



seva kendra  
calcutta



# ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20



*Bringing Hope & Healing...*



# Seva Kendra Calcutta

Seva Kendra Calcutta is the Relief and Development arm of the Catholic Archdiocese of Calcutta. Established in 1973, the organization has diversified fields of activities within the scope of social development and intermediate technologies. Seva Kendra Calcutta works in eight districts of West Bengal state. It is noted for its result oriented and professional team of staff and volunteers. Over the years it has built up a network of support agencies through strategic partnerships.







# Vision

A self-reliant society based on peace, love and justice, respecting the human dignity and natural environment.

# Mission

Building of a Harmonious Society, based on Cultural Ethos, inspired by Spiritual Heritage, Socially and Environmentally sound through Participatory Process

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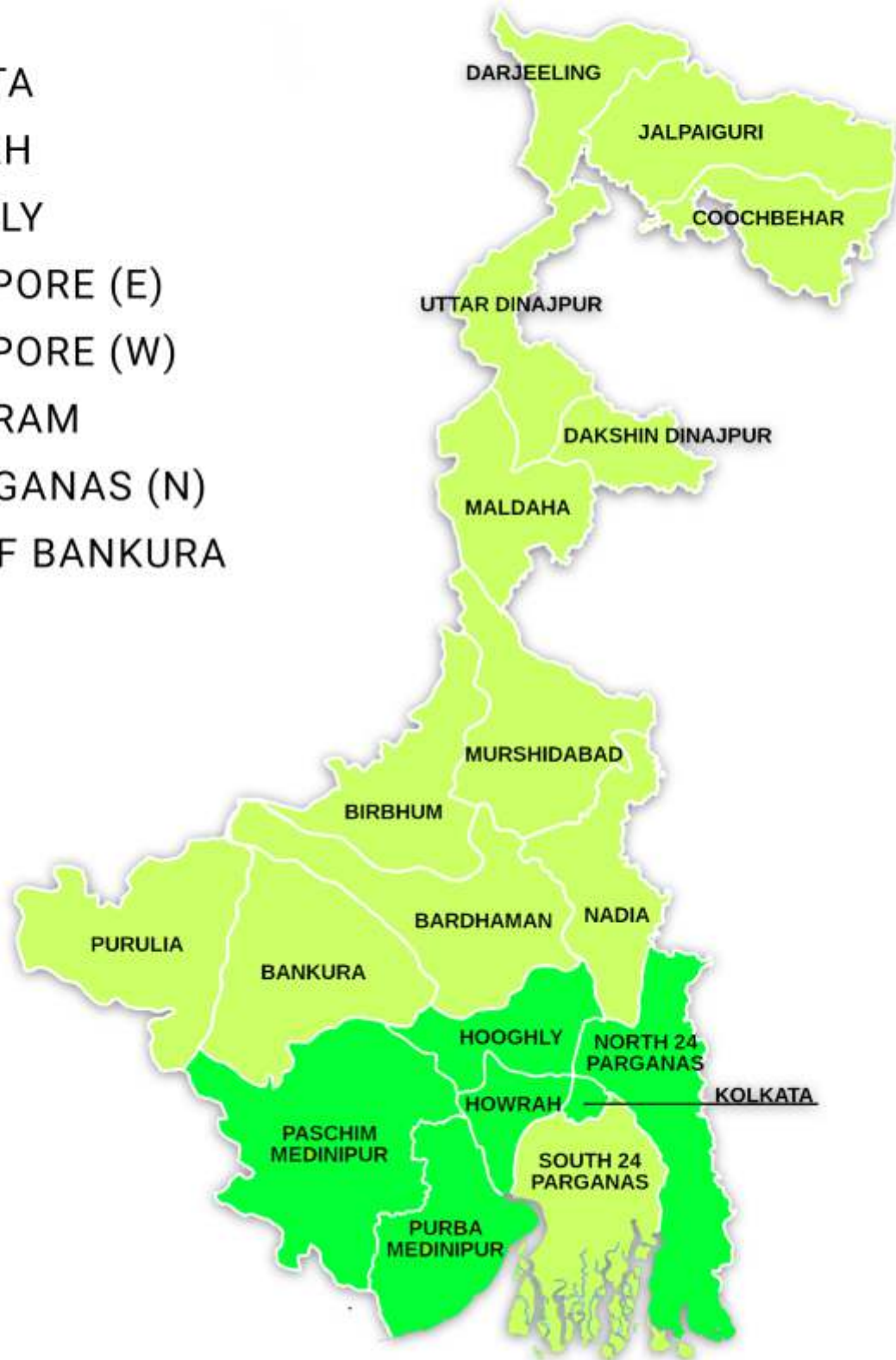


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# AREAS OF OPERATION

Seva Kendra Calcutta Works in 8 Districts of West Bengal:

- 📍 KOLKATA
- 📍 HOWRAH
- 📍 HOOGHLY
- 📍 MIDNAPORE (E)
- 📍 MIDNAPORE (W)
- 📍 JHARGRAM
- 📍 24 PARGANAS (N)
- 📍 PART OF BANKURA







## PLASTIC-FREE CAMPAIGN OF SEVA KENDRA CALCUTTA REACHES THE VATICAN

Mrs. Ofelia Kaisar, a member of the Governing Board of Seva Kendra Calcutta and her husband Mr. Vepul Kaisar were blessed with a private audience with the Holy Father, Pope Francis in the Vatican, on 8th November 2019. Needless to say they were overwhelmed with joy.

They had carried a gift for the Holy Father and as providence would have it, they picked up the cloth bag of Seva Kendra Calcutta with the message – “Say No to Plastic” ! to present the gift to him.

Mrs. Ofelia Kaisar writes, “After the initial photographs were clicked we handed over our gift to him. He was very happy with the gift and we explained why it came in a cloth bag. He looked at it and gave a smile especially when we pointed out the message on the bag that read “Say No to Plastic”. He was curious about Seva Kendra Calcutta and I mentioned to him that it is the social service unit of the Archdiocese of Calcutta. Besides Seva Kendra Calcutta, we shared with the Holy Father the various other activities that we both do for the benefit of the people especially the poor.”

“



”

## Director's Message

Even before the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic, our future seemed increasingly murky - Be it because of the global climate change, growing global trade war, political instability and many other similar underlying factors. The researchers have devised various acronyms to describe our situation, such as VUCA (Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity and Ambiguity) and TUNA (Turbulent, Uncertain, Novel and Ambiguous) (cf. J. Peter Scoblic, "Learning from the Future", Emerging from the crisis, July – August, 2020 issue).

### CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

The first human cases of COVID-19, the disease caused by the novel corona virus causing COVID-19, subsequently named SARS-COV-2 were first reported in Wuhan city, China, in December 2019 (WHO Situation Report-94).

As reported on 28th July 2020 by the World Health Organization, globally 16,301,736 had been confirmed as positive cases. The deaths reported are 6, 50,069. The countries, areas or territories with corona cases are 216. In India the first case of COVID-19 was reported in Kerala's Thrissur district in a student who had returned home for a vacation from Wuhan University in China. Ever since the cases are on the increase and this has sent shocking tremors in all.



## THE SUPER CYCLONE AMPHAN

As the state of West Bengal was battling with the global pandemic of COVID-19, the super cyclone Amphan wreaked havoc on 20th May 2020, on the coastal areas in West Bengal comprising of East Midnapore, 24 Parganas (N), 24 Parganas (S), Kolkata, Hooghly and Howrah. Incidentally four of these districts fall directly under the operational areas of Seva Kendra Calcutta.

Amphan left behind a massive trail of destruction in these districts. Several areas of South Bengal and Kolkata were completely devastated. The destruction was unprecedented in recent memory. 98 people lost their lives (PTI, May 29, 2020). Thousands of trees were uprooted by the ferocious winds, electricity and telephone lines were brought down, thousands of houses were flattened, low-lying areas were completely inundated, hectares and hectares of crops were destroyed. The worst destruction was caused in the Sundarbans area thereby making the lives of thousands of families next to near impossible and inflicting a massive blow to its fragile eco-system.

We have been dealt with a rude shock. Both these tragic events have shaken our society and set our economy on a downward spiral. However, it is in this challenging situation, that I have observed the enormous resilience of our economically disadvantaged people, as they have struggled to cope with the tragedies of life and survive.

## BEING HUMAN

It is critical and of utmost importance for us to take serious note of a very important fact of life – that disasters and crises bring out the best in us.

Going to where it all started, millions of Chinese people are encouraging each other to stand strong, using the expression, “jiayou” (“don’t give up”). Children in Italy are writing “andrà tutto bene” (“everything will be alright”) on the streets and walls. Elsewhere we hear people sing, “We shall overcome”. It is heartening to note how disasters cause a surge in solidarity. (cf. Rutger Bregman, The Correspondent.com). I have personally experienced this solidarity and have witnessed the massive outpouring of compassion as individuals, families and groups of people have reached out to those in dire need. The sacrificial spirit in human beings who are otherwise dubbed as selfish, egoistical baffles me. You see them in doctors, nurses and the hospital staff working in hospitals dedicated to COVID-19 patients. They have worked without counting the cost, many of them being infected and some even laying down their lives. What about the police personnel? They have demonstrated their human, compassionate side as they joined hands with numerous NGOs in the distribution of rations and have performed other good deeds unseen and unnoticed. All these are real-time heroes.

The double disaster has caused in societies as I earlier mentioned, a surge of solidarity. The tendencies in some, towards acts of selfishness pales in significance to the widespread altruism that leads to free and generous giving and sharing of goods and services. Those of us who have fortunately survived the double disaster as of now, can only thank God and humbly bow down in deep gratitude to the Giver of life for keeping us alive. The best we can do in the wake of such disasters is to help each other, and instill hope in others in this time of despair.

## THE RESPONSE OF SEVA KENDRA CALCUTTA

This is precisely what Seva Kendra Calcutta has been doing since April 2020 – reaching out to people and “Bringing Hope and Healing” in their lives. The enormous number of people we reached out to by providing shelter, support, food, medicines etc was not possible if it was not for our generous donors, who gave without counting the cost. The staff of Seva Kendra Calcutta worked relentlessly for months with relief work. I admired their spirit of dauntless courage, for they did not for once show any fear of the COVID-19. They are for me the “real heroes” who brought a lot of solace in the lives of thousands of people they reached out to, especially in the slums of Kolkata.

We did not restrict ourselves only to the city of Kolkata. Our reach was far and wide. We went into areas of Sundarbans where no one seems to have ventured to reach out, the Sagar islands, Hingaljanj, Swarupnagar, Baduria and as far as Geonkhali, near Haldia.

## THE IMPERATIVE OF CHANGE

Francis Dorff in the introduction to his book, “The Art of Passing over” says, “If there is one thing, we can safely say about the times in which we live, it is that they are times of great change. The changes we are living through are so rapid, so momentous, and so inevitable that to change or not to change is hardly the question anymore. The real question we face these days is - How to change in such a way that the personal and spiritual quality of our lives, and of the world in which we live, is enhanced...” I cannot but recall what Cardinal Newman had said, “in a higher world it is otherwise, but here below to live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often”.

## A DEEPER REALITY

Some say that the new normal is here and so we need to adapt to it. It is also felt by some that this situation has been thrust upon us. Though these opinions have some value, they do not take into consideration a deeper spiritual, moral and ethical perspective. This situation which we face, is in some ways of our own making and hence we need to take responsibility for it. A critical reflection on the present situation points to a deep malaise existing in us. Speaking from the Christian and the Biblical perspective, the root cause for the present chaotic situation in which we live is because I have sinned, we have sinned.

## A BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE

Genesis, the first book of The Bible narrates the story of Adam and Eve. God created everything and “saw that it was good” and having created Adam and Eve in His own image and likeness, and having blessed them, he once again looked at the work of His hands and “God saw everything he had made and indeed, it was very good” (Gen 1, 31a). For Adam and Eve and every created reality it was an experience of Paradise.

As the story moves to Chapter 3, we have the narration of the first sin and its punishment. The first sin was that of disobedience. Adam and Eve failed to obey the Rule of God and this had four-fold relational consequences.

**Broken Relationships:** First and foremost, the relationship between God and humans was ruptured (cf Gen 3, 9-10). Secondly, the relationship between Adam and Eve was broken for the ones who were naked, “sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves” (cf Gen 3,7). Thirdly, the relationship between the human and the soil got vitiated. God said, “cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you....” (Gen 3, 17-19). Finally, the relationship with the self got disoriented as man and woman failed to become the best version of who they were called to be. The same truth is re-iterated by St. Paul in his letter to the Romans as he says, because of sin man and woman have fallen short of the Glory of God. Hence, sin brings about a breakdown of a four-fold relationship. Essentially, sin is THEO-logical, in the sense that it has to do fundamentally with a God-relationship.



## THE SAFEGUARDS IN THE TIMES OF COVID-19

We are being constantly told to protect ourselves from being infected by the corona virus, we are to do three basic things: (i) use a face-mask (ii) follow the norm of social distancing and (iii) regular washing of hands or sanitizing them. All these three measures remind us of what happens when we sin.

**(i) Using face-masks:** Adam and Eve covered their nakedness with fig-leaves. They were unable to face each other as before. Who in normal life uses a mask? I have never done it all my life. I have seen dacoits, terrorists and robbers covering their faces with masks lest they be recognized and be caught in the act. In psychology people speak of transparency, honesty and openness. These are the traits of people who have nothing to hide!!!

**(ii) Social distancing:** Genesis 3, 9-10 says, “the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, ‘Where are you?’. He said, ‘I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself’”. Man wanted to distance himself from God. This distancing gets much more serious as Adam and Eve are thrown out of the Garden of Eden (cf. Gen 3, 23-24). Once again, a consequence of sin.

**(iii) Washing of hands:** “Washing” with water has to do with cleanliness, purification. In a Christian ritual, during the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, washing his hands with water the priest prays: “Lord wash away my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin” (Ps 50, 2). Hence, there is a clear relationship between “sin” and “washing of hands”. In Jeremiah it is said, “O Jerusalem, wash your hearts from evil, that you may be saved” (Jeremiah 4, 14).

## THE NEED FOR A RENEWAL

I, personally believe what we are facing today is the result of both “personal sins” and “institutional sin”. Individually and as a society we are to become deeply aware that the web of relationships in which we are living are seriously damaged and need surgical renewal and not just cosmetic changes. If we are to be saved from the present crisis and the many more that will come in the future, we have to humbly recognize that “I have sinned”, we “all have sinned” and stand in need of God’s salvation. In the next few paragraphs, I wish to propose a way forward if we wish to live in a healed world, for the world and the whole of humanity stands in need of liberation.

## A RENEWAL DYNAMIC

### I. Metanoia (Repentance):

It is commonly understood as a transformative change of heart; especially a spiritual conversion. “Metanoia” leads to conversion and reformation. By so doing, I begin to recognize, God as my Father or Mother and all human beings as part of my extended family and every created reality as my own. This is entering into a reformed relationship with God, my neighbour, the world and myself. I begin to develop a new perspective and begin cultivating radically new attitudes. I begin to recognize the presence of God in everyone and everything.

### ii. Koinonia (Fellowship):

Conversion of mind and heart leads me to develop a renewed set of principles, values and attitudes. I begin living with newer perspectives and attitudes. I start re-visioning my life according to the scriptures of the religious tradition I belong to. The simple prayer for peace of St. Francis of Assisi from 1517, outlines the paradigm shift in the “converted” person who now wishes to live a new life of communion and fellowship.

“

## Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace  
 Where there is hatred, let me sow love  
 Where there is injury, pardon  
 Where there is doubt, faith  
 Where there is despair, hope  
 Where there is darkness, light  
 And where there is sadness, joy  
 O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek  
 To be consoled as to console  
 To be understood, as to understand  
 To be loved, as to love  
 For it is in giving that we receive  
 And it's in pardoning that we are pardoned  
 And it's in dying that we are born to Eternal Life  
 Amen

”

Once again this 'communion' is deeply relational in nature. Communion with my God, with others, with Mother Earth and with one's own self. This vision gives way to living life in communion at every level.

### iii. Diakonia (Service):

This is ultimately the consequence of the above two steps we take. Diakonia means "Service". It is to offer compassion and accompaniment, to work for liberation and justice, to act as advocates of creative transformation.

All the above three steps are part of a journey involving spirit-filled enrichment and learning, requiring humble offering of self, demanding courageous risking, exercising visionary leadership and living a life of divine purpose and meaning.

These relationships will have to be lived on the basis of the principles of human dignity, social justice, providing equal opportunities to all, a spirit of solidarity, inclusiveness, forgiveness, reconciliation – all based on one supreme reality LOVE.

#### iv. Leitourgia (Liturgy):

Etymologically speaking the word “leitourgia” literally means “work for the people”, a literal translation of two words “litos ergos” or public service. Today it denotes public worship involving various rituals in a prayer setting of a worshipping community. It is in fact a spiritual celebration to which the devotee brings in his/her entire life in celebration. In fact, every liturgy is a celebration of life through which both the individuals and the entire community experiences a transformation, a passing over. A celebration of this kind becomes meaningful then and only when a person has gone through the three previous phases of metanoia, koinonia and diakonia.

## TOWARDS A RENEWED SPIRITUALITY

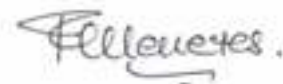
If our world has to survive, if humanity has to progress, the present challenging situation invites us to embrace a new spirituality, a new way of life. Not going into details of this way of life, I would like to just sum it up by saying that this new way of life involves the “righting” of “wronged” relationships – with God, with others, with the self and with Mother Earth. To many it may sound like a Utopian dream. But let me assure you that there are communities of men and women in every religion who have embraced this new way of life and they provide us hope. They tell us loudly and clearly, not by words but with the example of their lives, that this is possible. They show us that it is possible to live in such a way that not only the personal and spiritual quality of our lives is changed, but of the whole world in which we live is enhanced by the radical changes we grow through.

## THE YEAR 2019-2020

We, at Seva Kendra Calcutta did continue with our mission of “Bringing Hope and Healing” in the lives of people. Among all our projects, campaigns, events and services, I wish to highlight one unique event that we organized. If I am not mistaken, it is for the first time that a social service centre organized an All-India Inter-Faith Climate Change Conference in the country.

Before I close this heartfelt message, I wish to thank the members of the Governing Board, General Body for their support and encouragement. I am extremely grateful to His Grace, Archbishop Thomas D’Souza for his immense interest in our mission and of the meaningful direction that he regularly provides. I sincerely appreciate the hard work of the staff of Seva Kendra Calcutta who through their dedicated service bring succor in the lives of many.

Last but not least, I am deeply indebted to our numerous donors, well-wishers and collaborators for believing in us and for joining hands with us in “Bringing Hope and Healing” to this broken world.



**REV. DR. FRANKLIN MENEZES**  
DIRECTOR



# ENVIRONMENT







# NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Addressing climate change by gender mainstreaming through solar technology in 16 villages of West Midnapur

## Project Objectives:

The three main objectives of the Project are as follows:

- Villagers have been trained in the use of solar energy and can make a living through the production of solar lights.
- The villagers from 16 villages have been sensitized on climate change and its consequences and the health status of the village population has improved.
- The partnership with the private and public sector is strengthened.

## Project Period:



1st January 2018-31st December 2020

## Supported by



Misereor & KZE

## Area of Operation



The project operates in 40 most backward Tribal villages in Nayagram, Gopibalavpur, Kesiary and Dantan blocks and covers 9 GPs in the district of West Midnapur and Jhargarm in West Bengal

## Project Goal:



The goal of the project is to improve energy security for about 1400 families from 16 villages in the district of West Midnapur and to create new income opportunities for the tribal women.

## Direct Beneficiaries



Total families: 4,125



Children: 4,808



Total Male: 7,935



Total female: 7,280



Total population: 20,023

## Indirect Beneficiaries



Total families: 10,125



Children: 6,049



Total Male: 22,798



Total female: 21,571



Total population: 50,418





## Activities Conducted During The Year

- Climate Change Mitigation:** A total of 310 village awareness meetings were conducted on Climate Change mitigation and adaption in 40 remote tribal villages with a total of 3923 men and 6343 women actively participating in these meetings.
- Organic Farming:** A total of 123 awareness programmes and practical demonstrations on organic farming and building compost pits, vermin compost etc. were conducted. They were also taught the correct method to prepare organic manure and organic nutrition garden in order to supplement the nutrition value in poor tribal households. Altogether a total of 3095 men and 3527 women participated in these meetings.
- Gender Awareness:** 56 Gender awareness camps were conducted in order to raise awareness on promoting and encouraging a general understanding of gender related challenges e.g. violence against women, stereotyping gender roles and structure which leads to gender disparity. A total of 1953 male and 2404 female participants took active part in these camps.
- Nutrition Gardens:** A total of 126 meetings and demonstrations were conducted about cultivating nutrition gardens. These meetings and demonstrations were attended by a total of 2498 men and 3309 women. The aim of these meetings was to work on improving the nutrition value in these tribal households and soil conservation by discarding the use of chemical insecticides and pesticides
- Producer Group Meetings:** There were 369 producer group meetings, attended by 657 male and 3,191 female participants. These meetings focussed upon discussing issues like training new candidates on assembling solar lanterns, framing business plan, develop marketing strategies, accumulation of fund for purchase of solar raw materials, distribution of profit share, etc..



- **School Awareness Programmes:** These programmes on climate change were conducted in the form of quiz and drawing competitions on 'save nature, save mankind' for 1532 students and 49 teachers from 16 High schools.
- **Climate Change and Solar Technology:** 459 GP Officials were sensitized about climate change and solar technology with a purpose to motivate and convince them to install solar street lights, home lights, water pump sets and other solar powered infrastructural equipments.



## Training on assembling solar lanterns

- Trainings were conducted on assembling new solar 'mini-lanterns' for 47 technicians (27 female and 20 males) at Kharagpur.
- Follow-up training on fault detection and installation were conducted for 103 technicians in 16 practice centres.
- TOT (Training of trainers) sessions on assembling energy efficient LED bulbs were conducted for the project trainers and field coordinators by Udipta Enterprise, Kolkata.



## Assembling and Marketing in 40 Practice centres located in remote villages

- A total of 506 (402 tribal women) people are actively involved in the assembling work in 40 practice centres.
- Training on assembling solar 'big-lanterns' for 31 technicians (19 female and 12 male) were also conducted.
- Successfully assembled and marketed 7,127 solar lanterns and sold in rural markets and also to a leading NGO by using strong marketing strategies and without the intervention of any middle men.
- A total income of Rs 6,94,153 was generated till date from marketing of the solar lanterns by the 'Producer Group Members'.

## Promotion of solar products in the local markets

- Solar lights were displayed for promotion cum sale in 5 local haats (weekly markets) and in two melas (festive gatherings).
- Uses and marketability prospects of solar lanterns were pitched to the local shop owners in eight rural marketing points (electronic shops) in four blocks.
- The effectiveness of the use of solar lanterns was discussed in four GPs as a part of 'Awareness on Climate Change'..
- Visited 1026 rural households as a part of a follow up and marketing survey plan for solar lanterns.

## Formation and orientation of village level Consultation Committee (VLCC)

The Village Level Consultation Committee consists of selected senior and knowledgeable members from every village. The purpose of the consultation process was to ensure that an inclusive, participatory and holistic approach is undertaken by the people under the guidance of the VLCC to avail various government schemes and facilities, develop village level action plans, and build networking and communication channels with both the government and non-government officials.

The area-wise representation in the VLCC is as follows:





## Repair and Maintenance of solar panels,home lighting units, solar lanterns and other solar products

- The solar technicians are in the process of fixing 42 damaged solar panels in Gopibalavpur block.
- A total of 54 solar lanterns were repaired.
- Solar units installed in Kearchand, Salboni and Baligeria Parish are carefully monitored and checked for damage.
- Repair of solar units at an NGO at Amlasole, Jhargram was conducted by the master technicians.

## Advocacy and linkages with allied agencies

- Linkage with Vision Private Ltd. helped the Producer Groups to receive an order for assembling 3,100 solar lanterns generating a profit of Rs.1,09,400/- this year.
- Advocacy driven free hands-on-training from Udipta Enterprise on assembling LED bulbs were conducted for the project trainers for three days.
- NRM solar technicians were hired by 'Smart Solar Solution', located in Jhargram and Balasore for repair and maintenance of solar units.
- Advocacy efforts were made with NABARD to register solar producer groups and other facilities.
- Advocacy efforts paid off when 403 families received government facilities and 794 families received mini kits, manure etc for farming.
- Linkage with ILEAD enabled 34 (boys 22 and girls 12) rural dropout students get mainstreamed into courses such as animation, beautician and bakery with the objective to earn training certificates, stipend and job placements.
- Six Government owned infrastructure facilities for 'Practice centre' were made available 'free of cost' through regular linkages with the PRI (Panchayet Raj Institutes) members.

## Impacts

- The NRM project has trained 506 persons as expert solar technicians, including 402 tribal women. A total of 7,127 solar lanterns have been assembled which has generated a profit of Rs 6,94,153. The monetary incentives not only supplement the family income but also empower the lifestyle of the target groups of the project.
- A total of 1026 families under the project are using solar lanterns, thereby reducing the carbon footprints by minimizing the use of non-renewable energy sources such as electricity or kerosene oil.

*(Calculation: With the use of 1 solar lantern in a rural household,Carbon emission of upto 3 kgs is reduced in the atmosphere per year, therefore with the use of 1026 solar lanterns, a total of 3,078 kgs of Co2 emission is reduced every year)*

- A total of 914 families have prepared organic compost pits.
- 1184 families have cultivated nutrition gardens in their household premises to supplement the nutrition needs in their daily meals thereby reducing the cost of buying vegetables from the market.
- A self-funded nursery with 5,000 saplings was raised, with the initiative of the 'Producer Group' members in three blocks.
- This year 25,000 saplings collected from various sources were planted and also includes setting up of two mini- forests. Regular follow-up and maintenance have resulted in ensuring 95% survival rate of the total saplings planted so far.
- Due to rapport building with all the nine GPs, the NRM Project has received six government infrastructure facilities free-of-cost (including electricity) to setup NRM Practice centres for the Producer Groups to assemble solar lanterns.
- The GPs are inviting NRM staff to their meetings regarding solar installation and consultation on matters like village planning and development etc.
- Two GPs offered to provide their office space to develop a model practice centre and display the solar products.
- Permission from the government to conduct trainings, micro-plans, school programmes, rally etc. related to the project was procured.
- Mrs. Supriya Maicap, a solar technician was selected in a reality show 'Didi No 1', in ZEE Bangla television channel and she secured the 2nd position because of her skill in assembling solar lanterns.

## Stories Of Change

### **Solar couple shine with hope and show the way for others to follow on their path:**

Jagatpati Hembram of Joyrampur village in Dantan block was a poor daily wage-earner and the sole bread winner of the family. His meagre earnings from continuous, back-breaking hardwork, fell short in the face of rising inflation and ever-increasing expenses in the family. He lived with his three daughters, one son and his wife Rina Hembram. He and his wife Rina felt their three daughters were bane in their lives and often wondered as to how they are going to arrange the marriage of their three daughters when they could barely eke out their daily sustenance.



Their situation had become from bad to worse. The starting of the NRM Practice centres in their village in 2019 changed their lives. Mr. Jagatpati began attending the training sessions in the practice centres and soon learnt to assemble solar lanterns. He roped in his wife and also taught her the skill to assemble solar lanterns.

Jagatpati and Rina have now become expert master trainers of the project and are able to add to their earnings from working as labourers in the field. So far, both husband and wife have assembled 512 solar lanterns and have generated an additional income of Rs.36,775. Their daughters are no longer burdensome and are attending school. They are known as the 'Solar couple' of the entire village, setting relationship goals and bearing testimony to solar energy as an effective livelihood option to others.



## A TRAINING REPORT ON INSTALLATION OF IMPROVED COOKING STOVE

ICS AND MANUFACTURING CHARCOAL PRODUCTS FOR TRIBAL MEN & WOMEN OF WEST MIDNAPUR AND JHARGRAM DISTRICTS

### Project Period



January 16 to January 25, 2020

### Supported by



Misereor, Germany

### Target Areas



Kesiary, Dantan and Gopiballavpur Block in West Midnapur and Jhargram District

### Project Goal



Provide knowledge-based and hands-on-training to tribal men and women on innovative approaches to enhance livelihood security, with a special focus on health and natural environment.

### Number of Beneficiaries

#### Direct Beneficiaries



Families : 44



Children: 52



Male: 71



Female: 73



Population: 196

#### Indirect Beneficiaries



Families : 77



Children: 98



Male: 113



Female: 119



Population: 330

### Project Objectives:

- To develop technical expertise among backward tribal men and women in preparation and installation of Improved Cooking Stoves (ICS) in rural kitchen in order to mitigate the health related hazards
- To equip rural participants with knowledge about manufacturing and marketing of charcoal products, as a part of alternative livelihood option
- To effectively utilize their acquired knowledge and skills, as tools to improve their economic, environmental, health and social situation



## Activities

**Training on installation of ICS:** A hands on training on preparation of improved cooking stove or (ICS) was conducted by Mr. Ravindra Deshmukh and Mr. Mangoankar, from Samuchit Enviro Tech, Pune from 20th -25th January 2020 for the rural participants, total 23 (09 male and 14 female) participants attended the training, at Seva Kendra Calcutta (Extn) located at Hijli in Kharagpur. In those 6 days of training, the participants were equipped with a complete theoretical and practical idea about the Improved Cooking Stove (ICS) and its 3 different structures made with clay. An introduction on cost-analysis was also a part of the training, along with a series of strong marketing strategies.

**Training on Charcoal Products:** Hands-on-training on manufacturing charcoal products was conducted by Mr. Ravindra Deshmukh and Mr. Prashant Borate from Samuchit Enviro Tech, Pune. The training was attended by 21 participants from 16th- 18th January '20. The resource persons explained the production mechanism along with performing the cost analysis for each product while including the profit margin. Certificates were given to the participants who attended the training programme.

**Semi Activated Charcoal:** It is produced from the bamboo charcoal, by cutting bamboo into small pieces and then drying under the sun, it is then burnt to 90% in charcoal kiln. 30ml charcoal was then put in a cotton bag and tied tightly and it was ready for use. This semi activated charcoal can absorb bad odour and lasts for a period of 30-45 days. Although, it is not mandatory to use any fragrance, one could add lemon fragrance to enhance the effect.

**Charcoal deodorizer:** The same activated charcoal can be used in urinals as it is capable of filtering displeasing smells naturally and after use it can be used as manure in the agricultural fields, which helps in yielding good productivity.

**Mosquito Killing Incense/ mosquito repellent:** This product is free from harsh chemicals, which can be directly used to avoid mosquito bites. Char powder produced from neem leaves is used to produce incense or mosquito repellent. The main ingredient used is a mixture of charcoal and dried and crushed neem leaves. Small briquette is made from this mixture. This semi solid briquette is then dried under the sun for at least 2-3 days. Once the briquette is completely dried, it is ready to use.

**Preparation of Organic Soaps:** To prepare organic soaps the essential ingredients used are charcoal, glycerine, silicone mould, industrial spirit, lemon scent etc. The ingredients depend on the type of soap we want to make. During the training, three types of soaps were demonstrated:

**i. Charcoal Soap ii. Turmeric-Neem Soap iii. Glycerine Soap with rose petals.**





## Impacts

- Total 19 tribal men and 25 women were trained and certified on skill development training on ICS and manufacturing of charcoal products.
- Till date, a total of 35 Improved Cooking stoves (ICS) were installed in rural kitchens, and an order of 27 more sets of ICS were placed by the rural households.
- Two groups of 16 members, both men and women are involved in preparing ICS in the kitchens of rural households and they charge Rs. 400 per stove.
- 2 soap demonstrations at Dantan block were conducted, where 10 women have showed their interest to manufacture charcoal products and market it to the rural customers.





## Stories of Change:

### Improved Cooking Stove helps Jharna, flow on a path to good health and long life

Smoke arising from the traditional chulas in the rural kitchens while cooking is known to be the 'Silent Killer'. It is one of the major causes of ill health among rural women and children, not to mention the pollution caused to the environment. The NRM Project of Seva Kendra Calcutta, was first to introduce an 'Improved Cooking Stove' to the rural household in the target areas. This improved cooking stove is designed to limit the carbon dioxide emissions thereby mitigating the health hazards caused by inhalation while cooking.

Jharna Hembram, a 23 year old tribal woman and a housewife residing in Choto Dhankamra village attended the training session on building the Improved Cooking stove or ICS. From then on, she has become one of the leading promoters of this innovative approach in her village. Jharna explained that in order to feed her family of 5 members she had to spend a lot of time in collecting firewood. Her daily need for firewood was not less than 5-6 kgs. With the new ICS installed her daily consumption of firewood has reduced to just 1 kg. Not only has her consumption of wood declined she now spends less time in the kitchen cooking. She no longer has to helplessly inhale the toxic fumes from the burning firewood and endangering her life in the process. She is very satisfied with this creative cooking method and recommends it highly to others. She promotes it as a solution to having good health and cleaner environment in her village.

The training provided in January 2020 to 23 tribal participants from West Midnapur and Jhargram by Samuchit Enviro Tech, Pune has already started showing results. A total of 30 households have already built and are actively using the improved cooking stove in their kitchens. ICS is indeed a viable alternative to the traditional firewood based cooking and promotes good health and clean environment.





