



MCGM Welfare Centre, Lokhandwala Back Road, Lokhandwala, Andheri (W), Mumbai 400053
26345549/9819063844 | Email: itsoai2012@gmail.com Website: www.oaischoolofautism.org

**NINTH ANNUAL REPORT OF ORGANIZATION FOR AUTISTIC
INDIVIDUALS (OAI)
June 2021 – May 2022**

Dear Parents, Donors & Well Wishers,

The last two years have seen great suffering and distress all over the world due to the spread of the global pandemic of Coronavirus. The School has remained closed during the period from March 2020 to 6th March 2022.

Reopening of the School in March, 2022 after two years:

Like all others, we too had to close our School from 13th March, 2020, initially under the orders of the Government of Maharashtra up to 31st March. Later, the Central Government announced countrywide lockdown from 25th March first for three weeks, but since the situation continued to be serious, the lockdown was extended for almost till Diwali. While essential activities were gradually resumed, the educational institutions continued to remain closed. Although, sometime later, online classes were started in educational institutions, we could not do so because of the special problems of persons with disabilities.

As stated in the previous report, during the second wave of Coronavirus beginning from April 2021, the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM) had decided to set up a ward level Covid Care Centre in their Welfare Centre building in Lokhandwala, and the second floor which was under our occupation was taken over from us.

Thus, from May, 2021 till it was restored to us on 4th March, 2022 after the visit of the Joint Municipal Commissioner, the second floor remained in the possession of the K-West Ward. Like they set up hospital beds and installed oxygen pipelines on all floors, including even the parking area on the ground floor, the second floor was also used for the same purpose while the School had remained closed during this period.



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After return of normalcy in the month of November, 2021 when the Government of Maharashtra announced a Standard Operating Procedure for reopening of educational institutions, after consulting the parents, the Trustees decided to reopen the School, initially for boys above the age of 18 years from 1st December, 2021 but this could not be done due to recurrence of Coronavirus as Omicron variant just around that time.

It was only after improvement in the situation that the Trustees could hold their first physical meeting after two years on 20th February, 2022 when they deliberated on the urgent need for reopening the School and worked out the steps to be taken for that purpose. It was decided to first undertake thorough cleaning and sanitisation of the School building, arrange cleaning of the underground and overhead water storage tanks, seek the written consent of the parents for sending their children to School while following Covid Appropriate Behaviour, secure Vaccination Certificates of all the employees and of children from the age of 15 years upwards. It was decided to reopen the School for first two days from 7th March, only for employees to ensure that everything was functional and, after that, to open it fully for the students. We are happy to say that because of the strenuous efforts of all, we were able to welcome our lovely children from 9th March, 2022 and the parents warmly welcomed this event and extended their full cooperation. As decided by the Trustees, the Psychologist made assessment of all students after interviewing their parents to note the changes in their behaviour during the long pandemic.

We had 24 students including five of the BPL category when the school was closed two years ago. When the School reopened, we had 15 students including four of the BPL category. While five have left because their parents have moved out of Mumbai or for other reasons, two are still considering when to return. The parents of one are extremely keen that, even though the father has been transferred from Mumbai, their son, who has multiple disabilities, must attend our School whenever his mother is in Mumbai. They are regular donors of OAI and are keen to continue their association with the School in view of the improvement noticed in their son over a period of years. This is a matter of great pride and satisfaction for the Trustees. Two new students have been admitted after reopening and, according to our practice, their Assessment has been made by the Psychologist.



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As for the staff, all except two of our Special Educators have returned. We are trying to recruit at least one qualified and experienced person. We have recruited a qualified Physiotherapist who joined from 1st May, 2022. We are looking for a suitable music therapist since the old one has left.

While taking stock of the damage to our equipment, during the long period of the closure of the school, we found one desktop computer, outdoor units of all the three air conditioners, all the wall clocks, all the Venetian Blinds, cartridges and mouses used in our desktops, some of our closed circuit cameras, all our sports equipment and some items of furniture were damaged beyond repairs. This is a big loss to the property of the School some of which required immediate replacement for resuming normal functioning of the School.

After lot of effort, we have succeeded in getting permission of the MCGM for installing a separate electricity metre for the first and second floors of the Welfare Centre building which are in our possession now. The metre is in the name of the Assistant Engineer (Electricity), K-West Ward while the bill will be paid by us. It was installed just when the school had reopened.

