to navigate life after incarceration. Societal stigma and discrimination exacerbate their difficulties, making it hard to secure employment, reintegrate into communities, and rebuild a sense of normalcy. These barriers can lead to heightened anxieties, hinder personal progress, and even result in human rights violations. Recognizing the critical need for support in this area, VARHAD has taken a proactive approach to rehabilitation. Through three dedicated programs, the organization provides released prisoners with essential tools, resources, and guidance to overcome these challenges and reclaim their place in society with dignity and purpose.

VARHAD's Rehabilitation Facility; a Room for Transforming Released Prisoners:

VARHAD's Rehabilitation Centre in Amravati serves as a transformative space dedicated to empowering released prisoners through vocational training and sustainable livelihood opportunities. The centre operates a fully equipped farm where activities such as dairy farming, vegetable cultivation, and other small-scale enterprises provide meaningful work opportunities. Released prisoners engage in full-time farming activities, earning a monthly stipend along with food and accommodation. The facility is proudly gender neutral, offering equal opportunities to both male and female prisoners without discrimination. Remarkably, this comprehensive infrastructure was established solely by VARHAD, without significant external sponsorship a testament to the organization's commitment and pride. The centre caters to underprivileged individuals during their rehabilitation journey, ensuring they receive quality food, safe accommodation, and guidance. It also extends its services to habitual offenders and extradited prisoners from various cities, offering a structured six-month rehabilitation period. VARHAD's Rehabilitation Centre stands as a model of holistic support, offering a seamless pathway to reformation, employment, and sustainable reintegration for released prisoners and even hardcore offenders.



Collaborations with Small-Scale Industries:

VARHAD partners with small-scale industries to create meaningful employment opportunities for released prisoners. These industries provide vocational training programs that equip participants with valuable skills, enabling them to secure stable jobs. This collaborative approach has been instrumental in helping many individuals reintegrate into society and build a better future.

**Financial Aid for Self-Employment:**

To support vulnerable released prisoners, VARHAD offers financial assistance to help them start small businesses. Many recipients, including women, have used this aid to open vegetable shops, grocery stores, or stationery outlets. This initiative empowers individuals to achieve self-reliance, support their families, and contribute to the local economy. By fostering entrepreneurship, VARHAD not only helps break the cycle of poverty and crime but also transforms lives, paving the way for a brighter and more independent future.

**Empowering Women Through Self-Help Groups:**

As part of its unwavering commitment to women's empowerment, VARHAD focuses on enhancing the socio-economic status of released female prisoners. Recognising the unique challenges faced by women after incarceration, the organisation actively encourages them to form self-help groups (SHGs). These groups serve as a platform for financial independence, skill-sharing, and emotional support, fostering a sense of unity and collective growth. Through these SHGs, women receive guidance in managing savings, accessing micro-loans, and starting small businesses, enabling them to rebuild their lives with dignity. The initiative not only equips them with practical resources but also instills confidence and self-worth, empowering them to overcome societal stigma and achieve meaningful reintegration. By promoting self-reliance and financial stability, VARHAD ensures that these women can contribute positively to their families and communities, breaking barriers and creating a ripple effect of empowerment.

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUCCESS: INITIATIVES FOR UNEMPLOYED YOUTH

VARHAD is dedicated to empowering youth by offering comprehensive support systems that extend beyond its primary initiatives. Recognizing the potential and challenges faced by young people, the organization actively conducts diverse events and programs aimed at enhancing their personal and professional development. These initiatives are designed to promote well-being, build essential skills, and prepare youth for successful and fulfilling careers. By fostering growth and empowerment, VARHAD ensures that young individuals are equipped to achieve their aspirations and contribute meaningfully to society.

Empowering Youth Through Hospitality Management Training:

In collaboration with the Gulson Foundation, Mumbai, VARHAD organized a two-month Hospitality Management Training Programme for 20 unemployed youth. This free training initiative equipped participants with essential skills and in-depth industry knowledge, preparing them for successful careers in the hospitality sector. As a direct result of the program, all 20 youths were offered employment opportunities and successfully placed in leading hospitality industries across various cities in Maharashtra. This achievement marked a pivotal step in their journey towards economic independence and long-term professional growth.



Paving the Path to Crime Prevention with Psycho-Social Support for Youth:

VARHAD recognizes that addressing the root causes of youth delinquency is key to building a safer society. By offering psycho-social support and career counseling, the organization aims to guide young individuals who may have strayed into negative behaviors towards a constructive and fulfilling path. This proactive approach is a vital tool in crime prevention, reducing the likelihood of youth engaging in unlawful activities due to lack of direction or opportunity. Through one-on-one counseling sessions, group workshops, and mentoring programs, VARHAD helps young people identify their strengths, discover their interests, and build essential life skills. By fostering emotional resilience, decision-making capabilities, and self-awareness, the organization equips them to handle challenges without resorting to harmful actions. This intervention not only aids in the personal growth of at-risk youth but also minimizes societal vulnerability to crime. By investing in the future of these individuals, VARHAD actively contributes to reducing recidivism and creating a safer, more cohesive community, ensuring that young people find purpose and belonging in positive, law-abiding ways.

VARHAD'S ADVOCACY: SECURING JUSTICE AND SUPPORT FOR PRISONERS' FAMILIES

VARHAD's unwavering advocacy for the rights of impoverished prisoners and their families has earned widespread recognition from both national and international governmental and non-governmental organizations. Through its tireless efforts, VARHAD has successfully brought about policy changes that protect the rights of prisoners and their families, ensuring they have access to essential welfare schemes. These initiatives have played a key role in improving the lives of prisoners' families, providing them with vital resources and support.

Balsangopan Scheme:

In 2008, the Maharashtra government launched the Balsangopan Scheme, offering Rs. 2,250 per month to those willing to adopt or care for a child. VARHAD successfully linked this scheme to the children of prisoners, setting an important precedent and benefiting many families. The scheme supports up to two children per family until they turn 18, ensuring their well-being during the incarceration of their parent.

BPL Ration Card:

VARHAD also ensured that eligible families of prisoners receive one of the three types of BPL (Below Poverty Line) Ration Cards available in Maharashtra. This provides access to subsidized food grains, alleviating the financial hardships faced by families while the primary breadwinner is incarcerated.

Sanjaya Gandhi Niradhar Yojana:

Through persistent advocacy, VARHAD successfully included prisoners' families in the Sanjaya Gandhi Niradhar Yojana, a scheme aimed at destitute individuals, orphans, the disabled, and those suffering from critical illnesses. This initiative provides Rs. 600 per month for single beneficiaries and Rs. 900 for families with two or more beneficiaries, with an annual income cap of Rs. 21,000.

Shravanbal Yojana:

VARHAD enabled prisoners' families to benefit from two categories of the Shravanbal Yojana, a state pension scheme for destitute individuals aged 65 and above. Category (A) offers Rs. 600 per month to those not included in the BPL list, while Category (B) provides Rs. 600 from the state and Rs. 200 from the central government for those in the BPL category.

Mukta Bandi Yojana:

In a major achievement, VARHAD successfully advocated for an increase in the assistance under the Mukta Bandi Yojana for released prisoners, raising the amount from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 25,000, benefiting many individuals reintegrating into society.

Remission Support:

VARHAD's advocacy efforts also led to the introduction of remission for convict prisoners in Maharashtra, particularly during the celebration of Dr. Ambedkar's birth anniversary and on the occasion of Azadi Ka Amrit Mohatsav. As a result, the government granted remission for various categories of prisoners, with life-sentenced prisoners receiving up to 90 days off their sentence. VARHAD continues to lobby for the expansion of welfare schemes for prisoners and their families, ensuring that they receive the support and justice they deserve.