## CHILDREN LED DISASTER RISK REDUCTION [CLDRR]

### Project Period



1st April 2018 to 31st March 2021

### Supported By



Kindermissionswerk,  
Die Sternsinger,  
Germany [KMW]

### Project Goal



Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) by building a strong network of school, non-school children and youngsters trained in disaster preparedness.

### Area of Operations & Population

District: 24 Parganas (North)  
Block: Swarupnagar

Gram Panchayat	Villages	Households	Population	Male	Female
Bithari-Hakimpur	13	6,453	34,445	17,517	16,928
Balti-Nityanandakati	8	5,891	22,294	11,511	10,783
Kaijuri	10	3,857	15,016	07,546	07,470
3	31	16,201	71,755	36,574	35,181

### Project Objectives

- Disaster preparedness that is untimely owned by the community with leadership provided by children.
- To develop and build a working network between various stakeholders.
- To build capacities and disaster preparedness of the local Panchayats.





## Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries of the project are the children with whom the project is being implemented by motivating and training them to take the lead and play responsible roles in DRR work. The families of these children come from also directly benefit from what the children learn and are able to do.



Girls: 1,978



Boys: 2,119



Total Children: 4,097



Households: 3500



Population: 14,000

## Strategic Approach

Project has a multi-dimensional approach to first minimize and then prevent the loss and damage to the environment and the consequent adverse effects to the social, economic and structural setup in the area.

- Design and implement activities that develop the practical survival skills in the event of disasters known to affect the area with children as torchbearers.
- Overall management and execution of the project will be the joint responsibility of Seva Kendra Calcutta, community and Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI).
- Implementation of activities and programs in the entire process will revolve around the Children's Clubs through their group leaders and active members.
- Activities will include planning and developing systems for disaster prevention plan based on the findings of various surveys and outcomes of Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) exercises.





## Activities and Programs

- 01 Hazard Mapping exercises to identify and locate potential hazards and how to deal with them.
- 02 Resource Mapping exercises to draw up charts and diagrams of location and availability of natural, human and structural resources that can be used during disaster times.
- 03 Disaster Awareness programs in schools with students and faculty to identify and list hazards and risks and how to deal with them.
- 04 Disaster Awareness programs in villages with children and other community members to understand tackling risks and hazards.
- 05 Historical analysis charts prepared by children based on the traditional oral history of disasters learnt from elders in the village.
06. Children prepared a common slogan to promote hospital care and give up superstition and quack practices.
07. Baseline updating exercises were conducted in 12 villages meeting 1530 people for data/info review and verification, and baseline data modified as required.
08. Stakeholder consultations with government and non-government officials and departments to explore potentials for stronger networking and more coordinated disaster response.
09. Formation of 36 Child Task Force (CTF) groups in 31 villages with 714 child members. Each CTF groups has five thematic teams – Coordination, Early Warning, Rescue, First Aid, and Water & Sanitation.
10. 76 thematic training on water purification, first aid and rescue were conducted primarily for CTF members but also attended by many other community people.
11. So far DRR awareness programs have been conducted in 27 schools and Disaster Management Committees officially formed in 3 schools.
12. Orientation on CLDRR was conducted for 31 elected members from 3 Gram Panchayats.
13. Children's Day was celebrated with the participation of 148 children who performed skits, dances & recitation to showcase rights of the child and DRR activities.
14. World Disaster Day – 250 children participated in the cultural activities, raised slogans and displayed placards that exhibited their skills and knowledge of disaster risk and hazard prevention and mitigation.

## Outcomes/Achievements & Impacts

- Children became aware of and knowledgeable about types of disasters, vulnerability and risk factors (high, medium & low) and are now gaining confidence as important agents in disaster mitigation and management work.
- The children (Child Club members) are able to teach and share what they are learning with elders and siblings in the family
- These children created awareness about the precautionary measures to be taken during natural calamities among locals.
- As compared to the first year of the project the children are now more enthusiastic about the project programs and participation in regular meetings also has increased as they feel the growing acceptance of family elders and GP functionaries as well as government workers.
- In this second year of the project the Baseline and other information gathering exercises by the project team and Child Club members were met with more cooperation and transparency.
- Community Based Disaster Preparedness approach of the project was better received and a working network between the various stakeholders made considerable progress in further strengthening the community as a whole in disaster preparedness.
- Child Task Forces were formed and different training programs on hazards, resource mapping were organised where many village people and community leaders also took interest in encouraging the children.
- Two cyclones during this period showed that the children played a commendable hands-on-role just before and after Cyclones Fani & Bulbul struck the area.
- Cyclone Fani at Category 4 was the strongest to hit the Indian east coast since 1999. It made its effect felt and created tension from 25th April onwards, however it made landfall on 2nd May and then dissipated very quickly
- Very severe cyclonic storm Bulbul (Category 2) was a strong and very damaging tropical cyclone which struck the Indian state of West Bengal as well as Bangladesh in November 2019, causing storm surge, heavy rains and flash floods across the areas. Its effects were felt from the 5th to the 12th of November 2019.
- Children opened up control rooms during the cyclone in three Panchayat areas. They circulated messages (giving wind speed, path of the cyclone, time, etc.) to the locals.
- Members of children club were prepared with rescue materials during the cyclone and took initiatives to rescue victims.
- Members of children club kept the keys of the local schools to provide shelters to the victims during Fani.
- Children have been very proactive and enthusiastically taking on leadership roles.



“

# Little yet Powerful

**Reported by: Sadhana Panduya**

**Place: Swarupdaha, of Bithari- Hakimpur GP**

**Year of Initiation: November 2019**

”

A monster cyclone tore into North and South 24 Parganas of West Bengal from 25th to 28th November 2019. It struck with extreme ferocity, destroying most of the paddy fields and razing Kuchha houses to the ground. The electric pillars were uprooted and all the communication lines were snapped. People were completely disconnected from the rest of the world. Under these circumstances, 65 year old Mr. Utpal Pandey became the saviour for the entire village. He updated the entire village about the development and movement of Cyclone “BulBul”. The children used to sit around him and collect information on BulBul. The same information was disseminated by the children to the villagers. In this way people were able to save their property and lives. This all happened due to the transistor of a senior citizen of Swarupdaha, Bithari – Hakimpur GP.

Mr. Utpal Pandey utilized his little transistor to receive information on Bulbul cyclone and was able to disseminate the same to the villagers through the help of the Early Warning Team.

Task Force members took proactive steps immediately after getting the early warning to collect all the keys of the school buildings and panchayat buildings. They also helped the villagers to move to safer places.

Those people who witnessed the nightmare during the first few hours of the devastating Bulbul will find it difficult to narrate their experiences. It became completely inaccessible to communicate with the people during that specific moment. But for the people of Kalidharpota village under Hakimpur-Bithari GP, they took preparedness measures and sought shelter in safer places with their livestock. This resulted in no loss of life and livestock there.



**Before Bulbul Preparedness**



# 1.4

## SOLAR PROMOTION & INSTALLATIONS IN EDUCATIONAL & CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS

### Project Period



Ongoing since 2010

### Supported by



A self-funded initiative of Seva Kendra Calcutta

### Area Covered



West Bengal

### Project Goal



Reduction of Carbon footprint by promoting the use of solar technology

### Project Objectives

- Installation of solar lighting and water heating systems in various charitable and educational institutions in West Bengal
- Training and capacity building services to various institutions on assembling, operating and repair of solar gadgets

### Activities

SYSTEM TYPE /CAPACITY	NAME OF THE INSTITUTION	AMOUNT SAVED ANNUALLY (in INR)	BENEFITS
22 kWp solar PV on-grid system	Bishop's College, 224,A.J.C Bose Road, Beck Bagan, Kolkata	2,44,000.00	1. Reduced electricity bills by approximately 30,514 units per year 2. Reduced carbon footprints by approximately 17,087 kgs per year
8 kWp solar PV on- grid system	Sisters of Providence, Providence Home, East Udayarajpur, Madhyamgram, Kolkata	78,000.00	1.)Reduced electricity bills by approximately 11,096 units per year 2.)Reduced carbon footprints by approximately 6,213 kgs per year
12 kWp solar PV on-grid system	St. Anthony's High School, 19, Mirza Ghalib Street, Market Street, Taltala, Kolkata	1,11,000.00	1.)Reduced electricity bills by approximately 13,870 units per year 2.)Reduced carbon footprints by approximately 7,767 kgs per year
56 kWp solar PV on-grid System	Seva Kendra Calcutta 52B, Radhanath Chowdhury Road Kolkata	6,21,000.00	1.)Reduced electricity bills by approximately 77,672 units per year 2.)Reduced carbon footprints by approximately 43,496 kgs per year



SYSTEM TYPE /CAPACITY	NAME OF THE INSTITUTION	AMOUNT SAVED ANNUALLY (in INR)	BENEFITS
10 kWp solar PV on-grid system	Apostolic Carmel Novitiate, Tiwari Khola, Motibari, Barrackpore, Kolkata	97,000.00	1.)Reduced electricity bills by approximately 13,870 units per year 2.)Reduced carbon footprints by approximately 7,767 kgs per year
500 LPD solar water heating system	Sister of Providence, Providence Home, East Udayarajpur, Madhyamgram, Kolkata	15,000.00	1.)Reduced electricity bills by approximately 2,142 units per year 2.)Reduced carbon footprints by approximately 1,199 kgs per year
11 kWp solar PV on-grid system	De Paul School, Canning, Nikarighata, 24 Pargnas (S)	1,07,000.00	1.)Reduced electricity bills by approximately 15,257 units per year 2.)Reduced carbon footprints by approximately 8,543 kgs per year

## Achievements of the project and its impact from 2010 to 2020

- Expertise in installations of solar off-grid, on-grid systems and solar water heating system
- Solar workshops
- Advocacy of Renewable Energy
- Training of solar powered systems
- Seva Kendra Calcutta Main office installed a total of 102 kWp roof-top solar on-grid system that would contribute to saving Rs. 11.5 lakhs approximately per year and also reduce carbon footprints (CO2) by approximately 79,225 kgs
- Develop a new solar water heating system (20LPD)





## THE SUNSHINE PROJECT

### Project Period



Ongoing since 2015

### Supported by



Ave Maria University

### Area



Area under the Archdiocese of Calcutta

### Project Goal



Installation of Solar PV systems in 40 schools and hostels

### Project Objectives

Fulfill Ruby Jubilee resolution of Seva Kendra Calcutta to set up solar PV installations in high schools or hostels

### Activities

Installation of PV system during the year 2019-2020

SYSTEM TYPE /CAPACITY	NAME OF THE INSTITUTION	BENEFICIARIES	BENEFITS
10 kWp solar on-grid	St. John Vianney Minor Seminary, Taki Road, Barasat, 24 Parganas (N)	<b>31 students</b>	1.)Helped reduce electricity charges for approximately 13,870 units consumption per year 2.)Reduced carbon footprints by approximately 7,767 kgs per year
12 kWp solar on-grid	Seva Kendra Calcutta office (Allen block) 52 B, Radhanath Chowdhury Road, Kolkata		1.)Helped reduce electricity charges for approximately 16,644 units consumption per year 2.)Reduced carbon footprints by approximately 9,320 kgs per year
1 kWp stand-alone system (work-in-progress)	Bahuswar Community Centre, Swanirvar Kolsur, Badu, 24 Parganas (N)		1.)Children will be able to study upto 10 p.m. 2.)Electricity unit consumption is expected to reduce by approximately 1,200 units per year 3.)Carbon footprints is expected to reduce by approximately 672 kgs per year

## Achievements of the project and its impact from 2015 to 2020

S.NO	NAME OF THE INSTITUTION	CAPACITY	UNIT PER YEAR	BENEFITS
1	Henry Hostel, Bamundanga, 24 Parganas (N)	2 kWp off-grid	2,336 units	1,308 kgs
2	Sisters Adorers, Jholi, Kharagpur, Medinipur	2 kWp off-grid	2,336 units	1,308 kgs
3	Minor Seminary, Amghata, Krishnanagar	2 kWp off-grid	2,336 units	1,308 kgs
4	Kristo Jyoti Hostel, Basinda, Paschim, Medinipur	2 kWp off-grid	2,336 units	1,308 kgs
5	Chirsto Jyoti Hostel, Kamalazole, Paschim Medinipur	2 kWp off-grid	2,336 units	1,308 kgs
6	St. Francis Xavier Hostel, Salboni, Medinipur	2 kWp off-grid	2,336 units	1,308 kgs
7	Sisters of the Divine Saviour, Bezda, Medinipur	2 kWp off-grid	2,336 units	1,308 kgs
8	Emily Girls Hostel, Bamundanga, 24 Parganas	2 kWp off-grid	2,336 units	1,308 kgs
9	Sindhu Tara Training Centre, Digha	2 kWp off-grid	2,336 units	1,308 kgs
10	Holy Family Church, Kearchand, Medinipu	2 kWp off-grid	2,336 units	1,308 kgs
11	Serampore SKC Extension Centre	5 kWp on-grid	6,935 units	3,883 kgs

S.NO	NAME OF THE INSTITUTION	CAPACITY	UNIT PER YEAR	BENEFITS
12	St. Joseph's Parish, Bongoan, 24 Paraganas (N)	2 kWp off-grid	2,336 units	1,308 kgs
13	Golgotha Buru Adibasi Hostel, Baligaria, Medinipur	2 kWp off-grid	2,336 units	1,308 kgs
14	St. John Vianney Minor Seminary, Taki Road, Barasat, 24 Parganas (N)	10 kWp on-grid	13,870 units	7,767 kgs
15	Seva Kendra Calcutta Office (Allen Block) 52 B, Radhanath Chowdhury Road, Kolkata	11 kWp on-grid	15,534 units	8,699 kgs
16	Bahuswar Community Centre Swanirvar, Kolsur, Badu, 24 Parganas (N)	1 kwp stand-alone	1,200 units	672 kgs









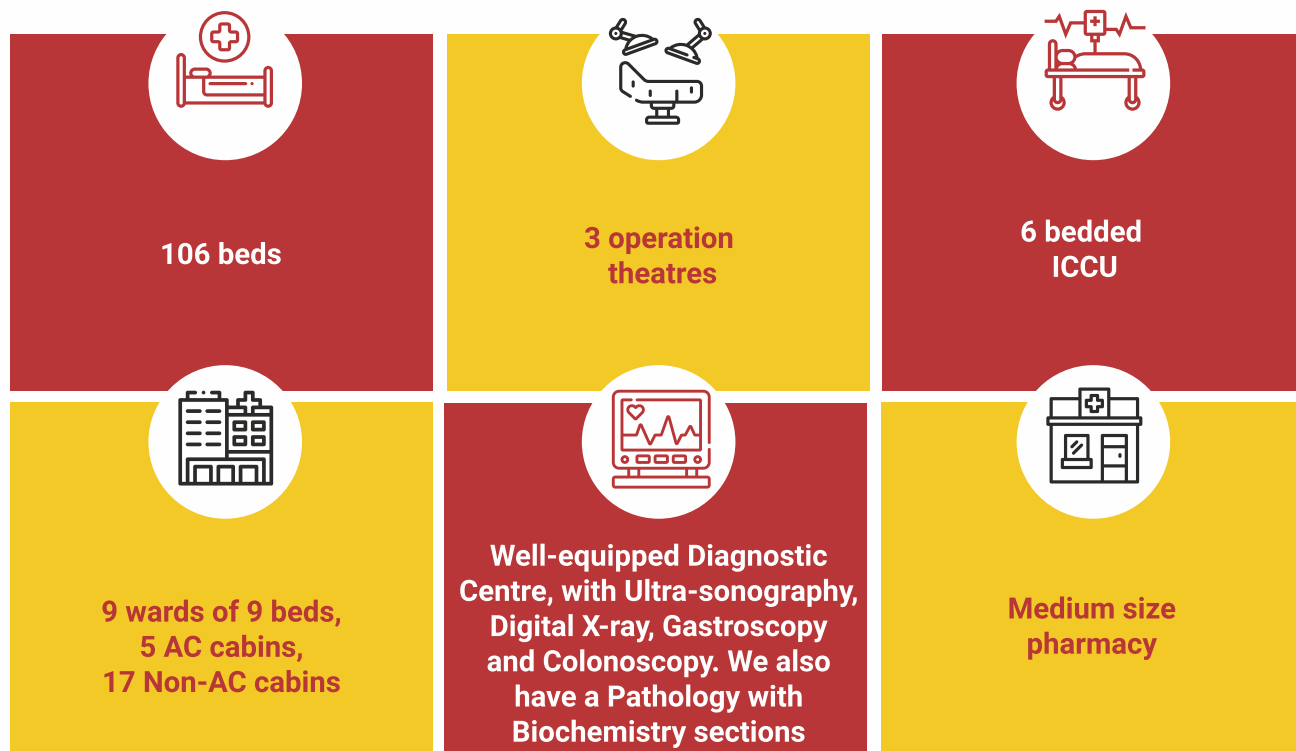
# St. Joseph's Hospital

**Location: Medinipur**

St. Joseph's Hospital was built with the support of Likvidace Lepry, an organization from Prague, Czech Republic. It was inaugurated on November 13, 2011, by the then President of Likvidace Lepry, Dr. Vojtech Elias and blessed by the former Archbishop of Kolkata, His Grace, Most Rev. Lucas Sircar, SDB, and His Grace, Most Rev. Thomas D' Souza, the present Archbishop of Kolkata and the then Co-adjutor Archbishop of Kolkata.

The transformational journey of St. Joseph's Hospital from an obscure hospital into becoming a well-known hospital not only in the entire district of Medinipur but also in the surrounding districts, has been a long, arduous journey, reaching many milestones and by overcoming many challenges. This would not have been possible without the unceasing support received from Likvidace Lepry and Seva Kendra Calcutta.

## At present there are



At present the hospital has around 35 doctors of different disciplines, working as consultants. The hospital is open 24 hours, 7 days in a week except on Sunday when the outdoor remains accessible to the minimum and operation theatre is closed for surgeries. On an average, around 60 indoor beds are occupied per day and has a footfall of 110 patients on an average per day. St. Joseph's Hospital carries out around 180 surgeries every month.

## National Accreditation Board of Hospitals (NABH)

St. Joseph's Hospital has undergone the much-coveted certification process by NABH from New Delhi (Central Government). This certification qualifies St. Joseph's Hospital to avail of any Government Medical programmes and seek Insurance affiliations.

## Reach out to the poor and needy

**St. Joseph's Hospital** is primarily dedicated to providing medical care to the poor and the needy. The hospital is able to reach out to the underprivileged by accessing and implementing various government and charitable services. The following treatments are free-of-cost:

1. Around 140 indoor patients per month with the help of Swastya Sathi programme
2. Average 35 MDR-TB indoor patients a month
3. 10-12 reconstructive surgeries for leprosy patients in a year
4. 50-60 free cataract operations every month
5. 40-50 daily outdoor ESI (Employees State Insurance) patients
6. 10-15 indoor patients every month under ESI scheme
7. Polio Programme of the government





## MDR-TB and Leprosy Section

An important achievement thus far, has been the inauguration of the MDR-TB section last year; a complete section with 24 beds along with all other facilities that are required to run it. Setting up this section has addressed the urgent requirement in that part of West Bengal and this has indeed been one of the most important achievements by St. Joseph's Hospital.

This MDR-TB Section was earlier situated in our main building and had a separate entrance gate. However, due to the concerns about the contagious nature of MDR-TB, a separate building with two floors was built in a green part of the campus. This new building was blessed by His Grace, Most Rev. Thomas D'Souza, Archbishop of Calcutta, and was inaugurated by Dr. Rashmi Kamal, IAS, DM of Medinipur.

## Other facilities which support our hospital

- The hospital also provides excellent paid services and provides best Surgeons and Physicians, Orthopaedic Surgeons, Gastroenterologists Psychiatrists, Neurologists, Urologists, ENT Specialists, Oncologists, Cardiologists and Gynaecologists.
- Cashless treatment is provided to members of 22 most well-known health insurance companies
- The hospital has signed memorandum of understanding with several institutions and companies for treatment and testing of their students, staff and people associated with them.
- The people from Medinipur (W) and other districts visit St. Joseph's Hospital to receive excellent health care. St. Joseph's Hospital has become a well-known and a reputed hospital in the district.

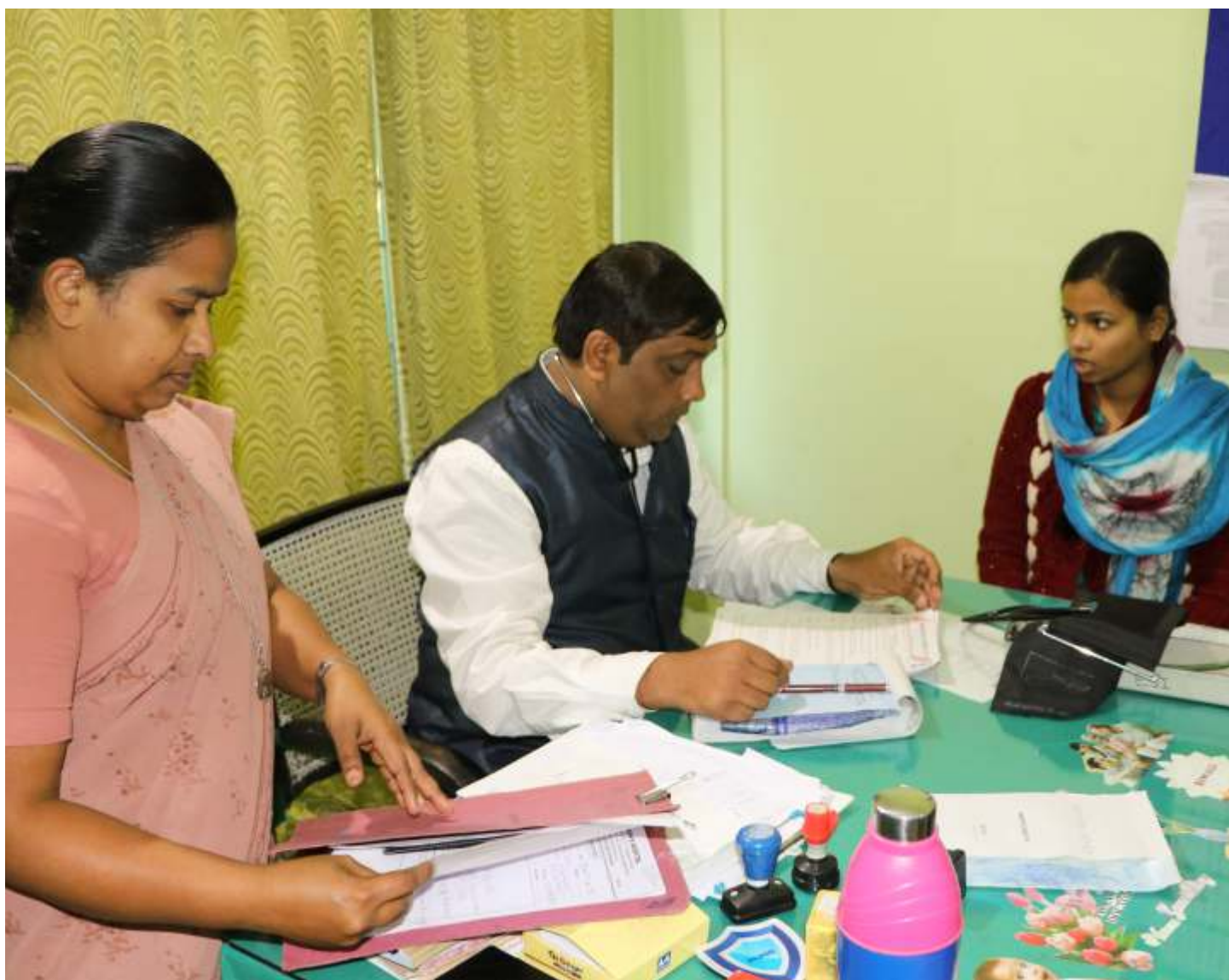


## Training and Formation

Training and Formation of staff and nursing professionals is one of the most important focal areas in effective hospital management. St. Joseph's Hospital has made concerted efforts to address this need. In this context, an in-campus Nursing School for ANM nurses conducts three-year course and forms an integral part of St. Joseph's Hospital. Efforts are also being made, to introduce GNM/B.Sc. Nursing, and in order to achieve this objective, fulfilling the minimum conditions for a Nursing College has become one of the priority areas.

St. Joseph's Hospital regularly organizes various training programmes. The doctors are encouraged to attend CME programmes that are held regularly.

St. Joseph's Hospital places utmost importance to provide spiritual care to the patients. The day begins with prayers and ends with prayers. Holy Eucharist is celebrated every day at 6 am. in the morning. All are free to attend the Eucharistic celebration.



## Four Storied building for the Nursing College

A four-storied building has been constructed for the accommodation of the Nursing College.

The construction of this building has been supported by:

1. **Stichting Actie Calcutta, Holland (foundation and ground floor)**
2. **Likvidace Lepry, Czech Republic (second floor)**
3. **Wilde Ganzen Foundation, Holland (third floor)**

St. Joseph's Hospital is grateful to the organizations for helping us to take the first step towards the Nursing College. That was one of the main conditions for starting a Nursing College. We need to have a college building for class rooms, library, conference halls, computer section, offices etc. To get the affiliation from the Nursing Council, we need to get the permission for such a building and start the ground floor at least. Other three floors can be built later. We have started the work and to continue this work we may have to take loan from the bank.

## Hospital Campus and Farms

St. Joseph's Hospital has a good dairy farm and an agriculture farm to fulfil the daily nutritional requirements for the inmates in the hospital. Enough paddy with two crops a year are cultivated and enough vegetables are grown on the nine acres of hospital land. A wide variety of fruit trees and other trees spread around the campus provides plenty of oxygen and adds to the beauty of the campus. It is said, "Healing depends not only on medicine and doctors, but also on surrounding environment and the care provided". St. Joseph's Hospital bears true testimony to these words.

## Covid-19

In the first week of April 2020, during the Covid-19 pandemic, St. Joseph's Hospital, was requisitioned, using emergency powers, by the government to provide for the treatment of Covid -19 patients in the district of Jhargram. However, ten days later it was de-requisitioned as no Covid-19 patients from Jhargram were admitted to the hospital. Be it as it may, St. Joseph's Hospital remains on a stand-by-mode to reach out to the afflicted.

## ICCU and Dialysis Unit

Over the last year, six-bedded ICCU became operational in the hospital. It took some time for the hospital to recruit the personnel. It was a much-needed facility for the hospital and is presently functioning well. St. Joseph's Hospital is in talks with Nephro-plus for setting up of a dialysis unit.



# 2.2

## POSITIVE CHANGE PROGRAM

### Project Date



October 01, 2015

### Project Goal



Reduce HIV/AIDS stigma and discrimination by 10% by the year 2020 in Kolkata and the rural pockets of Howrah, Hooghly, North 24 Parganas and East Medinipur

### Location

Districts	Area	Word And Panchyats
Howrah	Koyla Depot, Shalimar, Salap, Ankurhati, Kona Parking, Lilua, Bully, Shibpur Bazaar, Mallick Fatak, Ramkrishna Ghat	Ward Nos. 19, 35, Domjur Panchayat, Ankurhati Panchayat
Hooghly	Dankuni Parking Zone, Dhaka Pump, Himalaya Plaza, Phonex Hospital Area, Rajchandrapur	Ward No. 12, 14, and 18
North 24 Pargana	Petrapole Border 1, 2 and 3 No. Parking zone, Satberia, Kalitala, Barasat	Ward No. 17, Chhayghoria G.P. Motigunj G.P., Gopalgunj G.P.
Kolkata	Ekbalpur, Watgung, Khidderpur, Hasting, New Alipur, Brace Bridge, Santoshpur, Akta Fatak, Majherhat, Food Corporation of India, Garden Reach	Ward Nos.-23, 25, 75, 76, 80



## Project Objectives

- Identified HIV positive cases through rapid test at their work place and link them to the ART centres of government hospital
- Sensitization of the community to reduce the stigma and discrimination of victims of HIV/AIDS
- To prevent new HIV infection and to provide access to quality HIV care through awareness and participation of community leaders
- Detecting the virus early to improve the health condition of infected clients
- Family members are able to accept without discrimination and take care of the reactive family member

## Beneficiaries

### Direct Beneficiaries

AGE	MALE	FEMALE
19m - 9Yrs		95
10Yrs - 14Yrs		121
15Yrs -19Yrs	819	177
20Yrs - 24Yrs	1548	143
25Yrs - 49Yrs	6143	549
50+	1087	112

### Indirect Beneficiaries

Male: 15380

Female: 10670

**Total = 26050**

## Project Activities

- Area selection for HIV testing (migrants, risk behavior)
- Networking with stakeholders in different areas
- Pre Counselling
- Testing
- Post Counselling
- If reactive then register at the Government hospital
- Medical care, treatment and psychological support
- Follow up

## HIV +ve and Linkage Data

- Out of 83 Men, 46 were linked to ART
- All the 14 Women were linked to ART

## The joy of reaching out to others: A truck driver's story of change

Bijoy Prasad (name changed), a native from Bihar drove trucks and ferried goods to different places. At the time when Seva Kendra Calcutta-AHF team was present conducting the HIV testing camp, he happened to be present, with his truck, halting for some time at the Bongaon Petrapole border. Initially reluctant, he somehow agreed to undergo the test after much prodding by his friends and after being counselled by the Seva Kendra Calcutta-AHF team members. To his utter dismay, he was tested as reactive. He outrightly refused to accept the result and challenge its veracity. The AHF team calmly managed to counsel Bijoy Prasad and convinced him to get the test report confirmed in the government hospital. He looked crestfallen and seemingly despondent. The Seva Kendra Calcutta-AHF team pursued his case and provided him the required care and support. He began his ART treatment and now he has improved.

Today, the same reluctant-to-get-tested Bijoy Prasad who had refused to accept the results is eager to reach out to other drivers whenever he is present, convincing them and motivating them to get the HIV tests done. He has assured his help, support and cooperation to the Seva Kendra Calcutta-AHF team and in fact has brought some of his friends to the government hospital to get them started with the ART treatment.





# 2.3

## Phalbari Dispensary

Close to the Mindnapore town is planned to be an extension of St. Joseph's Hospital. The dispensary building is complete and fully set up to function.

The dispensary has a doctor's chamber for consultation, a room for blood-collection to be sent to the hospital pathology department, a small room for minor surgical interventions and a large waiting facility. It is hoped that daily (except Sundays) a doctor and a nurse will be available for consultation. Eventually specialists too will be available on prescribed days. The main objective of this dispensary is to reach out to the economically challenged people of the area and help them avail of the Government schemes available for them.



# EDUCATION





# CHILD LABOUR FREE GP INITIATIVES

IN LINE WITH MVF MODEL IN NORTH 24 PARGANAS

## Project Period



**Pilot & 1<sup>st</sup> Phase:** 01.04. 2007 to 31.03.2013

**2<sup>nd</sup> Phase** : 01.4. 2013 - 31.3.2016

**3<sup>rd</sup> Phase** : 01.04.2016 to 31.03.2019

**4<sup>th</sup> Phase** : 01.0.4.2019 to 31.03.2022

## Supported by:



Indienhilfe e.V. Herrsching, Germany

## Area of Operation



Tepul-Mirjapur, Saguna and Gobindapur Gram Panchayats of Swarupnagar Block under the jurisdiction of North 24 Parganas District

## Number of Beneficiaries

HH: Household  
M: Male  
F: FEMALE  
T: TOTAL

### Direct Beneficiaries (1)

Total HH (A)				Children 0 to 14 yrs (B)			
HH	M	F	T (A)	M	F	T (B)	T (A+B)
16397	30737	29663	60400	5273	5102	10375	70775

### Indirect Beneficiaries (2)

Total HH (C)				Children 15 to 18 yrs (D)				
HH	M	F	T (C)	M	F	T (D)	T (C+D)	T (1+2)
5466	9356	8210	17566	3721	2308	23595	21863	94369

## Project Goal:

All forms of child labour have been eliminated and prevented by social process through formal schooling for all children between age 6 and 14 years in three selected GPs (Tepul-Mirjapur, Saguna and Gobindapur) in North-24-Parganas District of West Bengal



## Project Objectives:

- 100% children from 6 to 14 years of age are full time schooling at the end of the project.
- No drop-outs from class V to class VIII under each MSK, Jr. High and High School in the target panchayats.
- 80% children from 3 to 6 years of age are enrolled in the local pre-school centres /ICDS.
- Reflection of social banning on child labour and child marriages in behaviour and practices in the community.
- 80% reduced child migration, 80% reduced appointment of child labourers within the area, 80% reduced child marriages within the area, 80% reduced “no formal schooling” or “drop out status” between 6-14 years age group.

