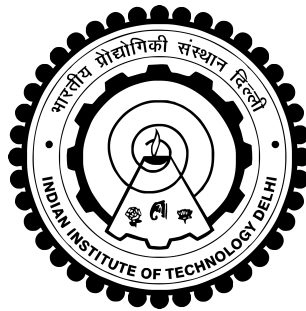


# NGO report: Synergy Sansthan

## HUL265: Theories of Personality



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## **Abstract**

The goal is to do a systematic analysis of the work performed by a NGO of our choice. We have to analyze the work it does, the change it is bringing about by talking to the people associated with the NGO directly and indirectly both.

The NGO I have chosen is Synergy Sansthan. I have chosen it because I had done an internship there in December. Through the internship, I was able to closely witness the actual working of the NGO and understand it better.

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# Chapter 1

## Introduction

Synergy organization started its work in a group since 2004 in Indore Madhya Pradesh and was registered on May 15, 2006. The early members who were mainly youngsters started working among the slums of Indore city. Later on it was felt by the youth to form such group, which can perform better in the fields of social services giving special focus to awareness in the slum area like AIDS, hygiene, immunization and education. Thus the name “SYNERGY” was carved out of the experience from the works through participatory action and energetic. Synergy is the group of some devoted youth who are committed to serve the poverty stricken and vulnerable people with special attention to empower women, children and local self-governance. In the fast changing socio-economic condition, social security becomes an issue of major concern. With rapid deterioration in moral, traditional and cultural values, changing climatic conditions due to environmental degradation and frequent natural disasters, the reality is changing rapidly. The rise in crime rate, number of orphanages, old age homes etc. are the result of waning human empathy. So in this situation Synergy believes in creating a society that is sustainable and is free from exploitation of humans and natural resources and by providing equal opportunity to the marginalized, poor, women and children to develop. It also makes efforts in making a society with sustainable human development and building capacity, sharing common vision of institution and nation building and reinforcing human development endeavors for over all progress of mankind. Synergy also believes in participatory action at the community level.

# Chapter 2

## Synergy Sansthan

### 2.1 Founders

- **Mr. Ajay Pandit**

Mr Ajay Pandit, founder member and Executive Secretary of Synergy Sansthan, belongs to a farmer family. He is 30 year old. His education is MSW, Diploma in Disaster Management & fellow of National child right fellowship of CRY. Mr. Ajay is also conducting various study like that Process documentation of “technically support system for SSA” of MV foundation, Education Micro Plan for Aide et Action etc. He has been working in the voluntary sector for the last 6 years. In the year 2006 he started the activities under the banner of Synergy Sansthan in block Timarni of Harda district in Madhya Pradesh.

- **Mr. Vimal Jat**

Mr. Vimal Jat, 27 is the President of Synergy Sansthan. His educational background is MSW. He has over 5 years of experience in the social sector. His main areas of focus with Synergy Sansthan are assessing the overall working of different bodies and procuring funds from other NGOs and individuals.

- **Mr. Vishnu Jaiswal**

Mr. Vishnu Prasad Jaiswal, 28 is the Vice President of Synergy Sansthan.

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His educational background is MSW, MBA. He has a lot of experience in the social sector. He belongs to an agriculture based family. He is associated with the child line team of Synergy Sansthan and monitors their activities closely.

## **2.2 Vision**

“Promoting intensive participatory process of natural resources development and local institution development. Particular emphasis on unreached, under reached area and women, child, poor and marginalized people.”

“To create a healthy, educated, free from exploitation, equal harmony and peaceful society”

## **2.3 Objectives**

- To promote education, participation awareness, health and nutrition the use of science and technology based on traditional pattern, ecological farming and sustainable livelihood systems.
- To promote activities focused on the development of the women, children, Back ward Class, Dalits & tribal communities.
- To work for the communities in such a way that they develop spirit for mutual co-operation, participation, gender equity and justice

## **2.4 Funding**

Synergy Sansthan receives funding from different organizations and people for different projects. Some projects which are conducted under bigger NGOs like the Entrepreneurship Development Program conducted through the NGO Pravah, get funding from Pravah. Some projects like the child line get funding from Child Line, Mumbai. The Asha Training program gets funding from the National Rural



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Health Mission. Other sources include voluntary donations by individuals and organizations.

