



**ANNUAL REPORTS AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

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Registered Charity Number: 1107022

DALIT SOLIDARITY NETWORK UK

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

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DALIT SOLIDARITY NETWORK UK

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

Charity Registration Number:	1107022
Governing Document:	Constitution (adopted July 2003, fully amended July 2011)
Principal Office:	Thomas Clarkson House The Stableyard Broomgrove Road London SW9 9TL
Board of Trustees:	Honorary Chair: Jeremy Corbyn, MP Chair: Corinne Lennox Vice Chair: Tom Palakudiyil Treasurer: Kate Solomeyina Ramesh Gautam (resigned 24 August 2021) Ramani Leatherd Shiv Shukla (resigned 13 July 2021) Bala Gnanapragasam Perna Tambay (appointed 10 November 2021)
Patrons:	Singh Bahal Professor Mary Grey Jean Lambert Vincent Manoharan Rob Marris Aidan McQuade John Montagu, Earl of Sandwich
Bankers:	Lloyds TSB East Dulwich Branch London SE22 8NA
Independent Examiner:	Simon Lewcock Chartered Certified Accountant Windsor Lodge Millfield Road Hounslow TW4 5PN

DALIT SOLIDARITY NETWORK UK

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The Board present their annual report and the accounts of the charity for the year ending 31st March 2022.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity Dalit Solidarity Network UK (DSN UK) is an unincorporated association governed by its constitution, adopted on 14th July 2003, amended 4th July 2004, and last amendment was in the Annual General Meeting on 5th July 2011. The charity is governed by Board of Trustees, made up of between four and twelve trustees elected by the charity's members at the Annual General Meeting or co-opted by the Board of Trustees. The board must meet at least twice in the period from one AGM to the next, but in practice meets quarterly.

The charity's Director, till January 2022 was Meena Varma and from 24th January, 2022 Gazala Shaikh has taken over the role. The Director is responsible for day-to-day management to ensure the charity's strategic objectives and operational priorities are met.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The charity's primary objects are to promote equality, diversity and human rights in the UK and elsewhere, and in particular advocating for elimination of discrimination on the grounds of caste and analogous systems of inherited status such as that suffered by the Dalits.

Key Activities of DSN UK

1. Providing technical advice and analysis to the UK Parliament, Government departments, and others on caste discrimination in the UK and in other countries where caste discrimination is practised.
2. Providing technical advice and analysis to the corporate sector in the UK and internationally on addressing caste-based discrimination, descent based slavery and other human and labour rights abuses.
3. Promoting international advocacy with partners in the South Asian countries and in collaboration with the International Dalit Solidarity Network on international fora and networks.
4. Raising Awareness on caste discrimination, exclusion, and abuse of human rights in the UK.
5. Creating a shared understanding and advocacy on caste discrimination in the UK in partnership and collaboration with Network members and partners in the UK.

Key Achievements 2021/2022

- DSN-UK has engaged with the Law Commission in the UK to discuss inclusion of 'caste' as a motivation for 'hate crime'.
- Increased engagement with Higher Education Institutes and Universities on inclusion of 'caste' in their equality and diversity policies, academic courses and curricula, and raising awareness.
- Involved in promotion of '*I Am Belmaya*', a documentary by an uneducated Nepalese Dalit woman who desires to become a film maker.
- Recognition of DSN-UK's '*Everyday Casteism campaign*' by the London Faith and Belief Forum, and named Census Champion for our work with the Office of National Statistics.
- @DSNUK Twitter followers reached nearly 20,000, and we continue to manage the @CasteintheUk twitter handle for the Pro-Legislation Stakeholder's Group, which has also seen an increase in followers.

1. Providing technical advice and analysis to the UK Parliament, Government departments and others on caste discrimination

All-Party Parliamentary Group for Dalits (APPG)

The All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Dalits continues its work to ensure that the issues surrounding caste-based discrimination remain on the government's agenda, particularly regarding the closer ties with India surrounding possible new trade agreements.