We received a CSR donation of ₹.7.50 lakhs in the month of March, 2022. This enabled us to undertake major repairs of the bathroom on the ground floor, repairs and painting of the boundary wall of the Welfare Centre, some urgent repairs within the building, repairs of some items of furniture, providing curtains in the big windows on both floors, buying a desktop computer for the office, setting up a gym after buying a treadmill and a stepper for the students and buying some steel almirahs etc. This donation was very timely and we are grateful to the corporate donor for their help.

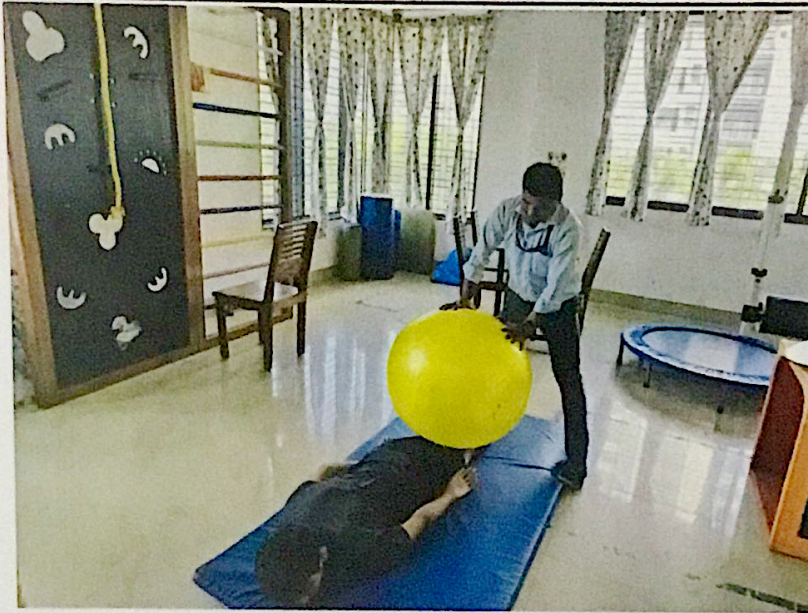
The School presently provides following therapies to its students according to the requirement of each after assessment:

- **Occupational Therapy for Sensory Integration & Behavioural issues:**
Our school provides its students a holistic Autism Intervention programme after their proper assessment and evaluation by the Occupational Therapist. The students can then receive appropriate therapy sessions and their learning programmes and plans can be tailored as per their requirements.



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OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SESSION IN PROGRESS:



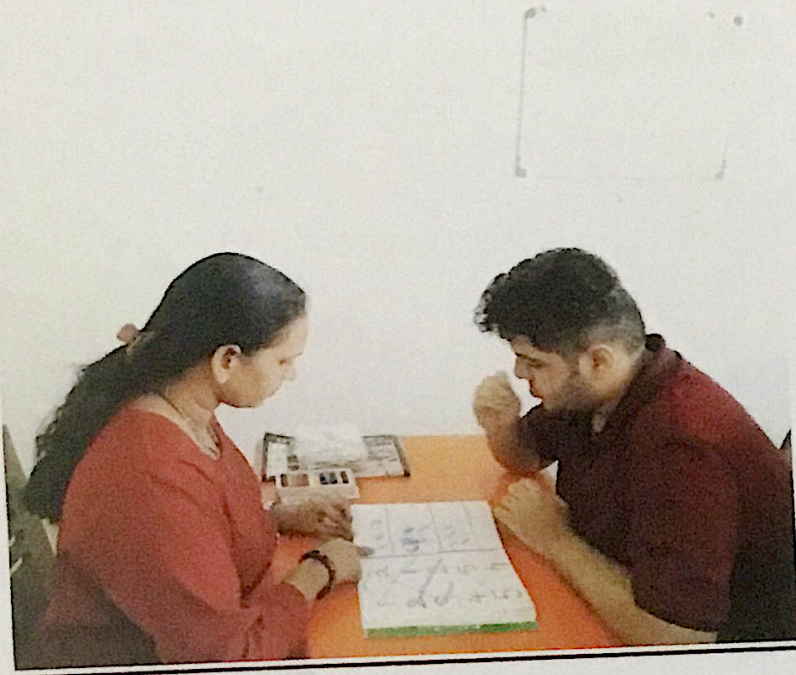
- **PRE-VOCATIONAL & VOCATIONAL THERAPY SESSION:**
Students engaged in vocational activity of Diya painting. Vocational training and pre-vocational training are very important skills which help them gain independence and to start understanding their role in the society.





