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Vision

To be a model social organisation that enables and facilitates the underprivileged sections of the society to access quality education and health care

Mission

- To work towards fulfilling the education and healthcare needs of the backward sections of the society
- To provide financial and technical support to institutions for improving the quality of education and healthcare
- To design and implement programs aimed at quality improvements in education and access to healthcare
- To partner with NGOs, Educational and Health care institutions, Government and other Corporates for achieving the vision
"The learning process never ends when you want to give back to the society even in a small way. That is the lesson we, in the Cognizant Foundation, have learnt over the last six years. And what a rewarding experience it has been! Disbursing grants for building classrooms and laboratories or for institution of scholarships or for purchase of life saving equipment and diagnostic tools or for fulfilling basic needs like a mini van for transportation of students or patients or to provide the visually challenged with books and lexicons in Braille, the vista of intervention is truly endless. The Foundation owes much to the Cognizant management and to the Associates of Cognizant for their total involvement in serving this social cause."

N.R. Krishnan, I.A.S. (Retd.)
Director, Cognizant Foundation

"At Cognizant, we firmly believe that giving back to the Society is not only imperative for the company’s growth but also an earnest reflection of the values it stands for. This belief is what drives Cognizant Foundation - our CSR arm. The voluntary effort of thousands of Cognizant associates and the thoughtful work of Cognizant Foundation has touched many lives and made a large impact in the area of education and healthcare for the less privileged. We are proud to have contributed to inclusive growth."

N. Lakshmi Narayanan,
Director, Cognizant Foundation & Vice-Chairman, Cognizant

"The Foundation continues to make impressive progress in the critical social sector area with the generous contributions from Cognizant. Review of its impact in improving the functions of the Institutions and NGOs financially helped by it so far has shown that it is impressive. We will continue to monitor and fine tune our efforts so that the Foundation remains relevant to the needs of the underprivileged and further widens its reach. Involvement of the Cognizant Associates in the Foundation’s implementation plans has been very strong with the beneficial effects on delivery efficiency and cost of administration and will continue as part of the Foundation’s underlying strategy."

Dr. S. Ramamurthy,
Director, Cognizant Foundation
Letter from the CEO

The year 2010-11 marked the sixth year of operation of Cognizant Foundation. It also heralded a new phase of the Foundation and its activities – a phase of consolidation and growth.

The previous year 2009-10 had witnessed a very huge growth of over 190% in our project expenditure over the year 2008-09. Building on such a large base, the project expenditure for the year 2010-11 still recorded a commendable growth of over 108%. Even more significant and heartening has been the diverse and innovative nature of the projects, larger impact in terms of the end beneficiaries and the geographical spread of the projects that were implemented during the year under review.

Such an outstanding performance by the Foundation was possible only because of the active support and involvement of all our stakeholders. The Foundation salutes the stakeholders – our parent company COGNIZANT and other individual donors, the passionate Cognizant Associates across the country and our committed NGO partners – for their unstinted support through the year. I look forward to your continued and greater support to all our initiatives in the years to come.

On behalf of all of us at Cognizant Foundation, I would like to renew the Foundation’s commitment to be a valuable resource in Cognizant’s endeavours to serve the Society beyond Business.

S. Madhavan
Chief Executive Officer
In line with the strategic road map developed in June 2008 for the Foundation’s operations, our initiatives continued to be focused on Education and Healthcare. The Foundation believes strongly that our supportive actions in these two vital segments would positively impact the communities around us in their quest for a better quality of life.

Based on our assessment and review of the relative needs of the 2 sectors, the Foundation’s expenditure plans for the year were tweaked to reflect a greater thrust on Education related projects. Some of the innovative initiatives in the Education sector were the “e-Classroom on Wheels” project of The East West Foundation of India and the “Vigyan Rath – a mobile science laboratory” project of the Parikshan Charitable Trust, both in Tamil Nadu. The Foundation also expanded the CF Scholarship Scheme introduced during the academic year 2008-09 to cover 52 students from 16 Institutions across the country.

The Foundation’s four pronged implementation strategy, involving Cognizant Offices/Associates, NGOs, Beneficiary Institutions and the Government has been very effective. Cognizant Associates as also the Cognizant Outreach teams from across the country have been actively supporting the Foundation’s initiatives.

