

BUSINESS RESPONSIBILITY REPORT

(As per Regulation 34(2)(f) of SEBI (Listing Obligation and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015)

SECTION A : GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMPANY

1. Corporate Identity Number (CIN) of the Company: L22121GJ1943PLC000183
2. Name of the Company: The Sandesh Limited
3. Registered address: Sandesh Bhavan, Lad Society Road, B/h. Vastrapur Gam, P.O. Bodakdev, Ahmedabad 380054
4. Website: www.sandesh.com
5. Email Id: cs@sandesh.com
6. Financial Year reported: 1st April, 2019 to 31st March 2020
7. Sector(s) that Company is engaged in (industrial activity code-wise): (1) Publication of Newspaper (NIC Code : 58131), (2) Advertisement (NIC Code : 73100)
8. List of three product/services that Company manufactures/provides (as in Balance sheet): (1) Printing and publishing of newspapers and magazines (2) Out of Home (3) Digital media (Mobile Application and website) (4) News and Current Affairs TV Channel
9. Total number of location where business activity is undertaken by the company:
 - a) Number of International Locations (Provide Details of major 5): Nil
 - b) Number of National Location: 6 (Six)
10. Market served by the company – Local/state/National/International: Local, state

SECTION B: FINANCIAL DETAILS OF THE COMPANY

1. Paid up Capital (INR): 756.94 Lacs
2. Total Turnover (INR): 34107.21 Lacs
3. Total profit after tax (INR): 5836.31 Lacs
4. Total spending on Corporate social Responsibility (CSR) as percentage of profit after tax (%): ₹ 11.24 Lacs (allocated ₹ 203.26 Lacs) (2% of average profit after taxes)
5. List of activity in which expenditure in above 4 has been incurred: Please refer to 'Annual Report on CSR activities' (an annexure to the Board's Report forming a part of this Annual Report)

SECTION C: OTHER DETAILS

1. Does the Company have any Subsidiary Company/ Companies? : Yes, as on 31st March, 2020, Company has one wholly-own subsidiary company namely 'Sandesh Digital Private Limited'.
2. Do the Subsidiary Company/Companies participate in the BR Initiatives of the parent company? If yes, then indicate the number of such subsidiary company(s): No, the Company's Subsidiary did not participate in BR initiatives of the Company.
3. Do any other entity/entities (e.g. suppliers, distributors etc.) that the Company does business with, participate in the BR initiatives of the Company? If yes, then indicate the percentage of such entity/ entities? [Less than 30%, 30-60%, More than 60%]: No, no other entities having business with the Company participate in the BR initiatives of the Company.

SECTION D: BR INFORMATION

1. Details of Director/Directors responsible for BR

- a. Details of the Director/Director responsible for implementation of the BR policy/policies
 - a. DIN Number: 00055918
 - b. Name: Mr. Sanjay Kumar Tandon
 - c. Designation: Whole-time Director and CFO

- b. Details of the BR head
 - a. DIN Number (If Applicable): 00055918
 - b. Name: Mr. Sanjay Kumar Tandon
 - c. Designation: Whole-time Director and CFO
 - d. Telephone Number: 079-40004000
 - e. E-mail Id: cs@sandesh.com

2. Principle-wise (as per National Voluntary Guidelines (NVGs)) BR Policy/policies

The National Voluntary Guidelines provide the following nine principles:

Principle 1: Ethics, Transparency and Accountability [P1]

Principle 2: Products Lifecycle Sustainability [P2]

Principle 3: Employees' Well-being [P3]

Principle 4: Stakeholder Engagement [P4]

Principle 5: Human Rights [P5]

Principle 6: Environment [P6]

Principle 7: Policy Advocacy [P7]

Principle 8: Inclusive Growth and Equitable development [P8]

Principle 9: Customer Value [P9]

a. Details of compliance (Reply in Yes/No)

	Questions	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	P8	P9
1	Do you have a policy/ policies for each of the 9 Principles?	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
2	Has the policy being formulated in consultation with the relevant stakeholders?	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
3	Does the policy conform to any national / international standards? If yes, specify? (50 words)*3	Yes. The policies are in compliance with the national standards and the same are reviewed and amended from time to time based on the amendments in the respective regulations.								
4	Has the policy being approved by the Board? Is yes, has it been signed by MD/ owner/ CEO/ appropriate Board Director?	Yes								
5	Does the company have a specified committee of the Board/ Director/ Official to oversee the implementation of the policy?	Y								
6	Indicate the link for the policy to be viewed online?	All the relevant policies can be viewed online at www.sandesh.com								
7	Has the policy been formally communicated to all relevant internal and external stakeholders?	Y								
8	Does the company have in-house structure to implement the policy/ policies.	Y								
9	Does the Company have a grievance redressal mechanism related to the policy/ policies to address stakeholders' grievances related to the policy/ policies?	Y								
10	Has the company carried out independent audit/ evaluation of the working of this policy by an internal or external agency?	Implementation of vigil mechanism is reviewed from time to time as a part of internal audit. Other policies are evaluated for implementation by functional heads.								

