

***NABARUN***

***SEVA***

***NIKETAN***

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***ANNUAL REPORT***

***2007 - 2008***

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## An Overview from the Secretary



I am extremely happy to present the annual report of Nabarun Seva Niketan for the year 2007-2008 to share our experience, achievements as well as the hurdles we have crossed in continuing our development action programmes in remote rural areas of Kolaghat block in West Bengal. This report is an informative profile of the development activities carried out by our organisation during the period under review. Activities of our organisation have been aimed to uplift the quality of lives from darkness of those people, who belong to the under privileged section of our society, living below the poverty line.

During this year under review, we have given special focus on direct intervention on community health, child development, women's issues, micro finance and livelihood promotion, Eye-Care Center development and various other activities. With a mission to strengthen human efforts to strive for a change that will ensure safety, security and empowerment for those people in the society who are down trodden by poverty and lack of privilege by opportunity, the objective of Nabarun Seva Niketan is to find out the most needy people, giving emphasis on the vulnerable mothers & their children for the purpose to fulfill their need and to buildup their capacity as well as by clubbing their activities with the process of sustainable socio economic development. We are concerned for those people who suffer for lack of resources, education or do not have any exposure. Our important achievements have been the capacity building of the people to train them up for their self sustainable development. I ardently hope that along with our efforts of improving the lot of the suffering humanity, Nabarun Seva Niketan will continue to strive to create a healthy human society by raising the standards of living of the poor people including women and children, irrespective of caste, creed and religion.

Before I conclude, I like to convey my heartiest thanks and gratitude to all of our donors and well-wishers for their valuable support. I would like to convey my greetings to all of our members for their voluntary service. We are grateful to the local administration also for their cooperation during this year. In the future years we will continue to strive for providing better service to the humanity. In this effort we need your kind support and wholehearted cooperation.

Thanking you.

**Ajoy Kumar Chakraborty**  
**Secretary**  
**Nabarun Seva Niketan.**

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

**Nabarun Sishu Bikash Niketan**

**Children's Festival**

**Bed kit distribution for the needy children**

**Mahila Mandals and SHG activities**

**Integrated women empowerment programme**

**Hepatitis-B camp**

**Tailoring Training for the Rural Women**

**Youth development programme**

**Medical Aid Center**

**Development of Eye Hospital**

**Blood donation camp**

**HIV-AIDS Awareness Programme**

**Sponsorship programme for the older people**

**Livelihood support for older persons**

**Observance of National Consumers Day**

**Observance of special days**

**Disaster Relief Programme**

**Non-Formal Education for the pre- school children (Balwadi Centres):**

School attendance by a child in India is highly correlated with family income. We believe that education is the only weapon to fight against the poverty while educating children is essential to ensure a better quality of life for all children and a better world for all people. Underprivileged children in our country mostly do not have access to education. Hence it is essential to make the parents aware about



importance of sending their children to schools. With an eye to the over all mission of our organisation, we have taken up supporting activities for the neglected children. In our operational area we have found a large no. of working mothers generally leave behind their children unprotected 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. Our organisation gives special effort to find out and put poor kids in our child development 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 are provided with free education, playing materials, free health care in this programme. We run this program for helping poor children for compulsory schooling in the pre-primary level and prepare them to be admitted to the primary schools. We deal with this preprimary level of children by a joyful method of learning rather than punishment based teaching techniques. Our teachers provide them elementary education with motherly loving and caring technique in a nice environment to make them accustomed to the school environment. The children learn language & basic numerical lessons. We have been able to introduce a modern method of teaching which these kids enjoy for learning and this method has become popular in our community. Our teaching technique involves story-telling, singing songs and rhymes, learning by playing etc. which gives enormous joy in learning system. The parents prefer to put their children in our schools because in comparison to pre primary level children of Govt. balwadi schools or other local schools, the little

of our schools do better result in the admission tests for Formal Primary Schools. community people have a faith on our grooming up or in the process of nurturing school level children which have developed years. In this rural belt our pre-primary have some special reputation. During past years 1514 numbers of children have gone through our programme. Most of the children are studying in high schools. Presently we are running 14 such schools and during the year under review 343 children have been studying in those schools while 70 students have been admitted to the primary schools from our balwadi centers.



