

# **A** **NNUAL** **REPORT**

**KIRAN Society**  
**2022-2023**





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# DEAR PARTNERS AND FRIENDS,

In this year 2023, we are looking with new hope into the future, because the past experience of Covid and its consequence of lockdown has been for many of us, especially our KIRAN students who live in far-off villages, such a painful time. So I like to look at nature which is filled with symbols to learn from: I admired the temple-flower tree in our garden beside the Ganges river: in January totally bare and empty of leaves ---- and then in April, what a marvel! it's filled with beautiful white flowers, like a wedding bouquet!

This bears for me the lesson of hope and trust, calling to us: "NEVER GIVE UP HOPE! FILL YOUR MIND WITH POSITIVE THOUGHTS!" And this Annual Report before you is just such an example and appeal. As soon as we could start again after the Covid period with "normal life" and accept the students in school, all worked hard to overcome the past hardships and help the children to succeed this year with success.

In the Health Department, more focus is given to training and guiding the parents either in the community or inside the campus through various therapeutic services.

This year, the Education Department laid emphasis on sensitization of the targeted community people to show the ability of children with disabilities and discussed their issues and concerns. Apart from producing various items made by youth, the Livelihood department focused on empowering the youth with different abilities through various skill training programs in the community and inside the KIRAN premises. The Human Resource Training, Hostel, and Research department have provided many practical experiences to the students by taking them outside in addition to classroom teaching. And the department of Central Services with KIVI care focused on the construction of roads inside the campus and installed customized software to improve the internal management system. A sign of renewal has been also the formation of a new Core Management Team, in which we took care to include more women, younger, fresh, and committed professionals.

Therefore, dear friends and partners, let us go forward with hope and joy, and continue with your support and encouragement to work for the INCLUSION of the weaker ones into the society at large. Then we can bloom like this temple-flower tree, and never give up striving together for a more beautiful world.

**SANGEETA JK**

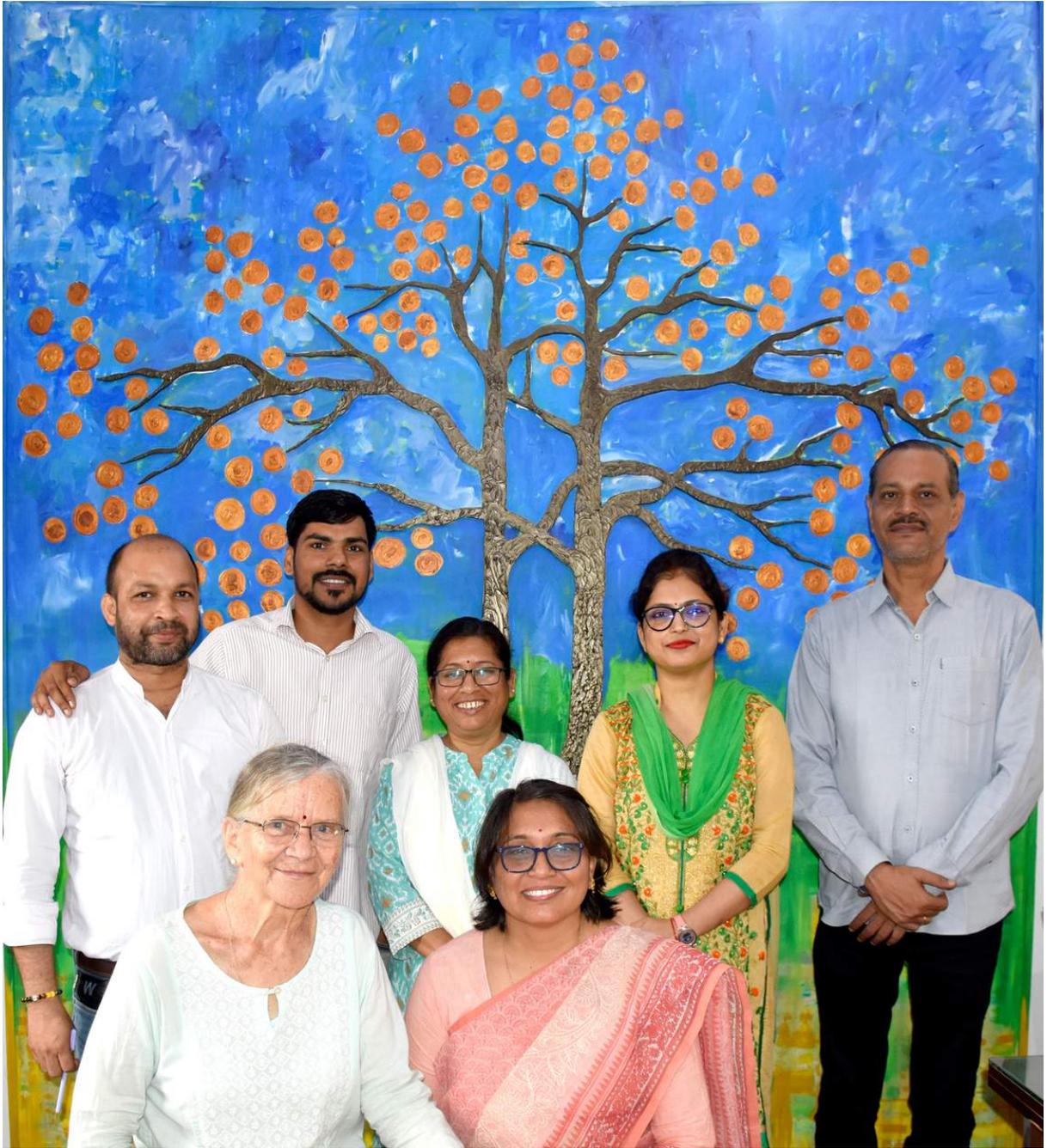
# MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT OF KIRAN FONDATION IN SWITZERLAND