During the year under review, the Foundation also established closer relationship with some mid size NGOs with excellent credentials. These relationships have not only expanded the geographical reach of the Foundation’s activities but more importantly have enabled us to implement innovative project ideas.
The financial highlights for the year 2010-11 are as follows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Amount (In Rs. Lakhs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions received</td>
<td>386.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest income</td>
<td>11.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total income during the year</td>
<td>398.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus income, carried forward from previous year</td>
<td>158.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total funds available</td>
<td>556.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project related</td>
<td>358.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative and other expenses</td>
<td>28.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total expenditure during the year</td>
<td>386.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net surplus as at end of the year</td>
<td>170.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Project Highlights

a The project expenditure by sector was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Amount (In Rs. Lakhs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>227.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare</td>
<td>130.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>358.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

b In the area of Education, we supported 24 projects, in the following categories:

- Computer laboratories
- Mobile Science Laboratory
- e-Classroom on Wheels
- Braille Press & Braille Tamil Dictionaries
- Educational Infrastructure support
- Digital equalizer programme in rural schools
- Learning Resource Centers/Reading Rooms
- Scholarship programme for the economically disadvantaged

c In the area of Healthcare, we supported 11 projects, in the following categories:

- Medical equipment for hospitals catering to the underprivileged
- Special Education on Wheels
- Mobile Clinics
- Infrastructure support for hospital catering to rural poor
Project Details

The details of the projects supported by Cognizant Foundation (CF) in the area of Education and Healthcare are as follows:
Education - the key to Development

Education is the most important input in the lives of children and youth of our country. It empowers them to become active participants in the transformation of our society and improve their quality of life.

Cognizant Foundation’s efforts in the area of Education, have therefore been aimed at promoting quality education amongst the underprivileged children and facilitate their emergence as valuable assets to the society.
Vidya Sagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Vidya Sagar (formerly The Spastics Society of India, Chennai) was started in a garage in 1985 as a parent’s initiative with just 3 children by Ms Poonam Natarajan, a mother with a child with disability. Currently, it is a Government aided NGO working relentlessly towards the education, employment, inclusion and empowerment of more than 3500 children and adults with various disabilities ranging from Cerebral Palsy & Learning Disabilities to Mental Retardation, Autism & Mental Illness. Vidya Sagar is known today for the quality and range of programs, it’s “professionalism with care” and the pro-active and positive spirit of its team of staff and children.

They are housed in a 3 storied building which is completely disabled friendly with more than 500 persons using it every day. With the increase in demand for their services and growing volume of activities and programs in their premises, the NGO was facing a pressing need to create additional classroom space and also to undertake extensive renovation work of the rest rooms and the Auditorium in their premises. This NGO had therefore sought Cognizant Foundation’s financial support for undertaking this project.

The entire cost of this project has been funded by Cognizant Foundation to help them build additional classrooms and to renovate the rest rooms and the Auditorium for the benefit of the Special children and the differently abled persons using their premises.
West Tirunelveli Higher Secondary School, Nallur, Tamil Nadu

West Tirunelveli Higher Secondary School was founded in 1945 as a High School by the Tirunelveli Diocese Trust and later in 1978, it was established as a Higher Secondary School. Today, 2871 students – 1564 boys and 1307 girls - study in this school. The students primarily hail from Nallur and adjacent villages of Tirunelveli District and almost 80% come from below poverty line families. The school provides both Tamil and English medium instruction from class VI to XII.

The Cognizant – Everonn Centre for Excellence set up at this School, is an unique joint Corporate Social Responsibility initiative of Cognizant Foundation (the CSR arm of Cognizant) and Everonn India Foundation (the CSR arm of Everonn Education) in bridging the digital divide and offering access to advanced learning facilities to children from the economically underprivileged sections of the society.

In setting up this facility, Cognizant Foundation has funded the cost of hardware and infrastructure needs, while Everonn India Foundation has provided digital educational content compatible with Tamil Nadu State Board curriculum, for Standard IX to XII, as well as teachers’ training and total project implementation services. This novel resource centre will benefit all the students of this school - many of them first generation school goers - by providing high quality learning environment in their quest to excel in life beyond school.

The East West Foundation of India, Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu

The East West Foundation of India (TEWFI) founded in 1993 is working towards the development and empowerment of socially and economically marginalized individuals in rural Indian communities. TEWFI’s focus is to improve the socio-economic conditions of communities within the 23 villages in Edalazhinadu Panchayat (with a population of 32,000 people) in Kanchipuram District, Tamil Nadu.
Since 2007, they have been running a Computer Center, to provide access to computer education to the children and unemployed youth in the community. To increase the reach of this program, they launched the “Mobile Computer Wallah Project” in August 2009, through which 10 net book computers are taken to the schools in a TEWFI van. Using Azim Premji Foundation’s educational software, the school children are taught a range of subjects by qualified tutors.