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**Nabarun Sishu Bikash Niketan**



The scenario of school dropout in our area is not better than the other rural areas of West Bengal. 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. By raising awareness regarding the child rights, our organisation has been able to bring a change in our community regarding continuation of studies of the children. 'Nabarun Sishu Bikash Niketan' has been



running since 1990 as a reputed institution of our locality, which has been managed by our organisation. In this year we have six classes from LKG to class IV with total student strength of 375. We keep our children engaged not only in studies. We provide them also a scope of extra curriculum activities through various cultural programmes, sports and games, songs, dance, dramas competitions etc. Special importance is given for their all-round development particularly on the nature building of the children based on good moral values and ethics. In view of the need of the locality our organisation is planning for the further expansion of the school in all respect.

### Children's Festival (Annual Bal-Mela)



Like previous years, Nabarun Seva Niketan has successfully celebrated the 30th year of children's festival during the period from the 22nd to 30th December, 2007. We have been organizing this event in every year since 1979, which was



celebrated as the 'International Year for the Children'. We consider this programme as our annual function while the main objective of this programme is to sensitize the community people regarding the rights and basic needs of the children. Like previous years various cultural functions as well as welfare events have been organized during this weeklong programme like Baby Show, Children's Health Checkup Camp, Prize distribution ceremony for the school children, Cultural Function by the local artists on songs & dance, Colourful Road Rally, Drama, Jatra, sit and draw for the children (supported by Victoria Memorial Hall), Seminars on various topics, Feature Film Show, Programme for the housewives, Blood Donation Camp, Sports & Games, Road Race for the Boys and girls, various types of competitions etc. A beautiful flower exhibition and a Model Exhibition on Freedom movement were organized; clothes and blankets were distributed among the destitute people on this occasion. Like other years there was a huge gathering in this programme in each day. Many dignitaries including the high level Government officials, celebrities of various fields were present. We got a lot of cooperation from

the local administration as well as from the local community people for which we are thankful to all of them.

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

Distribution of some essential items of daily use including bedroll for the children of poor families has



become a regular programme of our annual Children Festival. Like other years our organisation has organized this special programme of Bed Kit Distribution. The event was organized on the 19th January 2008. As usual we received large no. of requests from our surrounding areas, and we have been able to satisfy 900 nos. of children during this year who were selected under specific criteria. The number of beneficiaries has been doubled in comparison to the previous years. Like other years Rotary Club of Dumdum provides these bed kits. We extend our

thanks and gratitude to Rotary Club of Dumdum for this assistance.

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

The thrust area of the development initiative of our organisation is directed principally towards the



development of neglected women which, we feel is the precondition of a balanced social development. NSN Mahila Mandal (Women SHGs) is the center of most of the activities of Nabarun Seva Niketan. In this rural belt our Mahila Mandal is very much active to carry out any kind of social developmental or charitable programme. The team of Social animators under this programme have been working for a prolonged period to build up the

capacity of poor and neglected women to enable them to overcome the socio-economic problems and thereby facilitate their all round development by themselves. Presently the Project covers nearly 1230 women members under 183 SHGs in 44 villages in Kolaghat Block, of Purba Medinipur. NSN Mahila Mondals are actively involved in our micro finance programme and have played a leading role to launch micro enterprises to improve the economic condition of the families. One of the basic objectives of Micro Enterprise Development is to ensure the fundamental rights of women at all stages of their life by promoting economic self reliance. They are doing their micro savings in two ways - Group savings as well as Individual savings under the Mahila Mondal. 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. Our organisation has facilitated linkage of this programme with other donors and financial institutions to obtain loan for their micro finance activities. Few years back Jhumural Bachhawat Charitable Trust had contributed Rs.1,00,000/ for better functioning of our women development activities , which is still useful. In the last year we had a Revolving Loan Fund of more than 10Lakhs of rupees from which was distributed among 205 nos. of women SHG members to take up various types of family based IGAs enabling them to supplement their family income. An esteemed charitable organisation "Shree S. S. Jain Sabha" has also supported a fund of Rs8,50,000 which was used as revolving fund for women development too. Additionally we had the opportunity to utilize Rs 60,000/- , from IGSSS project grant under this head. Loans were made available to the members of the groups on different trades women like agriculture, floriculture, pond fishery, cultivation of vegetable, petty vending, grocery business etc. Many of these SHGs have already become economically self reliant by initiating some micro enterprises and income generation activities by availing loan from there own group fund or from the Revolving Loan Fund. It is remarkable that the Mahila Mondals have been capacitating and strengthening themselves rapidly. In order to achieve it, regular trainings were conducted for the SHG members on Group management, trade identification, marketing, accounts keeping etc. So far the primary achievement of the Mahila Mandal is concerned; our women workers have been able to organize the