## Activities

- Linkages and rapport building with 3 newly-elected GP members.
- Area selection: 3 Gram Panchayats namely, Tepul-Mirjapur, Saguna and Gobindapur Gram Panchayats of Swarupnagar Block in North 24 Parganas.
- Rapport building with Gram Samsad members and leaders
- Staff selection - Child Right workers (CRW).
- Staff orientation and capacity building from time to time.
- Assigning Target Areas to Child Right Workers (CRW).
- Formation of Child Right Protection Forum (CRPF) and Girls Right Protection Forum (GRPF).
- A joint venture is created with ICDS to regularize children (3-6 years) in the Pre-Primary schools.
- Regular school visit to monitor mainstreamed children and other backward children.
- Primary data collection from house to house during the initial stage to prepare Child Registers at each Unit/ Gram Samsad.
- Out-of-schools children are identified through Child Registers.
- Quarterly updating of Child Registers with the help of Child Right Protection. Forum (CRPF), Girls Right Protection Forum (GRPF), 10 members each for both the forum at each Gram Samsad.
- Rapport building with the school teachers.
- Out of school children (age group between 6-14 years) are mainstreamed into Government schools.
- Creation of remedial coaching centres for those children who find it difficult to cope with the syllabus followed in school.



- Formation of motivation centres with participation from school going and non-school going children.
- Formation and orientation of CRPF & GRPF.
- Child Labour Motivation Camp at Nischintapur Flood Centre from 22nd to 26th January 2020 with 20 female and 60 male children from 6-14 years age group.
- Conduct school bus programme and rally to make the villages aware of sending their children to school regularly.
- Conduct rally to stop early child marriage.
- Conduct regular meeting of village level child protection committee.
- Attend Block Level Child Protection Committee and District level child Protection Committee meeting.
- Advocacy with BDO, Sub Inspectors of School and District offices for the proper implementation of Right to Education Act (RTEA).
- Conduct Sishumela for 3 days for mass awareness.
- Developed very good linkages through rapport-building with 3 Gram Panchayats and 69 elected members.
- The pilot-project was started in Tepul-Mirjapur with only one target area - Damhati. More target areas were included in 2012 and covered entire Tepul-Mirjapur. From April 2013 the project scope covered wider target area, namely the Saguna GP. There are 15 units with 3 clusters and these units are under the care of only one CRW because it is under the phase out process. 15 CBOs (Community Based Organization) have been formed. The CBOs will take over the continuation of the work by a federated CBO at Gram Panchayat Level from March 2021. The Gram Panchayat and the BDO declared the GP as Child Labour Free and Child Marriage Free. The WBCPCR (West Bengal Commission for Protection of Child Rights) was supposed to declare the same officially but due to the lock down it has been deferred to sometime later.
- Saguna GP has 21 units with 4 clusters under the care of 4 CRWs. There are 21 CRPF and 21 GRPF, who are trained and work voluntarily at the grass roots level to make the GP a Child Labour Free zone. There are also 12 CBOs formed and trained.
- Gobindapur GP was brought into the project fold since 2016. There are 33 units with 6 clusters looked after by 6 CRWs. There are 33 CRPF and 33 GRPF who are trained and work voluntarily at the grass roots level to make the GP as Child Labour Free zone.
- In Tepul Mirjapur GP, 76% children were regular in ICDS centre. In Saguna 89% children were regular in ICDS centre and in Gobindapur 73% were regular in ICDS centre.
- The attendance of children in the age group between 6 and 14 years in Tepul-Mirjapur was 75%, Saguna scored 79% and Gobindapur scored 69%.
- Six staff orientations with 15 participants were conducted. The topics were on Seva Kendra Calcutta Child Protection Policy, role of CRPF and GRPF, roles and responsibilities of VLCP, team building, climate change and development dynamics and roles of social workers.
- In Tepul-Mirjapur GP, a total of 753 male and 192 female participants of 15 CBOs attended the orientation programme. Orientation was done for CRPF and GRPF members with 120 male and 105 female. The topics are mostly Child Protection Policy and roles and responsibilities of CRPF and GRPF.
- In Saguna GP, a total of 161 male and 195 female participants of 21 CRPF and 21 GRPF attended the orientation programme. Besides these 12 CBOs have been formed and orientation conducted with 112 male and 140 female participants.
- In Gobindapur GP, a total of 280 male and 310 female participants of 33 CRPF and 33 GRPF attended the orientation program.

- In Tepul-Mirjapur, there is one remedial coaching centre with 3 male and 9 female children. In Saguna, five remedial coaching centres train 24 male and 39 female children and in Gobindapur, six remedial centres with 58 male and 66 female children in the age group of 6 to 14 years are mainstreamed to school. Our CRWs are trained and guided by Vikramshila Education Research Society to conduct classes in Joyful Method. The classes take place from 8.00 am to 10.00 am from Monday to Friday. These children are being given bridge course to mainstream them to their respective classes.
- To eradicate child labour, motivation sessions were conducted for three days a week from 4.00 to 6.00 pm. A total of 21 male and 18 female children of 3 centres from Tepul, 33 male and 40 female children from 4 centres in Saguna and 56 male and 63 female children from 6 motivation centre of Gobindapur participated.
- The present status of Child labour/out of school in Tepul is NIL. In Saguna there are 11 male and 9 female children and in Gobindapur there are 118 male and 94 female children out-of-school. Besides these there are 7 male and 5 female differently abled children and in Saguna there is one male and one female differently abled child who are out of school. In Tepul age group of 6 to 14, the number of school-going is 2301. In Saguna school going is 3012 and in Gobindapur school going children are 4381.
- Child Labour Motivation Camp for five days was conducted at Nischintapur Flood centre of Gobindapur GP, Swarupnagar Block from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020 with 20 female and 60 male children from 6 to 14 years of age.
- Bengali Orientation Camp was conducted at Gobindapur GP with 50 girls and 27 boys from the age group of 6 to 14 years from 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020.
- Mathematics Camp was conducted at Gobindapur GP from 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> January 2020 with 38 boys and 27 girls from the age group of 6 to 14 years attending the camp.
- English Camp was conducted at Gobindapur GP on 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020 with 43 girls and 31 boys from the age group of 6 to 14 years attending the camp.
- Conducted Sishumela to create mass awareness about the importance of childhood.

## Qualitative Impact:

- Community is sensitized about the evils of child labour and child marriage.
- Implementation of planned activities within the due dates.
- Complete database available with project staff/office on unschooled, drop-out, and child labourers between 3 and 16 years.
- Identified and documented every child and his/her schooling status-whether dropout or working.
- Quarterly update in order to check the accuracy of resources available in the area.
- Participation of parents, other adult members in villages, panchayat, school, district social welfare and education officers and other NGOs of area in field actions, religious communities.
- Formation of linkage with anti-trafficking cells like VLCPC (Village Level Child Protection Committee), BLPCPC (Block Level Child Protection Committee) and DCPU (District Child Protection Unit).
- Above sections know about CRPF/GRPF and recognize them as workers for the issue.
- Stakeholders are aware about the issue through sensitization and create awareness campaign and come forward to motivate to be a dutiful person for the society. He /she might play and come forward to play a supportive role and help the CRPF/GRPF/CBO for the protection of the child.



- Formation on network against child trafficking.
- Developed a map of network.
- Collaboration with supportive organizations like Vikramshila Education Resource Society, Child Line, Jabala etc.
- Creation of institutional requirements and project infrastructure

## Quantitative change

- 80% children from 6 to 14 years of age are under full time schooling.
- Drop-outs from class V to class VIII under each MSK, Jr. High and High School under target panchayats are reduced to 20 %.
- 79% children from 3 to 6 years of age are enrolled in local pre-school centres /ICDS
- Child migration reduced by 75%.
- Appointment of child labourers within the area reduced to 20%.
- Child marriages reduced to 15% within the area
- 50% cost of Sishumela borne by the people.
- 700 new clothes for children donated by the people of project area before the puja festival which may cost around Rs. 2, 10,000/-.

## Stories of change:

Kishori Bahini girls of Gobindapur GP vow to *#Yes2Education #No2childmarriage*

She is only 15 years old and a member of *Shatru Binashini Kishori Bahini* group in Taranipur village and post, of Gobindapur Gram Panchayat. Her steady association with this group had made Rexona Khatun firm in her resolve to study hard and get herself a good job. All she dreamt was to educate herself, find a job and take care of her family's economic needs. Her poor father, Mazed Khan is a daily labourer and the sole bread winner of his family. The family with his paltry earnings of Rs. 4,000/- per month could manage to barely subsist. The burden of responsibility of bringing up his three daughters and three sons was bearing down heavily on poor Mazed's tired shoulders, each passing day.



The only practical solution, Mazed believed, in order to pull the family out of penury and economic insecurity, was to quickly marry off his minor daughters. Mazed was however oblivious to his daughter Rexona's predilection to get a good education and so looked out to seize the first opportunity that came his way to marry off Rexona. He almost succeeded when a marriage proposal came for Rexona from a comparatively well-to-do and good-looking young business man from Swarupnagar. He traded in fish and was a prospective groom for Rexona, so is what Mazed thought. Rexona, learning about her father's plan, out rightly refused the offer and stood her ground. Mazed did not pay heed to Rexona's wish and went forward with the marriage preparations. Rexona's friends from Kishori Bahini were shocked when they learnt about Rexona's impending marriage against her wishes. They resolved to immediately put an end to Rexona's father's plan. The members met Rexona's father and after much persuasion cajoled him to rescind the marriage plans. But...wait...did he? Unbeknownst to anybody, he continued with the marriage preparation plans. It was only on the D-Day of her marriage on 12.03.2020, Rexona realized she had been lied to by her father and he had backtracked from his earlier assurance. She somehow managed to sneak out and call one of the Kishori Bahini members for help. In no time, the entire group of Kishori Bahini, CRPF and GRPF landed at Rexona's father's doorsteps. They explained to him in no uncertain terms about the legal consequences he could face, should he go ahead with his plans. They pointed out to him that his daughter Rexona was a minor and she cannot get married before she turned 18 years old and certainly not without her consent. The gentle persuasion was falling to deaf ears of Rexona's father who had dug his heels to the ground to get his daughter married off that day. The tables did turn and he finally did relent to call off the wedding plans. He was given an ultimatum failing which he would be handed over to the police. He gave his written commitment that he would not be going ahead with the marriage. Rexona couldn't be any happier that day. That day, Rexona along with the other members have firmly resolved to not allow any child marriage in their village. Yes.... Kishori Bahini Girls of Gobindapur GP vow to *#Yes2Education #No2childmarriage*.





# Children's Parliament

## Project Period:



Ongoing since  
April 2019

## Supported by



Seva Kendra Calcutta

## Area of Operation



School / Parish/  
(community) Tangra  
Slum

## Project Goal:



A platform for the  
children to voice their  
concerns and opinions  
and take appropriate  
actions and decision in  
their schools or  
communities

## Project Objectives:

- To help children to succeed in their lives by instilling self-discipline and self-correction
- To enable children to develop self-confidence and leadership qualities
- To train children to become articulate, assertive and display good team spirit
- To create opportunities and environment for children to showcase and develop their personalities
- To create a safety net for monitoring children in difficult situations and educate the children about their rights and train them to take measures to protect and respond to any abuse or violation

## No. of Beneficiaries



**families: 230**



**Children: 230**



**Male: 160**



**female: 70**

## Activities

- 105 Orientation Programmes to Parents and Teachers and children were conducted.
- 120 Trainings on Child Rights, Right to Education, Child Health & Sanitation, Environmental Protection, Promotion of Arts, Culture and Sports have been conducted.



## Impacts

- Children have become responsible caretakers of their neighbourhood.
- Learnt to convert experiences into life's lessons and reach out to one another.
- Participated with confidence in matters concerning the society by interacting with adults from different walks of life.

## Learnings

- Children valued their learning and liked going to school.
- Children liked and wanted to talk about their learning, they have an understanding of their learning strengths and what support they need.
- Children like when wider achievements are also valued and recognised – such as doing well in sports, hobbies or community activities.
- Children have many hopes and dreams for their future and they ask to be supported in realizing them.
- Children want to live in communities and have local and global environments that are clean and safe.





# Mainstreaming the dropout children back to school, Phalbari

## Project Period:



Ongoing since 2005  
(closed in Dec 2019)

## Supported by



Stichting Actie  
Calcutta, Holland

## Area of Operation:



Midnapore

## Beneficiaries



Families/children/male/  
female etc.  
(Direct and Indirect) 27  
families/ 27children and  
all male (direct)

## Project Goal:

Mainstreaming the  
dropout children back to  
formal school through  
the use of Skill  
Targeted Academic  
Growth Methodology for  
one year by keeping  
them in a residential  
learning centre.

## Project Objectives:

The aim is to create an enabling environment for schooling and to mainstream children from Non Formal Education centres to Govt. Primary schools.

## Activities

Children are trained to study on their own so they can face their future with confidence. They plant saplings and take care of them. They grow vegetables with the help of teachers and the gardener and also have prepared a flower garden. The children are helped to grow independent as they are taught to wash their clothes, their plates and to keep their surroundings clean.

Monthly meetings were conducted with the parents to report to them about the progress of their children and to motivate the parents to later send their children to school to continue their education.





## Impacts

- Children learnt from the staff of Seva Kendra Calcutta how to teach one another using the joyful learning method.
- Children have become self disciplined and well-mannered. They have developed their personalities and have grown self-confident. They have also improved their skills.







## THE DUTCH ORGANISATION Stichting Actie Calcutta SAC

Seva Kendra and the Dutch organization “Stichting Actie Calcutta” (SAC), share a long history serving the poor in the regions in and around Kolkata. Seva Kendra is helping and advising SAC to find an optimal way to spend many donations of SAC for education of the poor or to facilitate education.

During this long period almost 50 years a true bond of respect and friendship has been developed. It is always a safe and hospitable harbor to stay and rest in hectic India. We find the explanation and the update of new developments in and around Kolkata always very useful and helpful. SAC needs information of professionals like the board of Seva Kendra, to understand future plans in India to help the poor. This helps SAC to determine the priorities for projects and hostels.

The policy of SAC is to help the very poor to educate them, so they can be more independent in the future. SAC helps poor children and students to go to balwadi's, primary schools, medium schools, colleges, vocational education and skill straining in any form. SAC believes that any education will help the poor to do a step forward in life. SAC also supports many projects to realize or improve education. Seva Kendra is a perfect partner to advice SAC in the field of education of the poor.

SAC supports many projects in and around Kolkata and also projects of Seva Kendra. New projects of Seva Kendra will be (partly) financed by SAC, such as the Nazareth project, a training center/farm to teach young farmers and a project in Solo Bigha to mainstream the children of the slum. A new project to support the Solo Bigha community has also started in 2019.



SAC and Seva Kendra are working together to find a new policy to create a strategic partnership. SAC is looking for one or may be three strategic partners in India. We are looking for ways to share with Seva Kendra the work in monitoring projects of SAC, finding projects associated to the developments of the region in the field of education, especially vocational education. SAC will stimulate Seva Kendra to focus on local fundraising. We hope Seva Kendra Calcutta will give advice to SAC about new developments in the region and about the governmental developments in the field of education. The implementation of this new partnership will take some years. We hope that new partnerships will bring even more respect to each other and more time for SAC in the Netherlands to use for fundraising.

The professional development of Seva Kendra in almost 50 years is impressive. In the coming visits and video meetings SAC will discuss all the new ideas for a renewed partnership in the future. SAC considers Seva Kendra as an important and reliable relation. We hope sincerely that after COVID 19 we can meet again face to face. SAC thanks the Seva Kendra Calcutta community for its hospitality, friendship and professional assistance.

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# The Peace Building Project

## Project Period:



1st March 2018 -  
31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

## Supported by



Kindermissionswerk,  
Die Sternsinger  
e.V., Germany

## Area of Operation:



In 10 villages covering 5  
GPs of Kesiary block in  
West Midnapur district

## Project Goal:



Fulfill the desire of the  
affected children and  
their communities by  
involving their peers and  
family members in  
creating a 'peaceful  
society'

## Project Objectives:

- To fulfill the desire of the affected children and their communities, for a just and peaceful society, that is deeply affected by armed conflict
- To involve their peers and family members in the peace building process
- To envisage the objectives of contributing to peace, learning and practices
- Improving children's participation in positive peace building exercises
- Documenting children's opinions, experiences and their contributions in all the peace building initiatives

## Beneficiaries

### Direct Beneficiaries



Total families: 809



Children: 967



Total Male: 1,192



Total female: 1,205



Total population: 3,364

### Indirect Beneficiaries



Total families: 313



Children: 758



Total Male: 505



Total female: 758



Total population: 2,021





## Activities conducted during the year

### Coaching Centres

The entry point of the Peace Building project is the coaching centres in rural villages operated by trained Project Associates. There are 4 such coaching centres functioning 6 days a week. 134 students (60 boys and 74 girls) from 10 villages are enrolled in the 4 coaching centres of the Peace Building Project and learn from their school syllabus.

### Meditation and Yoga

Yoga and meditation are two vital activities regularly conducted in the coaching centres apart from the routine studies. It is an alternative form of exercise to keep the mind and body healthy and happy especially for these tribal children in the conflicted areas.

Practicing yoga improves balance, flexibility and strength, while meditation keeps the mind sharp, relieves stress and anxiety and also strengthens the immune system. Every morning meditation and yoga are mandatory for all the 134 students attending the coaching centres.

### Art, craft and cultural activities

There have been a series of cultural activities organized in accordance with the project's theme on peace and is held regularly at the four coaching centres e.g. thematic drawing and recitation, skits, dramas and folk dances in Santhali (tribal language spoken in the area) as the tribal people look forward to celebrations. This serves a dual purpose of enriching their cultural heritage and keeping them united, which ultimately contributes towards the goal of the project.



## Counselling

The project activities aim to mitigate and resolve conflicts through 'Conflict Redress Methodology' and 'Case Work Mechanism' by 'Children and Adult Peace Club Members' that are the two wings of the project. Hence individual counseling is an integral part of the project for peaceful settlements among various peer groups, families and individuals. Approaches are made to an entire set of interrelated efforts that support peace.

## Flute music

Flute music is also incorporated in the coaching centres, where the students are learning how to play flute under the guidance of a trained instructor. The process of learning to play flute by the children in these violence affected area is a step towards purification of all impurities and harmonizing oneself with nature and the rustic life. 100 flutes were distributed to the interested students, who are keen on learning to play the instrument. Total 49 boys and 51 girls are learning and practicing flute daily and 24 of them are playing flute on tribal tunes with some level of expertise.

## Moral education and various exercises on peace building

The lessons are taught in the form of drama, songs and poems by the students and their peace educators and cover topics like good behaviour, tolerance, forgiveness, problem identification and solving the same by them. They practice activities like differentiating between a war and a peaceful scenario, characteristic of a happy and a sad family, qualities required as good parents or ideal children, building peaceful families, villages and communities to live in.

## Formation of Children's Peace Club

The Children Peace Clubs and the Adult Peace Clubs are the two wheels of the project. The entire project is operated with the help of these two peace clubs. In this reporting period the children's peace clubs solved problems related to domestic violence, alcoholism, behavioural issues, whereas the members of the adult peace clubs solved conflicts related to child abuse and neglect, smoothen and strengthen marital relationship between married couples, ban child marriage, caring for old parents in the families etc. through entirely a peaceful approach. Presently four 'Children Peace Clubs' are active in the area, with 58 children peace club members (26 boys and 32 girls), regularly in touch with the target households and their problems, through home visits. Peace clubs play vital role in the community, especially in dealing with different issues concerning children, as well as adults. At this phase, children peace club have conducted a total of 64 meetings with the peers and family members to address complicated cases.

## Functioning of Adult Coaching Centres for illiterate mothers

Adult education of rural uneducated women is considered as a tool for transformation/broadening of ideas, values, gender attitudes etc. Most rural women are in fact uneducated so adult education classes are being conducted three days a week in the four coaching centres. These classes are held at night after they return from work. 22 mothers have benefitted from this setup. It is hoped that more mothers will join in the future.

### Impacts

- For the first time a tribal girl who is a member of the Peace Building coaching centre, secured second position in the final school examination. Her success is primarily because of the quality coaching and attention provided by the peace educators. Meanwhile the other students who have made good progress both in academic and personality development are also being appreciated by the Government school teachers.
- Two drop-out students, who skipped school to continue domestic work since their parents migrated in search of work, were mainstreamed into formal school.
- A total of 110 children and their families benefitted through counseling and meditation.
- Five elderly parents, who were earlier deprived of proper food and medical attention, are now being looked after by their families after the intervention from the Children Peace Club.
- 84 children have cut down on swearing and are showing signs of developing a positive attitude and behavior.
- Seven parents have recovered from alcoholism.
- Mothers of Adult Peace Clubs have approached nine families engaged in domestic violence. Two families are now living in harmony.
- An alcoholic father, who had neglected his family, is a changed man and is handing over Rs. 250 per day to his wife towards family expenses and this is due to the efforts and inspiration provided by the Children Peace Clubs.
- A child marriage of a 14-year old girl was stopped by the Adult Peace Club members and now the girl is able to continue her studies.
- Two extra marital affairs were put to an end by the mothers of the Adult Peace Club through individual counseling and visits. Presently the couples are leading a happy married life.
- 14 gender awareness camps were conducted at the community level, and were attended by 216 participants.
- As a result of reduction in the consumption of alcohol among parents, a total of 28 families have now begun living a stable life and have increased their monthly income too.



- 52 mothers have cultivated nutrition gardens in their spare-time instead of whiling away their time gossiping.
- 21 mothers are trying to help their children in their daily lessons.

## Stories of Change

### Seven angels from the Adult Peace Club save and heal the broken marriage of a couple

Kamarchowki village, situated in the Kesiary Block is no longer the same old village every one knew. Peace seems to have returned to the village that was fraught with problems such as alcoholism, child abuse, child marriage, neglected old parents and domestic violence. No one cared or shall we say, no one knew what needed be done to alleviate the pathetic situation of the village until seven young mothers from the Adult Peace Club got together to find a way out. Their gentle yet persuasive way of dealing with the issues helped resolved many disputes and problems.

Twenty-five year old Sujit (name changed) had turned alcoholic and his young wife 22 years old Kabita (name changed) was engaged in an extra-marital affair. Their broken relationship was way beyond repair. The daily quarrels between the two after sundown had reached volcanic proportions. The entire village was disturbed and fed-up with the regular night-long argy-bargy between the two. There was really no way out but for both of them to divorce. This however did not happen.

The seven members of the Adult Peace Club decided to intervene. After sustained efforts for the next two months by these women, they were able to rekindle the spark of marriage between Sujit and Kabita. The women reminded them about the vows they had taken and the promises they had made when they got married. Eight months have passed-by and the village has not heard and hopefully will never hear the cantankerous fights between the two. They have resolved their differences and are now living like man and wife once again. These seven angels from the Adult Peace Club saved and healed the broken marriage of the young couple.



# 3.6 Kishalaya Home Juvenile Home for Boys

Kishalaya Home is the home for orphan boys. It is also an International recipient home for foreign boys who are juvenile in conflict with law. There are around 125 inmates and out of these 72% are below 12 years.

Seva Kendra Calcutta started its intervention in 2015. We have mainly two fold activities - Education Programme and Hands-on Livelihood Training Programme.

## Total number of participants: 70 children

- We do special classes for the illiterates and new inmates. Kishalay Home is now a 100% literate home.
- Our staff takes regular classes at the Primary Level and also help High School students to appear for their board examination. Our staff had conducted classes for 222 days in the last academic calendar.
- The children had learnt 27 new rhymes, 38 value-based stories during the story telling classes and 8 new songs.
- Joyful Learning regular workshops are conducted with the senior students for developing Teaching Learning Materials (TLM). These TLMs are regularly in use with lots of group work.
- Use of puppets and locally available materials in the classroom is another special feature about the pedagogy in Kishalaya.
- Periodic evaluation based on Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) model as per RTE ACT, 2009 is conducted.



## Art & Craft class

- 37 children participate in this class. These boys learn drawing and painting.
- They also make masks, paper puppets and other paper crafts in their class.
- There were 15 art and craft workshops conducted and these workshops helped the inmates to learn to make 97 types of crafts.

## Puppetry and Music classes

- Regular class on puppetry and puppet making is conducted. Two groups are doing very well. They were invited by other government offices and local clubs to perform on different occasions.
- Regular music class is also conducted. Regular training and grooming of 15 boys who had performed short drama depicting their hope in various occasions had been conducted.

## Peace building activities

- There used to be cases of sexual violence amongst the boys. This year skit and role play was introduced in Kishalaya Home. Counseling sessions along with Peace Building classes were conducted every Saturday. This had helped to reduce violence and other evil habits among the boys.

## Other activities

- 30 meetings were held with Home Superintendent, other staff and Additional District Magistrate for implementing overall development programmes.
- The boys organized special day celebrations in their campus. They got trained in recitations, skits and opportunities to perform in the programmes.
- Seva Kendra Calcutta staff participated in inter-home teaching aid development competitions. Kishalaya Home was declared champion during that event.
- State Institute of Panchayat and Rural Development, Govt of West Bengal brought their newly appointed education officials and other Class I officers to get hands-on experiences from our teachers working in Kishalaya Home. They came to see the joyful learning techniques, child-to-child learning (peer learning) approaches and how to make lesson plans and implement the same in the classes.



Started in 2015, the boys were growing vegetables in the fallow lands of their campus. This year the boys had grown 18 types of vegetables and leafy vegetables in their garden.

They had produced 2472 kgs of vegetables in 2019-20. Their average monthly production was 206 kgs. These vegetables were used in their home kitchen and the entire produce was consumed by the children. 15 boys had taken hands-on-training on organic farming. They had learnt mixed-cropping, multi-cropping, bio-manures production and use of bio pest controllers.

They also caught 35 kgs of catfish in their small pond adjacent to their garden

Since 2018-19, the boys are building a small nursery in their home campus. This year they had 1033 saplings in the home yard.

In 2019-20, the boys made a beautiful flower garden in their campus. They planted 8 types of winter flowers in their garden





# SUKANYA HOME

## Project Period:



Ongoing from  
February 2018

## Supported by



Kindermisssionswerk,  
Die Sternsinger e.V.,  
Germany

## Project Goal:



Mainstreaming all the  
inmates into the society  
as law abiding and  
potential productive  
members

## Beneficiaries



Total Beneficiaries: 107

## Area Covered

Sukanya Juvenile Home for girls is located in Salt Lake City, Kolkata. The inmates are largely from the following areas:

Kolkata, North 24 Parganas and different parts.

- Orphans, homeless girls and girls who are considered Juvenile in conflict with law (JCL)
- International JCL- girls arrested from different ports

## Project Objectives

- Achieve cent percent literacy rate in Sukanya Home
- Mainstream the girls into formal school education
- Help reduce juvenile recidivism rate
- Help create abuse-free, caring and hygienic living conditions

## Prologue

Sukanya Home was made in 1980s to keep orphan girls( 6 to 18 years old), later it became home for the orphan girls and girls (Juveniles) in conflicts with law. Seva Kendra Calcutta started intervention in this home from 2017-18 sessions. We started with education and computer training classes. From 2019 academic year we also started hands on training on craft and jewellery making and developing micro-entrepreneurship.

## Pedagogical Interventions

### Pre-primary and literacy drive:

21 girls became literate and started learning basic language and Maths and environment sciences.



## Making ready for board examination from Open school:

As all the inmates are not allowed to go out outside schools for mainstreaming, we started coaching for the girls. Our teachers teaches them Language, Science and Mathematics. There were special classes on English reading and writing. Most of the girls are not good in English so they requested us for this interactive English class. In 2019, 8 girls appeared for board examination out of them 6 has successfully cleared exam. It is the first time in this home; so many girls had passed Madhyamik with flying colours.

This year 11 girls are preparing for board examination under the guidance of our teachers.

## Spoken English Class

We started spoken English class with 23 girls. This class was designed in very joyful and interactive patterns. The girls were learning very fast; we are planning to spread these ideas in other homes.

## Computer Class

We have also run computer class with 19 students. These girls are getting hands on training on basic computer operation. At the end of the academic session with girls will get certificates from the Calcutta Community College.





## Craft and Puppet making workshops

In these six months, we had organized 6 workshops with 22 adolescent girls on making puppets and making crafts; the girls have learnt the techniques to make decorating items from plastics, making 7 types of puppets from paper and foams.

## Training on making Low cost ornaments and starting micro entrepreneurship

This project was started from October 2019 with 41 girls. In last six months, the trainee girls had made 11 types of ornaments of 361 pairs – ear rings, bangles, necklaces etc. The girls also got hands on training on micro entrepreneurship development – Book keeping, banking and making liaison with others. These trainee girls participated in 4 fairs organized by different Govt agencies. This has become one of the most successful initiatives in our Juvenile home intervention projects.





## Intervention in the Ariyadaha Dhrubasram Juvenile Home

Dhrubasram is a juvenile home for boys. Nearly 90 juveniles who are in conflict-with-law live here. Seva Kendra Calcutta started development initiative since 2017-18. We have both Education and Livelihood training programme conducted in this home.

### Education programme

- Boys undergo a bridge course before they start their formal studies as per their age. These adolescents show little or no interest in their studies. We found that many of these delinquents had no writing abilities and many of them did not have knowledge of basic mathematics like addition, multiplication etc.
- **At the end of this bridge-programme:**
- The boys would have basic writing and reading abilities; would be able to read and understand a report from a Bengali newspaper.
- Would be able to do basic calculations and record keeping.
- Would be able to read simple English sentences and would be aware of some sentences which are necessary for day-to-day communication.

In 2019-20, we have trained more than 161 boys in 3 phases. In this JCL (Juvenile Conflict with Law) home, boys are under trials and so many of them get bail through court.

### Other activities

- There is a puppeteer group in Dhrubasram. We teach 15 boys how to make paper puppets and other types of puppets. The boys were very interested in puppet play and painting, making paper crafts and other items.
- Teaching is joyful. This year the boys had learnt 18 stories, 7 new songs and could recite 17 new poems.
- We had 16 art and craft workshops with them and they had made 161 new crafts in these workshops.
- State Legal Services Authority sent a group of Judges to meet the boys. During that visit, they performed puppet show and greeted them with handmade paper flowers and greeting cards.
- We do some role play activities and skit for peace building amongst the boys.



## Livelihood training in sustainable agriculture

The boys cultivated gardens in three plots adjacent to their building. It was a fallow land and they had produced 20 types of vegetables and leafy vegetables. In 2019-20, they had produced more than 1478 kgs of vegetables in their campus and consumed the same entirely. 15 boys have learnt the different techniques of organic farming.

They also made a small nursery and produced more than 1150 saplings of 11 different plants.

Our trainers had given trainings to 20 boys on making hand crafts from domestic plastic waste. They were also given trainings on making photo frames, pen stands, greetings cards, plastic flowers etc. These boys are not only provided training from our trainers but they had shown their innovative skills in making these handicrafts.







## PRAYASH CHILDCARE CENTRE: PRAGGALAYA BARASAT

### Project Period:



2019-2020

### Supported by



Seva Kendra Calcutta  
Initiative

### Areas Covered



In and around Barasat  
town

### Project Goal



Mainstreaming drop-out  
children

In 2018-19, Seva Kendra Calcutta started a child care centre in its outreach centre at Barasat. One of the objectives of this centre was to mainstream the dropout children. Another objective was to establish a resource center for the adolescent youth where they would share their ideas and would get need based hands on trainings.

### We also run basic computer courses for the poor children.

In 2019-20, we had 47 children from primary level to Class VIII. Out of these 47 children 17 were dropout and all of them readmitted in 2020 academic session in local Govt. school. All the children did very well in Mathematics, Science and English in their school examinations. Moreover all these 47 children learnt basic computer operation.

3 of them had scored highest mark in English and Computer in their classes.

Beside the education programme, we had organized hands on trainings on Organic farming and carft making for these students.

In 2019-20, the students had produced 17 types of vegetables in their campus garden and also learned the art of making nurseries and flower garden. They had made flower garden beside the Church gate. The Church visitors had praised them and 37 visitors had taken advices from them on managing flowering plants in their houses. We had also distributed organic folk seeds to 27 visitors.

There were music, art & craft and puppetry classes. These children learnt puppet play and also learnt how to make different types puppets from papers, foam and thermocol sheets.

They performed puppet show and songs in local programmes and Church programmes.





## INNOVATIVE ACTIONS FOR PROMOTING

Education, Health and Community Development at  
6 Most Backward Villages in India (as per NITI Ayog)  
Under Ri Bhoi District in Meghalaya State

### Project Period:



2019-2020

### Supported by



Bharat Petroleum  
Corporation Ltd.

### Areas Covered



Ri Bhoi District,  
Nagaland state

Seva Kendra Calcutta was selected by Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited for implementing a pilot initiative for promoting education, health and community development at 6 most backward villages in India (as per NITI AYOGE) under RI BHOI district in Meghalaya state.

We are implementing this programme in collaboration with – Social Service Centre, Shillong Dioceses

### We started baseline survey in the following village

Mawiong

Nongkhrah

Pahambir

Pahammardoloi

Pahamshiken

Pahamjri





Amongst all the findings, education was the most challenging factor. All the headmen and villagers requested us to shift the child care centres from rented houses to community centres and churches. They also added that no rent need be given for these centres.

Twelve local teachers, one ex teacher formed the team with a Catholic nun as a coordinator. They are doing very hard work to bring positive changes in these six villages. Loreto sisters of Shillong gave hands on orientation to these teachers.

Seva Kendra Calcutta team also visited all the villages to verify the survey matters and finding for cross analysis.

From July to September, 2019 these child care centres have changed the face of these six villages.

