

REPORT (1-4-1990 — 31-3-1991)

**SOCIETY FOR
EQUITABLE
VOLUNTARY
ACTIONS
[SEVA]**

VIKAS KENDRA

(a project of Society for Equitable
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Back-drop

The nation is passing through a severe crisis. We completed this year under dark shadows cast by the crises of identity and credibility on the political, economic, social and moral plains.

Moral and ethical values are taking a severe beating. Among the more pressing problems is the perilous state of country's economy. Steep rise in prices, threat of spiralling inflation, run away governmental expenditure, looming debt trap among other problems are causing rapid fall of India's credit and credibility rating.

As a result of all these, the entire tempo of development and growth has slowed down.

The propagation of unsustainable lifestyles by the rich and our inability to meet the genuine needs of the poor for fuel, fodder, food, fibre and water are factors that have contributed to the all round decline, creating a unbridgeable gap between pelf and penury.

Mr Y. P. Gupta, Ex-Principal Scientist of I.A.R.I., recently wrote that in 1976 crop losses because of insects, pests and diseases amounted to Rs. 3,300 crores. To combat such huge losses, use of pesticides like DDT, BHC and Malathion forming more than 50% of the total consumption rose from 2,000 tonnes in the year 1950 to a staggering figure of 80,000 tonnes in the year 1990; but yet crop losses did not diminish. On the other hand, the loss figure for 1990 doubled to Rs. 6,000 crores. It may be noted here that DDT, BHC and Aldrin have been banned in the western countries.

The above is just one of the examples of our degradation in the agro-economic field. The seriousness of the situation cannot be exaggerated.

Heat, dust and noise thrown up by the recently held electioneering campaigns rose to a crescendo. Elections are the

very bricks of democracy and are of momentous significance. But in the these elections, environment got a backseat. Manifestos made hollow promises. Lokayan feels that environment has been treated as an isolated issue in every manifesto rather than pervading it through all aspects of the policies outlined by the parties.

Rajiv Gandhi set himself to t h e task of correcting these wrongs in his early days with the help of modern tools. Co-operation, co-existence and computers would have been cornerstones of a modern democracy in his India.

He wrote "As I travel around the villages of India, I feel the seething tension of expectations... .. I see a glaring contrast between the vast sums of money being spent on development and the spectacle before our eyes".

He could not right the wrongs he saw. The onus is on us now. To carry on the unfinished task of development with equity will be the right tribute to avenge his tragic end.

With this skeleton scenario as the back-drop—we begin our Annual Report for the year 1990-91.

Some significant steps—Titumeer Fair

Since 1987 we have been organising a rural fair named after Titumeer, who belonged to our area and was India's first martyr in quest of her freedom. He gave his life in 1831.

The fair was held on March 30, 31 and April 1, '90. There were 19 stalls in all. Various Government Departments (both State and Central) like Social Forestry, Save Grain Campaign and Sericulture participated in the fair. Stalls set up by Appropriate Technology; International Eye Bank, Calcutta; Information Department; Bijnan Sathi; Association of Voluntary Blood Donors, West Bengal depicted popular sciences and their social relevance. In the Appropriate Technology stall, we shown smokeless 'chullah' (3,500 of which we built in different villages), solar cooker (which we use regularly) and many special agricultural equipments, which we are popularising. Each day discussions were held on en-

vironment, popular science, agriculture, animal husbandry etc. participated by eminent social thinkers, scientists and government officials. The villagers enjoyed films, slide shows and cultural functions every evening. More than 25000 men and women visited the exhibitions during the fair. It appears that the message of popular science and appropriate technology has reached most of the villagers.

During the fair a 40 strong Scout Group pedalled in from Taki on bicycles. Sri Niranjan Halder, a journalist from Ananda Bazar Patrika and Sri Bipul Roy, a well-known social worker participated in the discussion on development. Patriotic songs were presented by Anamika of Ashoknagar; Pathik group of Calcutta staged a social drama 'TapurTupur' and another group Pragati Sangha also presented a drama of topical interest. A film entitled 'The voice of Baliapal' was screened on the occasion. Ms. Elisabeth Kreuz, distributed certificates to the successful animal husbandry trainees.

Science and Technology Department of Government of West Bengal accorded a grant of Rs. 3000/- for propagation of science during the fair.

Earth Day—April 22, 1990

Two hundred million citizens acted on a worldwide scale to launch the Green Decade. The overwhelming response from individuals, NGOs and active community in 141 countries made it one of the largest events in human history. The effects of the Earth Day 1990 in educational systems around the world were paramount. School children and adults alike planted millions of trees. Literally, hundreds of thousands of environmental education programmes were launched. Observations on local environmental problems do contribute to bringing out more thorough information for drawing global attention to them. In our village level, specific beds for tree plantations were dug at the roadsides near Vikas Kendra and other places by the local youth and students of non-formal schools. A meeting organised at the hall of the Vikas

Kendra, was addressed by Dr. P. N. Chatterjee, Prof. N. Bose, Shree Nazes Afroz and Shree Alauddin Ahmed on the occasion. Shree Abdus Samad, Headmaster—Atghara Junior High School presided over the meeting.

We also joined the observance of the World Environment Day on 5th May 1990 at the Calcutta University organised by Swastha-O-Paribesh, a journal devoted to health and environment.

Mondal-Mandir-Masjid-Managing

In our last report we remarked "As we work in a Muslim dominated area, we can feel the sensitiveness of this community. It is a misfortune that they still suffer from an uncertainty of their future and a minority complex". We reiterate "We are against any sort of fissiparous tendencies and we feel that one of the pillars of the Indian Constitution is its secularity". To achieve this objective, we closely co-operated with the CUNIC (Calcutta University National Integration Council Harmony) and the PANNICH (People's Action Network for National Integration & Communal Harmony).

Sri Gour Kishore Ghosh, an eminent journalist, took initiative to restore communal amity at Bhagalpur, Bihar. He convened two workshops with interested persons at Barddhaman and we attended both of these.

As communal situation deteriorated in the country, some leftist stalwarts and literary persons like Mahasweta Devi convened a meeting at the Students Hall, Calcutta, we joined this too. PANNICH also organised a public convention on 29 October 1990 at the Muslim Institute Hall, where we took a sizable number of youth from the village. We felt that we must act against criminalisation of politics and we must not allow the unfortunate and ugly controversy centering Babri Mosque-Ram Janambhumi Temple to obliterate our sanity.

Recently the country jogged with the recommendations of

the Mondal Commission to ensure better permeance of the marginalised population known in Indian jargon as OBC (Other Backward Classes), often called EBC (Extremely Backward Class), through reservation of post for them in government services. We have full sympathy for the recommendations and feel 'Mondal' should manage the Mandir-Masjid controversy. 'Mondal', at least, has spoken about the legitimacy of upward movement of the ostracized million, as the only way to achieving national integration.

