



Trustees' Annual Report for the period							
From		Period start date			To		Period end date
		01	04	2022	31	03	20223

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Social Education Voluntary Association (SEVA) Trust UK		
Other names charity is known by	SEVA Trust UK		
Registered charity number (if any)	1172654		
Charity's principal address	44 Wood End Close		
	Sharnbrook		
	Bedford		
	Postcode	MK44 1JY	

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Charan Sekhon (Mr)	Chairman		Charity trustees (by resolution)
2	Dr Baljit Upadhyay (Mrs)	Vice-Chair		Charity trustees (by resolution)
3	Shital Gandhi (Mrs)	Community Engagement		Charity trustees (by resolution)
4	Kunwarjeet Pannu (Mrs)	Youth Group Coordinator		Charity trustees (by resolution)
5	Satnam Galsin (Mr)	Treasurer		Charity trustees (by resolution)
6				
7				
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13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution adopted on 22/01/2017 (amended on 20/02/2019)
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by resolution by the charity trustees

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees; • the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works; • relationship with any related parties; • trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them. 	<p>Policy & Procedures in place:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Guidance for Volunteers (including Covid19) 2. Risk Assessment (including Covid19) 3. Complaints Policy 4. Equality & Diversity Policy 5. Safeguarding Children Policy 6. Safeguarding Adult Policy 7. Data Protection Policy 8. Photography/Filming Consent Forms 9. Volunteer Recruitment/Application Form 10. Volunteer Induction Check List 11. Volunteer Code of Conduct 12. Volunteer Expenses Policy 13. Feedback Forms 14. GDPR Info & Notifications 15. International Projects (Risk Assessment Checklist & Matrix) 16. Students Covid19 hardship grant application form
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Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

Education – For the public benefit to promote the education of students from Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME) background in Bedfordshire and elsewhere in England and for underprivileged communities in northern India and elsewhere in India in such ways as the charity trustees think fit, including, but not limited to:

- (1) awarding to such persons scholarships, maintenance allowances or grants tenable at any university, college, school or institution of higher or further education;

- (2) providing coaching, mentoring to furtherance of that education, guidance for higher studies, oversees studies or for entry to any occupation, trade or profession on leaving any educational establishment.

Health & Wellbeing – For the public benefit to promote health & wellbeing among BAME communities in Bedfordshire and elsewhere in England and underprivileged communities in northern India and elsewhere in India including, but not limited to:

- (3) coordinating health awareness (including mental health) and yoga sessions;
- (4) arranging or assisting in organising health checks.

Environment - To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment among BAME communities in Bedfordshire and elsewhere in England and underprivileged communities, farmers and pollution affected areas in northern India and elsewhere in India in such ways as the charity trustees think fit, including, but not limited to:

- (5) coordinating sessions to raise awareness of ecological and environmental sustainability, local and global environmental issues and challenges;
- (6) arranging or assisting in environmental monitoring and sharing the findings with the local communities and the appropriate bodies;
- (7) promoting eco-friendly and sustainable lifestyles including helping to explore renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Main Activities:

1. Continuation of post COVID19 Support in Bedfordshire

The Global Corona pandemic brought challenging times for all disrupting our day-to-day lives. In addition to the immediate impacts on health, jobs and income, the epidemic caused many medium to long term impacts. However, the most disadvantaged, Black, Asian & Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities, vulnerable and elderly, low-paid and part-time workers especially the international students and people experiencing homelessness have been impacted severely.

We are a small but a dedicated charity which is run by all unpaid volunteers. We do not have any paid staff in our charity (more details in the next section, page 10). As listed in the objects section, we mainly focus on (but not limited to) Education, Health & Environment related projects in Bedfordshire and supporting education for disadvantaged children in India. Following Corona pandemic in 2020, the Trustees decided to focus on social welfare and community support projects helping the elderly and vulnerable, people with special dietary needs and the international students (who were unable to travel back to their home countries or lost their jobs) were impacted badly.