b. If answer to the question at serial number 1 against any principle, is 'No', please explain why: (Tick up to 2 options)

No	Questions	P 1	P 2	P 3	P 4	P 5	P 6	P 7	P 8	P 9
1	The company has not understood the Principles	Not applicable								
2	The company is not at a stage where it finds itself in a position to formulate and implement the policies on specified principles									
3	The company does not have financial or manpower resources available for the task									
4	It is planned to be done within next 6 months									
5	It is planned to be done within the next 1 year									
6	Any other reason (please specify)									

3. Governance related to BR

- a. Indicate the frequency with which the Board of Directors, Committee of the Board or CEO to assess the BR performance of the Company. Within 3 months, 3-6 months, Annually, More than 1 year :

Assessment of BR performance and review of relevant issues is done at regular interval by the functional heads as part of business reviews for the various segments in the Company.

- b. Does the Company publish a BR or a Sustainability Report? What is the hyperlink for viewing this report? How frequently it is published?

The Company has started publishing its Business Responsibility Report from financial year 2019-20. BRR can be accessed on the website of the Company and forms part of Annual Report of the Company.

SECTION E: PRINCIPLE-WISE PERFORMANCE

Principle 1: Businesses should conduct and govern themselves with Ethics, Transparency and Accountability

1. Does the policy relating to ethics, bribery and corruption cover only the company? Yes/ No. Does it extend to the Group/Joint Ventures/ Suppliers/Contractors/NGOs /Others?

Yes. The Company is committed to do business with ethical business practices. It acts with integrity in all aspects of its business. Code of Conduct adopted by the Board of Directors is applicable to the Board of Directors and Senior Management. Company's goal is to ensure that its employees, Directors, senior Management and the third parties with whom we work reflect the same high ethical standards and demonstrate a commitment to compliance with all applicable laws. The HR policies framed and circulated are applicable to all employees and deal with ethics, bribery and corruption. These policies are applicable to employees at all levels. Further, the Company has also adopted Whistle Blower Policy which enables Directors and employees to report genuine concern about unethical behavior, actual or suspected fraud or violation of the code of conduct.

2. How many stakeholder complaints have been received in the past financial year and what percentage was satisfactorily resolved by the management? If so, provide details thereof, in about 50 words or so. –

As mentioned in the Report on Corporate Governance, two (2) complaints were received during the past financial year and all (100%) the complaints have been satisfactorily resolved. Complaints from all other stakeholders are addressed and dealt with by the respective functional head of the Company. No complaints were received under Vigil Mechanism during the past financial year.

Principle 2: Businesses should provide goods and services that are safe and contribute to sustainability throughout their life cycle

1. List up to 3 of your products or services whose design has incorporated social or environmental concerns, risks and/or opportunities.

The Company is primarily into the business of printing and publishing of newspapers which focuses on the social concerns, risks and opportunities. The publications of the Company are very popular in the Gujarat State and it continuously improving the readership in smaller town and villages of the State of Gujarat.

2. For each such product, provide the following details in respect of resource use (energy, water, raw material etc.) per unit of product(optional):

- a. Reduction during sourcing/production/ distribution achieved since the previous year throughout the value chain?

The Company has commenced use LED lights to reduce energy consumption. It has installed high efficiency lighting fixture and old high power consumption light fitting have been replaced by low power consumption light fitting. The Company has installed Solar Power Plant for generating clean Energy in premises of Registered Office of the Company, which will help to

produce 278 Kilowatt peak power, and thereby ensuring effective energy conservation. During the financial year under review after installation of solar plant, there has been significant reduction in power consumption. We update our technology and machines to make best use of the material and minimize the wastage. Further, the machineries are kept in power off mode during the non-productive hours.

- b. Reduction during usage by consumers (energy, water) has been achieved since the previous year?

The products of the Company do not consume energy or water at the consumers' end.