One of our reasons for holding celebrations in the memory of Titumeer is that he is one of the most flaming symbols of national integration. Although he was intently a religious person, many Hindu farmers joined him to fight against the religious bigotry of the then oppressive landlords and exploitation of foreign indigo planters.

We believe that mass issues to be resolved through mass actions. Peace loving forces must assert themselves against communal frenzy. We cannot simply connive at the atrocities here and there. In a critical local situation, we asserted ourselves and we are able to maintain communal hermony.

On 19 November, the day on which Titumeer breathed his last in 1831, we took out an amity procession this year with 312 participants on bicycles drawn from the different strata. They took part in the 'Maitri Yatra' (Friendship Rally) and covered sensitive areas. It was led by Prof. Shantimoy Ray (CUNIC), Sri Jahirul Islam (PANNICH), Sri Abdus Samad (Head-master) and 7 girls from our project area. This amity rally produced the desired effects in restoring confidence of the minority in the area.

Dharmagola Project : A landmark

Vikas Samabayika, our Co-operative wing, with a view to render financial aid to some marginal farmers, made an experiment by purchasing mustard seeds worth Rs. 700/- last year just at the beginning of the harvest season. After several months the same stock was sold out at nearly double of the

purchase price. It was a positive proof of distress sale. Farmers become obliged to dispose of their yield produced with hard labour at the beginning of each harvest season to meet their urgent needs and as they are forced to sell at any price, they very often do not get even the production cost. Such distress sales are one of the reasons of gradual pauperization of the marginal and small farmers.

In our last report we said "We have major plans like building a 'Dharmagola' (Community Granary under the wing of this co-operative)".

Fortunately Indienhilfe, our partner organisation, was able to secure the support of BMZ (Ministry of Economic Cooperation, better known as Ministry of Development Aid, Germany) for our Dharmagola Project.

In the last week of September '90 we got the happy news that this Project had received the green signal from BMZ. Indienhilfe rightly said that "This project is a real challenge as well regarding its content as its organisational aspect", particularly because of the close target date for completion of its construction viz. 31 December '90.

We signed the agreement with Indienhilfe and appointed Pace Consultants (P) Ltd. as our Architect in the month of September '90 itself. In early October '90 a special Registration Court was commissioned in the village and the major part of the project land was transferred in favour of SEVA. Village elders did their best in securing a suitable plot very quickly as well as easy access from the project-plot to the major arterial road passing through the village. The plot is located in the heart of the village.

Pace Consultants (P) Ltd. in their turn after floating tenders appointed Blue Star Construction Co. as Builders. The foundation work started on 19 October '90, a red letter day for us. We conund that we had exactly 73 days to complete a construction costing Rs. 0.5 million.

BMZ's contribution of Rs.3,96,542 to Indienhilfe was trans-

ferred to SEVA quickly. Indienenhilfe has also given a matching grant of 25% amounting to Rs. 1,28,192, to which we have added our own contribution of Rs. 19,000 in order to meet the inflationary cost.

The land has cost nearly Rs.50,000 and the building complex including furniture & fixtures etc. nearly Rs. 5,00,000.

The Dharmagola complex consists of:

Store House...1452 sq. ft.	WC, Urinal, Bath & Toilet
Feed House... 234 sq. ft	... 40 sq. ft.
Office ... 234 sq. ft.	Drying Place...1,500 sq. ft.

Total land area 13892 sq. ft.

Vikas Samabayika, looking after the Dharmagola, has laid down the the following criteria for accepting the agricultural produce in the store :

1. The tenderer must be a member of the Vikas Samabayika,
2. Must pay Rs.100 as seed money to mobilise capital (Members will get interest of 5% p.a. on the seed money paid),
3. Must be a resident of Atghara or its neighbourhood,
4. Must not own more than 5 acres of land,
5. Tendered produce must have yielded by the tenderer's own labour, and
6. The produce must be dry and of standard quality.

The Dharmagola has sufficient capacity to store the produce of all marginal farmers of the area to protect them from distress sale. Till the end of April '91 Vikas Samabayika has purchased 1119 kgs. of mustard seeds and is adequately poised for purchasing paddy in the season. Members will get market price against their tendered stock on the spot. Future profit will be shared in the following manner :-

60% will go back to the tenderer,

25% will be used for capital formation and the remaining

15% will be utilised in meeting recurring expenditures.

The period of construction did not pass off smoothly. The gulf crisis soon loomed much almost to the breaking point.

But the collective leadership of Vikas Kendra together with Vikas Samabayika and SEVA showed its mettle and overcame each and every adverse situation. The Central government, in consequence of the gulf conflict, raised the fuel cost by 25%. As a result we had great difficulty in procuring and transporting the building materials urgently needed, to keep the tempo of the construction work. On many a day our workforce had to remain idle due to shortage of building materials.

We breathed freely when finally we really grabbed the challenge and completed the project by 31 December '90. Thanks to the Architect, the Builders, the workforce and the villagers, all of them, for putting forth their best legs foremost. As per the agreement with Indienhilfe the completed Dharmagola is to be handed over to Vikas Samabayika, as soon as the latter gets a legal identity.

On 17 January '91 we inaugurated the Dharmagola. An eminent journalist and Magasasay Award winner Shree Gour Kishore Ghosh formally dedicated the Dharmagola to the villagers. The German Consul in Calcutta sent a warm message for the success of the Dharmagola project. Mr Dirk Provoost and Ms. Waltraud Haub, Members of Indienhilfe were also present on the occasion to share the joy of the success. They also spoke and conveyed best wishes of Indienhilfe.

Thus albeit a physical edifice has now been laid to bring about a perceptible change in the lives of the villagers through the Dharmagola, it seems to be a much more difficult task to build up a socio-economic edifice. Vikas Samabayika and Vikas Kendra are now engaged in doing this. It is a hard task and a long road. The Dharmagola is but a significant landmark in that long journey.

Project Introduction

Since 1985 we are striving hard to visualise our dream of rural regeneration.

Half a decade is only a syllable of time, yet we have learnt a lot. We have tracked whither the weather cock-swings. Some of our friends in the meantime got tired, but many more have joined us. We have got the assent and acceptance of the villagers. They have emboldened us. Many new and challenging ideas are now knocking at our doors. We have already said something about our Dharmagola. About Shishu Vikas Kendra we shall talk later.

We dare say we have made breakthrough in agriculture, animal husbandry, non-formal education, community health, organisation and rural appropriate technology. Let us talk about them step by step.