We have robust policies and procures in place to ensure we follow the latest guidelines and rules. We also kept update with the Charity Commission guidelines and constantly reviewed our post-COVID19 and other H&S processes.

Last year we supported 50+ families and elderly facing hardships, 50+ International Students (incl. help with their fee & accommodation matters), 50+ homeless, 1 women's refuge centre in Bedford (until early May 2021) housing most vulnerable women (domestic abuse & other hardships). Leading from the front and under the leadership of our Chair, all Trustees joined the volunteers to support the communities. We also worked closely with the other organisations and charities to ensure a best use of resources and manpower and we delivered 500+ food parcels and 450+ food parcels.

As the COVID19 situation improved, we scaled down our operation and closed our emergency support food hub on 19/04/21 after giving 390 days of continuous service of staple food and hot meals.

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1384267736327417859?cxt=HHwWhsCjnYGL9LUmAAAA>

We continued our support for the most vulnerable and the elderly people.

From 01 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 we supported:

- 1. 25+ families and elderly facing hardships**
- 2. 35+ int. students (incl. fee & accommodation matters)**
- 3. 50+ people experiencing homelessness or hardships**
- 4. Staple food donations to Emmaus Village Carlton**

***Total: 300+ Food Parcels and 200+ Hot-meals**

***Note:** We received a significant amounts of food donations and hot meals direct from our volunteers and the supporting partners that helped to keep our charity spending low for this year and the funds will be used towards the other core projects that were halted due to COVID19 (please refer to our previous report 2020-21). Though we closed our food support

hub in April 2021, our staple food support and hot meals for the most vulnerable and exceptional cases is still continuing to-date. More details are on our social media handles @SEVATrustUK

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1565766220225384454>

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1567950558224580614>

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1530597338842021888>

We received a lot of direct feedback and through social-media:

Feedback by Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire:

<https://twitter.com/LLieutenantBeds/status/1531161323643486208>

Feedback by a family who needed short-term help during self-isolation:

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1518435999923113985>

Feedback by Inter Faith Network:

<https://twitter.com/IFNetUK/status/1530928349706690561>

Feedback by SMART CJS:

https://twitter.com/SMART_CJS/status/1572534342353846272

A message from Bedford and Kempston MP Mohammad Yasin:

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1377651663511621638?cxt=HHwWjMCwvfG4s54mAAAA>

Feedback about UK Parliament Week 2022 input & support:

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1594843327094001664>

1.2 Donation of funds and staple food to Emmaus Village Carlton to support Ukrainian migrants and other vulnerable people:

We donated £1000 and significant amounts of staple food to Emmaus Village Carlton, a registered charity offering a wide range of support and temporary accommodation.

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1530597338842021888>

1.3 Support for homeless and rough-sleepers in Bedford

Working with SMART CJS (a charity supporting homeless), we continued our regular support (that we started after the COVID19) for over 50 people experiencing homelessness or other and provided many deliveries of staple food.

https://twitter.com/SMART_CJS/status/1572534342353846272

1.4 Support for Ethnic Food Bank. Bedford

We are Pleased to offer our support to Ethnic Food Bank, Bedford supporting ethnic communities of Bedfordshire.

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1637179787922796546>

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1639028003668910080>

1.5 Continuation of Support for International students, liaison with universities, students unions and the Indian High Commission (HCI), London

During COVID19 crisis, we set up a dedicated students support team lead by our Chair Charan Sekhon and supported by our Vice-chair Dr Baljit Upadhyay. Our team dealt with a wide range of students' issues including requests and queries about fee support, rent & accommodation, health, wellbeing and emotional support we worked closely with the students support teams of Cranfield University, University of Bedfordshire and University of Hertfordshire to identify the students who needed urgent help and delivered a wide range of staple food and hot meals to their residence throughout the COVID19. We continued our support efforts and dealt with regular students queries for help who lost their part time jobs during the pandemic. In addition to our direct liaisons with the universities, we continued our work in collaboration with students unions.

