



ANNUAL REPORT



2015

Annual Report

I Welcome you all to the 30th Annual General Board Meeting of Shanta Memorial Rehabilitation Centre.



Sri Ashok Hans with children

We have completed 30 years of service working globally through a large network of local, national and international organizations and government and UN bodies. The work was started with the initiative of Shri Ashok Hans in 1985, who brought forward this Centre, unfortunately he is not among us today, but as he said himself we have to move forward. We have to do this keeping in mind his vision on the rights based work to be carried out with and for persons with

disabilities. His vision is continuing with your help.

You will be happy that your organization has been continuing with the Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council from 2011. We are also Accredited to UN ADHOC Committee on Disability (ENABLE) & Associated Member Rehabilitation International. This year Prof Asha Hans was chosen to be represented in the Global Task Force and Conflict and Disaster.

I am pleased to put before you the Annual Report of 2014-2015 for your consideration.

Spinal Cord Injury: Transit Home

The Transit Home over the year met its target of providing services to a number of persons and allied activities related to :

- Identify & Rehabilitate
- ADL
- Carer Training
- Sports & cultural
- Rural Camps & Community awareness
- Medical professional awareness
- Modification of home, work place, assistive devices etc. & Livelihood packages

During the period we have rehabilitated 353 severely disabled in our transit home.

Among the group 139 (40%) were females and 213 (60%) were males. This is in keeping with trauma data available that more men are injured than women and social data that men are given precedence over medical care and women excluded.

Among these 95 took use of the indoor facilities and they were from different districts from Odisha and also from the neighboring states. They needed to stay for 2 – 3 months for comprehensive rehabilitation which included Physiotherapy, ADL training, Bowel & Bladder management etc.

They were from 20 districts of Odisha and 2 other States ie West Bengal and Jharkhand.

District Name	Nos.
Balasore	4
Bolangir	2
Cuttack	8
Deogarh	4
Dhenkanal	2
Gajapati	1
Ganjam	6
Jagatsingpur	2
Jajpur	5
Jharsuguda	2
Kalahandi	1
Kendrapara	3
Keonjhar	4
Khurda	20
Nabarangpur	1
Nayagarh	8
Nuapada	1
Puri	15
Rayagada	1
Sundergarh	2
West Bengal	2
Jharkand	1



Map of Odisha with patients as per Districts

0-15	11
16-30	22
31-45	29
46-60	21
61- above	12

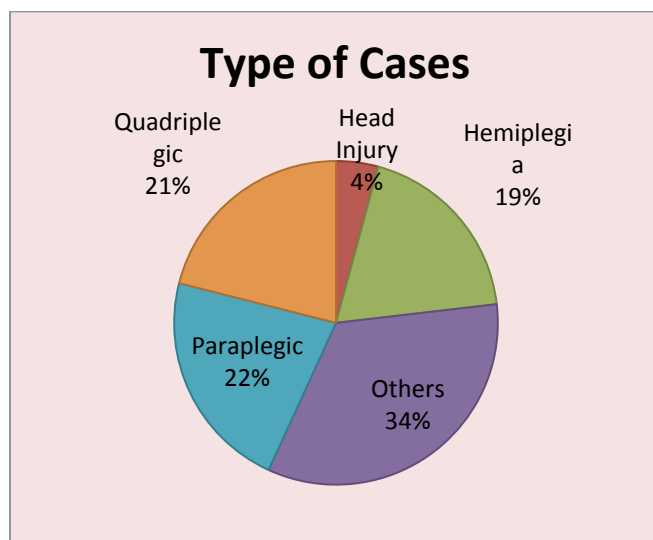
Of the total 95, there were 34 trauma patients and 61 non trauma. In trauma there is quick recovery but also high mortality. Of these trauma victims as expected women were smaller in number, in trauma cases only 1 female received rehabilitation and 33 men. More men were involved in accidents. Non trauma there was less differentiation.

Women's ratio was 21 to men's 40.

These 95 patients belonged to different age groups. The age grouping ranged from 6 yrs. to 80 yrs. as indicated in the table. It was seen that majority of the persons who were assisted were between the age group 16 yrs. – 45 yrs. (53% - 51 nos.). The group that should be earning livelihood and contributing to the economy were disabled.