We can not forget our small dilapidated hundred-year old mud-hut our humble beginning. The present two rows of tiled sheds in Vikas Kendra at Atghara are now witnessing many-fold activities, dynamic and far-reaching. We fight for the protection of environment and natural farming. We inculcate upon the villagers the dignity of womanhood. National Integration is dear to our heart. We are trying to imbibe a new cultural values. Our crusade against Poverty, Ignorance and Apathy (PIA) has remained unabated. This is not prosaic edict to us nor is it a flight of fancy. It is a war of test and tribulation for us.

Agriculture—the Axis of our work : Towards a healthy harvest

In the beginning of this Report under Back-drop, with a purpose we quoted Mr. Y. P. Gupta, Ex-principal Scientist of Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI). Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, while examining the state of India's environment, he says "The energy-mix in the country is such that India has been listed the fifth biggest contributor of green house gases by the World Resources Institute". "The level of environmental literacy is low and thus there is a gross under valuation of the economic and ecological aspects of biological diversity", he further adds.

In our agricultural field we put full emphasis on these words

of this high priest of Green Revolution in India at one time. We whole heartedly agree with him, where he says "The micro-level causes of environmental degradation has to be identified in each village".

Whenever Srikanta, our green hand-in-charge of the Agricultural Section talking in this vein, he used to be ridiculed by the well-to-do farmers. We gathered our impetus from the book 'One Straw Revolution' by the famous Japanese thinker Masanobu Fukuoka. Now Srikanta is listened to with much respect even by the same ridiculing group. They learnt from life.

The inputs of modern agriculture are costly chemical fertilisers and pesticides. The cost of fertilisers has been kept low by the government, as a matter of policy. The Business World reported in its April 1991 issue that the price of nitrogenous fertilisers has remained constant at Rs. 2,350 per tonne for at least a decade. In real terms is paying only 35 to 40% of 1980 levels. Average subsidy works out to Rs. 4000 per tonne. Even the sedate 'The Statesman', in its editorial dated 7 May '91 notes "The widening gap between production cost and sale proceeds being covered by even higher subsidies. As a result the fertiliser subsidy cost Rs. 4,400-crore in 1991 against a revised budget figure of Rs. 3600 crores". How long can the country bear this back-breaking cost of modern farming? In our various farmers' meeting we hammer at these questions.

Ecological farming was considered an ideological hobby horse by the green horns not so very long ago. It is no more so. The breath-taking rapid advance of ecological farming is now a remarkable feature. The term "ecological farming" has been defined and described in the International Basic Standards of the IFOAM (International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements). Incidentally, we have applied for the membership of IFOAM.

Organic farming is becoming more and more popular due to increased awareness of our environment, aversion to harm-

ful chemical substances in our food and increase in the cost of modern farming. Our thrust of non-farm research is, and the aim of our proposed Agricultural Extension Centre will be, to establish and maintain lasting soil fertility (soil cultivation, organic/green manuring, crop rotation and choice of varieties).

We know the key factor is the adoption of agricultural principles to suit the specific conditions of the natural socio-cultural and economic contexts. We have to acquire a long and deep experience, gather scientific evidence in a coherent way for achieving sustained soil fertility, increased productivity and higher economic return. We have to use full local resource carefully and efficiently. Our tasks are, therefore, directed towards healthy harvest adhering to the principles of sustainable agriculture as much as possible as enumerated above.

During the period under review, we raised 50,000 saplings in our first nursery. These were distributed among 565 farmers and 10 organisations. Some of these saplings were damaged due to heavy shower. We have a specific method for selecting varieties of raising saplings. We value the opinion of the farmers, their choice and the need of the area; thus emphasis is laid on raising saplings of guava, cashew-nut, olive, teak wood, amloki (emblic myrobalan), subabul (ipilipil) acacia etc. This year out of 20,000 papaya sapling raised by us in our second nursery, the lion's share went to 315 farmers and 6 organisations. Preference was given to the womenfolk, while distributing these. A large number of saplings was also given to the non-formal school students.

One of the most difficult tasks of Vikas Kendra or for that matter, in other development organisation is to reach the have-nots. We made a plan to distribute areca plants to some 400 farmers (20 each) living below the poverty line in each selected village in order to give them economic relief. After three years young black pepper plants will also be given to them as a token of charity. The pepper plants can creep

winding round the growing areca trunks. After the 5th year, every family will thus have an income of Rs. 2000/- p. a. at least from the yield of these plants.

With this object in view, we planted 11,000 areca plants to grow. Unfortunately, the heavy monsoon has destroyed a good number of these. So far we have distributed 4000 saplings to some 200 landless marginal farmers (owning upto 5 acres of land) in ten villages. We gave the farmers relevant training also.

Like the previous years, this time too we promoted Boro paddy cultivation without chemical pesticides. This year the number of farmers and acreage have slightly increased from that of the last year. 1,300 farmers in 1,500 acres have cultivated Boro paddy at our instance.

Some farmers have cultivated Aman paddy also without any chemical fertiliser and pesticide like previous years.

Green jute plants are submerged in stagnant water to separate fibres from the stem. In the process the stagnant water emits stink but becomes organically rich and suitable for cultivation of crops. Being persuaded by us, the farmers now cultivating Aman crop in nearly 100 acres of low lying land without using any chemical fertiliser and pesticide, have commenced using this nourishing water. These farmers use traditional variety of seeds and not HYV ones. We are trying to preserve this genetic resource.

We have motivated 11 farmers in two villages to produce mustard seeds without any chemical fertiliser. Initially the yield is little less, but they are convinced that it will slowly increase as the soil gets back its vitality.

In the previous years our relation with the Sericulture Dept. of the State government was beneficial. But last year it was not the same. Still we could bring six new farmers under sericulture cultivation from the last year's quota. They got stipendiary training and subsidy from the department. For 1990-91, 14 farmers have been selected for this cultivation.

Among them 10 farmers have already planted trees and undergone stipendiary training.

Our novel effort to upgrade the fruits of jujube tree continued this year also. We have upgraded 105 trees belonging to 91 families in eight villages. In some of the trees already the second crop has come. It is one of our popular activities.

Coconut Development Board, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Government of India, is continuing its support to Vikas Kendra to popularise coconut cultivation. In 1990-91, 70 farmers belonging to ten villages have planted 2,025 coconut saplings and have applied to the Board for their support. With them, 310 farmers in all have applied to get support for their second and third yearly instalments. 99 farmers have not yet put their applications and it has become our responsibility to see that all the applications get duly processed by the Board and subsidies reach the farmers without further delay.

We are making efforts to see that all the families of several selected villages have at least four different kinds of fruit trees. We have made some progress in this regard. During 1991-92 we are engaged in raising thousand mango saplings of good varieties from selected seeds. These will be later utilised for grafting in order to get a large number of mango plants.

We reported last year that cotton plantation has been taken up by the project, motivated by Sri Pannalal Dasgupta, a veteran Gandhian thinker. Cotton yielded from these plants will gradually meet the need of cotton clothing for the local population. We have supplied some seeds also to 4 youth organisations.

