A group of women in traditional Indian attire, smiling and interacting outdoors. The woman in the foreground is wearing a green top and a red and white striped sari, smiling broadly. Another woman next to her is wearing a floral patterned top and a pink sari, looking towards the camera. The background is filled with green foliage.

Savitri

THE SAVITRI WANNEY CHARITABLE TRUST

Annual Report
2015-2016

IN 2015/16

➔ **808** EYE SCREENING CAMPS WERE HELD,
159,890 PEOPLE WERE SCREENED FOR EYE ASSESSMENTS
& **24,890** PEOPLE HAD FREE CATARACT SURGERIES.

➔ THE AVERAGE ANNUAL EARNINGS PER FAMILY FROM
OUR AGRICULTURE PROGRAMMES HAS INCREASED
FIVEFOLD

➔ **10** PARTNER ORGANISATIONS WERE SUPPORTED IN
CAPACITY BUILDING

➔ **100%** OF ALL DONATIONS RECEIVED
WERE SPENT ON PROJECT WORK



Dear Friends & Supporters,

As we reflect on the past 15 years of the Savitri Trust, what I believe Savitri has shown and continues to show is that compassion matters. That together we can accomplish miracle after miracle — curing the blind, caring for the dying and helping people access water and grow sufficient food for their families. I also believe Savitri demonstrates how effective giving works. 100% of every donation we receive goes directly to the project its ear marked for. Moreover, we make sure this money is effective by having in place excellent monitoring and evaluation systems, to support the capacity of our partners to deliver.

In this Annual Report, you will read how this year we have helped more than 23,000 people who were blind to now see. Yet in Bihar state alone, up to 2 million people are blind from cataract. These are people who with a simple operation now costing just £20 could see tomorrow. My vision is of a Bihar free of curable blindness and I invite you to help me turn this dream into a reality. I am committed to fulfilling this!

In the past years, my family has been touched by cancer, this year sadly with the passing of my sister-in-law Poonam Waney who will be greatly missed by all who knew her, and by Savitri where she was a fervent supporter and a member of our Advisory Board.

My family, as many families, have faced difficult decisions. Compassion and understanding can grow from this. In India, less than 1% of people who need palliative care receive it. For the past years with the help of our long-standing supporter Wilfrid Bruce Davis, Savitri has helped ease the pain of the dying, supported people with chronic life threatening conditions and cared for families. I am now eager to see this work grow.

The world is at a difficult time, a time where each of us must step forward and help. But also, a time when creating small miracles brings such joy — to me and to others who support Savitri — as well as to those who directly benefit. I'd like to invite each of you to work with me, through Savitri, to serve the poor, to make a difference today.

Arjun Waney
Founder



OUR APPROACH



Our approach is different.

We make sure 100% of your donation goes directly to projects and ensure it delivers the maximum benefit to those in need.

We focus on delivery; seeking entrepreneurial approaches and partners who can maximise benefits, know their local community and who can deliver impact.

What unites our programme areas — blindness, care for the dying, water and growing sufficient food to eat — is the cascading impact our work has on wider families. Our work is for families, it targets some of the most effective, yet sometimes overlooked, poverty reduction interventions and it delivers.

This allows us to work in some of the hardest to reach rural areas in India and Nigeria. It also means we can focus on delivery and make a real difference.

We hope the stories you read in this report and in our wider materials, illustrate how far your support goes and what a tremendous difference it is making to thousands of individuals and families in India and Nigeria.

Over the coming year we are ambitious. We will redouble our efforts to make a difference to the lives of poor people.

“We work with many charities but Savitri are quite different; their commitment to an open and genuine partnership is unwavering; but importantly their complete focus on working where it matters is unparalleled. Few people are willing to come to Bihar, yet Arjun or Devika will always make time to visit, to spend time, share insight, encourage and listen. It’s truly refreshing and a testament to their vision to eradicate blindness from India’s poorest state.”

Mritunjay Kumar Tiwary

Director
Akhand Jyoti Eye Hospitals



24,890

**CATARACT SURGERIES
FUNDED**

HELPING PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND TO SEE

This year we funded, and our partners delivered **24,890** free cataract surgeries across rural India and Nigeria. To identify these patients, our partners organised **808** eye screening camps, where a staggering **159,890** eye assessments were carried out.

Most people who attend these camps are those living in remote, rural areas where there is no access to eye care services. Without these programmes, tens of thousands of people would remain blind for the rest of their lives and the backlog of cataract blindness would continue to rise.