Lord Harries of Pentregarth (Co-Chair of the APPG) opened a debate in the House of Lords on India and Human Rights back in August 2021, and while expressing his admiration for the country, he also pointed out the rise in nationalism and decline in human rights. Other Members also expressed their concern that the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) have not done enough to call out injustices in India. In response, it was argued that the Foreign Secretary raised the issues of Kashmir, minority and religious communities, and encouraged the Indian government to unfreeze Amnesty India's funds. It also said that recent project work with Dalits included legal training for over 2000 Dalit women to combat domestic violence.

The key issues for Dalits and Adivasis in Nepal was discussed in December 2021, where the government was asked what progress had been made in fulfilling the UK's commitments to provide access to justice for marginalised communities. Particularly concerning was the lack of Dalits appointed to the National Dalit Commission or the new National Human Rights Commission. It was agreed that the government would continue to lobby on strengthening human rights, although it was noted that there has been an increase in locally elected government positions held by Dalits. Lord Alton of Liverpool also asked about the percentage of Dalits and Adivasis that had been vaccinated against COVID-19 and the death rates compared to the rest of the population, but no information was available. The government, however, confirmed that 24% of the support provided to Nepal targeted vulnerable groups, including Dalits.

Lord Harries also tabled a Parliamentary question on the representations made by the UK on India's blocking of overseas funds for non-governmental organisations (NGOs) through the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA). FCRA is being used to silence civil society voices that have criticised the Indian government, and 179 NGOs have had their licence renewal denied, including Oxfam India and Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity. Dalit community and organisations access to funds was also included in the discussion, as well as the incompatibility of Human Rights with caste-based discrimination.

Briefings for the discussions have been provided by DSN-UK.

Caste Legislation in the UK

The caste legislation has been put on hold. Giving due consideration, there has been a consensus that until there is a revival of movement to repeal it from the Equality Act 2010, no action will be taken. Should this situation change, the Pro-Legislation Stakeholder group will initiate a campaign to stop the repeal process along with the letter that has been signed by numerous Human Rights groups to encourage MPs to support our cause.

To facilitate collection of evidence for supporting the campaign for legislation, the Everyday Casteism campaign was re-launched on 23rd March 2022, just after the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. DSN-UK has received several reports of casteism via its website, as well as from a number of university students who have faced discriminatory behaviour in social interactions post their caste being outed. The campaign also received recognition from the London Faith and Belief forum in 2021.

DSN-UK has initiated engagement with the Diversity, Equality and Inclusion (DEI) departments of UK Higher Education Institutes to partner on caste discrimination being recognised in university DEI policies and including this topic in courses and in raising awareness.

2. Providing technical advice and analysis to the corporate sector in the UK and internationally on addressing caste-based discrimination and other labour rights abuses

The Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI)

Caste remains on the agenda for the ETI, particularly with the recent blog on why caste is a salient risk in business. DSN UK, together with IDSN and ETI, issued 'Base Code Guidance: Caste in Global Supply Chains', a report offering practical advice to businesses. We have continued to use and promote the guidance at various speaking events and meetings with brands and other INGOs. The report has been presented by IDSN at DIEH in Denmark and IEH in Norway.

It has also been used to raise awareness at the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights in Geneva. The DSN UK Director has raised the issue of caste discrimination at the ETI meetings in Norway, Denmark and the UK.

3. Promoting international advocacy with the International Dalit Solidarity Network

At the United Nations

An input was submitted on caste in the study on gender justice of the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Opinion and Expression, noting that social spaces for Dalit women are often subject to both sexist and casteist discrimination, in partnership with IDS. IDS represented the DSN UK at a UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) side-event at the 76th session of the UN General Assembly on 'The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Economic Participation of Minorities'. Meena Varma, Director of DSN UK and Executive Director of IDS, highlighted the need to address caste discrimination in order to progress the SDGs. Having highlighted atrocities committed against Dalits in Nepal to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michele Bachelet issued a statement that called for independent investigations.