International Potato Research Centre is one of our most dependable friends to help us in raising and popularising potato cultivation as a cash crop. In the period under review, we inspired 11 farmers of three villages to produce potato from True Potato Seeds (TPS). Last year another 10 farmers

produced potato from the surplus of previous year's tuberlets. This success has generated interest among the farmers.

Laying an increasing number of kitchen gardens is another routine activity of ours. The produce of kitchen gardens meets much of the nutritional needs of the poor farmers.

This year Cristian, one of the ASA trainees participated in this programme. 20 new kitchen gardens have sprung up in two villages. 105 separate beds for a very nutritious vegetable 'Kalmi sak' have been laid in seven villages.

We have very close rapport with the Save Grain Campaign Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Govt. of India. With their assistance we have imparted a stipendiary training to 50 farmers about how to store cereals scientifically. We also organised a seminar on the same subject with the participation of 70 farmers. Four old granaries belonging to small farmers have been scientifically restored with the assistance of the same department.

Two and a half years ago we distributed 19 black pepper saplings to several families. Some of the creepers are now bearing fruits. This has generated further interest in this new crop, introduced by Vikas Kendra in this area.

In the previous report we acknowledged the gift of some medicinal plants from the Department of Botany, Calcutta University, for extension work. We have multiplied one of the varieties ALOE (efficacious in fighting headache and burn cases) to 50 plants. These will now be distributed to different groups for further multiplication and use. We are multiplying three more varieties— 'Thankuni', 'Kaalmegh' and 'Vasaka', which can effectively fight common ailments prevalent in the villages. This will be done in proper time.

Our relation with the local Agricultural Department has remained cordial.

Our search continues on ethically sound and ecologically balanced as well as sustainable agricultural methods and prac-

tices; we have already taken some steps in that direction.

We have imparted agricultural training on :

	No. of days
1) Areca Plant Management	150
2) Bio-farming/Chemical free production	276
3) Coconut cultivation	100
4) Jujube budding	74
5) Kitchen gardening	78
6) Save Grain	610
7) Sericulture	533
8) True Potato Seeds	19

Total 1840

Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services—An appetnet work

A catchy phrase is engraved in our minds which is—'best means of growth comes from within'. But really it is not just catchy, there is inherent truth lying in it.

We have to develop our animal husbandry, what we have. The Bengali equivalent is 'Prani Sampad' (animal wealth), which is much more expressive.

We have made many experiments for development of milch cows with internal resources during the last five years. We have noted that local Zebu breeds do not produce enough milk. Treatment of bovine stock is scarce and costly. Poultry birds and ducks do not get adequate care and medical protection.

Since 1987 our animal Husbandry Department has been trying to meet this negative situation and bring in all embracing improvement. From 1987 onwards till March 1990, 991 cows were treated; in 1990-91 alone 509 cows got treatment. Artificial insemination is becoming increasingly popular. Introduction of cross-breeding has enhanced the milk production, thereby enriching the farmers. During the period 1988-90, 153 cows were inseminated; in 1990-91 alone, this figure reached 133.

Slowly our idea to create several batches of bare-footed veterinarians has been caught by the local unemployed youth. Till March 1990 we imparted training to 82 persons in six batches. In 1990-91 the number rose significantly; seeing the results additional 36 youths in three batches took training. We have feed-back reports that at least 25 of them are earning between Rs. 500 and 1,000 per month at present.

Bovine animals generally suffer from foot and mouth disease. Every year a large number of cows die due to attack of this disease. During the period under review, we vaccinated 21 cows as an experiment. In our pathological laboratory 25 cow-dung samples were examined and worms were found in 20 of them. We could render proper treatment.

Government study has conclusively prove that the District of North 24 Parganas is best suited for the spread of poultry farming.

During 1986 to 90 we imparted poultry training to 140 youth in eight batches. In 1990-91 we have trained up 38 youth. Among them all 123 were successful. Out of these 75 have already started their own poultry farms and are earing well. 50 of them were able to marshal their own capital and 25 secured bank loan. Their earings vary from Rs. 500/- to Rs. 4,000/- per month. 3 women have also started their own poultry farms.

To fight dearth of capital, a poultry farm has been established on co-operative basis by 7 unemployed youths and has proved to be a successful venture.

To eliminate epidimic, we have given 'Renikhet' vaccination to 1500 birds in our 'paras' (localities), This is one of our standard practices. As a result so far not a single bird has died of 'Ranikhet'.

We are making strenuous effort to form a central co-operative of all poultry growers in the neighbourhood irrespective of whether they have been trained by us or not. On 28 December '90, 181 poultry growers deliberated on this is-

sue throughout the day, in the presence of experts and government officials, highlighting their various problems such as how to arrest diseases, the rising cost of feeds and how to fetch better market for their products. Solutions to some of them were also found out. The Feed House at the Dharmagola complex has opened a new vista to them.

We put emphasis on training up people from the Scheduled Castes and Tribes, Other Backward Classes, landless and marginal farmers etc. and we are glad to see that their number is swelling among our trainees.

Since 1988 we are making a co-ordinated effort to upgrade hen and duck stocks. Some success has been recorded in this field. Some birds, which used to yield an income of Rs. 50 per capita, per year, now give a turn-over of Rs. 100 to 110. Weight of the upgraded bird on average has also increased from 1 to 1.8-2 kg. resulting in additional income when sold by weight. These additional incomes mainly go to the coffer of the women folk and give them some relief from want.

We have made experiments with the 'Khaki Cambell' sexed ducklings bought from a Central Government farm in Bangalore. It is true that their laying capacity is nearly treble of the local ducks, but we are scared of their high mortality rate. So far we have secured 400 ducklings from the same source, most of which were distributed among the farmers. Despite adverse experience, we propose to continue our experiment of acclimatization of the 'Khaki Cambell' in our area.

During the period we imparted the following training :

	<i>No. of training days</i>
1) Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services	573
2) Poultry Seminar	181
3) Poultry training/farming	1268
	Total 2022

We can modestly quantify our services as under :

1) No. of cows treated	509
2) No. of cows artificially inseminated	133
3) No. of calves born	71
4) No. of persons trained in Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services	36
5) No. of trained persons already earning	25
6) No. of persons trained in poultry training	38
7) No. of ex-trainees, who started poultry farms	18
8) No. of animals given vaccination against foot & mouth diseases	21
9) No. of pathological examination of cow-dung samples done	25
10) No. of hatching eggs (duck) distributed	225
11) No. of birds given Ranikhet vaccination in 2 villages	1500
12) No. of persons sent to Haringhata Farm for Dairy & Husbandry training	15
13) Study tours conducted—Arambagh, Barasat, Gobardanga, Garbeta and Narendrapur	

Community Health : Commonweal

In our Annual Report for 1987 we mentioned that in India 2,27,000 villages lack water supply, 43.8% of rural population still remains to be provided with drinking water. We have compared these figures with the latest statistics, nothing has changed much.