Every month, the parents and headmen reviewed the progress of these six centres. More than 250 dropout children are now getting joyful non formal education for mainstreaming and already 75% are mainstreamed with age appropriate classes. During review meeting in August, 2019 all the headmen requested us to promote local sports especially football along with the education programme. In September, 2019 internal examination was held and the students did very well in their studies. There were special classes for weaker children and our teachers made 28 home visits for bringing back the dropouts.

In September, 2019, our internal evaluator cum Govt resource teacher, Mrs. Rehana Sultana visited all the centres and made internal study with teachers and parents. After that, she also met Governor of Meghalaya with the reports and baseline findings for Ri Bhoi.

The agriculture programme got delayed by three months; After that we started baseline and perusing the village head counsel to start development programme. Initially we started our Education programme as July-September having heavy rain fall so we were unable start our other two components – Agriculture and Community Health. As during rainy time in the remote hill villages' movement and transport got restricted.

We chose the most backward villages of Ri Bhoi district. So during the monsoon, the hill regions were not suitable for movements. There was a high rate of dropouts and child trafficking. So we focused in the Monsoon season on the six child centres and established them well. Now these have become pride for all these six villages.

In September 2019, the Half yearly review meeting was held and the headmen and villagers thanked us for successfully running the Education programme and also shared that as monsoon was over and winter approaches we could start- agriculture and health initiatives and also gave their approval for agriculture and health programme.

From October to December 2019, schools were fully functional as all the centres had their 1<sup>st</sup> annual assessment in November and the result was published before Christmas. All the centres were full of students and parents are also taking follow-ups. All the centres got class room materials for children like notebook, pen, pencils etc. We also distributed sports equipments for them.

In all the centres, the community was cleaning the community centres and keeping it neat and clean before and after school hours.

Mass awareness campaign had started with the farmers. It had been started with the knowledge sharing of indigenous seeds and use of different kinds of Bio manures and Bio pest controllers.

With our partner in Shillong we organized a marketing linkage of the agriculture products of Ri Bhoi in Shillong market.

One trial had been made where our farmers brought their products in the market and got good returns.

Special awareness on the use of sanitary napkins and its importance started. We had distributed sanitary napkins amongst the villagers through women leaders.

There was special awareness on vector borne diseases too.



## ACHIEVEMENTS

### EDUCATION PROGRAMME

In 2019, we started 6 mainstreaming centres in 6 villages of Ri Bhoi – Mawiong, Nongkhrah, Pahambir, Pahammardoloi, Pahamshiken, Pahamjri. Initially we planned to open these centres in respective rented places but the parents who got motivated told us that they would do the cleaning and village head men and women assured us to open these centres in community centres and also provided drinking water and tea by the villagers. They also waived our rent for these centres. In Nongkhrah, there was no good place for study so the local church offered us to start centres inside the church building.

Our target was to mainstream 300 children but more than 350 children got enrolled and passed and mainstreamed for the academic year 2019-2020.

After the academic session was over we called all the mainstreamed children.

This was the first time in Ri Bhoi these children got enrolled to formal school programme. We also supported them in 2020 so that none was dropped out. Based on their academic performance as shown in the report cards we shared with village headmen and women and also invited all the parents and children of these 6 villages and shared their academic performances with them. Moreover successful children were given token award of appreciation for motivation.

After that, we used two strategies for the education programme:

- Refresher training for teachers so that they got knowledge and capacities for mainstreaming children in future and also making them capable for developing new Teaching Learning Materials (TLMs) and worksheets based on the Comprehensive and Continuous Evaluation
- Providing some material supports as token appreciations like – pen, pencils, erasers and bags etc. The parents are illiterate and living below the poverty line but got motivated for continuing the education of their children. In future they will continue the initiative on their own.



There was an annual sports for these 6 centres. More than 4000 villagers had gathered to watch 350 children participating in the sporting event. It became a social meet in these villages. There were 10 events and all were locally popular events. The children enjoyed a lot. The local MLA and village headmen were present at the occasion.

The villagers were so happy that they announced that every year, they would arrange a sports-cum-cultural meet for these six villages. The village council would raise the requisite funds on a monthly basis for the same.

## ECOLOGICAL FARMING

After the trainings on organic farming the farmers are getting good results. They also learnt how to preserve seeds and propagate them. The main objective of this programme was to ensure market linkage so that all the farmers get good return in future. We are already working on market linkage and started small marketing initiatives at Shillong, State Capital and Nongpoh, District Capital of Ri Bhoi district.

In the next three months our other objectives were to get them trained on integrated pest management in fruits as Ri Bhoi is considered as fruit hub of Meghalaya state. The fruits like pineapples and bananas are best produced in this place. As the farmers have learnt the process of bio manures and bio pest controller productions, they would get good return for the organic products.

The women farmers made small clusters and are participating in local fairs and local markets and selling their organic items.

## COMMUNITY HEALTH

We had workshops on vector borne diseases like malaria and dengue. It is the main cause of death in villages of Ri Bhoi. We had 4 workshops so far and have trained young mothers and school children and involved them in cleaning their home yards to prevent malaria and dengue.

It was not associated with the project but found that Plastic pollution is the main player for mosquito borne diseases so one more components added to remove plastic and stopping used plastic disposal at home campus.

The children committee goes on a door to door inspection and helps in cleaning the campus and home yards regularly.

Another component was 'pallor' – high rate of anemia amongst the young girls and women. The improper use of sanitary napkins and tape worm infestation were main reasons behind these. Mass awareness by our trained staff on pallor control became very successful. The women were under the process of regular de-worming and proper use of sanitary napkins. These have helped them to get rid of these problems. In the next three months we would work intensively on cardiac health and other non communicable diseases.



## COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Seva Kendra Calcutta had started the Community College in 2008 In Kolkata. In 2019 we started its extension campus in Baduria in collaboration with Swanirvar, one grass root level NGO working in North 24 Parganas and Sundarban.

Our main focus was to start courses on "Rural innovation and Sustainable Technology promotion" for the underprivileged community.

In 2019-20, we started two courses:

1. Montessori Teacher's Training – 6 month course
2. Basic Health Care Service Provider – 12 month course in collaboration with CSIR- IICB, Kolkata
3. 120 Hrs short Term course – In Two colleges on Livelihood and Micro Entrepreneurship.

### OUTCOME

1. 24 Teachers enrolled in Montessori Teacher's Training programme. 12 young women were sponsored by the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited are now working in Jaynagar Block.
2. 12 housewives from North 24 Parganas enrolled in the same programme; 9 of them has got job upon completion of the course; rest are doing home tuition.
3. In the Basic Health Care Service Provider 12 young girls took admission out of them 9 were trafficked victims; All of them completed the course successfully and 7 of them got jobs before completion of the course.
4. Seva Kendra Calcutta and Swanirvar jointly organized one short term course (120Hrs) in Dinabandhu Mahavidyalaya, Bongaon and Amdanga Jugal Kishore Mahavidyalaya, Amdanga; We conducted three short term courses there –
  - Recycle of waste into wealth- Crafts from Plastic; Making home sanitizers – soap, detergents, phenyl etc.
  - Organic Farming
  - Solar Energy

Total 250 students participated in these courses. On the last day of the programme, the products made by the students were displayed for others. On behalf of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, Mr. Madhusudan Sarkar visited these institutions. The resource persons from other colleges and Officer on Special duties and Exam controller from The West Bengal State University also visited and gave talk to the participants. All the participants were given certificates at the end of the course.







# Bongaon Children's Education:

## Integrated Community Development Project

### Project Location



7 centers in 5 villages of Bongaon Subdivision

### Project Duration



12 months

### Donor Agency



Seva Kendra Calcutta

### Project Goal



Integrate the poor, marginalized and migrant people through integrated development of education and socio-economic upliftment

### Project Objectives

- The development of children of poor and marginalized communities through education
- Women are empowered through capacity building and leadership promotion
- People have developed self-reliance through income generated programs
- Women are active participants in the Self-Help Groups
- Community health & hygiene is improved

### Project Activities

- Daily coaching/tuition classes
- Capacity building programs for villagers
- Legal aid programs for villagers
- International Day against drug abuse and illicit trafficking
- Health awareness programs
- Personality development programs
- Health camps
- Income generation activity programs
- Children's Day celebration
- Women's Day celebration
- World Environment Day celebration
- World Nature Conservation Day
- Study tour for children
- Blood donation camp
- Annual Sports Day



## Achievements

### Activities of the village Group Tuition Centers

Name of the Centre	Name of the Teacher	Total Enrollment	Total Boys	Total Girls	Total working days	Actual class days	Home visits	School visits	Govt. office visits
St. Joseph's main centre	Mrs. Malati Biswas	18	13	05	230	226	12	03	01
Shantipara	Mrs. Mandira Barui	23	06	17	229	181	12	05	04
Uttar Chhayghoria	Mrs. Dipali Gomes	21	13	08	229	185	19	00	04
Horidaspur Paschim (Paruipara)	Mrs. Kanchan Das	27	08	21	229	198	84	02	11
Srimontopur	Nilda Tete	25	14	11	214	187	23	03	04
Unnui	Sonali Munda	12	03	09	214	187	12	03	00

### Various community activities at the 7 centers in 5 villages

S.No	Date	Particulars	Participants	Resource Persons
1.	27/04/2019	health and eye checkup camp	Total 270 patients whowere mostly above 50 years old	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr. Jayanta Mallick (Chest and Medicine) from Bongaon Dr. J. R. Dhar Sub-Divisional Hospital</li> <li>Dr. S.P. Mondal (Eye Specialist) from Bongaon Dr. J. R. Dhar Sub-Divisional Hospital</li> <li>Dr. S.K. Mondal (General medicine) from Bongaon Dr. J. R. Dhar Sub-Divisional Hospital</li> <li>Dr. T.P. Majumder (Medicine) from Bongaon Dr. J. R. Dhar Sub-Divisional Hospital</li> <li>Dr. Chandan Jha from Ashadeep Trust</li> <li>Dr. Mahua Mondal from Ashadeep Trust</li> <li>Dr. Amit from Ashadeep Trust</li> <li>Sr. Sipsa and Sr. Joyful Mary from Ashadeep Trust</li> <li>Mrs. Sushma from Ashadeep Trust</li> <li>Mr. Rahul from Ashadeep Trust</li> </ul>
2.	21/05/2019	Blood Donation Camp	31	Collaboration with Bongaon Sub-division Hospital, Dr. Gopal Poddar, Medical Officer

S.No	Date	Particulars	Participants	Resource Persons
3.	05/06/2019	World Environment Day Celebration with an awareness programme and Street walk	102	Collaboration with Ananta Drisi Foundation
4.	30/06/2019	International Day against drug abuse and illicit trafficking	83	Collaboration with Child line Mr. Palasendu Roy, Director of Child line, Bongaon Sub-division joined with us and felicitated the awareness programme
5.	27/07/2019	World Nature Conservation Day	110	Mr. Basudeb Pal animated the day's programme with L.C.D.
6.	03/08/2019	Meeting with Centre-Parents	153	Meetings held in all the 7centres
7.	15/08/2019	Independence Day celebration with the 3 centers together at Shantipara Tuition Centre	61	Parents and children of all three centres were present.
8.	05/09/2019	Teacher's Day Celebration	93	Teachers, children and parents participated
9.	12/09/2019	A campaign rally for protect the Nature	52	Done in Shantipara, Paruipara, Uttor Chhayghoria
10.	12/11/2019	Legal Aid Programme	108	Advocate Dipanjay Dutta, Bongaon Court
11.	14/11/2019	Children's Day celebration	137	
12.	25/12/19 to 27/12/19	Various competitions at Christmas like drawing, singing, recitation and dancing competitions	250 students participated in the competitions	December 25 <sup>th</sup> , 26 <sup>th</sup> , 27 <sup>th</sup> children from various center participated in the programme. Prize were gives to winner, 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> position holders
13.	26/01/2020	Republic Day celebration together with 3 centers at Shantipara Tuition Centre	71	



S.No	Date	Particulars	Participants	Resource Persons
14.	01/02/2020	Study tour	71 Students of St. Joseph's main campus, Shantipara, Horidaspur Paschimpara, Uttar Chhayghoria	Started from St. Joseph's Church Visited to Rakhal Das Bandhapadhyaya's house and Nowbhang river
15.	07/02/2020	Annual Sports	71 Students of St. Joseph's main campus, Shantipara, Horidaspur Paschim para, Uttar Chhayghoria	Names of the event: 1. Skipping race 2. Biscuit race 3. Memory game 4. Frog race
16.	06-03-2020	Capacity building training for the village leaders at Dighari	88	Mrs. Niyoti Sarkar, General Nursing and Midwifery Nurses in-charge, Barasat District Hospital
17.	08-03-2020	Women's Day celebration at Dighari (Cultural Programme)	149	Mrs. Nandini Mukherjee, WDO, Bongaon Block
18.	14-03-2020	Health Awareness Camp	80	Mrs. Alpina Biswas, Health Supervisor, Bongaon Block and her team
19.	17-03-2020	World water Day celebration	83 St. Joseph's main centre organized an awareness programme about save water at St. Joseph's Church campus. Horidaspur Paschim para tuition centre also celebrated World water day with an awareness programme at Parui para centre.	

## List with breakdown of Government Schemes availed this year

April, 2019 to March, 2020

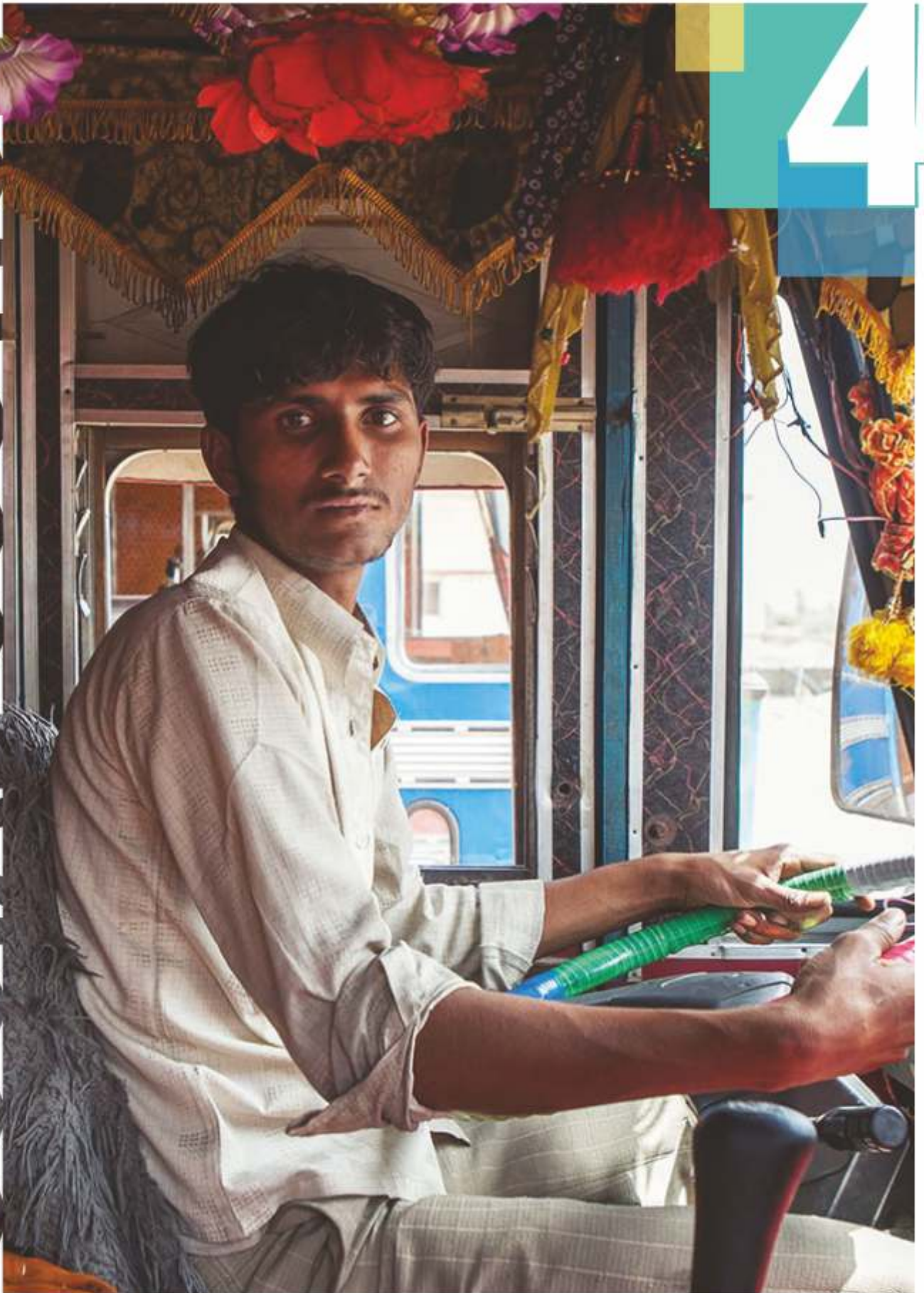
Sl.	Names of the Schemes	Sriman thapur		Haridas pur		Unai		Dighari		Meto-Para		Santipara		Monigram			
		F	R	F	R	F	R	F	R	F	R	F	R	F	R	F	R
1.	Samajik SurakhaYojona (SSY)	250	88	612	500	2	2	20	20	24	10	24	8	2	2	934	630
2.	SwasthaSathiYojona	200	180	70	40	10	5	19	20	20	15	30	24	10	8	359	292
3.	Pension for Handicapped /DisablePersons	50	45	12	5	5	2	12	2	25	1	10	3	3	2	117	60
4.	Pension for widows	40	35	10	4	6	8		5	25	19	12	4	8	6	101	81
5.	Pension for the senior Citizens	16	14	20	6	20	8		10	20	15	22	10	12	7	110	70
6.	Kanyashree	71	40	80	70	6	3	10	9	10	5	24	10	7	4	208	141
7.	Khadya Sathi Yojona		200		40		20		50		10		40			0	360
8.	CookingGas (Direct)		80		6		15		25		10		2		10	0	148
9.	Aiyakashree-students Scholarship		88				8		2		5		10		12	0	125
10.	Low costHouse	45	40	32	22	20	10		54		25	2	2	30	21	129	174
11.	RationCards		225		20		12		54		10		50		15	0	386
12.	Agricultural Crop		8				14				10		20		20	0	72
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>1043</b>	<b>836</b>	<b>713</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>1958</b>	<b>2539</b>

### Development at Community Centre with the help of Government

1. Children's Park at Shantipara
2. ICDS centre at Shantipara
3. Group tuition centre at Horidaspur Paschimpara (Paruipara)
4. Health centre at Horidaspur Paschimpara (Paruipara)











# SAMBANDH

'SAMABANDH', is a Relationship Development Program for truck drivers, designed to facilitate the psycho-social and behavioral changes for the betterment of their professional and personal lives

## Supported by



MAERSK

## Commencement



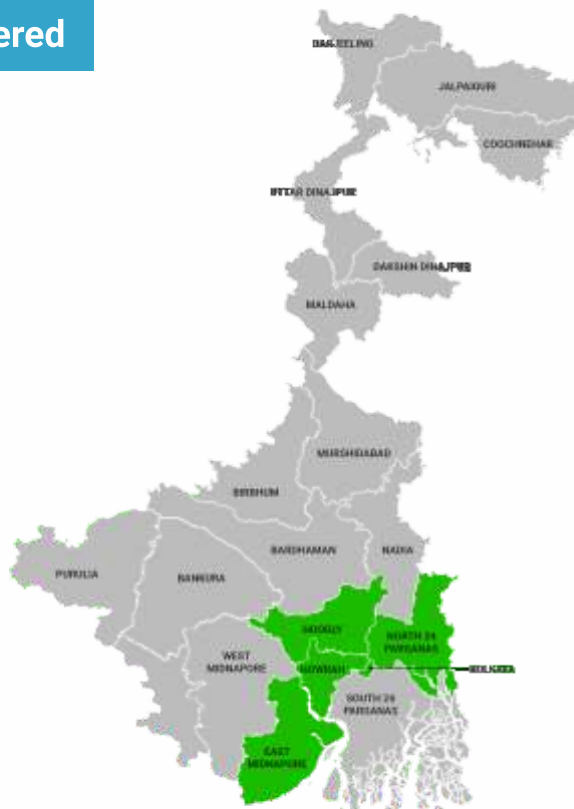
Ongoing since April 2016

## Project Goal



Truck drivers, as beneficiaries' of healthcare activities, skill training and relationship building exercises with the important stakeholders and supporters create an impact in the logistics industry and improve their social and economic security.

## Area Covered



Sl	Name of the District	Name of the Ward / Panchayat	Name of the areas
1.	Kolkata	Ward Nos. 79, 80	New Parking, Coal Birth Parking, Garden Reach, Jainkunj, 15-16 Parking, Dhobiatalo, Bhootghat, Loco shed, Ispat logistics, 5 No Dock gate, The PDP Groups, Paharpur, Phonex Logistics, Tiwari ware house, Krishna Shipping, Koushik Logistics
2.	Howrah	Ward No. 35	Shalimar, Kona parking

SI	Name of the District	Name of the Ward / Panchayat	Name of the areas
3.	Hooghly	Ward No. 12,14 & 18	Alwar Punjab, Dhaka pump, Dankuni parking zone, Himalaya Plaza
4.	East Midnapore	Ward No. 8, 14,17, 20	A.L. Logistics, LOKC parking, Dock gate, MCPI Pvt. Ltd, Punjabi Dhaba, City center, Debhog, Dighashipur, Jhikurkhali, HPL Road,Talpukur.
5.	North 24 Parganas	Ward No. 17 Choyugharia Gram Panchayat, Gopalnagar Gram Panchayat	CWC parking, Petrapole, Satberia parking, SefaliSusoma parking, Jayantipur, Kalitala, Bongaon, Chakdah

<b>Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Direct Beneficiaries</b>	<b>10,154</b>
	<b>Indirect Beneficiaries</b>	<b>50,770</b>

## Project Objectives

### A. Humanitarian Service

- To conduct medical health check up camps for truck drivers in presence of medical practitioners.
- To conduct eye screening camps and distribute spectacles
- To distribute first aid kits among truck drivers
- To conduct HIV/AIDS testing for truck drivers and to link positive cases to Government ICTC/ART Centres for the treatment
- Awareness of drivers on social security schemes through various awareness camps
- To distribute educational kits to the truck drivers children at the tutorial centre

### B. Counseling

- To identify high risk behaviour and provide them with individual and group counselling support
- To conduct wellness sessions like Yoga sessions and educate the truck drivers on basic physiotherapy exercise regime

## C. Advocacy

- To network with organizations, corporate bodies and government for the welfare of truck drivers
- To conduct school sensitization programs to imprint on the young minds that the truck drivers are also nation builders
- To organise special day celebration & social bonding program for truck drivers involving various stakeholders.
- Capacity building of truck drivers on safe driving and traffic rules and regulations through training and to ensure smooth and hassle free transit operation for truck drivers
- Infrastructure development for truck drivers and their family members.

## Staff's Learning and Development Program

- To organize capacity building and skills development program for the project staffs.





## Activities

### 1. Health Camps

- **76 health** checks up camps conducted; **2482** beneficiaries attended the health camps; **1005** truck drivers were identified with ailments, suggestive advices and treatments were recommended to them by medical practitioner.
- **440** truck drivers were benefited from the full body check up camps organized at Goethals Memorial Hospital, Kolkata (June 2019)

### 2. Eye Screening Camps

- 45 free eye screening camps were conducted, 1556 beneficiaries attended these camp.
- **1096** were identified with eye ailments, medicines were provided.
- **680 free spectacles** were distributed among the beneficiaries.

### 3. First Aid kits Distribution

- 751 First aid kits were distributed among truck drivers.

### 4. HIV Screening Camp

- **113** HIV screening camps were conducted by Positive Change programme team members.
- **29** truck drivers were screened "Positive ". **10** were successfully linked to Integrated Counselling and Testing Centre post follow up and **7** out of 10 were put up on antiretroviral therapy. Few drivers chose to take treatment at their hometown.

### 5. Social Security awareness camp:

- Social security awareness was conducted at various humanitarian services camp.



## 6. Counseling and wellness program:

- Counseling truck drivers ( Individual /Group ) help them to navigate difficult life situations such as behavioural issues due to unhealthy lifestyle; food habits, issues related to addiction and emotional issues such as stress, tension, low self-esteem.
- Teaching them various techniques on stress and anger management helps them to learn and cope with their day to day issues.
- **615** truck drivers attended counselling sessions.**106** enrolled in the addiction programme.
- **194** participated in yoga sessions and were benefited. **37** truck drivers actively participated and benefited post physiotherapy session.

## 7. Stakeholders Engagement:

- 279 stakeholders actively participated in meetings conducted to address the issues and challenges related to truck drivers.

### Fleet owners Meet:

In collaboration with PDP group, fleet owners meeting was arranged to sensitize owners, the best practices of transportation industry.**12** members participated.

### Road trip:

- Team participated in the 9 days “Road Trip ” from Pune to Jaipur, an event organized by Joint Action Committee to understand issues and problem faced by truck drivers on road.
- “Ghanti Bajao ”awareness program was launched for four months for the truck drivers post completion of road trip. A dedicated “Helpline number” was provided to truck drivers for any assistance required while being at road.

## 8.Truck drivers' Training Program:

### Road safety awareness program:

- 10 road safety awareness camps were conducted in presence of police, 277 benefited posts attending this camp.

### Logistic Skill Council Training:

- 35 truck drivers participated in the Logistics skill Council training at Petrapole, a program facilitated by National Skill Development Corporation of India. Participant Certificate, insurance coverage of 3 years and monitory support were participant benefits.

## 9. Social Bonding Matches:

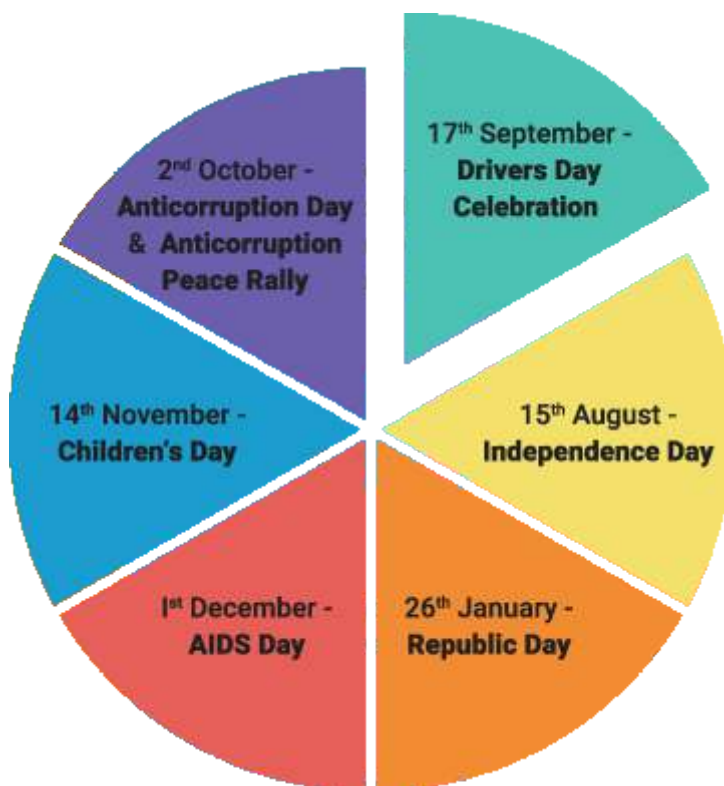
- 4 social bonding cricket matches were conducted at various working points. **221** stakeholders including police, fleet owners, drivers, logistic staff etc. participated in these matches.
- It gave truck drivers the platform to interact and built cordial relationship with other stakeholders. More than 500 spectators participated in these events.

## 10. School Sensitization Program:

- 2 school sensitization programs were conducted. Team invited one of the truck drivers to share his life experience with the students (9 & 10<sup>th</sup> Std.).
- **155** school students including other staff members of school actively participated in the program.

## 11. Special Day Celebration :

- 594 beneficiaries including stakeholders actively participated in the special day celebration program.





### 13. Tutorial centre for truck driver's children:

- 39 children of truck drivers were in attendance at Kolkata Tutorial centre .The centre is run by a trained teacher on a specific week days. The children attending the tutorial centre are provided with required guidance and are being monitored to excel in academic field.

### 14. Staff's Learning and Development Program:

- 3 workshops were conducted to enhance skill and knowledge of the staff.On the jobs training were imparted based on the requirements .



## Impact

- The drivers are now more aware about their legal entitlements and the opportunities presented to them through the various social security schemes.
- Efforts made through the National Conclave, social bonding and other such events have helped to highlight the challenges faced by the truck drivers before the Government departments, mass media and relevant stakeholders.
- Some logistics companies and associations have shown keen interest in working with Sambandh. Sambandh joined the Joint Action Committee and PDP group for a road trip from Pune to Jaipur.
- Counselling has helped the drivers to change different behavioural issues and lifestyle especially with food habits and addictions.
- Some drivers motivated by the role played by Sambandh in their lives are now playing the role of peer motivators.

# Stories of Change

**"I quit alcohol and that was the wisest decision I have ever made. Thanks to Team SAMABANDH!"**

Mr. Bijendar Rajbanshi, 31 years old MACT driver from Bihar.

"My addiction to alcohol had ruined my family life and had caused immense suffering. Today I am a happy man because of Sambandh's timely intervention in my life. On 20.9.2018, I met SAMBANDH team members during my visit at AL Logistics, Haldia. I shared my problem with them. The team was compassionate and kind and they counseled me and helped me for more than 3 months. They suggested various means to quit alcohol. I followed their advice. Today I am no longer dependent on alcohol. I have overcome this addiction with sheer determination, will power and a positive attitude. I have reconciled with my family and my daughter is very proud of me. Thanks to Team SAMBANDH for changing my life and helping me to repair my broken relationship with my family".

## The Way Forward

- Another national conclave to address the current issues and challenges in the transport industry.
- Expansion of SAMBANDH activities in other states of India.
- Motivational meetings with stakeholders and fleet owners.
- Online and offline campaigns (throughout the year).
- Continuation of School Sensitization program in School and colleges.
- Dhaba Adoption in the state and neighbouring states.
- Regular consultation with the Police.
- Capacity building of staff.
- Road campaign within West Bengal to create awareness about the lives of truck drivers.
- Visibility campaign at different Automobile Fairs/Exhibitions.





## Community-based social work with marginalized groups in Kolkata, India.

### Project Period



Till 2020

### Supported by



Caritas Germany

### Area of Operation



KOLKATA TANGRA slum  
(Ward Nos: 56, 57 & 58),  
Kolkata Municipal  
Corporation and SOLO  
BIGHA 'A' and 'B',  
Maheshtala Corporation

### Project Objectives

- Existing Community Based Organizations (SHGs, Women, Children, Youth and SAGs) are further strengthened and the SAGs have network committees on invitation support and the communities having similar problems are assisted to self-organize in order to address their common issues.
- Social Action Groups (SAGs) and Networking Committees have enhanced capacities in community mobilization methods such as social analysis, project management, networking, social legislation, local governing systems and structures, and advocacy mechanisms for addressing their priority issues.
- Networking and Advocacy committees function at a higher level for the purpose of achieving sustained collaborations and partnerships with all the stakeholders in order to address macro issues.
- Project staff have greater knowledge and skills in communication, awareness of social analysis, ability to organize and facilitate CBOs and to provide close accompaniment so as to mobilize larger communities with common interests.

### No. Of Beneficiaries

3170 marginalized families living on the banks of Town Head Cut Channel of Tangra Area of Kolkata Municipal Corporation (Ward 56, 57, 58) and Solo Bigha (Ward 11) in Maheshtala Municipality.

### Project Goal

Improved quality of life for marginalized families living on the banks of Town Head Cut Channel of Tangra Area of Kolkata Municipal Corporation (Ward 56, 57, 58) and Solo Bigha (Ward 11) in Maheshtala Municipality through Community Mobilization.



## ACTIVITIES

### Linkage with Domestic Worker's Union

Among the CBO's, 60% are domestic workers. During their group meetings they have shared the exploitation they face from the people for whom they work. It is here that we introduced them to Ms. Sapna, who shared the benefits of being a member of the **Paschimbanga Griho Paricharika Samiti** (PGPS) union of West Bengal. This is a union of domestic helpers in West Bengal, the only one in the State and it does not have any political affiliation. They are looking into the possibilities of having social security schemes for workers as no such facility exists for the domestic helpers. Their demands include fixation of minimum wages, a welfare board to address their grievances, and their inclusion in government's social security schemes. Currently, there are 8000 members in West Bengal.

During the orientation, the participants listened to the representatives of PGPS with interest, and they actively participated in the discussion by asking relevant questions. After this orientation, as many as 122 domestic workers have registered with PGPS.

### Formation of Task Force

#### **Water & Sanitation, Occupational Hazards, Substance Abuse, Local Governance, Education, Health and Hygiene**

The following task force groups were formed to work on the following priority issues:

**Water and Sanitation:  
17 members**

**Occupational Hazards  
13 members**

**Substance Abuse  
23 members**

**Local Governance  
17 members**

**Education  
14 members**

**Health and Hygiene  
30 members**

## Fight Against Child Marriage

In 2019, there were twelve child marriage cases reported in Tangra and Solo Bigha. Some cases even involved the parents. These were mostly cases where the youth had eloped and got married. Earlier, these numbers were steadily increasing, and the parents were also not responsible enough to stop child marriages. However, due to the continued awareness campaigns and discussions in the group meetings, there has been a phenomenal decline in child marriages. The awareness campaigns are done in collaboration with the local police departments. All twelve cases that were reported, the Police and Child line took strict measures. Now, even the youth are taking the initiative to inform Child line if they notice such cases.