Our projects & partners:

- **Akhand Jyoti Eye Hospital**—Restoring sight to blind people in Bihar and addressing gender equality through the training of Optometrists
- Eye care in Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya, through **Mission for Vision**
- **The Arjun Waney Eye Centre**, Berhampur, Odisha with **LV Prasad**
- Community Eye Care in the Cross-River State Nigeria through **Tulsi Chanrai Foundation**

GOAL 2015/16

- **23,576** people receive the gift of sight
- **4** young women continue with their 3rd year of a life changing Bachelor's degree in Optometry
- Vital outreach support provided to a population of nearly **400,000** people in Meghalaya state



WHAT HAPPENED?

- Total **24,890** surgeries conducted
- **4** young women successfully completed a Bachelor's degree in Optometry at AJEH
- An outreach programme was successfully delivered in Meghalaya State. Over **10,000** people were screened for sight problems, **3,352** people provided with glasses, **348** people received free surgeries and **177** community health workers were trained.
- **2677** cataract surgeries delivered in Assam through Mission for Vision

UZAMA OKURUDIZI

NIGERIA

“I am 12 years old and I live at Nsukka in Nigeria. It’s a remote village about 300kms away from Calabar. I have two brothers, a sister and my parents are farmers. About 4 years ago, I started noticing problems in both of my eyes.

I stopped running around as much, I stopped playing with my friends and I stopped going to school because I couldn’t see well. I couldn’t read the books clearly and I couldn’t keep up the work even though I reached up to Grade III.

When my eyes got worse, my mother had to stay back home and take care of me. This meant she was unable to work in the fields anymore with my father. One day, we met doctors from the hospital who recommended I go to Calabar for treatment. They told me I would need surgery on both my eyes. Since then, I’ve had surgery on my right eye and it is much better! I have to wait some more until the left eye can be treated, but I am looking forward to starting school again and most of all, to play with my friend Amara and dance ...because we both love to dance!”



SAIRA & TJARLE

BIHAR, INDIA

Tjarle (43 yrs old) and his mother Saira (70 yrs old) both had a cataract operation in March 2016. We met them at a volunteer outreach camp for post-operative check-up.

Tjarle

“Before surgery neither of us could see, we couldn’t recognise people. I used to be a tailor but because of my poor vision, I couldn’t continue. I couldn’t make ends meet and there was no money for the family. Life is tough. My father died in 1989, and although I have 2 brothers, they don’t help much and as I’m the youngest, my mother stays with me. I married young and we had ten children — my youngest child is 5 years old and my eldest is 25 years old. But last June my wife died from cancer, so life has been especially difficult. At least now I can see properly, I do some agriculture work to help support the family.”

Saira

“When they removed the bandages, it felt like there was pure light. Now I see well. When the bandages came off I wanted to see my grandson and granddaughters for the first time — when I saw them it was very good. My 5 yr old grandson puts his arms out for me and said my grandmother is coming!! It was beautiful.”



177

COMMUNITY HEALTH
WORKERS TRAINED

CARING FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE DYING

Every day in India thousands of people are dying in excruciating pain. **Only 1% of people who need palliative care receive it.** Severe restrictions on the use of morphine, a lack of qualified palliative care professionals and the stigma attached to cancer and death **means India is ranked 67 out of 80 countries in a study comparing end of life care.**

With your support, we are making positive steps in the right direction. We work with partners to provide vital care for people who are dying and

support to their families, to give them the tools they need to manage their conditions and vital physiotherapy to improve function and the quality of their lives.

In 2015–2016 our goal has been to improve quality of life for people requiring physiotherapy and lymphedema treatment.

Partner: **Pallium India**

GOAL 2015/16

Every month between **63** and **83** patients and their families receive ongoing support and rehabilitation as part of the Lymphedema and physiotherapy project in Trivandrum, Kerala



WHAT HAPPENED?

- We supported **111** people with palliative care
- **73** people were given care for physiotherapy
- **38** people were supported and trained to manage Lymphedema care
- **70%** of the adult physio patients have full functional independence
- **96%** of lymphedema patients reported improvements in limb functionality
- **30** community volunteers were trained to deliver patient home based visits
- In an assessment of **52** home based care patients, almost **90%** of the care givers could give appropriate care at home

SWARANAMMA

TRIVANDRUM, INDIA

“I am 65 years old have had breast cancer for the past ten years. I also have lymphedema and hemiplegia on my left sides, meaning I can't move this arm at all. I live alone but I have a care taker who helps me and for the past 8 months, I have been helped by Pallium India. The team give me physiotherapy and exercises to do from my wheelchair, with support.

