Ramakrishna Sarada Samiti

Ramakrishna Sarada Samiti (RKSS) Annual Report 2025–26

Reporting Period: 1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026

Since 1968 • Women & Children • Education • Skills • Community • Health & Hygiene

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Chairperson's Foreword

This year at RKSS has felt, in many ways, like an extension of last year's momentum, but with more hands joining in. Our SATTVA women continued to stitch, upcycle and sell their way toward independence, our Gammatwadi pre-schoolers kept growing in confidence, and Gappagoshti remained the monthly thread that ties parents, doctors and facilitators together in conversation.

What stood out for us in 2025–26 was how many new organisations chose to walk alongside RKSS this year, in addition to our older friends. Ambit Oditi Foundation completed yet another year of a partnership that has now completed thirteen years, continuing to sponsor sewing machines, uniforms and certification ceremonies for our SATTVA women. Alongside them, we found new collaborators – the SBI Ladies Club, Everstone Group, KJ Somaiya Hospital's Department of Community Medicine, Rubaroo Foundation, Healing Hearts, Prayas Foundation, and the Kamala Sundaram Foundation, to name a few – each bringing something the Samiti alone could not have offered its community.

We remain grateful, as always, to the Swamijis of the Ramakrishna Order for their continued blessings and guidance, and to our Trustees and advisors who keep RKSS anchored to its founding purpose even as the organisation keeps finding new partners and new ways to serve.

On behalf of the Board, my thanks to every donor, partner and volunteer named in this report, and to the many more whose contributions happen quietly, off-camera, and do not always make it into a document like this one.



VIDYA RAGHU

From the Director's Desk

If last year was about building JEET and strengthening SATTVA, this year was about deepening both – and about opening RKSS's doors to a wider circle of partners. Our Gappagoshti sessions, which used to mostly be an internal parent-teacher forum, this year brought in doctors from KJ Somaiya Hospital, child-safety facilitators from Rubaroo Foundation, and mental health volunteers from Healing Hearts, each adding a dimension we could not have built on our own.

SATTVA's outreach also travelled further this year – our trainers went out to Navjeevan Mahila Vasatigruh in Mankhurd and to the Government Shanti Sadan Women's Home in Ulhasnagar to train women who may never otherwise have found their way to Sion-Koliwada. Most notable outreach by SATTVA was to the under trials at Byculla Prison, and plans to add visits to Thane and Kalyan prisons. We are thankful to corporates like Everstone Group and Ambit continued to open their premises to us for exhibitions, giving our artisans a market beyond the neighbourhood.

JEET is growing organically along two dimensions. First, RKSS has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Gurukulam Schools under the Tribal Welfare Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh. Through this partnership, we have the opportunity to provide video-based lessons to thousands of teachers across these schools, thereby empowering teachers and enhancing classroom learning outcomes for their students – सशक्त शिक्षक, समर्थ विद्यार्थ.

Second, we are promoting the adoption of the JEET platform in schools through various support initiatives, such as the free bicycle distribution programme sponsored by Canara Robeco Asset Management Company (CRAM), Mumbai.

We are conscious that a report like this can only capture a fraction of what actually happens across the year at RKSS – the small, everyday interactions between our staff, volunteers, mothers and children that don't get photographed or written up. What follows is our attempt to record the year as faithfully as we can, drawing on our social media updates, our own program notes, and publicly available information about our partners.



RAGHU PILAKA

RKSS Gammatwadi (Pre-school)

Gammatwadi remained the anchor of RKSS's work with young children this year, continuing to provide uniforms, study material and nutritious snacks to children from the Sion-Koliwada community, alongside its regular curriculum of school-readiness and socio-emotional activities.

Summer Camp

The summer camp of April–May 2025 opened with a preschool exhibition and graduation party on 4 April, followed by weeks of storytelling, role play and games for the children through the summer break. As in previous years, older students and volunteers helped run sessions for the younger ones.



Storytelling, role play and games, April 2025

Digital Learning



Digital tools in the preschool day

RKSS continued to treat digital access as part of the preschool curriculum rather than an add-on. The thinking behind this, as our teachers put it, is simple: children who are born into a digital age but denied digital access end up worse off than either the fully connected or the fully offline child – so Gammatwadi tries to make its children comfortable, careful digital natives from the start, rather than leaving that to chance later.