## Awareness Program on Institutional Delivery in Solo Bigha

In Solo Bigha, there is a visible need for documents such as birth certificate, Aadhaar card, pan card etc. Due to the lack of these documents the government does not provide the community with the basic entitlements. One of the reasons for the lack of birth certificates, is that the cases of delivery would take place at home with the help of midwives. However, this has changed in the last year due to the awareness programs organised by the Community Mobilization Project team in collaboration with D.N. De Medical College and Hospital and the National Institute of Homeopathy.



## Awareness Programme on Substance Abuse

There is virtually no part of Tangra and Solo Bigha that has not been affected by drug peddling and drug abuse. Not long ago all forms of substances – dendrite, solution, tablets, ganja and hafim were being freely distributed. During the group meetings, the women and youth shared that this is serious cause for concern. Substance abuse has been reduced drastically, but still continues to be a problem faced by the community on a regular basis. Therefore, through this Awareness Program on Substance Abuse our primary focus was on an innovative, comprehensive, community-based prevention intervention. This awareness programme on substance abuse was aimed at spreading awareness among the people of the community, in order to reduce drug abuse and its after effects, which result in domestic violence, health hazards, various crimes, and even death. In this awareness program we had likeminded organizations who participated and spoke about substance abuse. We are now networking with The Calcutta Samaritans and Ashwash De-Addiction and rehabilitation centre for the rehabilitation of the drug addicts.

## Street Play on Importance of SHGs

SHGs are necessary to overcome exploitation, create confidence for the economic self-reliance of the poor, particularly among the women who are mostly invisible in the social structure. Credit is a major factor in boosting economic development if it is effectively utilized. During their group meetings the members shared their serious concerns such as lack of saving habits and unplanned expenditures as a result of which they are not financially secure, and as a consequence of which, they take loans from micro finance companies at high interest rates (20% to 24%). Not only does this add to the already existing burden, but because of the exorbitant rates there are several cases of conflicts in families due to the constant demand of paying the instalment amount.

So, we shared with the community the importance of SHGs, and networked with the West Bengal State Cooperative Bank in order to generate awareness among the people. For this a number of street plays were organized along with campaigns that effectively spread this message.





## Environmental Awareness

Promoting environmental awareness is an effective way to become an environmental steward and participate in creating a brighter future for the children. Videos were shown to make them understand the importance of trees and how it can help us in our daily needs. Our Director, Fr. Franklin Menezes also shared with the children different issues and motivated them to plant more trees and keep their areas clean. After this event, many children have started tree plantation drives in their locality. The SAG members have also taken up this issue very seriously and discussed it in their meetings. They have decided to keep their areas clean and also work towards reducing air and water pollution.

## Awareness program on Waste Disposal

A critical component in any waste management program is public awareness and participation, in addition to appropriate legislation, strong technical support and adequate funding. Raising awareness about municipal solid waste management is an essential component of effective waste management. Hence, an awareness program was organized by the Social Action group members and the project team in collaboration with Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited. This program included a well organised rally with placards, puppet show and also a collection drive of recyclable plastic by the rag pickers. The rag pickers collected four tons of plastic in a span of three days and this was given to the recycling companies which in turn paid the rag pickers for their work.

## Dengue Awareness Campaign in Solo Bigha

With the aim of combating the deadly disease Dengue, the children from Solo Bigha organized a special Dengue Awareness Campaign. The children vociferated slogans and displayed banners on how to combat Dengue along with the help from the project team. Efforts were made by the community members and the project team to meet the Maheshtala Municipal Corporation to provide the necessary support towards prevention from this deadly disease. The result of this was that for the first time in twenty-five years, the Municipal Corporation sent their staff to spray medicines in the area.



## **Celebrating World Labour Day**

On this day the youth and laborers from Tangra organized a mass awareness campaign in the community. Information on various topics such as labour laws, facilities or schemes for the laborers and rights of the laborers were shared with the help of loud speakers mounted on the auto rickshaw. Most of the laborers are unskilled and are paid less than the minimum wages. They work in deplorable conditions. Due to the lack of safety measures, most of these industries are not able to provide safety and security to their laborers. The purpose of this awareness campaign was to build good relations between the owners of the factories and the laborers so that the owners understand the plight of the laborers and provide them fair wages and better working conditions.

## **Street Play on the Importance of Education by the children from Solo Bigha**

The children from Solo Bigha organized a street play on the importance of education with the help of Urotaar, an organization that specializes in training children to organize and conduct various street plays. The children went through 11 days of training by Urotaar so that they could conduct the street play on their own. The program is always more effective when the members of the community can organize and conduct it. Hence, the children from Solo Bigha performed a street play on the importance of education and it was greatly appreciated by the community. After this program, the parents have become more aware of the importance of sending their children to the local government schools, and are making sure that their children attend school regularly.

## **Awareness on Protection of Environment**

An awareness program for the children was organized by the project team on the protection of the environment. 250 children participated in this awareness program and they were encouraged to plant saplings in their areas in order to combat pollution. The children were excited to take part in this awareness program.

## **Rapport Building with the Owners and factory workers of the Recycling units in Tangra- Football Match**

In order to build a strong rapport with the owners and factory workers of the recycling units in Tangra, the project team organized a football match. This rapport building was a major step to develop a better relationship between the factory workers and the owners of the recycling units. Mr. Subhash Chakraborty, Ward President also attended the program and encouraged the participants. This rapport building will help the community and the project team to convince the owners to provide safety equipment for the factory workers and also reduce the environmental pollution in the area.

## Training on Group Building Process

50 members came from the three new clusters and participated in this training to enhance their knowledge in group building. The session was conducted by the resource person (Mr. Dipak Mondal) and he started by asking important questions like reasons for making this group and their role in the group. Participants shared their views and were able to take part in various group building activities. They said that in order to bring a social change they have to come together and take necessary action. Mr. Mondal trained all the 50 members with different tools and techniques to understand the aim and objectives of the group, its importance, activities and future actions. These participants were from Motijheel, Bibi Bagan and Vaishali.

## Training for the Youth Networking Committee

The Youth Networking Committee went through 5 days of training on team building and conflict management. The objective of the training was to develop YNC into a more effective networking committee so that they can take up major issues of their area and work collectively. It was an interactive session with a lot of group activities and role play. The training was conducted by Mr. Dipak Mondal, Development Consultant.

## PLA Training for the SAG members

The PLA exercise is at the heart of the project, for it is this activity that gives the community members an opportunity to critically review aspects of their neighbourhood and identify areas of concern that need to be addressed, worked upon or advocate for. For this the community mobilization project organized PLA trainings for all the SAG members. This training was conducted by Dr. Ashish Kumar Das, Development Consultant. It was very interactive and he focused on the problem of tree analysis and stakeholder analysis. The group members actively participated in this exercise. The training was conducted for 3 days and specific issues were discussed.

## Training for the Domestic Workers

A training was organized for the Domestic workers of the Tangra community by the District Employment Exchange for Domestic workers. It covered a period of 10 days, and 41 domestic workers participated in this training. The training was imparted on the following:

- House keeping
- First Aid care
- Health and Hygiene
- Basic Computer Training
- Home Decoration
- Spoken English
- General awareness on the Banking system
- How to use a Fire extinguisher



## Exposure Visit to Humana India, Delhi

The community mobilization project team organized an “Exposure Visit” for the staff members to HUMANA INDIA, Delhi on 18th November 2019 and to Chernaya, Delhi for a Cross-learning session on 19th November 2019.

Our Director, Fr. Franklin Menezes was also present for this exposure and interaction. The purpose of this visit was to learn the strategies that Humana is using in the process of community development in the urban context, environmental sustainability, and microfinance.

## Networking with the Councillor of Solo Bigha

It is a very positive sign for the project as well as the people of Solo Bigha, that the Councillor is taking a keen interest in the development of the area. He has personally asked us to collaborate with him in the awareness campaigns on health and sanitation. So far, he has attended one of the awareness campaigns organized by the Community Mobilization Project team. Along with this he has also provided bleaching powder to be distributed in Solo Bigha during one of the campaigns. The Councillor has asked the Maheshtala Corporation to spray mosquito repellent in the area. This has taken place for the first time in Solo Bigha. He is also promoting the use of cotton bags instead of plastic.

## Networking with the Councillor (Shri. Swapan Samaddar, Ward 58)

The members of the Social Action Group and the Youth Networking Committee met the Councillor (Shri. Swapan Samaddar, Ward 58).

There is a serious concern with regard to substance abuse in the area and the youth and SAG members went to meet the Councillor to discuss with him regarding the situation in the area. Also, they invited him for the Substance Abuse program that they organized with the support of the project team. The Councillor was very appreciative and was positive about coming to the program to support the young people.

## Networking with the C.O. of Kolkata Municipal Corporation Mr. Argha Kr. Das

The Social Action group members visited the conservancy officer of the Kolkata Municipal Corporation – Mr. Argha Kr. Das to discuss about the cleanliness drive in the area. This particular visit was for the cleanliness of Kuliatangra, Kilkhana and Mathur Babu Lane. Mr. Argha extended his help and was also pleased to see that the SAG members are willing to keep their area clean.

## Networking with GKB Opticals – CSR Initiative

The community mobilization project team along with GKB Opticals organized a free eye check-up camp for the marginalized section of the society living in Tangra and Solo Bigha. This is part of their CSR initiative. During this eye camp, they checked 158 patients and 73 of them got free spectacles from the company after two months.

## Meeting with the Personnel of the KMC ward office

The members of the women's group of Ward 58 visited the Ward office along with the animators to find out the reason for the delay in the payment of the old age pension and also the widow's pension. They met Ms. Bula Di, the person in charge of the payment of the social schemes. They found out information with regard to the process, why the payment is delayed and also the process of making fresh applications for these schemes. It was a very fruitful meeting as the members are now aware of the processes of filing the applications correctly.

## Networking with West Bengal State Co-operative Bank Ltd

The community shared with the project team the issue of taking loans at a very high interest rate from the money lenders. One of the ways to combat this is that they could start saving in a small way. Looking at this and also the future sustainability of the groups, the project team networked with the West Bengal State Cooperative Bank Ltd. for the formation of Self-Help Groups. The resource person – Mr. Bulbul shared with participants the benefits of forming SHGs. He said that all SHG members should regularly save a small amount of money. The amount may be small but the savings have to be regular and a continuous habit. They learn financial discipline through saving and internal lending. In every meeting, the SHG should be encouraged to discuss and try to find solutions to the problems faced by the members of the group. Individually, the poor people are weak and lack resources to solve their problems. When the group tries to help its members, it becomes easier for them to face the difficulties and come up with solutions. As of now, 4 SHGs have been formed.

## Annual Gathering of the Social Action Group members

The annual gathering of the Social action group members was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2019 to celebrate the success stories of the Social action groups. 143 group members were present for this annual gathering and shared their success stories of how transformation has been brought about through their collective effort.

## Staff Capacity Building on Social Analysis

We organized the Staff Capacity Building on Social Analysis. For this training we invited Ms. Cheryl Francis, Director of Social Work and NSS, St. Xavier's College, Kolkata. It was organized for 4 days and the sessions were structured in a very unique way. It started with emphasis on getting to know yourself and then moved on to social, cultural, economic and political analysis. She included various exercises on social problems and case studies from the community. It was very interactive and the staff acquired a lot of knowledge which they have been using in the community.

## Systematization Workshop

A systematization workshop on a case study (electricity theft in Kulia Tangra) was organized on 21st December 2019, in Seva Kendra Calcutta. Father Joseph Xavier and Mrs. Srividya Sainathan were there to lead the plan of systematization. 9 Social Action group members (Muskan Bibi, Afrin Khatun, Afsana Bibi, Sohail Ali, Samsunnisa Bibi, Sandhya Singh, Baby Begum, Afsana Bibi, Nasima Bibi) and 1 youth group member (Bebi Bibi) were present for this workshop along with the entire community mobilization project team.

## Annual Summit of Urban Poverty Development through Community Mobilization (UPDP)

Seva Kendra Calcutta was glad to host the Annual Summit (UPDP) in Kolkata, West Bengal where all the three Partner agencies along with Caritas Bangladesh came together for the **“Annual Summit of Urban Poverty Development Through Community Mobilization (UPDP) 2019”** with the theme **“The impacts of poor and insufficient water and sanitation facilities and pollution on the urban poor”** from Dec 2nd to 4th, 2019.

The objectives of the meet were as follows:

- To understand the process of empowerment that is taking place at various levels, such as individual, group and community
- To share one's own growth and the process of development
- To be exposed to new realities of the communities in the urban areas
- Cross learning from each other





## Freedom 2020

Organized an event to celebrate Women's Day with 600 women from the community. Women face different problems in their personal and social life, which are often a result of social injustice thriving in our society. This day was celebrated to address these issues, spread awareness on their rights, and motivate them to achieve their dreams.

The following were the guests who graced the occasion:

- Fr. Franklin Menezes, Director, Seva Kendra Calcutta
- Ms. Jessica Gomes Surana, Principal, Loreto Convent Entally, Kolkata
- Smt. Dipali Das, Councilor, Ward 56, Kolkata Municipal Corporation.
- Ms. Lipika Biswas, Mountaineer, Cyclist and a solo bicycle traveller
- Ms. Sunita Kumari, Football Player, National Gold Medallist 2015 and National referee and judge
- Ms. Monika Jana, All India Football Federation & FIFA (International Badge Holder)\
- Dr. Mahua Majumdar, National Institute of Homeopathy
- Ms. Harshamanjari Nanda, Development Consultant
- Ms. Manisha Poilan, Acid attack survivor



## Community Hall An Initiative of the SAG members and the Local Club

The Social Action Group (SAG) of the Muslim Camp organized PLA for two days, after which they prepared a report on the issues and availability of resources in the area. During the course of their discussion it was found out that there is a need for a community hall for the use of 1500 families in this particular area.

The SAG had an intense dialogue with the local administration on this issue. After much painstaking effort, the construction of the community hall was sanctioned by the State Government. In 2018, Mulla Jaan Memorial Welfare Society along with the SAG and local political party members inaugurated the community hall. Another floor was constructed in October, 2018. After this the SAG members initiated their discussion on the maintenance of this hall. The local club and the SAG members concluded that the hall will be maintained by the local club and local party members. The families who will use the hall will have to pay a nominal amount of Rs. 1000/- per day as maintenance charges. This hall will be a multipurpose structure, for various events like marriage ceremonies, death anniversaries and other social activities. The construction and painting of the remaining portion of the hall was completed in December 2019. The hall is now open for the local community.



## New Drainage Line

**Situation:** KULIA TANGRA did not have a proper drainage system. There was no direct connection with any drainage line and all the drainage water would flow to the canal. During the rainy season the area would get flooded with sewage water. This was one of the main issues the area faced.

**Action:** The SAG members of KULIA TANGRA came together for a meeting with regard to this problem and decided to take appropriate action. Ms. Jaya, one of the SAG members, wrote a letter to Mr. Md. Firoz the Team Leader on behalf of the community. Repairing was done in all the damaged areas. However, this did not solve the drainage water problem for a very long time.

Mr. Md Saheb, one of the club members decided that there should be a new drainage system. Mr. Md Saheb therefore revisited the Councillor Mr. Jivan Kumar Saha and had a dialogue with him regarding the issue. The Councillor along with the Kolkata Municipal Corporation officials began the construction of the new drainage line.

**Outcome:** The construction began on 9th of January 2020 and now the drainage is fixed and there is no water logging in the area.



## Adult Education

As we move into the twenty first century, the problem of illiteracy with its global dimensions poses an urgent challenge to the world community. It was found that countries where illiteracy is high, per capita income is low, infant mortality rate is high, life expectancy is low, undernourishment is a serious problem, communicable diseases are widespread and number of persons below the poverty line is much more. In such a context, Adult Education is a dire necessity for poverty reduction. Lifelong learning has to be in close interaction with social change in order to meet the real demand of all.

Solo Bigha is such a community where people have a tendency to have their girl child married at an early age. We find that the women are very enthusiastic when they are approached with regard to the education of their children. However, they will not be able to help their children come out of this cycle of poverty if they themselves are not educated.

Therefore, non formal education for the women can essentially be considered as the need of the hour. We have formed a mother's group to whom we are providing adult education. Through this our primary focus is to give them primary education so that they are able to read and write effectively.

## Increase in the road level at Bazarpara, Solo Bigha

At Solo Bigha, Bazarpara area is prone to water logging. Monsoons are very challenging for the local community. Fortunately, the people of the locality initiated a plan to increase the road level. Every family of the area donated Rs. 500 to get this plan implemented. Eventually, the residents of Bazarpara have successfully increased the road level. This in its turn ensures better conditions than before for them. The area is still muddy but they have been able to control water-logging .to a great extent.

## Education for the Children in Solo Bigha

Education for under privileged children is of utmost importance as these children are deprived of basic things in life because of acute poverty and as a result education has been given less priority in their lives. Since last year, the focus has been to spread awareness among the people through different activities so that they realize the importance of education. Through the community school,63 children have been mainstreamed into different government schools.

These students are taught by two full time teachers supported by the CSR division of SVF Entertainment. Both the teams work together to uplift the community. We have seen a drastic change in the attitude of the people of Solo Bigha. They seem to exude a certain amount of renewed enthusiasm in sending their children to school.



## Liquor Shop Closed in Beth Bagan

Beth Bagan is a small cluster of Tangra where 90% of the people have come from Bihar and Jharkhand. This area is also very famous for timber and has a 99.9% Hindu (Dalit, Harijan, Chamar) population. Most of the families have very low income. Selling of local raw alcohol was very common in this area. Mr. Shyam Chowdhury is a member of the SAG and also the secretary of Beth Bagan Sporting club. He and the other SAG members observed and analyzed this situation. To counter this problem, the SAG members organized many awareness programs in the area. Mr. Shyam also took the initiative and informed the police in order to prohibit the selling of alcohol in two different places. By the end of April, the police stopped the selling of alcohol in the area. They destroyed the illegal liquor shops completely. Now a noticeable change can be seen due to the non-availability of liquor in the area. The area is more peaceful and the SAG members have also observed that there is a drop in the consumption of liquor in their area. The Councillor has established two small parks in the area that was earlier occupied by the liquor shops. This has led to the beautification of the area.

## Networking with Maheshtala Police Station

The Community Mobilization Project team networked with Maheshtala Police station and invited the lady police officers for the Women's Day Celebration. Ms. Pinky Ghosh who is the lady police officer at Maheshtala Police Station, had come to Solo Bigha and spread awareness on domestic violence and trafficking. We are fortunate that we could meet her and discuss how we can improve the situation of the marginalized people living in the slums of Solo Bigha. She was very cooperative and really wants to do her best to help the people in need.



The toxic sludge released by the illegal plastic factories is a common sight in Tangra. Recently, a boy slipped and fell in the Canal and died. This happened due to the fact that there are no walls to protect anyone from falling into the Canal.

The main pumping stations which dispose a major part of drainage flow are located at Palmerbazar, Dhapa, Ballygunge and Chowbhaga. Apart from it, there are also small pumping stations i.e. Birpara, Duttabagan, Lake Town, Topsia, Kulia, Tangra, Chingrighata, Pagladanga etc. which discharge directly into different outfall channels.

Most affected areas are Kuliya Tangra and Beth bagan slum area. There have been numerous discussions in SAG meetings. After repeatedly visiting the Councillor - Mr. Jivan Kr Saha, the people were ultimately successful as he made a visit to the area. After his visit he sanctioned an amount for the construction of a wall. From 2nd February 2020 they started constructing the wall at Beth Bagan and will gradually move towards Kulia Tangra. Now the people feel safe due to the construction of the wall all across the canal in Beth Bagan.





## Child trafficking

Tragic though it is, statistics tell us that as many as one child disappears every eight minutes. India records a high volume of child trafficking. Financial insecurity, helplessness and lack of awareness among the people of slum areas like solo bigha makes this scenario of India more critical.

A couple of years back, child trafficking was very rampant in Solo Bigha. The people from the community were generally predisposed sending their children to earn at an early age which somehow led them to get trapped by the so-called job providers with bad intentions. This situation has been triggered by their poverty and dire circumstances, lack of education and unwillingness to make use of the opportunities of education. As the situation demanded, we managed to create social action groups consisting of women and children to provide them with awareness on the fundamental human rights ensured by UNCRC. A Resource person was invited to take sessions on the right to survival, right to protection, right to participation, right to education and right to development. A consistent effort was made from our side by organizing rallies and taking sessions in group meetings in order to make them understand the importance of education. The SAG supported us completely. The people of Solo Bigha now report any incident which they feel might lead to trafficking by calling the Childline. Even the children know about this and the youth also take initiative to stop any kind of trafficking that can happen by calling Childline.





# 4.3

## Community Empowerment in the Urban Slums

### Project Period



3 years: January 2020 – December 2022

### Supported by



Likvidace Lepry

### Area of Operation



Ward No. 56 & 58 in Kolkata, West Bengal, India

### Beneficiaries



3100 families living in Ward No. 56 & Ward No. 58

### Project Objectives

Improved quality of life for 3100 socially and economically marginalised families living in slums of Kolkata Municipal Corporation (Ward 56 and 58) through community mobilization.

### Project Goal

- 1) 3100 Families will be formed and strengthened into 150 different Community Based Organizations such as Self-Help Groups, children, youth and social action groups.
- 2) 150 CBOs and 5 Social Action Groups (SAGs) will have enhanced capacities in community mobilization methods such as social analysis, project management and networking for addressing their priority issues.
- 3) 2 Networking/advocacy committees will function in the city for achieving sustained collaborations and partnerships with all stakeholders.
- 4) All staff members will have enhanced analytical, organisational and facilitation skills for mobilising the communities with common interests.



## Activities

### Orientation of the project

Seva Kendra Calcutta had organized a one-day orientation programme on the project's overall objectives, goals and the activities for the Community Empowerment in the Urban Slums' project team. The Project Manager conducted this orientation for the Project Coordinator and the Field Mobilizers in the month of February 2020 soon after the approval of the project. The project proposal and the activities were discussed in detail. Initial planning was also done based on the proposal.

#### **Transect Walk:**

The Community Empowerment in the Urban Slums Project Team went for a transect walk along with the local people to understand the existing conditions of the communities, resource mapping and rapport building with the stakeholders of Ward 56 and 58. Transect walk is one of the most participatory methods. The visual focus of the exercise inspires a deep understanding of different concerns. The team visited the entire project area and made maps of the area identifying the local resources available like the health centre, schools, local clubs, Councillor's office, municipal corporation, and colleges. This took place in the beginning of February 2020.

### Formation of Community Based Organizations (CBOs)

After getting all the Information of the communities, the team members began the process of forming the CBOs. Since, being part of the group is the primary way of ensuring proper mobilization, the team had discussions with the stakeholders about the project objectives and goals. The stakeholders were willing to help them form the groups. After that they spoke to the members of the communities who were interested to be a part of these groups. The objective is that when they form these groups, it will be easier for them to tackle the issues they face in their areas like lack of drinking water, hygiene and sanitation, lack of street lights, lack of drainage system and many more. During this period the team members formed 8 different Community Based Organizations of which 4 are Children's group, 3 women's group and 1 youth group in Ward 58.

### Awareness Camp on Menstrual Health and Hygiene

An Awareness camp was conducted by the project team in collaboration with NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HOMEOPATHY on Menstrual Health and proper use of sanitary napkins for the adolescent girls and young mothers. The objective was to educate the girls and women regarding the importance of menstrual health and hygiene. The doctors spoke with the adolescent girls and women on various topics like menstrual health, anaemia, various complications during adolescent period and maintaining personal health and hygiene. The also shared the disadvantages of using cloth during menstruation and the harmful consequences.

**Free Eye Check-up Camp:** The Community Empowerment in the Urban Slums project team in collaboration with GKB Opticals (Corporate Social Responsibility) organized a free Eye Check-up camp for the marginalized section of the community living in Ward 58, Kolkata Municipal Corporation. During this eye camp, the doctors checked 158 patients and 73 received free spectacles from the company after two months.

## Celebrating International Women's Day

Community Empowerment Project Team organized an event to celebrate Women's Day with 600 women from the community. Women face different problems in their personal and social life, which are often a result of social injustice thriving in our society. This day was celebrated to address these issues, spread awareness on their rights, and motivate them to achieve their dreams.

The following were the guests who graced the occasion:

- Fr. Franklin Menezes, Director, Seva Kendra Calcutta
- Ms. Jessica Gomes Surana, Principal, Loreto Convent Entally, Kolkata
- Smt. Dipali Das, Councilor, Ward 56, Kolkata Municipal Corporation.
- Ms. Lipika Biswas, Mountaineer, Cyclist and a solo bicycle traveler
- Ms. Sunita Kumari, Football Player, National Gold Medalist 2015 and National referee and judge
- Ms. Monika Jana, All India Football Federation & FIFA (International Badge Holder)
- Dr. Mahua Majumdar, National Institute of Homeopathy
- Ms. Harshamanjari Nanda, Development Consultant
- Ms. Manisha Poilan, Acid attack survivor





## Monthly Staff Review Meetings

The project team members met in February and March to analyze their activities and planned the quarterly action plan. During these meetings there was cross learning from each other. All the mobilizers and the project coordinator were asked to share their experience and learning. After which the project manager gave his inputs. These review meetings are very crucial to proper implementation and review of the project.

## Work from Home during this COVID 19 Pandemic

On March 24th 2020, the Government of India ordered a nationwide lockdown for 21 days however, it has now been extended till May 31st 2020. However, during this time the Community Empowerment Project team has been utilizing their time by Creating IEC (Information, Education, Communication) Materials which they can use after lockdown on topics such as Family Planning, Importance of Education, Sanitation, Prevention of Dengue, Waste, Management, Water Safety, Prevention of Malaria, Parenting Advice, Food Safety, Internet Safety, Safe Girl Child, Save Trees, Domestic Violence, Child Labour, Women Empowerment, Mental Health, Gender Discrimination, Adult Education, Racism, Over Coming Addiction, Community Nutrition.



## Impact

Since the project started in February 2020, the project has reached the most marginalized people living in Ward 58. The people living there are mostly rag pickers and domestic workers. They have been mobilized to form Community Based Groups. A major aspect of this project is networking with the Government and Corporates. The project team in this short time have developed strong networking with the local Councillor, local clubs, local police and the government departments. They have also developed partnerships with GKB Opticals, FOCUSU, Merck, and National Institute of Homeopathy.

## Stories of Change:

The Project Team in collaboration with MERCK and FocusU organized a program for the most marginalized children living in Ward 56 and 58. MERCK supported the program by providing 20 bicycles to the children so that they can easily commute to their schools. All the staff of MERCK were there and cheered for the kids. The kids were very delighted as it was a complete surprise for them. These cycles were provided to the children of the rag pickers who live in these areas. The children are now able to commute easily to their schools. The project team are in touch with the children and have shared that the parents are very grateful to the donors and Seva Kendra Calcutta. The parents further pointed out that no one cared for their children and their needs but were extremely happy to know that Seva Kendra Calcutta cares for them and their families. Some of the children were also able to visit Seva Kendra Calcutta riding their bicycles which was not possible earlier as the community is quite far from the campus.







# The Common Good Project

## Facilitating Implementation of Pastoral Plan

### Project Period



01 August 2018 -  
31 July 2021

### Supported by



MISSIO, Aachen, Germany

### Area of Operation

#### ARCHDIOCESE OF KOLKATA

Deanery Code	Deaneries	Pastoral Centres			Population Catholic
		Parishes	Sub-Centres	Total	
KD	Kolkata	19	4	23	60,880
HH	Howrah & Hooghly	10	1	11	17,791
MD	Midnapore	15	0	15	20,734
NP	North 24 Pgs.	14	0	14	19,170
		<b>58</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>1,18,575</b>

<b>Total Population</b>	<b>2,51,24,983</b>
<b>Total Area (Sq Km)</b>	<b>29,857</b>
<b>Population Density</b>	<b>841.51</b>

### Project Mandate

The Common Good Project is not a direct delivery development project but seeks to build the capacity of range of stakeholders in the areas of social, economic and spiritual human development through a participatory and facilitation process. The overall purpose is to bring about more effective and vibrant implementation of the social, economic and spiritual concerns of the Archdiocese Pastoral Plan. The project has a full-time team of four persons – one each for Kolkata, Howrah & Hooghly, 24 Parganas (North) and Midnapore.



## Activities & Programs

### 1. Community Visits & Meetings

Of total 63 parish communities all have been visited more than once by the four coordinators to hold meetings to inform of the CGP purpose, understand the needs and priorities of the community and explore ways of working together and plan joint programs.

### 2. Community Workshops & Seminars

A total of 34 community programs were conducted with 1273 participants focused on thematic areas of Government Social Welfare Schemes (GoS), participation in local governance and environment issues, health, growth of Self-Help women's groups, education and livelihoods.

### 3. Government Social Welfare Schemes (GoS)

Though there are a host of poverty alleviation and social security schemes and programs available from both State and Central governments for the vulnerable and underprivileged, people are mostly ignorant about them and very few people even applied for these schemes.

To address this situation a 'Social Welfare Campaign' (SWC) was officially launched on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019 this was followed up with another circular letter where a more detailed 10-Steps plan was outlined. Attractive posters giving eligibility criteria, benefits and supporting documents needed were designed by the CGP team and 540 posters were printed in three languages (English, Bengali and Hindi) and distributed to all 63 parish community centres by November.

As per the plan two orientation and information workshops were conducted at Bandel for 95 participants. Another one day orientation workshop at Santragachi parish for 75 participants conducted to further the Social Welfare Campaign before the pandemic Lockdown started.

As a result of these workshops, 26 persons have volunteered for more advanced Training of Trainers (TOT) as Social Animators for community development and climate mitigation work.

The data for the districts at the end of March 2020 is given below:

Name of Govt. Welfare Schemes	Applied	Received	Pipeline	Rejected	New Potential
1. Widow Pension	101	81	20	1	200+
2. Old Age Pension	208	70	130	8	500+
3. Samajik Suraksha Yojana (SSY)	934	630	284	20	1000+
<b>Total for 3 Schemes</b>	<b>1243</b>	<b>781</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>2000+</b>
<b>%age</b>		<b>62.83</b>	<b>34.92</b>	<b>2.33</b>	
9- Others (including student scholarships)	2200	1758	304	138	2000+
<b>Total for 12 Different Schemes</b>	<b>3443</b>	<b>2539</b>	<b>738</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>3700+</b>
<b>Overall %age</b>		<b>73.74</b>	<b>17.54</b>	<b>8.71</b>	

## 4.Environment & Climate Mitigation

Inputs and discussions on 'Christian Response to Environmental Crisis & Climate Change' has resulted in parish communities taking resolutions to become plastic free, water and energy conservation, and segregated garbage collection and disposal. Some parishes went further and started their own awareness campaigns through posters and notices. One parish has bought sets of utensils and stopped use of single use plastics during parish functions and celebrations.

One parish is working on formulating a "Green Parish Policy" after conducting an Energy Audit with technical support from SKC and is in the process of changing over from 'normal' electrical appliances to energy saving ones like LED lights etc.

SKC has a highly efficient and competent Solar Energy promotion and installation program team and many institutions are availing this expertise from SKC.

## 5. Self-Help Groups (SHGs)

Most people are not aware of the role of such groups and how they can be an asset in the overall community development process not only in savings-credit activities but also in addressing the issues of entitlements and social security.

Knowledge-information inputs are provided at the parish level programs to fill this gap and the response especially from women in rural areas has been very encouraging and CGP is planning on systematic promotion of women based SHGs.

## 6. Commission Level Programs

In accordance with the CGP plans for Year-2 interaction and dialogue was started with the Family, Christian Life and Youth Commission heads to explore potential for conducting joint programs and/or CGP participation in Commission programs to further the larger goals of community unity and service for the common good.

As a result CGP participated in two Christian Life Commission program for educators and school, college teachers and presented the CGP project potential for linking up with educational institutions for climate crisis awareness and mitigation activities.

CGP participated in the Family Commission's Pro-Life Seminars at Kolkata, Pandua, and Howrah. CGP provided assistance in publicity activity and made presentations on CGP role in furthering the larger goals of strengthening family life.

Potentials for participation and joint programs around climate crisis is under discussion with Youth Commission.

The purpose of building working relations with the Commissions is to have Commission heads and members give time as Resource Persons for training of Social Animators through the TOT program that the CGP is designing and will undertake at the Zone levels.

## Conclusion & Way Ahead

The Common Good Project is engaging with different stakeholders, beneficiaries and implementing groups with the purpose of:

- First identifying areas of capacity enhancement through a participatory and interactive process;
- Then design and facilitate an appropriate capacity building and skills enhancement process (trainings, exposures etc.) in the identified areas either directly or through linkages with external resource persons and organisations.