There is a distinct discrimination against rural region. Only 27% of hospitals are in rural area, the rest 73% are in urban areas. In rural hospital, beds number only 14%, while in urban areas it is 86%.

Health outlays in the Indian Planning never exceeded 5%. In the last three five-year Plans it is less than 2%.

From the above figures, it is clear that health, particularly in rural areas never got priority. The data thrown up by the 1991 census make a fascinating reading.

Population of the country on the sunrise of March 1, 1991

is put at 84.39 crores. According to the United Nations estimate, population of the rest of the world in 1990 was 443.9 crores. In other words every sixth person of the world is an Indian. In absolute terms, population of India has grown by 16.06 crores during the decade 1981-90. Thus the addition to Indian population is more than the total population of Japan.

Our medical education is callous about the environmental hazards. Many studies on medical education have followed after the Independence, the latest being Bajaj Report. All reports have expressed emphatically that the doctors are to be trained in accordance with the needs of the people and their social and cultural norms etc., so as to serve the poor people, who form by far the vast majority in the country.

So, in nutshell, we do not have the wherewithal from the national exchequer, to serve the poor adequately. On the other hand, the ever-growing population is negating the results of whatever we are achieving. We are yet to find sufficient doctors and devoted social workers in the villages.

Unless we are able to come from the dragnets of the multinational pharmaceutical companies and to introduce cheap indigenous medicines and modes of treatment within the reach of the average men and women, we do not immediately see the possibility of achieving our target of 'Health for all' in 2000 A.D.

We made efforts to face the above situation and problems squarely in our area. We are aware of the enormity of the population explosion. In the near future our population figure is likely to cross that of China. Under population education we try to permeate this precarious picture to the understanding villagers. As a result, even in a most conservative area like ours, during the period under review, 13 women have taken to family planning permanently and 11 men and 159 women temporarily.

We are regularly organising immunisation camps to give Po-

lio, BCG, DPT vaccines etc. to the children. We are getting support in this respect from the Primary Health Centre, Rudrapur. In 8 Immunisation Camps 633 children in all got immunised against various diseases. We further organised 21 mother and child care camps in different localities, whereat 364 children were attended. We distributed Vitamin A oil in 12 camps for 245 children, getting the materials from the local Health Centre. As a part of our programs on pre-natal and post-natal cares, in our 12 monthly camps 174 carrying mothers came and became aware of the importance of taking nutritional food during pregnancy and thereafter, which is available locally in abundance.

Our Homoeopathy Clinic open on 4 days a week, attended by two qualified doctors, treated 1962 cases during the period, of them 1111 were women. Monthly visits to all the families of Atghara are continuing vigorously as before. We also organised monthly health meetings on 'para' or locality basis and attended to 110 cases.

We keep a watch on all children of the village from the birth to six years of age wheher they are being immunised against the six virulent diseases and whether they are getting vitamin oil regularly or not. General cleanliness, food habits and the danger of easing oneself in the open are part of our systematic health awareness campaigns.

We have close liaison with the local health authorities and are thankful to them for all the support we receive from their end. Our first-aid centre is ever ready to handle urgent cases round the clock and we gather that the other first-aid groups trained by us are also rendering good service to the villages.

We, however, feel that we should extend our activities to promote community health to other villages of the neighbourhood also and for that purpose more training programmes and other far-reaching measures should be adopted.

We envisage a better picture in the next year on our endea-

vours to promote community health, an important commonweal.

We have imparted the following health training during the year :

	<i>No. of training days</i>
Primary health	62

Non-formal Education : Making of human edifice

In our 1987 Annual Report, we quoted Paulo Freire. To him education is a tool to perceive, interpret, criticise and finally transform social environments. We are adherent to this idea.

UNESCO prepared a rough calculation of the cost of achieving universal primary school enrolment by 2000 A.D. The amount equals only two days military spending in the industrially advance countries or one week's military spending in the Third World. But who is going to lend a ear to curtailment of military spending ?

If primary school enrolment is made universal by 2000, literacy rates will rise dramatically throughout the developing world. But the reality is that only a very modest amount is allocated to education. The effort required for females literacy is even greater. Women count, but unfortunately are not counted. Even there is a caste disparity while rendering education. In a South Indian village the literacy rate in 1989 was 90% for the Brahmins and 10% for people at the lower end of the caste hierarchy.

The last census report happily notes an improvement in the literacy rate in India. It is now 52.11%.

A UNESCO survey of 20 countries of Asia Pacific region shows that India with an illiterate population of 56.5% in the 15-plus age group is better off than only 4 countries—Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Nepal. India does not figure even in the list of 12 countries which are expected to achieve full literacy by 1995. Instead, it is in the company of the eight most illiterate countries, poised to achieve

full or high-levels of literacy by 2000 A.D.

This shows the slow pace of universalising primary education and reflects in our poor educational effort. By the turn of the century, India will have one person in every two of the world's illiterates. The National Literacy Mission was entrusted with the onerous task of meeting this challenge. We are fully alive of this dismal picture.

We have already pledged our full support in this regard to the District authority, which is now geared to achieve full literacy in our District with a time bound programme. With our limited means, we are operating 22 non-formal and adult schools in 14 villages with 24 teachers. All these schools on an average had 236 working days in the last year. The attendance of the students fluctuates because most of the students had to earn their livelihood in the fields, necessitating their absence from the schools. In the month of September the student strength was 422, the highest during the year. In December '90 it came down to 252. Finally in March 1991 it rose to 357. On an average the number of students was 331 per month, in our 22 schools.

On 15 August in the International Literacy Year, 1990, 35 educated youths took the pledge of 'each one teach one'. Most of them kept their words. In 14 villages we have made a survey of the depth of illiteracy. Now we pick up each corner of the village in turn and methodically cover the area.

We are aware of the standardisation of literacy framed by the National Literacy Mission that every literate person should be capable of reading 30-35 words per minute, should be able to write 7-8 words per minute, should be able to make addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of 2 digits, should be able to make application, to fill up a form, be able to read road signs, posters etc.

To bring literacy to this standard, we impart training to our non-formal teachers regularly on the 10th of every month, which is a fixed training day for teachers. In addition there

are other training arrangements too for our teachers. Our trained workers visit the non-formal schools regularly. During the period under review, 257 such visits were made.

As a result of our strenuous work, already several localities have become literate in the age group of 9-15.

We do not claim that enough has been achieved, but we stand seized of the situation. By participating in the District campaign, slated for the year 1991-92, we expect to make a breakthrough in this field.

