



**ANNUAL
REPORT
1999 - 2000**

**Society for
Equitable
Voluntary
Actions**

(SEVA)

3C Milan Apartment

52/3 Vidyayatan Sarani ■ Calcutta - 700 035

Phone : 577-6365 ■ Fax : 91-33-548 3925

E-mail : seva@cal2.vsnl.net.in

*Society for
Equitable Voluntary
Actions*
(SEVA)

ANNUAL REPORT
1999-2000

OUR FOUNDATION DAY: MULTICULTURALISM

Social scientists are using this word over the past two decades. It reflects a concern to make our liberal democracy more sensitive to the existence of cultural pluralism within the boundary of our nation state. Our constitution, citadel of secularism is getting increasingly endangered by the onslaught of the fundamentalists. Previously the target was the Muslim minority, now the Christians are facing the hit. The clear purpose is to turn the peaceful, tolerant and civilized majority into a militant mob. This angry army of Don Quixote tilting at windmills set up for a sinister and political purpose. It helps to break up this country by destroying the beautiful mosaic that is India.

This idea motivated us to observe our Foundation Day i.e. April 1, 1999 in a different way.

Smt. Mili Mukherjee of Matrimangal Samiti, Dakshineswar-Ariadah, Janab Abdul Haque from the local mosque and Fr. Walls from the Bamundanga Church, all spoke about the unique tapestry of the Indian society and how it is important to protect the values of our yesteryears. The assembly composed of more than 500 people, who lauded the speakers in unison.

Let this atmosphere emanated from the all faith meeting, highlighting the basis of multiculturalism, guide us through the years of our struggle for goodwill and understanding.

We are a part of People's Action Network for National Integration & Communal Harmony (PANNICH). We are playing well our role there.

TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE :

In our project area we have more than a dozen pockets of tribal people. They are of mixed lot, on the verge of forgetting the very essence of their existence. Tribals are depressed, deprived and denied of the basic human dignity. We have to go a long way with them to restore their faith in themselves and their nearly forgotten culture. For this purpose, on our Foundation Day, we inaugurated our Tribal Development Centre. It is the culmination of our silent work for more than half a decade. Several groups already on their own feet, converged in the morning meeting. There were speakers from the tribals. Tribal songs floated in the air.

Efforts of the tribal youths were manifested in a 2-days Tribal Festival held on February 19 & 20, 2000 at village Syedpur. Prof. Miratun Nahar inaugurated the festival. Sri Sarada Prasad Kisku, Dr. Pashupati Mahato, authorities on tribal culture reminded the tribals, who thronged there, about their lost heritage. Ms. Karin Jehle, a German friend spoke about the Bavarian tribals. Asok Ghosh, our General Secretary announced the determined project support for the cause of the tribals. In the first

evening, the children of Ananda Dhara presented songs, dances, Bratachari etc. On the second evening, tribal songs, dances & drama enthralled thousand strong assembly. Our work among the tribals has just started and on an even keel.

COMBATING CONSUMERISM :

Part of the day long deliberations was an engaging presentation of Smt. Sandhya Ghosh, who explained the education policy of late Pannalal Dasgupta, our beacon light. His education policy is based on simplicity, pragmatism and against all sorts of consumerism.

ABOUT GLOBALISATION :

This session had two eminent speakers - Prof. Tarun Sanyal & Sri Ashim Chatterjee. They strongly upheld the views of Prof. Amartya Sen of putting emphasis on primary health care and education. They covered World Bank, Growth & Poverty. Statistics were in galore. The complicated economic theories were made simple by both of them.

TRIBUTE TO THE SENIOR CITIZENS :

As part of observance of United Nation's decision to demarcate the year 1999 as "The Year of the Senior Citizens", we invited all the aged people of the village Atghara to share frugal vegetarian lunch with us. It was a joyous occasion to note the overwhelming response. Almost all senior people accepted our hearty and humble invitation. All of them got respectful attention they deserve, particularly many women were in tears in joy. It was also a part of our Foundation Day celebrations.

Different activities of the Foundation Day had a good impact on our workers and villagers.

CELEBRATING DAYS OF IMPORTANCE :

No organisation stops by just observing the Foundation Day. We had yearlong programmes to remember and participate in observance of various important national and international days such as :

World Book Day	April 23, 1999
International Day of Families	May 15, 1999
World Environment Day	June 05, 1999
Independence Day	August 15, 1999
International Literacy Day	September 08, 1999
Republic Day	January 26, 2000
World Wetland Day	February 02, 2000
Bengali Language Day	February 21, 2000

On May 22, 1999 we arranged a cultural function to remember the cultural contributions of our national poet Rabindranath Tagore and our revolutionary poet Kazi Nazrul Islam. Particularly, the joyous participation of the inmates of Ananda Kendra drew appreciation from the audience.

We brought our enthusiast members in good numbers to Calcutta to pay respect to our path-finder late Pannalal Dasgupta on January 11, 2000 in commemoration of his first demise day.

ARSENIC MENACE AND VIKAS LABORATORY :

Environmental Geology Investigation reveals that 19 blocks out of 22 of North 24 Parganas district have the following arsenic concentration : 4.75 mg/lit/(+4.70 mg/l)

Once a person is already contaminated by arsenic poisoning, so far there is no treatment available. These are reports of a committee headed by the Chief Secretary, Govt. of West Bengal. Another report by an expert committee submitted to the Environment Bench of the Calcutta High Court. All these reports recommend steps to be taken to identify all arsenic contaminated drinking water sources and mark them as hazardous to the community through continuous monitoring of the quality of water.

For this purpose we inaugurated our recently augmented well-equipped laboratory for constant monitoring. Fortunately, we got a young scientist, who came from West Bengal Pollution Control Board. The inauguration took place on the birthday of Tagore, May 9, 1999 to fill up the much needed vacuum of dire necessity.

AGENDA 21 : OUR RESPONSE :

Twenty first century is hardly few months away. Whose century it will be ? Barbarism or Humanism ? Choice is obvious.

To usher into a civil society, devoid of distrust and suspicion, building up of community friendship, spread among different countries, is one of the right steps towards the bright future.

Chatra Panchayat, a part of our project area has already created a bond of friendship with Herrsching city government in Germany. Students of Chatra have made many pen-friends with those of Herrsching. A people's committee named Rural Alliance is carrying the message of amity to the door-steps of Chatra people. This committee met 4 times and the response of the citizen was reasonable.

Primary schools of Chatra Panchayat had no urinals or toilets for their teachers and the taught. The people's committee at Herrsching

raised reasonable amount to have adequate numbers of urinals-cum-toilets for the primary schools of Chatra. The S.I. of Schools forwarded the applications of the schools and Panchayat recommended the same. The amount was not only enough to cover all the primary schools of Chatra, but also covered several other primary schools of the adjoining area and also some public places. The original target was to construct 50 units, but with prudent expenditures 60 units could be made.

Our another project Manab-Jamin near Bolpur in Birbhum district got 13 units for their educational institutions.

We organised a joyful ceremony of completion of the Toilet Project for Primary Schools of Chatra on April 23, 1999. Smt. Sujata Das, Chairperson - Baduria Panchayat Samity, Sri Krishnapada Kirtania, Pradhan - Chatra Gram Panchayat, Sri Krishnangshu Misra, Headmaster - Chatra Boys' High School, Mr. Udo Kirkamp of Indienhilfe and Sri Asok Ghosh deliberated about the usefulness of the Toilet Project in the meeting. Local Headmaster Sri Vivekananda Roy presided. Smt. Sujata Das handed over the keys of the toilets to the heads of all the Primary Schools. To make the programme lively, the students of the local schools presented nice cultural performances. A systematic health campaign was unleashed for creating a health habit for the whole village.

Friends of the Chatra village in Herrsching took initiative for raising funds, when they heard that the village Chatra and the whole neighbourhood were facing a grim situation due to flood. Hundreds of villagers took shelter in different primary schools and transferred themselves on roadsides creating makeshift tents. Vikas Kendra workers arranged dry food, medicine & medicaments immediately. Clothes were supplied, bamboos and other housing materials were given, hand tubewells were sunk. For Chatra, reliefs were routed through the Panchayat and in other places through the established youth groups. The quick relief and rehabilitation measures manifested the depth of concern of the Herrsching people for the afflicted in a distant shore. A true expression of Agenda 21.