We received positive feedback from a large number of students and the student unions. Many left their feedback and comment on Google review and on our social media platforms @SEVATrustUK

We also received an excellent feedback from many Community and Charitable Groups involved in this projects who had the full insight of our post-COVID19 efforts.

1.6 Work with Bedford Borough, UNISON & other organisations

We worked closely with Bedford Borough Council lead community support and awareness campaigns and time to time promoted the key messages with the local communities. We continue to work with UNIOSN Welfare Officers and Reps of Bedford and Luton who previously helped to identify people in need.

1.7 Volunteers network & working policies and procedures

In order to respond to emergency support situations, we need a strong network of volunteers. We are pleased to strengthen our volunteers and supporting partners' network. During the peak times of COVID19 crisis, we had over 25 volunteers covering the food hubs and doing daily home deliveries of food and essentials. Though COVID19 brought tough times for all but a big positive outcome was that large number of people from all communities came forward to help and support. We set up all the needed COVID19 related policies and procedures to ensure we can provide a safe working environment to all our volunteers and throughout the year we regularly reviewed it. We feel proud to complete an another challenging year without a single H&S related incident or any other shortfall. This demonstrates our commitment, ability to plan, handle and deliver complex and emergency projects within tight deadlines.

Big Thanks to All our supporting partners and volunteers

The past two years have been very challenging years for all but we reached-out large number of people and students. It was only possible due to a collective effort and support by all. We received an amazing support from many local and national organisations who provided us significant amounts of the staple food we needed. Many individuals offered to help us with food shopping, door to door deliveries and other

support. We would like to thank the following and everyone else who supported us in one way or another.

UNISON East Anglia (Env. Agency) Branch
Sri Guru Ravidass Temple & Community Centre, Bedford
Guru Nanak Gurdwara, Bedford
Gurdwara Sahib, Ramgarhia Sikh Society, Bedford
Guru Gobind Singh Gurdwara, Kempston
Bandhan Bedford Group (Indian Women Group)

Jat Singh Patti (Senior Lawyer) - Stanmore Law Practice
Urvi Shah - Vision Solicitors
Arpan Kaur – NHS Pharmacist

John McMohan – Sharnbrook
Mr & Mrs Surinder Gupta – Bedford
Irina & Maria Ermakova – Bedford
Saurabh Sethi, Jatinder Singh, Jasjot Singh, Pallavi Sahonte – Bedford
Seema Grantham, Rishi Khera - Bedford
Manor Kumar and Shivani Sharma – Luton

2. Health and Wellbeing

2.1 COVID-19 Health and Vaccination Awareness

Supported by a grant of £2000 (£1000 received in 2021/22 & £1000 in 2022/23 financial year) by the Bedford Borough Council (Public Health), we lead this project to help addressing COVID-19 vaccine inequalities and to encourage further take-up across all age groups among the ethnic groups Led by Dr Baljit Upadhyay and supported by the Public Health, we arranged four awareness sessions at four different local places of worships and community centres in Bedford reaching out to over 500 people from all ages. We have already covered the key details in our 2021-22 report.

<https://www.bedfordindependent.co.uk/seva-trust-uk-hosting-vaccination-session-for-bedfords-sikh-communities/>

2.2 Continuation of Yoga Classes

As reported in our last report, we launched a new face to face health awareness, exercise and yoga classes in March 2023 that has been well used by BAME females. This is regarded as 'hard to reach' group. We also promoted Yoga Day to attract more people to start yoga.

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1539290980976758784>

3. Education

3.1 Donated 55 free laptop computers to help students to access digital

Under this unique project, we donated 55 free laptops to children studying additional Indian languages at Sunday schools run by local charities and community groups. The laptops were donated to students from different age groups who are studying additional languages in Bedfordshire in addition to their normal full time education. In line with our charity objectives to support educational initiatives and help students from diverse communities, we decided to work with all local Gurdwaras and Temples who are doing wonderful work to help children to teach

additional languages. This not only helps children to connect with their cultural roots but enable them to progress in their future careers with multilingual skills. We received an excellent feedback from children, teachers and the parents.