TEWFI proposed to Cognizant Foundation to expand and extend this program as “e-Classroom on Wheels” project. The NGO had sought the support of CF to fund the cost of the mobile van along with net book computers, LCD TV, Projectors and various other accessories.

Cognizant Foundation supported The East West Foundation of India, Kanchipuram in this unique initiative of setting up a “e-Classroom on Wheels” to provide access to computer and general education to the children in the local village schools.

BCT has intrinsically integrated rural development for men, women and children. BCT has implemented over 100 projects in the past 34 years yielding results, which have become models for replication. Projects like Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), Self Help Groups and Wasteland Development, Literacy for All are a few examples taken as models at national level.

The National Institute for Micro Small and Medium Enterprise (NI-MSME), under Ministry of Micro Small and Medium Enterprise, Government of India conducts courses for rural youth in life skills to enable them to get employment. BCT has been identified as a Partner Institution of NI-MSME, to conduct several of these courses. Based on their excellent performance record, NI-MSME had recently requested BCT to offer a course on Computers.

In response to BCT’s request, Cognizant Foundation has provided financial support to BCT for the purchase of Computers and related accessories required to set up a full-fledged Computer Laboratory for this Computer Course. The Computer Course trains the rural youth in life skills to enable them to get gainful employment.

Bhagavatula Charitable Trust, Vishakapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

Bhagavatula Charitable Trust (BCT) is a non-profit organization set up with a vision to transform the villages in Vishakapatnam District of Andhra Pradesh into model villages in such a way that every resident would be gainfully employed and that substantive improvements in the state of literacy, health and economic substances take place and that local leadership and facilities are fully developed.
Paadhai Charitable Trust, Bangalore, Karnataka

Paadhai Charitable Trust is a strategic NGO located at Bangalore, Karnataka that assists other local and grass root level NGOs in reaching out to tribal/rural communities where help is hard to get from the government as well as private funding organizations. Paadhai Trust assists these NGOs in obtaining funding for their activities, offers project management support and also helps in getting volunteers for their projects. They also impart knowledge on a variety of skills to the staff of these NGOs. Wayanad Girijana Seva Trust (WGST) located in Wayanad, Kerala is one such grass root level NGO supported by Paadhai.

Wayanad Girijana Seva Trust is a charitable institution registered in 2002 with the prime objective of contributing to the process of education with focus on re-schooling the school drop-outs among the children from the impoverished tribal (aboriginal) communities in Wayanad District, Kerala. The Trust runs the Vivekananda Residential Tribal School in Wayanad which was started in 2002. This school caters to the children from about 8 tribes in the forests around Wayanad. Apart from education the school also imparts job oriented training in Tailoring and Embroidery, Bamboo based handicrafts and Computer training to the students.

To improve the quality of education offered by the school, Paadhai had embarked on a project to build and set up a Computer Laboratory, Science Laboratory, Library and Vocational Center, in order to augment the educational infrastructure in the school.

Cognizant Foundation assisted Paadhai in this project by providing financial grant required to construct and purchase equipment for the Computer Laboratory, Science Laboratory, Library and Vocational Center at this school, catering to the education and training of the poor students hailing from the tribal communities in the area.
Isha Education, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

Isha Education is a non-profit public service organization. Isha Vidhya is a project within Isha Education, focused on raising the level of education and literacy in rural India. Towards this end, Isha Vidhya runs schools which deliver quality education for children in rural areas, where it is otherwise unavailable.

The first Isha Vidhya School was started in June 2006 near Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu with 263 students. Presently they run 7 Isha Vidhya schools, in various districts of Tamil Nadu, serving about 2800 students from Lower Kindergarten to the 6th Standard. They admit the most economically and socially disadvantaged children, including tribal children and female students in their school.

In order to bridge the distance between the best teachers and their rural students, Isha Vidhya has partnered with Everonn India Ltd for computer based learning methods. Everonn will supply digital educational content free of cost for all classes. The VSAT content and technology will also be provided free of cost by Everonn Education. Isha Vidhya had sought CF’s financial support to procure the hardware required to launch the VSAT programme in all their 7 Schools.