The previous Panchayat Pradhan of Chatra had been to Herrsching and the present one is expected to visit during the year. This type of visits creat harmony and understanding, enhances people's co-operation in facing distress and calamity.

A COMMITMENT FOR COMMONS :

Panchayat Raj Institutions and SEVA :

During post independence period several state governments took steps to organise village Panchayats following the concept of Gram Swaraj of Mahatma Gandhi. The 33% representation of women in Panchayat Raj Institutions at all levels has no doubt strengthened the

numerical number, but in actual practice their political participation is very limited. The concept of planning from the below has yet to take roots. Panchayat Raj - People's Planning remains a far cry.

The Planning Commission, Govt. of India realising these weaknesses wanted to bring the Voluntary Organisations to have a collaborating relation with the Panchayat Raj Institutions as far back as 1994. Panchayats and Rural Development Department, Govt. of West Bengal convened a workshop on Collaborative Relationship among Voluntary Organisations, Panchayat Raj Institutions and Government agencies in the month of January, 1999. After this positive step, a decision has been taken to hold a workshop with the established NGOs of this state and the officials from Panchayat Department as well as the Minister-in-Charge of Panchayat Department in the month of June, 2000.

The State Government has formed an Advisory Committee under its Planning Board to adopt concrete steps in creating collaborative atmosphere between NGOs and Panchayat Raj Institutions officials. SEVA has been taken in this Advisory Committee. SEVA is now treated as a State Level Organisation. Last year more than 50 NGOs of North 24 Parganas formed a platform named North 24 Parganas NGOs' Forum. SEVA is the Chairman of this Forum. We are taking deep interest in strengthening the Forum and advancing the cause of the Advisory Committee.

TITUMEER FAIR :

Vikas Kendra organised its 14th Titumeer Fair from November 19-21, 1999. Shaheed Nisar Ali Titumeer, the first martyr of India in its quest for freedom gave his life on November 19, 1831, while defending his bamboo stockade in Narkelberia, a nearby village. This year the fair got added importance due to the participation and support of the North 24 Parganas NGOs' Forum.

On 19th, the fair was inaugurated by Prof. Sakti Bhattacharya, followed by a voluntary blood donation session. There were 67 donors, among which 7 were women. As usual Association of Voluntary Blood Donors, West Bengal (AVBD,WB) extended their assistance. 43 trainees were awarded with the certificates for successful completion of the 3-days Certificate Course on Social Service : Blood Donor Motivation & Recruitment.

The inmates of Ananda Kendra and the children of Ananda Dhara presented songs, recitations and a short drama in the celebration. Indian People Cultural Association of Swarupnagar block enriched the cultural presentation.

Following blood donation sessions took place during the year :

Date	Women	Men	Total
02.08.1999	02	23	25
19.11.1999	07	53	60
12.02.2000	20	25	45
19.02.2000	-	20	20
<hr/>			
Total	29	121	150

OUR MIRROR :

Vikas Kendra started its rural regeneration work in April, 1985. Since then except some specific projects or part of a period never came under the light of evaluation in its totality. We entrusted Smt. Papiya Roy and Dr. Dipankar Roy of Dhannyashisa Academy of Development Science to undertake participatory evaluation from our very inception. It was a two fold evaluation. The first fold encompassed our sphere of the organisation, the youth clubs, the govt. officials and the Panchayats. The second fold dealt with the inner circle of the organisation i.e. organisational aspects, the workers, the members, the systems, the structure, policy etc.

In the first fold of the evaluation, 2000 beneficiaries out of total 2 lacs (1%), among 40 youth groups, 10 groups (25%) participated in the process as identified by random sampling method. Participants of the second fold were 100% of the full and part-time workers and the members of SEVA Working Committee. It was a strenuous work to cover more than 2000 people to get the truth about the work of Vikas Kendra. We are grateful to the Academy for their constructive and meaningful report. We hope our mistakes will be fewer and services will be matchless in the field of material and spiritual upliftment.

OUR GOOD SAMARITANS :

Tagore Society for Rural Development (TSRD) :

Late Pannalal Dasgupta, the founder of Tagore Society for Rural Development (TSRD) was one of our beacon lights. While he was in the helm of affairs, SEVA received many of his blessings. TSRD maintains the same attitude towards SEVA. Their largesse has enabled Vikas Kendra to maintain 4 of its health workers in the programme of Reproductive Child Health. We will be covering 13 villages under this programme.

On 20th, the day was started with a novel ceremony. All the Non-formal teachers brought home made food and exchanged with each other in the true spirit of the communal harmony. In the fair ground nearly 150 women participated in a women camp on empowering led by the workers of Gana Unnayan Parshad. They day and the evening were always vibrating with the cultural presentation of teachers and children of Shishu Vikas Kendras. Boul songs were sung touching the heart of the listeners. Srijani of Chatra presented their popular dance ensemble.

On 21st, a Blood Group Detection camp was organised, which was attended by more than 200 future blood donors. The move was supported by a Lions Club of Calcutta. On the day 460 children were given Pulse Polio, as part of the national programme. A day long training programme was also organised for the farmers on Oilseed Cultivation with the assistance of Agriculture Department, Govt. of West Bengal. Machhlandapur Science Club initiated a discussion on scientific attitude and awareness. Local artists presented their best in the form of music and drama.

The North 24 Parganas NGOs' Forum got its shape in different sessions and finally a Working Committee emerged unanimously for the coming year. The stalls set up by the Sreema Mahila Samity did a flourishing sale. Other stalls, as part of the exhibition, were informative and well attended. The spacious compound of the fair was full, particularly during the evenings.

OUR ROLE IN VOLUNTARY BLOOD DONATION MOVEMENT :

SEVA from its very beginning has extended its hands of co-operation to the AVBD, WB in promoting voluntary blood donation movement. This year too Vikas Kendra organised the above mentioned 3-days Certificate Course of AVBD, WB from July 30 to August 1, 2000, in which 45 trainees took part. Our Jainal Abedin has secured the 2nd place among the examinees of this State Level Certificate Course in 1999.

AVBD, WB awarded Pankaj Chakraborty Memorial Certificate of Honour to Vikas Kendra as the best local organisation for its hospitality towards the trainees and the faculty members of this Certificate Course. After the completion of the above 3-days course, a voluntary blood donation camp was also arranged by the trainees, as part of the said course on August 2, 1999, in which 25 donors including 2 women donated blood as gift of love.

AVBD, WB participated in our Titumeer Fair by putting an educative stall on voluntary blood donation and science of blood in the exhibition.

SEVA was made part of their Greening India Programme. We are expected to cover 17 hectares of land under this programme. Their assistance cover both man and materials.

Education Support Division :

We have growing admiration for Education Support Division of Okinawa Christ Gospel Centre, Japan. Mr. Tadashi Otsu represents the Support Division and staying in Calcutta often visits our different projects. He has already extended token financial support and given us substantial writing materials for our Non-formal students and has given gifts to the inmates of Ananda Kendra. He is always accompanied by his smiling better half Mrs. Takako Otsu. Manab-Jamin is getting his assurance of benevolence in promoting education for children.

INDIENHILFE :

The irresistible call of Mother Teresa brought two beaming Bavarian Medical students in Calcutta to serve the ailing humanity. That was in eighties. In continuation of their mission, on return to Germany, they formed an association "Aid to India" (Indienhilfe). In due course, both of them obtained their medical degree and of them Dr. (Ms.) Elisabeth Kreuz bypassing her profession entered into the social service and that brought her to India again and again. SEVA could build a steel strong relation with Indienhilfe standing on its own terrafirma . In facing crisis, passing through many transitional period, we found that we have the same world vision. But naturally, we being the products of the orient and they of the occident, content and concepts being of varied in nature, we have genuinely differed on occasions. Still, in our strife for justice based on reasons, we were never let alone. From the stages of bricks to the ultimate stage of click, we could proceed towards progress shoulder to shoulder.