SERVING THE UNDERSERVED: VARHAD'S COMMUNITY KITCHEN INITIATIVE

VARHAD's Community Kitchen in Amravati is a remarkable initiative dedicated to providing free, nutritious meals to the city's most vulnerable residents. Launched even before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, this service addresses the critical need for food among those unable to afford it, including daily wage earners, commuters, and impoverished families. Serving 80-100 people daily, the kitchen has provided over 500,000 meals to date, making a tangible difference in countless lives. This initiative stands as a testament to VARHAD's unwavering commitment to improving the lives of the underprivileged and ensuring that no one in the community goes hungry. During the pandemic, when lockdowns left many without access to food, the Community Kitchen became a lifeline, continuing to operate tirelessly in service of those in need. More than just a meal, the Community Kitchen embodies VARHAD's mission to uplift the underserved with dignity and care. Its long-standing impact reflects the organization's deep dedication to fostering a healthier, more compassionate community.



VARHAD's Community Kitchen has been a lifeline for countless impoverished individuals in Amravati city, serving free meals to commuters, daily wage workers, and other vulnerable groups who struggle to access nutritious food. Since its inception, the kitchen has provided over 500,000 meals and continues to serve 80-100 people daily, offering them hot, wholesome meals they otherwise could not afford. Careful attention is given to hygiene and nutrition, with meals often including fresh vegetables to enhance their dietary value. During the COVID-19 pandemic, when lockdowns and restrictions left many without food, VARHAD's Community Kitchen emerged as a beacon of hope, ensuring no one went hungry. Its tireless efforts provided sustenance to those in dire need, demonstrating the organization's unwavering commitment to serving the community even in times of crisis. This initiative has been made possible through the relentless dedication of VARHAD's volunteers, who work selflessly to prepare, distribute, and serve meals. Beyond addressing hunger, the Community Kitchen fosters a sense of dignity and care for those who rely on its support, reinforcing VARHAD's mission to uplift and empower the underserved.

OVERCOMING OBSTACLES: VARHAD'S RESILIENT JOURNEY IN SOCIAL REFORM

VARHAD, a pioneering organization in criminal justice, prisoner reformation, human rights, youth development, and women's empowerment, has made significant strides in addressing societal challenges. Despite its accomplishments, VARHAD faces numerous hurdles that require unwavering determination, resourcefulness, and strategic efforts to overcome.

One major challenge lies in ensuring the effective implementation of prisoners' legal rights, such as bail, parole, and furlough. Achieving this goal involves not only raising awareness but also sensitizing prison authorities through regular training and orientation programs arduous task that requires persistent effort. Additionally, rehabilitating released prisoners poses its own set of difficulties. While VARHAD's Rehabilitation Centre has proven instrumental in transforming lives, its limited capacity means it can only serve a small fraction of the released prisoner population at any given time. Expanding this reach remains a pressing concern.

VARHAD is equally committed to addressing systemic issues through seminars, conferences, workshops, and publications on critical topics such as prison reform, youth development, and women's empowerment. However, organizing such events demands substantial financial and logistical resources, which are often in short supply. The need to scale up human resources is another ongoing challenge, as existing manpower is stretched thin across its numerous initiatives.

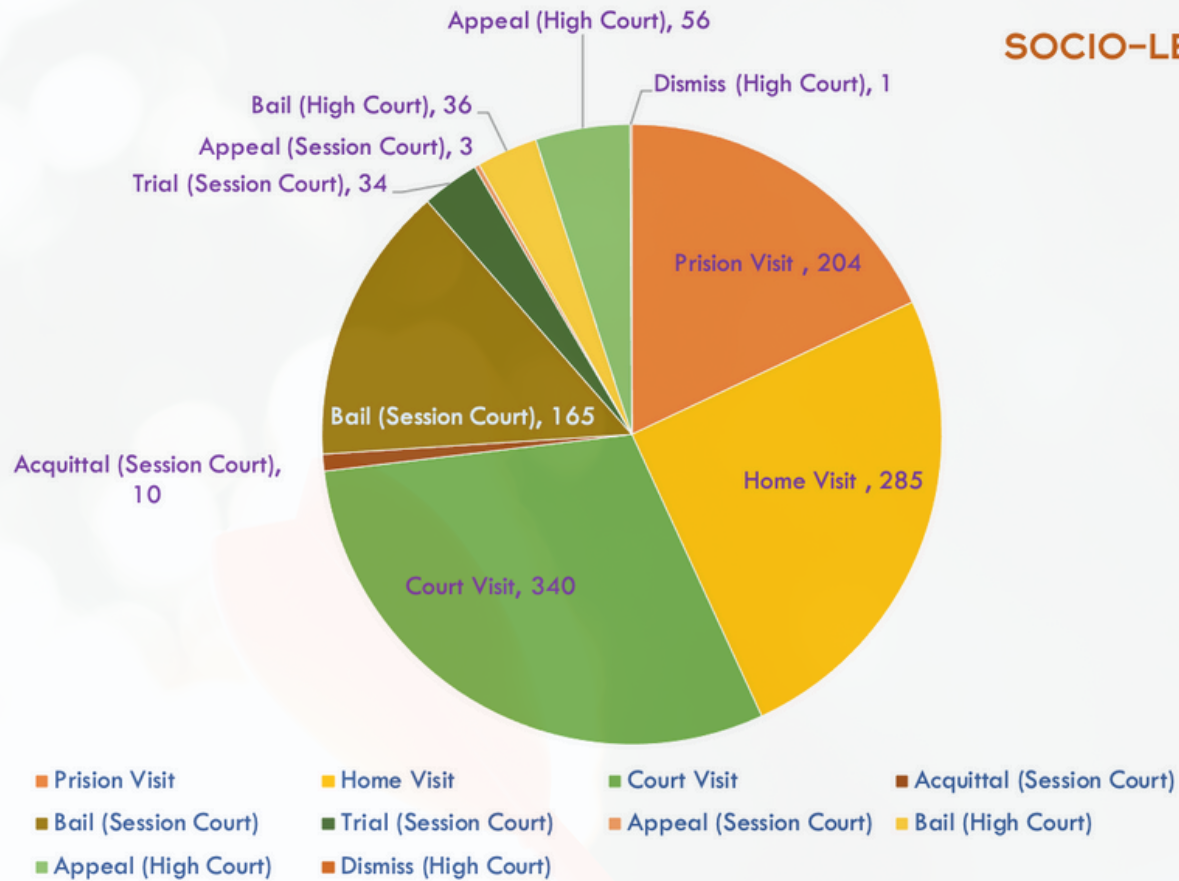
Moreover, advocating for prisoners' rights comes with its share of societal misconceptions. At times, VARHAD's work is misunderstood as prioritizing the needs of individuals charged with crimes over those of victims, impacting its reputation. This underscores the need for sustained public engagement and awareness campaigns to clarify its mission of promoting restorative justice and societal harmony.

VARHAD's journey is also marked by the challenge of fundraising and resource mobilization, which is essential to scale its impactful programs. Securing consistent funding for its initiatives, from rehabilitation to advocacy, remains a top priority for the organization as it seeks to widen its reach and sustain its efforts.