At the European Union

Although the UK is not in the European Union, DSN UK has been engaged with IDS on its representation to the EU member states on issues related to caste discrimination where these have a wider impact. An EU tool to help companies tackle the issue of forced labour in their supply chains included input from the report 'Base Code Guidance: Caste in Global Supply Chains', as well as a brief on how caste and gender discrimination are root causes of forced labour, with examples from Pakistan, India and Nepal. Similarly, ahead of the EU-India human rights dialogue in January 2022, advocacy efforts were directed towards the EU Delegation, the EEAS and Member States representations in India; as part of this a briefing was shared that highlighted the key issues surrounding caste-based discrimination.

Business and Human Rights

Much of the work done within the UN and EU also has links to Business and Human Rights, with DSNUK, in partnership with IDS, continuing to promote action on caste-related issues. As part of this, a statement and briefing paper were issued specifically addressing caste- and gender-based violence in the garment sector, following on from the rape and murder of a Dalit worker in a clothes factory in India.

With the revision of the Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), IDS and international associate Advocating Rights in South Asia (ARISA) emphasized inclusion of information on caste-based discrimination, which is currently absent in the document. The two organisations also provided information for OECD Watch's report 'Get Fit: Closing gaps in the OECD Guidelines to make them fit for purpose'. Reports from DSN UK and other IDS members addressing caste, business and human rights are widely promoted by the organisation, including on human rights violations in the cotton seed and spinning mills industries.

- 4. Raising awareness of all aspects of discrimination, exclusion and abuse of human rights on the grounds of caste-based discrimination**
- 5. Strengthening the network**

DSN UK membership numbers continue to rise, and we have had some good feedback about why people are interested in joining DSN UK, their backgrounds and expertise, and how they found us. We continue with our outreach to other organisations and are delighted to also interact with the new members of IDS from India, Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh, and look forward to collaborating with them in the future.

The Director participated in an event on Caste in the Diaspora organised by The Rights Collective, a group of women who are looking to tackle the issues within the South Asian diaspora community in the UK, reminding them that caste goes wherever the South Asian diaspora go, and that we still need to break down the walls of 'untouchability'.

DSN UK has also engaged with the Law Commission and met to discuss casteism in relation to 'hate crime'. The review was in the consultation stage and particularly relevant to us as they are looking into whether potential protected characteristics (such as caste) should be included as a motivation towards hate crime, along with the practicalities of amending the law. As part of this, DSN UK has submitted a report.

One of the highlights of the year was supporting IDSN in their virtual showing and Q and A of 'I Am Belmaya', the story of an uneducated Nepalese Dalit woman's determination to learn how to use a camera to make films. Winner of the Best Documentary of 2021 at the UK Asian Film Festival, producer Sue Carpenter and Belmaya Nepali gave a fascinating insight into the 14-year story of how this film was made and the impact it has had on Belmaya herself. Another documentary DSN UK was delighted to promote was Writing with Fire (which was also shown on the BBC). This documentary examined the Dalit women-led newspaper Khabar Lahariya, based in India, and its move from print to digital by teaching their reporters how to use smart phones and modern technology.

During the 2021 UK census, DSN UK was invited to join a panel to discuss what information is missing from the current questionnaire, and the difficulty that not only our charity but other NGOs have in finding certain information on the demographics in England and Wales. As a result, DSN UK was recognised by the Office for National Statistics as a Census Champion.

DSN UK continues to engage with the Minority Rights Group International and participates in the BOND Caste and Development group, though the activity of the latter has been limited this year. Nevertheless, there has still been discussion on how best to move forward in meeting the goals set out, including raising awareness of the development and human rights impact of caste and the need for effective responses among the development community; building capacities of BOND members to analyse and address caste in their programmes and operations by serving as a forum for exchange and dissemination of evidence and learning; and planning joint advocacy when appropriate in the UK and internationally, for the passage and implementation of policies and frameworks for the recognition and eradication of caste.