Representatives of all Indian organisations, numbering 9, receiving fraternal assistance from Indienhilfe euphemistically called partners met at Bolpur on January, 2000. They deliberated among themselves in the presence of Dr. Kreuz about the addition of CEVA as the consulting organisation of Indienhilfe. We welcomed this move. No denial, answerability is a categorical imperative, but expecting only reasonable advice. Reservations were anxiously put forward whether any greenhorn will be visiting the projects as their representative.

After having recorded our approach and attitude, we now move to place our departmental reports.

AGRICULTURE :

WE ARE GREEN BY CHOICE AND NOT BY CHANCE :

We are a proud member of the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movement (IFOAM). IFOAM believes that there will be no human health until we restore the health of the soil, together with the plants and animals it supports. There will be no planetary health until we restore the health of individual eco-systems, including the people and the cultures they support. On the other hand a Food Ministry Report reveals that India wastes food grains worth over Rupees 10,000 crores in a year, even as a fifth of its population is underfed. So, we are green by choice and not by chance.

We are promoting organic agriculture, which includes all agricultural systems that promote the environmentally, socially and economically sound production of food and fibres. Organic agriculture dramatically reduces external inputs by refraining from the use of chemo-synthetic fertilisers, pesticides and pharmaceuticals. Following these principles, we have selected, trained and continuously providing support to 100 farmers in 10 villages. 10 village based trained workers closely observe every step and monitor the same. Every month the workers have to report to the project centre.

Our President has taken initiative to form a co-ordinating committee of IFOAM Members in India, named as Association of Members of IFOAM in India (AMOI). SEVA office functions as the base of this association.

AGRICULTURE EXTENSION CENTRE (AEC) :

We adhere to the principles of organic farming in our Agriculture Extension Centre (AEC) covering 3 acres of land. We produce paddy, mustard seeds, groundnuts, sesame, coriander using only organic fertilisers. It is cheaper than inorganic fertiliser. Cost of cultivation is comparatively less and the production curve is positive. These are the results of our experiments in the demonstration plots. Soil has become invigorated. Farmers are keeping a keen watch on these experiments and pick up threads for implementation in their own plots.

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM) :

Agriculture Deptt. of the State Govt. and the Vikas Kendra jointly imparted training to 222 farmers of Baduria & Habra No. 1 blocks. As a result nearly 120 acres of land came under Boro cultivation without any chemical inputs. Fields were regularly visited and the farmers were shown different types of insects - friendly or otherwise. It became

convincing to them that organic farming has future. Their hard-earned experience will lead them to grow vegetables also with organic inputs.

COMPOST PITS :

Farmers are learning from life. Not only the quality of fertilisers obtained from the compost pit has convinced them, but also the rising cost of chemical fertilisers is acting as a deterrent to utilise the same. Our previous efforts to transform the waste into wealth are becoming manifestly beneficial now. This year we have supplied to them new technology and our supply of rock phosphate have enabled 30 farmers of 4 villages in 2 blocks to make compost pits.

MODEL KITCHEN GARDENS :

This standard project is increasingly being taken over by the womenfolk. Here the role of men is limited. Our campaign about the ill effect of chemical input has credible impact. In all kitchen gardens only organic fertilisers are used. 80 families of 8 villages in 2 blocks have received from us 12 kinds of seeds and plants for their own kitchen gardens. We also supplied 'kolmi' seeds - a kind of green leafy vegetables, to 150 farmers in 12 villages of 2 blocks. This year we could not undertake 'dhaincha' cultivation due to non-availability of seeds either from govt. or private sources. We have plans to grow 'dhaincha' seeds in the farmers' own fields.

OIL SEEDS :

The idea of implementing IPM in relation to the paddy cultivation has already penetrated into the minds of the farmers. Now, with the support of the Agriculture Deptt., of the state government, we imparted training to 65 oil seed farmers of 28 villages in 5 blocks on IPM. The training capsule contained also the preservation of oil seeds.

FARMERS INTERACTION WITH THE SCIENTISTS :

We organised a workshop with the scientists of the Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya. Government assistance was also there. 25 farmers of 18 villages in 5 blocks attended the same. The thrust was to improve the traditional method of cultivation of paddy and other major crops. The interaction was lively and educative.

TRAINING TO THE FARMERS' SONS :

Increasingly educated sons of farmers have tendency to leave village and migrate to the over crowded cities. To orient them towards agriculture, scientific methodical training is one of the preventive steps.

40 farmers of 20 villages in 3 blocks undertook a specifically tailormade training to remove their all misconceptions and apprehensions.

COCONUT CULTIVATION :

11 farmers of 4 villages in 2 blocks received sanctions from the Coconut Development Board, Govt. of India and further 11 farmers had already received Rs.7,500/- in cash as subsidy for cultivation of coconut. Further applications have already been submitted for financial assistance. To meet the need of the farmers, we are growing 200 coconut plants in our own nursery. These are from disease-free indigenous variety.

To create market for coconut handicrafts, a month long stipendiary training was arranged for 6 trainees. 1 woman & 6 men selected by the voluntary organisations undertook this training. The skilled resource person was provided by the Board. Further, the Board arranged a day long seminar on Coconut Cultivation at Vikas Kendra, which was attended by the Director of Horticulture, Principal Agriculture Officer of the District, Sub-Divisional Agriculture Officer, Agriculture Development Officer and the high officials of the Board. During our Titumeer Fair, Prof. P.K.Chatterjee of BCKV talked on promotion of coconut cultivation. Mr. Kutti Krishnan Dy. Director of Coconut Development Board distributed the instrument for easy and safe climbing on coconut trees among the trainees, who undertook a week long training at BCKV.

DIFFERENT DEMONSTRATIVE PLOTS :

Jute - With the support of the Agriculture Deptt., we could create 7 demonstration plots on jute in the fields of 35 farmers of 5 blocks. The Department provided all the necessary seeds and inputs.

Groundnut - The Agriculture Deptt. provided us 1135 kgs. of groundnut seeds. With these resource we created demonstration plots covering 25 hectares of land belonging to 175 farmers of 7 villages of Baduria block. They derived substantial benefits out of these plots. Another 2 villages of Habra No. 1 block received government support as recommended by Vikas Kendra. It may be mentioned here that previously Atghara village rarely saw groundnut cultivation. Now 90% of the farmers resort to groundnut cultivation.

Conchshell potato - Production of this type of potato is being promoted by us. Small families, teachers of our different schools cultivated this type of potato and got excellent results. 180 families of 15 villages in 2 blocks received seeds from our end. Some farmers while participating in the Agriculture Exhibition were awarded for good production by the Agriculture Deptt.

Papaya plants - During the period under review, we distributed 3350 papaya plants among the poor families of 20 villages in 2 blocks.

Papaya is useful, as vegetable while it is green and as fruit while it is ripe. It has a good market value. Farmers do prefer papaya plants because they do not create shade.

Black pepper - We prepared 2500 cuttings of black pepper in our own nursery and those were distributed among 63 families of 16 villages in 2 blocks. In addition to this, teachers of our Shishu Vikas Kendras and scheduled caste and tribal families also were beneficiaries of this project.

Jackfruits - We distributed 250 jackfruit plants among 35 families of 15 villages in 2 blocks. Wood from these trees are useful for making wooden furniture.

Medicinal plants - We completed the 3 years long project received from the Science & Technology Deptt., Govt. of India. Various health gardens created out of this project are now being used for propagating and perpetuating the same. Our Mahila Mondalis are taking special interest in this propagation.

Social Forestry - There is a good demand for plants for fodder, fuel and furnitures. As we could not get good seeds, the germination rate was low. 1000 plants raised by us were distributed to 25 needy families.

EXTENSION OF TECHNOLOGY :

Upgradation of sour junube plants - As part of our term planning, we are continuously upgrading sour jujube plants to sweet ones. During the year we met the requirements of 10 families and transformed 35 plants from sour to sweet.

Azola - Our pioneering venture to introduce azola in the field of agriculture has been accepted by the farmers. They save almost 1/3rd cost of their nitrogen inputs. They have found that the use of azola helps to control the weeds and less irrigation is required. At our instance 15 farmers of 4 villages in 2 blocks have used azola in 'Aman' & 'Boro' cultivation.

