



Aarushi Charitable Trust for Children

Promoting access to basic education for children

Annual Report 2019-2020

CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	3
TRUSTEES AND BOARD MEMBERS	4
MEMBERS	4
THREE PILLARS OF ACT	5
ACT'S PROGRAMMES: MAINSTREAM PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES	5
A MEMORABLE TRIBUTE TO THE PRESIDENT	11
IMPACT INDICATORS: 2019-20	11
CASE STUDIES OF CHILDREN (AS NARRATED BY THEM)	12
APPENDIX 1: ANNUAL INCOME EXPENDITURE STATEMENT 2018-19 AND 2019-20	13
APPENDIX 2: ENROLMENT REPORT	15

Message from the Executive Director

It has been 20 years since March 23, 2000 when Aarushi Charitable Trust (ACT) was set up. This year the trust had a major loss, when the President Mr. B.L. Garg left for his heavenly abode on 18 February 2020. His loss is felt by all the members of the board, the teachers and the children who he was visiting everyday till a week before his death. Further, the end of the year also witnessed a severe Global Pandemic – COVID 19 when we had to suspend our activities from March 21, 2020 as the country was under a lock down.

At Aarushi Charitable Trust (ACT) for Children, the mission is to promote knowledge and education; provide vital information for the promotion of health and prevention of diseases; and increase awareness on important social issue. We have been continuing to support the development of the girl child and help the marginalized members of society. We started in year 2000 with providing access to basic education to children of migratory construction workers. With the completion of the construction activity, these workers returned to their villages. Then we decided to support children of local workers who did not go to regular schools. ACT worked in Kishangarh village, Delhi with a teacher for close to 2 years to identify and motivate non-school going children and teach them basic social skills. For many years, children in a village near Modinagar were also supported.

Since 2006, ACT has been working in 2 slums in Delhi region. ACT supports children regularly to prepare them to go to regular schools, make available teachers after school to continue to solve their educational challenges, support their admissions in better performing public and private schools, support activities such as educational visits to monuments, picnics, street plays on important social issues, and celebration of important festivals. Additionally children with special needs are also supported.

The year 2019-2020 was another milestone for ACT for Children. The Trust continued to impact the lives of about 150 children in two slum areas of New Delhi and about 15 children at a education centre in a district of U.P.

There is a constant need to create new opportunities to motivate the children we work with, while continuing to sustain the existing initiatives. However, we had to suspend our activities from March 21, 2020 due to a lockdown because of Covid-19 Pandemic.

I would like to sincerely thank our core partners Bal Vikas Dhara and especially Dr. Bharat Singh to help us implement the activities so efficiently during 2019-2020.

Our Teachers Ms. Rita, Ms Elizabeth and Ms. Neelam's sustainable commitment has made it possible to achieve what we have so far.

There is a long way for us to go. We continue to look at expanding our fundraising efforts and need support from anyone and everyone. Overall, we hope for a more productive year ahead.

Trustees and Board Members

Mr. Brij Lal Garg President and Founder Member



Retired government official, freedom fighter and a devoted teacher who supports educational programmes

Dr. Charu C Garg Executive Director and Founder member



Ph.D., worked with WHO, World Bank, SRCC among others, supports fund raising and new initiatives

Mr. Hari Garg Founder Member



Vice President at a leading multinational company. Supports financially and through active advice

Dr. Kusum K. Premi Treasurer and Founder Member



Ph.D. in Education, retired Head of Educational Policy unit at NUEPA, manages finances and education projects

Ms. Divya Bhasin Volunteer Program and Founder



IT professional and business manager, entrepreneur, supports volunteer activities

Members

Ms. Samriddhi Bhatia



MBA and Engineer, manages social media and new initiatives

Ms. Suman Patel



QA Analyst, UN, Bern. Supports IT work for the trust

Dr. Poonam Dewan



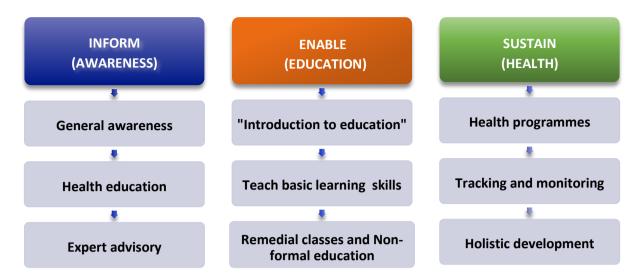
Medical Doctor, General Practitioner, holds medical camps for the underprivileged

