



# **Nabarun Seva Niketan**

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## **Annual Report 2006-07**



### **Non-Formal Education for the pre- school children.**

Underprivileged children mostly do not have access to education, health & nutrition and proper recreational facilities. School attendance by a child in our country is highly correlated with the income of that family. We feel every child has the fundamental right to a quality basic education, which helps the children, their families, and their communities to break the vicious cycle of poverty. With an eye to the overall mission of



our organisation, we have taken up supporting activities for the neglected children. In our operation area we have found a large no. of working mothers who generally leave behind their children, unprotected throughout the day and go to the place of work. These uncared children are generally grown up in risks. Our project motivates the parents to keep their children especially the girl children in the schools and educate them for their better future. Nabarun Seva Niketan has been able to establish and run 15 numbers of such Pre Primary Schools in last few years in fifteen villages under Kolaghat block. Another important aspect of running these centers is to prepare little children with a priority to SC, ST, backward sections of Muslim communities for their admission to primary schools. Our organisation gives special effort to find out and put these poor kids in our NFE centers in the pre- primary level. We take care of the poor children throughout the year and try our level best to develop these children physically and psychologically. Children have been provided with free education, playing materials, free health care and nutritional support in this

programme. During last year we had a special program for helping such children for compulsory schooling in the pre-primary level and have been able to cover 455 nos. of children in our NFE centers. It is mentionable that 121 nos. of children have been admitted to primary schools from our NFE centers. We need to expand this programme and require more resources to sustain this activity.

### **Nabarun Sishu Bikash Niketan**

Nabarun Seva Niketan also believes that the formal education is essential to ensure a better quality of life for all children and a better world for all people. In our area many poor families, who are not in a position to fulfill the basic needs of their children, generally send the children to work rather than putting them into school. Our organisation has been able to bring a change in this kind of mentality of poor parents in regard to the education of their children. Hence, supporting formal education has always been our thrust area of activity. Today 'Nabarun Sishu Bikash Niketan' has become reputed institution of our locality, which has been running under the management of our organisation since 1990. Presently there are six classes from LKG to class IV in this school with 412 nos. of children, coming from the near by as well as from distant villages. We keep our children engaged not only in curriculum. We provide them also a scope of joyful learning through various cultural programmes, sports and games and other various activities. We keep these little children engaged in prayer, singing songs, performing dance, dramas and participating in various competitions, sports and games for their all-round development. Emphasis is given on character building of the children based on moral values and ethics





The teachers are well trained and committed in their work. Nabarun Seva Niketan management has always given required support for the smooth running of this school. However, the school is striving for its further development in terms of infrastructure. We have a target to upgrade this school into a high school under WBBSE or CBSE as early as possible.

### **Children's Festival**

This is the 29<sup>th</sup> year of Children Festival, which has been organized by Nabarun Seva Niketan in every year since 1979, the International Year for the Children. With our objective to sensitize the community people regarding their duties towards the children and to make them aware of the rights and basic needs of the children, we have organized children festival from 20<sup>th</sup> January to 28<sup>th</sup> January in 2007. During this weeklong programme we have arranged various types of cultural programmes especially by the children. Although we call it 'Children's Festival,' yet many other activities were covered. Colourful Road Rally, Drama, Jatra, Cultural Function by the local artists on songs & dance, Seminars on various topics, Feature Film Show, Baby Show, Programme for the house wives, Children's Health Checkup Camp, Blood Donation Camp, Sports & Games, Joga presentation, Road Race for the Boy's and girls, various competitions, Prize distribution ceremony for the school children etc were included in this programme. Many dignitaries including the high level Government officials, renowned personalities were present. A huge audience from the surrounding areas and distant places came to participate, enjoyed and appreciated this function

on each day. We are grateful to all of them for their kind cooperation. We also observed Netaji's birthday and organized Saraswati puja



on respective days during this Festival. The programme was very much successful in terms of socio cultural point of view.