## How We Can Work Together

1. Facilitate leadership, capacity building for community members and Volunteers
2. Design & conduct Social Animator volunteers' formational and trainers training at Zone level :-
  - Areas of Knowledge & Capacity Enhancement
  - Environment & Climate Change – Working towards forming 'Green Parish'
  - Local Governance – Social security & Entitlement to Govt. Schemes
  - Community Organisation – SHG, CBOs & Livelihood Security
3. Train 100 Volunteers from 12 Zones = 1200 trained persons in 2 years.

The CGP team of four persons has received tremendous support, cooperation, encouragement and guidance from community and people at all levels in the archdiocese and we are hopeful of together achieving what has been planned.







# The Ministry of Domestic Workers

The Ministry of Domestic workers forum was formed in 2014 to help the domestic workers improve their self-perception, self-esteem, their rights and duties and develop their confidence to be able to assert their rights and needs effectively.

## Date of the Project



Ongoing since  
October 2014

## Location



Archdiocese of Kolkata,  
West Bengal

## Area covered



Kolkata Deanery

## Project Goal



Empower domestic workers to have high self-esteem, strong sense of identity, value their dignity and improve their personal and professional life

## Project Objectives

- To create awareness on issues concerning human dignity and respect
- To provide Pastoral care and Counselling
- To bring domestic workers together for socialisation and to learn from one another
- To strengthen interpersonal relationship among the workers and employers
- To provide opportunities to exercise their hidden abilities and gain confidence

## Number of direct / indirect beneficiaries

### Total No. of Domestic Workers as December 2018

Date	Activities	Male	Female	Total
12 <sup>th</sup> May 2019	May Day St. Thomas Church	8	62	70
30 <sup>th</sup> June 2019	Get together Christ The King Church Park Circus	4	41	45
4 <sup>th</sup> August 2019	Meeting of Core group with Archbishop at Archbishop's House	3	9	12
11 <sup>th</sup> August 2019	World Indigenous Day St. Thomas Church	10	30	40
29 <sup>th</sup> September 2019	World Migrants and Refugees Day St. Thomas Church	3	14	17
8 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	Christmas Get together St. Thomas Church	17	123	140
9 <sup>th</sup> February 2020	Annual Picnic to Kestopur, Eco Park	8	30	38
15 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	Pilgrimage to Bandel	3	19	22

## Activities

### Programmes Conducted:

- Awareness Programme on May 12
- The International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples on August 09
- World Day of Migrants and Refugees on September 29
- Christ the King Procession on November 24
- Christmas Get-together on December 08

### Monthly Meetings

The meetings were held at Middleton Row with at least 20 participants on an average in attendance during these meetings

### Visits

Visits were made as often as possible - at least once in 2 to 3 months. The members are able to easily connect with the Programme Coordinator over the phone.

### Counseling

Counseling was regularly provided to those in need

### Contacts and survey

Regular efforts are made to reach out to the newcomers and regular survey exercises are conducted for the purpose

### Pastoral Care

Pastoral care is an integral part of all the activities

### Annual Picnic

On 9<sup>th</sup> February 2020 the group went to Kestopur Holy Family Church and ECO Park.

### Celebrations

12<sup>th</sup> May as May Day and Christmas Get-together on 8<sup>th</sup> December were memorable days

## Accounts

Programs were supported by **Local Contribution** from domestic workers and well wishers.

Date	Programme	Prev. Bal.	Income	Total Income	Total Exp.	Bal.
12 <sup>th</sup> May 2019	May Day St. Thomas Church	201.00	9650.00	9851.00	9450.00	401.00
30 <sup>th</sup> June 2019	Get together Park Circus	401.00	1400.00	1801.00	1400.00	401.00
11 <sup>th</sup> Aug 2019	World Indigenous Day	401.00	4150.00	4551.00	4060.00	491.00
29 <sup>th</sup> Sept. 2019	World Migrants and Refugees Day	491.00	1000.00	1491.00	1000.00	491
8 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	Christmas Get together St. Thomas Church	491.00	8751.00	9242.00	8675.00	567.00
9 <sup>th</sup> February 2020	Annual Picnic to Kestopur, Eco Park	567.00	12200.00	13367.00	13350.00	17.00
15 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	Pilgrimage to Bandel	17.00	1480.00	1497.00	1360.00	137.00

## How has the project contributed?

- Sensitized the members about their rights and duties towards their employers.
- Soft skills training employers and companions in the group
- Inculcate responsibility towards their faith practices and towards the forum activities
- Channelize pastoral care through several programs and activities during the year
- Provide counselling during their difficult times
- Workers have developed confidence to assert their needs, rights and requirements
- Ensured no child labour







# THE EQUAL COMMUNITY PROJECT

**Supported by**

**Edmund Rice Foundation, Australia**

## Area of Operations

Approach	Place	Villages/Area Covered
Community Approach	Maliyada Sundarpur Coaching Centre, Dantan 1 Block, West Midnapur District	Villages covered: Maliara, Kakrajit, Monoharpur, Benadubi, Bejda, Gonpoda
School Approach	Hijli High School, Kharagpur	Areas Covered: Hijli, Talbagicha, Salua, Rabindrapally, Jholi, D.V.C, Barbetia

## No. of Beneficiaries: Families/ children/male/female etc.

### Direct Beneficiaries



**Total Families: 56**



**Children: 76**



**Male: 74**



**Female: 87**

**Total Population: 237**

### Indirect Beneficiaries



**Total Families: 565**



**Children: 603**



**Male: 829**



**Female: 834**

**Total Population: 2266**

## Project Goal

A self-reliant community through equal participation of men and women to introduce a sustainable, non-violent, and equal society for girls and women

## Project Objectives

- To prevent violence and discrimination against women and girls by working with men and boys.
- To change behaviour of men and boys progressively at the level of individual, household, community and society.
- To cover issues those are relevant and applicable to the lives and experiences of programme participants, their families and community.

## Activities

### Conducting the session as per the ECP curriculum

- 36 sessions were conducted on the 'ECP Curriculum' for 26 rural boys and 30 urban boys between age group 12-17 years.
- The ECP module covered the following topics:-
  - Gender concept and role
  - Case studies on gender roles to check their response
  - Adolescent changes and gender differences followed by team work
  - Gender Discrimination and Gender Equality
  - Universal Declaration of 'Human right', activities on the Imaginary country- identifying some human rights in an unknown land, when human rights are denied- case stories



Empathy- stepping in others shoes or situations, (Difference between empathy and sympathy) and case work  
Relationships and healthy relationships  
Solving complicated case stories on gender disparity  
Solving gender and health question sheet  
Relationship map  
Violence and Manhood.

## Regular exercise and activities related to the module

These included: debates, group discussion, preparation and presentation of group reviews, developing IEC materials and individual sessions to illustrate and elaborate the discussed subject and to create interest in the students.

## Procedure of enrolment, parents meeting and home visits

The following steps were taken before enrolling a student for the programme:

- The parents were contacted over phone or through home visits
- Guardian meeting was conducted and the family details were collected for each student.

## Cricket match was conducted for the rural boys

Cricket match was held to remove the fear and shyness- a common trait in village students and encourage their wholehearted participation.





## Impacts

- The boys are very punctual, regular and active for the session.
- There has been a remarkable change in their thoughts, mindset, behaviours etc. over a period of time since the beginning of the project
- Boys had been unexposed to the larger social milieu and so the mindset was narrow and negatively stereotyped towards women. This project has managed to change that in the boys who have been a part of this programme.
- 12 boys from the groups regularly help their sisters in cleaning, cooking and washing.
- 3 boys serve food to their mothers during lunch or dinner.
- 8 boys have promised that they would not join the company of boys, who engage in eve-teasing, and would confront such cases, should it happen in front of them.

## Challenges Faced

- Students studying in the government schools had few school days and so conducting sessions as planned became difficult and impossible to achieve.
- Students were unavailable during vacation and so conducting sessions during the period was a challenge.

## Stories of Change

### From being served to serve: Sayan's Journey

Sayan Dutta, a 16 year old boy of tenth standard was the only son. His grandparents mollycoddled him and raised him up as a lazy, insolent and arrogant boy. He did not hesitate at all when he argued with his mother and sister. The programme helped him to do 180 degrees turn. The same cocky Sayan has started to wake up early and share in household chores, much to the shock, disbelief and disapproval of his patriarchal grandmother. He maintained his stand in the face of disapproval and continues to show respect towards women. Sayan's mother, however, is on top of the world seeing her son change for the better.









## UTTORAN-II

# Empowered Communities Foster Climate Adaptive Agriculture And Livelihood Phase II

### Project Period:



January 2019-  
December 2020

### Supported by



Caritas India(MISEREOR  
IHR HILFSWERK)

### Area of Operation:



20 villages of 2 GPs  
3 no. of Borokhakri GP  
2 no. of Chandabilla GP  
in Nayagram Block of  
Paschim Midnapore &  
Jhargram district of West  
Bengal

### Project Goal

850 poor households of 20 villages are able to secure required nourishment for themselves at all times

### Project Objectives

- Farmers' and wage laborers' organizations (Farmers' Producer organizations) make use of the possibilities to participate and engage in existing social programmes
- Food and Livelihood Security is enhanced by actively promoting Climate Resilient Agriculture and Livelihood programme
- Community groups/committees/organizations of 20 villages have increased their ownership and have extended their support to management of village level governance and administration

### No. of Beneficiaries: Target households (HH) 850

THEMATIC AREAS	Direct Beneficiary			Children			Indirect Beneficiaries			Children		Grand Total	
	Families	Male	Female	Boys	Girls	Total	HH	Male	Female	Boys	Girls	Families	M+F+CH
Project													
Livelihood										148	132	HH	Populations
Uttoran II	850	1176	1165	512	494	3374	275	484	419	148	132	1125	4530

### Activities conducted during the year

**Outcome 1:** By December 2020, 40 % (340 of 850) socially disadvantaged / marginalized HH of 20 villages of Nayagram block of West Midnapore (Jhargram) district in West Bengal will have increased access to government resources /schemes /entitlements.



Sl.	Activities
1.	Formation & strengthening SHGs and Farmers Groups in 20 villages were held to inform the availability of government schemes to the families in SHGs and farmers' groups and persuade them to avail of the same. 31 meetings were held. 284 men and 512 women participated.
2.	Awareness on MGNREGA, KCC, crops Insurance, Old age pension, widow pension disable certificate, Ration card Lokha Shilpi Bhata, Job Card etc was conducted. 60 meetings were held. 1120 men and 1030 women participated..
3.	Interface meeting with line department (GP) was conducted to support the Target HH to avail existing Government facilities. 1 meeting was held. 34 men and 12 women participated.
4.	Interface meeting with line department (Block) with ADA was conducted to supports the Target HH to avail existing Government facilities meant for marginal farmers/CBOs. 2 meetings were held. 12 men and 4 women participated.
5.	Facilitate linkage meeting with NABARD and Farmers groups at district level that would help them to visit the office directly and avail the facilities. 2 meetings were held. 14 men and 4 women participated.
6.	Formation of ToTs (Training of Trainers) of farmers group and SHG in 2 GP (Volunteers approach for Sustainability) were conducted to train ToTs farmers groups on sustainable agricultural practices and use of local seed varieties those are climate resilient. 2 meetings were held. 74 men and 14 women participated.



Sl.	Activities
7.	Quarterly Review meeting with ToT groups at GP level was conducted to follow up the activities of ToT groups at village level and motivate ToTs to include more farmers to adopt sustainable agricultural practices and provide inputs on Water Management. 4 meetings were held. 45 men and 18 women participated.
8.	Regular visits / meetings with the village and block level PDS monitoring committee, SHG, FC etc. were conducted to strengthen the volunteers & SHGs for smooth functioning of PDS facilities and avail the approved food and non-food commodities. 60 meetings were held. 445 men and 128 women participated.
9.	Linkage meetings with skill development / vocational training institutes (VTI) / line departments for target groups (FC and SHG) were conducted to train the selected families on mushroom cultivation which would help them secure alternative livelihood. 1 meeting was held. 12 men and 23 women participated.
10.	Formation & Strengthening of village information center in five villages were conducted to train volunteers on leadership and documentation/record keeping and also to introduce them with the line department GP& Block level officials so that they could collect various scheme-related forms that would be kept at the Village Information Centres (VIC) for the villagers' use. 5 meetings were held. 285 men and 125 women participated.
11.	Follow up training for selected Community representatives on record keeping and collection of various form was held so that the volunteers, office VICs received training on leadership and record keeping. 3 meetings were held. 38 men and 56 women participated.
12.	Monthly review meetings were conducted to review the monthly action plan and the achieved activities, the challenge faced by the team, learning and planning. 12 meetings were held. The Director, the Project Coordinator and 4 Animators were part of the meetings.
13.	Facilitate 20 PLA to identify need and resources of the community traditional seeds, and traditional practices, identification of resource person, skilled person, institution, and plot & farm calendar and compare the expenditure of chemical base agriculture practices and traditional agriculture practices and adapt low cost option that is primarily environmental friendly. 20 meetings were held. 185 men and 145 women participated.
14.	GP level networking meeting for capacity development of the target community was held to train target HH on farm and non-farm base activities (Rice processing, Sal leaves plate making, Animal husbandry, marketing of their produce, rain water harvesting, preparation of organic manure and marketing etc). 1 meeting was held. 9 men and 6 women participated.
15.	Block level networking meeting for capacity development of the target community was held in order to train target HH on organic farming, seasonal vegetable cultivation, nutrient and pest management, support to avail Seed & manure form different department. 1 meeting was held. 32 men and 5 women participated.

## Result/ Outcome 2:

By 2020, 40 % (340 of 850) marginal Households of 20 villages in Nayagram Block of west Midnapur (Jhargram) of WB will produce good food for their own use through climate adaptive sustainable agriculture and livelihoods.

Sl.	Activities
1.	Interface meeting with the line department (GP) was held to share the project proposal and activities with the PRI members and request them to support the Target HHs to avail existing government facilities and involve the target HHs in the social program. 4 meetings were held. 34 men and 12 women participated.
2.	Interface meeting with line departments at Block level was conducted with ADA to share the project objectives and build rapport between farmer groups and the Uttoran team. 2 meetings were held. 12 men and 2 women participated.
3.	Exposure visit to different demo plot for farmers and SHG groups was conducted to learn about the climate adaptative agriculture practices and techniques. However, the meeting could not be conducted as the sanction budget was not sufficient.
4.	Interface meeting with line departments for promotion of Climate Adaptive Agriculture practices (CAAP) was conducted to share the concept of climate- adaptive sustainable agricultural practices and the ADA will help to promote it also and to provide technical support and seed and manure for the farmers. 1 meeting was held. 3 men and 2 women participated.
5.	Orientation on CAAP for targeted farmers was conducted to teach farmers the use of traditional seeds and varieties and practice participatory water governance, use local paddy seed varieties. 20 meetings were held. 188 men and 128 women participated.
6.	Orientation on soil health management, disease and pest control measures/ practices was conducted. 11 meetings were held. 245 men and 126 women participated.
7.	Training on CAAP for project core staff by the Caritas team was conducted to train on the concept of climate adaptive agriculture practices (Climate Vulnerability and Capacity analysis) and to guide the team for proper implementation of CAAP at the village level. 1 meeting was held which was attended by 1 man.
8.	Follow up ToTs meetings on CAAP were conducted which will play a vital role in the village to motivate farmers to adopt climate-adaptive agricultural practices. 20 meetings were held. 194 men and 249 women participated.
9.	Promoting dialogues between old and young on environment conservation and traditional agricultural practices and methods for promotion were conducted. 20 meetings were held. 428 men and 164 women participated.
10.	Revisit of PLA was conducted to follow up the activities of traditional practices and resources managed by the farmers and motivate more farmers to use local resources for their livelihood, which is environmentally sound. 20 meetings were held.
11.	Collaboration workshops with Line department (ADA) to promote CAAP at Block level was conducted to promote Climate adaptive sustainable agriculture practices. 1 meeting was held. 30 men and 5 women participated.
12.	Exhibition to promote organic produce, traditional seeds, implements was conducted. 1 meeting was held. 22 men and 46 women participated.



13.	Promotion of community seed fair (in 20% villages) was conducted to display the local varieties of seeds that are climate resilient in 5 VICs. 1 meeting was held. 68 men and 43 women participated.
14.	Training village youth and volunteers on soil health, temperature and rainfall recording (in 10% of villages). 1 meeting was held. 48 men participated.
15.	Formation and consolidation of community seed bank (traditional seeds and varieties) was conducted so that the farmers can avail of traditional seeds, which are more climate resilient, and they can exchange from the seed bank and practise using local paddy seed varieties, based on the inputs from the community's seed-bank members. 5 meetings were conducted. 47 men and 83 women participated.
16.	Participatory water management models on irrigation and drinking water in 10% villages were conducted which would help the communities develop a model on irrigation and drinking water. 1 meeting was conducted. 22 men and 4 women participated.
17.	Organized 6 models to promote appropriate agronomic models in 10% villages. 6 meetings were held. 33 men and 60 women participated.
18.	Organized four camps to promote of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in 4 villages so that farmers can learn to prepare bio pesticides which will be eco-friendly and prevent of health hazards. 4 meetings were conducted. 126 men and 245 women participated.
19.	Organized four camps in four villages to promote Integrated Nutrient Management (INM). 4 meetings were held. 106 men and 265 women participated.
20.	Function linkages with different stakeholders for input support (training, seeds, tools and techniques, market network) was conducted. 1 meeting was held. 22 men and 3 women participated.

### Result/ Outcome 3:

40 % of 850 community groups/committees/organization of 20 villages have increased ownership and support management of village level governance and administration.



## Activities:

Sl.	Activities
1.	Organize institutions through exchange of information, input on registration procedure, cross learning meetings was conducted. 1 meeting was held. 22 men and 4 women participated.
2.	Revisiting micro plan in 10 villages to identify potential gaps so that the communities will prepare a village-wise micro plan and submit at the gram sansad meeting. 10 meetings were held. 127 men and 195 women participated.
3.	Follow up action plan in 10 villages was conducted with the village committee members about the action plan which was submitted in the line department. 10 meetings were held. 148 men and 165 women participated.
4.	Interface meeting with different stakeholders was conducted to market their produce and loan seed and agricultural equipment etc. 1 meeting was held. 28 men and 6 women participated.

## Impacts:

As per project Uttoran II, the target households/families are 850 in 20 villages out of which at least 40% of the target households (850 of 40% is 340) should benefit through government resources/schemes/entitlements.

In order to achieve the desired outcome, a process was followed namely, through communities awareness/orientation/training, Dialogues with the different stakeholders and line departments, promoting volunteering approach in the villages by the communities' leaders and sharing know-how through farmer to farmer learning:

- 435 families/HHs have become aware of village development plan through PRI members and village committee members.
- 67 HHs submitted applications and availed (22 job cards, 2 disabled certificates, 41 new ration cards and 2 trade licenses etc.).
- 145 HHs linked with Sastho Sathi Card (medical card) free life coverage up to 5 lakhs
- 29 needy aged people linked to the monthly pension scheme.
- 95 HHs were linked to Lightship Batha.
- 45 farmers were linked to Krishok Bondhu schemes of Rs. 5,000/- annually for each farmer
- 57 women farmers applied and received Kissan credit cards.
- 59 ToTs were conducted for implementation CAAP in project villages.
- 65 farmers availed of facilities such as seeds, organic manure and pesticides (mini kit) from the block (ADA).
- 90 farmers were involved in the Joint Liability Group (JLG) and formed 18 groups in the project area.
- 25 families have submitted the applications to change the land titles because the land title remained registered in the name of the deceased and had not been changed. So far, 14 land titles have been transferred to the legal heir.

- 65 farmers participated in the Block level seminar/workshop on organic farming and its best practices
- 322 Farmers have identified key problems related to climate change impact affecting their crop production and income. 322 lead farmers have initiated CAAP to improve their production and income
- 44 active women farmers/women-lead farmers have emerged in the project area.
- 44 farmers are in the process of learning exchanges by farmers' initiative (F-F).
- 71 Farmers who have diversified their income by adopting diversified livelihood measures.
- 28 HHs have built compost pits for their nutrition garden.
- 374 target HHs have cultivated nutrition gardens.
- 78 families were included in the SHGs and seven new Self-Help Groups were formed and linked to the bank.
- 16HHs adopted the rain-water collection techniques for irrigation facilities.
- Community assets were created in project villages with lead role by community based organisations (CBOs) through the government support (2 ponds in Dulki and Kiyajhuria village and one drinking water facility at Dulki village)
- 11 Community Based Organizations (CBOs) increased their income by Income generating activities (IGA) - (4 CBOs in farming, 4 CBOs in Goatery, 2 CBOs in Piggery, 1 in Poultry)

### **Stories of change: When life gives you lemons, make lemonade!**

The marginal rain-fed farmers of 2 No. Chandabilla GP of Nayagram Block have borne the brunt of climate change. These farmers unequipped with irrigation facilities are completely dependent on the monsoon rains. However, the rain gods have turned their backs on these farmers for quite some time now. Poor rainfall during the monsoon seasons every year has sounded a death-knell for their hope to a better future. The only recourse available to them other than to fall victims to starvation and death is to find work in the nearby villages or go into the forest to gather forest produce. The collection of sal leaves, medicinal herbs and plants, edible mushrooms, mahua flowers and seeds and other such produce from the forest is barely enough to feed their families. Since last 15 years, farmers in Kadokota village were using hybrid paddy seeds to derive maximum yield, also used high dose of chemical fertilizers and chemical pesticides.

Project Uttoran's team-member conducted an orientation meeting on CAAP in Kadokota village. In the meeting, farmers highlighted the challenge to procure local varieties of paddy seeds for cultivation. The team members informed them about the availability of such seeds with few farmers in Dulki and Gokhurpal village. The seeds are stored in the Dulki Community Seed Bank. Mr. Biswanath Singh and Khokan Singh have five bigha land which had been unsurprisingly vacant for the last 10 years due to lack of water and irrigation facilities to grow crops. Paddy cultivation required the field to remain submerged under water. Supply of such huge amount of water was a far cry in the village with poor rainfall and other irrigation challenges. The canal nearby was always dry and the sole hand-pump was almost 60-70 meters far from the field. The only other solution was to use the land to cultivate vegetables.



During the meeting, the project staff-member motivated the farmers to come-up with a viable solution. After some deliberation, the group zeroed down on using the hand pump for irrigation. Mr. Kokhan, however pointed out that the process of watering the fields using the hand-pump will waste a lot of water in the process of carrying it from the hand pump, 60-70 meters away, to the field. Finally, they decided to seek assistance from Seva Kendra Calcutta, to design a reservoir to store water for the vegetable cultivation. The meeting ended with an assurance from the project staff member that the matter will be taken up with his immediate project supervisor. Another meeting was set-up between the villagers and the Uttoran team. After much discussion, the villagers urged the team to assist them to construct the reservoir as that was the most feasible solution at hand. The team assured them of support after consulting the project donor. The team received the approval to use Rs. 4,000/- to purchase 10 pieces of RCC ring. The cost of labour, i.e. Rs. 12,000/- will be invested by the farmers owning the land.

The work was completed within two weeks. The vacant land today has turned green with bitter gourds and bottle gourds grown on the 2 bigha land. An initial investment of Rs. 12,000 and an additional assistance of Rs. 4,000 provided to the farmers, Mr. Biswanth and Mr. Kokhan made an income of Rs. 50,610/- in a short period of time and is continuing to provide them with sustained income.



# 5.2

## BEAUTY AND WELLNESS PROGRAMME

### Project Period



Ongoing since 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2020

### Supported by



Smile Foundation

### Area of Operation:



Ward Number 29, 53, 54, 56, 57, 58, 59 and 60 of Kolkata Municipal Corporation

### Project goal



Primary goal is to make the most marginalized unemployed people employable.

### Project Objectives

- The Program is divided into three terms and each term is for a period of 4 months.
- Each term consists of 400 hours of training and will have 45 trainees. The term with 45 students will be further divided into two batches of 4 hours each (morning and afternoon) for 5-6 days in a week.
- During the course, workshops will be organized and experts will be called from reputed salons to instruct, advise and motivate the students.
- Career counselling during the course of training will also be provided to all the trainees and placement assistance will also be provided.

### No. of Beneficiaries

#### Direct Beneficiaries

49 female students

#### Indirect Beneficiaries

250 family members

### Activities conducted

The Beauty and Wellness Programme officially commenced on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2020. This programme is for women who are between the ages of 18- 32 years. However, an exception was made to this rule by admitting a highly motivated and passionate transgender into this programme so that he could be empowered to work in the mainstream society.

The mobilizer was very thorough while selecting the candidates in order to adhere to the guidelines set by the partner. A total of 49 candidates have been enrolled for the programme (first term). These 49 students have been further divided into two batches- Morning batch and Afternoon batch where the session is conducted for a time period of 4 hours each. The inauguration of the programme was held on 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2020 and thereafter the classes commenced.



On 7<sup>th</sup> of March 2020, Mr. Md. Mahfooz Sahar, Zonal Business Development Executive (East) in Lakme Lever Pvt. Ltd. conducted a motivation workshop. He gave the students an overview about the *beauty* industry and made them aware that the beauty industry doesn't only pertain to beauty salons but also includes beauty products and skin care solutions. He covered several pertinent topics namely, customer relationship, work ethics, personality and hygiene. He also spoke about the various beauty products that are currently available in the market. He asked the students to become increasingly knowledgeable about various products and services that they would be eventually providing to their customers. He also spoke on the future prospects in the beauty industry and the specialization in hair, skin or makeup one can take up later on.

The daily classes that were conducted were on Beauty, Spoken English and Personality Development/ Life Skills. The onslaught of Covid-19 driven lockdown stalled these classes but with the commitment shown by the trainers, the same were resumed online through zoom application. Presently, 25-28 students attend the classes regularly.

## Impacts

The programme is in its early stages to provide a larger picture of the actual impact. However the single-most factor, motivation and objective behind driving this project is to make the marginalized unemployed people employable, financially independent and empower them with skills and knowledge in the beauty segment with confidence derived from sustained formation through basic spoken English and personality development classes.







## COMPUTER TRAINING CENTER

### Project Period:



Ongoing since 15<sup>th</sup>  
Feb 2018

### Supported by



Seva Kendra Calcutta

### Area of Operation



Tangra, Bibi Bagan, Beth Bagan, Topsia, Motijheel, Muslim Camp, Kulia Tangra, Park Circus, Dhapa, Santoshpur

### Project goal



Young adults and children become computer literate and skilled in the use of the ever-evolving information technology for optimal efficiency and thereby improve their job prospects.

### Project Objectives

- All the children and young adults in the neighbourhood slums are aware about the computer course conducted by Seva Kendra Calcutta.
- Increase the enrolment to the course through systematic mobilization in the area.
- The admission procedure is simplified and streamlined.
- Examinations and assessment tests based on theory and practical are held systematically after the completion of the course.
- The distribution of certificates is held regularly after the course.

### No. of Beneficiaries

**Total number of students: 63**

**Total number of male: 15**

**Total number of female: 48**

### Activities

- ⤴ Systematic mobilization work done in 10 areas in the locality.
- ⤴ There have been **3 batches** of training conducted to date:
  - May – Aug Batch – 12 Students (Male- 4, Female- 8)
  - Sep - Dec Batch – 25 Students (Male – 4, Female – 21)
  - Jan – April Batch – 26 Students (Male – 7, Female – 19) (Ongoing)
- ⤴ A total of six examinations were conducted in 3 batches (Theory – 3, Practical – 3)
- ⤴ Certificate Distribution Program conducted at the end of each batch.

## Impact

- 37 students have completed the training and earned the certificate.
- Few students have got job placement due to their computer skills they had acquired through the training.
- Creation of opportunity for the underprivileged young generation to become employable in the future.
- Many students have expressed their interest to advance their computer knowledge and skills.





## Smile Twin e-Learning Programme (STeP)

### Project starting date



August 2015

### Supported by



Ericsson

### Area of Operation:



Motijheel, BB Bagan, Belegghata, Park-Circus, Tangra, Topsia ets.

### Project goal



The goal of STeP is to provide a platform, where the marginalized youth can enhance and nurture their skills, boost their confidence and become independent.

### Project Objectives

Provide employability training to a minimum of 40 youth per batch for a period of 4 months in 5 subjects namely Spoken English, Basic Computer, Basic Retails & Management, Personality Development & Financial Literacy.

Provide a realistic idea about different jobs and their responsibilities by conducting Career Counseling Programmes (CCP) with the help of professionals from different companies.

Provide placement opportunities by organizing interviews conducted by professionals from various companies in the center itself.

### Beneficiaries

No. of Beneficiaries: Children	
Gender	Total Candidates Trained - 120
Male	70
Female	50
No. of Beneficiaries: Families	
Gender	Total number of indirect Beneficiaries 500
Male	300
Female	200

### Impact

On completion of the course 75% of the candidates got placement in various sectors.



## Challenges of fulfilling the 45 students

The biggest challenge we are facing is the skill development programme being offered by the Govt. of India where they are issuing a certificate as well as amount of money to each candidate. We are competing with places like Don Bosco, AG, Mary Ward, etc. All within the same area.

Due to the above reasons students are limited.

Continuous Mobilization in the same surrounding areas are yielding much smaller numbers now.

## Highlight of the project during 2019-2020

### Digitalization

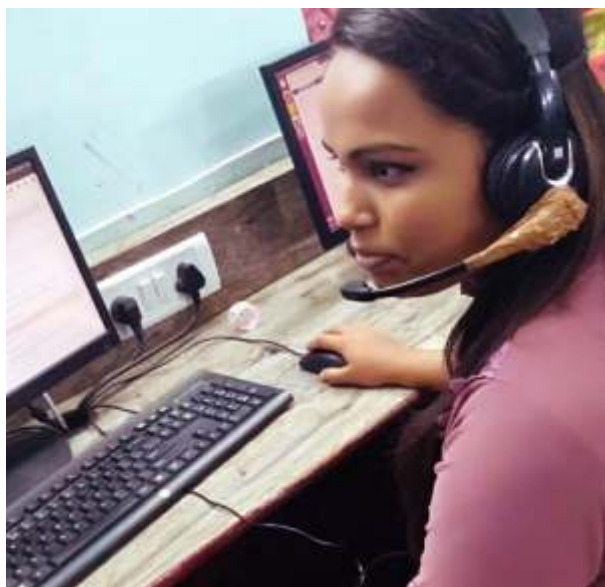
Smile Foundation chose Seva Kendra Calcutta as the **first** and **only center** for Digitalization among a total of 10 centers in the whole of Kolkata. In the month of April 2017, laptops and projectors were provided to facilitate audio visual classes. Now, audio-visual classes are taken which make the lessons as well as the classes more interesting and effective. With the introduction of digitization, the new curriculum is also made in such a way that the students themselves can navigate through the audio visual lessons and clear their doubts if any. Digitalization has lead to a better, more effective and modern way of learning for the students which help them grasp each lesson faster than before.



## Stories of Change

### ✦ Background of the student :

Susmita Hela, aged 22 hails from Madhyagram is a H.S. passed student. She comes from a financially poor family. Due to lack of employment opportunities Susmita faced difficulties in supporting her family financially. She joined STeP with the hope of getting a better Job and learning opportunities and Skill development



### ✦ Personal & Family Background:

Susmita's family comprises of 4 members including her father, mother, younger brother and grandmother. Her father is a driver and her mother is a house wife. He was the only earning member in her family. Susmita was doing her graduation from IGNOU with her tuition fees.

### ✦ Change noticed through STeP:

Susmita was a regular student in STeP. She was an enthusiastic learner. Through her training period she developed skill training on personality development, communication, computer knowledge & spoken English. She developed her confidence in her training course.

### ✦ First job through STeP:

After the STeP training Susmita got her first job at Star Consultancy Company. She now earns a salary of 6000/- per month. She is very happy. Now she is able to support her family financially.





# Sanitary Napkin Entrepreneurship for Women of Tangra Slum

## Project Period



Ongoing Since  
1st August 2018

## Supported by



Seva Kendra Calcutta

## Area of Operation

**Villages:** Tulsibera. Kamina and Sumda ( Howrah district) Kamolasole, pandapata, Chawlbata Choto Dhan kawre, Upar Baghasol, Talent, kadam Kundi, Boresole, Chet Jhawri, Reharghuta , Baligeria , ( Midnapur District), Bamundanga ( North 24 Parganas District)

**Municipality:** Ulluberia Municipality ( Howrah district) and Dumdum Municipality Wards : 56,57,58, 59,60 and 64 of Kolkata municipality

## No. of Beneficiaries

DIRECT BENEFICIARIES					
HH	Male	Female	Children		Total
			Boys	Girls	
25		25			25

INDIRECT BENEFICIARIES					GRAND TOTAL	
HH	Male	Female	Children	Total	Families	M+F+Ch
					HH	Population
2823		2823		2823	2848	2848

## Project Goal

The project aims to restore the dignity of women living below the poverty line on matters relating to their personal hygiene. The project also aims to provide some women with an alternative livelihood by providing a skill in preparing sanitary napkins and marketing them for women who live in economically marginalized situation.



## Project Objectives

- Developing entrepreneurial and leadership skills among the targeted beneficiaries.
- Promoting menstrual hygiene awareness which will create an opportunity for the enterprise.
- To create direct link between good sanitary practices and disease prevention.
- To provide an entrepreneurial vehicle for local women to earn.