Mr. Ambrish Agarwal



Retired GM (DoT), conducts corporate trainings supports education initiatives

Three Pillars of ACT



ACT upholds and cherishes the three pillars of growth i.e. awareness, education and health. When communities are aware of their rights and duties, they are capable of making better and informed decisions. The Trust promotes this by means of its expert group of advisors and supporters that spend time with communities that lack access or have been socially denied access to information.

When a community gets the information, they also get the awareness of the "Education" to make correct decisions regarding their rights and duties. For example, while RTE has provided for education free of cost, many children that lack the support of family, end up not attending schools. At this stage, enabling and preparing them becomes very important. The parents and children are provided assistance to develop interest, curiosity and a general preparation to enter the formal education system. This is particularly important for those from poorer and/or uneducated families to motivate them to enrol their children into regular schools and reduce chances of dropping out by imbibing in them basic learning skills.

The next step is to maintain this information and education infused into the communities, i.e. to "sustain." To ensure that a student who knows his/her rights and is attending school also continues to do so, and also take care of his/her health, we ensure that the hope and the energy that we have introduced into these communities is sustained. Various focus programs are organized for this purpose including "Bal Panchayat", Street Plays, community surveys, door to door campaigns etc.

Working across the three pillars in the value chain of sustained growth, ACT seeks to continue to grow its programs and activities, and introduce new ones that are in line with its goals and mission.

ACT's Programmes: Mainstream Projects and Activities

Aarushi Bal Vatika (2 Camps/ sites)

Aarushi Bal Vatika, running in partnership with Bal Vikas Dhara, is a preparatory school for underprivileged children in the age group of 3-6 years and a remedial center for children (ages 6-14) who are either not able to attend regular schools or require support for after school classes.

a) 'Aarushi Balwadi' centers

The trust supports two that are functional at Shankar Camp and Israel camp. The main focus of Balwadi is to provide space for children aged 3-5 years to express their emotions, on creating a basic interest in education among these children, and prepare and support them to get admissions in regular schools. During the year, The Balwadi center

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taught them Hindi and English Alphabets, counting numbers up to 100, drawing, general poems, various children plays and dance etc. Major focus was on development of communication skill as well as retention skills. The children also underwent health check-ups. The timings of the centers are 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Shankar Camp and 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM in Israel Camp. Ms. Neelam took classes for these children. There were on average 25 children In Shanker camp and 25 children In Israeli camp that were enrolled. (For Enrolment report: See Appendix 2).

b) Aarushi Remedial Bal Vatika (Remedial Education Centre)

Remedial education centers run at both the sites: Shankar and Israel camp for 2 hours each for children (aged 6-9) studying in grade levels 1-2 and those aged 10-14 in grade levels 3-5. We noticed that many children who were attending regular schools quit midway and left school because of their family conditions, while some could not keep pace with regular schooling. Their families did not have money to pay for private tuitions, which seem to have become common. We felt these children needed an impetus to help to continue with their studies. In conviction to our motto and vision, we identify these particular children and try to re-instate their academic interest and opportunity to be in a regular school. To the weaker students, we provide academic help and try to re-motivate those who have been diverted due to certain reasons through counselling. On an average 27 children in Israeli camp and 25 in Shanker camp were enrolled in age groups 6-9 and were managed by Ms. Rita Singh. For the age groups 9-14, there were on average 26 in Israeli camp and 28 in Shanker camp that were enrolled and were managed by Ms. Elizabeth. The details of enrolment status of beneficiaries of each center are given in Appendix 2.

Parent teachers Meeting

Parents-Teacher-Meetings (PTMs) are one of the biggest approaches towards ensuring participation of parents and developing mutual understanding between parents and teachers. It is also very important in order to attain the common goal of child development as well as sensitizing the community of their roles & responsibilities, accountability with institutions in order to shape the future of children.