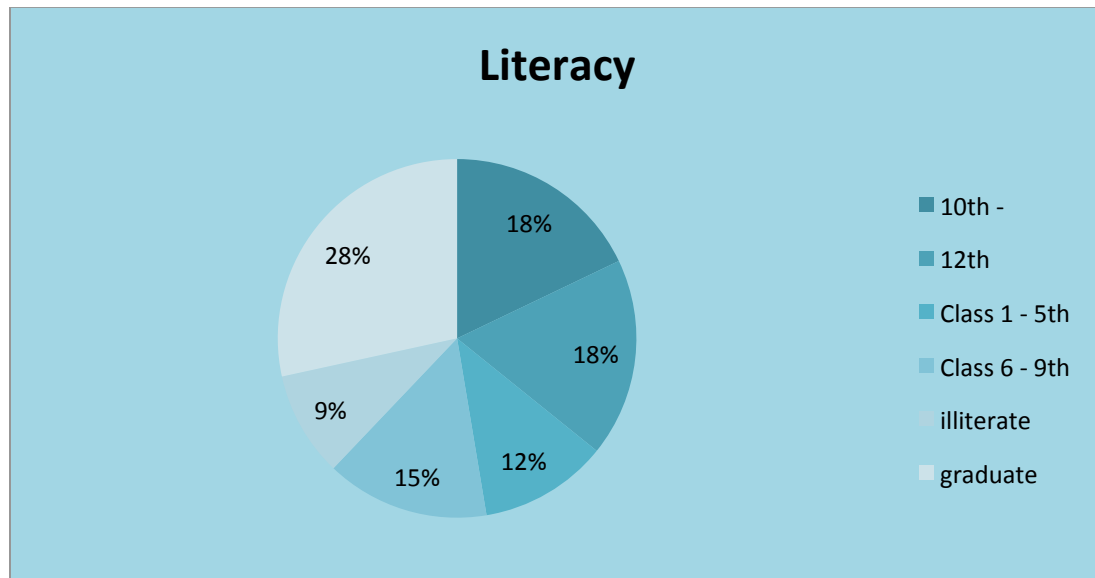
The persons who were rehabilitated had different levels of paralysis. 21 or 22% were Paraplegics (paralyzed below waist), 20 numbers or 21% were Tetraplegic (paralyzed in all four limbs) .18% hemiplegic or paralysis of one side of body. Most of them had incurred head or spinal injury. Others included (Polio), Amputee, Multiple Disability etc. (32 nos. – 34%)

Type of Cases	Nos.
Head Injury	4
Hemiplegic	18
Others	32
Paraplegic	21
Quadriplegic	20



Most of those rehabilitated were the poorest of the poor. 69% were very poor and found it difficult to get two square meals a day and little high protein diet which most patients require especially if they have pressure sore for treatment or medicines. Only 31% were slightly well off which was basically they were settled in life and had some type of fixed income etc.

The literacy level of these who were rehabilitated were as below:



It was seen that among the 95 persons 63 nos were employed in different occupations such as daily labour, farming, teaching etc. After rehabilitation 22 nos have gone back to their work. The rest are still yet to go back to their livelihood. They are being counseled as they believe they cannot do anything anymore.

Outdoor Services

The outdoor services includes therapy both passive and electric were 257 nos. underwent approx 4059 sessions during the year.

ADL TRAINING

ADL was provided to persons mostly those with severe disabilities. Severity of disability is known by the permanency of disability, by the extent of disability (Paraplegic or tetraplegic), complications. ADL training included therapy to strengthen muscles, living an independent life by learning to transfer to wheelchair, bed, carry out catheterization, pressure



A patient who has recovered walking on the special staircase made for them

sore and disreflexia management.

TOILET SHIFTING TRAINING – Manmath



ADL Toilet usage training for a paraplegic

Carer/ Personal Attendant Training : 132 carers were trained. Some have even more than two or four as they sometime change their carers after sometime in this case training is provided to larger numbers than expected. Carer training includes assistance in ADL training, social inclusion and counseling.



Tetraplegic and young



Sports Therapy and cultural inclusion. Birthdays and religious festivals were celebrated which are part of the life of a person to prepare them on inclusion in the life of the community after accident.