Kiran Foundation and Kiran Friends Switzerland are financially supporting Kiran Village in Madhopur, Varanasi since more than thirty years. The whole team of Kiran village delivers with great involvement custom quality services in education, rehabilitation, and lively hood to children and their families. As it is getting more and more difficult to raise funds, the quality of services and the confidence between donators and providers is essential. We thank Sangeeta and her team for their involvement in 2022.



**SUSANN MÖSLE-HÜPPI,  
PRESIDENT**





## **NEW CORE MANAGMENT TEAM**



# HEALTH

KIRAN's Health department works to optimize the functional skills of children and youth with disability to make it less challenging for them to cope with the environment which is comparatively difficult for them. Through institutional based and community based medical and physical rehabilitation health department offers early intervention, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, psychotherapy, speech therapy, corrective surgeries, orthotic aids and appliances, and prosthetic limbs, so as to maximize the abilities of the differently able children and youth.

Beside these core rehabilitation services; parents training program also provided to parents of children with disabilities.

## KEY *INITIATIVES*

- This year good hike observed in parents' contributions for different rehabilitation services.
- Very young children reached Kiran for different rehabilitation services.
- Under the project of "early identification and intervention Program" health team assessed the development of 1834 infants (0-5 months).
- Kiran health team trained 108 parents especially to mothers for rehabilitation care for children with disability.



**5** States

**27** Districts

**1560**

beneficiaries availed institutional based rehabilitation services

**435**

children were newly enrolled

**13,524**

therapy sessions were given

**1885**

aids and appliances repaired were delivered to the children.



Pari is a 6-year-old girl from Azamgarh. Her family's socio-economic condition is below-average. The time when she came to KIRAN, she had difficulty in standing and walking independently. She depended on parents for Activities of Daily Living (ADL) (feeding, brushing, dressing and undressing).

Thanks to KIRAN now she can stand and walk independently with the help of AFO (Ankle foot orthosis). She can eat by herself and do brushing and undressing. She also can read and write.