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- Academics and Art therapy:



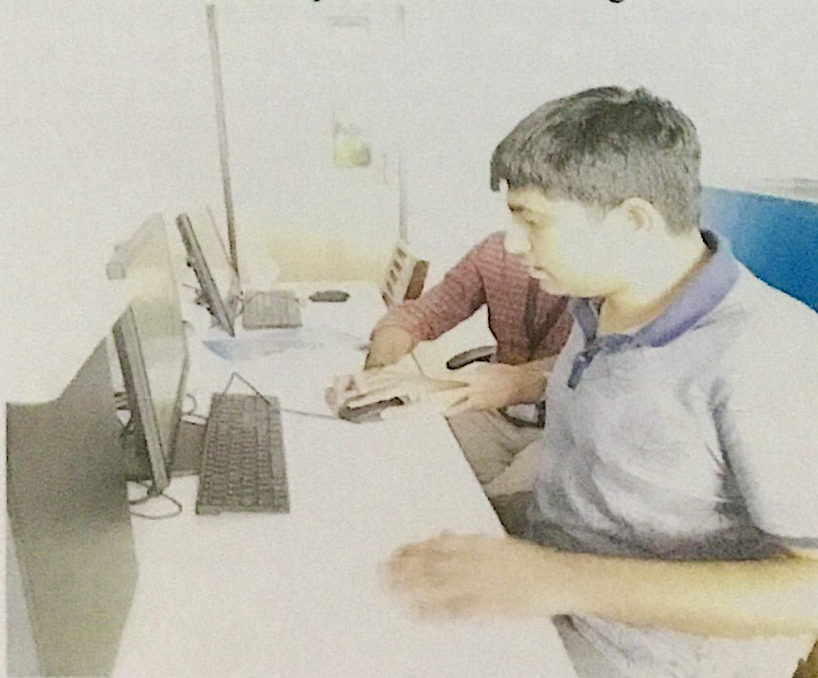


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- **Kitchen/Cooking skills:** Kitchen session in progress where the children learn being independent.



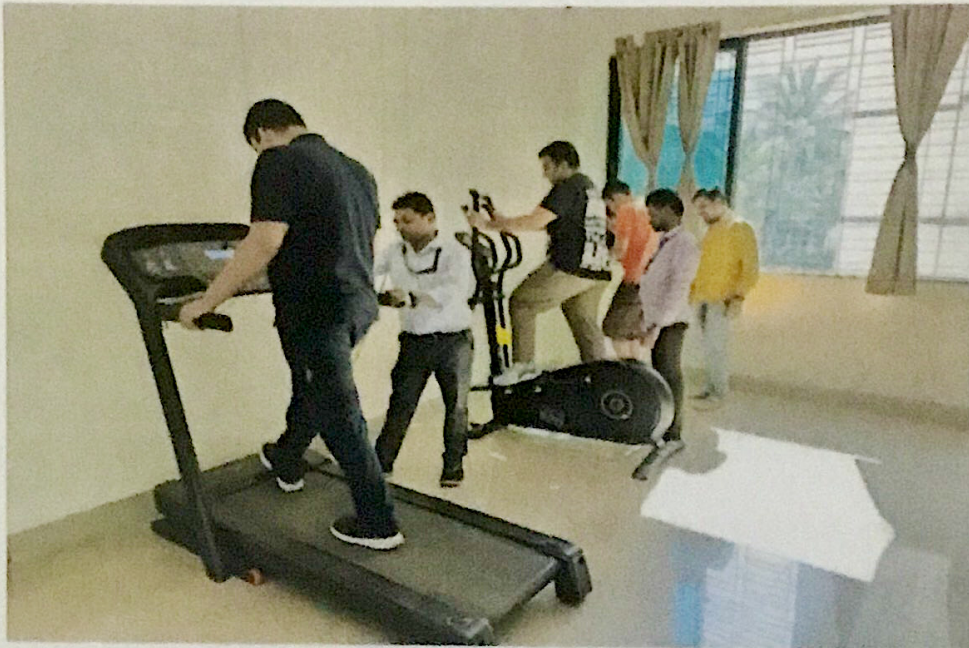
- **Computer learning:** Students with autism respond very well when they use devices like computers to aid learning.





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- **Games & Group Physical activities:**



- **Activities of Daily Living:** ADL session helps our students to live an independent life as far as their basic requirements are concerned. This helps to increase their self-confidence as well.