DSN UK twitter followers have continued to increase to almost 20,000, and the @CasteintheUk handle has also seen an upturn in followers. The newsletters continue to provide our members with the latest news regarding caste-based discrimination from both home and abroad, and the website has articles added regularly.

DALIT SOLIDARITY NETWORK UK

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022 (Continued)

STATEMENT OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The trustees are required under the Charities Act 1993 to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year (unless the charity is entitled to prepare accounts on the alternative receipts and payment basis). In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

1. select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
2. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
3. state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
4. prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue to operate.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable law and regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The financial result for the year, and the financial situation at 31st March 2022, which the Board of Trustees considers to be satisfactory, are set out on pages 10 to 14.

The Board confirms that the financial statements comply with the requirements of the charity's governing document and the requirements of the Charity SORP 2015 for small entities.

The charity's policy on reserves is to maintain unrestricted reserves of between four and six months' core expenditure. This is to ensure that the organisation can continue to operate in the event of unforeseen circumstances. Currently our reserves set aside cover 6 months' expenditure at £36,000.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees

..... Date 5 Dec 2022
..... Date 5 Dec 2022

DALIT SOLIDARITY NETWORK UK
REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

I have examined the financial statements set out on pages 10 to 14 for the year ended 31 March 2022, which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out on page 12.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND THE EXAMINER

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and they consider that the audit requirements of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) do not apply and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act;
 - (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records; and
 - (c) to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



SIMON LEWCOCK
Chartered Certified Accountant
Windsor Lodge
Millfield Road
Hounslow
TW4 5PN

5th December 2022

DALIT SOLIDARITY NETWORK UK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Year to 31.3.22 £	Year to 31.3.21 £
Grants receivable	1,000	18,986	19,986	17,500
Other fundraising	-	6,228	6,228	3,989
IDSN consultancy	-	3,600	3,600	43,200
Bank and other interest	-	5	5	19
Total income and endowments	1,000	28,819	29,819	64,708
EXPENDITURE				
Charitable activities	1,000	55,639	56,639	65,784
Fundraising costs	-	3,300	3,300	5,029
Governance costs	-	2,878	2,878	4,049
Total expenditure	1,000	61,817	62,817	74,861
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	-	-32,998	-32,998	-10,154
Fund balances brought forward 1st April 2021	-	82,342	82,342	92,495
Fund balances carried forward 31st March 2022	-	49,344	49,344	82,342

In both the current and the prior year, all recognised gains and losses are included in the profit and loss account and therefore a statement of recognised gains and losses has not been presented.

The accompanying notes on pages 12 to 14 form an integral part of these Financial Statements.

**DALIT SOLIDARITY NETWORK UK
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2022**

	Notes	31.3.22 £	31.3.21 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Fixed Assets for charity's use		-	-
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	5	769	3,600
Bank deposit account		42,798	72,649
Cash at bank and in hand		10,776	11,033
		<u>54,343</u>	<u>87,282</u>
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	6	4,999	4,940
		<u>49,344</u>	<u>82,342</u>
Financed by:			
Restricted Funds	7	-	-
Unrestricted Funds:			
General Fund	7	13,344	46,342
Designated Reserve Fund	7	36,000	36,000
		<u>49,344</u>	<u>82,342</u>

The accompanying notes on pages 12 to 14 form an integral part of these Financial Statements.

Approved by the Board at the AGM on 5th December 2022

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees

..... Date 5 Dec 2022

..... Date 5 Dec 2022

DALIT SOLIDARITY NETWORK UK
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Basis of preparation of accounts

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention and include the results of Dalit Solidarity Network UK (the Charity)'s operations which are described in the Trustees' Report and all of which are continuing.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) No. 102 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (the SORP 2015).

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS No. 102 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement on the grounds that it qualifies as a small entity.

1.2 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are general funds available for use at the Trustees' discretion in furtherance of any objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to the area or purpose and the restriction means that the funds can only be used for specific projects or activities.