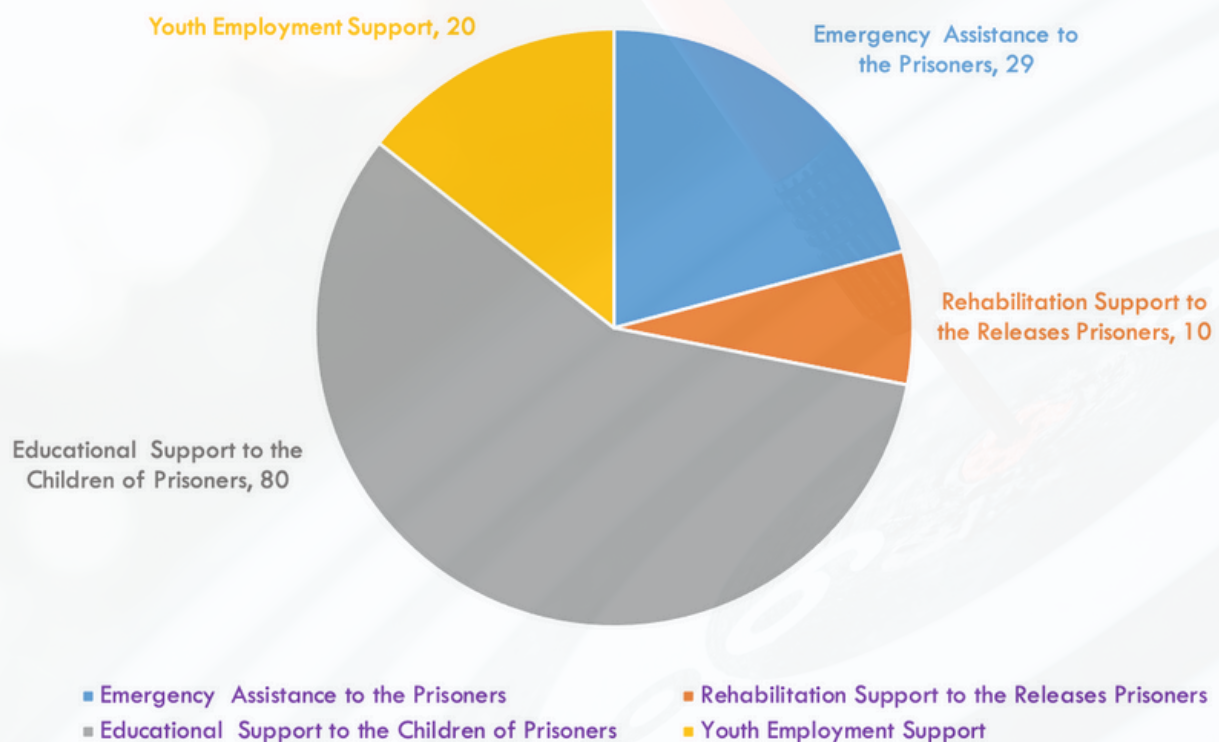
Despite these challenges, VARHAD's resilience and commitment continue to drive meaningful progress. Through innovative strategies, dedicated teamwork, and collaboration with stakeholders, the organization is steadfast in its mission to create a more equitable and compassionate society. VARHAD's story is one of perseverance—a testament to its unwavering belief in the power of change and its ability to overcome obstacles for the greater good.

DRIVING TRANSFORMATION: VARHAD'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2023-2024

SOCIO-LEGAL AID



OTHER ASSISTANCES



TRANSFORMING LIVES: A VARHAD CASE STUDY-1

ADVOCACY AND JUSTICE FOR THE MOHOD FAMILY

The Mohod family—Leelabai, her husband Vijay, their children Raju Vakpanjar and Ajay Mohod, daughter-in-law Aarti Ajay Mohod, and two young grandchildren—found themselves in Amravati Central Prison as undertrial prisoners in connection with the alleged murder of Raju's wife, Seema. The family, hailing from a poor background, maintained their innocence, asserting that Seema's death was a tragic suicide and not the result of any wrongdoing on their part.

Leelabai shared the family's struggles when approached in prison. She explained that her family survived on daily earnings and had no reason to harm Seema. She pleaded for legal assistance to secure bail for herself and her family members. Initial efforts included engaging Advocate Ashish Wankhede, who helped secure bail for Leelabai and Aarti on December 20, 2019. However, the bail applications for Vijay and the male members of the family were rejected by the Sessions Court. Relatives eventually stepped in as sureties, enabling Leelabai and Aarti's release.

The family recounted the events leading to Seema's death. Married to Raju since December 2012, Seema had two children and lived in an adjacent room with her husband. Seema managed her own financial affairs, including a microfinance loan, and occasionally faced disagreements with Raju regarding money. On the night of the incident, Seema was found hanging in the house, leading to allegations from her parents that Raju, under the influence of alcohol, and his family subjected Seema to harassment, prompting her to take her own life. Consequently, the entire family was arrested.

Efforts to secure Vijay's bail continued unsuccessfully, with the Sessions Court rejecting the plea on October 1, 2019. Desperate for assistance, Leelabai and Aarti approached the VARHAD organization, pleading for further legal support. VARHAD engaged Advocate Pankaj Navalani, a High Court lawyer, who successfully obtained bail for Raju on June 12, 2020. Eventually, all family members were released on bail. The family faced another hurdle when the trial commenced. The trial lawyer demanded ₹1,00,000 for legal representation, an insurmountable amount for the impoverished family. Once again, they turned to VARHAD for support, seeking help from Advocate Chirag Navlani, a respected Sessions Court lawyer. Despite the complexities, Advocate Navlani agreed to take on the case.

During the trial, Leelabai was diagnosed with uterine cancer, adding to the family's challenges. She also bore the responsibility of caring for her grandchildren in the absence of their mother. Despite these hardships, the family persevered, supported by VARHAD and their legal team. Advocate Navlani diligently collected evidence, prepared arguments, and maintained confidence in proving the family's innocence.

After thorough deliberation, the court acquitted all members of the family on July 10, 2024. This outcome was a source of immense relief and joy for the Mohod family, validating their long-held claim of innocence. The case highlighted the critical role of dedicated legal advocacy and support for marginalized communities in their pursuit of justice. This case serves as a testament to the resilience of individuals facing systemic challenges and the transformative impact of organizations like VARHAD in ensuring access to justice for the underprivileged.

TRANSFORMING LIVES: A VARHAD CASE STUDY-2

LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR RAJESH MANDVE AND ASSOCIATES

Rajesh Mandve and his associates Umesh Athawle, Shubham Jwanzal, Dinesh Athawle, Nilesh Athawle, and Ankush Jirapure are currently incarcerated in Amravati Central Prison under Sections 302 and 34 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). They are serving sentences for alleged involvement in a murder case. During a visit by an activist associated with the VARHAD organization to the Prison, Rajesh, a tall and muscular individual, approached the activist, seeking legal assistance to appeal his conviction in the High Court. He claimed he had been falsely implicated in the crime.

Rajesh detailed his case, asserting his innocence. He explained that he had no involvement in the crime and recounted the events of the day in question. According to Rajesh, he was at Amrapali Bar near Saroj Talkies with a relative (his brother-in-law) when Umesh Athawle called him, requesting assistance at Neelam Maratha Hotel following a dispute. Upon arrival, Rajesh discovered that a murder had occurred. He was informed that Umesh, after being beaten by the hotel owner, Suresh, and a third individual, Chintu, retaliated with a knife, injuring two people, Baba and Tariq Alam. One of them succumbed to the injuries. Rajesh claimed neither he nor his brother-in-law Nilesh was present at the time of the murder. Furthermore, he stated that he was not captured in the CCTV footage at the crime scene, which corroborated his absence.