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- Summer camp for keeping the students occupied during Summer vacation (In the month of May)

Renewal of Registration of the Trust under the Disabilities Act:

As stated in the previous report, we had resubmitted our application after answering the queries of the Disability Commissioner, Government of Maharashtra in January 2021. We received the Renewal Certificate in November, 2021 for a period of five years till 31st March, 2025.

Renewal of Leave & License Agreement of Welfare Centre by the Municipal Corporation:

As stated in the previous report, we submitted a detailed application in July 2021 justifying renewal of our allotment for a period of ten years duly supported by requisite documents. Though a team of officers for inspection led by the Municipal Health Officer of K-West Ward had visited our School on 16th March, 2022 and had submitted a favourable report, allotment has not been done till now, presumably due to impending elections of MCGM. The New Policy stipulates that if the existing institutions engaged in social welfare work have not violated any of the conditions of the existing L & L Agreement, and fulfil the prescribed criteria they would be entitled to automatic renewal of allotment. We have been awaiting orders for renewal since July, 2020 and have been pursuing the matter all along.

As stated in the previous report, the License Fees for Welfare Centres have also been hiked four times from the date the fees have become due. A provision has been made for increase of 5% from year to year besides increase in Security Deposit. We would be required to make payment of large sums once the orders for renewal are issued.

Compliance of Charity Commissioner and Income Tax & Professional Tax matters



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The financial accounts of the Trust for the FY 2020-21 were filed online on the Charity Commissioner's website by the prescribed date by our Chartered Accountants, after conducting audit as required under the Maharashtra Public Trusts Act. Similarly, our income tax return was also filed online by the prescribed date. Professional Tax was deducted and deposited online as prescribed Returns have also been filed in time. No objections have been received from any of the authorities.

As required by an amendment of the Income Tax Act in the year 2021, our trust has received fresh registration in August 2021. It has also been granted permission for receiving donations under section 80G of the Income Tax Act. We have started submitting statement of donations online, based on which, Donation Certificates are generated which are then forwarded to the donors.

We have also enrolled our trust with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India for receiving donations under the Corporate Social Responsibility(CSR) provisions of the Companies Act.

Assistance in securing Unique Disability ID for students:

The School has always endeavoured to encourage and assist the parents in doing online enrolment of the children in the website www.swavlambancard.gov.in. of the Department of Disabilities of the

Government of India. Help has also been given in their assessment in the nearby Cooper Hospital in the Mumbai Suburban area. Four students were enrolled in February 2020 and some were also assessed but no progress could be made due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Two of them have recently received Disability Certificates and the other two are likely to get them soon. In all cases of new admissions, parents are advised to enrol their children at the earliest.

Vaccination of Employees and Students:

After government's decision to arrange of vaccination of children in the age group of 12-18 years, parents have been advised to get their children vaccinated and submit their vaccination certificates to the school.

Individualised Educational Plan(IEP) of students:



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After the re-opening of the school on 7th March, the regular therapy sessions had started including occupational therapy after a physiotherapist joined. The trustees decided that the I.E.P of each student should be prepared by the Psychologist after receiving inputs from special educators. The Computer Teacher would prepare his IEP separately.

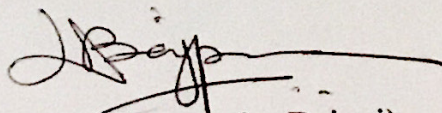
Parent's Teacher's Meeting:

The trustees have also decided that the Parent's Teacher's Meet should be organized once in two months subject to the availability of the parents. The first meeting after the re-opening of the school was held on Saturday 28th May, 2022 when the Trustees also met the parents and discussed the developments since the reopening of the school.

It is a matter of singular satisfaction for the Trustees that it has been possible for them to reopen the School after the traumatic period of two years and most of our students have joined the School which was ready to welcome them after full preparations and normal activities have resumed. We are eagerly looking forward to closing down of the Covid Care Centre in the Welfare Centre building so that the parking space on the ground floor becomes available to us for providing much needed sports facilities to the students - a unique feature of our School in this metropolis where open spaces are so rare.

We solicit continued patronage from all our well-wishers. The Trustees wish to thank all the stakeholders, which include the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai, the Charity Commissioner, the Disability Commissioner, Pune, and most importantly, the generous donors, the caring parents of the lovely children, the teachers and other employees for their cooperation which they have been extending to us.

Dated: 24th June 2022


(Devopam Narendra Bajpai)
Trustee