Festivals, Sports Day & School Life

School reopened on 16 June 2025, and the year that followed was marked by the usual calendar of festivals and small celebrations that give Gammatwadi its character – Janmashtami with little Krishnas and Radhas in mid-August, an Independence Day flag-hoisting with Chief Guest Sri Mayappan Budhe, Children's Day in November in memory of Chacha Nehru, Christmas in December, and Holi in March 2026 to close out the year. Pre-writing and motor-skill activities continued through the year, alongside the school's annual day, held on 1 February 2026.



First day back at school, June 2025

JEET – A Movement By the NGOs

JEET - सशक्त शिक्षक, समर्थ विद्यार्थ

JEET, Joint Efforts for Educational Transformation, is India's only free, board-aligned, AI-curated video learning platform built exclusively for government school teachers and their students, available at www.jeet.in.net. JEET today serves:

- 209 courses across 6 state boards, namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Telangana
- 49,291 curated video links, distilled from a discovery repository of over 1,00,000 links. Value Rs.20 crores – Rs.25 crores obtained free from NGOs and others
- 15,962 unique videos across 5 languages, namely English, Hindi, Hinglish, Marathi and Telugu
- Classes 1 to 12, progressively by state and subject
- Developed from scratch an ML-Search BOT with help from JP Morgan Chase, Mumbai.

MoU with AP Government – September 2025

On 25th September 2025, RKSS signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding with the Andhra Pradesh Tribal Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society (APTWREIS), the government body overseeing 199 Gurukulam schools serving tribal children across Andhra Pradesh. With 585 teacher users already created and trained on the JEET platform, this MoU marks JEET's transformation from a pioneering pilot to a government-endorsed educational programme. Local newspapers have extensively covered the signing of MoU and the launch of training programs.



విశాలాంధ్ర

గిరిజన విద్యార్థులకు వెబ్ ఆధారిత సేవలు

గురుకులం రాష్ట్ర కార్యదర్శి మణికుమార్

విశాలాంధ్ర, విస్సన్నపేట : గిరిజన గురుకుల పాఠశాలల్లో చదివే విద్యార్థులకు వెబ్ ఆధారిత సేవలను అందుబాటులోకి తేవటం ద్వారా మరిన్ని ఉన్నతావకాశాలకు అవకాశం కలుగుతుందని గిరిజన సంక్షేమశాఖ గురుకులం విభాగం కార్యదర్శి సి.ఎ.మణికుమార్ అన్నారు. మండలంలోని కొండపర్వ గ్రామంలో ఉన్న గిరిజన సంక్షేమశాఖ గురుకుల పాఠశాల, కళాశాలలను ఆయన జిల్లా కార్యదర్శి కిశోర్‌బాబుతో కలసి పరిశీలించారు. ఈ సందర్భంగా ప్రభుత్వం స్టేట్‌బ్యాంకు సహకారంతో విద్యార్థులకు ఉపయుక్తంగా రూపొందించిన జీత్ వెబ్‌సైట్‌ను ప్రారంభించారు. విద్యార్థులకు నూతన బోధనావిధానం, జేఈఈ, నీట్ వంటి ఉన్నత పరీక్షలకు సంబంధించిన అవగాహన ఈ వెబ్‌సైట్ ద్వారా కలుగుతుందని పేర్కొన్నారు. కళాశాల, పాఠశాలల ప్రిన్సిపాళ్లు ప్రసూన, వాణి, ఉపాధ్యాయులు పాల్గొన్నారు.

The first major rollout of video-based education in Gurukulam classrooms will take place during the academic year 2026–27. This marks a significant milestone in Project JEET, as hundreds of teachers and students across the Gurukulam school network are expected to access high-quality video-based lessons through the platform. To ensure a seamless learning experience, the JEET platform and its server infrastructure are being rigorously tested, optimized, and scaled to handle peak user traffic and provide reliable, uninterrupted access during periods of maximum usage.

Nai Dharti's Balika Vidyalaya

In Bihar, more than 10 teachers are actively using JEET, Ms. Soma Das from an NGO Nai Dharti's Sister Nivedita Balika Vidyalaya (Hindi medium) rural school, stands out as the most committed champion. In academic year 2025-26, her students scored 15 to 19 percentage points higher than non-JEET classrooms in the same school. She began with fear and anxiety about technology and ended the year as a lifetime JEET member, volunteering to train other teachers.

Free cycles to Government Schools

Canara Robeco Asset Management Company, Mumbai, has a valuable CSR initiative of distributing bicycles free of cost to children studying in government schools. We are honoured to be their partners in this programme, and this is the third year of our partnership with them. This year, we distributed 668 bicycles across 15 schools in the states of Jharkhand (2), Maharashtra (1), and Telangana (12). Our all-India network of NGOs was activated to support Project JEET by RKSS in implementing this program.