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neglected rural woman and have made them understand that economic empowerment is the real path of their establishment in the society. As an impact it could be asserted that gaining supplementary income has led them to improve their living standard. By the implementation of this project most of the beneficiary families have been able to come out from the vicious cycle of poverty. We are happy to mention today the impact of this drive that the women in this rural belt have empowered themselves to participate actively in decision making process along with the male members of the society

### **Integrated women empowerment programme**

During the year under review our organisation has undertaken an integrated program for the empowerment of the women with special attention to the reproductive Child health, education and livelihood. With the objectives to develop awareness among the rural women on health & hygiene,



orientation camps have been organized on mother and child care for village women. For the immunization of children four nos. of health cheek up camps have been organized in this year. In those camps 457 nos. of fully immunized children and their mothers were benefited. We are happy to say that required level of awareness has been developed in our operational area on health & hygiene as well as on the immunization of children. In order to support the RCH programme in this locality, we have conducted training programme of the Traditional Birth Attendants (TBA)

of this area. By the implementation of this project 41 nos. of TBAs have been trained, which has ensured improved reproductive health of women and reduced 'Infant Mortality Rate' in our community. The project has also raised awareness among 81 nos. of lactating mothers regarding reproductive health and early child hood care. As an integrated component of the programme, initiatives have been taken to promote low cost herbal health practice in the villages. The project also included the assessment of overall status of the women in our community and strengthening the women organizations to act as groups to fight against all types of exploitations and also enabling them to take legal measures for the women atrocities in the area. Training programme was conducted on the development perspective especially on the leadership development for 90 no of women. Training was imparted to 124 nos. of women on SHG activities and on the 'Legal rights of women'. In order to create employment avenues for the women which would help them to supplement their family incomes, training for the women members on various income generating activities like mushroom cultivation etc has been organized . Revolving fund support has been provided to the women groups on pisciculture and floriculture activities. Financial assistance and guidance for this entire programme have been received from 'Indo Global Social Service Society' for which we are thankful to this funding organisation.

### **Hepatitis-B camp**



1157 nos. of little children in this year.

Child immunization has been covered as a part of the integrated programme for the women in this year. Organizing immunization camp for the children has got a spontaneous support from the community people. Mothers of our community today are very much aware to get their children immunized. We have taken a separate project to immunize children by Hepatitis-B vaccination in this year. For this purpose our organisation has organized 13 nos. of camps, and has immunized

### **Tailoring Training for the Rural Women Tailoring Training Centre (Skill development for Self Reliance programme)**

The tailoring training center which was started in the year 1987 with a small grant from Govt. of W.B is continuing for more than last 20 years by putting our own resources. Since NSN has always given the rural woman a scope to and upgrade their various ensuring their employment, could be helpful for their to undertake suitable economic activities, we continued to train up rural this tailoring activity in our Training Centre. Our organisation has engaged instructor and an assistant teacher - to train up these ladies so that they can produce varieties of garments. NYK has provided some assistance towards this training programme in this year. We are hopeful that the trained woman will find suitable job in the local job market by upgrading their skills. During the year under review we have been able to provide 80 nos. of sewing machines among the trained ladies under an interest free loan scheme, supported by S.S. Jain Sabha.



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### **Youth development programme**

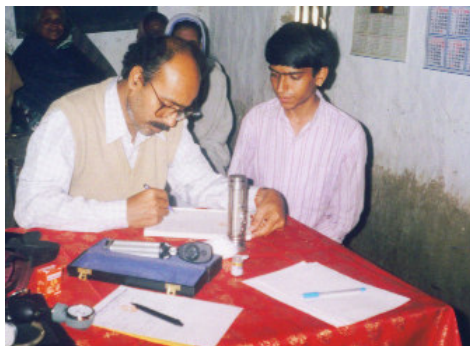
Nabarun Seva Niketan is considered by the local administration as a very effective NGO in this rural belt for Rural Information Dissemination on various issues. It is also considered as a potential organisation for training of grass root level NGO workers. During the last year our organisation was utilized for organizing the capacity building workshops for the rural youths so that they can



perform a positive role in the field of social development. In order to capacitate our organisation to perform effectively, various training equipments were given by NYK to upgrade our infrastructure. With our improved infrastructure we have been able to provide logistic support to various Govt. and other youth development training programmes. NYK has used our training center as National Integration Camp where delegates of seven states have participated. The programme was organized during the period from 6th March to 12th March, 08 successfully.