**A LITTLE  
HELP, A LOT  
OF HOPE**



The education department of Kiran provides quality education in a systematic manner mainly to girl children, marginalized children of surrounding villages and children with disabilities who have been deprived of age appropriate learning. The department works in two units. The first is the inclusive school unit where children without disabilities and with mild disabilities study together following the prescribed syllabus and norms of the government. The second unit is special unit where children of moderate to severe disabilities get special education by special educators. In both the units the students are assessed on individual level and their individual goal plan and educational plans are framed. Besides that, outside school teachers, students and trainees are sensitized about the need of people with disabilities in the community.



- 2 new big screened television got installed at 2 needful places.
- After "The training for parents of children with disabilities" parents formed a Whatsapp group and are now working in association to help & support each other.
- A seminar has been conducted on "Best practices on Inclusive Education."

## KEY INITIATIVES

- Inclusive education system for children with disabilities got strengthen with individual assessment, goal planning and regular review of syllabus.
- More than 3000 people including teachers and students got sensitized in field of disability.



**289** Students in Education

**73**

Of them have disabilities including Cerebral Palsy, Intellectual disability, Locomotors disability, Hearing Impairment and Low Vision

**40**

Teachers from 13 different institutions and schools got training on how to approach teaching for children with disabilities in an inclusive classroom

**2138**

Students from 15 different schools got sensitized on concerns and issues of children with disabilities and heard the story narrated by the KIRAN staff with disability. It developed a deeply positive attitude of these adolescents & youth

**140**

People participated in a workshop on inclusion and disability. Including parents, students, staffs and other supporting members