I like to work on the handloom machine at home but cannot do it by myself.

I am so happy to have you all to support me in my bad time. I am obliged by the services offered by you and feel thankful for the same. Your massage and physiotherapy has improved the hand swelling and reduced the pain. I want to walk one day and want to be independent. I'm eagerly awaiting when I can move without support.”



PREETHA

KERALA, INDIA

Preetha is a 34-year-old single woman who has been paraplegic for over 12 years due to a fall on her back. Her father works as a daily wage labourer and her mother is a cardiac patient and is mostly hospitalised. Though Preetha is a very confident woman, according to the Pallium India team, at times she gets depressed due to loneliness.

Preetha has been receiving physiotherapy sessions regularly by from the home care team from Pallium India and can move around in the house on a wheelchair donated by one of her friends. She has also developed her skills on making ornaments and jewellery. She can sell good quantity of ornaments thereby contributing significantly to the family income. The home care team suggests having somebody taking care of her and loving her would solve her depression problems. She likes people coming and talking to her





16

DUG WELLS

5

LIFT
IRRIGATION
SYSTEMS

WORKING WITH FARMERS

Food and water are two of the most basic needs in the world. By the end of May 2016, we helped farmers construct **16 dug wells** and **5 Lift irrigation systems** so that they can diversify their crops and increase their income whilst protecting their environment.

With agriculture and the environment, we recognise the evolving nature of the challenge. This year India experienced temperatures of record highs and our partners in the state of Chhattisgarh experienced an extended drought. This both highlighted the need for better water management, and resulted in lift irrigation systems (LIS) that were installed in previous

years becoming non-operational. It also meant implementation of the planned dug wells, was slower than expected.

However, we saw an increase in the formation of Water User Groups (WUGs); members of the community coming together to motivate, give awareness and ensure that all farmers participate with labour for digging the wells and installation of LIS.

Partner: Action for Social Advancement

GOAL 2015/16

- 15 new dug wells with vegetable plots will be created, benefitting up to **40** farming families
- 5 new lift irrigation schemes will be installed, benefitting up to **100** farming families



WHAT HAPPENED?

- 16 new dug wells started, 1 completed during the year with the others finished by end of May 2016
- 5 new Lift Irrigation Systems started, completed by the end of May 2016
- 172 farming families have benefitted
- The average annual earnings per family from agriculture has increased fivefold
- Total land available for irrigation was **742** acres.
- The support resulted in an increase of cultivation on **1.04** acres of land per family on an average.



172

FARMING FAMILIES
HAVE BENEFITTED
FROM THIS PROJECT
THIS YEAR



ADITYA

CHHATTISGARH, INDIA

Aditya is from Lakhanpur, Chhattisgarh. Heading a family of five, 55-year-old Aditya and his wife work very hard and their main source of income is from agriculture. The family's only source of water was rain and hence he enrolled them as a beneficiary for the dug well scheme.

He provided his land for constructing the well, he also contributed by giving some money as well as labour for construction. Aditya expects to irrigate around 2.5 acres of land from the water available in the Dug Well. He and his neighbours were already able to earn some money by using excess water removed during construction. This profit will grow further as they start cultivating during all seasons.

RADHA

DELHI, INDIA

“My name is Radha. I am 14 years old. My parents are cleaning staff in 2 factories. Sometimes due to financial problems, I also have to work in factories. I did go to school once and loved studying but my parents could not afford to educate me further. We are migrants from Uttar Pradesh and live in a rented space. My parents leave early so I am the one who gets my 3 younger siblings ready for school and go to the factory to work. On the way is Project Why.”

My parents and I decided to stop by one day as my mother wanted to find a safe place for me to spend the day as she was scared to leave me alone. Project Why teachers not only agreed but seeing my interest in education decided to help me prepare for class 10 through the open school. Now I spend the whole day at Project Why studying. Project Why has made my dream come true.”

878

CHILDREN
SUPPORTED AT
PROJECT WHY

EDUCATING CHILDREN

We believe in supporting the educational needs of young people to achieve their full potential in life. Many of the young people we work with live on the streets, have committed crimes or simply been denied the right to quality education.

This year we have welcomed a new and exciting partnership with Project Why. Based in New Delhi, Project Why caters to the needs of underprivileged children and their families living in and around the slums of Delhi.

