

2020-21 ★

# VIRD

At: HAKIMAPADA  
P.O.: HAKIMAPADA  
Dist: ANGUL  
Odisha 759143

VOLUNTARY INSTITUTE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT.

*Namita Sathpathy*  
Director  
VIRD, Angul

The Director *Foreword* .....✍

It is not only a moment of pleasure, but also of pride to release the Annual Report of Activities for FY 2020-21 of VIRD for me. I am sure that it is a mutual feeling for everybody associated with VIRD. This is yet another opportunity for me to extend sincere thanks to all our patrons, our members, our staffs, professionals associated with us, the local, district, state and central administrations and above all the people are working with. It is everybody's contribution that has made the planning, the implementation of any programme/ project realistic and result yielding.

The approaches to community development are dynamic and are more or less dependent on the nature of the problems, geographic, sociopolitical and economic considerations and elementary characteristic of the community. In consideration of everything, in my opinion, what meticulous planning should include in itself a mechanism to adapt to responses to a particular demand. Development does not have a prototype, organizations have. Dynamism, in my sincere opinion, present in any person shall take him/ her closer to achievements planned at the beginning.

*Namita Satpathy*  
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**Director**  
Director, VIRD  
**VIRD, Angul**

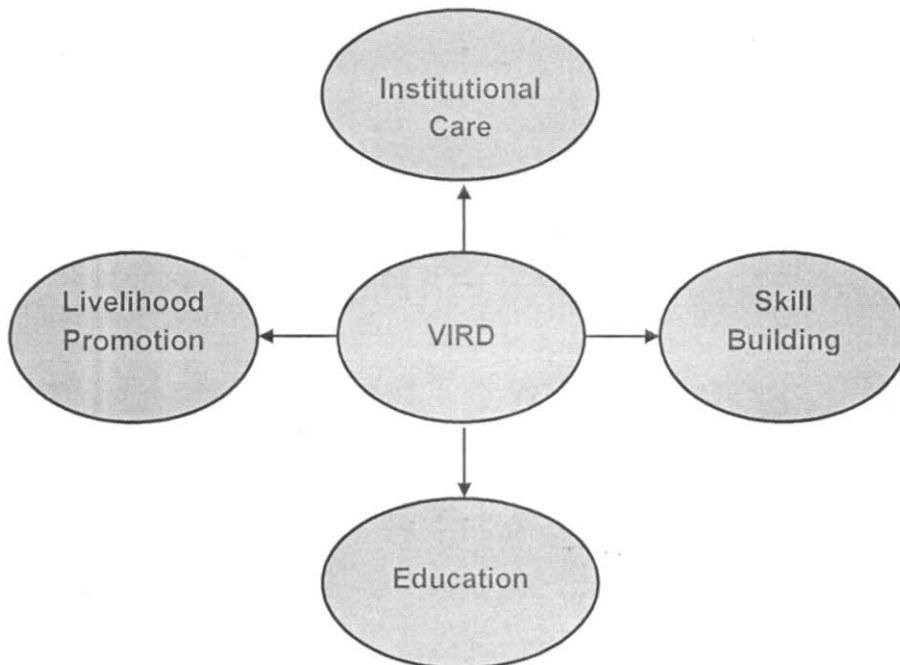
## An Overview

Voluntary Institution for Rural Development (VIRD), a non-governmental not-for-profit organization traces its origin to coming together of a group of professional social workers. The organization got registered under SRA XXI of 1860 in 1988 and has been working with the poor and marginalized sections in Angul and Deogarh districts of Odisha.

VIRD has been working in the field of community development since 1987 with the objective of ensuring a life of dignity for the socially excluded promoting social equity and social justice encouraging their participation in social, political and economic spheres with programs and activities aimed at bridging the welfare gap between the socially excluded and the general population. The organization has credibility of working with different government departments and development support organizations for implementing livelihood promotion, Skill building/Capacity Building and welfare activities. The organization has the experience of running SWADHAR Home, Day Care Centre, SC Hostel, Women Help Line and Ujjwala-Against Trafficking of Women and Creche to address the needs of the Women, Children and Elderly persons in distress. VIRD has also organized Skill Building Training for Dibyangs and Rural Artisans.