PTMs have been conducted at each centre on a monthly basis. The major objectives are creating awareness, ensuring participation and sensitization of parents regarding their roles and responsibilities towards their wards. Parents have been imbibed with value-based education keeping in view their confrontation with day-to-day interaction with the society. Parents were sensitized with techniques, tactics, and tools of caring for health and hygiene of children as well other family members. Nutritional aspects of children in maintaining and sustaining health of children were given greater emphasis in all meetings.

This year also, monthly meetings have been organized in collaboration with BVD with 495 parents' out of which 200 were males and 295 were females. The issues discussed in these meetings were as follows: 1. Children's Rights. 2. Helpline and self-protection. 3. Female foeticide. 4. Health and sanitation 5. Domestic violence 6. Helpline and eve-teasing 7. Nutrition 8. Importance of Birth registration certificates 9. Marriage registration.

School Chalo Abhiyan (Admission Through Economic Weaker Section Quota)

Earlier, School Chalo Abhiyan was only running during the admission time of schools. But since 2008-09, it has been divided into four different phases and after acknowledging its big success, it has been continued this year too. The main purpose of this program was to make the community aware about the education and main streaming of their children in Government and Private Schools. The four phases of this year's campaign were:

- 1. Awareness Campaign was similar to our previous year's campaign in which slum area dwellers were made aware about their Right to education and importance of education in each one's life. For this, children and their parents were personally contacted by our mobilizers. Children perform a real image of private and government schools using street plays. The motivation campaign helps us spread our message in a more systematic and clear way to enable the parents and children understand the motto.
- 2. **Children Identification Campaign** was specially designed to identify those who have been diverted from the path or are not on the right track. We did home visits and a survey for identifying the children who can go to school. In this, children in the age group of 6 to 14 years, with special focus on the girl child were identified. We tried to get them admitted in nearby government school for regular schooling. Our centre students get preference in this campaign but if some other children get noticed, they get equivalent attention.
- 3. Interaction with school authorities is an innovative campaign initiated by us. In the last few years, it was noticed that several students who were interested in schooling didn't get a chance due to some technical reasons. In this campaign, we tried to fill that gap by interacting directly with the school teachers and made this process a little smoother both, for the children and their parents by our awareness campaigns.
- 4. **Mainstreaming Campaign** was a great success this year too. Our teachers have facilitated admissions of at least 55 children to the regular schooling this year in nearby available schools. Among the admitted students, there were around 10% of students who were drop-outs from schools. They identified first, then motivated and trained in Aarushi Bal Vatika Remedial Classes followed by admission in regular schools. The detailed list of the admitted students is:

No.	No. of school admission	M/F	School	Children residing in
1	20	8/12	MCD Rangpuri Pahadi Vasant valley Vasant Kunj	Shankar Camp
2	35	15/20	Partibha Nagar Nigam School Vasant Vunj, MCD Rangpuri Pahadi	Israil camp

Bal Panchayat (CBO for children)

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Bal Panchayats (an initiative followed with BVD) consist of those children who have already completed their non-formal schooling and were mainstreamed into formal school. The major thrust behind the formation of Bal Panchayats is to engage children in constructive activities during out of school time and they can be used as an inspiration to mobilize other community children. They have been made aware about their rights and also encouraged to address issues pertaining to children. They play a role in monitoring the children of the community.

Classes for children in Ghaziabad village

The trust has been supporting children in a village in Ghaziabad. Asha Rani has been employed to take tuitions free of cost for about 15 underprivileged children in Grades 6-8. Our Board Member, Mr. Ambrish Agarwal has been providing support and monitoring these activities.



Support through cash or kind

While ACT provides coaching to students at no cost, there are children that require special assistance for which ACT is not equipped at the moment. At the same time, there are children that do not require learning assistance per se but instead financial assistance. For these reasons, the Trust provides assistance in cash or in kind. ACT provides financial assistance to Blind school in Mehrauli.

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Support to blind schools

Our trust funds students in blind schools to enable them to pursue their studies. The Blind school is paid small corpus funds and additional amounts for the examination of the students.