During a subsequent home visit to Rajesh's mother, Aruna Govind Mandve, in Kumbharwada, Amravati, the activist learned about the family's dire circumstances. Aruna, a hypertensive patient, had lost her job as a domestic worker after her employer discovered Rajesh's incarceration. The family faced severe financial distress, relying on the goodwill of neighbors for sustenance. Aruna revealed that Rajesh's father had remarried and that Rajesh had a half-sister.

The activist assured Aruna that Rajesh's appeal would be filed in the High Court through the VARHAD organization and committed to assisting her with medical expenses. Rajesh's session files were collected and reviewed by Advocate Navalani in Nagpur, who prepared the appeal for the High Court. During this time, Rajesh's health deteriorated significantly. He was diagnosed with gangrene in his leg and transferred to Nagpur for medical treatment. Despite attempts to save the limb, his leg was amputated, and he was later fitted with a prosthetic. Following his return to Amravati Prison, Rajesh experienced ongoing physical and emotional suffering. The activist worked with Advocate Navalani to expedite the legal process for his bail. Medical certificates and supporting documents were submitted as part of the application. The High Court ultimately granted Rajesh bail, allowing him to return home and support his ailing mother.

The case highlights the systemic challenges faced by individuals from marginalized backgrounds, including the stigma associated with incarceration, the financial burden on families, and the need for accessible legal aid. Rajesh's case remains an example of the critical role organizations like VARHAD play in advocating for justice and providing holistic support to those in need.

TRANSFORMING LIVES: A VARHAD CASE STUDY-3

JUSTICE RESTORED: THE CASE OF VAISHALI TAYDE AND HER FAMILY

Vaishali Santosh Tayde, a member of the Matang community, approached the Varhad Foundation seeking legal assistance after she and her family became entangled in a legal matter that deeply affected their lives. Her family, which relies on modest means such as broom-making for livelihood, faced a financial crisis and emotional turmoil when several family members were arrested and incarcerated. Vaishali, married to Santosh Tayde and a mother of a three-year-old daughter, recounted that her younger sister, aged 16, had been married to her brother-in-law, Mohan Rajesh Tayde, on May 21, 2021, in Balapur, Akola. The decision to marry the minor girl was influenced by the family's hope that her proximity to home and Mohan's educational aspirations for a government job would improve their lives.

However, Vaishali's cousin, who lived nearby, raised concerns about the legality of marrying a minor. Acting on these warnings, the minor girl fled to the City Kotwali Police Station in Akola and lodged a complaint alleging that her marriage was forced. Consequently, Mohan Rajesh Tayde, Shankar Tayde, Vaishali Tayde, Vaman Gavai (the girl's father), Meera Vaman Gavai, Rajesh Mithaji Tayde, and Ujwla Rajesh Tayde were arrested under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offenses (POCSO) Act and sections 376 and 34 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). The girl was subsequently placed in an observation home by the authorities.

Advocate Londhe represented the accused in court. Initially, bail was granted to Vaishali and her mother, Meera Vaman Gavai, while bail applications for the male members of the family were denied. Advocate Londhe pursued the matter in the High Court, where bail for the remaining accused was eventually granted. Following a period of two to three years, the prosecution filed a chargesheet for the sessions trial. The family faced significant financial hardship, making it impossible to afford the legal fees for defending eight accused persons. During a visit to the family's home, it was evident that their living conditions were dire: their house was in disrepair, and the family struggled to support a mentally challenged 34-year-old sister.

Recognizing the family's plight, Advocate Londhe agreed to handle the trial pro bono. He meticulously worked to gather evidence and build a robust defense for the accused. After thorough arguments and evidence presentation, the sessions court delivered its verdict, acquitting all the accused. The court declared them innocent, allowing the family to regain their freedom and dignity.

This case underscores the importance of legal aid for marginalized communities and the pivotal role organizations like the Varhad Foundation play in ensuring justice for the underprivileged. Despite severe financial and social challenges, the dedication of legal professionals and the support of social organizations led to a just outcome for Vaishali Tayde and her family.

MAKING DIFFERENCES: TEAM VARHAD

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

NAME OF THE MEMBER	DESIGNATION
Mr. Ravindra Vaidya	President
Dr. Ravindra Kolhe	Vice-President
Mr. Dhananand Nagdive	Secretary
Mrs. Pushpa Rangari	Joint- Secretary
Dr. Jayakant Singh	Treasurer
Mr. Pravin Khandpasole	Board Member
Dr. Vijay Motghare	Board Member

VARHAD OPERATIONAL TEAM

NAME OF THE MEMBER	DESIGNATION
Mr. Ravindra Vaidya	Chief Operating Officer
Mr. Soumyakant Singh	Programme Manager
Mr. Dhananand Nagdive	Project Coordinator
Mrs. Lata Bansod	Office Administrator
Mrs. Pramila Meshram	Senior Social Worker
Mr. Manoj Gaikwad	Social Worker
Mr. Gaurav Raut	Social Worker
Mr. Aniket Chahande	Social Worker
Mrs. Swati Bhowate	Social Worker
Mr. Namdev Sonone	Para Social Worker
Mrs. Vanmala Mahajan	Para Social Worker
Mrs. Jaya Kharde	Para Social Worker
Mr. Umesh Diwan	Accountant

VARHAD SUPPORT STAFF

NAME OF THE MEMBER	DESIGNATION
Mrs. Kavita Gawande	Office Help
Mr. Dilip Rathod	Watchman

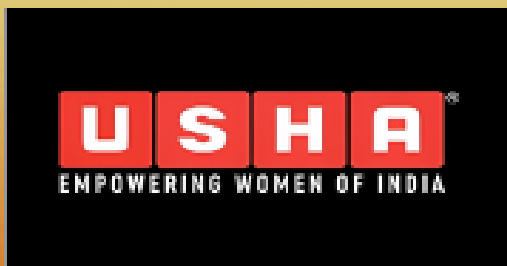
OUR BELIEVERS: THE STRENGTH BEHIND OUR MISSION

phf Paul Hamlyn
Foundation



G
GULSON
FOUNDATION
CREATING CHANGE STEP BY STEP

TATA TRUSTS



**GLOBAL FUND FOR
WOMEN**
Champions for Equality.

INSIGHTS FROM THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR

RATAN SHARMA & CO.

Chartered Accountant's

1st floor, Gulshan Tower

Near Panchashil Talkies, AMRAVATI

Registration No. F-10006/ Amt

Name of the Public Trust : Voluntary Action For Rehabilitation And Development (VARHAD) , Amravati

For the year ending 31st March 2024

Report of an auditor relating to accounts audited

Under sub-section (2) of section 33 & 34 and

rule 19 of the Bombay Public Trusts Act.