Presently; VIRD is operating two districts, Angul and Deogarh of Odisha. The activities are spread over 143 villages in 6 Gram Panchayats of 4 blocks.

Areas of Intervention: VIRD has four areas of intervention viz. Livelihood promotion, Skill Building, Institutional Care and Education.



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**VISION**

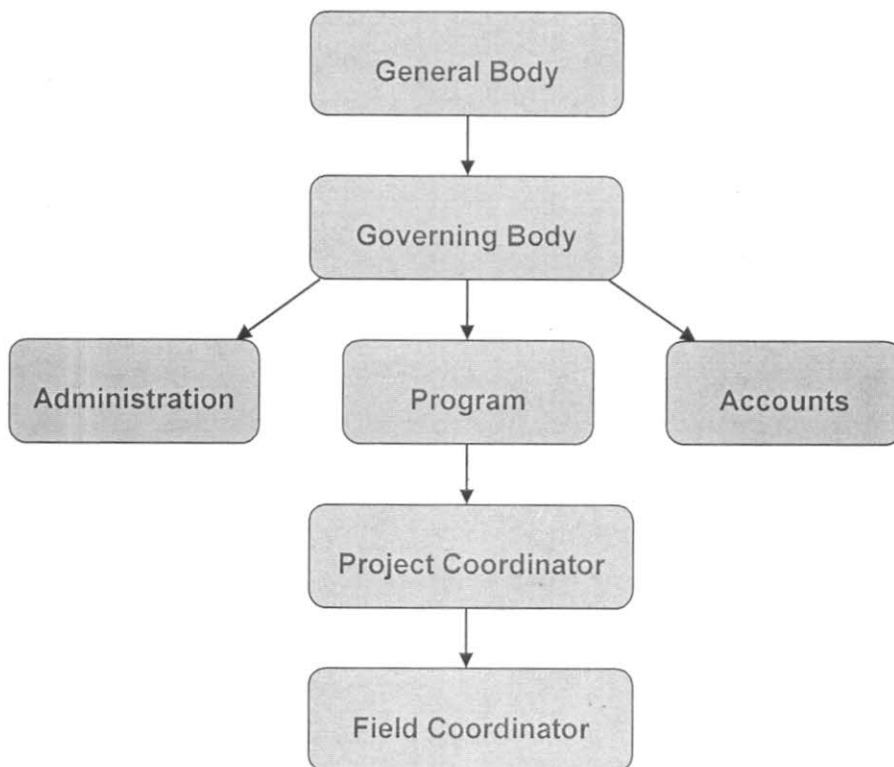
Sustainable improvement in the socio-economic status and self-reliance of disadvantaged community

**MISSION**

To create a sphere for the new generation where women and children have say in decision making, a new social structure where individuals join together as communities to realize their individual and collective well-being

**Legal Status**

Registered under Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860	1838/181 of 88-89
Registered under Foreign Contribution Regulations Act 1976	105020197
Exemption under section 12 AA of Indian IT Act	90/2004-05
Exemption under section 80 G of Indian IT Act	80G-13/2011-12/8563
Permanent Account Number (PAN) with IT	AWHPS5436P

**Organization Structure**

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**VIRD, Angul**

**Highlights of Activities:****Women Empowerment Programme**

As a mandate, VIRD takes up activities those empower rural women socially, educationally and economically. Due to large segments of industrialization in the district the incidence of women labour in the settings is gradually increasing. The women labour is being subject to exploitation owing their unawareness of protective rights, rules and regulations framed for their betterment etc. During the period under report, in continuance of last year's awareness generation programme targeting women labour, VIRD organized 5 such camps targeting women working in coal mines of Talcher.

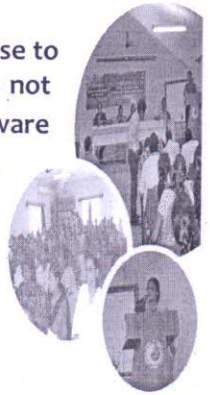
Cumulative attendance in the camps was 767.

In another move too empower women, the women collectivized into SHG forms were imparted training on group dynamics, financial management in a rural setup. Initiatives are being taken up to link them to formal financing institutions for availing credit to commence income generating activities.