Cognizant Foundation has funded the total purchase of the hardware required for this project and has enabled Isha Vidhya to launch the VSAT programme in all the 7 schools run by them.
Parikshan Charitable Trust, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Swabhiman Bharath’s Vigyan Rath (mobile science laboratory) was launched by Dr Pasupathy, Founder of Parikshan Charitable Trust, Chennai in 2009. He is a highly qualified Scientist as also a Management Consultant, with rich experience in social work too. This project is an initiative of the Trust to tap the infinite indigenous potential of rural India by empowering the society through science.

Vigyan Rath, is a mobile science laboratory, housing scientific equipments, with trained teachers on board to demonstrate scientific concepts and also involve children to enrich them with real laboratory experience. Currently they have over 300 concepts and a combination of over 2500 experiments in all fields of science to cater to students between the ages of 5 and 14. These concepts are explained with the help of video clippings, live spot practical models & demonstrations, recorded experiments, PowerPoint slides and theoretical briefings.

The Trust’s first foray was in Thiruvalluvar District of Tamil Nadu, where they have already covered more than 65 schools, benefitting more than 19,800 students in the district. Spurred by the success of this first project and in response to requests from local community leaders Parikshan Charitable Trust has planned to launch a similar Vigyan Rath (mobile science laboratory) to cater to the needs of school children in various villages of Kanchipuram District, Tamil Nadu.

Cognizant Foundation has supported this new initiative of Parikshan Charitable Trust, by financial grant for the purchase of a custom built vehicle, Computers, UPS, LCD projector, Generator and all Scientific equipment, models and supplies required for the project.

Cognizant Foundation Scholarship Scheme for undergraduate degree students of Engineering

Two years back, Cognizant Foundation had instituted a scholarship program, on a pilot basis, in College of Engineering Guindy, Chennai and Madras Institute of Technology Chrompet, Chennai to financially support deserving students on the basis of merit and means.

During the current year, this merit cum means scholarship scheme has been extended to 14 Institutions located in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.
With this expansion of the Scheme, Cognizant Foundation will extend financial assistance to 52 aspiring Engineering students from 16 Institutions every year. This assistance will be extended to the students for the entire duration of their undergraduate program subject to them fulfilling the performance criteria that have been defined.

AID India, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

AID India is a registered non-profit organization working in the field of education for more than 10 years. Their mission is to work on Education, Health and Livelihood related areas, with a major thrust to provide “Quality Education for Every Child”. They have been working closely with the Department of School Education, Tamil Nadu Government, as also with the Corporation of Chennai.

As an extension of the commendable work that AID India was doing amongst the Chennai Corporation School children promoting science and mathematics education, the Commissioner of Chennai Corporation had recently requested AID India to work on a proposal to set up one large sized Science & Mathematics Resource Center in one of the Chennai Corporation Schools. The purpose of this Resource Center is to serve as a hub or Satellite Center in the teaching of Science and Mathematics through working models and hands on projects to benefit Students of Chennai Corporation Middle & High Schools in Chennai.

In an unique public private partnership model, Cognizant Foundation has joined hands with AID India and the Corporation of Chennai to set up this Resource Center. While AID India as the knowledge partner of the entire project will establish and run/manage this Center for an initial period of 3 years, CF, as financial partner has funded the purchase of all equipment and supplies required for setting up the Centre.
Indian Association for the Blind, Madurai, Tamil Nadu

Indian Association for the Blind (IAB), Madurai was established in the year 1985 by a group of like-minded visually challenged people with the mission “to provide best education and rehabilitation to the visually challenged, thus making them self-reliant”.

Since its inception, IAB has educated & rehabilitated more than 6000 visually challenged students. Currently, 300 visually challenged students (predominantly from rural Tamil Nadu) are pursuing their education from Kindergarten to Masters Degree, in their campus on the outskirts of Madurai. In addition, these students are also trained in various vocational training courses. The entire cost of education including the accommodation and food are provided free to all the 300 students. On completion of their studies, IAB assists the students in getting employment with organizations in the private, public and government sectors.

IAB has been continuously working on creating resources for the people with reading disabilities to ensure that books available to sighted people are made accessible to the visually challenged also. One basic gap that IAB has realized through their many years of work is the absence of a Tamil dictionary in Braille format, which will serve as “one point reference source” for the visually challenged persons.
In order to fill this gap, IAB has embarked on an ambitious project to produce a Tamil dictionary in Braille format, which will be the first of its kind. Crea Publications, Chennai who are the publishers of an exhaustive Tamil conversational style dictionary have pledged their total support to this project by offering free copyright of their Tamil dictionary for conversion in Braille format by IAB.