We understand the importance of post literacy nurturing. Our renamed 'Shaheed Titumeer Public Library' is an effective instrument in handling this task. At present this library has 726 books and 126 members. Among them 25 are women. 59 members are regularly using the library. The library gets 30 various types of newspapers and periodicals. Reading room facilities have been provided for. A scientific catalogue system has been introduced.

Since August 1990, a simple training course on Librarianship has been introduced.

From March 1991 a Book-binding Training Section has been inaugurated. Out of 26 applicants, 11 of them are coming regularly.

Both of the training classes are held once a week. We are making earnest efforts to get some financial support from the government for the library and we are hopeful about getting the same.

In the previous two reports, we admitted our weakness about the library. This year the situation is radically changed.

We have imparted the following training during the year :

	<i>No. of days</i>
Teacher's training	234
Library	110
Total	344

Organisation : The order of the future

While opening this report, we stated that the nation is passing through a severe crisis. But it is also true that we live in a stirring time. People are beginning to take charge of their destiny in many countries.

This report is about Man. A person's access to income may be one of the one's choices, but it is not the summum bonum of human endeavours. Human development is not measured just by the yardstick of income alone, but also by a more comprehensive index reflecting life expectancy, literacy, culture, command over resources etc.

It is a fact that economic growth seldom trickles down to the masses. Organisation can play a catalytic role in this regard. The involvement of NGOs is crucial to any strategy for successful human development. This is even admitted by the recent UNDP report.

"Average improvements conceal considerable inequality between rural and urban areas, between males and females and between the rich and the poor".

Our feelings have been succinctly expressed in UNDP report. Many of the figures placed in the report have upheld this position.

The same report fairly admits that more than half a billion poor rural women, have seen little progress over the past 30 years. There is no automatic link between economic growth and human progress. The NGOs have to see that social expenditures benefit the many rather than a few. Growth can be guaranteed by the NGOs, but equity is the best recipe for accelerated human development.

While we build our organisation we put emphasis on strengthening the village-based youth groups. At present under 4 Cluster Committees, 21 youth groups are closely co-operating with the various activities of Vikas Kendra. Above the Cluster Committees, the Apex Committee is emerging as a pivotal platform for ensuring the development with eq-

uity in the command area.

During the period under review, youth groups have met 49 times, participated by 911 local youths. Apex Committee met 5 times to ensure the success of various programmes of Vikash Kendra, such as observance of the Earth Day, distribution of saplings, Gandhiji's challenge, inauguration of Dharmagola, Titumere fair etc.

In the five Apex Committee meetings 167 representatives from total 54 organisations deliberated about the future programmes. The Core Team, on which the real leadership of Vikas Kendra rests, met 31 times. Average attendance was 12 out of 16 village-based regular members.

During the period under review Vikas Kendra organised 9 central functions. In the central functions eminent persons like Sarvashree Pannalal Dasgupta, Prof. Santimoy Ray, Gour Kishore Ghosh, Mankumar Sen, Chinmoy Ghosh and Tushar Kanti Ghosh enriched the discussions. These functions were attended by 4000 villagers.

A blood donation session was organised at Kolsur, where 66 donors, among them 7 women, donated blood.

Every Wednesday our cultural group meets and makes efforts to raise the cultural standard of the local village youth. This cultural service is slowly becoming popular.

SEVA Working Committee has met regularly and taken stock of the situation and regularly scrutinised the monthly reports and the accounts.

Regular holding of meetings at various stages ensures internal democracy and guarantees the involvement at all stages.

Among the 4 Mahila Mondalis, the one at Atghara is better organised. Recently Atghara Mahila Mondali is marketing powdered spices as one of its economic projects. It has held 8 local meetings on the subject. About the distribution of papaya plants, kitchen gardens, health programme, savings programmes, Titumeer fair etc., members of the Mahila Mondali take leading roles.

In the year 1989, we started our own local Savings Scheme (Loke Sanchay Prakalpa). Already, besides Atghara, two other village-based groups have also taken initiative in having their own village-based Saving Schemes.

Loke Sanchay Prakalpa, Atghara, has 204 members, women folk far out-numbers the men-folk. There are 157 women members.

In 1990-91, 57 new members joined the old strength of 147 members. Deposit has risen from previous year's Rs. 8,573/- to more than Rs. 25,000/-. In addition to this an amount of Rs. 5,000/- has been received as donation. A sum of Rs. 6,800/- has given as new loan during the year.

Rural Banks can mobilise rural savings, mobilising the local initiative is vital. The Directors of this scheme are local leaders. The growth shows that people have confidence in the bank, find it convenient as they have ready access to their savings. Actually we have been able to keep our promise that withdrawal can be made at any time during 23 hours of the day.

In Ghana, China, Bangladesh, rural banks are playing an extremely important role in mobilising savings. Our Savings Scheme one day will ensure the development of micro and small size enterprises. We actually see the horizon of success in this regard. The Board has 11 members, among them 4 are women.

This scheme has given a substantial loan to Dharmagola. By utilising this loan Dharmagola will be able to save the marginalised farmers from distress-selling of their produce. Deposits against the scheme are kept at the local Post Office. It earns 5% interest p.a. The borrowers also pay the same rate of interest.

Vikas Samabayika made earnest efforts to get it registered under the West Bengal Co-operative Societies Act, but the legal recognition still remains in abeyance. Bureaucratic lethargy, one of the stumbling blocks, is delaying the regis-

tration.

Last year Vikas Samabayika had 124 members. During the period 23 new members have joined the co-operative. Still, the majority of them is women. The turnover of Rs. 37,000 in the last year has been surpassed easily in the present year.

Booming bee-keeping in the area has increased a turnover of honey sales. Incidentally, we will soon start a new training course on Rock Bee (*Apis Dorsata*) supported by the Centre of Science for Villages. Vikas Samabayika had its Annual General Meeting in time. Its Board of Directors met 8 times during the period. 8 useful items, like eggs, honey, paper, spices etc. are regularly sold from the sales counter at the local bi-weekly market (Haat). Samabayika members are manning the counter regularly.

When Vikas Samabayika will officially operate the Dharma-gola, it will be a crucial test for the village youth to establish their efficiency.

In the first year of Vikas Kendra, the training course on tailoring became meaningful in organising the local women. After the training, seven of the successful trainees purchased their own sewing machines and started to have a modest income regularly. This view enthused us.

Fortunately this time we got an efficient lady trainer on the subject. She has already trained up 34 trainees, among them 22 are women, of which 10 (6 women & 4 men) have purchased their own machines and another 13 (10 women & 3 men) after taking loans from the Loke Sanchay Prakalpa are also owning machines of their own. All of them are now earning on an average Rs. 250 p.m.

Trainees were also taught 'chikon' embroidery. Successful trainees and some other village women are making marketable delicate embroidery work and are earning a reasonable amount for their skilled production.