**Legal Awareness Programme**

Most of the cases of domestic violence, atrocities against women go unreported and this gives rise to the incidences as the oppressors feel that they would roam scot free. Most of the victims are not aware of system in place to redress their woes. VIRD organized a Legal Awareness Camp to aware such women and to reach at a larger segment through the participants; at the Bahali, Angul on 23.07.2020.

The programme was inaugurated by Mrs. Harapriya Baghara of Ex.sarapncha,Aida,Athamallick block, Odisha, and was participated by; as Guests of Honor; Sri. Rabinarayan sahuo,social Activist.

**Women PRI members' Capacity Building Training**

In a collaborative Sankalp& VIRD, a capacity building training programme was organized at the training hall of VIRD at Bahali. The programme endured for a period for 3 days, commencing on 01.11.2020 to 03.11.2020. The event was sponsored under the sankalp,usa.

The basic objective of the programme was to build up capacities of the women PRI

members to hold office in an efficient manner, addressing the local needs and working with the government machinery. Exposure was given to them on methods of identification, governmental procedures etc. 27 participants from Aida, Nagaon Grampanchayats participated in the camp.



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## Rajiv Gandhi National Crèche Programme

With financial support from Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi through State Social Welfare Board, Odisha, VIRD is running 10 Rajiv Gandhi National Crèche Centers at the place cited as under. The centers aim at providing

Pre-school education,  
Nutritional food intake,  
Recreational support,  
Parental care, and  
Emotional support;



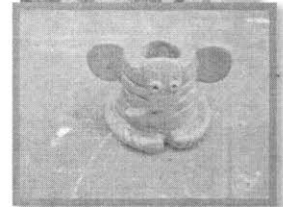
to the children of the working and ailing mothers. We have been working since last 10 years. Initially the organization managed the affairs out of its own funds. Funding support commenced from the year 2002-03. Though it is an Industrial district, all the family members of the poor people are engaged in different work for their livelihoods. The cumulative number of children covered under the crèche units are 50.

## Innovative Design on Terracotta

The Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) under the Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India was pleased to award VIRD a project to impart training to artisans of Terracotta to 10 artisans to develop innovative designs. The training was imparted at the village Reamal of Reamal Block in Deogarh district. Commencing on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2020 the programme ended on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

The programme was inaugurated by Sri K Mohapatra, District Cottage industries Officer Deogarh. It was also participated by Sri H. Jena from the office of the DC (H) Sambalpur and .

Training was imparted by Mrs. Banya Roy, the Designer, assisted by Mr. Khageswar Behera, the Master Craftsman. At the end of the programme, the participants were awarded certificate of merit by Sri Biswambhar Jena of DC (H), Sambalpur. 27 prototypes of innovative designs in terracotta craft were developed by the Designer.



## Vocational Training on Mobile Repairing

In this age, use of mobile has increased to an amazing number. It has also given rise to allied avenues for income generations to a wide range of people. Considering this as an opportunity, VIRD imparted vocational training to 30 rural youth with special needs (physically challenged). The programme was externally supported by a USA based external agency and was conducted at the training hall of PIUS at Mahidharapur, Angul titled as "Training to physically challenged persons towards resource building & economical empowerment".

The training commenced on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020; schedule to end on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2020 (ongoing by the time of reporting).

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## Line transplanting & SRI on Paddy Cultivation under NFSM

Agriculture is the backbone of the rural Odisha. The Government has taken many initiatives to enhance the productivity, yield rate etc. in consideration of the farmers to a large extent being smallholders. The initiative targets ensuring food securities of the farm families through enhanced quantum and qualitatively superior yield. Line transplanting of the paddy is one such method (in line of System of Rice Intensification a.k.a. SRI) to enhance the yield rate without any additional input.



VIRD was assigned to demonstrate the method in 200 hectares cross three Grampanchayats; namely Aida, Nagaon in Athamallick block of Angul district. Out of 200 acres; 100 acres demonstrated Line Transplantation whereas another 100 hectares demonstrated SRI. The activity spread over a period of three months commencing from 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020 to culminate on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

The impact was clearly visible, the yield rate enhanced by about 134% on an average in comparison to last five years yield on average.