Cognizant Foundation is very proud to be associated with this unique initiative by providing financial support to IAB to cover the entire project cost to produce 40 copies of this dictionary for distribution amongst all the Special Schools & Libraries across Tamil Nadu which cater to the Visually Challenged people.

Other projects supported in the area of Education

Cognizant Foundation has also provided financial support to the following organizations, spread across the country, rendering yeoman service in the cause of education :-
Torana Rajgad Parisar Samajonnati Nyas, Velhe District, Maharashtra

to buy a School Van for bringing girls from the surrounding areas to the High School and for setting up a Vocational Training Centre catering to the 8th to 10th Standard students attending the local High School.

Triveni English Medium High School, Virajpet, Kodagu District, Karnataka

for setting up Computer Laboratory & Science Laboratory, for purchase of Audio Visual equipment, LCD projector, Furniture, Glassboards, and Solar light for use in the School that caters to the educational needs of underprivileged students hailing mainly from tribal areas and villages nearby.

Marialaya, Thiruppur Auxilium Salesian Sisters Society, Tiruppur, Coimbatore District, Tamil Nadu

for setting up a Computer Laboratory and Language Laboratory catering to rehabilitated child labourers, young children in distress, children affected with HIV, orphans, destitute woman and children, in and around Tiruppur in Coimbatore District.

Sevalaya, Thiruvallur District, Tamil Nadu

for the purchase of classroom furniture for the High School run by the organization providing free education to over 1300 village children from impoverished families and children from the orphanage run by the organization.

Kalanjiyam Trust, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

for the purchase of a School Van to bring children completing primary school education in surrounding villages to the High School in Zameen Endathur village, Kanchipuram District, Tamil Nadu. This initiative has helped substantially reduce school drop outs among village students usually caused due to large distances of travel to access schools providing higher education.
Gnana Jyothi Trust, Bangalore, Karnataka

for setting up a Computerized Braille Printing Press to produce Braille books in both Kannada and English for free distribution to visually challenged students from Primary School to Post Graduation levels.

Shriram Foundation, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

for setting up a Creative Resource Center comprising of a Library, Computer Center and Center for focused learning in specific subjects for children of ages 3 to 14 studying in the Shriram Matriculation School that caters to the educational needs of children from the local community of quarry workers and casual labourers.

Ashram School, Aase, Thane District, Maharashtra

for building a Water Reservoir to help students from nearby tribal population to stay in school instead of having to forego education in their search for water during the summer months of acute water shortage.

National Association for the Blind, Karnataka Branch, Bangalore, Karnataka

for upgrading its Computer Training Centre that provides advanced training in Computer programming and applications to the visually challenged, enabling them to get placed in the Information Technology industry.

Anatha Shishu Sevashrama, Bangalore, Karnataka

for part funding the construction of a Library cum Computer room and a Dispensary room in the orphanage run by this organization and for the purchase of equipment required for the two rooms.

Alok Charitable Trust, New Delhi

for establishing a Computer Centre and upgrading the Library in the SRB Alok Higher Secondary School in Gangagarh Village, Bulandshaher District, Uttar Pradesh which caters to the educational needs of the rural youth in the area.
Healthcare - the challenge to Development

While Education remains the key to development, Healthcare poses a big challenge to the developmental efforts in our country. Delivering affordable healthcare to the teeming millions of Indians presents enormous challenges to all the stakeholders involved in the activity.

It is in this context that Cognizant Foundation has been extending support to Healthcare Institutions and NGOs in their endeavours to provide quality medical care to the poorer sections of our society.
Chennai Vision Charitable Trust, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Chennai Vision Charitable Trust was established as the community wing of Rajan Eye Care Hospital in 1996, to serve the neediest and the poor patients in the rural villages. The Trust has been taking eye services to the door steps of the people living in the villages of five districts of Tamil Nadu: Tiruvallur, Kanchipuram, Vellore, Tiruvannamalai and Villupuram, besides covering the poorest sections of the population on the outskirts of Chennai City. Till date, the Trust has conducted more than 1800 eye screening camps, performed 86,000 free cataract surgeries and distributed 2,80,000 free spectacles and medicines in a radius of 150 kms in & around Chennai.

The Trust has sought CF’s support for their ‘Blind Free India’ project which envisages the setting up and running of “Nethra Vahana” - a mobile ophthalmic unit. This mobile ophthalmic unit will be with state – of – the – art ophthalmic equipment and facilities and would help the Trust take preservative and curative eye care to the really needy poor patients in rural villages in the above 5 districts and also the poorer sections of Chennai City.