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1623752968829915136>

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1623760504094064640>

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1623772207288619008>

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1627115193804242945>

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1627414121074331651>

<https://www.asian-voice.com/Community/Free-laptops-distributed-by-SEVA-Trust-UK-to-help-students-to-access-d>

<https://samajweekly.com/free-laptops-computers-distributed-by-seva-trust-uk-to-help-students-to-access-digital-educational-services/>

3.2 Educational Exhibitions on the Teachings and Life of Guru Nanak

Working in coordination with Connect With Your Roots, we helped to bring a unique exhibition to Bedford and Milton Keynes. This exhibition covered details of the 'Universal Teachings and Life of Guru Nanak' the founder of the Sikh faith. Thousands of people from all diverse communities viewed the exhibition that has all the key details listed in English and Punjabi. This helped to promote community cohesion, strengthen diversity and sharing educational messages of oneness, peace, love and selfless service (Seva for all). Link to social media coverage below:

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1509955623945109504>

3.3 Promoting Community Cohesion and Raising awareness about Indian Independence (India at 75)

SEVA Trust team lead by our Chair Charan Sekhon, played an instrumental role in supporting Bedford Bandhan Group who organised Indian Independence Day celebrations in Bedford on 15/08/22 followed by Community Dinner by Bandhan on 09/09/22. The Indian Independence Day event involved cultural program followed by unfurling of the Indian flag at the old Town Hall, Bedford. The event was attended by local dignitaries, leaders and reps of diverse communities and large number of attendees. Our team engaged with many community and youth groups and helped in sharing information with them. This was a great community and educational event that helped in promoting community cohesion and involved the youth and diverse community groups.

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1559162298387791874>

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1568595033951010816>

4. Community Support and Other Updates

4.1 We attended various other community meetings and educational events throughout the year to promote diversity and community cohesion

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1527325933602209793>

<https://twitter.com/SGRSBEDFORD/status/1623081925748334592>

4.2 In addition to all the above activities, on behalf of the UK Indian diaspora, we led a campaign for better direct air connectivity between London and Punjab. We have been interacting and working with many charitable organisations in the UK and Punjab. One of the most common issues faced by all charities supporting the youth development & educations projects in Punjab is the lack of direct connectivity leading to a long and stressful journey. Therefore, we decided to work on this issue in partnership with other NGOs and we were so pleased with a massive positive outcome as the direct flights finally commenced from London Stansted to Amritsar, Punjab.

<https://twitter.com/ckssekhon/status/1575979880789184512>

4.3 Community support and educational projects in India*

SEVA Trust UK (India) Team lead many projects supporting disadvantaged families and children by providing immunity booster kits, daily use essentials, health awareness workshops, blood donation camps and many more. More details are available on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram: @SEVATrustIndia

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustIndia/status/1666928418540208130>

***Note:** All projects in India are led by SEVA Trust UK (India) which is a registered public trust in India. For further details please visit:

www.sevatrustuk.org

5. Environment

We supported a wide range of environmental projects in Bedfordshire including Rivercare Cleanup, Tree Plantation and prompting environmental awareness messages via our social media platforms.

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1527962983640481793>

<https://twitter.com/gurchrandhawa/status/1647280800272883713>

<https://twitter.com/GngLuton/status/1638100925188300800>

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1605166102719471617>

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Our motto is 'True Service to Humanity'. All SEVA Trust UK team members (Trustees, Supporting Teams and Advisers) are fully committed volunteers. Any donations received go to fulfil the charitable aims and objectives, not to pay salaries to anyone or expensive overheads. Here is the financial value of unpaid and voluntary work delivered by our teams to support local communities through Education, Health, Environmental work and Social Welfare (based on national minimal wage 2022 figures)

5 Trustees—36 hrs /week = £342/week= £17,784 per year (£9.50 per hr)

4 Youth volunteers (age 21 to 24) – 12 hrs /week = £110.16 = £5728 per year (9.18 per hr)

4 Youth volunteers (age 18 to 20) – 8 hrs /week = £2860 per year (£6.83 per hr)

12 Volunteers (age 25 & over) – 36 hrs/week = £342/week = £17,784 per year (£9.50 per hr)

Total contributions = £44, 156 per year

SEVA Trust UK Team has given voluntary input equivalent to 44k in 2021/22. This does not include the work and input given by SEVA volunteers in India.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Achievements, Awards and Media Coverage

Our main achievements and key media updates are already listed above. Here are details of recognitions and awards received.