### Artisan Development Programme

Furthering the cause of artisans/ crafts persons' holistic development, VIRD has embedded components to provide them capacity to absorb social and financial shocks, enabling them to participate in events in state/ national canvas portraying the human aspects of art and craft, of which India is proud. Basic components of this activity are:

1. **Insurance**: The artisans are insured by Reliance General Insurance, the franchisee of Rajiv Gandhi Shilpi Swasthya Bima Yojana for Zone 1. Till date VIRD has insured 60 artisans.

VIRD also facilitated insurance under *Janashree Bima Yojana*; a scheme of Life Insurance Corporation of India. 425 artisans have been covered under this group insurance scheme.

2. **Facilitating issuance of identity cards to artisans/ crafts persons**: VIRD has facilitated issuance of artisan Identity cards to 500 artisans/ crafts persons to enable them to participate in state/ national level government sponsored events.
3. **Bank Linkage**: The issue of most important influencing factor in any programme directed towards economic empowerment is accessibility to financial services at affordable rates. Linkage with formal financial institutions is a major factor governing the sustainability and success rate of the intervention. VIRD has facilitated such linkages of the artisans/ crafts persons with banks. The artisans and crafts persons have been linked under a collective format (SHG/ Cooperative/ JLG etc.) and also individually.

  
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## Rural Library Programme

For more than a decade, VIRD has been running to rural libraries. In earlier years the initiative was supported extensively by RRRLF, Govt. of India. This financial year, the Odisha Sahitya Academy supported the programme by donating a large amount of books; numbering 5495, to these libraries. The libraries operate in the afternoons; timings adjusted according to seasons; but for at least two hours per day and in all days; 7 days per week.

This has substantially increased the reading habits and staying informed of the happenings in and around their habitats of the target population.

## Training of Trainers

During the period under report VIRD organized one "Training of Trainers" at its own training hall at Bahali. The event targeted the trainers of IYCF to build their capacity on conducting the trainings effectively and efficiently.

## Nursery Raising Programme

As an income generating programme which would benefit both the organization and the target group, VIRD implemented a demonstrated a nursery programme involving about 66 farm families in a compact area. The intervention targeted the backyards for raising nursery.

In those nurseries, various cash crop varieties were developed and disposed approximately 12500 saplings among 242 beneficiaries.

## UJJAWALA

UJJAWALA, the government of India's step to curb the social crime of human trafficking with reference to women and children is being implemented by VIRD in Angul district. VIRD has been assigned with one component, formation of *Balika Mandals*. The project is being implemented in Kaniha and Talcher blocks of Angul district.

During the period under report VIRD facilitated formation of 10 Balika Mandals. The Mandals are supposed to keep a strict vigil on human trafficking (especially women and children). In addition to formation of *Balika Mandals*, VIRD 06 Vigilance Groups have been formed in the said blocks.

To create a mass awareness, VIRD used the most popular strategy, cultural interventions and conducted *Daskathia* and *Palas* in the covered area. This impacted the desired results in a more meaningful way.

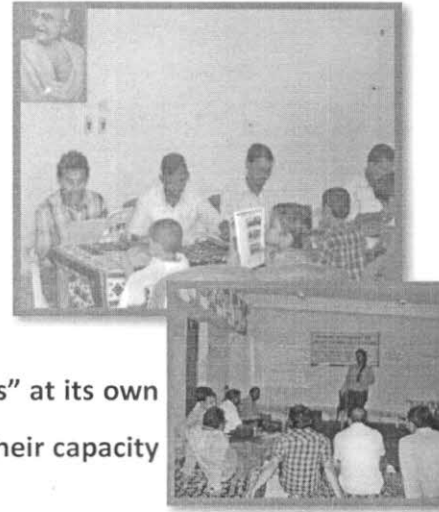
In another event, to substantially contribute to the cause, VIRD conducted one mega convention of women at Talcher. It was participated by rural women from across villages of Kaniha and Talcher blocks.

For a better impact of the messages disseminated, IEC materials; handouts, leaflets and posters were used.

## Education for Children in Remote Areas

VIRD was supported by Volunteers in Service to Education in India (VSEI) a US based INGO to implement a project to impart education to children in remote areas of Deogarh district. The project is implemented in Poipani village of the district. As a measure to fulfilling the objectives, the intervention was started during FY, 2020-21 to which VSEI substantially

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contributed. The contribution was expended to procure some teaching and learning materials, capacity building of the teachers and enhanced salary to one teacher, procurement of sports materials etc.