3. Does the company have procedures in place for sustainable sourcing (including transportation)?

- a. If yes, what percentage of your inputs was sourced sustainably? Also, provide details thereof, in about 50 words or so.

The Company deploys sustainable procurement practices and thereby tries to reduce environmental impact. There are established procedures for sustainable sourcing for raw materials. Suppliers and service providers are assessed on BR parameters. Evaluation of the suppliers and service providers are on the basis of ethics, safe conditions for work, housekeeping, safe working conditions and prevention of child labour.

- b. Has the company taken any steps to procure goods and services from local & small producers, including communities surrounding their place of work? If yes, what steps have been taken to improve their capacity and capability of local and small vendors?

The Company deals with both local and small producers and suppliers and global suppliers. The Company engages the local vendors and service providers. The Company engages small and local service providers and suppliers for transportation, distribution, security, housekeeping, etc. Raw materials, machineries and other consumables are mainly procured from local and national vendors.

4. Does the company have a mechanism to recycle products and waste? If yes what is the percentage of recycling of products and waste (separately as <5%, 5-10%, >10%). Also, provide details thereof, in about 50 words or so.

The Company is aware of the fact that natural resources are not infinite. Hence, the natural resources should be conserved and if possible, they should be recycled.

Newspapers are the most recycled material in the world. There is a mechanism for disposing of waste newspapers to traders for the purpose of recycling. The Company upgrades the processes and systems, wherever possible. The Company takes steps for green initiative, usage of solar energy, saving of electricity, water conservation, reduction of wastage, etc. It is a continuous process with an intention to minimize waste and recycle products. Plant wise actual wastage is closely monitored to ensure that wastage is within permissible limits.

Principle 3: Businesses should promote the wellbeing of all employees

- Please indicate the Total number of employees: 491
- Please indicate the Total number of employees hired on temporary/contractual/casual basis: NIL
- Please indicate the Number of permanent women employees: 41
- Please indicate the Number of permanent employees with disabilities: Nil
- Do you have an employee association that is recognized by management: No
- What percentage of your permanent employees is members of this recognized employee association? : Not applicable
- Please indicate the number of complaints relating to child labour, forced labour, involuntary labour, sexual harassment in the last financial year and pending, as on the end of the financial year:

No.	Category	Number of complaints filled during the financial year	Number of complaints pending as on end of the financial year
1	Child labour/forced labour/involuntary labour	NIL	NIL
2	Sexual harassment	NIL	NIL
3	Discriminatory employment	NIL	NIL

8. What percentage of your under mentioned employees were given safety & skill up-gradation training in the last year?

The Company organizes various trainings for all levels of the employees from time to time. Fire and safety training, mock drills, etc. are regularly conducted to train the employees. Various other training programs are also undertaken to upgrade the skills of the employees of all levels.

Principle 4: Businesses should respect the interests of, and be responsive towards all stakeholders, especially those who are disadvantaged, vulnerable and marginalized.

1. Has the company mapped its internal and external stakeholders? Yes/No
Yes, the processes have been defined to identify and engage various internal and external stakeholders. The stakeholders include readers, viewers, agencies, bankers, advertisers, authorities, employees, suppliers, etc.
2. Out of the above, has the company identified the disadvantaged, vulnerable & marginalized stakeholders.
Yes. The Company has identified disadvantaged, vulnerable and marginalized stakeholders.
3. Are there any special initiatives taken by the company to engage with the disadvantaged, vulnerable and marginalized stakeholders. If so, provide details thereof, in about 50 words or so.
The Company as part of regular functioning encourages talents amongst the disadvantaged, vulnerable and marginalized stakeholders and gives them opportunity to engage in various activities undertaken by the Company.

Principle 5: Businesses should respect and promote human rights

1. Does the policy of the company on human rights cover only the company or extend to the Group/Joint Ventures/Suppliers/Contractors/NGOs/Others?
The Company recognizes the value of human rights. The Company adheres to the laws which are related to human rights. The Company has framed the whistle blower policy to enable the stakeholders to raise their concerns about abuse of human rights. The Company is taking steps to ensure compliance of laws regarding equal, treatment, women empowerment, prevention of child labor, human exploitation, etc.
2. How many stakeholder complaints have been received in the past financial year and what percent was satisfactorily resolved by the management?
The Company has not received any complaint on human rights violation during the year under review.