Cognizant Foundation has funded the purchase of 2 key equipment - Carl Zeiss Retina Laser and Carl Zeiss Yag Laser - for installation and use in their “Nethra Vahana” – mobile ophthalmic unit.

Janakalyan Raktapedhi, Pune, Maharashtra

Janakalyan Raktapedhi (JKRP), Pune is a not-for-profit community blood bank situated in Pune and serving the patients in Pune Region for over 22 years. JKRPs mission is to provide, on demand, safe blood and blood components collected from voluntary blood donors.
Their Blood Bank is recognized as a Regional Blood Transfusion Centre with a full-fledged Component Laboratory. They cater to a number of Storage Centers, which operate as satellite centers in and around Pune.

The prime objective of blood transfusion service is to provide zero risk transfusion to patients to reduce the chances of transfusion transmitted infections. Currently their blood bank is using semi-automated ELISA processor. Considering the volume and growing number of blood requirement in Pune, the NGO has decided to upgrade their operations by installing a fully automated ELISA processor.

CF supported Janakalyan Rakthapedhi with financial grant towards the purchase of this sophisticated equipment for use in their Blood Bank to provide zero risk transfusion of blood to patients.

This organization has set up a ‘Special Education and Therapy on Wheels’ program — with the use of Mobile Special Education Units to cater to differently abled children in the slum areas of Kolkata. The Special Education Units have been set up in specially designed and fabricated buses to cater to the needs of children with disabilities. Special educators and therapists will travel in these units to provide tailor-made education and therapy to physically and mentally challenged children and children with cerebral palsy and hearing impaired children right at their doorsteps. The buses are completely disabled friendly. They are equipped with a hydraulic lift, Computer, TV set, audio system and library.

Cognizant Foundation has supported Tomorrow’s Foundation by funding the purchase and fitting up of one such Mobile Special Education Unit.

**Tomorrow’s Foundation, Kolkata, West Bengal**

Tomorrow’s Foundation is a non-governmental development organization established in 1991. It is committed to improving the quality of life of deprived children by providing them educational support, health care, psychological counselling and rehabilitation, through its various programs. The Foundation supports children from the most underprivileged backgrounds to become self-reliant. All the children are supported until they complete their education (in some cases even degree courses like Engineering and Medicine) and placed in suitable jobs.
Cancer Center Welfare Home and Research Institute, Kolkata, West Bengal

Cancer Centre Welfare Home and Research Institute, Kolkata which was started in 1973, is a non-profit making philanthropic body that is engaged in catering to the needs of the people suffering from Cancer. It was set up to remedy the gross inadequacy of Cancer diagnostic & treatment facilities, especially for the underprivileged. The organization is a Comprehensive Cancer Institute that is actively involved in treatment, control and research on Cancer. This organization is also recognized as a Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (SIRO) by the Department of Science and Industrial Research, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India.

The organization provides comprehensive Cancer care including all the modern diagnostic and treatment facilities at a cost affordable to all. For below poverty level patients, they provide free beds and subsidized cost for diagnosis and treatment.

The hospital was in dire need of a CRYOSTAT machine for frozen section biopsies. This equipment enables biopsies in the Operation Theatre that would help in the precise and quick diagnosis of Cancer and its stage at the time of crucial surgeries. Cognizant Foundation has supported this Institute with the requisite funds for the purchase of a CRYOSTAT machine for use in their hospital.

Shri Sant Acchyut Maharaj Heart Hospital and Research Institute, Amaravati, Maharashtra

Sane Guruji Manav Seva Sangh, a non-governmental organization, was founded in the year 1987 in Amaravati, Maharashtra with the objective of helping the underprivileged people in the area who needed cardiac care. Since 1987, the Sangh had supported over 1250 cardiac operations for such patients, performed at K.E.M Hospital and Nair Hospital, Mumbai, since specialty cardiac care was not available in Amaravati.

To minimize the expenditure and suffering of patients in getting treated in Mumbai, far away from home, the Sangh established Shri Sant Acchyut Maharaj Heart Hospital and Research Institute at Amravati in the year 2004. It is a 50 bedded hospital, with sophisticated Operation Theatre, Intensive Cardiac Care Unit, Pathology Lab, X-ray and ECG. It offers treatment for various heart related diseases including cardiac surgeries for the patients from poor socio economic backgrounds.
At present, about 150 heart related operations take place annually in the hospital. This is the only charitable heart hospital in the five districts of Amaravati region. More than 90% of its beneficiaries are from below poverty level families.