Supporting blind children for specialized training

The daily visits of Mr B L Garg to teach children involved petrol, driver and refreshments expenditure and these expenses are treated as an in kind donation to the trust

Joy of Festivals

We celebrate the joy of festivals with the children by distributing sweets and new clothes. We also give sweaters to kids for winter mostly before Diwali and Eid. In 2019 October, 144 children were distributed dresses and sweaters and saris were given to 3 teachers.





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Communication and Information dissemination

ACT believes that in supporting the communities in health, education and awareness, it is very important to set up formal channels of communication for the various stakeholders. We are growing awareness of our programs by means of the internet and social media which will help us to

- a) Receive constructive feedback from the community and other stakeholders
- b) Sensitize dormant stakeholders for the cause
- c) Garner resources in monetary or non-monetary (e.g. volunteering) terms.

We continued to update the website with annual reports, case studies and new pictures in the gallery. Xtreme Digital Solution continue to manage and run this website.



Being Legally and Financially Compliant

The trust has been filing the taxes since its registration in March 2000. The Auditors Manoj Agrawal and Associates continue to be tax compliant. The income expenditure statement for FY 2019-20 is presented in Appendix 1. The trust account is with State Bank of India, Vasant Kunj and is now online and can receive and make electronic payments. Details of the account are on the website which can be accessed for Donations.

The 80G certificate of the trust provides tax benefits to its donors.

Support Staff

A driver (on part time basis) for supervisory visits, voluntary work, etc. and a office boy (also on part time basis) for filing are kept. Most of the other administrative work such as Preparing annual reports, paper work, Canvassing for donations, preparing and keeping accounts are done by the office bearers and volunteers on pro-bono basis.

Mrs Charu Garg (one of the founders) visits both the camps regularly and has various meetings with teachers to discuss the teaching techniques and progress of the school.

Support through Partners and Friends

• Bal Vikas Dhara

Bal Vikas Dhara is an organization that started with the aim of betterment of women and children. It is a voluntary organization that was established under section 21 of Society Registration Act 1860 in 1993. With a common aim of child education and health, BVD and ACT partnered to provide educational programs for marginalized children of the Shankar and the Israel Camp. Together, they work to support these children to bring them into the mainstream education system and to help them cope with their studies. Under these programs, some very important activities that BVD

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undertakes with staff and children of ACT are: 1. Monitoring activities 2. Parent teacher meetings 3. School Chalo Abhiyaan 4. Bal Panchayats.

BVD submitted an activity report for 2019-20 as it does every year and that was updated to prepare this annual report.

Visits by Friends of ACT

Friends of ACT are volunteers or experts that work for short term on projects to contribute in whatever way they can. We are thankful to Ms. Rama Sriram who helped us prepare this annual report this year. She is also helping us in raising funds from other sources.

Also, this year Ms Kusum Singh who recently retired as an additional secretary from railways visited our NGO a couple of times and discussed how she can support the NGO activities. Ms Urmila Mukherjee, retired from a public sector Undertaking also visited the two camps. Both of them were very impressed with the kids and they wanted to provide support and play a big role in our trust. The kids showcased their music and dance talent in front of them and everyone had a lot of fun.





Distribution of Sanitary Napkins

This year, Sanitary Napkins were donated by BINTI (an organization producing sanitary napkins). ACT workers helped to give those to several the young girls in Shanker Camp and explained the correct usage and hygiene part of it.





A Memorable Tribute to the President

On 18 February 2020, the President of the Trust Mr Brij Lal Garg left for his heavenly abode at the age of 97. Since the beginning, he supported the children by helping them with their Math and English besides the financial contribution he continued to make. He would always take treat for the children and really loved them. In his memory, a small cultural event was organised by the trustees. A skit was performed by the children of the trust whom he nurtured. The children performed how they had their daily interactions with Mr. Garg and how he helped them communicate in English. It was a very memorable tribute.