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (a) Whether account are maintained regularly and in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the rules; | Yes |
| (b) Whether receipt and disbursements are property and correctly shown in the accounts; | Yes |
| (c) Whether the cash balance and vouchers in the custody of the manager or trustee on the date of audit were in agreement with the accounts; | Yes |
| (d) Whether all books, deeds , accounts, vouchers or other documents or records required by the auditor were produced before him; | Yes |
| (e) Whether a register of movable and immovable properties is property maintained, the changes therein are communicated from to time to time to the regional office, and the defects and inaccuracies mentioned in the previous audit report have been duly complied with; | No |
| (f) Whether the manager or trustee or any other person required by the auditor to appear before him did so and furnished the necessary information required by him; | Yes |
| (g) Whether any property or funds of the Trust were applied for any object or purpose other than the object or purpose of the Trust; | No |
| (h) The amounts of outstandings for more than one year and amounts written off, if any; | No |
| (i) Whether tenders were invited for repairs or construction involving expenditure exceeding Rs. 5000/-; | No |
| (j) Whether any money of the public trust has been invested contrary to the provisions of Section 35; | No |
| (k) Alienantions, if any, of the immovable property contrary to the provisions of Section 36 which have come to the notice of the auditor ; | Nil |
| (l) All cases of irregular, illegal or improper expenditure, or failure or omission to recover Monies or other property belonging to the public trust or of loss or waste of money or other property thereof , and whether such expenditure, failure, omission , loss or waste was caused in consequence of breach of trust or misapplication or any other misconduct on the part of the trustees or any other person while in the management of the trust ; | Nil |
| (m) Whether the budget has been filed in the form provided by rule 16A ; | No |
| (n) Whether the maximum and minimum number of the trustees is maintained ; | Yes |
| (o) Whether the meetings are held regularly as provided in such instrument ; | - " |
| (p) Whether the minute books of the proceedings of the meeting is maintained ; | - " |
| (q) Whether any of the trustees has any interest in the investment of the trust ; | No |
| (r) Whether any of the trustees is a debtor or creditor of the trust ; | No |
| (s) Whether the irregularities pointed out by auditors in the accounts of the previous year have been duly complied with by the trustees during the period of audit ; | No |
| (t) Any special matter which the auditor may think fit or necessary to bring to the notice of the Deputy or Assistant Charity Commissioner. | Nil |

Date at : 15-Jul-2024

Chartered Accountants

UDIN: 2410202BKAKZV8207

The Bombay Public Trusts Act, 1950

SCHEDULE IX C

(Vide Rule 32)

Statement of income liable to contribution for the year ending : 31st March 2024

Name of the Public Trust : Voluntary Action For Rehabilitation And Development (VARHAD) , Amravati

Registered No. F-10006/ Amt

	Rs.	Rs.
I. Income as shown in the income and Expenditure Account (Schedule IX)		3828431.00
II. Items not chargeable to Contribution under Section 58 and Rules 32 :		
(i) Donations received from other public Trusts and Dharmadas	3469150.00	
(ii) Grants received from Government and Local authorities		
(iii) Interest on Sinking or Depreciation Fund		
(iv) Amount spent for the purpose of secular education		
(v) Amount spent for the purpose of medical relief		
(vi) Amount spent for the purpose of veterinary treatment of animals		
(vii) Expenditure incurred from donations for relief of distress caused by scarcity, drought, flood, fire or other natural calamity		
(viii) Deductions out of income from lands used for agricultural purposes :-		
(a) Land Revenue and Local Fund Cess		
(b) Rent Payable to superior landlord		
(c) Cost of production, if lands are cultivated by trust		
(ix) Deductions out of income from lands used for non-agricultural purposes :-		
(a) assessment, cesses and other Government or Municipal Taxes		
(b) Ground rent payable to the superior landlord		
(c) Insurance premia		
(d) Repairs at 10 per cent of gross rent of building		
(e) Cost of collection at 4 per cent of gross rent of buildings let out		
(x) Cost of collection of income or receipts from securities, stocks, etc. at 1 per cent of such income		
(xi) Deductions on account of repairs in respect of buildings not rented and yielding no income , at 10 per cent of the estimated gross annual rent		
Gross Annual Income chargeable to contribution Rs.		359281.00

Certified that while claiming deductions admissible under the above Schedule, the Trust has not claimed any amount twice, either wholly or partly, against any of the items mentioned in the Schedule which have the effect of double - deduction.

Trust Address :

Dated : 15 JUL 2024

Chartered Accountants
Auditors**VARHAD**

Voluntary Action for Rehabilitation and Development

Galaxy F15 5G
Jyoti (Maharashtra) India Pin 444606

☎ -0721 2566766 📠 256785

FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APR 2023 TO 31ST MAR 2024

RECEIPTS	AMOUNT	AMOUNT	PAYMENTS	AMOUNT	AMOUNT
To, Opening Balances		2515906.12	By, Expenses On Objects		3227076.53
Cash in Hand	3888.00		ADMINISTRATION COST		
Bank of Maharashtra	2512018.12		Office Maintenance & Stationery	201934.53	
" Bank Interest		58775.00	Laptop Computer A/c	54390.00	
" Grant in aid - APPIPL		3802000.00	Printer Computer A/c	22400.00	
" Professional Tax		975.00	Telephone Expenses	20528.00	
				299252.53	
			SALARY HONORARIUM		
			Project coordinator	437500.00	
			Sr. Social worker	437500.00	
			Social Worker	287500.00	
			Para social worker	562500.00	
			Office Assistance	250000.00	
			Office Helper	62500.00	
			Accountant	100000.00	
			Office Watchman	37500.00	
				2175000.00	
			TRAVEL EXPENSES		
			Travel Exp. Project Coordinator	47138.00	
			Travel Exp. Sr. Social Worker	28202.00	
			Travel Exp. Social Worker	68105.00	
			Travel Exp. Para Social Worker	87107.00	
				230552.00	
			PROGRAM ACTIVITY EXPENSES		
			Legal to Adv. Bail & Trail	156500.00	
			Legal Hono to Adv Trail	99000.00	
			Legal Documents Exp.	39330.00	
			Legal to Adv. Bail/Appeal in HC	174000.00	
			Training Exp to Staff Local	27094.00	
			Emergency Assistance to RP	26348.00	
				522272.00	
			Loans & Advances		
			Professional Fees (Adv. Jakhad)	1200.00	1200.00
			By, Closing Balances		
			Cash in hand	9549.00	3149379.59
			Bank of maharashtra	3139830.59	
Total		6377656.12	Total		6377656.12

Galaxy F15 5G

Date: 15 JUL 2024



Chartered Accountants
Auditors

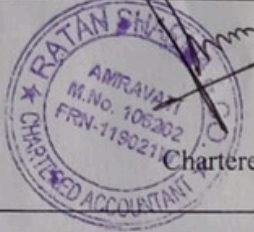
Date :

President
Voluntary Action for Rehabilitation
& Development, Varhad (Amravati)
TRUSTEE

VOLUNTARY ACTION FOR REHABILITATION DEVELOPMENT (VARHAD), AMRAVATI**F-10006/AMT.****(FCRA)****RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

RECEIPTS	AMOUNT	AMOUNT	PAYMENTS	AMOUNT	AMOUNT
TO, OPENING BALANCES		1989122.50	By, Bank Commission Exp.		88.50
Cash in hand	911.00				
State Bank Of India	1988211.50		By, <u>CLOSING BALANCES</u>		2043375.00
" Bank Interest		54341.00	Cash in hand	911.00	
			State Bank of India	2042464.00	
Total		2043463.50	Total		2043463.50

Date :

Chartered Accountants
Auditors

Date :

President
Voluntary Action for Rehabilitation
& Development, Varhad (Amravati)
TRUSTEE

VOLUNTARY ACTION FOR REHABILITATION DEVELOPMENT (VARHAD), AMRAVATI**F-10006/AMT.****(VARHAD SANSTHA)****RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

RECEIPTS	AMOUNT	AMOUNT	PAYMENTS	AMOUNT	AMOUNT
To, Opening Balances		400221.36	By, <u>Expenses On Objects</u>		577101.80
Cash in hand	127.57		" Bank Commission Exps	306.80	
Bank of maharashtra	400093.79		" Legal Fees	5000.00	
" Donation Received		240406.00	" Salary Exps	564000.00	
" Bank Interest		5759.00	" Staff Welfare Exps	7795.00	
			By, <u>Closing Balances</u>		69284.56
			Cash in Hand	7427.57	
			Bank of Maharashtra	61856.99	
Total		646386.36	Total		646386.36

Date : 5 JUL 2024

Chartered Accountants
Auditors

Date :

President
Voluntary Action for Rehabilitation
& Development, Varhad (Amravati)
TRUSTEE

The Bombay Public Trusts Act, 1950

SCHEDULE – IX
[Vide Rule 17 (1)]Name of the Public Trust : **Voluntary Action For Rehabilitation And Development., (VARHAD), Amravati**

Registration No.: F-10006/Amt.