19 persons were supported with specialized assistive devices for them to lead their life independently.

Two of the rehabilitation persons who had no livelihood support were give support to restart their livelihood



Going Home with a package of Mattress, cushion and wheel chair



Personal Attendant Training



On the way to recovery and independence

Training for professionals as personal attendants

During the period 120 personnel have been trained. Initially theory class is done after which hands on training on how to manage a person is given.



Professional Training



Corrective Surgery

On 1st January 2015 with collaboration with ENDOLITE & ESWAR (a Delhi based NGO) & SUN Nursing Home, Cuttack the following persons were supported by getting them Prosthetics & 5 nos who underwent corrective surgery and then AFO was given to them. All of them were BPL persons. Prof. Sanatan Rath also visited the children and discussed their cases with the team



Prof Sanatan Rath President with team from Austria who carried out corrective surgery on SMRC patients



After the Surgery

DRF Project: and Presenting CEDAW

SMRC was awarded a grant by the Disability Rights Fund (2012-2014) to empower women with disabilities to provide input and unique perspectives into India's 2014 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) Reporting Process. This was response to the Combined 4th and 5th Periodic India Report to CEDAW. The process

continued from 2012 till August 2014 when the last intervention was made in the form of a press meet.



Minister of State Social Justice and Empowerment Sri Gehlot, Govt of India Smt Singhdeo former MP releasing CEDAW report



Women with Disability National Level Activists in Bhubaneswar

India: Combined Fourth and Fifth Periodic Reports to CEDAW

The process was designed to cover the following:

- i. Set up a national network of women with disabilities
 - ii. Ensure involvement of DPOs
 - iii. Formulate a report after national level extensive discussions to be presented to the CEDAW Committee through direct consultations with women and also through e-Networking to strengthen it
 - iv. Negotiate with the CEDAW Committee in inclusion of women with disabilities in the recommendations and conclusions of their Reporting
 - v. Dissemination of the Report
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1. 15 State level workshops including women from all States of India



2. Four National Level workshops including women with disabilities leading activists, government and other stakeholders
3. Four Regional level workshops
4. 500 women with disabilities and 100 DPOs participated

CEDAW Report

The outcome document from the consultation meetings was written by a team of women with disabilities. It was circulated among the whole network for their comments, which were included and then submitted to be included in the Alternative India Report which was being compiled by The National Alliance of Women (NAWO) – INDIA. For the first time a chapter on Disability has been included in the India's Alternative Report.



[Presenting Report to CEDAW Committee Geneva](#)

Two women with disabilities joined the NAWO team and other civil society members at Geneva for the 58th session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), and the meeting of the pre-sessional working group for the 60th session of CEDAW at Palais des Nations, United Nations Office, Geneva, Switzerland from 29 July 2014 to 4th July 2014. The India Report was presented on 2nd July 2014.

Prior to the Meeting one delegate was provided training by the International Women's Rights Action Watch – Asia Pacific on the process of CEDAW and methods to engage.

During the five day process as part of the India NGO Delegation, they specifically engaged in ensuring that the issue of disability was mainstreamed into formal and informal discussions at all levels. With the disability community they worked with Victoria Lee of the IDA Secretariat.

The process at Geneva was simple

1. Make an oral Statement
2. Attend the Lunch Meeting organized by the India NGO delegation
3. Briefing of the India Special Rapporteur
4. Meet CEDAW members unofficially
5. Participation in the Informal Meetings for NGOs
6. Observation of the dialogue between the State party and CEDAW Committee
7. Attended all NGO Informal Meetings
8. Disseminated the Statement to OHCHR and IWRAW Asia Pacific
9. The process was webcasted and could be accessed globally.

UN Conclusions

The Committee welcomes the fact that, in the period since the consideration of the previous reports, the State party has ratified or acceded to the following international instruments: (a) Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, in 2007;

The Committee takes note of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, which guarantees free and compulsory education for all children between 6 and 14 years of age. It remains concerned, however, that only 4 per cent of the gross domestic product is spent on education, that girls with disabilities and minorities continue to register low enrolment rates and that the dropout rate among adolescent girls is as high as 64 per cent, making them particularly vulnerable to child marriage.