Cognizant Foundation has supported this organization with financial grant for the purchase of a Ventilator System - a critical equipment required for the Cath lab in their hospital.

Swami Vivekananda Medical Mission, Attapady, Palakkad District, Kerala

Swami Vivekananda Medical Mission is a charitable trust engaged in providing service to tribal and other backward communities in and around Attapady village of Palakkad District in Kerala for the last 6 years. Attapady is a backward revenue block and encompasses almost half of the tribal population of Palakkad District. This NGO has been working in the field of Maternal and Child Health, to reduce maternal mortality and infant mortality by promoting various initiatives.

The hospital run by the Mission has been experiencing a steady increase in the number of Outpatients and Inpatients, especially tribals. More than 40,000 out-patients have utilized the facility till now. The NGO is keen to equip themselves better to serve pregnant women in particular and also the general public.

Cognizant Foundation supported the Swami Vivekananda Medical Mission, with a grant for the purchase of a sophisticated Ultrasound scanning machine for use in their hospital.

This equipment will be used for monitoring foetal growth and also detect foetal anomalies in pregnant women. With the addition of a cardiac probe, the same equipment will also be used for investigating cardiac related ailments.

Other projects supported

Cognizant Foundation has also provided financial support to the following organizations, working in the area of healthcare:

Family Planning Association of India, Kolkata Branch, Kolkata, West Bengal

for setting up a Mobile Clinic to provide sexual and reproductive health services to the vulnerable groups of society in Kolkata, especially people living with HIV/AIDS, female sex workers and intravenous drug users, with the help of a mobile van as a health centre.
Tropical Health Foundation of India, Thrissur, Kerala

for the purchase of a Tempo Traveler van to transport physically and mentally challenged children, from poor socio-economic backgrounds in and around Kunnamkulam, Thrissur, to their medical facility to provide therapy and rehabilitation.

Nanritam, Purulia District, West Bengal

for the construction of two patient wards in the Swami Lokeswarananda Memorial Eye Unit run by this organization that offers high quality eye care services to the poorest of the rural population in the Pura block of Purulia District, West Bengal.

Health First India, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

for the purchase of a Mobile Medical Van to take free and quality healthcare to the rural population of Nilakottai Taluk, Tamil Nadu.

Balavikas Educational Society for Disabled Children, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh

for the purchase of an impedance audio meter for use in the diagnosis of hearing impairment in the children supported by this Society.
Project Analysis

Project expenditure – by Sector: 2010-11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Amount (in Rs. Lakhs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>227.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare</td>
<td>130.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Education: 63%
- Healthcare: 37%

Project expenditure – by Source of projects: 2010-11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount (in Rs. Lakhs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associates</td>
<td>209.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGOs</td>
<td>148.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Associates: 59%
- NGO's: 41%
Project expenditure – by Sector:
Since inception

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Amount (In Rs. Lakhs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>697.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare</td>
<td>537.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>59.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Project expenditure – by Source of projects: Since inception

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount (In Rs. Lakhs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associates</td>
<td>779.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGOs</td>
<td>497.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>16.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Total project expenditure: Since inception

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount (In Rs. Lakhs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005-06</td>
<td>57.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006-07</td>
<td>210.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007-08</td>
<td>166.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008-09</td>
<td>171.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009-10</td>
<td>331.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-11</td>
<td>358.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Bengal Post, December 16, 2010

Benign wheels on city streets

Our Correspondent

Charabari is beautiful. She will fetch yellow on her and carry gadgets that make life easier. But before you wonder what, we may hasten to add that Charabari is a bus. And it will reach out to differently-abled children in the city to help them lead their daily lives on equal footing with others in the society. Charabari is sure to stand out in the melee of buses at Jellipongle, Cher或Kumartuli. It is not merely a bus— it is a project in motion launched by NGO Tomorrow’s Foundation.

The bus is designed and fabricated to take education to the doorsteps of differently-abled students and those with disabilities living in the slums in south, east and north Kolkata. Twenty-years-old Reji Haider, who lives in Charabari and is training to repair mobiles is affected with bilateral lower limb polio. He made his way into his classroom on Charabari enthusiastically, albeit on a wheelchair.

The computer, a TV set, special sitting arrangements and hydraulic lift.