### **Bed kit distribution for the poor children**

Like other years our organisation has organized this special programme of Bed Kit Distribution for the children who are needy in real sense. Bed kits containing various items for the daily use of needy children were distributed. We received large no. of requests from our surrounding areas, but we have been able to satisfy only a small no. of children. During this year we have been able to support



450 nos. of children who were selected under specific criteria. Rotary Club of Dumdum provides these bed kits. We extend our gratefulness to Rotary Club of Dumdum for their kind support. We will try for more coverage under this programme in future years.

### **Mahila Mandals and SHG activities**

*Mahila Mandal (Women SHGs) is the power point of most of the activities of Nabarun Seva Niketan. In this rural belt our Mahila Mandal is very much active to undertake any kind of social developmental or charitable activities. Our initiatives are directed principally towards the development of these neglected women who are the poorest among the poor in every respect of life. So far the primary achievement of the Mahila Mandal is concerned; our women workers have been able to organize the neglected rural woman and have made them understand that economic empowerment is the real path of their establishment in the society. Today it is observed that the woman in this rural belt participate actively in decision making process along with the male members of the society. Our organisation is successful in bringing a drastic change in the outlook of the rural women who have come in contact with the Nabarun Seva Niketan Mahila Mandal.*

*Our women SHG members are actively involved in our micro-credit programme. They are doing their micro savings in two ways - Group savings as well as Individual savings under the Mahila Mandal. Successful thrift and credit activities by the women SHGs have enabled us to develop a considerable nos. of family based small entrepreneurship in the communities. In the last year we had a Revolving*



*Loan Fund of 8 Lakhs of rupees from which loans were distributed among 174 nos. of women SHG members to take up various types of family based IGAs for their supplementary family income. During last year 1084 women members in the Mahila Mondals have done their individual savings. Few years back Jhumarmal Bachhawat Charitable Trust had contributed Rs.1,00,000/*

*for better functioning of our women development activities, which is still useful. Another charitable organisation "Shree S. S. Jain Sabha" has also supported a fund of Rs.3,00,000/- which was used as revolving fund for women development too. Additionally we had the opportunity to utilize Rs60,000/-, a part of IGSSS project grant under this activity. Many women of these SHGs have already become economically self reliant by initiating some micro enterprises and income generation activities by availing loan from their own group fund or from the Revolving Loan Fund. As a result the women are enjoying more economic freedom. They are in a position to run their families in their own aspiration. More over our women development programme has clubbed in a positive manner with other aspects due to their awareness in regard to family planning, children's education, gender equality, youth development, health and hygiene, protection and optimal utilization of local natural resources etc. Thus with gradual expansion of the Mahila Mondals, Nabarun Seva Niketan has paved the way of community development with empowerment of neglected women.*

### **Tailoring Training for the Rural Women**

*With the tune of women employment our organisation has always given the rural woman a scope to learn and upgrade various skills, which could be helpful for their future life to undertake suitable economic activities. The tailoring training center which was started in the year 1987 is still continuing with 30 nos. of trainees in every year. Our organisation has engaged tailoring experts to train up these ladies so that they can produce varieties of garments, which would be marketable. We are hopeful that the trained woman will find suitable job in the local job market by upgrading their skills. We are really struggling to arrange the financial resources to continue this training programme.*

### **Integrated Training for the Women**

*An integrated program for the empowerment of the women with special attention to the reproductive child health, education and*



livelihood was conducted by our organisation under which an orientation camp on Mother and Child Care for 40 nos. of rural women was organized. This programme also included an One Day Staff Development Training, Camps on Leadership Development, S.H.G promotion & legal Rights for rural women, one camp on Mushroom Cultivation and a training camp for Traditional Birth Attendants with 42 nos. of TBAs. Two Camps for Children Health checkup were also a part of this integrated project. The programme was supported by IGSSS. We are thankful to this funding organisation for their kind support.