Impact indicators: 2019-20

Enrolment Bal Panchayats Admissions PTM 147 Children 495 Parent -55 children Meetings: 12 63 Males 84 teacher meetings were admitted Participants: **Females** 200 Males 350 in schools. 295 Females (M-150, F-250) 10% were drop outs participated

Case studies of Children (as narrated by them)

- 1) My Name is Umar. I am from Harshoi, Uttar Pradesh. My whole family lived in the village and we had a small house. As we didn't have at land, my father worked for some owner. But we were not able to manage the expense of our house, that's why we had to shift to Delhi. We took a small house near Israeli camp and we did labour work to manger our house. We are total 5 siblings, 3 are elder to me and 2 are younger to me. One sister is married and she lives in the village. I never went to school in the village. After coming in Delhi, I use to wander here and there. Then my mother saw the remedial centre and she asked the teacher for my admission. I took admission and then I started learning how to read and write. I felt very happy. Now, I help those kids who don't go to school. I am very thankful to the centre who guided us to do something better in our life.
- 2) My name is Nahid, I live at Shanker Camp Rangpuri Pahari. I am the only child of my parents. We are living at Shanker camp from so long. My parents are from Bihar. My father is a painter and my mother is home maker. My father is the only earning person. My neighbourhood kids study in BAL Vatika and with them I started going there to study. I love to go to the centre as I have learnt a lot. Now I go to a regular school and I want to become a police officer when I grow up.
- 3) My Name is Reshma and I am 10 years old. My parents are from Bihar. Now we live with my family at Shanker Camp. We had a small house in my village but we didn't have any land for farming. That's why we had to come to Delhi. There are 3 siblings of mine and I am the youngest one among my siblings. My father is a tailor and my mother is home maker. My father is the only earning person in my family. After joining Aarushi Bal Vatika, I learnt so many good things and it helped me to study in a better way. I will be thankful to Bal Vatika centre which helped me to become a better person.

Outlook for 2020-21

The COVID-19 Pandemic and lockdowns created uncertainty for continuing the activities. Our workers are trying to help the children but also trying to keep safe.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Annual Income Expenditure Statement 2018-19 and 2019-20

PARTICULARS	Current Year ended March 31, 2020 (Rs.)	Current Year ended March 31, 2019 (Rs.)
(A) RECEIPTS		
Corpus Donations-		
- By Settlor & Trustees.	225,000.00	100,000.00
Voluntary Contributions	485,475.00	526,601.00
Interest from Bank on Saving Account	2,528.00	3,016.00
Income Tax Refund	3,460.00	3,490.00
Interest from Bank on Fixed Deposit	36,440.00	30,480.00
Total	752,903.00	663,587.00
(B) PAYMENTS -Application of Income	,	
For education :-		
Honorarium to Teacher	326,500.00	288,481.00
Rent for Center		288,481.00 64,150.00
Electricity Exps	70,100.00	, in the second
Educational Programme	-	800.00
Teaching & Learning Material	415.00	8,375.00
Administration Exp. of Bal Vikas Dhara	9,667.00	9,640.00
(Charitable Trust)	8,400.00	8,400.00
Refreshment Expense For Children	29,600.00	8,860.00
Distribution of Sweater and Clothes	56,000.00	50,893.00
	500,682.00	439,599.00
Donation :- Blind Welfare Society	2,500.00	3,700.00
Office, Establishment & Other expenses		
Bank Charges	2.36	599.44
Conveyance Expenses	15,880.00	22,713.00
Website Development	5,310.00	13,275.00
Misc. Expenses	1,835.00	1,360.00
Salary	71,500.00	78,000.00
Audit Fees	11,800.00	-
	106,327.36	115,947.44
Liability Paid:	14,519.00	15,452.00
<u></u>	14,519.00	15,452.00
	624,028.36	574,698.44
-		
(C) NET INCREASE IN CASH AND BANK BALANCES	128,874.64	88,888.56
Opening Balances		
Cash-in-hand	834.00	-
Balance in Saving Account with SBI	138,189.97	80,615.41
Balance in Fixed Deposit Account in SBI	522,415.00	491,935.00
	661,438.97	572,550.41

Closing Balances	-	-
Cash-in-hand	518.00	834.00
Balance in Saving Account with State		
Bank of India	230,940.61	138,189.97
Balance in Fixed Deposit Account in		
State Bank of India	558,855.00	522,415.00
Total	790,313.61	661,438.97