In its core programmes, it addresses the educational needs of poor children responding to the alarming dropout rates and the poor conditions in overcrowded state run schools. It also delivers educational projects to children who otherwise would not have received any schooling. The after school support programme not only gives the children academic help, but also life skills and all-round education.

Last year we supported the cost of running the centres for two months during the reporting year, with 878 children benefitting from the after school education clubs



DECEMBER 2015
INAUGURATION OF THE

ARJUN WANNEY EYE CENTRE IN BERHAMPUR, ODISHA

We were delighted to partner with the LV Prasad Eye Institute this past year to establish the Arjun Waney Eye Centre in Odisha. L V Prasad Eye Institute is a state of the art eye care institution which for the past 25 years, has provided quality eye care, education and research across India.

Shri Naveen Patnaik on 13 December 2015, the birthday of Arjun's mother Savitri in whose name the Trust was founded. To mark the occasion, several members of the Trustee board travelled to Odisha.

In Odisha, an estimated **560,000** people are blind — **347,000** of which are due to cataract.

"For one whole year I was blind and I couldn't work. Now I have returned to my work as a fisherman and I'm going back to sea. I've been doing very good!"

We're excited to be involved and to see this new centre cater to the backlog of blindness. It is expected to carry out **2,500–3,000** operations per year and will benefit over **25,000** people through its services.

Mr Nigam

A cataract patient at the Arjun Waney Eye Centre

The Arjun Waney Eye Centre was inaugurated in the presence of the Honourable Chief Minister

OTHER PROGRAMME AREAS & ACHIEVEMENTS FROM 2015/16



PROJECT NAME

2015/16 ACHIEVEMENTS

Gender equality with The Equal Community Foundation.

A comprehensive evaluation of the Action for Equality Programme was completed. Since 2009 Action for Equality has:

- Enrolled **3,478** young men
- With **1,683** graduating.
- Of these **750** have come on board as volunteers across **20** low income communities in Pune.

EGG DOT: Nutrition and Education Support for Children in Rural Maharashtra with OJUS Medical Institute

The final year of the Egg Dot project was completed and sustainably handed over to community health workers. The overall achievements of the project across the full 3 years (ending July 2015) included:

- **6,684** children screened
- **81** community health workers trained
- **576** severely malnourished children enrolled with the programme, of which **491** (85%) moved from severe to moderate status
- **3,553** care givers enrolled on the education programme.

Psychological Support and Workshops at The David Sassoon Industrial School (DSIS) with OJUS Medical Institute

- The counsellor(s) conducted **204** individual counselling sessions, including **107** new cases and **97** follow up.
- For rehabilitating children with their parents/family, **28** group counselling sessions and **26** family counselling sessions were conducted.
- Three new clinical psychiatry cases were referred to the psychiatrist for treatment, seven old cases were followed up.
- **38** planned CBEP (Capacity Building Education Programme) sessions were delivered
- Every month a special meal and cake is delivered to the school to celebrate the birthday of boys who have their birthday in that month.

CELEBRATING
15 YEARS
OF SAVITRI

→ **250,000**
PEOPLE WHO
WERE BLIND CAN
NOW SEE

→ **5,200**
YOUNG PEOPLE
SUPPORTED BY
TRAINING AND
EDUCATION

→ **35,104**
FAMILIES HAVE
BENEFITTED FROM
PALLIATIVE CARE



100% ←
OF ALL DONATIONS
HAVE GONE DIRECTLY
TO OUR PROJECTS

WE'VE WORKED
WITH MORE THAN
20 FANTASTIC PARTNERS
DELIVERING PROJECTS ACROSS
10 INDIAN STATES ←

2,154 ←
FARMING FAMILIES HAVE IMPROVED
LIVELIHOODS THROUGH THE
CONSTRUCTION OF **719** WELLS

5 HOSPITALS HAVE BEEN ←
BUILT OR SIGNIFICANTLY EXPANDED



BIG CHANGE CAMPAIGN

‘Small Change for Big Change’ is our innovative fundraising partnership with London restaurants **Roka, Zuma, Coya** and **La Petite Maison**.

It’s a very simple but hugely effective partnership which sees a voluntary donation of small change, **£1**, added to every bill. The cumulative effect of these donations is hugely impactful — **since 2009 the restaurants have raised over £750,000 in this way.**

100% of donations go directly towards our work in eliminating cataract blindness in India and Nigeria.