Income and Expenditure account for the year ended 31st March 2024

EXPENDITURE	RS	RS	INCOME	RS	RS
Expenditure in respect of properties :-			(accrued)		
Rents, Taxes, Cesses			By, Rent		
Repairs and maintenance			(realized)		
Salaries			(accrued)		
Insurance			By, Interest		118875.00
Depreciation (by way of provision of adjustments)		183363.43	(realized)		
Other Expenses			On Securities		
On Establishment Exps			On Loans		
On Remuneration to Trustees			On Bank Account	118875.00	
On Remuneration (in the case of a math) to the head of the math, including his household expenditure, if any			By, Dividend		
On Legal Expenses					
On Audit Fees			By, Donations in Cash or Kind		240406.00
On Contribution and Fees					
On Amount written off :			By, Grants		
(a) Bad Debts			Grant in aid		
(b) Loan Scholarship			APPIPL	3802000.00	3469150.00
(c) Irrecoverable Rents			(+) Grant recd in advance F.Y. 21-22	2816750.00	
(d) Other Items			(-) Grant recd in advance F.Y 23-24	3149600.00	
Expenditure on Objects of the Trust		3727476.83			
a) Religious					
b) Educational					
c) Medical Relief					
d) Relief of Poverty					
e) Other Charitable Objects	3727476.83				
Surplus carried over to Balance Sheet			By, Deficit carried over to Balance Sheet		82409.26
Total		3910840.26	Total		3910840.26

Date : 15 JUL 2024

Chartered Accountants



Date :

President
Voluntary Action for Rehabilitation
& Development, Varhad (Amravati)
TRUSTEE

The Bombay Public Trusts Act, 1950		SCHEDULE – VIII			
[Vide Rule 17 (1)]					
Name of the Public Trust : VoluntaryAction For Rehabilitation & Development,, (VARHAD) , Amravati					
Balance Sheet As At : 31st March , 2024			Reg. No. F10006/ Amt.		
FUNDS & LIABILITIES	RS	RS	PROPERTY AND ASSETS	RS	RS
Trust Funds or Corpus :-		12214.00	Fixed Assets :		2804216.00
Balance as per last Balance sheet	12214.00		(As per Schedule)		
Adjustment during the year (give detail)					
Other Earmarked Funds :-		5169392.53	Investments :-		5800.00
(Created under the provisions of the trust deed or scheme or out of the Income)			To others, Telephone deposit	5800.00	
Depreciation fund	1411002.53				
Any other fund (Building Fund)	424223.00		Income Outstanding :- rent		40393.00
Hostel Fund	1734167.00		Interest, Other Income (TDS)	40393.00	
Medical Instrument Fund	1600000.00				
Loan (Secured or Unsecured) :-			Cash & Bank Balances :-		5262039.15
From Trustees			a) In Current Account		
Ravindra Vaidya	19800.00	39600.00	<u>SBI</u>		
Dhanand Vaidya	19800.00		SBI (FCRA)	2042464.00	
			<u>Bank of maharashtra</u>		
			APPIPL	3139830.59	
Liabilities :-			VARHAD Trust	61856.99	
For Expenses		2000.00	b) With the trustee		
Advance to Staff	2000.00		c) With the Manager	17887.57	
Grant in advance for FY 2024-25		3149600.00			
Professional Tax Payable		1175.00	Loans & Advances		1200.00
			Professional Fees (Adv. Jakhad)	1200.00	
Income and Expenditure Account			Income and Expenditure Account		260333.38
Balance as per last Balance Sheet			Balance as per last Balance Sheet	177924.12	
Less : Appropriation, if any			Less : Appropriation, if any		
Add : Surplus As per income and			Add : Surplus As per income and		
Less : Deficit Expenditure a/c			Less : Deficit Expenditure a/c	82409.26	
Total		8373981.53	Total		8373981.53

Date : 10 JUL 2024

Chartered Accountants
Auditors

Date :

President
Voluntary Action for Rehabilitation
& Development, Varhad (Amravati)
Trustee



VOLUNTARY ACTION FOR REHABILITATION DEVELOPMENT (VARHAD), AMRAVATI

Fixed Asset Schedule

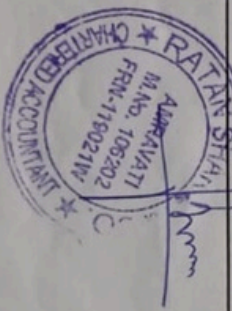
For the year ending 31st March 2024

Particulars	Rate of Dep.	Opening Balance	Depreciation till date	Net Assets	Add during the year	Ded during the year	Total	Depreciation for the year	Total Accumulated Depreciation	Total Assets At Cost
Cattle Shed	10	27855.00	11407.50	16447.50			16447.50	1644.75	13052.25	27855.00
Computer	40	157514.00	124463.60	33050.40	76790.00		109840.40	39456.16	163919.76	234304.00
Cow	0	140100.00	0.00	140100.00			140100.00	0.00	0.00	140100.00
Dead Stock	10	12680.00	5192.00	7488.00			7488.00	748.80	5940.80	12680.00
Furniture	10	411221.00	152539.40	258681.60			258681.60	25868.16	178407.56	411221.00
Inventor	15	8456.00	4704.10	3751.90			3751.90	562.79	5266.89	8456.00
LCD Projector	15	43651.00	21828.95	21822.05			21822.05	3273.31	25102.26	43651.00
Library Books	0	106549.00	0.00	106549.00			106549.00	0.00	0.00	106549.00
Machinery	15	2753.00	1531.55	1221.45			1221.45	183.22	1714.77	2753.00
Plot	0	166500.00	0.00	166500.00			166500.00	0.00	0.00	166500.00
Surgical Machine	15	1600000.00	890071.50	709928.50			709928.50	106489.28	996560.78	1600000.00
Utensils	15	27978.00	9012.80	18965.20			18965.20	2844.78	11857.58	27978.00
Water Pump	15	8769.00	4877.70	3891.30			3891.30	583.70	5461.40	8769.00
Freeze	15	13400.00	2010.00	11390.00			11390.00	1708.50	3718.50	13400.00
Grand Total		2727426.00	1227639.10	1499786.90	76790.00	0.00	1576576.90	183363.43	1411002.53	2804216.00

Date 15 JUL 2024

Chartered Accountants
Auditors

Date :



President
Voluntary Action for Rehabilitation
& Development, Varhad (Amravati)

TRUSTEE

VOLUNTARY ACTION FOR REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT (VARHAD)

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES & NOTES ON ACCOUNTS

F. Y. 2023 -24

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES :

Accounts have been prepared in accordance with the general accounting principles and assumptions.

Mercantile system of accounting is consistently followed by the concern.