## **Medical Aid Center (Community the Ultimate Health Care Services to provide)**

In our rural area the Govt. health support system can not fulfill the need of the area because the health care condition in the area is inadequate. Considering the catchment -area of our programme being four blocks viz. Kolaghat, Tamluk, and Sahid Matangini with a total population nearly 13 Lakhs, the said area has eight PHCs. Limited health care facilities are in those block level PHCs. There is only one district located in the district town Tamluk, which is more



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Km away from our organisation. The overall picture of health care facilities is not at all appreciable. In order to provide health care support to the people of this area our organisation runs a Medical Aid Centre especially for the poor rural people. We run this center 6 days in a week. This Medical Aid Centre covers especially those medical needs of the people, which have the utmost susceptibility like gynecology, pediatrics, ophthalmic as well as general treatment. Nabarun Seva Niketan has kept the provision of allopathic, homeopathic and ayurvedic system of treatment in this center. 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 in our organisation. We also run a pathological unit in our Medical Aid Centre, from where local patients avail the facility of various types of tests. In view of the community health care need, our organisation delivers this service in a cheaper rate in comparison to the market. Our organisation has covered 8871 nos. of patients by this Medical Aid Centre in this year. Now onwards we are upgrading the ophthalmic care unit under a separate programme.

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

We have been running an eye clinic especially for the poor rural eye patients since 1986. During the period from 1992 to 2003, we organized eye camps in every year with the funding support from Help International and conducted free cataract operations for more than 7000 aged eye patients by conventional method of surgery. Since the



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took a policy in 2003, not to provide permission to NGOs for surgery in temporary OT in camp site, we suspended camp surgery and started constructing our own eye hospital. Recently we have completed construction of a fully equipped eye hospital. Presently our hospital has a four storied building measuring a total covered area of more than 28,000 sq.ft. The ground floor is being used as OPD and pathological lab. This newly equipped OPD was inaugurated on the 18th June, 08. Mr. Akihiro Oikawa, the Hon'ble Sr. Vice- Consul of the Japanese Consulate had given his consent to inaugurate the OPD. But due to unavoidable circumstances Mr. Rameswar Mishra, Hon'ble District Secretary, Indian Red Cross Society, Tamluk took the chair in absence of Mr. Oikawa and inaugurated the hospital OPD . Under this upgradation programme the 2nd floor of our building has been developed with a big OT room (400 sft) with an anti room as fumigation buffer, equipment-sterilization room, surgeons' dressing room, two separate wards for the male(612sft) and female(650sft) patients with 20 beds, 5 nos. of single-bed- cabins , RMOs rest room , Nurses/attendants rest rooms , store room office room, total 14 nos. of toilets – attached to the respective wards and cabins and staff rooms. This would be a 25 beded hospital. We are going to start surgery in our eye hospital shortly. For this up gradation many kindhearted donors have provided assistance while the major support was received from the Japanese Consulate. A part of the project was also supported by the. Govt.of W.B. On behalf our organisation we extend our gratefulness to all of our donors and well wishers for this project.

## Blood donation camp

Conducting blood donation camps in memory of Late Shri Jhumurmali Bachawat has become a regular programme by our organisation for last many years. programme enables us to provide regular support to poor patients who require blood but cannot afford to blood in case of medical emergency. In the last year organized this programme on 23rd December ,07 in collaboration with Life Care Kolkata, Midnapur Blood Tamluk Blood Bank and Contai Blood Bank where 244 voluntary blood donors have given their blood. All donors were provided with certificate along with a During this year 67 nos. of poor patients have been benefited to get blood free of cost against our blood cards. We extend our thanks and gratitude to Jhumarmali Bachhawati Charitable Trust, Kolkata, for their continued assistance towards this noble work .