This year we have a beautiful animation depicting the journey of the £1 from plate to patient. It’s a fantastic tool to share with diners as well as a training tool for staff and can be viewed via our website: www.savitri.org.uk/bigchange

“We have been supporting the Savitri Trust at Zuma since we opened in 2002. It has been an honour and a pleasure for all of us to be involved.”

Rainer Becker
CEO & Founder, Zuma





THIS IS BELVANTI AND HER FAMILY AFTER THEY'VE HAD THEIR CATARACT SURGERY. TO HEAR THEIR STORY, VISIT WWW.SAVITRI.ORG.UK AND WATCH THEIR FILM.

LOOKING FORWARD

This year we are excited to announce the growth of the Savitri team. Our new Director Maggie Gardner and Trust Manager, Emily Kerr-Muir joined us in March this year. Together with the continued support of our Trustees and Advisory board we look forward to exploring new opportunities and ways to create meaningful impact with our existing and new project partners.

We are proud of the organisations we work with and how we work with them, supporting, offering advice, and providing great monitoring and evaluation to ensure together we are as effective as possible. Next year we will be expanding our palliative care strategy and are eager to do more in this area. We are also stepping up our work on blindness, particularly in Bihar where we are committed to working for a blindness free Bihar.

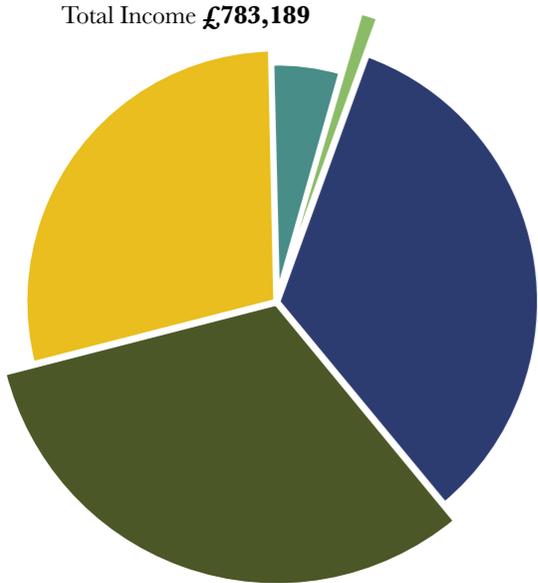
People, compassion and impact remain central to who we are. We will continue to make tangible differences in the lives of poor people — helping someone who is blind to see is one of the most tangible differences you can make, and as recognised by the UN, one of the most impactful in terms of poverty reduction.

We're proud that every penny you have donated via us has gone to support our vital work. Your ongoing support makes a fundamental difference to the lives of thousands of people. We have ambitious plans. My family are committed to working towards this vision and we look forward to working with you to turn them into a reality.

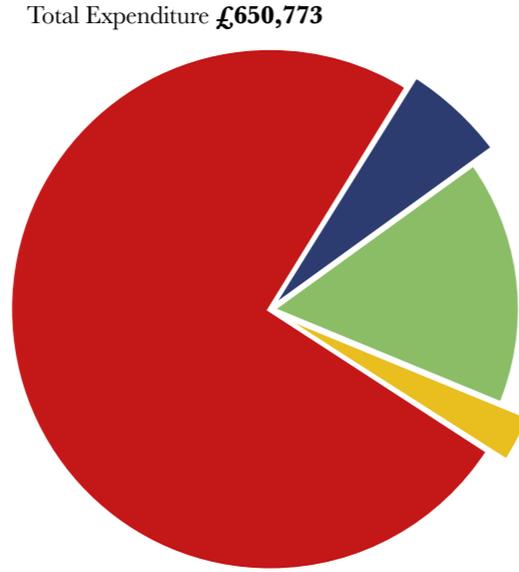
Thank you

Devika Mokhtarzadeh
Managing Trustee

OUR ACCOUNTS 2015/16



- Investment Income 33%
- Public Donations 32%
- Restaurant Partnership Donations 29%
- Events 5%
- Gift Aid 1%



- Charitable Donations 75%
- Fundraising Expenses* 3%
- Overheads* 16%
- Investment Management Fees* 6%

Total Income **£783,189**

Investment income
£260,362
Public donations
£253,095
Restaurant partnership donations
£224,251
Events
£37,483
Gift Aid
£7,998

Total Expenditure **£650,773**

Charitable donations
£487,229
Fundraising expenses*
£20,956
Overheads*
£106,585
Investment management fees*
£36,003

** These costs are supported by the Family Corpus Funds*

Savitri

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