SPECIFIC TRAINING IMPARTED :

Floriculture - Few experienced farmers have started floriculture as economic production. They found out that jute & sesame cultivation are comparatively less paying. On their demand, a training on floriculture was arranged with the help of the Horticulture Deptt., Govt. of West Bengal. 35 farmers of 4 villages in Baduria block involved in floriculture undertook the day-long training and got clarified many of their misconceptions.

Fruit Processing - The Agricultural Marketing Division, North 24 Parganas district imparted a 2-days long training on fruits and vegetables preservation to 41 young women of 13 villages in 3 blocks.

Some of them are now using their skills for preservation of some locally available fruits and vegetables for their family use. The same Division further imparted a training on jute gradation for farmers mainly belonging to scheduled caste category. Total 150 farmers of 3 villagers in 2 blocks undertook this training.

SEED EXCHANGE PROGRAMME :

It is becoming increasingly difficult to get dependable indigenous seeds in the market. Highly advertised hybrid seeds have flooded the market. Farmers often get bewildered about the selection of seeds. Vikas Kendra is now supplying them selected seeds for multiplication of the same. Farmers are motivated to exchange these seeds among themselves. During the period under review, we provided variety of paddy seeds to 20 farmers of 3 villages in Baduria block.

EXHIBITION OF FRUITS & VEGETABLES :

Our annual exhibition on fruits & vegetables is gradually becoming popular. This year we had a special section for organic production. This year also the Agriculture Deptt., Govt. of West Bengal extended their support for this exhibition. The exhibition lasted for 3 days. On the 2nd day, few government experts participated in a training programme and assisted us in question-answer competition. On the ultimate day, in presence of 3 scientists from the BCKV and Dy. Director of Coconut Development Board, prizes were awarded to the farmers on their quality products. 332 farmers, who use chemical fertilisers and 40 organic farmers participated in the exhibition, bringing their best products. We also participated in the Nazrul Fair held at Baduria, which secured the government support.

TRAINING :

During the year under review, we imparted the following trainings on agriculture :

	Training days
01. Chemical Free Production	645
02. Jujute budding	27
03. Jute grading	150
04. Jute cultivation	42
05. Papaya cultivation	23
06. Floriculture	34
07. Medicinal plants	25
08. Fruits & Vegetables	84
09. Kitchen gardens	200

10. Health gardens	40
11. Oil seeds	65
12. Fruit processing	82
13. Bio-farming	48
14. Black pepper	143
15. Coconut handicrafts	180
16. Integrated Pest Management (IPM)	222
17. Farmers' sons' training	117
18. Kolmi cultivation	14
Total :	2,141

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY :

A way of living in the rural areas :

Animal Husbandry plays a vital role in the regeneration of rural economy. Unless the rural economy (like Punjab, Gujrat, Haryana) is strengthened, the whole economic structure of our state is likely to be in dismay. Keeping in view of the increasing demands of milk, eggs & meat, our Animal Husbandry programme has been designed in the back-drop of the present socio-economic scenario of the rural areas. The entire Animal Husbandry programme has been divided into two segments - 1) Welfare Programme & 2) Economic Regeneration Programme.

I) WELFARE PROGRAMME :

A) Efforts have been made to treat the animals of rural areas through modern and scientific methods :

a) No. of animals treated at Vikas Kendra	480 nos.
b) No. of animals treated at the door step of the farmers	92 nos.
c) No. of families covered	350 nos.
d) No. of villages covered	10 nos.
e) No. of animals treated with the assistance of Ichhamati Milk Union	200 nos.
f) No. of Women Co-operative Societies benefitted	2 nos.

B) Fertility Promotion Programme :

This programme envisages the treatment of unproductive animals, which appears to be a great economic burden to the farmers. The animals are examined gynaecologically to ascertain the genital defects and necessary medicines are prescribed for its recovery.

a) No. of animals treated	65 nos.
b) No. of families benefitted	65 nos.
c) No. of villages covered	6 nos.

C) 40-days Residential Training on Animal Husbandry, Veterinary & Dairy :

Unemployed educated rural youths are facing a great problem to find out a suitable job for their survival. Considering the magnitude of the problem, some arrangements have been made to train up some unemployed rural youths on Animal Husbandry, Veterinary & Dairy for their self reliance and economic regeneration. The training programme is designed with the assistance of National Dairy Research Institute, Kalyani, Forage Station, Kalyani and Ichhamati Milk Union, Barasat. The details of the training during the year are as under :

a) No. of trainees	26 nos.
b) No. of families	26 nos.
c) No. of villages	26 nos.
d) No. of blocks	16 nos.
e) No. of districts	7 nos.

A post training feedback reflects a very rosy picture, which is as follows :

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| a) No. of trainees engaged in veterinary practice in rural areas | More than 200 |
| b) Economic benefit of the trainees per head per month | Rs.1,500/- to Rs.5,000/ |

D) Fodder Promotion Programme :

Considerable progress has been made in connection with the fodder promotion programme. Farmers have realised that for reduction of production cost of milk, the fodder promotion programme should be given top priority. During the year we distributed the following for fodder promotion :

a) Fodder seeds distributed :	
S.S.G	116 kgs.
Maize	40 kgs.
Cowpea	10 kgs.
M.P.Chari	150 kgs.

b) Fertilisers distributed :	150 kgs.
N.P.K.	75 kgs.
Urea	
	40
c) No. of families benefitted	7
No. of villages covered	2
No. of blocks covered	

Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Deptts., Govt. of West Bengal extended their assistance to Vikas Kendra for fodder promotion programme. Efforts have been made to organise demonstration plots in the rural areas, where cross-breeding programme has a clear edge over indigenous cows.

E) Pathological Laboratory :

The concept of Pathological Laboratory envisages proper diagnosis of diseases for treatment.

a) No. of samples examined	7
b) No. of villages covered	1
c) No. of block covered	1
d) No. of families benefitted	7

F) Insurance Coverage :

This programme extends social security of the cattle farmers in the wake of any eventuality.

a) No. of farmers covered under insurance coverage	56
b) No. of cows covered	44
c) No. of goats covered	20
d) No. of villages covered	4

G) Preventive vaccination programme :

This programme provides security to the cattle farmers. It protects their cattle wealth in the wake of dreadful diseases, which sometimes create a serious epidemic problem, resulting in great economic loss and abrasive attitude of the cattle farmers in rearing their animals.

This programme has been designed jointly by Vikas Kendra and Ichhamati Milk Union, Barasat. Following services were rendered during the year :

a) FMD vaccines	479
No. of families benefitted	395
No. of villages covered	3
b) R2b vaccines	699

c) Fi vaccines	116
No. of families benefitted	300
No. of villages covered	1

II. ECONOMIC REGENERATION PROGRAMME :

A) Calf exchange programme :

This programme was mainly designed to alleviate poverty of the farmers, who are living far below the poverty line. The scheme has been discontinued due to lack of enthusiasm among farmers. The calves so far received back are being maintained at Ananda Kendra for a nucleus of cross-bred cows in the rural areas.

B) Women Dairy Co-operative Societies :

Despite sincere efforts of the Animal Husbandry Deptt. of Vikas Kendra to organise Women's Dairy Co-operatives in the rural areas, the same proved abortive due to the reasons indicated below

- a) Revision of price structure of milk in all phases,
- b) Needs intensification of co-operative culture in the rural areas,
- c) Needs intensification of cross-bred programme,
- d) Farmers Induction programme.

C) Rearing of cross-bred calves at Ananda Kendra :

This programme envisages rearing of cross-bred calves at Ananda Kendra to the period of maturity for the following reasons :

- a) Demonstration purpose,
- b) Infusion of new blood in the rural areas,
- c) Economic regeneration.

D) Cattle show :

A cattle show was organised at Purba Chandipur village on March 19, 2000 to assess the development of cross-bred in this area. More than 150 animals were assembled. The best animal was adjudged by a panel of judges, yielding 15 litres of milk per day.

E) Goat breeding programme :

A small goat-farm was established with 1 buck & 10 she goats. The basic concept of this goat-farm is to supply kids to alleviate poverty of the farmers. During the year 4 kids were born. Steps have already been taken to vaccinate goats against goat-pox.