# Chapter 3

## Childline

### 3.1 About Childline

In 1996, CHILDLINE India Foundation (CIF) launched CHILDLINE, the country's first toll-free tele-helpline for street children in distress. As of March 2014, total of 31 Million calls since inception have been serviced by CHILDLINE service and operates in 291 cities/districts in 31 States and UTs through its network of over 540 partner organizations across India.

### 3.2 Involvement of Synergy Sansthan

Synergy Sansthan is a partner organization of Childline. When a person reports a case on 1098 in the Hard district or neighboring areas, the information is forwarded to it. Then the on duty official from Synergy Sansthan has to go and rescue the child in 6 hours. The child would then be living in the open shelter till legal action is taken. The magistrate decides the fate of the child if he or she is to be sent to a guardian, continue living in the open shelter or sent to an orphanage. Synergy Sansthan does proper counseling of the children so that they can get accustomed easily. Most of the children there come from very harsh and difficult backgrounds which can only be dealt with properly by professionals.

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## **3.3 Some case studies**

### **3.3.1 Jalim Singh**

Jalim lived with his grandmother and worked at a hotel, his grandmother had no source of income other than her pension. His father was in prison and his mother had expired. Hence the financial status of the family was very poor. He had many vices like consuming tobacco, drinking, taking narcotics etc. He was also disrespectful to elders, used abusive language and picked up fights. His grandmother wanted him to study and enroll him in a school but was unable to do so. When we informed her about the open shelter and that the children were given a good place to stay, given proper food and exercise she agreed readily.

After staying at Synergy Sansthan, he developed a lot of positive changes. As he was the eldest among all kids, he developed leadership skills. He has left all drugs and forms of intoxication. He was given proper counseling so that he could mend his ways properly. He goes to school regularly and is enjoying his life now.

### **3.3.2 Lokesh**

Lokesh was a resident of Beragarh. The status of the family was pitiable, his parents had been murdered and his grandfather took care of him, his uncle and aunt stayed somewhere else, the grandfather was blind and to support the household Lokesh had to become a rag picker instead of going to school. If the income was very low his grandfather commanded him to steal. One day he was caught stealing and the shopkeeper took him to the police station. The police then informed the Child-line team about Lokesh and they took him to the “open shelter”. During counseling the Child-line team got to know that Lokesh had many bad habits like abusing, fighting, shouting and disobeying elders.

After staying at Synergy Sansthan lots of positive changes happened with him. He has started going to school regularly and is enjoying it. He likes to play football most amongst all sports.

## Chapter 4

# Entrepreneurship Development Program

### 4.1 About

Entrepreneurship Development Program was started at Synergy Sansthan with the help of “Pravah”, a NGO based in Delhi. As the name suggests, it is related to developing entrepreneurial skills in individuals.

#### 4.1.1 Goals

The goals of EDP are to equip small and medium scale entrepreneurs with the skills needed to make their business bloom. To help them in procuring loans from the bank rather than from money lenders who would extort them. To make them independent eventually by making their business profitable for them.

#### 4.1.2 Methods

The applicants would be given training on different aspects of business management. They would be told about how to maximize their profits and understand their shortcomings. Apart from the analysis, Synergy Sansthan would help in making all the proper paper work of the individuals. This would allow them to get loans from the bank at proper interest rates. A sustainable model would also

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be set up for them so that they can grow better.

## 4.2 Mobilizing Strategies

The mobilization strategy consisted of 5 steps as follows:

1. **Mind Jog**

Ask them the goal of their life.

2. **Personal Connection**

Ask the individual why did he start the business.

3. **Information Exchange**

Tell them that India has 40-45% youth and only 3% of them get jobs.

4. **Information Application**

Tell them about the EDP.

5. **Real World Connection**

Tell them the benefits of EDP and everything it has to offer.

## 4.3 Case Study

### 4.3.1 Rajiv Jat - Photocopy shop

Rajiv Jat ran a small photocopy shop in Harda city. His daily business was of Rs. 150. He faced a lot of difficulty in supporting his family. Synergy Sansthan helped him out in setting his business properly. They got him a loan so that he could purchase 1 computer for his shop and get Internet access. This allowed him to have a small cyber-cafe. This enhanced his business considerably as the number of people having Internet access in Harda were very few.

# Chapter 5

## Positive Changes

The work done by Synergy Sansthan has brought about a lot of positive changes.

### 5.1 Child line

Synergy Sansthan started child line initiative in Harda district. It has successfully rescued over 160 children and continues to do so. The children in the rehabilitation center are taken proper care off and given proper schooling. Once they are properly adjusted, only then are they sent back in the real world. The children are given access to games and other forms of entertainment like television, trips to parks etc.

