



Vigyan Setu Foundation®
Bridging Science and Society

Annual Activity Report

2023 – 2024

Table of Contents

About Us <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mission And Vision• Objectives• Key Functional Areas	02
Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promotion and Popularization of Science<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Blogs and Quizzes➤ Events• Awareness of Women's Health Issues• Promotion of Science Tourism<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Blogs and Quizzes• Public Health Awareness<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Blogs and Quizzes➤ Event	04 07 13 15 17
Advisory Team <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Founding Members / Trustees❖ Editorial Team – E-Magazine	25
Associates	26
Accreditations	27
Access	29

About Us

Mission and Vision

Vigyan Setu Foundation believes that awareness not only acts as a catalyst for change but also empowers society. Social awareness brings in the ability to understand and respond to a certain social situation in an appropriate way, along with the ability to realize and properly communicate with people across backgrounds. With changing times, every member of society must evolve and develop one of the important skills of social awareness. The mission of **Vigyan Setu Foundation** is to raise awareness in society using methods of science.

The vision of **Vigyan Setu Foundation** is *Bridging Science and Society*

Objectives

The principal objectives of **Vigyan Setu Foundation** are to promote education in general and science education in particular, communication skills and personality development among younger generation, more particularly school and college going children to develop a better, responsible, logical thinking citizenry.

In order to achieve these objectives, **Vigyan Setu Foundation** organizes programs and events to sensitize the “Generation Next”, create awareness among the general public, and provide capacity building to the professionals about Science specifically, on the issues that affect Society at large, through informative and interactive sessions including talks, lectures, seminars, meetings, exhibitions, workshops, and in and off-field demonstrations.

In addition, **Vigyan Setu Foundation** aims at sensitization and creating awareness particularly among children, womenfolk, and common masses, in general, about conservation of Environment, and preservation of our Scientific Heritage monuments. Also, **Vigyan Setu Foundation** strives at sensitizing young minds, creating awareness among society regarding animal and human health related issues.

Ultimately, **Vigyan Setu Foundation** aims at *Bridging Science and Society*, realizing the fact that ‘**Science is a way of life**’ and Society needs logical and rational thinkers to make Planet Earth a place worth inhabiting.

Key Functional Areas:

Promotion and Popularization of Science:

Vigyan Setu Foundation strives to make science accessible and engaging for the public. Through various outreach programs, **Vigyan Setu Foundation** works to foster a deeper understanding of scientific concepts and their relevance in everyday life.

Awareness of Women's Health Issues:

Vigyan Setu Foundation raises awareness about critical women-related health concerns, with a special focus on conditions like thyroid dysfunction and polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS). These efforts aim to empower women with knowledge about these common yet often misunderstood health issues.

Promotion of Science Tourism:

Using science tourism as a unique tool for communication, **Vigyan Setu Foundation** promotes scientific heritage and discovery. This approach encourages public interaction with science by exploring places of scientific interest, making learning more experiential and engaging.

Public Health Awareness:

Vigyan Setu Foundation is also involved in educating the public about diseases of public health importance. By providing accurate information and resources, **Vigyan Setu Foundation** contributes to the prevention and early detection of these diseases, promoting healthier communities.

Activities

Coming out of COVID-19 crisis

Roughly two and a half years of reeling under uncertainty, once again the nature, the humanity regained and recovered gradually, taking every step with great caution. However, the online or virtual mode by now has become the way of life – digital way. During 2023 – 24, activities of **Vigyan Setu Foundation**, majorly, followed the new normal that has set in as a lifestyle, taking digital route.

E-Magazine: The first issue of **Vigyan Setu**; a quarterly and bi-lingual online magazine was launched on 12/12/2020, on 9th Foundation Day of **Vigyan Setu Foundation**.

The e-magazine intends to carry a melange of invited articles, information, news round-up, poems / stories, games / puzzles, anecdotes about commemorative days and scientists, forthcoming events / trainings, a travelogue on science tourism and the likes, encompassing objectives of **Vigyan Setu Foundation**. <https://vigyansetufoundation.in/e-magazine/> is the link to reach for **Vigyan Setu e-magazine**. During 2023-24, FOUR issues of **Vigyan Setu e-magazine** were uploaded:



The second issue of the third year (April – June 2023) carried articles on diseases that follow catastrophes, stars appearing brighter during winter, birding for beginners, thyroid dysfunction, wind power in India, and importance of Yoga.