These financial statements are the responsibility of the management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We have conducted our audit in accordance to the auditing standards generally accepted in India.

Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by the management as well as evaluating the overall statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

2. FIXED ASSETS :

The Fixed Assets are valued at cost. Depreciation fund has been created separately.

3. CONTINGENT LIABILITY :

No contingent liability has been provided for in the books of account.

4. GRANTS :

The Grant received is accounted for on accrual basis. The Grant received for the period pertaining after the end of financial year is shown as liability in the current year and adjusted in income in next years. The same practice of accounting is followed consistently.



For, Ratan Sharma & Co.
Chartered Accountants

CA Ratan N. Sharma
(Proprietor)

DATE: 15 JUL 2024

PLACE: AMRAVATI

VISUAL CHRONICLES OF VARHAD'S IMPACT IN ACADEMIC AND LEGAL SPHERES



Mr. Ravindra Vaidya, President of VARHAD, chaired a panel during the two-day “National CSO Consultation on the Rehabilitation of Prisoners”, held at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai.



VARHAD participated as a key partner in the “Crime and Punishment Summit 2024”, held in New Delhi. The organisation was represented by the President, Mr. Ravindra Vaidya. Among the esteemed panelists was Mr. Kapil Sibal, President of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA).

MEDIA PRESENCE OF VARHAD

लोकमत

शासन करणार गरीब, गरजू कैद्यांच्या जामिनासाठी मदत अर्थसंकल्पात जामिनासाठी निधीची तरतूद

लोकमत न्यूज नेटवर्क

अमरावती : हातून कळत नकळत झालेल्या चुकांचे प्रायश्चित न्यायालयाच्या आदेशानुसार शिक्षेच्या रूपात भोगत असलेल्या कारागृहातील गरीब, गरजू कैद्यांच्या जामिनासाठी शासन मदत करणार आहे. त्या अनुषंगाने राज्य सरकारने समिती गठीत केली असून, केंद्र सरकारच्या धर्तीवर राज्याच्या अर्थसंकल्पात निधीची तरतूद केली जाणार आहे. सामाजिकदृष्ट्या कैद्यांसाठी हा उपक्रम राज्यात राबविला जाणार आहे.

विदर्भातील कारागृहात कैद्यांच्या सुधारणा व पुनर्वसनासाठी नोंदणीकृत संस्था असलेल्या व्हाड विकास संस्थेचे धनानंद नागदिवे यांनी १७ फेब्रुवारी २०२३ रोजी राज्याचे मुख्यमंत्री, गृहमंत्री, खासदार डॉ. अनिल बोंडे यांना निवेदनाद्वारे कैद्यांचे प्रश्न, समस्या सोडविण्यासाठी अवगत केले होते. यात राज्याच्या कारागृहात कैदी बंदीस्त आहेत, पण जामीन मंजूर होऊनही पैशांची तरतूद नसल्याने ते जामीन घेऊ शकत नाहीत. अशा गरीब व गरजू जामीन मंजूर झालेल्या

सहा सदस्यीय देखरेख समितीचे गठन

गरीब व गरजू कैद्यांच्या जामिनाची समस्या सोडविण्यासाठी गृह विभागाचे अवर सचिव/ प्रधान सचिवांच्या अध्यक्षतेत सहा सदस्यीय देखरेख समितीचे गठन करण्यात आले आहे. यात सदस्य सचिवपदी कारागृह प्रशासनाचे अतिरिक्त पोलिस महासंचालक तर सदस्य म्हणून विधी व न्याय विभागाचे प्रधान सचिव, राज्य विधी सेवा प्राधिकरणाचे सचिव, मुंबई उच्च न्यायालयाचे महाप्रबंधक आणि गृह विभागाच्या उपसचिवांचा समावेश आहे.

कैद्यांसाठी केंद्र सरकारच्या धर्तीवर राज्य सरकारने मदत करावी, अशी विनंती केली होती. त्यानुसार गृह विभागाचे उपसचिव विनायक चव्हाण यांनी गरीब व गरजू कैद्यांच्या जामिनाची समस्या सोडविण्यासाठी राज्य सरकारने सहा सदस्यीय समिती गठीत केल्याबाबतचे आदेश निर्गमित केले आहेत.

गरीब, गरजू कैद्यांच्या जामिनासाठी सरकारची मदत केंद्राच्या धर्तीवर अर्थसंकल्पात तरतूद



लोकमत न्यूज नेटवर्क

अमरावती : हातून कळत नकळत झालेल्या चुकांचे प्रायश्चित न्यायालयाच्या आदेशानुसार शिक्षेच्या रूपात भोगत असलेल्या कारागृहातील गरीब, गरजू कैद्यांच्या जामिनासाठी शासन मदत करणार आहे. त्या अनुषंगाने राज्य सरकारने समिती गठीत केली असून, केंद्र सरकारच्या धर्तीवर राज्याच्या अर्थसंकल्पात निधीची तरतूद केली जाणार आहे. सामाजिकदृष्ट्या कैद्यांसाठी हा उपक्रम राज्यात राबविला जाणार आहे.

विदर्भातील कारागृहात कैद्यांच्या सुधारणा व पुनर्वसनासाठी नोंदणीकृत संस्था असलेल्या व्हाड संस्थेचे धनानंद नागदिवे यांनी १७ फेब्रुवारी २०२३ रोजी राज्याचे मुख्यमंत्री, गृहमंत्री, खासदार डॉ. अनिल बोंडे यांना निवेदनाद्वारे कैद्यांचे प्रश्न, समस्या सोडविण्यासाठी अवगत केले होते. यात राज्याच्या कारागृहात कैदी बंदीस्त आहेत, पण जामीन मंजूर होऊनही पैशांची तरतूद नसल्याने ते जामीन घेऊ शकत नाहीत. अशा गरीब व गरजू जामीन मंजूर झालेल्या कैद्यांसाठी केंद्र सरकारच्या धर्तीवर राज्य सरकारने मदत करावी, अशी विनंती केली होती. त्यानुसार गृह विभागाचे उपसचिव विनायक चव्हाण यांनी १३ सप्टेंबर २०२३ रोजी गरीब व गरजू कैद्यांच्या जामिनाची समस्या

दंड भरण्यास असमर्थ असलेल्या तसेच आर्थिक अडचणीमुळे जामीन मिळू शकत नसलेल्या बंधाना जामीन मिळण्यासाठी आखलेल्या योजनेच्या यशस्वी अंमलबजावणीकरिता शासनस्तरावर देखरेख समिती स्थापन करण्यात आली आहे. या योजनेत कारागृहात खिंतपत पडलेल्या गरीब व गरजू कैद्यांना जामीन मिळण्यासाठी मदत होईल. त्यांना बाहेर पडून सामाजिकदृष्ट्या चांगले जीवन जगता येणार आहे.

- धनानंद नागदिवे, सचिव, व्हाड संस्था.

सहा सदस्यीय देखरेख समितीचे गठन

राज्य शासनाने गरीब व गरजू कैद्यांच्या जामिनाची समस्या सोडविण्यासाठी गृह विभागाचे अवर सचिव/ प्रधान सचिवांच्या अध्यक्षतेत सहा सदस्यीय देखरेख समितीचे गठन करण्यात आले आहे. यात सदस्य सचिवपदी कारागृह प्रशासनाचे अतिरिक्त पोलिस महासंचालक, तर सदस्य म्हणून विधी व न्याय विभागाचे प्रधान सचिव, राज्य विधी सेवा प्राधिकरणाचे सचिव, मुंबई उच्च न्यायालयाचे महाप्रबंधक आणि गृह विभागाच्या उपसचिवांचा समावेश आहे.