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## HIV-AIDS Awareness Programme

In the 1st decade of the twenty first century, world epidemic spreads with 1 new HIV infection in every 15 seconds. There has been no such dangerous disease that has spread so quickly to affect so many millions of



people in the world. As a country of over one billion population and around half of the population being adults in the sexually active age group, India is about to be hit by the world's worst AIDS epidemic. Situation in West Bengal is also alarming. Being a community based NGO in South Bengal; Nabarun Seba Niketan is very much active in raising awareness on various issues, which are the main hindrances in social development. As situation demands, creating awareness in the society for prevention of HIV/AIDS has become one of the priority areas of our organisation. Since Purba Medinipur is directly connected by NH-6 (Bombey road), and our area is a junction of different State Highways and the National Highway, the truck drivers from different states of Western and Southern part of our country comes to the area and take journey break here. As these truck drivers are the main carriers of HIV-AIDS, hence our area is vulnerable for spreading of this infection. During this year in the month of February, 08 we have organized a seminar on this issue which was supported by dept. of Health Govt. of W.B.

### **Sponsorship programme for the older people (Sponsor A Grand Parent)**

Due to gradual imbalanced development in our society, the traditional joint family system is breaking down. Older people of the poorer section are affected and do not have any support for existence. During the period for more than last Nabarun Seba Niketan has been functioning for various age care projects. Among these we are running an age care project known as (Sponsor A Grand Parent) supported by the based charity organization Helpage International, through the managing agency



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HelpAge India. The objective of the project is to improve the quality of lives of those poor and neglected older persons who have no one else to look after. Selected older women belong to 31 nos. of villages in our project area. When our project was started in 1997, we selected the most vulnerable older persons, neglected by their family members. Presently the SAGP 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. Currently we have 97 numbers of older beneficiaries out of which 86 older persons are sponsored. All of our beneficiaries are aged women. In this project we are working for a gradual shift to a more developmental pattern for the use of sponsorship money. While we are implementing the project we are also trying to make it self sustainable. The older people play a key role in the decision making process in the project. A beneficiary committee



ensures participatory monitoring system. In consultation with the beneficiaries and considering their strength and existing opportunities in the community, we are initiating different kinds of income generation activities such as flower gardening, medicinal plant gardening, betel-leaf plant gardening, family based production of flower-garlands, bouquets, herbal medicines and other trades related to this activities. In

this year we have brought into a new approach in the community development by our grannies. We have formed six Self Help Groups by 86 sponsored grannies. They are attending the monthly meeting and discussing the problems of their areas and trying to workout best possible way outs to solve those problems. All these six SHGs of older women have opened their separate bank accounts. One of these groups has raised some money to help a poor but meritorious local student to buy his books. Another SAGP-SHG has raised some funds for flood relief programme. It is a good example of group work to motivate the other groups to do something positive. We are grateful to HelpAge India for extending their assistance and guidance towards this programme.

### **Livelihood support for older persons (Revolving Fund for IGP)**



Another age care project is being run by our organisation since 2001 towards livelihood assistance for the older people. The project involves loan support from a revolving fund for the families of poor aged farmers, engaged in floriculture activity in our area. 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 depending on the private money lenders. As on 31st March 08, the number of beneficiaries under this project has crossed 227. We are thankful to HelpAge India for this assistance. This vital

role has given our older beneficiaries a special status in their respective families. This revolving fund was provided by HelpAge India some six 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. A steady flow of fund is being observed during last six years. 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 in our project area, which can be considered as a major outcome of this project.

### **Observance of National Consumers Day**

The Consumer movement is a socio-economic that seeks to protect the rights of the consumers in the goods purchased and services availed. The success consumer movement mainly depends upon the level consumer awareness generated. Government of India accorded high priority to the programme of consumer



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In this year the Department of Consumer Affairs has given us responsibility to implement an awareness generation programme on consumer rights. In order to raise awareness among the people about consumers' rights our organisation had conducted a motorcycle rally from Nabarun Seva Niketan , Pulsita to Digha on the occasion of 'National Consumer Day' on 24th December 2007. We are happy

to mention that 104 nos. of bikers from this locality have participated in this colourful bike-rally. A seminar was also organized on this occasion in our venue. The programme was successful to achieve the objective of this programme.

### Observance of special days



Among various activities Nabarun Seva Niketan takes special initiative to observe those days which have the special significance .Like other years we have observed some special days viz Independence Day, Republic Day, Birthday of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Mahatma Gandhi and Rabindranath Tagore. Some other days of special significance like International Women's Day and World Environment Day were also observed.

### Disaster Relief Programme

A vast area of Purba Medinipur district was devastated due rainfall and cyclone in the month of September 2007. Many under Panskura and Kolaghat blocks were severely affected natural calamity. Lacks of people were affected. Most of agricultural land, rural link roads, and human habitats in this were absolutely under the water and thousands of people homeless. Relief assistance in association with Lutheran World was given by our organisation



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