Cycles – Photos from a few schools in Maharashtra & Telangana

SATTVA (Women's Collective) – Partner Ambit Oditi Foundation

In-house Training Programs

SATTVA – Sarada Artisans and Trained Tailors Voluntary Association – remains the collective through which RKSS supports women artisans from Mumbai's underserved communities, in a partnership with Ambit Oditi Foundation that has now run for more than ten years.

On 27 July 2025, Chief Guest Smt Sreedevi Setty and Ambit Oditi Foundation's Shri Paresh Kapadia were present at the RKSS centre for the annual certification and distribution event, at which preschool uniforms and SATTVA certificates were handed out to trainees, despite a heavy monsoon downpour that day that did not keep sponsors, community members and NGO partners away.



Certification and uniform-distribution event, 27 July 2025

Outreach Training Programs

Beyond the RKSS centre itself, SATTVA's trainers this year travelled out to run workshops at 20+ locations, training 770 women who would not otherwise have had access to this kind of artisanal skilling. Our teachers go out to train women under trials in prisons, from correctional homes, and others. Training in appliqué work and other handcrafts was given to women including those associated with Prayas Foundation at Navjeevan Mahila Vasatigruh, Mankhurd. Then, over three days in mid-February 2026 (13, 14 and 16 February), a certification course in appliqué work was completed for 20 women from the Government Shanti Sadan Women's Home in Ulhasnagar.



Appliqué training, Prayas Foundation, Mankhurd, Dec 2025



Appliqué certification, Shanti Sadan Women's Home, Ulhasnagar, Feb 2026

Exhibitions, Sales & Corporate Engagements



SATTVA exhibition-cum-sale, Everstone Group, One World Centre, Oct 2025

SATTVA products continued to reach buyers mainly through exhibitions and popup sales rather than a fixed storefront, and this year that circuit widened. On 8 October 2025, Smt Sreedevi Setty (President, SBI Ladies Club) and Ms Manju Sharma (CGM, Mumbai Metropolitan Region, SBI) invited us to set up shop in SBI Ladies day celebrations and they took part in the SATTVA sale. On 15 October, Everstone Group hosted a SATTVA exhibition-cum-sale at One World Centre, Lower Parel, and Ambit Group hosted exhibitions in two places at its offices in the same month, continuing a tradition that has, over ten years, helped hundreds of disadvantaged women in Mumbai build new livelihoods through artisanal skill development.

Gappagoshti (Community Dialogue) & Health Partners

Gappagoshti – our monthly conversation circle for parents – continued through 2025–26, and this year saw a wider set of outside facilitators join these sessions than in previous years, most of them arriving through in-house partnerships rather than RKSS having to seek them out at each community.



KJ Somaiya Hospital doctors with preschool mothers, July 2025

In July 2025, doctors from the Department of Community Medicine at KJ Somaiya Hospital interacted with preschool mothers as part of the monthly session. Priya Parab from the same department returned in September to run a workshop on nutrition and food choices. The Health & Hygiene component of Gappagoshti has, over the years, become something mothers specifically ask about when the monthly sessions are announced.

Two sessions this year dealt with child protection directly. In November 2025, facilitator Hansini from Rubaru Foundation discussed good touch, bad touch and how caregivers can recognise and prevent abuse. In January 2026, Divisha Solanki, also from Rubaru Foundation (referred to in some of our posts as Rubaroo Foundation), ran a similar interaction directly with the pre-schoolers themselves rather than only their parents.



Good touch, bad touch session with parents, November 2025

Our Partners in 2025–26 – An Overview

Partnerships run through almost everything RKSS does, and this year that was truer than ever. Some of these collaborations happen in-house – partner organisations come to the RKSS centre in Sion-Koliwada to run a session, a camp or a training. Others are outreach partnerships, where RKSS's own trainers travel out to a partner's location to reach women and communities who could not otherwise reach us. The table below brings both kinds together in one place.