The project covers 25 children of one village of Reamal block of the district. The teacher is trained under Training of Trainers programme at block headquarters.

## I. CHILD RIGHTS

### Sheltered Childhood to Disadvantaged Girl Children

VIRD has established a Girls' Hostel that provides accommodation, food, tuition and trainings on Tailoring and Computer education to 40 girls belonging to the poorest of the poor section of the society. The hostel established in October 2016 functions in a spacious rented accommodation with Study rooms, Living rooms for Matron, Cook and Caretaker, Office, Library, a room for Trainings-Tailoring & Computer Education, Kitchen, Toilets and Courtyard. The children have been provided cot, table, chair and cupboard.

Scholastic development is our priority concern and being oriented on the importance of maintaining routine in daily activities, the children follow it meticulously. The Matron of the hostel takes the responsibility of administering the routine. Two teachers-One Language Teacher and One Mathematics and Science Teacher- have been engaged for giving tuition to the children. Academic performance of the students is discussed in the Stakeholders' Meeting (Teachers, Guardians and Project Staff) and the guardians of the students and VIRD has procured Teaching-Learning Materials upon suggestion by the Teachers present in the meeting for better academic performance of the students.

Part-time Instructors on Tailoring and Computer provide trainings to the children on Sundays and other Holidays i.e.; at least 7 days in a month. The Hostel has its own Computer and Sewing Machines to be used during training and skill practice by the children.

Books, Educational Videos, Games & Sports equipments (Indoor) have been made available for the children. On Sundays and holidays, Special Sunday classes are organized and Debate, Essay Writing, Drawing and Painting sessions are held to promote innate talents. On Special Sunday Classes, major events of the week are discussed among the children. Similarly; children are encouraged to watch News and Current Affairs Programs on Television and read Newspapers. The Matron as well as the Program Coordinator and Director facilitate orientation sessions on World Environment Day, International Yoga Day. VIRD organizes quarterly consultations with the stakeholders (Parents/guardians & Teachers) to strengthen hostel management and apprise parents/guardians on academic performance of their wards.

## LIVELIHOODS PROMOTION

### Women-led Agriculture Based Livelihood Promotion

Women led livelihood promotion project seeking livelihoods enhancement through promotion of Vegetable Cultivation and promotion of Goat Rearing has been implemented in Mahidharpur & Serenabeda villages in Angul district of Odisha.

The project initiative began with Community Mobilization and collectivization of women swarozgaries into "Women Farmers' Group" and "Women Swarozgaries' Group". Women farmers and swarozgaries have been oriented on Group Norm & Book Keeping, provided input support for Vegetable Cultivation and support for Goatery. "Training on Government Schemes and Organic Farming" has been facilitated by Deputy Director, Horticulture, Angul and Agriculture Officer, Banarpal, Angul and "Training on Goat Rearing" by Veterinary Officer, Banarpal.

VIRD organized Animal Health Camps in each of the project villages and discussion was held on various preventive measures that need to be taken to keep the livestock healthy. Training on "Marketing of Forest Produce as Group Venture" was facilitated by a social activist engaged in promotion of marketing of forest produces. Women were oriented on maintenance of practices of cleanliness and hygiene in collection, primary processing and storage of Mahua. They were oriented on the benefits of Collective Marketing (Marketing as a Group Venture) so that they will have the bargaining power against the petty traders.

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Interface Meeting of the Women Farmers and Swarozgaries with officials of Line Departments i.e.; Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Women and Child Development Departments was organized VIRD. Block Agriculture Officer, Banarpal, Veterinary Officer, Banarpal and Supervisor, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) attended the program and apprised the participants on schemes and programs of their respective departments. Public Education Materials developed by the Departments were distributed among the participants. Women discussed various problems they face in accessing the schemes and programs. The officials discussed about the Grievance Redressal Mechanism of the public authorities and shared their contact numbers with the participants.