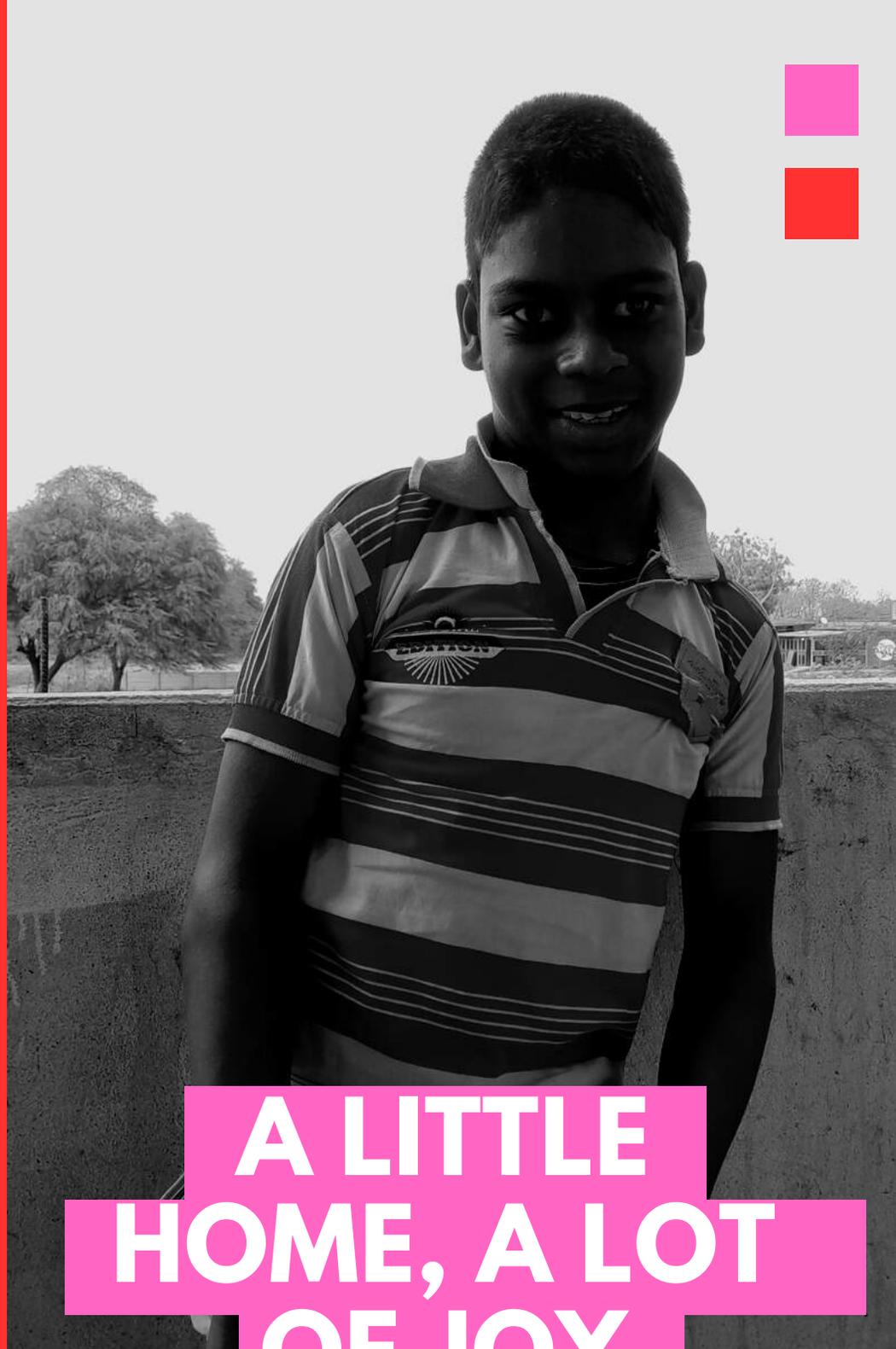


Prabhakar is an 11 year old boy who is affected by cerebral palsy with speech impairment. When he was admitted in special unit, he was wheel chair bounded and totally dependent on others for his daily living activities. Now he is living near Kiran society in a rented house for getting special education and therapeutic services from Kiran. He is working as a salesman in a small scale medical company.

When he was admitted in special unit of Kiran School he was not able to do any academics activities, like matching, shorting, and identifying etc. Now he can count numbers up to 50 and identify coins of 1, 2, 5, and 10 rupees and able to write own name.

Now he is able to identify fruits name, colors name, body parts and vegetables name. Prabhakar is learning to do transaction of money between Rs. 1 to 50. He is able to walk with walker without support and reduced wheel chair restrictions. His speech is also improving with regular speech therapy.

He likes to chat with his classmates and other people and always has a laughing face. He likes to play within the group with his friends.



**A LITTLE  
HOME, A LOT  
OF JOY**

# LIVELIHOOD

The objective of the Livelihood Program is to reduce inequality by generating employment among the youths with and without disabilities. The livelihood program is functioning basically in two-parts, first part is Vocational skill training unit and second one is production unit. Vocational skill training unit is designed to equip people with disabilities and from marginalized communities, thus empowering them to lead a life with dignity and independence. It has designed to provide training in a variety of fields such as carpentry, horticulture, Bakery, Grihani, tailoring, and other vocational skills. While in the production part, we established four production units naming wood workshop, art & design, Café, and food preservation unit in alignment to provide the employment for the people who challenged with disability.



**RENOVATION OF SURYODAY**



## KEY INITIATIVES

- Enlargement of VST: Now called Livelihood Including:
  - Vocational Skills training for the production part
  - Swavalamban project: empowering differently abled and marginalized youth through skills development in KIRAN
  - Aatmnirbhar project: empowering differently abled and marginalized youth through skills development in community based
  - Joy Cafe & Swiss bakery in Lanka

Since October 2022, major renovation projects have been undertaken there. The goal is to be able to accommodate more people in the restaurant part, and to increase our sales on the bakery side.

So, for several month we have been working hard to make this place better, and we had plan to start the training soon. At last, we expect to officially reopen around the end of June. Rakesh KR. KANNOUJIYA is now in charge of this part: Joy café and Swiss bakery.

**178** Trainees

**40**

Of them have started their own business after training in VST

Trainees trained from more than

**85** Villages **6** Districts

**3** States

**34** families got special chairs for the challenge with disability people from our wood workshop unit

More than **50 000**

RPS sales production were sailed on Maha Shivatri Day (18th February)





# A LITTLE MACHINE, A LOT OF CLOTHES

Priya Vishwakarma from Mudadev village was a student in Varanasi in BA. After that she did not get employment so she came in 2022 in stitching class during 1 year. She learned so many things like painting, stitching by machine and hands, embroidery, how to make woolen clothes with hands, and even English class.