### 5.2 Villages

Synergy Sansthan has brought remarkable changes in the rural areas. There is a small tribal village named “Umardha” 20 kms away from Harda. The village was originally in a pitiable state. Vishan Devda, a young man from Umardha started working at Synergy Sansthan. He then served the role of the middleman in communication between the Sansthan and the villagers. Together they set up a self help group for the women of the village. The self help group initially just collected money and gave small loans to the villagers. Later they started a bus service which would run buses from neighboring villages till Bhopal and

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Indore easing transportation for the people. They faced a lot of difficulties in this. Synergy Sansthan helped in doing all the legal work for establishing the SHG and also gave them support and guidance. Now those women are truly independent and are prospering. They have started adding more members to the group from different close by villages.

Apart from this, it also helps the farmers. It takes the soil samples and gets them tested at the facilities in Harda. Then they communicate the fertilizers and manure needed for proper production of crops.

### **5.3 Entrepreneurship development program**

The entrepreneurship development program was a bold initiative taken by Synergy Sansthan. It was with the help of partner NGO “Pravah” which is based in Delhi. It faced very low response rate initially because people were not attracted by it. Ajay sir took a lot of training in this so that he can mobilize people effectively and gradually they saw success. The number of people registering for this increased and the numbers of dropouts reduced. The people who have been through it have successfully received loans from banks and have all their paperwork in order. They are now better equipped to make their business grow.

# Chapter 6

## Negative things

In spite of all efforts some negative aspects will always remain. Here are a few negative points associated with Synergy Sansthan.

### 6.1 Low awareness

One problem that I felt with Synergy Sansthan was that it was not able to spread awareness in Harda city itself. The place where its office was located, neighborhood people didn't know much about it. They did not know much about the activities or some people didn't even know that it existed.

### 6.2 Employees

At Synergy Sansthan some of the employees worked with a lot of enthusiasm as they actually wanted to help the society and do good whereas there were some who just worked there like a normal job. They did not take much interest in and only did what they were told. They did not take any initiatives on their own or do some work which was slightly out of the way. Due to this, there was some negligence in the NGO as well.

In December 2013, the child line team rescued 2 girls from the railway station from a trafficking racket. Those 2 girls were kept over night at the office under the supervision of 2 female employees of the NGO. In the morning the employees



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left the office to get some refreshments and the 2 rescued girls escaped the office. Then the NGO had to search neighboring villages for the girls. It was only after 11 days that they were found again. Such negligence should not take place when the pertaining matter is so sensitive.

### **6.3 Low funds**

Synergy Sansthan as an organization is not able to monitor large amount of donations single handedly. Most of its source of funding is from bigger NGOs and through Government programs. It is not able to secure large donations from individuals. This restricts the activities that it can organize and the extent as well.

# Chapter 7

## Conclusions

Synergy Sansthan is a very young and interesting NGO. It has a different ideology as compared from other NGOs. It has produced a lot of results as well.

The most striking fact that I liked was the policy of the creators that they would all leave the NGO at the age of 35 and not stay on the board or be in any official way related to it. This will ensure that the NGO stays an NGO for the youth and takes more and more action. It will not become a dynastic NGO which is run for profit.

As it is targeting the youth, it is able to deliver maximum amount of change. By organizing workshops in colleges in Harda the issues of the youth are directly faced and resolved.

Synergy Sansthan should be given more opportunities and allowed to grow more. Its scope right now is limited to a few districts in Madhya Pradesh. If this increases then the amount of change that it can deliver will be monumental.

# Overall experience

My overall experience from this exercise has been very enlightening. I have become aware on a lot of issues which I didn't know about.

I got in touch with people from different people and had interesting conversations with them.

I learned quite a few new things which I wouldn't have the chance to otherwise like:

1. When we try to solve any issue, we should not give a solution directly. We should consider all of its adversities before arriving at a decision otherwise our effort can have a negative effect.
2. To bring change, everyone has to change: adolescents, youth, adults, senior citizens. All the cogs of the clock have to function for it to show the right time. Even if one is malfunctioning, the entire balance is destroyed.
3. To help the society one must not necessarily have to go in the social service world but must try to bring some changes in himself.
4. We often dismiss social issues blaming the government, the system, the officials etc. but that in no way helps in solving them or giving a solution. We should try to put ourselves in the shoes of the person facing the difficulty and then consider trying to give a solution.

I would definitely like to take part in another activity of this sort.