Partner	In-house / Outreach	What we did together	Association
Ambit Group / Ambit Oditi Foundation	In-house	SATTVA women's skilling programme; 13th year of core funding (Rs. 50,44,600 in FY26); sewing-machine and uniform sponsorship; certification ceremonies; Diwali exhibition at Ambit House, Parel	13 years
SBI Foundation	In-house	Project JEET — the free digital learning platform for government-school students	2 years
Government of Andhra Pradesh (Gurukulam Schools)	Outreach	JEET rollout across 200 Gurukulam residential schools, reaching about 70,000 K–12 students, from November 2025	New this year
SBI Ladies Club, Mumbai Metropolitan Region	In-house	Donated tailoring machines; members participated in the October SATTVA sale	New this year
J.P. Morgan Chase (Force for Social Good)	In-house	Built EduX, the search tool that helps JEET surface curriculum-linked videos	2024-25
KJ Somaiya Hospital, Dept. of Community Medicine	In-house	Doctors and residents ran Gappagoshti sessions on nutrition and preventive health for preschool mothers	Ongoing
Rubaroo Foundation	In-house	Facilitated 'good touch, bad touch' sessions for parents and pre-schoolers as part of Gappagoshti	Ongoing
Healing Hearts Foundation	In-house	Student-led mental health awareness workshops, October 2025 and February 2026	New this year
Everstone Group	Outreach	Hosted a SATTVA exhibition-cum-sale at One World Centre, Lower Parel	New this year
HJ School of Education	Outreach	EECD students and faculty visited RKSS Gammatwadi for an early-childhood learning exchange	5 years
Prayas Foundation	Outreach	SATTVA appliqué training for women at Navjeevan Mahila Vasatigruh, Mankhurd (December 2025)	New this year
Govt. Shanti Sadan Women's Home, Ulhasnagar	Outreach	3-day appliqué certification for 20 women (February 2026)	New this year
Kamala Sundaram Foundation	In-house	Free eye check-up and diabetic retina screening camp at the RKSS centre (February 2026)	7 years
Yoga Vidya Niketan	In-house	4-week yoga shivir held on the RKSS terrace (February 2026)	New this year
Canara Robeco Asset Management Co.	Outreach	Free cycles distribution to Government Schools in J, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Telangana.	3 Years

A few things stand out looking at this list together. First, the Ambit relationship remains the backbone of SATTVA – a decade-plus partnership that has outlasted most CSR engagements of its kind, and one that has now grown beyond a single company to include allied groups such as Everstone. Second, health and child-safety partnerships (KJ Somaiya, Rubaroo Foundation, Kamala Sundaram Foundation) have quietly become a regular feature of Gappagoshti rather than one-off events, which was not as much the case two years ago. Third, the outreach training work with Prayas Foundation and the Shanti Sadan Women's Home in Ulhasnagar shows SATTVA's trainers beginning to work beyond Mumbai's immediate neighbourhood, something we would like to build on further next year.

Other Community & Wellness Initiatives

A few other partnerships this year sat outside the Gappagoshti and SATTVA calendars but mattered enough to note separately. The Kamala Sundaram Foundation ran a free eye check-up camp at the RKSS centre on 7 February 2026, offering general eye examinations, refraction testing, and retina screening for diabetic patients, from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm. Around the same time, Yoga Vidya Niketan began a four-week yoga shivir on the RKSS terrace, starting Sunday 8 February 2026 at 5 pm, open to the community.



Free eye check-up camp, Kamala Sundaram Foundation, Feb 2026



Yoga shivir, Yoga Vidya Niketan, RKSS terrace, Feb 2026

Volunteers (VYASA)

As part of VYASA – Vivekananda for Youth and Social Action, volunteers kept contributing across teaching, events and outreach, in keeping with previous years. Special mention should be made of student volunteers from HJ School of Education who every year for the last 5 years have been spending valuable hours with staff of RKSS in running our various programs in education, women's empowerment, and skilling.

Several children from schools and colleges like Ms. Kshiti Joshi, Ms. Riya Dubey, Medhaj Madhavan, Mohit Trivedi, Abhishek Mishra, Sadiya Shaikh, Kartavya Ratate and others have undertaken volunteering opportunities and helped improve our inventory management for SATTVA tailors, Library management for Gammatwadi and, JEET program participants. Some volunteers have left their gifts behind such as pencils, notebooks, crayons, and drawing books for pre-school children.