F) Introduction of frozen semen for cross-breeding programme :

Cross-breeding programme with superior plasm has been introduced under Animal Resource Development Deptt. of Vikas Kendra with effect from December, 1999. If this cross-breeding programme continues for a space of 5 to 7 years, the entire livestock scenario will be changed, bringing economic regeneration by sale of surplus milk so produced.

a) No. of A.I. cases

G) Goat exchange programme :

This is a new concept of Animal Resource Development Deptt. of Vikas Kendra to alleviate poverty of the farmers. 19 country goats were distributed among the farmers of Atghara, Purba Chandipur and Kirtipur. The farmers will return 2 female kids to Vikas Kendra, who in turn will distribute the same among other poor farmers. In this chain system, within a period of 2-3 years, these villages will be fully covered with country goats, meaning unfolding the economic regeneration process.

H) Pisciculture :

A comprehensive training on pisciculture was organised jointly by CIFA & Vikas Kendra from October 7 - 11, 1999, in which 18 participants undertook this training. Dr. M.L.Bhowmik, Principal Director, Central Inland Fisheries, Kalyani conducted this training.

a) No. of trainees	18
b) No. of families covered	18
c) No. of villages covered	10
d) No. of blocks covered	2

I) Poultry development programme :

Arrangements were made for poultry refresher training for the development of poultry farms.

a) No. of trainees	21
b) No. of families covered	21
c) No. of villages covered	21
d) Poultry growers' meeting	6

J) Development programme in the adopted village Purba Chandipur :

Vikas Kendra has innovated a new concept for the total development of the womenfolk in an adopted village viz. Purba Chandipur for self reliance and economic regeneration. Meanwhile, various developmental programmes as under have been identified and put under operation in addition to animal resource development programme :

- Small Savings,
- Establishment of Small Rural Library,
- Literacy drive,
- Child & Mother care,
- Family Welfare programme,
- Legal Aid training &
- First Aid training.

K) Veterinary health coverage - Purba Chandipur :	
a) No. of animals treated/attended	48
b) i) No. of animals examined gynaecologically	28
ii) Results obtained	15
c) Vaccination against various cattle diseases - F.M.& D.	128
d) Vaccination against poultry diseases:	
R2b (Ranikhet)	699
FI	116

L) Farmers induction programme - Purba Chandipur :	
No. of women were taken to Forage Station, Kalyani & N.D.R.I., Kalyani	35

M) Fodder promotion programme - Purba Chandipur :
Under this programme, seeds & fertilisers were distributed among the farmers for taking up fodder cultivation in their own land for demonstration purpose.

a) No. of farmers benefitted	10
b) No. of meetings held	2
c) Average attendance in the meetings	18
d) No. of women trainees attended training on Fodder Cultivation	35

OUR ANIMAL HUSBANDRY SERVICES IN NUTSHELL :

A) Animal treatment :	
a) No. of animals treated at Vikas Kendra	480
b) No. of animals treated at door-steps	92
c) No. of villages covered	10
d) No. of families covered	350
e) No. of Women Dairy Co-operative benefitted	2
B) Fertility prmotion programme:	65
a) No. of trainees	65
b) No. of families covered	6
c) No. of villages covered	
C) 40-days residential training :	26
a) No. of trainees	26
b) No. of families covered	26
c) No. of villages covered	7
d) No. of districts covered	16
e) No. of blocks covered	
D) Fodder promotion programme :	
a) Seeds distribution:	
S.S.G.	116 kgs.
Maize	40 kgs.
Cowpea	10 kgs.

M.P.Chare	150 kgs.
b) Fertiliser distribution:	
N.P.K.	150 kgs.
Urea	75 kgs.
c) No. of families benefitted	40 kgs.
d) No. of villages covered	7 kgs.
e) No. blocks covered	2 kgs.
E) Pathological laboratory :	
a) No. of samples examined	7
b) No. of villages covered	1
c) No. of families benefitted	7
F) Insurance coverage :	
a) No. of cows covered	44
b) No. of goats covered	20
c) No. of families covered	56
d) No. of block covered	1
G) Preventive vaccination programme :	
FMD vaccination:	
a) No. of cases	479
b) No. of families benefitted	395
c) No. of villages covered	3
R2b vaccination:	
a) No. of cases	699
e) FI vaccination	116
f) No. of families benefitted	300
g) No. of villages covered	1
H) Cattle show :	
a) No. of show arranged	1
b) No. of cattles participated	150
c) No. of families participated	130
I) Goat exchange programme for women :	
a) No. of goats distributed	19
b) No. of villages covered	3
c) No. of families benefitted	19
J) Cross-breeding programme with frozen semen :	
a) No. of Artificial Insemination cases done	70
b) No. of families benefitted	70
c) No. of villages covered	5
K) Legal aid training :	
a) No. of batches	4
b) No. of trainees	110
c) No. of villages covered	22
d) No. of families covered	110

L) Fodder training for women :

a) No. of batches	6
b) No. of trainees	207
c) No. of families benefitted	207
d) No. of villages covered	23

M) Model village for women - Purba Chandipur :

a) No. of meetings held	9
b) Average attendance in the meeting	43
c) No. of fodder training for women (2 batches)	35
d) Training for women on fowl & duck rearing (1 batch)	24
e) Training for women on Primary Health for animals	21
f) Cattle show - 1	105 cows
g) Vaccination on :	.
FMD	128
R2b	699
FI	116
h) Farmers' Induction programme	35
i) Rural Library - No. of books	38
j) Self Help Group - total members	67
k) Goat exchange programme :	
No. of women benefitted	5
No. of families covered	5
l) Fodder seed distribution:	
No. of women benefitted	10
No. of families covered	10
m) Fertility camp:	
No. of cows	28
No. of families covered	28

TRAININGS :

During the period under review, we imparted the following trainings on Animal Husbandry and Veterinary :

	Training <u>days</u>
01. Training on Animal Husbandry & Dairy Management (40-days Residential)	1040
02. Animal Husbandry Refreshers Training	145
03. Training for Women on Fodder Cultivation	621
04. Training for Women on Primary Health of Animals	21
05. Training for Women on Farmers Induction programme	330
06. Training for Women on Empowerment of Women	228
07. Training on Fodder Cultivation for Purba Chandipur Mahila Mondali	3

08. Training for Women on Legal Aid	69
09. Training on Foul & Duck Rearing for Purba Chandipur Mahila Mondali	24
10. Training on Pisciculture	90
11. Poultry Refreshers Training	20
<hr/>	
Total :	2623

EVERY CHILD DESERVES FORMAL EDUCATION :

Non-formal Education (NFE) is a compromise. We have no right to play truant with the growing children, but the reality compels us to accept NFE. It was started in 1976 in our country to offer learning opportunities to children (6 - 14 years of age), who for some reasons were deprived of normal school education, but NFE cannot be substitute for formal school education. To us education means change. NFE offers us this opportunity. Change of thoughts and attitudes, that is to make better one's present state of mind to an upper mental level. To quicken this upliftment process, NFE system can be a procedure and a fundamental element in a developing country like ours. To make this system widely popular and a success, Vikas Kendra has been working incessantly since its inception.

In our Annual Report of 1998-99, we promised "Our main emphasis would be on skilled teacher and we will have to strengthen the local youth groups and systems of our education programme." Keeping in mind these words, this year we conducted 10 Adult Education/Non-formal centres in 9 villages.

Centre/Teacher :

During the year under review, our Education Deptt. tried to improve the quality of the learning centres rather than the quantity. Owing to that only 10 centres in 9 villages were operated on integrated learning course. Among these centres, 6 were for the adult learners and the rest 4 were for children. 1 centre did run exclusively for the women. For teacher selection, our criteria were not the poverty of the candidate, but his/her educational background, teaching and communication ability. We also increased the honorarium of the teachers. The selected teachers had gone through a tough competition to prove their mettle.

Visit/Development Dialogue :

In order to stimulate our Non-formal/Adult Education Centres, we increased our visits. As a result all the centres were very much in a lively condition. Side by side of the centre visits, we organised development dialogue with the learners, guardians and enthusiastic villagers to make them aware of various social issues of our present

day malaise. During 1999-2000 our Education Deptt. paid 214 visits and 30 sessions on development dialogues were conducted with 563 participants.