This issue also carried reports on two events, namely - Family Literacy Day celebration through virtual mode conducted by Shri Om Prakash Sinha, a retired PGT Chemistry from Kendriya Vidyalaya. The event took place on 27 January 2023 for the students and staff of Army Public School, Damana (Jammu). The second

event was National Science Day (28 February 2023) celebration at St Xavier's High School, Airoli, Navi Mumbai.



The third issue of the third year (July – September 2023) had three articles focusing on women health shared by our esteemed contributors: SDGs and women health, women's health – the utmost priority, and women health in India.

The other write-ups were on African Tulip Tree, philately, and the role of nuclear energy for alleviating climate change.

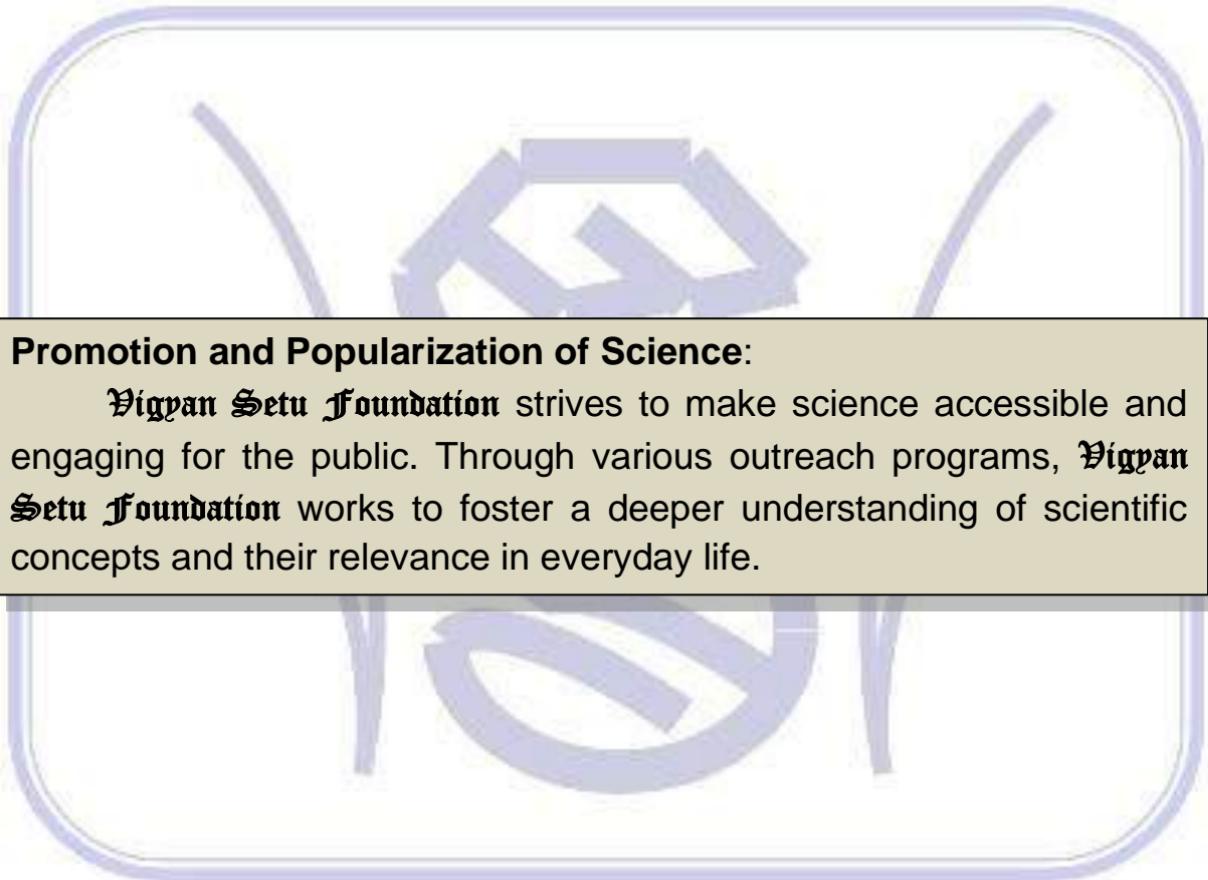


The fourth issue of the third year (October – December 2023) carried articles on popularization of science by two of our most ardent well-wishers, who are educationists by profession.