Then she started her small business at home. She has her own stitching machine, which is at home since a long time but nobody was using this. But after training, Priya started to use to make some stitching of her villagers, and she is still learning and improve herself in this subject.

Also, she will get some money from KIRAN because she is helping in our department's art & design for big orders. So now she has sufficient knowledge to do so many things alone, and by this way to get some remuneration: she is definitely more independent.

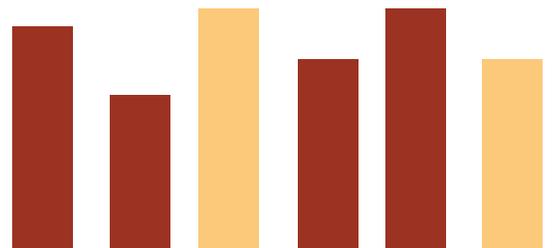
The department focuses to offer training mostly the females from rural background. The course is recognised by Rehabilitation Council of India and examining body is National Board of Examination in Rehabilitation. The course had a new nomenclature this year and it became “Diploma in Special Education – Multiple Disabilities”



## KEY INITIATIVES

- HRTC has focused this year for library up-gradation and has access to more than 1450 books in the library with modern classification.
- Diploma students celebrated “World Down Syndrome Day” on 21 ST March through various activities like group discussion, power-point presentation and poster making.
- The department took an initiative to be a part of a project on disability inclusion called “Good Governance for Urban Inclusion through data and Empowerment of Person with Disabilities” funded by UNESCO.

# HRTHR



**278**

Students have been trained by HRTC

**20**

Of them are persuing their diploma in special education.

**37**

STudents were with disabilities

More than

**1450**

Books have been classified in the librairy





# A LITTLE BIT OF A LANGUAGE , A LOT OF HOPE

Anju belongs to a middle class family. His father run a small store and her mother is a house wife. She was not very fortunate and she had consequences of polio just at the age of one year. She had to stay in maternal house for her possible treatment and studies.

With lots of struggle she completing her 12 th class in 2001 and then engaged herself for preparing to get admission in a university courses. At the same time she was trying to get artificial limb from Udaipur and this lead a big deterioration in her studies and also in her physical condition. This was the time when only wheelchair was the possibility for her mobility.

She came to know about KIRAN and after completing her teacher's training course from KIRAN applied to become a government teacher at Delhi. She got success in that and working under Government of Delhi as a primary teacher with good salary and very happy to serve for young children as a teacher.



# A JOURNEY IN KIRAN

Hi, I am Promila Charan, a disabled woman (polio in lower limbs), I have completed my master degree in Economics. At that time I was only one female disabled student among many students. My parents were educated government employees and were very supportive to me. I have three sisters and one brother (One brother died in 2015) and I am the youngest. Whenever I asked my siblings for help, they extended a helping hand to me. They always encouraged me that I can do it, which motivated me a lot. Also my classmates and friends supported me because I was good at studies. Whenever any of my classmates had problems with studies, I was always ready to help them. It is in my nature; even today I try to help in every possible way.

It makes me very happy to see the change and attitude towards persons with disabilities in the current scenario. Many more disabled people are coming out from their families and going for higher education, getting jobs. The government is providing many good schemes for them like pension, job reservation, skill training, providing aids & appliances etc. But it is not enough; especially in rural areas, even today many disabled girls are hiding in the corners of their homes. It is the duty of social workers and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society to step forward for their betterment and try to integrate into the inclusive society so that they too can lead a dignified life.

I joined KIRAN on 8th July, 1997 through one of my family friend. KIRAN was at that time in Nagwa, Lanka, Varanasi city. After being selected through interview, I got the opportunity to serve KIRAN in administration department. Later I served as Personal Assistant to the Executive Director for many years (2004 to 2020). I was lucky as I got opportunities to assist Ms. Judith Keller (Sangeeta J.K) and KIRAN Society too. Yes, she also supported and guided me in many ways which helped me lots.