Students :

The substantial number of unschooled and dropout students indicates the weakness of the formal education structure. Here the NGO movement has a specific role to play. We tried to make adequate response. Our 10 centres started with 300 students, but after 9 months we found out that there were only 239 still continuing the course. 61 students left the track. Out of these 239 students, girl & female were only 61.

Shaheed Titumeer Public Library (A bird's eye view) :

01. No. of books at the beginning of the year	2036
02. Books purchased during the year	30
03. No. of present readers/members :	
Male	52
Female	22
Children	<u>6</u>
	80
04. Regular readers	62
05. No. of books read	877
06. Amount of subscription paid	
Rs.1,041/-	

TRAINING :

During the year, we imparted the following trainings on education

	Training
	<u>days</u>
01) Non-formal education	144

HEALTH CONCERN : INDIA 128TH OF 174 ON HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX :

Nearly 16 percent of Indians are not expected to live to be 40, 44 percent of adults are illiterate and 25 percent are without access to proper health care. U.N. Report says, the health profile of the country is disturbing. A total 4,100,000 people below the age of 50 have HIV/AIDS. In 1997 India had 275 cases of malaria per 1000 people, as compared to 163 in Thailand. Last year we talked about deadly Tuberculosis. It remained a silent killer. 22 million new cases of the

disease occur in India every year.

In our health front, we remember all these factors and make effort to have adequate response to get upper movement in the Human Development Index.

Polio eradication campaign :

We had altogether 27 camps during the period under review, including mass polio and 5 pulse polio camps. Total 3676 doses were used.

Mothers' day and health camps :

We observed 11 Mothers' day to advise pregnant mothers about taking pre-natal & post-natal care. Total 489 cases were attended.

In-depth survey - Leprosy & AIDS :

From January 26 to March 9, 2000, our health workers covered all the families of Atghara village covering 4073 persons. A total picture came out and the results were passed on to the local Primary Health Centre and the Govt. Health officials.

First-aid centre :

Almost everyday we get a first-aid case. Our centre is open round the clock. When we face difficult cases, immediately we arrange their medical advice in the nearby hospital. During the year we attended 273 cases, of them 220 cases we had given anti tetanus injections.

Combatting chicken-pox :

The world has been completely relieved from the dreaded disease of small-pox. Homeopathic system has preventive medicine against chicken-pox. 1434 persons of 6 paras of Atghara were given preventive doses of medicine for chicken-pox.

Family welfare programme :

India's burgeoning is indeed has already become a burden in relation to the natural resources. Our nascent campaign for population control is showing positive results. It is slow, but steady. 286 women accepted temporary measures and only 52 men accepted the same. While none from the masculine gender undertook permanent measures, 34 from the feminine gender accepted the same.

Homœopathy Clinic

Our three qualified homœopathic physicians are rendering their services every day of the week. We supply medicines on the spot against a token donation. Total 2390 cases were attended during the year, of them 418 were men and 612 were children. Women cases were most, the number was 1360.

Ayurvedic clinic :

Our Kabiraj of Ayurvedic medicine treated total 241 cases. Men were 168, women 66 and children had a miniscale figure of 7 only. Patients got their medicines from local Aushadhalaya.

Allopathy clinic :

Our M.D. doctor altogether treated 792 cases during the year. Last year the figure was 399. Male patients were 305, female were 294 and children were 193. The service of ECG remained available at Vikas Kendra. The friendly doctor also assists us in conducting many training programmes.

HOW WE SEE THINGS :

Powers of the Panchayats have tremendously increased in this decade. The 73rd & 74th amendments to the constitution have delegated 29 subjects to be taken care of at the village level under the Panchayat Act. As part of the health care management, it is the duty of the Panchayat to :

- i) Link primary health care with referral services,
- ii) Undertake community orientation of education and training of health workers at the village level,
- iii) Take care of logistics in the form of drugs, equipment, other supplies, transport etc.,
- iv) Undertake supervision, provide technical support, guidance and encouragement to workers at health centres,
- v) Entail participation of the community with government efforts,
- vi) Arrange discussions on public health problems with the health care-takers within the Panchayat area and assign tasks,
- vii) Assist in conserving the health centres and help the health workers,
- viii) The Panchayat members should consult their higher bodies and there should be chain of co-operation. Even if these could be partially translated into reality, the battle against diseases is almost won.

OUR HEALTH SERVICES - A BIRD'S EYE VIEW :

	<u>No. of beneficiaries</u>
01. Mass Polio	280
02. DPT	260
03. Measles	59
04. BCG	89
05. DT	6
06. Vit. A Oil	189
07. Vaccination for pregnant mothers	457

08. Distribution of 2445 iron tablets for mother & child	489 mothers
09. Population control : Permanent:	34
Women	0
Men	
Temporary:	286
Women	52
Men	
10. Home visit for giving advices for the children of 6 years old	670
11. First-Aid	273
12. Tetanus injections	220
13. Chicken pox	1434
14. Ayurvedic clinic	241
15. Allopathy clinic	792
16. Homœopathy clinic	2390
17. Mothers' day & Health camps	489
18. People covered under survey of leprosy, AIDS etc.	4073
19. Participants in training on diarrhoea including arsenic poisoning	1695

TRAINING :

During the year, following trainings were imparted on health :

	<u>Training days</u>
01. Diarrhoea training including arsenic poisoning	1695
02. Health & Nutrition	244
03. Malaria	48
04. Dai Training	37
05. AIDS Training	50
06. Pre-natal care	38
	<hr/>
Total :	2112

THEIR DREAMS DIED YOUNG :

We are talking about our Mahila Mondalis. September 24, we celebrated the day of the girl child. In a country, where for every girl, who lives in a loving home and is allowed to fulfil her potential, there are ten others, whose ambitions lie shattered in the dust. The celebration rings hollow. Otherwise how we explain this news, according to official statistics, one dowry death is reported every 101 minutes, wherein the culprits invariably go scot-free. The reasons may be varied

- one being the insensitivity and gross callousness of the men's world. There is a UNDP mandate, there should be gender mainstreaming. There should be gender equality in all policy programmes, administrative & financial activities and in organisational procedures, thereby contributing to organisational transformation.

The assembly of 250 strong women tried to understand the implications of these words. On February 3, 2000 a 1-day Women Conference was held at Vikas Kendra. This was participated by the members of 5 Mahila Mondalis. For the preparation of this conference 6 para meetings were organised since December, 1999. Arati, Sandhya & Elisabeth forcefully enunciated the future lines of actions. Chandana of Pingaleswar presided over the meeting. We have started the follow up actions of UNDP mandate. In the year under review, it was more organised and methodical. 3 of the Mahila Mondalis are now meeting regularly and taking decisions in a democratic manner. We have to accept still Atghara and Pingaleswar in the forefront.

Self Help Groups have survived and surfaced in reasonable numbers. Selected members attended a day long camp organised by the North 24 Parganasa NGOs' Forum to understand the intricacies of accounts. Atghara Mahila Mondali organised the International Women's Day on March 8, 2000. Other Mahila Mondalis joined the same. Speakers made efforts to convey the message of the day. One important feature of the year was to cover 179 women under a special Insurance coverage. National Insurance Co. Ltd. has formulated a low premium policy for distressed women. 1/3rd of the premium was paid by the policy holder, 1/3rd by Vikas Kendra and 1/3rd by our President. Atghara Mahila Mondali met 10 times during the year. Total attendance was 161. Its Working Committee met 7 times to take operative decisions. Average attendance was 11 members.

Income Generation Programme of Mahila Mondali was not neglected. With much care pickles, jam, bodi and other eatable items were made and sold with a margin. Mustard sauce was a coveted item due to its high quality. Total turn over was nearly Rs.6,000/-. Kitchen gardens remained a popular programme of Mahila Mondalis. At first trainings were imparted, then 90 women got material support in the form of seeds, plants etc. To bring further smiles in the lives of the women, in the village goat exchange programme was undertaken. Initially 66 women were selected. After proper scrutiny, 10 women from the distressed families were given one goat each. Animal Husbandry Deptt. is rendering service as required.