### Skill Building

Skill building is an important focused activity of the organization under livelihood program. VIRD with support from development support agencies has undertaken Skill Building Trainings for the differently able youths. Skill Building Trainings on Mobile Phone Repair and Computer have been undertaken by the organization in Mahidharpur. 60 youths have been trained on Mobile Repairing and Computer providing opportunity of employment and self-employment to the trained youths.

Sl.	Trade	Participants	Venue
01	Mushroom cultivation	17 women	Mahidharpur
02	Agarbati making	12 women	saranabeda
03	Candle making	14 women	Swadhar Home

VIRD has undertaken training of women on livelihood skill creating opportunity for them to contribute to family income and to make them self-reliant. With the Support of Sita Ram Jindal Foundation, New Delhi trainings of women on Mushroom Cultivation, Agarbati Making and Candle Making have been organized.

### Promotion of Kitchen Garden

VIRD has supported 56 households to develop kitchen gardens in their respective backyards. It is a livelihood intervention and targets the rural women to participate in family income measures. The targeted women have been trained to develop a qualitatively superior vegetable garden in terms of varieties of vegetables grown by the households. It is important to note that the initiative has resulted in improvement of dietary status of the households and reduction in disease burden among them.

### CARE CENTRES

#### SWADHAR HOME

Women & Child Development Department, Government of India has been extending financial assistance to VIRD since 2001 to run the Swadhar Home. The objective of the Home is to provide shelter for a limited period to distressed women and girls. Presently, 30 adults and 08 children are sheltered in the home. The program received 19 new cases this year and resolved 17.

10 follow up programs have been conducted to assess the present status of rehabilitated residents. The rehabilitated residents receive counselling, legal support, weekly health checkups, youth education, literary classes, food and clothing. The residents are also given training in various programs such as tailoring, broom making, cooking, and garden activities. The women have been collectivized into Self Help Groups for enabling them to earn and save money. Legal assistance in the form of drafting petitions, registering cases at police stations, and preparing agreement documents is also provided. In some instances, the organization takes the case directly to the court. 20 awareness meetings and 4 home committee meetings have been organized to assess the performance of the program.

#### Category of Cases

- Unwanted Motherhood-03
- Survivors of Sexual Abuse-01
- Deserted by Husband-13
- Survivors of Domestic Violence-11
- Widow-04
- Mentally Challenged-01

SWABALAMBI/ Life of Dignity for the Dibyangs

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VIRD has organised a one-day Seminar at Reamal on "Ensuring a Life of Dignity for the Dibyangs" to sensitize the public on the issues and concerns of the Dibyangs and the role of the larger society in ensuring a life of dignity for the Dibyangs. Community leaders, PRI representatives, representatives of civil society organizations, government duty bearers, leaders of associations of Dibyangs participated in the Seminar.

VIRD has established an Information Centre equipped with material and human resource to provide information and handholding support to the Dibyangs. The Centre is equipped with information on various agencies working for Dibyangs and reference and legal books on various Acts. Laws and Schemes meant for Dibyangs.

VIRD has organized Dibyang Identification Camps and linked them with government and non-governmental organizations working on the issue as a result of which Dibyangs have got Hearing Aids, Crutches and Spectacles.

#### SC GIRLS HOSTEL:

Education has been regarded as the top most nation-building exercise: and hence, the thrust on our action agenda. To our belief, education is the process towards fulfilling the optimal development of children and it can enable them having a productive life. Considering the challenges faced by poor children, especially in tribal households, we took education as a mission and focus residential mode of teaching-learning for all-round development of the head, heart and the hands simultaneously.

In the initial phase, over two decades back in 1998-99, to address the educational need of SC girls in Reamal block of Deogarh. VIRD with the support of Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India opened Hostel for Sc Girls at Khelai . The Hostel presently provides free boarding and educational services with free of cost to 100 Sc girls from Class-I to Class-VIII;. The Hostel provides free education with coaching facility during morning and night, teaching learning materials, free health checkup, uniform & clothing materials, educational tour and vocational training as appropriate.

#### ONE STOP CENTRE.

VIRD runs 'One Stop Center (SAKHI)' at the Pradhanpat, Deogarh SAKHI is a centrally sponsored programme of Ministry of W&CD, Govt. of India to provide all kinds of assistance to women victims of any age of any kind of atrocities. Services include legal assistance, police assistance, medical assistance, counseling, temporary shelter etc.

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