सोडविण्यासाठी याबाबत राज्य सरकारने सहा सदस्यीय देखरेख समिती गठीत केल्याबाबतचे शासन आदेश निर्गमित केले आहेत.

देशोन्नती

मोक्का, पोक्सो वगळता उर्वरित कैद्यांना शिक्षामाफी

● मिलिंद कीर्ती

नागपूर : राज्याच्या गृहमंत्रालयाने कारागृहात शिक्षा भोगत असलेल्या कैद्याबाबत एक महत्त्वपूर्ण निर्णय घेतला आहे. सुमारे ५ हजार ५०० बंदीवानांना शिक्षामाफी देण्यात आली आहे. देशाच्या स्वातंत्र्याचा अमृत महोत्सव सुरू असून त्या योजनेअंतर्गत दहशतवाद, राजद्रोह, पोक्सो, मोक्का अशा गंभीर स्वस्थाच्या शिक्षा भोगणारे कैदी वगळता इतर सुमारे ५ हजार ५०० कैद्यांना शिक्षामाफी लागू करण्यात आली आहे. हा निर्णय

● खालील कैद्यांना शिक्षामाफी मिळणार नाही भादवि कलम १०६ ते ११० चे कैदी, भादवि कलम १२१ ते १२० चे कैदी, मोक्का, पोक्सो कायद्यान्वये शिक्षा झालेले कैदी, केंद्रीय कायद्यान्वये शिक्षा भोगणारे, दहशतवादी कारवायातील कैदी, संचित रजेसाठी अपात्र ठरणारे कैदी, दिवाणी बंदी, किशोर सुधारगृहातील मुले, कारागृहातील वर्तन बॅरिस्त किंवा असमाधानकारक असलेले कैदी.

राज्यभरातील ५५०० बंदीवानांना मिळणार लाभ



१७ फेब्रुवारी २०२२ रोजी राज्यातील बंदीवानांना १९९७ मधील योजनेप्रमाणे शिक्षामाफी देण्याची मागणी करण्यात आली आहे.

झाल्यापासून शिक्षामाफीचा लाभ देण्यात आला आहे. महाराष्ट्रात मध्यवर्ती कारागृहांमध्ये विविध गुन्हांमध्ये सुमारे ७ हजार कैदी शिक्षा भोगत आहेत. त्यापैकी देशविघातक व समाजविघातक कारवायांमध्ये

न्यायालयांनी त्यांना शिक्षा ठोठावली आहे. मात्र, १९९७ मध्ये महाराष्ट्र राज्याच्या स्थापनेच्या सुर्वर्ण महोत्सवी वर्षात राज्यातील कैद्यांना शिक्षामाफी योजना राबविण्यात आली होती. आता केंद्र

पाठपुरावा

सरकारनेही देशाच्या स्वातंत्र्याचा सुर्वर्ण महोत्सवी वर्षात लहान गुन्हात शिक्षा भोगणाऱ्या बंदीवानांना शिक्षामाफी योजना लागू केली. परंतु त्याचा लाभ महाराष्ट्रातील अल्पसंख्य कैद्यांना झाला आहे. ही बाब लक्षात घेऊन अमरावती येथील व्हॉलंटरी अस्थान फॉर रिहॅबिलिटेशन अँड डेव्हलपमेंट अर्थात व्हाड या संस्थेने महाराष्ट्राच्या गृहमंत्रालयाकरिता राज्यातील कैद्यांना १९९७ मध्ये महाराष्ट्र

देशोन्नती

जन्मठेपेच्या कैद्यांना शिक्षेत १५ महिन्यांची माफी

स्वातंत्र्याच्या अमृत महोत्सवानिमित्त कैद्यांसाठी शिक्षामाफी योजना

नागपूर : देशाच्या स्वातंत्र्याचा अमृत महोत्सवानिमित्त राज्य शासनाने राज्याच्या विविध कारागृहात शिक्षा भोगत असलेल्या ५५०० कैद्यांना शिक्षामाफी करण्याचा निर्णय घेतला आहे. त्यानुसार, दहशतवाद, राजद्रोह, पोक्सो, मोक्का, केंद्र सरकारच्या कायद्यान्वये अटक करण्यात आलेल्या कैद्यांना वगळता ही शिक्षामाफी दि. १३ मार्च २०२४ रोजीपासून देण्यात आलेली आहे.

खून, बलात्कार, चोरी, घरफोडी अशा स्वस्थाच्या गुन्हांमध्येही गुन्हासिद्ध होऊन विविध न्यायालयांनी गुन्हागारना शिक्षा ठोठावली आहे. त्यामधील बंदीवानांना ही शिक्षामाफी दिली गेली आहे. १९९७ मध्ये महाराष्ट्र राज्याच्या स्थापनेच्या सुर्वर्ण महोत्सवी वर्षात राज्यातील कैद्यांना शिक्षामाफी योजना राबविण्यात आली होती. त्याच धर्तीवर 'व्हाड' संस्थेचे सचिव व प्रकल्प समन्वयक धनानंद नागदिवे यांनी दि. १७ फेब्रुवारी २०२२ रोजी राज्यातील बंदीवानांना १९९७ मधील योजनेप्रमाणे

शिक्षामाफीचा लाभ मिळणारे कैदी

शिक्षा कालावधी	माफी
१ ते ३ महिने	५ दिवस
३ ते ६ महिने	१ महिना
६ महिने ते १ वर्ष	३ महिने
१ ते २ वर्षांपेक्षा कमी	४ महिने
२ ते ३ वर्षांपेक्षा कमी	५ महिने
३ ते ४ वर्षांपेक्षा कमी	६ महिने
४ ते ५ वर्षांपेक्षा कमी	७ महिने
५ ते ६ वर्षांपेक्षा कमी	८ महिने
६ ते ७ वर्षांपेक्षा कमी	९ महिने
७ ते ८ वर्षांपेक्षा कमी	१० महिने
८ ते ९ वर्षांपेक्षा कमी	११ महिने
९ ते १० वर्षांपेक्षा कमी	१२ महिने
१० ते ११ वर्षांपेक्षा कमी	१३ महिने
११ वर्षांपेक्षा अधिक	१४ महिने
जन्मठेपेची शिक्षा	१५ महिने

शिक्षामाफी देण्याची मागणी करणारे पत्र दिले. त्यांनी राज्यचे मुख्यमंत्री एकनाथ शिंदे, गृहमंत्री देवेंद्र फडणवीस, राज्यसभा सदस्या डॉ. अनिल बोंडे आदींकडे पाठवण्यात केला.

फोबदारी प्रक्रिया संहिता, १९७२ मधील कलम ४३२ (१) अन्वये महाराष्ट्र शासनाने प्रदान करण्यात आलेल्या शर्तीच्या बाबत करून राज्यमार्फी उपलब्ध करून दिल्यास

त्याचाच परिणाम बंधांच्या मानसिक प्रतिक्रिया अल्प चांगल्या पद्धतीने सुधारणा होणे शक्य आहे, असे 'व्हाड'चे सचिव नागदिवे यांनी गृहमंत्रालयाला पत्रवृत्त दिले. त्यानंतर शिक्षामाफी देण्याचा निर्णय घेण्यात आला आहे. त्याकरिता व्हाड संस्थेचे सचिव धनानंद नागदिवे यांनी गृहमंत्रालयाकडे पत्रवृत्त पाठविली आहे.



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