In the initial lines, we have talked about the neglect of the girl child. Often our Mahila Mondali leaders face stubborn husbands to secure proper treatment to their wives. If the girls are beautiful, they are subjected to humiliation from the shenanigans. Society's toleration

must end to accept the bitter harvest. As part of the millennium, we have to change unlikely temple to the shrine of justice.

TRAINING :

During the year, the following trainings were imparted for Mahila Mondalis :

	<u>Training days</u>
01. Legal literacy	27
02. Minutes writing	26
03. Fruit preservation	53
04. Blackpepper plantation	15
05. Demystifying snakes	9
Total :	120

AGENDA 21 : VISION 21 AND OUR ORGANISATION :

The United Nations Conference on Environment & Development (UNCED) was held in Rio-de-Generio four years ago. At the biggest summit ever held in the history, the AGENDA 21, a global programme for environment & development for the 21st Century was signed by more than 70 states. The global programme is based on the principle of sustainable management.

Essence of Vision 21 :

Vision 21 argues for the following changes :

■ Holistic approach - acknowledging hygiene, water and sanitation as a human right and relating it to human development, the elimination of poverty and the integrated management of water resources.

■ Building people's energies and creativity at all levels - empowering and building the capacity of people in households and communities to take action and applying technologies that respond to actual needs.

■ Committed and compassionate leadership and good governance - changing long accustomed roles, leading to new responsibilities of authorities to support households and communities in the management of their hygiene, water and sanitation and being

accountable to users as clients.

■ Sustained dialogue and collaboration among all partners - encouraging shared commitment among users, politicians and professionals, requiring professionals within the water and sanitation sector to combine technical expertise with an ability to work with users and politicians and with health, education, environment, community development and food sectors.

The Agenda 21 & Vision 21 are two charters to save the humanity. These two paths put stress on sustainable management, committed and compassionate leadership and good governance. In our organisational activities these were our guidelines.

To make our activities democratic and participatory, all organs of our organisation held regular meetings and followed certain indicators to evaluate the same. Our youth organisations had their own 36 meetings participated by 643 members. Their Apex Committee met twice to make successful Titumeer Fair and Foundation Day celebrations. On an average 30 organisations sent their representatives. Our Departmental heads had 12 meetings, most of them were extended to take actions on immediate issues. Average attendance was 14 members. Full-time staff also met 12 times with average attendance of 18 members. For popularising Self Help Groups, we had 5 specific meetings attended by 177 women. Our Working Committee met 6 times during the year, took stock of the situation and performed its statutory obligations.

Training :

During the year under review, we imparted following trainings :

	<u>Training days</u>
01. Faith and its many faces	17
02. Arsenic contamination	62
03. Education for human growth	219
04. Language	50
05. Participatory evaluation	83
06. Institution building	26
07. Youth development	98
08. Youth leadership	578
09. Galaxy & solar family	22

MILES TO GO BEFORE WAR AGAINST POVERTY IS OWN :

Small Savings Scheme :

In a continuous war against poverty, marshalling of internal resources is an important factor. Elsewhere we have talked about Self Help Groups. Now we place the report about our Lok Sanchay Prakalpa (Small Savings Scheme). Last year we reported that the total micro deposit was Rs.6,88,632/-. This year it increased to Rs.8,88,156/-. Our Post Office Account showed the credit balance at the year end Rs.1,21,510/-. The Post Office gave us an interest of nearly Rs.15,000/-. This scheme gave loan to Vikas Samabayika, Women Dairy Co-operative Society and for many domestic purposes. Loan for land purchase was also given. Our depositors are all marginalised people. The trust on us brought deposit from local the Market Committee and the Mosque Committee. At the year end total membership stood as 533. We feel happy that out of them 363 were women. Deposits are accepted only on Sundays and even fraction of a rupee is accepted as deposit, but withdrawal facilities are available on all days of the year and 24 hours of the day. It is Any Time Money.

Rural Technology Centre (RTC) :

This separate building was made with the technological support of Central Building Research Institute (CBRI), Govt. of India. It has pre-cast roof. Our solar room occupies a separate hall there. Solar-box cookers manufactured here is getting a place in the market. Departure of an experienced and skilled hand has comparatively stalled the progress. Still half a dozen cookers were manufactured and two of them sold. Wish, we will have a break-through next year. We have a plan to manufacture parabolic solar cookers next year.

Tailoring and Embroidery Deptt. :

This department is recording a steady progress. We get a reasonable number of women from marginal families and from inmates of Ananda Kendra for tailoring and embroidery training. The quality of training gives them satisfaction and assurance. Most of them after completion of the training get regular work order from nearby markets. The product have steady outflow. Nearly 20 women undertook training this year.

Training :

During the year, we imparted following training :

1) Tailoring & Embroidery

Training days

2400

Vikas Laboratory :

It started functioning with 33 parameters. Water can be analysed in the laboratory, fishery water, effluent water and drinking water can also be examined. 45 water samples were tested for colour, ph, TSS, iron and arsenic. 10 water samples were analysed for arsenic, iron with bacteriological test. 4 samples of chemical fertiliser were analysed for micro element.

We are also advising the farmers about the condition of the soil. We follow the indicators of World Health Organisation (WHO) and Indian Standard 10500:1983. We have the idea to undertake energy audit and tissue culture.

The Laboratory-in-Charge undertook extensive visits to meet the Panchayat representatives, youths and opinion leaders with slides, charts etc. to make them aware of the deteriorating environment. Rural Alliance of Chatra also took benefits out of this scheme.

We are convinced, a meaningful task has been initiated with inherent potency in the same.

Experts of All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health (AIIPH) gave us a valuable training on Arsenic Contamination. It lasted for 3 days with selected trainees. The expert team also visited the Laboratory and appreciated the quality of instruments and materials used for analysis.

Washing Powder :

Our Washing Powder project was on right track. Sales figures crossed Rs.4 lacs. 24 unemployed youths were in the marketing force. To overcome a technical problem, we made efforts to handover the production to an emerging co-operative Vikas Enterprises. The efforts did not succeed. Moaning has no meaning. We have closed the chapter.

Vikas Samabayika - A growing effort :

Vikas Samabayika, a village based co-operative, has 193 members and among them 93 are women. During the year, the co-operative purchased more than 29 MT of honey and the turnover was nearly Rs.12,00,000/-. Our Sales Counter sold lungi, saree, locally weaved towel (gamchha) worth more than Rs.27,000/-.

Dahrmagola, part of Samabayika, this year could not purchase paddy and mustard seeds due to high market price.

It now employs 2 staff mainly for honey transactions. Honey sale brought handsome profit for the co-operative. Members, apart from regular dividend, got a gift.

The decision making process remained democratic. It had 6 meetings of its Executive Committee and Annual General Meeting as required. We should not rest on this laurel, we have to move further.

AN INVESTMENT IN FUTURE - SHISHU VIKAS KENDRAS (CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTRES) :

UNICEF is not at all happy with the condition of children in India. The problem of child labour in West Bengal was acute and can not be solved by the UNICEF or by the state alone without the participation of NGOs. According to Prof. Amartya Sen, the problems of poor management of primary schools, the reasons why many parents do not send their children to schools; the high drop-out rate from primary schools and the relationship between the teachers and the students' guardians must be looked into. When we started our Shishu Vikas Kendras (SVKs), all these were in our mind. We in our 13 SVKs look after children of 3 - 6 years old, their formative period. In 12 centres, we have 30 children each and in the central SVK we have 50 children. We cover 17 villages of 2 blocks. During the year it had 228 working days. In each centre there are 2 teachers and in the Central SVK there are 3 teachers. Every morning the children get some nutritious food in the school. In a play-way method they are taught little bit literacy, songs, drawing, painting etc. Social health is part of their curriculum. Monthly Mothers' meeting are held regularly. During the year 139 Mothers' meetings were held. Subjects like child care, food & nutrition, safe drinking water, literacy, women education, Mahila Mondalis are discussed in the meetings. A qualified homeopathic physician visits every centre once in a week to check up children's health status. During the period under review, 40 visits were done. The teachers are given regular training. The teachers and students are taken to regular educational tours.

Our children after staying with us for long could form school going habit and develop proper orientation. All these inputs are really secure investment for bright future.