## Activities

- Staff training: Staff training was conducted by Project Coordinator all the 8 steps of production and maintaining of health and hygiene during the production.
- Awareness to the community women and Adolescent girls menstruation health
- Awareness given to 120 students of E Learning centre of Seva Kendra Calcutta about cleanliness during Menstruation. Side effect of using non biodegradable sanitary napkins like its cause big garbage storage in the community every month and it is not good for health. Promotion of using biodegradable napkins and it will help the community women those are a part of this project.
- Awareness given to 48 key leaders of Ulluberia, Midnapur, Muslim camp and Bibi bagan. Jannagar Road, Beg Bagan and Tiljala road. Explained the project and the procedure of making low cost biodegradable sanitary napkins.
- 6 Women's group meeting and meeting with community leaders. Women's group meeting was conducted and 83 women were present during the meetings.
- School sensitization on menstruation hygiene- School like St. Ann's convent school Bamundanga St. Mary's Loreto (Bengali Medium) 250 students attended in this awareness camps.
- Networking with other like-minded NGOs like Focus, Tiljala Shed, Assembly of God church Technical school, Agragati & Eso Kajkari.
- Promotion of the Sanitary napkins: Giving awareness to the girls and women of the surrounding area of Tangra community about low cost biodegradable sanitary napkins and menstruation health and hygiene.



## Impacts

- During the year 2019 – 2020 we have distributed 1, 82,694 pads (30,449 packets, 6 in a packet) to the women and adolescent girls of rural and urban areas
- 8613 women have switched to the use of sanitary napkins instead of using cloth.
- We were able to reach to rural schools (Bamundanga, St. Anne's Convent School) and promote the menstruation health and hygiene of girls
- Among the 120 students 4 of them are interested to join us for marketing.



## Stories of change

Ms. Ghazala Parveen, Ms. Shama Aktar, Taslima Khatoon, Ms. Farida Begum and Nasreen Khatoon (names changed) the youth group member of Tangra community. They passed Class XII and joined college for degree course in the morning shift. They were facing financial problems for their education because their fathers could not afford to pay for their education. They shared their problem with a staff member of Seva Kendra Calcutta. The staff guided them and approached them to join Seva Kendra Calcutta in the Sanitary Napkins project as production unit members. They accepted the offer and joined Seva Kendra Calcutta in June 2019.

One of them said, "I am very happy to have joined Seva Kendra Calcutta and have learnt about menstruation health. I have changed my behavior as well as my family members and others in our society. Now I can support my family financially and continue my studies and not have to depend on others for my personal needs. I am very happy to serve to save our Mother Earth by giving knowledge of a plastic free world by using biodegradable sanitary napkins."





## New Horizons Café

An Alternative Livelihood Programme of Seva Kendra Calcutta with the support from Save the Children and LAVAZZA

### Project Period:



2019 - 2020

### Supported by



Save The Children &  
LAVAZZA

### Area of Operation:



Seva Kendra Calcutta  
Head Office, Kolkata



## Summary of the project

New Horizons is a vocational training program designed to provide economically viable skills to marginalised youths who are either vulnerable to or are engaged in exploitative and high-risk labour. New Horizons aims to build the capacities and skills of these young people to enable them to make informed choices leading to productive lives and also empower them to recognize and resist exploitation.

## Objective

Empowering adolescents and youths in slums of urban Kolkata - Promoting youth leadership, Skills Training and Employment



## Goal of the Project

Break the vicious cycle of intergenerational poverty by bringing 15 marginalized youths (18-24 years) under a skilling platform, link them with dignified livelihood options and facilitate linkage with their families with government social security schemes by the year 2019 in the slums of Kolkata.

## Specific objectives

- To develop technical and soft skills capacity of at least 15 youths by training through government accredited training centers and linked with dignified livelihood opportunities
- To facilitate linkage with government entitlements and social security schemes for the 15 marginalized youths and their families
- To improve access to skills training opportunity for marginalized youths and compliance with provisions under Minimum Wage Act by the employers, corporate and training institutes through advocacy efforts with relevant authorities & government departments for necessary revision in the educational criteria

## Target Group And Expected Beneficiaries

Through this project intervention, we needed to reach out to those vulnerable adolescents (age group 18 to 24 years) who are engaged in hazardous labour including child domestic workers, victims of trafficking, drug abuse and sexual exploitation, orphans and children of single parents, destitute, dependents of addicts, victim of child marriage, dropped out of school, irregular in schools, and belongs to economically poor families.

## Intervention Areas

Wards under KMC: 29, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 66

## Achievements

- This year the coffee training course was held from 10<sup>th</sup> February to 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020.
- Master trainers from Lavazza conducted the training which was much appreciated by the trainees.
- 16 boys and girls completed the training successfully.
- Two girls were selected to work in the New Horizons Café of Seva Kendra Calcutta.





# WOMEN LED COMMUNITY MANAGED DISASTER RISK REDUCTION THROUGH CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

**Project Period: 2019-2020**

Project Location and No. of Beneficiaries					
Sl No	No of villages	Name of the Block	No of families	No of people involved	Status of the Location
1	6	DEGANGA & HABRA-I	100	500	FLOOD PRONE ZONE
2	2	SWARUPNAGAR	50	250	FLOOD PRONE ZONE
3	3	SANDESHKHALI-II	50	250	LOOD & CYCLONE PRONE ZONE F
<b>TOTAL</b>	11	4 BLOCKS	200	1000	

## Project Goal

To improve nutrition and health outcomes through community-based approach led by women through environmentally sustainable systems approach to food availability, food safety and quality

## Strategies

The proposed project aims at developing climate adaptive and resilient livelihood systems through diversification, technology adoption and natural resource management for rural small and marginal farmers associated with agriculture and allied sector in Sundarban Zone and Flood prone zones of West Bengal, India. Specifically, it would seek to enhance adaptive capacity of vulnerable farm families in Sundarban regions of West Bengal by introducing measures to tide over the adverse impacts of climate change on their food and livelihood security.

The project was focused on 200 households covering about 1000 beneficiaries who belong to vulnerable, small and marginal farming communities and communities dependent on natural resources as livelihood option. The project was executed by SEVA KENDRA CALCUTTA and its technical partner, SWANIRVAR. Both the organizations are actively operating in these regions of West Bengal for the last 15 years.





## Activities

The project was started from 1st October, 2019. We got two seasons – Rabi ( winter) and Prak Kharif (Pre Monsoon) to work with them.

## Activities in brief

- Trainings in 3 phases on the following items: Soil health – Bio manure and Bio nutrients making in home; Use of Biological and Botanical pest controllers and Seed conservation and Propagation;
- Special trainings on – Mushroom culture
- Distribution of traditional seeds
- Distribution of earthen pots for making bio pest controllers and bio nutrients.
- Development of one traditional seed bank for seed preservation and propagation.

## Achievements

- One of the families had produced 20 types of vegetables in the home yards.
- 3 clusters were made with the farmer's women. These clusters had their leaders who would take initiative for marketing and liaison with Govt agencies like – Block live stock department, Block level Agriculture and Horticulture offices and NABARD etc.
- They had exchanged seeds 319 times in last 6 months.
- They had sent their vegetables to Seva Kendra Calcutta office in every weekend. This weekend vegetable haat was inaugurated on 12th January, 2020. In January and February these women clusters had business of Rs. 25,000 and they had sold vegetables to Biswa Bagla Haat amounting Rs. 35,000/- in March, 2020.
- These 200 families had consumed vegetables in their homes and also distributed to their neighbours and relatives.
- In March, 2020 we had given them training on summer vegetables – pest control and water management.
- Our plan to make one nursery for fruit trees in Plan lands of Deganga- Baduria and one mangrove nursery in Sundarban in next year.



## ASHA FARM



The Arthur Shenoi Horticulture and Agricultural Farm in Serampore was set up with the generous support of Allan and Lalita Charitable Foundation, USA.

This land was bought way back by Fr. Reginald Fernandes, the former Director of Seva Kendra Calcutta with a view of setting up an Extension Centre of Seva Kendra Calcutta for the Howrah and Hooghly districts. A building has also been constructed and for many years was utilized for the Child Labour Free GPs, supported by Indienenhilfe e.V., Herrsching, Germany as a mainstreaming centre. Adjacent to it a large shed has also been constructed for the cows, goats and for chicken. A sizeable pond was dug to grow fish.

The farm is blessed with a lot of water and in the monsoon season a large portion of the farm is submerged under water which now poses a big challenge for cultivation. There is a plan to set up a R.O. water purification plant to prepare purified water and offer it to villages around. A large number of saplings were planted in the farm and many of them have grown into small trees. A lot of work is required to make this farm sustainable.





## Balihati Farm

**Supported by:** The Diocese of Rottenburg-Stuttgart, Germany  
and Stichting Actie Calcutta, Holland

This farm of about 9 acres of area in Balihati village is located in Kharagpur Tehsil of Paschim Medinipur district. It falls under the Lachhmapur GP.

The farm is not far from both Kharagpur and Medinipur towns. Because of this rather central location, Seva Kendra Calcutta has planned to develop a model agricultural farm attached to a Farmers' Training Centre, "Nazareth". The foundation stone of this proposed building was blessed by His Grace, Archbishop Thomas D'Souza on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020 in the Archbishop's House Chapel in the presence of Fr. Dominic Gomes, Vicar General, Fr. Moloy D'Costa, the Archdiocesan Financial Administrator, Fr. Rudolf D'Souza and Fr. Robin Banerjee. Seva Kendra Calcutta is grateful to Fr. Robin Banerjee, for his untiring efforts to get the building plan sanctioned.

The foundation stone was laid at the site on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020, on the feast of St. Joseph by Rev. Fr. Sudhir Joseph Tudu, the Dean of Medinipur Deanery in the august presence of Fr. Vincent Lobo, the Parish Priest of Nirmal Hriday Ashram, Fr. Reginald Fernandes, the Director of St. Joseph's Hospital, Fr. Gregory Monteiro, the Principal of Sacred Heart School, Kharagpur and Fr. Mohan Mandi, the Director of our Extension Centre in Kharagpur. The building has been designed by Mr. Bimal Lall and will be constructed by Catherine Enterprise. This Farmers' Training School will provide training to young men and women of the 3 districts of Medinipur East and West and Jhargram. A model farm will be developed in the land that will provide the latest techniques in organic farming. A traditional seed bank will be developed and possibilities of testing soil and water will also be set up. It is hoped that this little new structure will help the families of the above mentioned districts towards food security and provide livelihood possibilities.





# 6.4

## Urban Agriculture

One of the often repeated phrases of our many guests using the training centre of Seva Kendra Calcutta is: "How clean and green is your campus!" Every effort is made to keep it truly green.

The main objective is whatever initiative we take in this area urban organic farming is meant to be inspirational and motivational rather than income generating. The message we wish to communicate to those who visit our campus is, however little place you have, a terrace, a balcony or even in a slum area you can always cultivate some greens if you so desire. This is not just the privilege of those that have financial possibilities. Even those who are economically challenged can plant something or the other in the little space available to them.





The story of a young man who wishes to cultivate mushrooms in his slum house is truly inspirational. Several families have begun taking up the initiative of planting of seasonal vegetable plants like tomatoes, chillies, lady-fingers. Even school-going children have begun growing plants in the little spaces available for them. Aloe Vera plant is very popular among many.

It is extremely interesting to note that urban agriculture in whatever form can have impact on the social and emotional well-being of individuals. During the recent lockdown period because of Covid-19 many in the city took up to growing plants and vegetables.

Seva Kendra Calcutta in spite of losing its terrace for farming because the entire terrace now is covered with solar panels still cultivates vegetables and numerous other plants in the available space. There are more than 100 aloe vera plants and another 350 other pots adorn the corridors and the sun-lit areas. In our little place, we have a guava, chikku, papaya, pomegranate trees, the sight of which is a feast to the eyes. Vegetable too are grown according to seasons.

The latest addition to our efforts to go organic is raising chickens on our terrace. Presently we have a rooster and giving him good company are seven hens. Being “desi” hens, the eggs they lay are smaller in size, brown in colour and delicious and healthy as food.

We are in the process of trying our hands at aquaponics. The installation was stalled because of the present challenging situation.

Our sincere hope is that more and more city dwellers make their homes green and experience the joy of growing plants of different kinds according to their given possibilities.





## “BISH MUKTO HAAT”

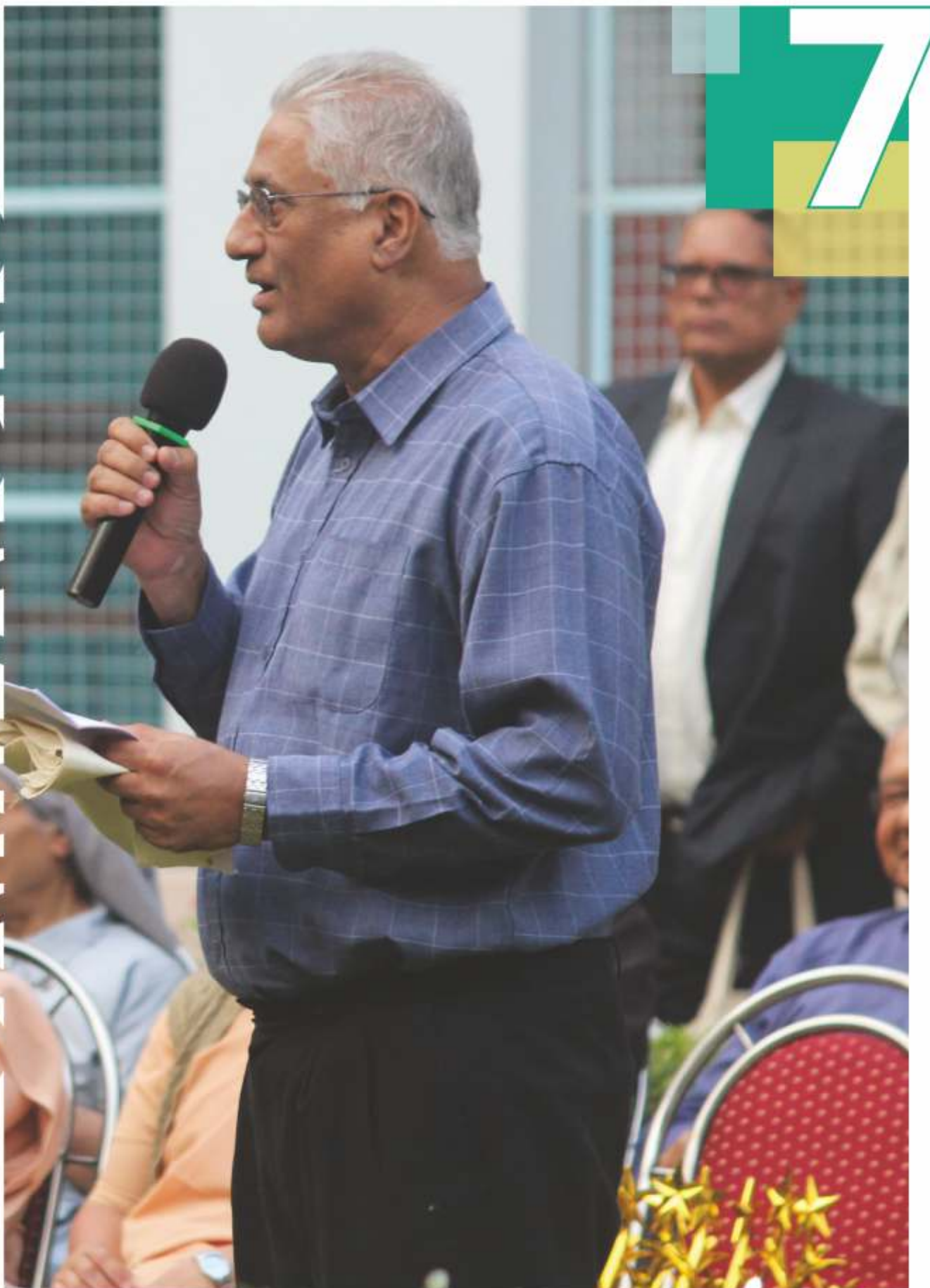
An initiative of Seva Kendra Calcutta that began a couple of years ago to avail people living around was our little organic vegetable shop. Fresh organic vegetable straight from the farmers who practiced organic farming were brought to Seva Kendra Calcutta and were made available on Saturdays and Sundays. Unfortunately this initiative had to be discontinued due to logistical challenges.

Taking into consideration the importance of organic vegetables and other food items for healthy living it has been decided to once again start this “Haat” with the support of our grass-root partner, Swanirvar. The same was inaugurated by Mr. Subrata Roy, C.A. on Sunday, 12th January 2020 in the presence of Mr. Nilangshu Gain of Swanirvar and Fr. Franklin Menezes, Director, Seva Kendra Calcutta. Many more organic food items will be made available apart from fresh vegetables.





# CAMPAIGNS





# SWACHHATA PAKHWADA

This campaign is an initiative of the Government of India and it started in April 2016 with the objective of bringing a “fortnight” of intense focus on the issues of Swachhata by engaging GOI Ministries and Departments in their jurisdictions. It is a commitment by the Govt. to building a Swachh and Swasth Bharat.

Seva Kendra Calcutta was selected by Bharat Petroleum Company Limited (BPCL) to be one of its partners for the implementation of this campaign.



## BPCL Campaign-I

(1<sup>st</sup> July to 15<sup>th</sup> July 2019)

The first campaign was held from 1<sup>st</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> July 2019. The main activities were to involve people in:

- Awareness on Plastic Pollution and stopping the use of single use Plastic carry bags.
- Cleaning of water bodies
- Distribution of cotton bags
- Mass awareness on all kinds of pollution through skits, walkathons, mini marathons, road shows, rallies and Puppet shows.

- Plantation of saplings
- Creation of mini forests in fallow lands
- Distribution of sanitary napkins and hygiene kits (soap, tooth paste and brush, towel, liquid hand soap, shampoo etc)
- Trainings in Bio-degradable waste disposal and workshops on vermicomposting.
- Special drive on vector borne diseases – Dengue and Malaria; Awareness drive on removing plastics, small containers, broken pots and used tyres from home yards to stop water logging as well as controlling of mosquito breeding.
- Distribution of leaflets and booklets on – Menstrual hygiene, waste management, thunderstorm, techniques of organic farming, snake bite management etc.

## Location wise - Major Activities

### West Bengal: WEST MEDINIPUR and JHARGHAM:

- 1763 Adolescent tribal Girls from 10 Govt High schools in West Medinipur and Jhargham got orientation on Plastic pollution and menstrual health. Booklets and sanitary napkins were distributed amongst them
- Awareness on climate change and Plastic pollution amongst 13,000 school children.
- More than 3521 saplings were distributed amongst the students and numerous fruit trees were planted in school campuses and 1300 wood trees were planted in fallow vested lands.
- 10 ponds were cleaned and did necessary treatment making its water suitable for drinking. This had directly benefited more than 13000 households.
- The common places of 5 communities, like village markets and worship places were cleaned. Local villagers worked with us.
- 250 young tribal mothers from 11 most backward villages in Datan and Nayagram were given orientation on menstrual health and personal hygiene. After the workshops all were given hygiene kits for their use.

### North 24 Parganas & Kolkata

- 1272 Adolescent tribal Girls from 10 Govt High schools in Swaupnagar Block of N 24 Pgs got orientation on Plastic pollution and menstrual health. Booklets and sanitary napkins were distributed amongst them.
- More than 13,000 saplings were distributed amongst the students and numerous fruit trees were planted in school campuses.
- 15 ponds were cleaned and did necessary treatment making its water suitable for bathing and other domestic use.
- Common places of 10 communities like village markets, rural hospital and worship centres like Temples and Majars were cleaned. Local villagers joined in.



- Organized Health Checkups for domestic workers and safai workers in two places in Tangra and Solo Bigha slums of Kolkata. More than 160 people received treatment and medicines for one month.
- A big rally was organized in Tangra slum with 1,000 youth participating, on controlling – plastic pollution and management of domestic waste.
- Distributed hygiene kits amongst 150 children in Kishalaya Home, Barasat and also distributed 150 hygiene kits and sanitary napkins amongst 150 girls in Sukanya Home.
- There were more than 15 road rallies, 10 puppet shows and 30 quiz competitions on Safe food and safe living.
- Special awareness on thunder and lightning and its relation with air pollution was done. Distribution of booklets on techniques of organic farming amongst 1,000 farmers.
- Distribution of 1,000 packets of sanitary napkins to adolescent girls of Swarupnagar Block.
- 5 Puppet shows and skits in 5 locations and distribution of 3,000 cotton bags in 54 villages and Kolkata Slums.
- Puppet shows and distribution of slippers and hygiene kits in Kishalaya Boys home and Sukanaya Home.



## Meghalaya: Ri Bhoi District

- Awareness on menstrual health and introduction of sanitary napkins (replacement of old cloths) amongst tribals in Ri Bhoi district. More than 1,500 women got orientation and sanitary napkins.
- Cleaning of 6 village roads and climate change awareness among 500 youth, plantation of 1,000 herbal plants in 6 most backward villages of Ri Bhoi.
- Organizing road show, walkathon for mass awareness on climate change and vector borne diseases like Dengue and Malaria.
- Drama with village women in 6 places on – effects of deforestation and pollution control.

## BPCL Campaign-II

**(16<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> August 2019)**

The second campaign was conducted from 16<sup>th</sup> July to 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2019. The main activities:

- Awareness on Plastic Pollution and stopping the use of single use Plastic carry bags.
- Cleaning of water bodies
- Distribution of cotton bags
- Plantation of saplings
- Creation of mini forests in fallow
- Mass awareness on all kinds of pollution through skits, walkathon, mini marathon, road shows, rallies and puppet shows.
- Distribution of sanitary napkins and hygiene kits (soap, tooth paste and brush, towel, liquid hand soap, shampoo etc)
- Bio-degradable waste disposal and training cum workshops on vermicomposting.
- Special drive on vector borne diseases – Dengue and Malaria; Awareness drive on removing plastics, small containers, broken pots and used tyres for home yards to stop water logging as well as controlling mosquito breeding.
- Distribution of leaflets and booklets on – Menstrual hygiene, waste management, thunderstorm, techniques of organic farming, snake bite management etc.

## Location Wise-Major Activities

### WEST BENGAL: Project Areas

- 18 Gram Panchayats of 8 Blocks
- 40 Govt. Schools under 5 Districts of West Bengal (West Midnapur, Jhargram, Uttar Dinajpur, North 24 Parganas, Malda and Howrah)
- 2 Experimental short term courses in 2 Govt Colleges under The Calcutta Community College.

## School Programmes

- About 15,000 students actively participated from 150 schools in school-based awareness workshops on Dengue control, Plastic pollution and climate change and its impacts on our life.
- More than 8,000 saplings were distributed amongst the students and 1280 fruit trees were planted in school campuses. 35 ponds were cleaned and we did necessary treatment making its water suitable for drinking. This had directly benefited more than 21,000 households.
- The common places of 25 communities like village markets, local Hospitals, and worship centres were cleaned. Local villagers joined hands with us.
- Special awareness on thunder and lightning and its relation with air pollution; Distribution of booklets on techniques of organic farming amongst 1,000 farmers.
- Distribution of 2,000 packets of sanitary napkins to school girls.
- 8 Puppet shows and skits in 8 locations and distribution of 3,000 cotton bags in 71 villages and Kolkata Slums.
- There were more than 10 rallies on climate change adaptation and Plastic pollution with 12,351 students, parents and teachers participating.
- We organized two workshops on rural livelihood (crafts from waste- Plastic recycle and reuse, Organic farming, Making home sanitizers and liquid soaps etc) in Dinabandhu Mahavidyalaya, Bongaon and Amdanga Jugol Kishore Mahavidyalaya respectively. More than 250 students participated in the workshops and were given certificate by the College. The officials from the State University visited the respective colleges and encouraged us to conduct such short professional courses in collaboration with the college authority.

## Meghalaya

- Organised 10 workshops with 1,227 women on cleanliness and malaria control, plastic pollution and climate change, menstrual hygiene in 10 villages of East Khasi Hills. We have distributed about 1,000 packets of sanitary napkins to them.
- 6 Road shows, mini marathons and skits in 6 locations and distribution of 2,000 cotton bags in 6 villages was done.
- 10 villages were cleaned after the workshops with the local women organized by Khashi Village Headmen council. More than 400 youth participated.
- Campaigning for clearing plastic waste from 10 villages in Shillong and East Khashi Hill. Cleaning and hands on training to treat pond water for cooking and drinking.
- Awareness in Sohora–Cerafunjee on village cleaning and plastic pollution in collaboration with St. John Bosco Girls High School



## BPCL Campaign-III

(15<sup>th</sup> September-2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019)

### Activities

- Awareness on Plastic Pollution and stopping the use of single use Plastic carry bags.
- Distribution of cotton bags
- Mass awareness on all kinds of pollutions through skit, walkathon, mini marathon, road show, rallies and Puppet shows.
- Plantation of saplings
- Creation of mini forest in fallow lands

### Major Activities

#### WEST BENGAL: Project Areas

1. Kolkata Slum Area – Tangra Slum
2. 7 Districts – North 24 Parganas, South Dinajpur, Maldah, West Medinipore, East Medinipore, Jargram, South 24 Parganas covering 89 villages.



## Outcome

- 10,101 kgs of plastic was collected in this awareness drive and sent for recycling. The ragpickers were paid according to weight.
- 1 Harinarayanpur Gram Panchayat became plastic free Panchayat. The member of parliament-Jaynagar, Smt. Pratima Mondal took great initiative with us. She walked for plastic free campaign along with other officials and persuaded villagers to stop throwing plastic packets, especially single use carry bags in ponds or canals.
- In Tangra Slum, adolescent youth especially girls took initiative to collect single used plastics and sent them to the recycle unit.
- Trained 250 farmers on transforming bio degradable waste into bio manures; after the training they were given cement pots for making vermicompost in their home yard.
- 16,000 saplings were distributed in 7 districts; 7 mini forests were created by this initiative. Special drive was taken in dry zone (West Medinipore and Jhargram) for mass plantation in fallow land and common land.
- Involved police, Border Security force and 8 Gram Panchayats to take part in mass plantation drive.
- In the junction of Nadia and Murshidabad districts, on either side of (1 km long) National Highway -34 all the traditional flowering plants of West Bengal were planted under the supervision of local administration. It was one of the unique initiatives of nationwide Swachhta Hi Seva programme. Local Member of legislative Assembly, Smt. Rama Biswas helped us to make it possible.
- Special awareness on thunder and lightning and its relation with air pollution; Distribution of booklets on techniques of organic farming amongst 1,000 farmers.
- Distribution of 5,000 packets of sanitary napkins to girls.
- 8 Puppet shows and skits in 8 locations and distribution of 5,000 cotton bags in the villages and Kolkata Slums.

## BPCL Campaign-IV (1<sup>st</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> February 2020)

Seva Kendra Calcutta (SKC) was selected as one of the valued partner for campaign in different parts of West Bengal and Meghalaya.

This last campaign of the year was held from 1<sup>st</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> February 2020. The main activities were supposed to be:

- Awareness on Menstrual Health and distribution of Sanitary Napkins.
- Distribution of cotton bags
- Mass awareness on all kinds of pollutions through skit, walkathon, mini marathon, road show, rallies and Puppet shows.

## Major Activities

### WEST BENGAL: Project Areas

1. Kolkata Slum Area – Tangra Slum
2. Districts – North 24 Parganas, West Medinipore, East Medinipore, Jargram, covering 60 villages.

## Outcome

- 70 Workshops on Menstrual health with 12,000 young women and housewives were conducted.
- 30 rallies on – Plastic pollution, climate change adaptation etc. were organized.
- Special awareness programmes on thunder and lightning and its relation with air pollution were held.
- Distribution of 25,000 packets of sanitary napkins was done.
- 6 Puppet shows on cleanliness, pollution etc. were done in 6 villages of Medinipur districts.
- 3,000 cotton bags were distributed among 6 villages and in the Tangra slums.







# Campaign against Hunger & Disease



## “I AM BECAUSE YOU ARE”

### – Ubuntu, Misereor Lentel Veil 2017-18

The *Campaign against Hunger & Disease* was launched by Caritas India, the charitable arm of the Catholic Church of India. It creates awareness among people regarding solidarity, food security, medical care and dignified life for all citizens. It is through this campaign and many other relief and rehabilitation programmes, the Church reaches out to the most needy with love and compassion.

Seva Kendra Calcutta takes part in this nation-wide campaign on behalf of the Archdiocese of Calcutta. This campaign takes place during the Holy Season of Lent. The people are requested to make sacrifices and offer what they save monetarily to this campaign. Numerous poor and the extremely needy elderly persons are helped especially for their medical expenses with the money raised by this campaign.

Seva Kendra Calcutta is ever grateful for the tremendous support it receives from parishes, schools, colleges and the religious institutions.



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# 8.1

## Sangam – All Faith Climate Change Conference 2019 “Caring for Our Family: An Inter-and Intra-Religion Task”



All faith climate change Conference 2019 was held at Seva Kendra, Kolkata on Dec. 14. The topic of the conference was very timely and relevant entitled - “Caring for Our Family: An Inter-and Intra-Religion Task”. The patrons of SKC, His Grace, Archbishop Thomas D'Souza and Fr. (Dr.) Franklin Menezes, Director were the host.

Climate change is affecting the habitats of several species, which must either adapt or migrate to areas with more favorable conditions. Even small changes in average temperatures can have a significant effect upon ecosystems. In his encyclical letter, “Laudato Si”, Pope Francis has dealt with this major concern “Climate change is a global problem with grave implications: environmental, social, economic, political and for the distribution of goods. It represents one of the principal challenges facing humanity in our day.” (No. 25) In the last 100 years average global temperature has increased by 0.74°C, rainfall patterns have changed and the frequency of extreme events increased. Change has not been uniform on either a spatial or a temporal scale and the range of change, in terms of climate and weather, has also been variable. The last four years were the four hottest on record, and winter temperatures in the Arctic have risen by 3°C since 1990. Sea levels are rising, coral reefs are dying, and we are starting to see the life threatening impact of climate change on health, through air pollution, heatwaves and risks to food security. The impacts of climate change are being felt everywhere and are having very real consequences on people's lives.”



In such scenario, to address this serious issue, SKC took a bold initiative to bring the leaders of different faith communities to share views on the topic keeping in mind the tenets of each religion. It's our common duty to save the planet from gradual destruction. How religions can play significant role in bringing down the temperature and create a balanced ecosystem. The conference was an attempt to promote local responses to this global problem.

In his welcome address His Grace, Archbishop Thomas D'Souza spoke our individual and common responsibilities in creating better home to live on this earth. Introducing the topic connecting to harmony, peace, goodwill, he said, "It's our priority today that each of us deal with this concern of climate change. Quoting from the encyclical "Laudato Si" he invited all concerned to be a part of this integrated approach in creating a culture of care and protection of the earth.

The keynote address delivered by a well-known and renowned scholar in Indian Philosophy and Religions, Rev. Fr. Subhash Anand, who gave his philosophical analysis and interpretation to the earth, using the symbol of womb. He said, "the climate problem we are facing needs to be placed in as wide a context as possible, not merely to engage the attention of all and ensure their cooperation, but primarily to understand the problem correctly. This will mean that all religious people work together."

His reflection helped to deepen our concern and to discover the intra-religious task we all have: how faith communities could respond to climate change through effective action; how faith community leaders can approach their scriptures and religious practices with an ecological hermeneutic and influence their communities towards taking concrete climate change action."

Fr. Subhash spoke very convincingly, "Deep down I believe that our climate problem is only a symptom of a more profound crisis: we have lost our womb". According to him, that we need to see the earth and the whole of creation as one family, journeying towards our common destiny: the globalization of love and compassion. The universe is in a process of self- discovery; finding its meaning and beauty through humans. Our mutual relation demands love and compassion. Climate change is ultimately only a symptom of an all-pervasive disease: the breakdown of our religious climate, the loss of *dharma*. Real *dharma* enables us to be fully human. To be human is to be unto-transcendence, a *brahmacārin*—journeying unto the Great (Brahman)—all through life.

Among those present in this conference were Bishop Lumen Monteiro, Bishop of Agartala and Chairman of Caritas India chaired a session in the afternoon motivating the youth and those with youthful hearts in a open house discussion towards an action plan for Climate change

The other Bishop, Rt. Rev. Bishop Vincent Aind, Bishop of Bagdogra moderated a session on "Faith traditions of Primal communities".

The distinguished panelists in three different groups reflected on the basis of different perspectives, how Climate change has affected our lives and what measures each one of us are called to take up to avoid the changes in eco-system.

The participants of the conference formed three groups representing the prophetic (Christianity, Islam and Bahaism), the Indian written (Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism) and the Indian oral traditions (primal religions). The topic of “Prophetic Religions” was moderated by Ms. Saira Shah Halim, a social and peace activist, an educator, a writer, and recipient of the SAARC Women's award in 2019. The distinguished panelists in this group were Ms. A. M. Cohen, a senior member of the Kolkata Jewish community, Fr. Robert Athikal, SJ, an environmentalist, and co-ordinator of Tarumitra, an organization of students spread in 23 states of the country last 30 years. Dr. Farhat Bano, Asst. Prof. and head of the Dept of Political Science St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata, and Mr. Cyrus Jamshed Madam, the Trustee of the Calcutta Zoroastrian Community's Religious and Charity Fund (CZCRCF). He is the Chairman of the Indian Pattern committee under the Turf Authorities of India and consultant to the Royal Turf Club, Sri Lanka.