### **Medical Aid Center**

We believe that proper development of the community is possible only when the people of a community become healthy. Physically illness makes the people mentally weak, which is a major hindrance in the process of community development. In this rural area the Govt. health support system can not fulfill the need of the area. In order to provide health care support to the people of this area our organisation runs of a Medical Aid Centre especially for the poor rural people. Nabarun Seva Niketan has kept the provision of allopathic, homeopathic and ayurvedic system of treatment in this center. We run this center 5 days in a week This Medical Aid Centre covers especially those medical need of the people, which have the utmost susceptibility like gynecology, pediatric, ophthalmic, dental as well as general treatment. Modern medical treatment in most of the cases is based on various types of pathological investigations. Since the facility of good quality pathological test

is not accessible to the poor patients, we also run a pathological unit in our Medical Aid Centre, where local patients avail the facility of various types of tests in cheaper rate. During last year we have been able to provide treatment to 6384 nos. of patient under this project. Free medicines are given to the destitute patients, which is supplied by the department of health, Government of West Bengal through Red Cross Society. Jain Sabha of Kolkata has also extended their support by sending their doctors regularly. We have decided to upgrade this medical aid center with modern equipments and by other infrastructural development. Our organisation has a rich background of Ayurvedic treatment along with herbal medicine production. We intend to flourish this stream by establishing an Ayurvedic research unit as well in our organisation. We need to mobilise more resources for better functioning of this Medical Aid Centre in all respect.



### **Blood donation camp**

Conducting blood donation camps in memory of Late Shri Jhumarmal Bachawat has become a regular programme by our organisation for the last many years. There are many social minded motivated people who are eager to do something as the social obligations, get the opportunity to come forward during our blood donation camps. In the last year we have organized this programme in collaboration with Life Care Kolkata, Midnapur Blood Bank and Contai Blood Bank where 184 nos. of people donated their valuable blood. This



programme enables us to provide regular support to those poor patients who require blood but cannot afford to purchase that in case of medical emergency. During last year 98 nos. of poor patients have been benefited to get blood free of cost against our blood donors' cards. We are thankful to Jhumarmal Bachhawat Charitable Trust, Kolkata for their valuable support for this programme.

### **Hepatitis-B camp**

Organising immunization camp for the children has got a lot of community support in this year. Whenever we have organized any kind of health camp for the children the community people has responded whole heartedly. We don't have any doubt of tell that the mothers of our community today are much advanced to get their children immunized. A simple announcement is more than sufficient to assemble the mother along with their children, which really happened in our field camps the last this year. Vaccinations of Hepatitis-B for the little children were organized in 18 nos. camp, where 1142 nos. of little children have been benefited.

### **Development of Eye Hospital (Ophthalmic Medicare Center)**

Nabarun Seva Niketan has been working for last two decades in the field of ophthalmic care. We have observed that the most of the eye patients in this area suffer from low vision due to cataract. Other than cataract cases, ophthalmic refraction problem, Glaucoma, Terisium, Sack, external infections are very common. More over ash and coal dust coming out from six giant chimneys of this power plant is affecting the eyes of

thousands of people staying in this area . As there is no eye hospital within the radius of 30 kms the poor eye patients are deprived of getting qualitative eye treatment. Eye patients who require surgery are referred to the reputed eye hospitals in Kolkata, Haldia or to the dist. town hospital at Tamluk..



Our organization has a very rich experience in organizing free Eye Camps. During the period from 1992 to 2003 we organized eye camps in every year with the support from Helpage International and conducted operations for more than 7000 eye patients by conventional method of surgery. Additionally our organization has been running an eye clinic since 1986 -87. The existing clinic has certain limitations, as it is not properly equipped. Treatment of any complicated eye disease is not possible in this set up. So far the continuation of free eye camp is concerned, the Govt. in the year 2002-2003 took a policy not to provide permission for surgery in temporary OT in camp site Since then we have decided not to organize camps until we properly buildup our base hospital. Hence, during last few years we are in the process of establishing an Eye Hospital (Ophthalmic Medicare Center) for the benefit of the poor eye patients. The construction work for this hospital has already been completed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of our organization- building covering an area about 6000 sq ft. This would be a 25 bedded hospital with separate male and female wards, cabins, Operation Theatre, equipped by all ultramodern ophthalmic & surgical instruments. Many kindhearted donors have provided



assistance while many have assured to support for this project. Govt. of W.B. has given some grant while our appeals to other potential donors are under process. We are hopeful to start our eye hospital by the end of 2007 and also intend to resume our free eye-camps for the benefit of poor rural eye patients as early as possible. We need support from all corners.