Women with disabilities

The Committee, noting that a bill on the rights of persons with disabilities is pending before Parliament, is concerned that women with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities can be denied legal capacity and committed to institutions without their consent and without

recourse to any meaningful remedy or review. It is particularly concerned that women with intellectual disabilities can be sterilized without their consent. The Committee is further concerned that women with disabilities experience a high rate of poverty, lack access to education, employment and health services, especially in rural areas, face multiple challenges, including the lack of adequate access to public spaces and utilities, often experience harassment in public and are excluded from decision-making processes. It is equally concerned at the lack of disaggregated data on persons with disabilities and that responses to violence against women with disabilities fail to take account of the type of impairment, whether physical, sensory or intellectual.

The Committee urges the State party:

(a) To enact the bill on the rights of persons with disabilities without delay and incorporate a specific section to protect women and girls with intellectual disabilities from forced sterilization and to repeal laws regarding and prohibit disability-based detention of women, including involuntary hospitalization and forced institutionalization;

(b) To ensure that the rights of women with disabilities are mainstreamed within the national strategies and action plans for women, to develop support services in the community in consultation with organizations of persons with disabilities and to intensify efforts to provide social and health services support to families with girls and women with disabilities;

(c) To facilitate advocacy by and on behalf of women and girls with disabilities;



(d) To create a database and ensure regular collection of data on persons with disabilities, disaggregated by sex, age, type of disability and region, and to promote the regular analysis and dissemination of such data and develop capacity to do so.

and Press Conference

Upon return to India, the team reported on the CEDAW Meeting at a press conference organised by Partners for Law and development at Indian Social Institute, New Delhi on 17 July 2014 and at the India CSO National Consultation on the Beijing Platform for Action 11 – 12 August 2014 at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

THE DISABILITY RIGHTS DRAFT BILL

To expeditiously enact the proposed Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2014 with the incorporation of a separate chapter on women and girls with disabilities as provided for in the draft of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2014

Before Meeting the Network members meet President of India for advocating women in the Draft Bill.



WwDs India Network set up by SMRC presenting to President Pranab Mukherjee Draft prepared by us on Women's Inclusion in Disability Draft Bill.

New Project: Building the Capacity of Women with Disabilities in India

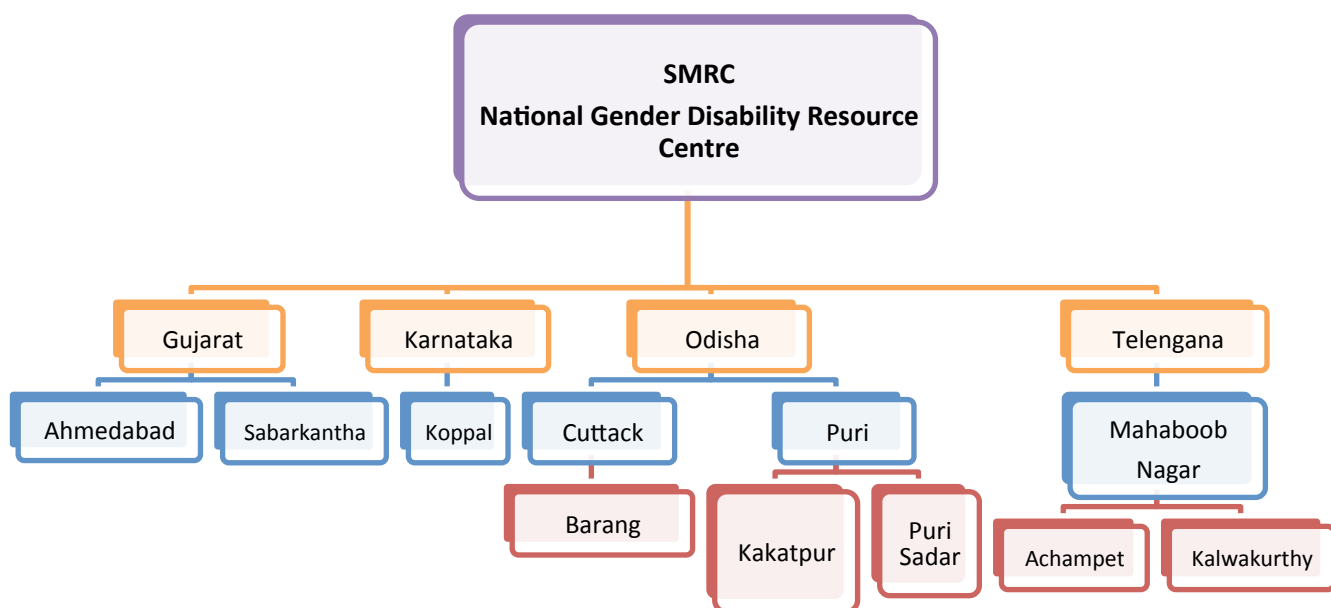
Promoting the Right to Health and Advancing Zero Tolerance for Violence