Seeing the result of the training and market possibilities, already the next batch for 1991-92 has been started enrolling.

The organisational work is not confined only to uniting the unorganised youth, but also making effective economic projects enabling the participants to earn according to rural standard of living. We always put emphasis on self-reliance.

We have imparted the following trainings :

Items	No. of days	Items	No. of days
1. Book-keeping	23	4. Environmental education	84
2. Co-operative	48	5. Science & Philosophy	26
3. Problems of development	295	6. Simple English	80
		7. Youth Leadership	166

Rural Appropriate Technology : A Real Alternative

Low-input farming, which has various names, is a serious and growing effort. We are doing our bit in this way as we have explained it under our agricultural chapter.

Last year we complained that due to bureaucratic bungling our efforts to popularise solar cookers in the area have been throttled. We made full payment to a government department for delivery of several solar cookers more than 2 years ago. Delivery has not yet been effected. As an alternative we encouraged an energetic and innovative unemployed youth to manufacture solar cookers. Though the initial cost of manufacturing the same is much more than the government price, still we are helping and encouraging him to market his product, because it involves the larger issues of energy saving and pollution removal.

In our diffused light cold storage, we kept 500 kg. of potatoes for four months. The mud-hut store was built with the assistance of I. P. C. Only 7% of the stored potatoes become unusable. During the last three years, due to constant improvement on it, this is becoming a success story now. Some farmers have shown interest in making replica of this in their area.

The interest in the better plough, which we brought from Midnapore District remains unabated.

We have come to know for certain that Ramkrishna Mission is again going to extend its support to us for making several thousand smokeless 'chullas' in our area, which will be part of our continuous programme. We have already plans to train our workers through reorientation training to adopt the changed model of the chullah in our area.

Bamboo made Charkhas (Spinning Wheels) are being accepted at a very slow pace in our area. As we are convinced of its philosophical and moral aspects, we plan its further nurturing.

We have bought and set up a pedalled pump in the Dharmagola Compound to irrigate the papaya nursery we have set up there. This new type of economic and labour-saving device has been developed and set up by M. C. C. We will do extension work on it after estimating the output for a longer period of time.

We understand the implications of Nature conservation for balanced and equitable human development. Our chullahs help to save fuel-wood and cow-dung.

Through medicinal plants we like to unmask the multinationals, particularly when out of their some 25,000 medicines and medicaments produced and marketed by them, only five basic medicines can take care of most of the common diseases.

We are trying to propagate the message of alternative appropriate technology at our Titumeer fairs and also through our participation in several fairs set up by other organisations.

Search for alternative is a painfully slow process. But we know and act.

We have imparted the following training under this category:

	No. of days		No. of days
1) Book-binding	36	4) Tailoring (Men)	419
2) Carpentry	228	5) Tailoring (Women)	2082
3) Charkha	186		Total 2951

Conclusion

*We are getting many new friends. Ms. Leila Janssen, initially came in contact with us through **Indienhilfe**. She hails from Vechta, Germany. Through her we got generous support from the people of Vechta.*

Dakshinpara is one of the most neglected areas of our village. With Ms. Janssen's support, we are developing a Shishu Vikas Kendra (Child Development Centre). We propose to cater for the needs of some 40 under-nourished children of the age group of 3-6 years.

Broad objectives of this project have been fixed as follows :

- 1) **Improvement in Health and Nutritional status of the children below 6 years;**
- 2) **Reduction of morbidity in the area;**
- 3) **Reduction in the mortality rate;**
- 4) **Laying the social foundation for proper psychological, physical and social development of children;**
- 5) **Co-ordination between policy and implementation;** and
- 6) **Educating mothers to render all-round child-care.**

With the assistance from the same source, we have added a children's section in our Library on January 5, 1991. A children's sport was also organised on February 2, 1991, participated by 125 youngsters, the first in their life time.

Ms. Janssen has sent us a large quantity of children's clothing, dolls etc. for the use of the indigent and tiny members of the society.

***Mother and Child Care**—the selected area of co-operation between Ms. Janssen and us is growing well. For a long time we wanted to do something tangible for the people of Dakshinpara. Her assistance has emboldened us to drive. We are thankful to her and the people of Vechta for their support and co-operation.*

In the last year's report we wrote "Recently a student from Berlin stayed with us for research-work for 6 months. Two more young persons are likely to come from the same area this year under ASA programme". We are happy to record that two youngmen Mr. Christian Everding (a gardener) and

Mr. Jochen Schmitz (a joiner) came and stayed with us in fulfilment of ASA programme for 3 months. They conducted training programmes successfully in their own subjects.

To felicitate them the evening of October 16, 1990, we enjoyed along with them some cultural functions and discussions to promote Indo-German Friendship. Together with 300 villagers, we also witnessed that evening a video documentary titled '*The Fall of the Berlin Wall—Ode to Joy and Freedom*'.

Fall of the Berlin wall, has indeed brought an end to the infamous symbol of cold-war. We wish our own artificial barrier between the two Bengals also crumbled down.

To nurture a new kind of leadership that can shape a 'new brave world', we observe many days of national and international importance in order to inculcate a sense of history and belongingness. Prof. Shantimoy Ray, the septuagenarian freedom-fighter, spoke to more than 100 members of our Mahila Mondali on January 27, 1991 about the 'Role of women in our freedom struggle.' It was something like re-living for two hours through history as recorded by the man who lived it.

We want to build a strong co-operative movement in our area and beyond. A group from Mirzapur of Birbhum district came to Vikas Kendra and received an exposure training for 3 days.

Shree Mankumar Sen, Secretary, Rural Literacy Conference, is intimately connected with this group. Shree Sen is trying to create a Rural Press Service to highlight the neglected news of the villages in our national media.

Our Project Director visited many places, even some difficult areas, to participate in seminars on crises of civilization environment as people, arranged at the instance of Shree Pannal Dasgupta, our revered friend and philosopher. In the process we won many friends and enlarged our horizon.

*We have a very sweet and understanding relation with **Indienhilfe**, our partner organisation. Since the very inception of **Vikas Kendra** they have stood in good stead with us even in most trying times. No words of thanks can express our feelings for them. Many of them often visit the project of their own to share our joys and sufferings together.*

***Indienhilfe** observed their 10th anniversary on 7th July, 1990. From this long distance, we wish them all success.*

*Last year our colleague Srikanta, Agricultural-in-Charge, had been to Germany and Switzerland being invited by **Indienhilfe**. He was taken to several farms to understand the implications of modern methods of agriculture.*

We started our report with a note that our economy was deteriorating. It needs much care to cure. But money is not the measure of Man. It is often only a means to find out how small Man is. Last year, we were able to give the finishing touch to our Dharmagola. Our activities rose to a higher level. We are not proud for creation of assets, but we feel proud of our leadership. We feel happy that we have crossed a significant mile-stone, while the nation is delved in a deep and difficult situation.