### **Capacity building of the youths**

During the last year our organisation has given a special attention to the capacity building of the youths so that they can perform a positive role in the field of social development. We have been able to conduct four nos. regional (South Bengal) workshops and a state level 'Orientation Training of National Service Volunteers' in association with NYK. Participants from various grass root level NGOs, VO's, CBO's and many NYS volunteers have been trained up on various aspects of social development in these capacity building workshops. Renowned personalities from New Delhi and Kolkata came as resource persons. A wide range of conceptual training were provided on various topics like Model village, Role of an organizer, Areas of conflict, Concept of group – objective, role & functions, Understanding youth club, needs & priorities, formation, management and potentialities of youth club, Understanding SHGs, role & function of SHG etc. Participants were given training on understanding project, the techniques for formulating project proposal, concept of monitoring and evaluation, indicators for evaluation, organizing programmes in the field, financial accounting, maintaining records etc. Special focus was given to inculcate the sense of nationalism among the youths on the line of dream



of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. Orientation was given on their self development & personal management and on other important relevant aspects. A total no. of 600 youths of either sex attended this round the year youth development programme.

### **Adopting older persons (SAGP)**



With an objective to provide better quality of life to the older people, Nabarun Seva Niketan has been running an age care programme by adopting older persons, supported by HelpAge India since 1996-97. Presently the project is known as SAGP (Sponsor A Grand Parent) programme. Currently we have 97 numbers of older beneficiaries out of which 86 older persons are sponsored by overseas donors through Helpage International assisted by 'Help the Aged-UK'. All of our beneficiaries are aged women. The status of 'adopted grannies' has been changed into 'sponsored grannies'. Presently we are working for a gradual shift to a more developmental pattern for the use of sponsorship money. Presently our project is running under two guiding principles viz. (i) Community - based and

driven, empowering older people and strengthening family and community support mechanisms , and (ii) Intergenerational in its approach. While we are implementing the project we are also trying to make it self sustainable, which will lead to non-dependency on donors money although we feel it a tough job. We are using a part of the sponsorship money for supporting various types of income generation activities by selected beneficiaries along with their family members. We are grateful to HelpAge India and Helpage International for continuation of this valuable support to these helpless older people for a prolonged period.

### **Livelihood support for older persons**

Nabarun seva Niketan provides livelihood assistance for the older people through loan support activity from a revolving fund for the families of poor aged farmers, engaged in floriculture activity in our area. This revolving fund was provided by HelpAge India some five years back. We are happy to mention that the project has been sustaining and expanding for the benefit of the families of older persons. The older beneficiaries are taking loan and repaying their dues regularly. By the assistance of this project floriculture has become a round the year activity for the families of selected beneficiaries, where the older beneficiaries can play a vital role by arranging the working capital in that family based IGP , without going to the private money lenders. This vital role has given our older beneficiaries a special status in their respective families. Today they are living in their families with dignity because they have a major contribution and tangible role for improving the overall quality of lives of their family members including themselves by protecting their families from the exploitation of rural money lenders. The local money lenders have been outclassed, which can be considered as a major outcome of this project. As on 31<sup>st</sup> March 07, the number of beneficiaries has reached to 189 out of which many them have taken loan for the second or third occasion after repaying their previous loans. We are thankful to HelpAge India for this assistance.

### **Observance of the Days of Special Significance**



Nabarun Seva Niketan has the tradition to observe the days which have special significance. Like other years we have observed some Red Letter Days in this year like The Republic Day, The Independence Day, Birth Day of Mahatma Gandhi, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and Rabindranath Tagore . To observe those days we organised cultural programmes seminars etc. Community people in general, students from different schools and the members of our organisation had participated in those programmes. Besides, we also observed the International women's day and World environment day to raise social awareness in this Year.