The second set of panelists were on Indian Written Traditions (Indic Faiths) led by Dr. Arunjyoti Sraman Bhikku, as Moderator, Director of Tollygunge Sambodhi Buddhist Monastery. The distinguished speakers were, Mr. Dipankar Basu, former teacher St. Xavier's School, Kolkata and General secretary of Matri Mandir, Venerable Bhikku Bodhipala, Gen. Secretary of the Bauddha Dharmankur Sabha, Bengal Buddhist Association and Dr. Satnam Singh Ahluwalia, Founder and Chairman of IHA Foundation, Gen. Secretary of United Interfaith Foundation and Gurudwara Behala Parbandhak Committee and Global advisor to Earth Day Network India.



The third group on “Faith traditions of Primal communities” was moderated by Bishop Vincent Aind. The distinguished speakers to highlight on this concern were Rev. Fr. Nicholas Barla, SVD, Secretary of CBCI Office for Tribal affairs., Dr. H. P. Jyothi, Asst. Professor in the Department of Studies in Social work, Manasa Gangothri, University of Mysore, Dr. Lolakshi N. K. Prof. in Kuvempu Institute of Kannada Studies, Mysore University, Dr. Luke Gabriel Mendes, expert in environmental science, an educator, Writer, filmmaker and media trainer. He is also a visiting faculty – Xavier's University Bhubaneshwar. Ms Ruby Hembrom, the founder and director of adivanni (First voices) a platform for Indigenous expression started in July 2012 as a non-profit organization in Kolkata. She is the writer of adivanni's Santhal Creation stories for children, a recast of the Santal Creation myths in English and the prize-winning Disaibon Hul, on the Santal Rebellion Of 1855-57. Dr. Barnes Mawrie, Director of Vendrame Institute of Rural Training & animation, a recipient of the Tribal Literature Award in 2015, was not able to attend in person. His paper was read out by Sr. Isilda, highlighting in the light of history and culture of the Khasi tribe of Meghalaya.

Ms. Karuna Singh moderated the General assembly with Workshop reporting. She is actively involved in creating Earth Day Network office in India since 2010. She is the board member of the Global Environment facility, UNDP and the Government of India Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change's Small Grants Program.

The day's conference was lively and inspiring. Each of the speaker and participant contributed immensely towards building an awareness to fight against degradation of the mother earth due to climate change.

The vision statement at the end of the day by a drafting committee was read out: “We, the people of different faith-traditions, who met for Sangam – an inter-faith gathering to reflect on the climate emergency we are facing, wish to share our concern with all people of good will. Due to the rise of greenhouse gases, our environment is becoming hotter and hotter. This is adversely affecting all forms of life. As this is problem facing all of us, we have to work together to avert the greatest climate disaster we are heading for. Our response must be guided by a sense of urgency, moral responsibility and accountability for all. We are the first to feel so acutely the problem. We well may be the last who can do something about it. ” Further it said, “Unless and until all religions promote austerity and simplicity of life, they cannot help in healing a broken world. For this, all religious leaders will have to cooperate. This will be possible if they are sufficiently enlightened so as to have a broader vision; and sufficiently committed so as to have a wider concern. If religions are to collaborate our struggle for healthy climate, then there has to be a shift from unfounded beliefs to enlightened faith, from enslaving law to discerning freedom, from empty rituals to humanizing values, from superficial cult to deepening contemplation. ”

SKC honored some significant persons and institutions who have taken up the plan of action towards creating a better home on this earth. The IBVM Provincial, Sr. Sabrina on behalf of the congregation received an award for their services towards greening the environment.

Rev. (Dr.) Franklin Menezes, Director of SKC, and the brain behind this conference was profusely thanked by the participants in organizing this herculean conference in Kolkata.

**Reported by Fr. F. Sunil Rosario, Director, Commission for Dialogue & Ecumenism and Migration. Archdiocese of Calcutta**



# 8.2

## International Women's Day



International Women's Day celebration was organized by Seva Kendra Calcutta on 12th and 13th March, 2020. The purpose of this event was to celebrate the social, economic, cultural & political achievements of women & encourage them to have a better future. 600 women and youth took part in this celebration. The women were really encouraged by the life testimony of the real life heroes who were present in this gathering.

### The following were the guests who graced the occasion:

- Fr. Franklin Menezes, Director, Seva Kendra Calcutta
- Ms. Jessica Gomes Surana, Principal, Loreto Convent Entally, Kolkata
- Smt. Dipali Das, Councilor, Ward 56, Kolkata Municipal Corporation.
- Ms. Lipika Biswas, Mountaineer, Cyclist and a solo bicycle traveler
- Ms. Sunita Kumari, Football Player, National Gold Medallist 2015 and National referee and judge
- Ms. Monika Jana, All India Football Federation & FIFA (International Badge Holder)
- Dr. Mahua Majumdar, National Institute of Homeopathy
- Ms. Harshamanjari Nanda, Development Consultant
- Ms. Manisha Poilan, Acid attack survivor



# 8.3

## Celebrations of the 550th birth anniversary of Sh. Guru Nanak Dev Ji



Guru Nanak Dev Ji was the first Guru and founder of Sikhism, a poet, a wandering religious teacher, a social reformer, and a householder. The 550th Birth Anniversary of Sh. Guru Nanak Dev Ji was celebrated on 14th November, 2019. It was celebrated together with all the children from the neighbouring slum areas on the occasion of Children's Day. This celebration was supported by Dr. Satnam Singh Ahluwalia (Chairman, IHA Foundation). On this occasion, Ms. Jessica Gomes Surana, Principal, Loreto Convent Entally, Kolkata shared about the importance of education. After which, there was a short video presentation on the life of Guru Nanak Dev Ji. The staff of Seva Kendra Calcutta also organized a talent hunt contest. At the end, gifts were distributed to the children by the supporting partner.

# 8.4

## Annual Summit of Urban Poverty Development through Community Mobilization (UPDP) 2019



Seva Kendra Calcutta was glad to host the Annual Summit (UPDP) in Kolkata, West Bengal where there was representation from Caritas Germany, St. Xavier's Social Service Society, Chetnalaya and Caritas Bangladesh. All came together for the "Annual Summit of Urban Poverty Development through Community Mobilization (UPDP) 2019" with the theme "The impacts of poor and insufficient water and sanitation facilities and pollution on the urban poor" from December 2nd to 4th, 2019.

**The objectives of the meet were as follows:**

- To understand the process of empowerment that is taking place at various levels, such as individual, group and community.
- To share one's own growth and the process of development.
- To be exposed to new realities of the communities in the urban areas.
- Cross learning from each other



Dr. Partha Chakraborty from the Indian Institute of Chemical Biology addressed the present status of the changes in food due to human interventions in farming. Mr. Kirtee Shah from Ahmedabad Study Action Groups shared his views on urbanization. Dr. Kalyan Rudra, Chairman, West Bengal Pollution Control Board started his address by saying that the West Bengal Pollution Control Board is committed towards the people of the State to regulate and monitor any kind of environmental pollution occurring anywhere in the State so as to ensure clean, green and healthy environment to live in. This was followed by field visits and presentation and learnings by the all the partners. After two days of learning, Seva Kendra Calcutta organized an outing for all the partners. They visited Victoria Memorial, St. Paul's Cathedral and Science City.





# 8.5

## Re-Dedication of Sindhu Tara, the Seva Kendra Calcutta Training Centre, Digha



Digha is West Bengal's most popular sea resort and tourist spot. It is about 187 kms south west of Kolkata and is relatively easy to reach by train, bus or by one's own vehicle. The scenic beauty of the place is a delight to the eyes. The sea at Digha is relatively calm and shallow and hence is safe for spending time in the waters. There are several other attractive beaches not far away from Digha like Shankarpur, Udaipur, Talasari, Junput, Tajpur, Mandaramani etc.

Seva Kendra Calcutta is privileged to have a Training Centre at Digha, "Sindhu Tara" (Star of the Ocean) named after Our Blessed Mother Mary. It began to function in the year 2010. The purpose of this training centre was to provide possibilities for training programmes, workshops, meetings at a location that attracts thousands of tourists.

This totally renovated centre was blessed by His Grace, Archbishop Thomas D'Souza on 18th October 2019 in a simple ceremony in the presence of about 50 members of the staff of Seva Kendra Calcutta. Our hope is that all those visit this centre feel comfortable during their stay at Digha.



# 8.6

## Christmas Celebration for the Kids



Christmas was celebrated by Seva Kendra Calcutta on 19th December, 2020 for the children of the neighbouring slum areas. This celebration was sponsored by Calcutta Marudyan. This day was filled with fun and frolic along with sharing the Christmas message of hope with the children. There were lot of games for the children and a talent hunt. The kids thoroughly enjoyed the day as they danced on popular Christmas songs. At the end, the kids were given Christmas cakes and gifts.





# 8.7

## Annual Staff Gathering

Every year on the occasion of Christmas, a staff gathering of all the staff of Seva Kendra Calcutta is held at the main office in Kolkata. This year it was held on Monday, 23rd December 2019. It is a day that all the members of the staff look forward to.

The gathering began at 10:00 am by prayer led by Fr. Franklin Menezes, the Director of Seva Kendra Calcutta. Fr. Robin Banerjee, in-charge of land and property, delivered a Christmas message. He said that Jesus during his life-time went about doing good and he encouraged the staff of Seva Kendra Calcutta to do the same. Some Christmas Carols were sung and the morning was filled with fun & frolic. Before the Christmas gifts were distributed to all the staff, Fr. Franklin thanked them for their self-less service to the poor through Seva Kendra Calcutta.





## EXTENSION UNITS OF SEVA KENDRA CALCUTTA

### Seva Kendra Calcutta- Head Office

52B Radhanath Chowdhury Road,  
Tangra P.O.  
Kolkata-700 015  
Ph: (033) 2329-0381/5400  
Email: sk.calcutta@gmail.com  
Website: www.sevakendra.in

### Seva Kendra Calcutta Training Centre

52B Radhanath Chowdhury Road, Tangra P.O.  
Kolkata-700 015  
Ph: 9073288942/8902048942  
Email: skc.trainingcentre@gmail.com

### St. Joseph's Hospital

Phulpahari, Vidhyasagar University, P.O.  
Midnapore (W)-721 102  
Ph: (03222) 269902/8768829889  
Email: st.josephmidnapore@gmail.com

### Seva Kendra Extension, Kharagpur

P.O. Hijli, Kharagpur-721 306  
Midnapore (W), Ph: (03222)-224642  
Email: sevakgp@gmail.com  
Fr. Mohan Mandi: 7602083078  
Email: frmohan.mandi@gmail.com

### Sindhu Tara Training Centre-Digha

Plot No. 63 Sector N2, Jubak Abas (Youth  
Hostel)  
New Digha, Midnapore (E)-721 463  
Mr. Patrick Murray (Manager) –  
8420519943/9163492087 Ph: (03220)  
266902

### Centre for Child Labour Free GP Initiatives

C/o Shanti Rani Girja  
Bamandanga, P.O. Kamdebkati  
24 Parganas (N) -743 438  
Email: clfskc@gmail.com

### Seva Kendra Calcutta Extension, Serampore

Vill: Simla, P.O. Mullickpara -3,  
Hooghly-712 203  
Ph: (033) 26220255

### Balihati Farm

Rupnarayanpur, Near Airtel Tower,  
P.O. Jakpur, Kharagpur local P.S.  
Midnapore (W) - 721 301  
Ph: 8927906020 8768446284

**SAMBANDH, Field office, Garden Reach**

92/19, Garden Reach Road  
Kolkata-700043

**SAMBANDH, Field office, Bongaon**

St, Joseph Church  
Choyghoria P.O. Bongaon  
North 24 PGS, Pin- 743235

**SAMBANDH, Field office, Medinipur**

SBI, Building, City Centre,  
Debhog, P.S. Bhawanipur, Haldia  
Purba Medinipur-721602

**Children Led Disaster Risk Reduction  
(CLDRR) Project Field office**

Tentulia, Vill: Gakulpur, P.O. Gakulpur  
P.S. Swarupnagar  
North 24 Parganas



# ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

## Names and addresses of the members of the Governing Board of Seva Kendra Calcutta for the year 2019-2020

S N	NAME	OFFICE HELD IN THE ASSOCIATION	OCCUPATION	ADDRESS
1	Archbishop Thomas D'Souza	President	Archbishop of Calcutta	Archbishop's House 32, Mother Teresa Sarani, Kolkata 700 016
2	Fr. Franklin Menezes	Secretary	Director, Seva Kendra Calcutta	52-B Radhanath Chowdhury Road, Kolkata-700 015
3	Fr. Reginald Fernandes	Member	Director, St. Joseph's Hospital, Midnapur	St. Joseph's Hospital, Phulpahari, Vidyasagar University, Midnapore-721 102
4	Fr. Moloy D'Costa	Member	Financial Administrator, Archbishop's House	Archbishop's House 32, Mother Teresa Sarani, Kolkata 700 016
5	Fr. Anthony Rodricks	Member	Dean, 24 Parganas (North)	St. Joseph's Parish, Choyghoria, P. O. Bongaon 24 Pgns (N) - 743235
6	Fr. Stephen Raphael	Member	Dean, Howrah-Hooghly	Church of the Sacred Heart, Chandannagar, Hooghly Dt. - 712 136
7	Fr. Sudhir Tudu	Member	Dean, Midnapore	Church of St. Paul the Apostle, Kamarchowki, P.O. Jamsale, via Keshiary, W Midnapore-721133
8	Sr. Amla, DSA	Member	Superior General, DSA	1 Convent Lane, Tangra, Kolkata-700 015
9	Sr. Monica Suchiang	Member	Director, KMWSC	1 Convent Lane, Tangra, Kolkata-700 015

S N	NAME	OFFICE HELD IN THE ASSOCIATION	OCCUPATION	ADDRESS
10	Dr. Mary D'Cruz	Member	Medical Practitioner	Nihon Apartment, B Block, Flat B/A/2 26 B Dr Suresh Sarkar Road Kolkata 700014, West Bengal
11	Mrs. Ofelia Kaisar	Member	Social Worker	BJ 344, Sector II, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700091

### Names and addresses of the members of the Finance Committee of Seva Kendra Calcutta for the year 2019-2020

S N	NAME	OFFICE HELD IN THE ASSOCIATION	OCCUPATION	ADDRESS
1	Fr. Moloy D'Costa President	PRESIDENT	Financial Administrator, Archbishop's House	Archbishop's House 32, Mother Teresa Sarani, Kolkata 700 016
2	Fr. Franklin Menezes Secretary	SECRETARY	Director Seva Kendra Calcutta	Seva Kendra Calcutta 52-B Radhanath Chowdhury Road, Kolkata-700 015
3	Fr. Reginald Fernandes	MEMBER	Director St. Joseph's Hospital, Midnapur	St. Joseph's Hospital, Phulpahari, Vidyasagar University, Midnapore-721 102
4	Sr. Jeyarani, SDS	MEMBER	Religious Sister Social worker	Flat No 102, Block B, Sunrise Estate 14 C Radhanath Chowdhury Road, Kolkata- 700015
5	Mr. Dennis Das	MEMBER	Director Synergy Kitchens & Hospitality Pvt. Ltd	Trishul, Ground Floor, 35, Rowland Road, Kolkata-700 020
6	Ms. Vineeta Frederick	MEMBER	Financial Advisor	49 Roy Bahadur Road, Kolkata-700 034

## AWARDS & RECOGNITION RECEIVED

Recognition & Awards	Source	Year	Relevant Activity/Work for which received
Certificate of Appreciation	UNICEF	2012	Contribution towards making India a Polio-free country
Certificate of Appreciation	Caritas India through Association of Bengal Collaborators for Development, Kolkata	2013	Effective Implementation of Disaster Management from 2012-13 in WB
Certificate of Appreciation	St. Xavier's Social Service Society through Chetanalaya, New Delhi	2014	UPDP-Partnership
Certificate of Appreciation	Misereor through Association of Bengal Collaborators for Development, Kolkata	2014	Successfully implementing/ completing the project "FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT-SOLAR ENERGY PROMOTION"
Certificate of Compliance	PlanetPoints EarthSmiles.Net	2016	For organizing planet-friendly event – "NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE"
Kolkata NGO's Leadership Awards 2017	World CSR Day & World Sustainability	2017	Leadership in social work
Appreciation Award	C/A Naresh Kumar & Co. Pvt. Ltd, TATA STEEL, Kolkata	2017	Truck Drivers' Motivational Project-SAMBANDH
Caritas India Social Innovation Award	Caritas India	2018	Natural Resource Management, Addressing Climate Change by Gender Mainstreaming through Solar Technology
Appreciation Award	Association of Bengal Collaborators for Development, Kolkata	2019	Best Partner Award for Children's Parliament
Certificate of Appreciation	Loreto Rainbow Homes Foundation	2019	In recognition of SKC's commitment and dedication to Loreto Rainbow Homes and giving the children to achieve their dreams



Recognition & Awards	Source	Year	Relevant Activity/Work for which received
Certificate of Gratitude	FALAK- Spreading Smiles	2020	Spectacular contribution towards impacting lives and spreading happiness

## ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name of the Organization	SEVA KENDRA CALCUTTA
Nature of the Society	Society
Legal Status	Non-Profit Organization
Postal Address of the organization	52B, Radhanath Chowdhury Road, Tangra P.O. Kolkata-700 015
Location	Kolkata
Telephone number	(033) 2329 0381, 2329 5400
Email	sk.calcutta@gmail.com
Website	www.sevakendra.in
Head of Organization	Archbishop Thomas D'Souza
Position/Contact number & Email	President/(033) 2287-1960/9338 abpthomasdsouza@gmail.com
Managing Authority & Authorized Signatory	Rev. Dr. Franklin Menezes
Position/Contact number & Email	Secretary of Governing Board & Director +91 9830894838 / frankmen1951@gmail.com

## LEGAL RELEVANT DOCUMENT DETAILS

Document	Particulars	Registration/Valid till (DD/MM/YYYY)
Societies Registration Act XVI of 1961 West Bengal	S/13865 of 1973-74 14th December 1973	One time
Renewal of Society Registration	Form No. VI	Regn. No. S/13865 dated December 14, 1973
Section 12 A of the IT Act 1961	No. 452-S/WB.VII of 1976-77	One time
Section 80G (5) (vi) of the IT Act 1961	No. DIT(E)/8 86 8E/1393/73-74 Dated:22.10.2009	Perpetual as per Income Tax Circular No.7/2010 Dated: 03.10.2010
Permanent Account No. (PAN)	AAETS1781Q	One time
Foreign contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA)	147120029	No. 030007002016 Valid upto: 31.10.2021

## FCRA Bank Account Details

Bank Name	The Federal Bank Limited
Branch Name & Address	Branch-Tangra Branch Address-52D Radhanath Chowdhury Road, Tangra P.O. Kolkata-700 015 Ph: (033) 2329 9351/8722
Account No.	12370100001117
Name of Account (cheque to be made in the name of)	SEVA KENDRA CALCUTTA
9 Digit number (MICR number)	700049007
Swift Code/Remittance Instructions	FDRL INB BIBD
IFSC Code	FDRL0001237

## Non FCRA Bank Account Details

Bank Name	The Federal Bank Limited
Branch Name & Address	Branch-Tangra Branch Branch Address-52D Radhanath Chowdhury Road, Tangra P.O. Kolkata-700 015 Ph: (033) 2329 9351/8722
Account No.	12370100000408
Name of Account (cheque to be made in the name of)	SEVA KENDRA CALCUTTA
9 Digit number (MICR number)	700049007
Swift Code/Remittance Instructions	FDRL INB BIBD
IFSC Code	FDRL0001237

Bank Name	State Bank of India
Branch Name & Address	Branch-Tangra Branch Branch Address-4/1 A Radhanath Chowdhury Road, Tangra P.O. Kolkata-700 015
Account No.	11221076829
Name of Account (cheque to be made in the name of)	SEVA KENDRA CALCUTTA
9 Digit number (MICR number)	700002101
IFSC Code	SBIN0003737

## WE NEED YOUR HELP

In the 47th year of bringing hope and healing to the most disadvantaged, Seva Kendra Calcutta is going to construct a Home for the physically challenged children. Will you please help us to prepare a home of love for them where they are helped to discover their abilities, beauty and uniqueness?

You may send your contributions by cheque in favour of SEVA KENDRA CALCUTTA to 52B Radhanath Chowdhury Road, Tangra P.O. Kolkata-700 015 or through Bank Transfer. For more information write to [sk.calcutta@gmail.com](mailto:sk.calcutta@gmail.com)



## Local Resource Mobilization

S N	Name of Parishes	Total
	<b>KOLKATA DEANERY</b>	
1	Church of Christ the King, Park Circus	217129
2	Church of Our Lady of Vailankani, Picnic Garden	98188
3	St. Mary's Church, Ripon Street	84840
4	Infant Jesus Church, Behala	75636
5	St. Teresa's Church Fund, AJC Bose Road	65262
6	Auxilium Parish Church, Mahendra Roy Lane, Gobra	62670
7	St. Ignatius Church, Ekbalpore Road, Kidderpore	53658
8	St. Thomas Church, Middleton Row	45368
9	Fatima Shrine, C.I.T. Road	41000
10	Queen of Peace Church, Tollygunge	39802
11	Prabhu Jisu Girja, Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road	33809
12	St. Francis Xavier's Church, B.B.Ganguly Street	33064
13	Sacred Heart Church, Lenin Sarani	24845
14	Stella Maris Church, Nimak Mahal Road	20770
15	St. Xavier's Community, Park Street	14422
16	The Cathedral of the Holy Rosary, Kolkata	14316
17	St. Joseph's Chapel, Market Street	14200
18	St. John the Evangelist Church, A.P.C. Road	10450
19	St. Lawrence Chapel, Ballygunge	5000

Local Resource Mobilization		
S N	Name of Parishes	Total
	<b>NORTH 24 PARGANAS</b>	
1	St.Patrick's Church, Dum Dum	184000
2	St. Joseph's Church, Barrackpore	40212
3	Holy Family Church, Keshtopur	24000
4	Mother Teresa's Church, Dum Dum	22300
5	Nirmal Hriday Girja, Monsada	16500
6	Church of Our Lady of Lourdes, Barasat	16408
7	St. Damien's Church, Dum Dum	15760
8	Sacred Heart Church, Kowgachi	10300
9	Holy Cross Church, Thakurnagar	6000
10	Mary Immaculate Church, Kanchrapara	5675
	<b>HOWRAH-HOOGHLY</b>	
1	Bandel Church, Hooghly	65000
2	Church of Our Lady of Happy Voyage, Howrah	47107
3	St. John Bosco Parish, Liluah	46500
4	Nirmala Mata Maria Girja, Andul Road	30500
5	Jishu Ashram, Station Road, Pandua, Hooghly	10000
6	Church of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Serampore	6900
	<b>MIDNAPORE</b>	
1	St. Ignatius Church, Chamrusai	12900
2	Holy Family Church, Kearchand	4722
3	Church of Our Lady of Consolation, Geonkhali	4000

4	Christo Jyoti Ashram, Kamalasole,Basinda	3000
5	Church of Our Lady of Consolation, Srikrishnapur, Haldia	2000
6	Holy Cross Church, Baligeria	1260
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,529,473</b>
<b>S N</b>	<b>Name of Schools/Colleges</b>	<b>Total</b>
1	Holy Child Institute, Beadon Street	114400
2	St. Teresa's Secondary School,Kidderpore	98222
3	Morning Star College, Barrackpore	81078
4	Holy Child Girls H.S.School, C.I.T.Road	65202
5	Our Lady Queen of the Missions School, Syed Amir Ali Avenue	50000
6	Auxilium Convent School, Barasat	50000
7	Loreto House, Middleton Row	38334
8	Loreto College, Sir William Jones Sarani	30000
9	Loreto Day School, B.B. Ganguly Street	30000
10	Auxilium Convent School, P.K. Guha Road, Dum Dum	28562
11	St. Agnes School, Kharagpur	25000
12	Auxilium Convent School, Bandel	24594
13	Carmel School , Deshapriya Park	24550
14	Convent of Our Lady of Providence Girls' (Hindi High School), AJC Bose Road	20000
15	St. Anthony's High School, Market Street	20000
16	Don Bosco Technical School, Liluah	18530
17	Don Bosco School, Thakurnagar	18000
18	Loreto Day School, Elliot Road	12000
19	Shanti Rani Primary School, Tollygunge	11000



20	St. Paul's Boarding & Day School, D.H. Road	10000
21	Loreto Convent School, Entally	10000
22	St. Joseph's College, B.B.Ganguly Street	10000
23	Our Lady Queen of the Missions School, Salt Lake	10000
24	Lavinia House, Kolkata	9855
25	St. Mary's High School, Convent Road	5000
26	St. John's Berchman School, AJC Bose Road	1500
27	St. Anne's School , Bamundanga	500
	<b>Total</b>	<b>816,327</b>
<b>S N</b>	<b>Name of Religious Institutions</b>	<b>Total</b>
1	St. Joseph's Convent, Chandannagar	40000
2	Loreto House, Middleton Row	15200
3	The Carmelite Convent, Outram Street	15000
4	Little Sisters of the Poor, St. Joseph's Home, A.J.C.Bose Road	15000
5	Sisters of Charity, Sacred Heart Convent, Provincial House, Convent Road	10000
6	Daughters of the Cross, St. Vincent's Home, D.H. Road	10000
7	Carmel Jyoti Nilaya, Kharagpur	10000
8	Daughters of St. Paul, Royd Street	7000
9	Sisters of the Cross Welfare Association, Lower Range	6000
10	Convent of Immaculate Heart of Mary, Tollygunge	5000
11	Holy Child Convent, C.I.T.Road	5000
12	St. Teresa's Convent, Kidderpore	4000
13	Sisters Adorers,Bandel	3500
14	Nirmala Convent, (Nirmala Sisters), Dr. Sundari Mohan Avenue	3000

15	Sisters of Charity,Oasis Capitanio, East Udayrajpur (N) 24 Parganas	3000
16	St. Joseph's Convent, Kanchrapara	3000
17	Shanti Kiran Convent, Lenin Sarani	2500
18	Sisters Adorers Navajyoti Bhawan,Liluah	2500
19	St. Anne's Convent, Barasat	2000
20	FMM Sisters, Adivasipara, 24 Parganas (N)	2000
21	Carmel Niketan, Gariahat	2000
22	Chitrabani Society, Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road	2000
23	TOR House, Kowgachi	1500
24	Shanti Rani Niwas,Serampore	1300
25	Daughters of St. Anne's Convent, Ranchi, Picnic Garden	1101
26	Sisters Adorers, Nazareth Villa, C.I.T. Road	1000
27	Sister of St. Joseph of the Apparition, Chinese Chapel, Weston Street	1000
28	Ursuline Sisters, Dum Dum	1000
29	St. Anne's Convent, Bamandanga	500
	<b>Total</b>	<b>175,101</b>
<b>S N</b>	<b>Name of Individuals/Groups/Unidentified Well-wishers</b>	<b>Total</b>
1	Bishakha Dey, C/O Holy Child School, CIT Road	101
2	Basundirika Dey, C/O Holy Child School, CIT Road	101
3	ON	5000
4	St. Anthony	40000
5	Bengal	80000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>125,202</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>2,646,103</b>

## GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS

<b>ASHA -</b>	<b>Accredited Social Health Activists</b>
<b>BDO -</b>	<b>Block District Officer</b>
<b>BLCPC –</b>	<b>Block Level Child Protection Committee</b>
<b>BPHC –</b>	<b>Block Primary Health Centre</b>
<b>BSKP -</b>	<b>Bangla Swanirbhar Karmasansthan Prakaalpa</b>
<b>CAAP-</b>	<b>Climate Adaptive Agricultural Practice</b>
<b>CBO -</b>	<b>Community Based Organization</b>
<b>CCE -</b>	<b>Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation</b>
<b>CCP -</b>	<b>Career Counseling Programmes</b>
<b>CLS -</b>	<b>Comprehensive Life Skill Training</b>
<b>CMOH-</b>	<b>Chief Medical Officer</b>
<b>CRPF -</b>	<b>Child Right Protection Forum</b>
<b>CRW -</b>	<b>Child Right Worker</b>
<b>CSSP-</b>	<b>Child Sensitive Social Protection</b>
<b>CTF-</b>	<b>Child Task Force</b>
<b>DRR -</b>	<b>Disaster Risk Reduction</b>
<b>ESIC-</b>	<b>Employees' State Insurance Corporation</b>
<b>FLS -</b>	<b>Follow up Life Skill Training</b>
<b>GO -</b>	<b>Govt. Organization</b>
<b>GP-</b>	<b>Gram Panchayat</b>
<b>GPDMC -</b>	<b>Gram Panchayat Disaster Management Community</b>
<b>GsRPF -</b>	<b>Girls Right Protection Forum</b>
<b>ICDS -</b>	<b>Integrated Child Development Scheme</b>
<b>IDP -</b>	<b>Industrial Development Officer</b>
<b>IGNOU-</b>	<b>Indira Gandhi National Open University</b>
<b>JCL -</b>	<b>Juvenile in Conflict with Law</b>
<b>MDG 2 -</b>	<b>Millennium Development Goal 2</b>
<b>MFI -</b>	<b>Micro Finance Institutions</b>



<b>MGNREGA -</b>	<b>Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guaranteed Act</b>
<b>MOST-</b>	<b>Market Oriented Skill Training</b>
<b>MSK -</b>	<b>Madhyamik Siksha Kendra</b>
<b>MSW -</b>	<b>Masters in Social Work</b>
<b>NABARD -</b>	<b>National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development</b>
<b>POA -</b>	<b>Plan of Action</b>
<b>PRA-</b>	<b>Participatory Rural Appraisal</b>
<b>PRI -</b>	<b>Panchayati Raj Institutions</b>
<b>RNTCP -</b>	<b>Revised National TB Control Programme</b>
<b>RSBY-</b>	<b>Rashtriya Suraksha Bima Yojana</b>
<b>SAG -</b>	<b>Social Action Group</b>
<b>SHG -</b>	<b>Self Help Group</b>
<b>TLM -</b>	<b>Teaching-Learning Material</b>
<b>VLCP -</b>	<b>Village Level Child Protection Community</b>
<b>WBREDA-</b>	<b>West Bengal Renewable Energy Development Agency</b>
<b>WBSEBL-</b>	<b>West Bengal State Electricity Board Limited</b>



## In-house Services at SKC Main Campus/Extension Centres



**SKC Extension Training Centre - Kharagpur**



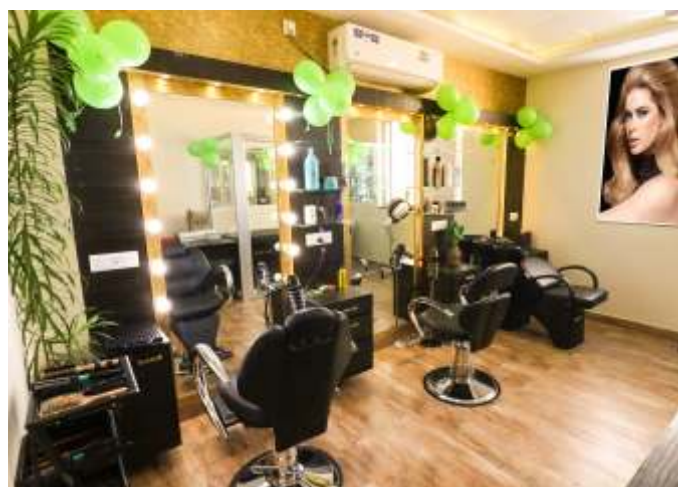
**Sindhu Tara Training Centre - Digha**



**SKC Training Centre - Kolkata**



**Daily Bread Restaurant - Kolkata**



**Revelation Beauty Salon - Kolkata**



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(Near Park Street & Wellesley Street Crossing)  
**TEL** :- **+91 33 4070 3053**  
**MOB. NO.** :- **+91 8584038555**  
**WEBSITE** :- [www.decencyconstruction.in](http://www.decencyconstruction.in).  
**EMAIL ID** :- [info@decencyconstruction.in](mailto:info@decencyconstruction.in) /  
[accounts@decencyconstruction.in](mailto:accounts@decencyconstruction.in)  
**WORKSHOP** :- 2/1B, Nawab Ali Lane, Kol- 700023.



## **BUILDWELL CONSTRUCTION**

Architect, Interior Designer, Developer, Building Construction, Manufacturers & Contractor

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(Near Accoland & beside Carmel Convent)  
**MOB. NO.** :- **+91 87772 85021**  
**EMAIL ID** :- [info@buildwellconstruction.in](mailto:info@buildwellconstruction.in)

**( ASSAM BASED )**

## **Catherine Enterprise**

Architect, Interior Designer, Developer, Building Construction, Manufacturers & Contractor

**OFFICE** :- 1st Floor, 45 Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road  
Kolkata - 700016.  
(Near Park Street & Wellesley Street Crossing).  
**MOB. NO.** :- **+91 7980921846**  
**EMAIL ID** :- [catherineenterprise2017@gmail.com](mailto:catherineenterprise2017@gmail.com)

**BIMAL LALL** :- **6290830421**  
**DEEPTI LALL** :- **6290830422 / 23**  
**MARY LALL** :- **6290830424**