This issue also carried write-ups on geopathic stress – a public health issue, science tourism, bioremediation for a cleaner environment, and rejuvenating indigenous practices of everyday life.



The first issue of the fourth year (January - March 2024) had articles including innovate to regenerate: bridging the gap between technology and climate, cultivating futures – nurturing scientific temper, birding – a citizen science, scientific thinking and curiosity, and the vital role of women in mechanical engineering. In addition, there is a poem in Hindi language, exploring the possibilities when a chip is embedded in the human brain. A write-up profiling fellow voluntary organization Science For Society, Bihar has been included along with a report on Vigyan Parv 2024, celebrating National Science Day.

**Promotion and Popularization of Science:**

Vigyan Setu Foundation strives to make science accessible and engaging for the public. Through various outreach programs, **Vigyan Setu Foundation** works to foster a deeper understanding of scientific concepts and their relevance in everyday life.

Promotion and Popularization of Science

Promotion and Popularization of Science among children particularly and public in general *through hands-on experimentation, demonstrations, lectures, and popular science books exhibition* has been one of the foremost objectives of Vigyan Setu Foundation.

During the year 2023-24, the entire world was still trying to recover from the after-effects of the pandemic that had impacted social, economic and environmental aspects of our sustainability. At the same time a new norm emerged, during this period of recovery, embracing the digital revolution. The physical meetings and programs got backseat and hence, this objective was met through virtual mode.

Blogs and Quizzes:

To commemorate number of international days across the year, blogs on the respective days were uploaded on the website and a quiz was launched based on these days. The global observances related to science in general, and the number of participants that attempted the quiz are enlisted hereunder.

Commemorative Days	Quiz Attempted By
World Laughter Day	223
International Tea Day	211
World Bicycle Day	272
World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought	145
World Youth Skills Day	301
Pi Approximation Day	99
International Tiger Day	2597
International Traffic Light Day	274
World Elephant Day	1100
International Dog Day	300
World Coconut Day	585
World Ozone Day	2215
World Food Day	395
World Tsunami Awareness Day	702
World Fisheries Day	106
National Milk Day	416
International Cheetah Day	199
Monkey Day	138
World Braille Day	156
Road Safety Week	187
World Logic Day	437
World Wetlands Day	194

International Day of Women and Girls in Science	215
International Mother Language Day	225
National Science Day	1189
World Wildlife Day	271
World Pi Day	264
World Water Day	303

Events:

Vigyan Parv 2024

Vigyan Setu Foundation organized two events under the umbrella of Vigyan Parv 2024 to celebrate Science: one through online and the other, offline mode.

National level Online Quiz:

The quiz was for the students from standard VIII and IX, wherein 50 questions; 10 each from Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology, and Mathematics were presented in multiple choice format, of which one of the answers was correct.

The quiz was conducted on 28 January 2024 between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm. To complete this quiz, period of 60 minutes was given from the moment participant logged in.

In all, participants from 7 states (in alphabetical order); Jammu and Kashmir, Maharashtra, Odisha, Puducherry, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal attempted the quiz.

Of these participants, Master Jay Pramod Tadas, a student from standard IX, scored 82% and was adjudged as the Winner of the National level Online Quiz. Master Arnav Rahul Mopari from standard VIII scored 76%, and he was declared as Runner-Up in the online quiz competition. Incidentally, both the winners are from Sitabai Sangai High School, Anjangaon Surji, District Amravati (Maharashtra)

To all the participants, e-Certificate of Participation was sent through email, while the winners received Certificate of Merit, and a pack of general science books published by CSIR.



A sample Certificate of Participation



Books Exhibition at HBCSE, Mankhurd:

On 28 and 29 February 2024, as a part of National Science Day celebration, Vigyan Setu Foundation put up a display of books published by Vigyan Prasar and CSIR, at Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education, Mankhurd, Mumbai.

A constant footfall of school and college students with their teachers showed keen interest in the books displayed. The exhibited titles were not only appealing to the children but also caught the attention of the teachers and in some cases, the parents.