I got promoted in 2020 and became the head of Communication/Public Relation in KIRAN Society.

My first day was interesting and surprising when I saw different types of disabilities. At that time I decided to be a part of KIRAN and will be set an example to the children so that they too can make their place in the society on their own. They have to learn how to face the challenges and be prepared to overcome it. Although I rarely got a chance to interact with the children, whenever I met, I had a good interaction with them.

Apart from my managerial and administrative tasks, my major duty was, to coordinate foreign volunteers i.e. to prepare several documents for them in order to obtain Indian visa and when he/she arrives in KIRAN, to do another online procedure for their arrival report and registration with FRRO (Foreign Regional Registration Office). And to support in their adaptation within KIRAN as it is the new world for them. It's gave me a great pleasure that I did my responsibility with full of commitment and sincerity without any problem. As/when required, I had never counted my duty hours. I tried my best to support KIRAN. I will be always thankful to Ms. Sangeeta, team members, children and well wishers and friends for their generous support to give me an opportunity to serve KIRAN. A VERY BIG THANKS TO ALL.

The visitors/guests play an important role in getting to know KIRAN better through exposure visits. The best way to show them KIRAN's activities through power point presentation and Kivi campus as it is very important to know everything about KIRAN which enriches their experiences.

Yes, I too have faced challenges in my life. If family is supportive and well wishers are around, you can overcome, but patience is required. We know very well that life is not a bed of roses. I've never forgotten this inspiring and beautiful poem by Robert Frost:

The woods are lovely, dark and deep,  
But I have promises to keep;  
Miles to go before I sleep;  
Miles to go before I sleep !!!

Yes, I too think that my journey is not over. I have to do still many things. Thank you KIRAN for a being part of my life.

**A STORY WRITTEN BY  
PROMILA CHARAN**

# SUPPORT SERVICES

## ***CONSTRUCTION***

The construction of a 500ft long 5-inch concrete road in Kiran Society, Varanasi, from 23rd February to 7th March 2023, was successfully completed within the budget and timeline.



## **COMMUNICATION**

The communication team has grown: now Santosh, Sandeep, Shushil, and Madeleine (volunteers) are in charge of the website, the networks, and any project related to communication or marketing.



## **VOLUNTEERING**

Louise, Vincent, Mara & Madeleine are four volunteers from Switzerland and France. Together they help a lot at KIRAN.

Each in their own department, they give their time in physiotherapy, project management, marketing and communication. They also spend a lot of time with the hostel children and actively participate in the life of the centre. Thank you to them for their help!



***"VOLUNTEERING IN KIRAN BRINGS JOY, PEACE AND CONFIDENCE"***

## **ADMINISTRATION**

KIRAN Society currently has a total staff of 145, with 94 male employees and 51 female employees. It is great to see that the society is making strides towards gender diversity in its workforce. Out of the total staff, 33 employees are persons with disabilities.

Ashok Yadav had always been passionate about sports. Despite being affected by polio, he refused to let his disability hold him back. At the age of 36, he found himself working as an In charge (Support Staff-Cleaning) at KIRAN .

In addition to his job, Ashok spent his free time playing sports. His dedication to sports had paid off, and recently, he had won a state-level award in rugby. It was a proud moment for him, and he felt that his hard work and dedication had finally paid off.

**A LITTLE  
EFFORT  
MAKES A  
LOT**







# Donate Now

**KIRAN provides appliances such as Calipers, Prosthesis, Splint, and Customize Wheelchairs to children with disabilities from marginalized sections.**

**Every year on average KIRAN helps about 1000 children. KIRAN delivered 529 appliances and 62 aids.**

**The average cost to provide calipers to one child is INR 5000. Donate now to help KIRAN provide Calipers to children with disabilities from marginalized communities.**

Scan QR or Go to to the link to donate



[bit.ly/donate2kiran](https://bit.ly/donate2kiran)

*It is an amazing feeling for parents to see their child with locomotor disability walk, your donations will help a child with disability walk.*