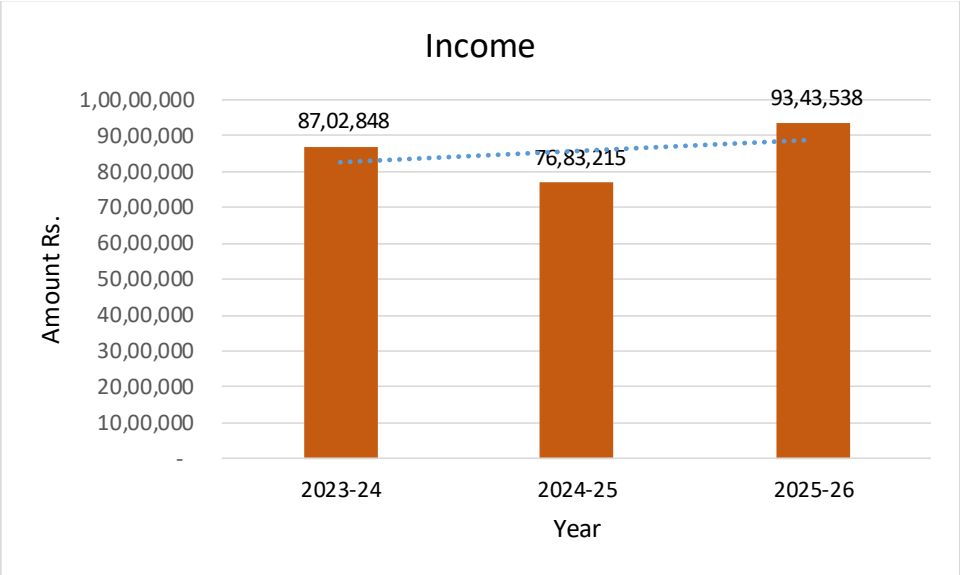


Blackmont Consulting another organization from UK helped us understand the extent and scope of our work and its impact in the local communities. They are in the field of pro-bono consulting for helping NGOs to understand community needs, their own work, and gaps assessment. They also help NGOs do resource restructuring, raise funds, and build long term organizational strength.

Financial Overview (2025–26)

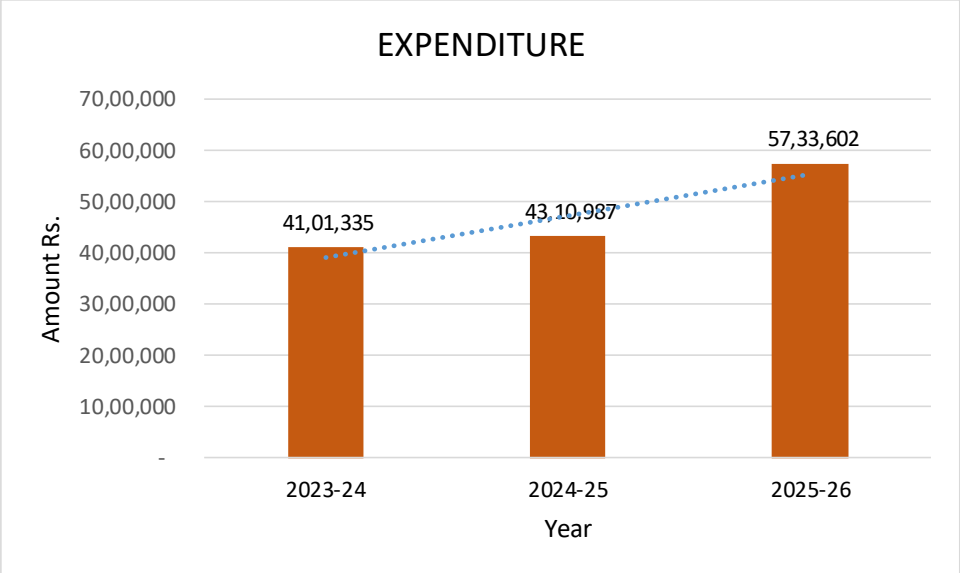
Income

Over the past three years, income has grown by 7% with a slight dip in donations in the previous year 2024-25.