AS PER OUR REPORT OF EVEN DATE ATTACHED

FOR MANOJ AGGARWAL & ASSOCIATES

For Aarushi Charitable Trust For Children

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

ICAI Firm Registration No.:- 012462N

Sanjeev Sharma (Charu Garg) (Kusum Kumari Premi) (Partner) Trustee Managing Trustee

Membership No. 89249

UDIN:

Place: New Delhi Date: 08.01.2021

Appendix 2: Enrolment Report

Aarushi Bal Vatika (Balwadi) Shankar Camp Timings: 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Educator: Mrs. Neelam Negi

Quarter	Total children Enrolled	Boys	Girls
Apr-May-Jun (2018)	25-25-25	11-11-11	14-14-14
Jul-Aug-Sept (2018)	24-25-25	10-11-11	14-14-14
Oct-Nov-Dec (2018)	25-25-25	10-10-10	15-15-15
Jan-Feb-Mar (2019)	25-25-25	10-10-10	15-15-15

Remedial Classes (grade1&2) Shankar Camp Functioning Time: - 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm Educator: - Rita Singh/ Neelam Negi

Quarter	Total children Enrolled	Boys	Girls
Apr-May-Jun (2018)	25-25-25	11-11-11	14-14-14
Jul-Aug-Sep (2018)	25-25-25	10-11-11	14-14-14
Oct-Nov-Dec (2018)	25-25-25	10-10-10	15-15-15
Jan-Feb-Mar (2019)	25-25-25	10-10-10	15-15-15

Remedial Classes II (Grades 3 & 4) - Shankar Camp Functioning Time: - 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm Educator: - Rita Singh/ Elizabeth Barik

Quarter	Total children Enrolled	Boys	Girls
Apr-May-Jun (2018)	28-28-28	14-14-16	14-14-17
Jul-Aug-Sept (2018)	28-28-28	14-14-16	14-14-17
Oct-Nov-Dec (2018)	28-28-28	14-14-16	14-14-12
Jan-Feb-Mar (2019)	28-28-28	15-16-14	13-12-14

Aarushi Bal Vatika (Balwadi) Israel Camp Timings: 9 am to 12 pm Educator: Mrs. Rita Singh

Quarter	Total children Enrolled	Boys	Girls
Apr-May-Jun (2018)	26-26-26	12-12-12	14-14-14
Jul-Aug-Sept (2018)	27-26-26	13-14-14	14-13-13
Oct-Nov-Dec (2018)	26-26-26	12-12-12	14-14-14
Jan-Feb-Mar (2019)	29-29-29	12-12-12	17-17-17

Remedial Classes II (Grades 3 & 4) - Israel Camp

Functioning Time: - 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm

Educator: - Rita Singh/Elizabeth Barik

Eddedor. Mita Singily Elizabeth barik					
Quarter	Total children Enrolled	Boys	Girls		
Apr-May-Jun (2018)	26-26-26	10-10-09	16-16-17		
Jul-Aug-Sept (2018)	26-26-26	10-10-09	16-16-17		
Oct-Nov-Dec (2018)	26-26-26	10-10-09	16-16-17		
Jan-Feb-Mar (2019)	25-25-25	10-09-10	15-16-15		

Remedial Classes I (grades1&2) - Israel Camp:-Functioning Time: - 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm Educator: - Ms. Elizabeth Barik

Quarter	Total children Enrolled.	Boys	Girls
Apr-May-Jun (2018)	25-25-25	08-08-08	17-17-17
Jul-Aug-Sep (2018)	25-25-25	10-10-10	15-15-15
Oct-Nov-Dec (2018)	25-25-25	10-10-10	15-15-15
Jan-Feb-Mar (2019)	25-25-25	10-10-10	13-13-13

Summary of average enrolment for the year 2018-19 (Both Camps) Bal Vatika and Remedial Classes

	Shankar Camp		Israel Camp			
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Aarushi Bal Vatika (ABV) (3-5 years)	10	15	25	12	15	27
Remedial Classes - Group A (6-10 years) Classes 1-2	10	15	25	10	11	21
Remedial classes Group B – (9-14 years) Classes 3-4	11	12	23	10	16	26
Total	31	42	73	32	42	74