Tomorrow’s Foundation has already identified around 400 specially-abled people in 15 wards of south and east Kolkata, through disability identification camps in collaboration with the Disability Commission and deen-para, out of which around 100 were below 40. “Our identification programme is still on in north Kolkata and we intend to select 100 such children in Charabari by March,” said Nasim Khan, a spokesperson from Tomorrow’s Foundation.

Apart from providing special education, the project aims to propagate home management, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy and sense of hygiene. These would be carried out involving the parents. Parents will also be involved in the project twice a week, and will be instructed by experts from Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy so that they can also lead a normal life at home,” said Indran Roy, a member of the governing body of Tomorrow’s Foundation.

Fourteen community based centres under the organisation, will help execute the programme, where students from the various zones would be brought in by the bus.

A special bus service was launched in collaboration with three corporate houses— Cognizant, Volumio Environment Foundation and Tata Pricilla, at Kolkata Boys School. While Cognizant Foundation and Volumio Environment Foundation have borne the cost of one bus, Terre Pricilla has provided for the recurring cost of around six other buses to run the first year of this initiative.

Indian Express, December 16, 2010

₹30-lakh computer lab inaugurated at CSI West Tirunelveli HSS

CTVS Vice Chairman Lakshmi Narayanan cutting the ribbon of computer lab at CSI West Tirunelveli HSS. Nallur on Thursday | P. Jostine

Tirunelveli, December 16

CSI West Tirunelveli HSS in Nallur of Alangulam Taluk, witnessed a milestone with the creation of a new computer lab inaugurated by the Information and Technology Minister, Ponnagathai Aladi Aruna on Thursday.

In the school premises at a cost of ₹36 lakh, the Minister said that the lab was set up in this school with the sole objective that rural students should have access to the facility similar to students in cities like Chennai. She noted that the setting up of the magnificent lab with 30 computers was possible only because of the efforts of CTS Vice Chairman Lakshmi Narayanan and advised students to become like him or to work in reputed organisations, managed by eminent persons like him.

Tirunelveli Collector M. Jayaraman in his address, said that the school features a modern computer lab next to Chennai and Kumbakonam in the state and software worth ₹18 lakh has been installed. The computer lab would be a model to other schools and colleges besides benefiting 2,000 students of this school. He pointed that the school was the maximum user of 'Namakkal Naamne' Scheme and said that district administration was ready to assist in construction of the buildings under the scheme offered by DDRA if the management contributes one-third of the cost for construction.

CTVS Vice Chairman Lakshmi Narayanan, CSI Tirunelveli Bishop Rt Rev JJ Christodoss, Block Development Officer Shumugavalli and tahsildar Chinnasamy were present on the occasion.
First dictionary in Braille launched

DC CORRESPONDENT
MADURAI
Feb 25: India’s first dictionary in Braille format, based on the Tamil-Tamil-English system, brought out by Madurai-based Indiva Association for the Blind (IAB), was launched here on Friday.

The enormous work was done by 53 differently-abled persons, including 20 visually impaired and three orthopaedically challenged persons in their under-Braille printing facility at IAB in a record six months.

We were involved in everything from Braille transcription, data entry and proof reading to printing and binding,” one of the team members told this newspaper.

Published by Chennai-based CTA and funded by Technology Solutions, the Braille dictionary has 21,000 words with 38,000 examples. Addressing a simple programme at IAB before a select group of people, Mr. S.M. Jinnah, the visually impaired founder and secretary general of IAB, said the Braille dictionary runs to 6,250 pages in 53 volumes, which in standard print dictionary would run to just 1,400 pages.

It was said to be the world’s first comprehensive dictionary in Braille form, as occasional dictionaries published earlier in a few other languages were only pocket books.

We have received orders for this dictionary from the Library of Congress in Washington, School for the Blind at Valparaiso in Sri Lanka and Anna Centenary Memorial Library in Chennai, he informed.

The first copy of the dictionary was released by Mr. N. Lakshmi Narayanan, vice-chairman, Cognizant, and received by Dr. T. Arasavananthan, regional director, National Institute for the Visually Handicapped, Chennai.

In a rare gesture, IAB donated Braille dictionaries free of cost to 40 educational institutions spread across the state in Chennai, Tiruchirappalli, Salem, Coimbatore and Madurai among others, Dr. A. Jayaramakrishnan, president, IAB, said in future Thanthiravur and Thiruvarugal will also be published in Braille format.

Mr. Jinnah told Deccan Chronicle a Braille dictionary costs around Rs.15,000.

Surya Daily Paper, August 23, 2010

Dinakaran, June 11, 2011
CATALYSING CHANGE
BECAUSE WE CARE