*Before we conclude, let us gratefully acknowledge the valuable and various assistance we have received from the different government departments, panchayats, officials and our friends of far and near. We have received yeoman service from them to the causes championed by **Vikas Kendra**.*

Lastly, we sincerely regret the unwilling lag between our promises and performance. In the years to come it will be our constant endeavour to narrow down this gap and that is our sacred promise.

Last year, we closed our report with the following pivotal words and we repeat the same this year too :

"We need consociates. We urge labour of love."

SOME OF OUR VISITORS

Friends :

Sarvashree

Ashoke Thakur
Anath Soren
Anupam Das
Ashis Bhattacharya
Ajay Chowdhury
Ambia Hossain
Alex Bosselmann
Bipul Roy
Bakul Bose
Bidyut Basu
Bholanath Chakraborty
Biswanath Chakraborty
Bhabotosh Sinha Roy
Bhupati Das
Bhraman Varta group
Biva Hazra
Banani Bhattacharjee
Chinmoy Ghosh
Christian Everding
Chandrabali Ghosh
Detlef Stuber
Dirk Provoost
Prof. D. Roy
Dilip Das
Dipti Das
Debyani Goswami
Dulal Deb
Elisabeth Kreuz
Elke
Eva Runsehke
Gautam Mukherjee
Gobinda Chakraborty
Gour Kishor Ghosh
Hanny Holschor

Sarvashree

Jatirmoy Saraswati
Jochen Schmitz
Johirul Islam
Jogannath Sen
Julie Chowdhury
Kamal Sarkar
Kishorimohan Sinha
Koustava Roy
Leila Janssen
Momata Ghosh
Madhu Dalui
Monkumar Sen
Monishesh Mallick
Mario Kohl
Mugdhakar Sinha
Manindra Roy Gupta
Niranjan Halder
N. Adhikary
Pannalal Das Gupta
Parimal Ghosh
PK Guha
Poritosh Roy Chowdhury
Parth Dutta
Roma Roy
Ramesh Hira
Ramanath Bhadra
Dr. Rajmohan Paul
Prof. Ranabir Samaddar
Dr. Samar Sen
Samir Dey
Shantanu Pramanik
Sunita Pramanik
Sumit Sanyal
Sandip Bandopadhyay

Sarvashree

Swapan Ghosh
 Saqil Ahmed
 Shanti Ranjan Das
 Shyama Prosad Mishra
 Safikar Gazi
 Sumitra Khan
 Shipra Sarkar
 Sujit Sarkar
 Sujit Kr Roy
 S. Synthia
 Subrata Das
 Sagar Chattopadhyay
 Salil Kr Gupta
 Santanu Tribedi

Sarvashree

Soumendra Brahmachary
 Swapan Chakraborty
 Satya Ranjan Das
 Subrata Chakraborty
 Sushanta Mondal
 Prof. Shantimoy Roy
 Supriya Das
 Shyam Sunder Gorai
 Shushil Addhya
 Tusher Kanti Ghosh
 Ursula Frenzel Srimal
 Usha Rani Paul
 Vivekananda Scout Group
 Waltraud Haub

Officials :**Sarvashree**

Dr. Arunesh Ganguly
 Dr. Ajit Naskar
 Dr. Amitava Roy
 Dr. AK Pain
 Dr. Asit Baran Roy
 Dr. AK Lahiri
 Dr. Bimal Tarafdar
 Dr. BK Sarkar
 Dr. Biswajit Sen
 Dr. Dulal Krishna Das
 Dr. Deb Roy
 Dr. Dipali Bagchi
 Dr. Dipti Das
 Dr. Dulal Deb
 Dr. Hrishikesh Malakar
 Dr. Hiren Chowdhury
 Dr. Jaya Mondal
 Dr. Jayanarayan Quila
 Dr. Jagannath Saha
 Dr. Jannanshu Majumdar
 Dr. Jyoti Bose
 Dr. Krishna Kar
 Dr. KH Borkar
 Dr. KK Chatterjee
 Dr. Kanailal Dey
 Dr. Manab Basu Mullick
 Dr. Niamat Ali

Sarvashree

Dr. NL Kapur
 Dr. Pradip Kr Rauth
 Dr. Prangopal Saha
 Dr. Pradip Paul Chowdhury
 Dr. Rashbihari Shil
 Dr. Rabindranath Manna
 Dr. RP Singh
 Dr. R Mukherjee
 Dr. Sadhu Ch. Das
 Dr. Shambhu Nath Dey
 Dr. Sukhdev Mondal
 Dr. Santanu Mondal
 Dr. Sunil Mondal
 Dr. Sasanka Sarkar
 Dr. Samsul Haque
 Dr. Santanu Bhattacharya
 Dr. Subhashis Ganguli
 Dr. Santosh Basak
 Dr. SN Niyogi
 Dr. Sukumar Saha
 Dr. Sujoy Bhattacharjee
 Dr. S. Bose
 Dr. S. Dasgupta
 Dr. Tapan Mondal
 Dr. TK Gupta
 Dr. VK Khatana

THE WORKING COMMITTEE OF SEVA

	<i>Name and Address</i>	<i>Designation</i>	<i>Occupation</i>
a	Shri HN Sinha Deloitte Haskins & Sells MCS Division 2/2A Ho Chi Minh Sarani Calcutta-700 071	President	Consultant
b	Shri Chandan Mukherjee 24/1B Biswas Nursery Lane Calcutta-700085	Vice- President	Engineer
c	Shri Asok Ghosh Vikas Kendra PO+ Vill. Atghara via—Kolsur 743438 North 24 Parganas	General Secretary	Social Service
d	Shri Sekhar Ghosh 8/35 CIT Buildings Calcutta-700 010	Asst. Secretary	Social Service
e	Alauddin Ahmed PO+ Vill. Atghara via—Kolsur 743438 North 24 Parganas	Asst. Secretary	Farmer
f	Shri Mrinal K Chowdhury Manager Oriental Bank of Commerce Ballygunj Branch P-22 Bondel Road Calcutta-700 019	Treasurer	Bank Officer
g	Sm. Sandhya Ghosh Dakshineswar Sri Sri Sarada Devi Balika Vidyamandir Calcutta-700 076	Member	Head Mistress

	<i>Name and Address</i>	<i>Designation</i>	<i>Occupation</i>
h	Shri Srikanth Mondal PO+ Vill. Atghara via—Kolsur 743438 North 24 Parganas	Member	Agricultural Worker
i	Sms. Arati Ray PO+ Vill. Atghara via—Kolsur 743438 North 24 Parganas	Member	Health- Worker