Inside Atoms, Inside Stars, Life in the Universe, Man in Space, Mind Master, and Rain Rain Come Again were some of the titles from CSIR that sold hands down, while Hands-On, and Fun and Science at Home from Vigyan Prasar were the most sought-after ones.

What made this event more memorable is interacting with the future generation, their mentors, educators, and parents, while they were scanning the books.

We were fortunate enough to meet Dr P K Joshi, Dr K K Mishra, and Dr V C Sonawane from HBCSE, and Dr Rajendra Deshmukh from PCER, Chembur during the early hours of the event just before the entire floor was taken over by the visitors.





Awareness of Women's Health Issues:

Vigyan Setu Foundation raises awareness about critical women-related health concerns, with a special focus on conditions like thyroid dysfunction and polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS). These efforts aim to empower women with knowledge about these common yet often misunderstood health issues.

Awareness of Women's Health Issues

Most important health related issues that affect women include Thyroid Dysfunction and Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome (PCOS). Sensitization and Awareness Creation about these conditions, being one of the objectives of **Vigyan Setu Foundation**, were made *through social media, exhibition and interaction with the experts, and distribution of printed flyers.*

During the year 2023-24 these objectives were met through virtual mode by way of a few presentations re-uploaded on the You Tube Channel.

World Thyroid Day: **Vigyan Setu Foundation** re-launched You Tube Channel on 25th May 2023, the day, which is being celebrated as World Thyroid Day, every year. The entire presentation was made into a series of seven videos, which were uploaded for public viewing, one video on each day of the week, celebrating World Thyroid Week, from 25th May through 31st May 2023.

Know Thy Thyroid Part 1	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pBTq2VjpFIQ&t=64s
Know Thy Thyroid Part 2	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZjpJdBq-d4s
Know Thy Thyroid Part 3	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ZMBUCs0o6g
Know Thy Thyroid Part 4	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BuT32FbvHTo
Know Thy Thyroid Part 5	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cmqdGkDXOss
Know Thy Thyroid Part 6	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1nJpHJxTvXU
Know Thy Thyroid Part 7	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lu3X51bkoIY
थायरॉइड को जानें	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8FT_53M3dgk

Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome: PCOS, in short, is yet another health-related complexity that arises in female population of reproductive age that often goes unnoticed and thereby unattended taking its toll on the well-being of a woman. **Vigyan Setu Foundation** uploaded information on PCOS on its FB account on 08th March 2024, the International Women's Day.

<https://www.facebook.com/1818370638386412/videos/268828604031635>

In addition, as a part of PCOS Awareness Month, which is being celebrated globally during September, **Vigyan Setu Foundation** uploaded information related to this syndrome on the website as a Blog in both Hindi and English languages. <https://vigyansetufoundation.in/blog-posts/>

A video presentation on PCOS related awareness was uploaded on the You Tube Channel for public viewing on 01st September 2023. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1VzLWPnu6k>

Promotion of Science Tourism:

Using science tourism as a unique tool for communication, **Vigyan Setu Foundation** promotes scientific heritage and discovery. This approach encourages public interaction with science by exploring places of scientific interest, making learning more experiential and engaging.

Promotion of Science Tourism

India has a rich tradition of science and technology that goes back to five thousand years and has several evidence in the form heritage sites or locations that speak a lot about it. Promotion of such Scientific Heritage using Science Tourism as communication tool *through talks, lectures and presentations, and development of resource material* has been one of the key functional areas of **Vigyan Setu Foundation**.

Blogs and Quizzes:

To commemorate number of international days across the year, blogs on the respective days were uploaded on the website and a quiz was launched based on these days. The global observances related to science tourism in general, and the number of participants that attempted the quiz are enlisted hereunder.

Commemorative Days	Quiz Attempted By
National Tourism Day	301



Public Health Awareness:

Vigyan Setu Foundation is also involved in educating the public about diseases of public health importance. By providing accurate information and resources, **Vigyan Setu Foundation** contributes to the prevention and early detection of these diseases, promoting healthier communities.