This two-year project ***Building the Capacity of Women with Disabilities in India: Promoting the Right to Health and Advancing Zero Tolerance for Violence***, supported by USAID promotes greater rights & inclusion of Women with Disabilities.

The goal of the project is to support & facilitate the agency, empowerment & inclusion of Indian Women with Disabilities. Taking a multi-disciplinary approach to capacity building, the project will leverage existing resources and provide additional training to promote the self-sufficiency of Women with Disabilities, critical services such as access to health & protection against violence, abuse and their ability to advocate for their rights and inclusion.

PROJECT AREA

We have established four State Gender Disability Resource Centres in the following states:



The National Gender Resource centre was established at Bhubaneswar on 9th January 2015. It was inaugurated by Priyadarshi Mishra MLA Bhubaneswar (North). Ms.Chumki Dutta & Mr.Tapan Banerjee were present during the function.



Mr Priyadarshi Mishra MLA and Dr Tapan Bannerjee USICD opening the National Disability Resource Centre Smt Chumki Dutta Member Board in Chair

State Resource Centers: Four Gender Disability Resource Centers have been established at Ahmadabad, Bangalore, Bhubaneswar and Hyderabad. In Hyderabad Asmita Resource Centre for Women, in Gujarat Nita Panchal and in Karnataka CBR South Asia Network are contributing to the removal of violence from the lives of women with disabilities and make health accessible to them.

Workshops conducted under the programme at State Level

State Centre Name	Capacity Building Workshop	Training to local DPOs	ASHA Karmi Workers Awareness Program	Protection Officer Awareness Program
No. of Workshops	5	1	1	1
Gujarat	160	48	45	27
Karnataka	179	24	41	
Odisha	193	23	50	29
Telengana	178	56	44	

Ongoing programs include linking up with Disabled People's Organizations and creation of awareness amongst them on women's rights. It also provides an opportunity to provide a cascading impact to the program. Major issues discussed are violence against women and ways to stop it. The DPO meetings are not confined to any particular District or Block but extends across the State Due attention is paid to inclusion of women headed DPOs.



The programme uses social media in various forms. As such a facebook page has been set up for the Women in Disability Network. The campaign also uses twitter and blogs as below

WWDIN Facebook Page



AZADI KI UDAAN BLOG



National Level Advocacy

A number of events and letters were sent. The first was a workshop where the Jt Secretary in charge of Disability Affairs was the Chief Guest



Mr Awasthy Jt Secy Disability Affairs at Valedictory Function of National Meeting in Delhi

Advocacy Leaders from Delhi

- A letter was sent to the hon'ble Prime Minister for Inclusion of Women with Disabilities in the National Family Health Survey and an online petition was also started in Change.org
- Letter sent to Ministry of Home Affairs to include disaggregated data on Women with Disabilities in NCRB



3rd December 2014 International Day for Persons with Disabilities was organized by the State Government. SMRC participated in Khurda District programme and produced a video. In Bhubaneswar a stall was set up to show case our work. Another stall was organized with Handicap International.



3rd December 2015 International Day of PWDs Smt Usha Devi Minister and Saswat Mishra visiting SMRC stall and speaking to Smt.Chumki Dutta

Disaster Risk Reduction & UN

Prof Asha Hans contributed in large measure to the United Nation's work on formulating the Second Hyogo Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. It was asked by ESCAP to become a member of the Organizing Committee. On 20-23rd April the Asia Pacific Meeting on Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction was organized at Sendai Japan. Later at the PREP COM in Geneva (17-20) November 2014.

