

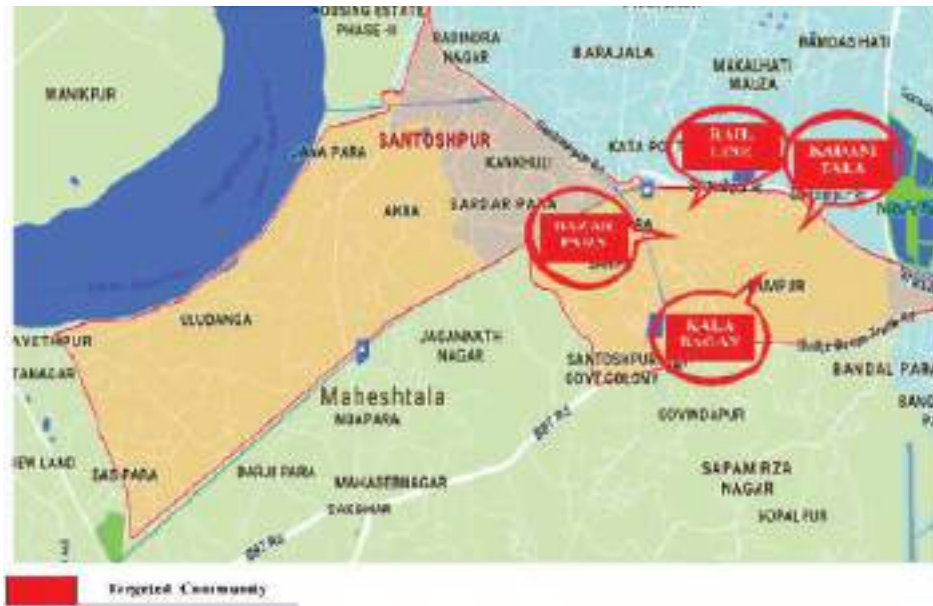
# SOLO BIGHA STUDY CENTRE

**Name of the Project:** An Educational project for children and adolescent girls of Solo Bigha

**Funded by:** Stichting Actie Calcutta (SAC)

**Project Period:** January 2022 to March 2023

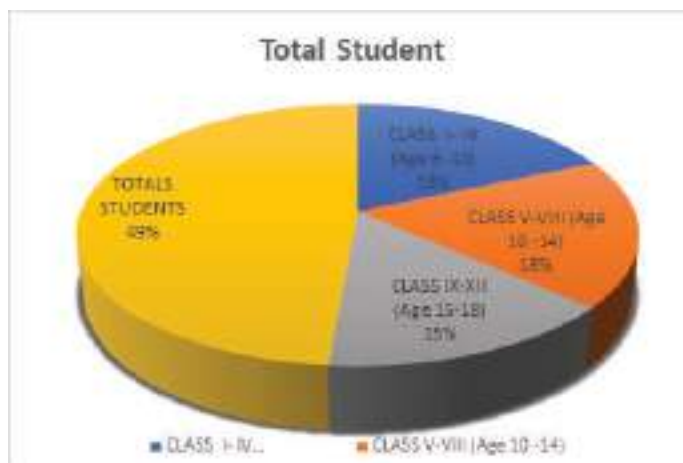
**Areas of Operation:** Ward 11 of Maheshtala Municipal Corporation



**Goal:** To ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all the Solobigha children for their better life.

- Objective:**
- Developing the innate potentialities of individuals.
  - Installing subject knowledge in the children and causing their mental development.
  - To helping individual in acquiring quality and personality through traits.

**Beneficiaries:** Number of direct beneficiaries - categorized by class & age.



## Project Activities:

### 1. Background

At Santoshpur there is a place called Solo Bigha which had a very low rate of education before the intervention of Seva Kendra Calcutta. The moment Seva Kendra Calcutta entered the Solo Bigha area they started working on education for free remedial classes for those school-going children who were unable to pay their tuition fees. At present, the education rate of the marginalized children of the community increased a lot due to advanced planning and generous support by Seva Kendra Calcutta.



The tuition had also started for the convenience of the local students in Solo Bigha. After the completion of the tuition classes, the parents of 33 students gave a good response. Education was unknown to the community of Solo Bigha since most of the parents are illiterate and very poor, many children lost their father in a very small age, many parents are drug addicted and many of them have multiple marriages.

Because of the bonding, their children had to go through difficult situations. Most of their mother also had to go out for domestic work to somehow sustain their family. They were indifferent about their children's education. It was a nightmare for them to spend on quality education with their children. They even fail to provide children with decent shelter or nutritious food. Many of the children did not have the financial support as a result they were engaged in various risky jobs like the teenagers. The child marriage rates also had increased for the girls as they were being a victim of this social degradation. Under the initiative of Seva Kendra Calcutta all the children got free education.





## 2. Study Centre:

The tuition classes for the marginalized children are still continued being taught in the Solobigha Shishu Shiksha Niketan. The teachers taught the community study centre students through different activities like Bengali alphabets, Bengali 2 letter words, English alphabets, Numbers, Rhymes, Proneness, English to Hindi meaning, vowels, sense organs, Art & craft, game activity, song & moral values for drop

outs and non-school going children and subjective for the school going children from class 1 to 10 to support their study. Everyday a total of 53 students appeared for the class in the meantime we have also identified some of the study centres in the neighbourhood areas where the children can be taught.





### 3. Parent Teacher Meeting:

A parent teacher meeting for classes I to XII was held once in a month to discuss the performance of the students with their parents. Parents were given feedback by the teacher regarding their children's education progress. It was a great interaction between the teacher and the parents for the development of their children where they discussed both the strengths and areas of improvements. The progress report shown to the parents and their suggestions were noted. Any sign of a child failing to make



progress, regardless of where they are in the lower, middle or higher rang were questioned and addressed. After that, teacher and staff visit student house to encourage them.



### 4. Health Camp:

At Solobigha there is a total of 1600 families where the community people suffered from many diseases like stomach infection, asthmas, lack of general health and hygiene. Due to thick population and high density of garbage the area became unhealthy. Children were suffering from mal-nutrition, diarrhoea, dengue, malaria, and even anemia. Parents were not able to maintain their family due to high density of population. They also lacked interest in family planning. They were also involved with Health hazardous work. Due to which Seva Kendra Calcutta organised Health camps at Solobigha twice in a month which was conducted by the MBBS and Homeopathy doctors from Ashadeep Trust.



## 5. Community Visit:

The Field coordinator visited the community as well as the Study Centre on 22nd June to ensure proper functioning of the study class activities and also to meet the mothers to discuss about the future plan. Some dates were given by the Study Centre teacher for some programs to be conducted in the following month.



## Story of Change:

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 had become of lesser priority in their lives. Coming to Solo Bigha, educating all has been a major concern for policy makers of Seva Kendra Calcutta. They recognize education as the key to achieve full employment and poverty eradication as education is essential for peace, tolerance, human fulfilment and sustainable development.



However, poverty, social and religious stigmas, family responsibilities and biological reasons do not allow such community like Solo Bigha to think freely. Still, we have been successful to convince the community people of Solo Bigha to give their children opportunity for higher education. Even that we had come to see a disposition among the community people to have their children's admission in government school as early as possible, which is norms breaking, a positive change indeed. Besides working with this positive drive, our agenda adds mainstreaming of dropouts as well, so that no child of Solo Bigha remains uneducated. For this purpose of education total of 7 girls had qualified in their class X examination with good rank as well as total of 5 students from class XII had passed in their examination from our Sishu Siksha Niketan study class of SoloBigha. This is the great moment for the



CLASS -X



CLASS -XII