‘Everyday Hero’s Award’ for community support

Our work was recognised by an independent panel of judges who selected our chair Charan Sekhon for this award for his enormous support and input for SEVA Trust and to the local communities. It was sponsored by The Harpur Trust and organised by Bedford Independent Media Group.

<https://twitter.com/TheHarpurTrust/status/1530399513617534976>

Invitation for ‘Thanks Giving Service’ to celebrate HM The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee

70 years of incredible public service by HM the Queen inspires us all. A huge honour for our chair and for our charity to be invited for ‘National Service of Thanks Giving’ to celebrate HM The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee held at St Pauls Cathedral, London

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1534754820959064064>

Our Chair received his MBE from HM The King

Our Chair Charan Sekhon was awarded an MBE by her late Majesty the Queen in the New Year’s 2022 Honours for his services to charity work, diversity, the environment and COVID19 support work.

<https://www.bedfordindependent.co.uk/bedford-volunteering-legend-collects-his-mbe-from-hm-the-king/>

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK/status/1620927202824183808>

<https://twitter.com/ckssekhon/status/1620973336074534912>

Media updates, feedback from the beneficiaries and our supporting partners

We received an excellent feedback from many beneficiaries, community reps, charity groups and supporting partners. Further details and links to media coverage are given in the previous sections above.

There has been many other updates. For further details please check out our Twitter, Facebook, Instagram or YouTube links: @SEVATrustUK

<https://twitter.com/SEVATrustUK>

<https://www.facebook.com/SEVATrustUK/>

<https://www.instagram.com/sevatrustuk/?hl=en>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4Ff7Wj-TIWmgUEFFEPdJJQ/videos>

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

N/A

Details of any funds materially in deficit

N/A

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

All details covered in our financial statement (Ref - Receipts and payments accounts Report CC16a)

Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)




Full name(s)

Charan Kanwal Singh Sekhon

Satnam Singh Galsin

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chair & Trustee

Treasurer & Trustee

Date

28/12/2023



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Social Education Voluntary Association (SEVA) Trust UK 1172654
SEVA Trust UK

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01.04.2022



To

31.03.2023

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations & Gift Aid	6,121		-	6,121	16,951
Grants	-	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
Refunds	-	-	-	-	140
Fundraising	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	6,121	1,000	-	7,121	18,091
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	6,121	1,000	-	7,121	18,091
A3 Payments					
Charitable activities & projects (Education, Food Support & Health)	4,406	1,000		5,406	1,158
Donations to other charities or groups	1,000	-	-	1,000	1,250
Hardship (COVID19) grant to students	-	-	-	-	200
Insurance	97	-	-	97	97
Other Expenditure (postage, stationary, publicity & printing)	50	-	-	50	408
Telephone, IT support & website costs	128			128	914
Charity events & meetings	167	-	-	167	212
Governance Costs	-	-	-	-	466
Staff salary - No paid staff	-	-	-	-	-
Educational support projects in India	100	-	-	100	-
Sub total	5,948	1,000	-	6,948	4,705
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	5,948	1,000	-	6,948	4,705
Net of receipts/(payments)	173	-	-	173	13,386
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	44,100	-	-	44,100	30,714
Cash funds this year end	44,273	-	-	44,273	44,100

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Current Account balance on 31/03/23	44,270		-
	Cash in hand	3	-	-
			-	-
	Total cash funds	44,273	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	NA	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	NA		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	NA			-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	NA		-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Satnam Galsin	28.12.2023	
		Charan Sekhon	28.12.2023	