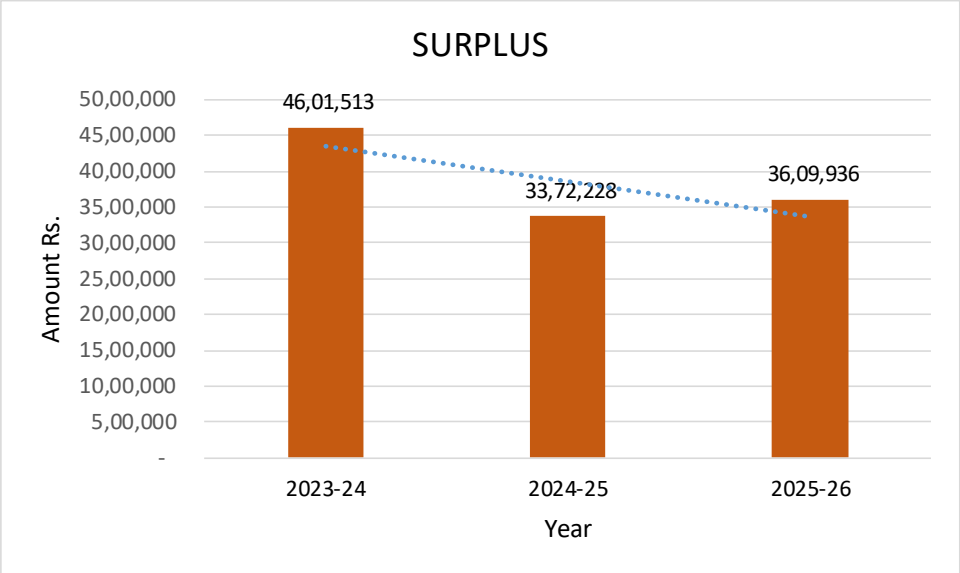
Expenditure

Over the past three years, expenditure has grown by 40% and this year posted the highest growth due to timely execution of projects



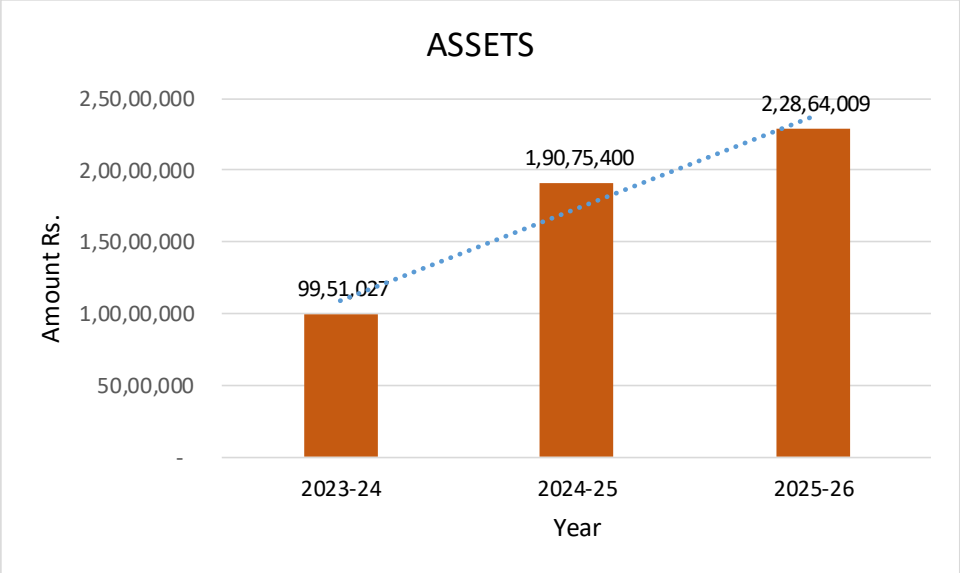
Surplus

Over the past three years, surplus has de-grown by 22% (minus), as donors have shifted to donating uniformly through the year, rather than the year-end flood of donations we used to see in the past.



Assets

Over the past three years, assets have grown by 130% (minus) showing rapid pace of execution and the full deployment of donations received for a purpose.



Acknowledgements

Every year at RKSS is really the sum of many smaller partnerships, and 2025–26 was no exception. Our thanks, first, to Ambit Oditi Foundation, whose commitment to SATTVA now spans more than a decade and whose support this year again included sewing machines, uniforms and space for our women to sell what they make.

We are grateful to SBI Foundation for continuing to steer JEET forward with us, and to the SBI Ladies Club for a new and warm collaboration this year around SATTVA.

To KJ Somaiya Hospital's Department of Community Medicine, Rubaroo Foundation, Healing Hearts, Kamala Sundaram Foundation and Yoga Vidya Niketan – thank you for bringing expertise into our Gappagoshti sessions and community calendar that RKSS could not have offered on its own. To Everstone Group, HJ School of Education, Prayas Foundation and the Government Shanti Sadan Women's Home in Ulhasnagar – thank you for opening your spaces and communities to SATTVA.

Our special thanks to the many consultants, auditors, bankers and statutory authorities who guided us this year — not just in delivering services to the community, but in making sure we did so within the four corners of the law.

Finally, our thanks to the Swamijis of the Ramakrishna Order for their continuing guidance, to our Trustees and advisors, and to every donor, staff member and volunteer whose work does not always make it into a report like this one but without whom none of the above would be possible.



Contact & Support

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