Public Health Awareness

Yet another key function area of **Vigyan Setu Foundation** is to sensitize and create awareness among one and all, about animal and public health related issues *through talks, lectures, and publication of write-ups or popular articles*. Since during the year 2023-2024 continued limitations imposed on holding physical meetings led all the activities restricted to virtual mode. Remaining undeterred by the restrictions imposed, **Vigyan Setu Foundation** continued keeping the patrons glued to the awareness about various diseases and associated issues, all through the year.

Blogs and Quizzes:

To commemorate number of international days across the year, blogs on the respective days were uploaded on the website and a quiz was launched based on these days. The global observances related to public health in general, and the number of participants that attempted the quiz are enlisted hereunder.

Commemorative Days	Quiz Attempted By
World Health Day	233
World Liver Day	203
World Malaria Day	150
World Zoonoses Day	212
World Animal Welfare Day	84
World Stroke Day	350
World Pneumonia Day	276
International Day of Epidemic Preparedness	264
World Kidney Day	270

Event:

Rabies Education and Awareness Campaign Tracker (REACT):

One of the key functional areas of **Vigyan Setu Foundation** is to sensitize and raise awareness about zoonotic diseases. As a part of this commitment, presently, the focus is on Rabies – a fatal yet preventable disease of public health importance.

Vigyan Setu Foundation has initiated Rabies Education and Awareness Campaign, which is dedicated to reaching out far and wide through a combination of engaging community outreach, educational workshops, utilizing social media platforms, and online resources, to empower individuals with the knowledge about rabies prevention. Raising awareness and dispelling myths surrounding rabies, aims at fostering a safer and more informed society, ultimately working towards the global eradication of rabies.

Rabies Education and Awareness Campaign Tracker (REACT) is a powerful tool that allows measuring the impact and effectiveness of the initiatives- monitoring the reach of educational materials, the number of individuals who have participated in the workshops and gauging the engagement on social media platforms. Analysis of the data collected can continuously refine strategies and tailor the messages to better resonate with the target audience. This tracker would empower to make data-driven decisions, ensuring that the campaign remains efficient and relevant in ongoing mission to combat rabies and save lives.

Vigyan Setu Foundation firmly believes that education and awareness are the key factors that can help in eliminating Rabies. As a part of REACT, Vigyan Setu Foundation launched Rabies Ambassador 2023 Programme of 06th July 2023, the World Zoonosis Day.

Rabies Ambassador 2023 Programme (RA23):

Objectives:

- To assess the levels of knowledge and understanding about zoonosis in general, and rabies in particular, in the society
- To sensitize, educate and raise awareness among the members of the society in general, and the younger generation in particular
- To strive for achieving the goal of **Zero by 30**
- To empower Rabies Ambassadors for conducting sensitization, education and awareness programs

Approach:

The RA23 programme has two stages:

Stage I –

- Registration of prospective Rabies Ambassadors
- Prospective Rabies Ambassadors to conduct online survey for assessment of the knowledge and understanding about zoonosis in general, and rabies in particular
- Those garnering a minimum of twenty-five responses, move to Stage II

Stage II –

- Prospective Rabies Ambassadors to make a minimum of five presentations on sensitization, education and awareness creation in schools, colleges, or open fora
- Supporting resource material to be provided to the prospective Rabies Ambassadors enabling them to streamline their presentations

Stage II closed on September 25, 2023

Outcome: Outreach:

Presentations during Stage II, on ***Know Rabies for No Rabies***, were conducted in **fifty-odd schools** by our zealous Rabies Ambassadors in the states of **Gujarat, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir, Maharashtra, and Puducherry**. These interactive sessions were aimed at sensitizing the younger generation.

In the process, **more than six thousand students** from the middle to senior secondary level along with their teachers were addressed. Reaching out to **around twenty-five thousand indirect beneficiaries** is the first small step. Many more to be taken in near future.