SMRC participated represented by Annie Patrie (of Handicap International) in the Prep Com III and the World Conference in Sendai

Prof Asha Hans participated in the Commission on Status of Women (59) at UN on the Beijing +20 meeting and made two presentations on women disaster and disability

ELECTION WATCH 2014



Members of Disability Election Watch Odisha

SMRC has been working on involving persons with disabilities in elections since 1995. Election Commissioner, T.N.Seshan was invited to the Centre to make elections inclusive of disabled. In an un-precedent move in 2014 Dr. Mona Sharma the Election Commissioner agreed to our demands that elections be made accessible to persons

with disability and observers at District level be appointed. A Task Force was set up headed by Sanyasi Behra and with Rabi Tripathy of SMRC. A network was established of the 30 states, observers selected and the Commission sent their name to the Collectors and official recognition was provided to them. The elections were monitored by the State network. This year the disabled were happy as they could cast their votes.



OTHER WORK

1. A memorandum was submitted to the Chief Minister of Gujarat on International Women's Day and an awareness session was also conducted by Gujarat State Gender Disability Resource Centre.
2. The project team provided inputs in to the Bihar State Women's policy
3. RTI applications were filled to get information from Housing and Urban Development Department and Women and Child Development Department on how much money has been allotted/ spent on making accessible toilets in Odisha from 2011 to 2015.
4. International Women's day was celebrated on 8th March 2015, where young artist did an painting completion on Violence against women with disabilities.

Visitors



Surprise Visit by Sri Gehlot to SMRC meeting

Members of a Regional Conference on Women with Disabilities in Bhubaneswar organized by Shanta Memorial Rehabilitation Centre, were pleasantly surprised when S.J. Thawawar Chand Gehlot, Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment made an unscheduled visit and addressed them and promised the full support of his Ministry.

The Minister stated that the new policy to provide toilets in all households would include accessible toilets. He further said his Ministry was open to any suggestions the women would bring to him and he would personally see that their demands are fulfilled.

The Minister was accompanied with Sri Pradeep Naik Ex Labour Minister, Smt Sangeeta Singhdeo, former MP, Prasanna Mishra, Bayadhar Malick and Thakur Ranjit Das.

Ekta Saroha, USAID India came to Odisha on 15.04.2015 and she visited SMRC on the same day. She met Prof. Asha Hans, Reena Mohnaty and other USAID Project Staff present there. The next day she interacted with two women with disabilities at SMRC premises.



Dr Ekta Saroha of USAID visiting field in Puri



Film Maker Tamara and Dave and USAID member Meeta making documentary on SMRC's Work in Telangana

Tamara

Shaya, Dave Cooper and Meeta from USAID visited Kalwakurthy, the project area in Telangana on 13.05.2015 and 14.05.2015. The purpose of their visit was to meet Women with Disabilities those who have experienced violence at some point or other, interview them and capture their stories on video.

Staff

Reena Mohanty attended a leadership programme in Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. She also attended a two days brainstorming meeting on Institutions for Children and Persons with Disabilities: Thinking Alternatives from 14th to 15th April at New Delhi.

Reena and Lokapriya took an On Line Course on Reproductive Health

Priyanka Rout, the State Coordinator of Odisha attended the launching event of a mobile app for Women's safety on 15.05.2015 organized by the Commissionerate of Police. This app was launched by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha.

Conclusion

The staff of the organization along with your guidance and support from its senior management has carried on its work to the best of its capabilities. They will with your blessings carry it forward to fulfill and carry on Ashok's dream in the coming years.

Let us together congratulate the staff of your organization for the hard work they have put in during not only this year but in the last many years. Many of them have been with us since the early nineties and shows their loyalty and dedication to SMRC and to the field of disability in general.

Our appreciation to the donors, and the collaboration partners, local sponsors and the media for giving our programs wide coverage and support.

I thank the Executive Board for your continued support, which has helped the organization to move forward.

I now place the Annual & Audit Report for the FY 2014 – 2015 for discussion and its passage by the board.

Asha Hans
Executive Vice President