Principle 6: Business should respect, protect, and make efforts to restore the environment

1. Does the policy related to Principle 6 cover only the company or extends to the Group/Joint Ventures/Suppliers/Contractors/NGOs/others.
The Company recognizes the importance of the need to protect the environment. Further, there is very limited impact on the environment due to the nature of the business of the Company. This principle for protection of the environment extends to other group entities and the Company has undertaken various green initiatives for the financial year under review.
2. Does the company have strategies/ initiatives to address global environmental issues such as climate change, global warming, etc.? Y/N. If yes, please give hyperlink for webpage etc.
The business operations have very limited adverse impact on the environment. The Company takes the possible steps whenever possible to reduce the consumption of the energy. The Company is also using solar energy for captive consumption.
3. Does the company identify and assess potential environmental risks? Y/N
Yes. The Company reviews the environmental risks and also takes appropriate initiatives to mitigate them whenever needed.
4. Does the company have any project related to Clean Development Mechanism? If so, provide details thereof, in about 50 words or so. Also, if Yes, whether any environmental compliance report is filed?
No.
5. Has the company undertaken any other initiatives on – clean technology, energy efficiency, renewable energy, etc. Y/N. If yes, please give hyperlink for web page etc.
Yes. The Company has installed solar roof panels at its registered office as green energy initiative. This helps the Company to conserve the energy. The Company is replacing conventional lights with the LED Lights which helps to optimize the energy consumption. The Board's Report for financial year 2019-20 may be referred which is uploaded on the website of the Company at www.sandesh.com.
6. Are the Emissions/Waste generated by the company within the permissible limits given by CPCB/SPCB for the financial year being reported?
Yes.
7. Number of show cause/ legal notices received from CPCB/SPCB which is pending (i.e. not resolved to satisfaction) as on end of Financial Year.
Nil.

Principle 7: Businesses, when engaged in influencing public and regulatory policy, should do so in a responsible manner.

1. Is your company a member of any trade and chamber or association? If Yes, Name only those major ones that your business deals with:

The Company is a member of Indian Newspaper Society, it is registered with the Registrar of Newspapers for India and also empaneled with the Bureau of Outreach and Communication.

2. Have you advocated/lobbied through above associations for the advancement or improvement of public good? Yes/No; if yes specify the broad areas (drop box: Governance and Administration, Economic Reforms, Inclusive Development Policies, Energy security, Water, Food Security, Sustainable Business Principles, Others)

Yes, The Company supports the advancement of public good. The Company takes initiatives to create awareness and for inclusive development. The Company makes representations in the interest of industry and its stakeholders whenever needed.

Principle 8: Businesses should support inclusive growth and equitable development

1. Does the company have specified programmes/initiatives/projects in pursuit of the policy related to Principle 8? If yes details thereof.

The Company has specified programs and projects in pursuit of the policies which support the inclusive growth and equitable development. The Company has a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Policy for inclusive growth and development.

2. Are the programmes/projects undertaken through in-house team/own foundation/external NGO/government structures/any other organization?

The programs and projects like CSR Projects of the Company are generally undertaken through in-house team.

3. Have you done any impact assessment of your initiative?

The impact assessment of CSR Projects was not conducted by the Company for the year under review.

4. What is your company's direct contribution to community development projects- Amount in INR and the details of the projects undertaken.

CSR projects undertaken are in the areas of disaster relief, technical support for hospitals including cancer institutes and promoting hygienic sanitation. The details of CSR activities are mentioned as an annexure to the Board's Report forming a part of this Annual Report.

5. Have you taken steps to ensure that this community development initiative is successfully adopted by the community? Please explain in 50 words, or so.

The Company takes into consideration the view of the community to understand its requirements and then plan for various initiatives, which can address the expectations and requirements of the community.

Principle 9: Businesses should engage with and provide value to their customers and consumers in a responsible manner

1. What percentage of customer complaints/consumer cases are pending as on the end of financial year.

There is no material consumer or customer complaint outstanding as at the end of the financial year 2019-20.

2. Does the company display product information on the product label, over and above what is mandated as per local laws? Yes/ No/N.A. /Remarks(additional information) :

Not applicable.

3. Is there any case filed by any stakeholder against the company regarding unfair trade practices, irresponsible advertising and/or anti-competitive behavior during the last five years and pending as on end of financial year. If so, provide details thereof, in about 50 words or so.

No such case is filed or pending as at the end of financial year 2019-20.

4. Did your company carry out any consumer survey/ consumer satisfaction trends?

The Company regularly carries out the consumer surveys of readers, viewers, advertisers, distribution agents, etc. in order to determine the satisfaction trends for its products.