Rabies Ambassadors, who emerged from this initiative, are as follows:

- **Dr Smruti Smita Mohapatra Samal** from Jammu and Kashmir
- **Mrs Chitra Singh** from Haryana
- **Dr Priyanka H Chaudhari** from Gujarat
- **Mr Ravichandrane Balaraman** from Puducherry
- **Dr Rajendra B Deshmukh** from Maharashtra
- **Dr Rajesh Senma** from Gujarat
- **Mr Arshad Hussain** from Jammu and Kashmir

Here are the glimpses of the interactive sessions engaged by our **Rabies Ambassadors**:











Advisory Team

S.No.	Name	Occupation	Position
1	B S VYAS	Retd Govt Officer	President
2	MEENA LALIT SHARMA	Professor	Chairperson
3	LALIT KUMAR SHARMA	Family Veterinarian Science Communicator	Managing Trustee & Hon Secretary
4	RAMGOPAL D PANDE	Tax Consultant	Treasurer
5	LEELA KUMARI VYAS	Home maker	Member
6	NEHA LALIT SHARMA	Student	Member
7	GAJENDRA SHARMA	Business	Member
8	BINDU G SHARMA	Bank Officer	Member
9	PREMLATA R PANDE	Educationist	Member

Editorial team – Vigyan Setu e-magazine

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Associates

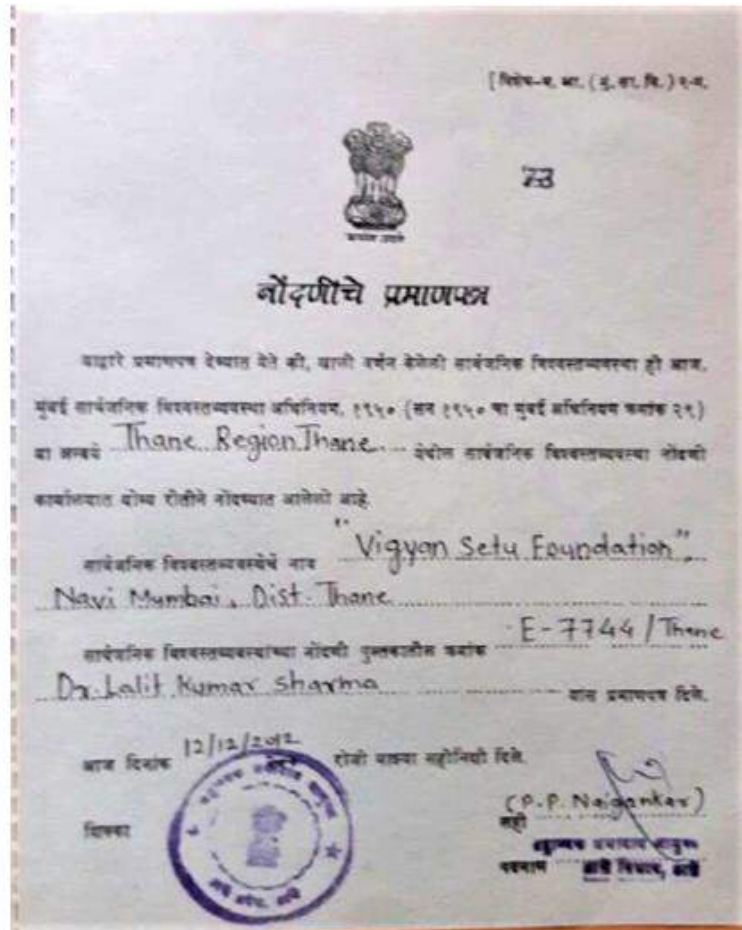
For the different events organized during the year 2023-24, **Vigyan Setu Foundation** got associated with various organizations that includes

- Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education, Mumbai
- Science For Society, Patna (Bihar)
- Army Public School, Damana (Jammu)
- Sitabai Sangai High School, Anjangaon Surji, District Amravati (Maharashtra)
- Shekhawati Science Academy, Vidya Vihar Sr Sec School, Chittorgarh (Rajasthan)



Accreditations

Vigyan Setu Foundation is registered under The Bombay Public Trusts Act, 1950 with Registration No **E7744/Thane** dated 12/12/2012



NGO DARPAN Registration No **MH/2016/0112138**

Unique Registration Number (12A): **AABTV6841PE20218**

Unique Registration Number (80G): **AABTV6841PF20216**

CSR Registration Number: **CSR00028045**

Vigyan Setu Foundation is a Registered Trademark issued by Trade Marks Registry Mumbai under Trade Mark No 3700398 in the Journal No 1918

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VIGYAN SETU FOUNDATION

की ओर से जारी के नाम के दिनांक को इस पर मुद्रा लगायी गई
Sealed at my direction, this 30th day of January, 2020


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Access

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