1.3 Income

Voluntary income and donations are accounted for as received by the Charity. Income from fundraising ventures is shown gross with associated costs included in fundraising costs.

1.4 Value Added Tax

Value Added Tax is not recoverable by the Charity and is included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

1.5 Fundraising costs

Fundraising costs comprises costs incurred in inducing people and organisations to contribute financially to the Charity's work. This comprises principally a proportion of the cost of meetings and other events.

1.6 Governance costs

Expenditure on governance costs include a percentage of relevant categories of expenditure, such as salary costs, travel and office costs.

1.7 Designated Reserve fund

The charity aims to maintain unrestricted reserves of between four and six months' core expenditure. This is to ensure that the organisation can continue to operate in the event of unforeseen circumstances. Currently our reserves set aside cover 6 months' expenditure at £36,000.

DALIT SOLIDARITY NETWORK UK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS AT 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)

2.	GRANTS RECEIVABLE	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Year to 31.3.22 £	Year to 31.3.21 £	
	ETI BOAG	-	3,286	3,286	-	
	ETI Participation Fund	-	-	-	5,000	
	Farthing Trust	-	-	-	4,000	
	Lush Charity Pot	1,000	-	1,000	-	
	St Clare & St Francis Trust	-	4,000	4,000	5,000	
	Water Aid	-	10,000	10,000	-	
	W F Southall Trust	-	-	-	2,000	
	Wyndham Trust	-	1,700	1,700	1,500	
		1,000	18,986	19,986	17,500	
3.	OTHER FUNDS RAISED					
	Membership fees	-	4,168	4,168	2,869	
	Donations	-	1,506	1,506	508	
	Tax refunds	-	554	554	612	
		-	6,228	6,228	3,989	
4.	EXPENDITURE					
	Unrestricted	Charitable Activities £	Fundraising £	Governance £	Year to 31.3.22 £	Year to 31.3.21 £
	Staff Costs					
	Salaries and N.I.	39,436	3,137	2,241	44,814	67,156
	Pension	1,151	92	65	1,308	3,663
	Payroll costs	629	-	-	629	634
	Office Costs					
	Staff recruitment	749	-	-	749	1,420
	Telephone	367	65	-	432	406
	Governance costs	-	-	48	48	-
	Insurance	441	-	49	490	562
	Membership subscription	-	-	173	173	168
	Office and computer costs	33	6	2	41	69
	Website	233	-	-	233	599
	Examiner's fee and expenses	-	-	300	300	280
	International Project Costs					
	Contribution to expenses from IDSN	-	-	-	-	(102)
	International Advocacy	12,600	-	-	12,600	12,600
	IDSN Consultancy	-	-	-	-	133
	IDSN Consultancy - travel reimbursement	-	-	-	-	(125)
		55,639	3,300	2,878	61,817	87,462
	Restricted					
	Office Rent (Lush)	1,000	-	-	1,000	-
		1,000	-	-	1,000	-

DALIT SOLIDARITY NETWORK UK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS AT 31 MARCH 2022 (continued)

5. DEBTORS	2022 £	2021 £
Donations	376	-
Membership Fees	393	-
IDSN Consultancy- accrued income	-	3,600
	<u>769</u>	<u>3,600</u>

6. CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS	2022 £	2021 £
Lush Charity Pot - deferred income	3,000	4,000
HMRC - Paye & N.I.	554	568
Accruals	1,445	373
	<u>4,999</u>	<u>4,940</u>

7. FUND DETAILS

The Unrestricted funds comprise the following:

	Balance as at 1 Apr 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Surplus/ (Deficit) £	Transfer of funds	Balance as at 31 Mar 2022 £
General Fund	46,342	28,819	61,817	(32,998)		13,344
Restricted Fund	-	1,000	1,000	-		-
Designated Reserve Fund	36,000	-	-	-		36,000
	<u>82,342</u>	<u>29,819</u>	<u>62,817</u>	<u>(32,998)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>49,344</u>
Total movement of funds	82,342	29,819	62,817	(32,998)	-	49,344