Training :

During the year we imparted following trainings to our SVK teachers

Training days

1. Pedagogy	50
2. Holistic development	28
3. Songs & dances	27
4. Primary education	<u>192</u>
Total :	297

A VALUE ORIENTATION PROJECT - ANANDA KENDRA (CENTRE OF JOY) :

Nearly 30 lives are having restful joy at our Ananda Kendra. In a spacious compound with lot of trees and a well-kept pond, inmates breathe freely. There is an elderly couple, others are either battered women or orphans. Their own environment neglected them, we offered them our unending care. A new family bond has grown up of love and affection.

We have secured support from the Deptt. of Social Welfare, Govt. of India for women as a Short Stay Home. Kids are going to our SVK, children to the village Primary School, boys & girls are going to the High School. Women are undertaking various vocational training on weaving, embroidery, tailoring and in other handicrafts. After spending initially three years, extendable for another three years, they will return to the society with heads high, becoming literate and self reliant. Three of them have already returned, standing on their terrafirma. Our humble tribute to the society.

Orphans are growing nicely, buds are blooming. They are showing good results in the school. Some of the women inmates have started earning. The earned amounts are protected, on release, this will be additional input for their rehabilitation. All inmates are under medical coverage and personal counselling. They are taken to educational excursions. Play, songs, dances, painting, drawing and other cultural activities are regular happenings. Task is very hard. One woman inmate was imprisoned for five years as a non-criminal lunatic. Now she is restored to normal life. We have two other difficult cases still. The humbleness of harmony did not permit wildness to prevail.

Not for nothing, Mother Teresa blessed the Godly idea to give shelter to the three unfortunate sections of the society, different in their sufferings but similar in their emotions and affections. The dream has come true :

Training :

During the year under review, following trainings were imparted :

	<u>Training days</u>
1. General awareness	72
2. Mother & child care	36
3. Weaving & tailoring	640
4. Fruit preservation	18
5. Adolescent problem	32

Total : 798

ANANDA DHARA (FLOW OF JOY) :

This is our second front with the above idea. Whenever we visit Ananda Kendra, we say to ourselves, we are going there to re-charge our tired batteries. The partial success there give us satisfaction. Deriving encouragement, we thought let us enliven another difficult area. Dropouts, neglected children, many of them committing petty thefts, children from unhappy and poor families came under our focus from three poor paras, total numbering 45. The purpose was motivation, means was Bratachari, literacy campaign, games & sports. Emphasis was on staying with them as many days as possible and as many hours as possible. Four of our part-time workers took the daunting responsibility, making the so-called 'rough' and anti-social elements a little subdued and social.

Let us record what activities were undertaken :

01. Bratachari sessions	140
02. General knowledge & literacy class	122
03. Class on adolescent problems	26
04. Games class	59
05. Songs & dances class	191
06. No. of village visits	102
07. No. of meetings with guardians	9
08. Village cleaning programme	3
09. Plantation programme	1
10. Drainage survey	2
11. Cultural performance in the villages	4
12. Tour programme	1

Constant care and attention is putting slowly a humane coverage over their grief and anger. We see light in the dark tunnel.

MANAB-JAMIN (MAN-LAND)

The Geo-Socio-Economic survey report of Chandarpur, Mirzapur & Supur villages under our Manab-Jamin project saw light two years ago. Then the data-base of Nurpur, Ballavpurdanga, Ramchandrapur & Rasulganjhat was published this year. All these villages are in Bobur block of Birbhum district, our project area. No pain has been spared to make the report in depth and meaningful. We are charting our path accordingly.

Already the barren land of the project office is seeing a much of revival of land and man. Our project centre has become a lively one and sending its message of revival of land and man.

The project was inaugurated by the great patriot Pannalal Dasgupta on October 2, 1998. Let his immortal spirit remain as a guiding force for all of us.

Now we put our reports of different activities subjectwise.

Foundation Day :

We solemnly remembered our second foundation day on October 2, 1999, Mahatma Gandhi's birthday. As this day is also known as National Cleanliness Day, we played our part well. This is the first year, without the benign presence of late Pannalal Dasgupta. We promised ourselves in the presence of 100 villagers to keep his lamp of service lighted.

Earth Day :

In the play ground of Supur nearly 200 villagers assembled on April 22, 1999 to observe the Earth Day. Dr. Dulal Manna, Training Co-ordinator of Rathindra Krishi Bijnan Kendra, Prof. Maloy Mukhopadhyay of Visva Bharati & our General Secretary eloquently narrated the green history of Birbhum. How thousands and thousands of mango trees, mentioned in the District Gazetteer, were uprooted, victims of man's greed. Green Birbhum became part of Rarh Bengal. The message slowly reacted to the listeners how to turn the table for greening again.

Meen Mangal Utsab :

This festival was visualised and started by the nature lover late Pannalal Dasgupta. On September 7, 1999, the side of the river Ajoy of our project area became lively, when nearly 100 youth and school children participated in releasing free the small fishes into the flowing water of the Ajoy. More than 5000 small fishes, kindly donated by Sri Paul, were released to augment the resource of pisciculture. Standing in the knee-deep water, Prof. Sakti Bhattacharjee, Chief Editor of the Compass, quoting Tagore many a times, could convince the listeners about the importance of the festival.

Tribal Festival :

Tribals in numbers have a dominance in our area. It is our solemn task to remind them of their colourful cultural heritage. For the last two years we are making sustaining efforts to present their culture to a large audience on January 26, our Republic Day. This year 13 women's and 10 men's groups presented their traditional dances before a nearly 5000 strong assembly. Each group had 12 participants. Their performances were judged and accordingly awarded. The Sabhapati of the Sriniketan-Bolpur Panchayat Samiti, the Pradhan of Raipur-Supur Gram Panchayat, the S.D.O. of Bolpur Sub-division, other government officials and dignitaries gave recognition to the day-long festival by their mighty presence. Nearly 400 tribal participants created a colourful tapestry in their traditional dresses and musical instruments in their hands. Two friends from distant shore had a grand feast for their eyes. Stalls put up by individuals for selling foodstuff and other items created there a proper fair ambience.

Toilet Project for Primary Schools :

Manab-Jamin project got a quota of 10 sets of Toilet-cum-Urinal units initially and later on it increased to 13 units. It was meant for only Primary Schools and other educational institutions. It was not only completed in time, but also have adhered to its obligation to make a post-use survey. It was done as per schedule.

To ensure utilisation and maintenance of newly constructed units, a sanitation campaign was made among the teachers, the taught and the guardians. The resource persons were several specialist physicians, Chief Medical Officer and other officials of the blocks. 1,666 students, 42 teachers and 78 guardians participated in the campaign meetings. Panchayat people also extended their hands of co-operation. During inauguration 2400 sample soaps were also distributed to the students as gift and to form the habit of hand washing.

EDUCATION :

Manab-Jamin Shishu Kendra :

Our last report contained the news of Child Development Centre at Supur village. This year the number of children was increased from 30 to 40 and another teacher was added to the existing number of 2. This year we could start another Shishu Kendra at Mirzapur village on July 1, 1999 with 30 children and 2 teachers.

Our Shishu Kendras with the children of age group of 3 to 6 years are playing an important role in forming school going habit and preventing school drop outs. Nutritious food, being served to them in the school, is having a health impact on them. The Shishu Kendra

located at Mirzapur was inaugurated by Sri Nilmoni Kundu, ex Principal of 'Siksha Charcha', Visva Bharati. Smt. Anjali Das, Pradhan of Supur-Raipur Gram Panchayat, constant companion to our all developmental works, was also present on the occasion.

Non-formal Schools :

Our survey reports indicate that the illiteracy percentage in our project area is 51.25 in the age group of 16 years and above. In Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribe areas the literacy rate is very low. To combat this phenomena, we started 3 Non-formal schools in SC/ST dominated areas, 2 for men and 1 for women. We could make literate 28 women and 41 men. It was constant battle to improve the quality of teaching and the attitude of the teachers. Regular visits and trainings were helpful in achieving the objective.

AGRICULTURE :

Our area is a part of the Suri-Bolpur plain. To the south the Ajay river dominates the landscape with shallow and sandy bed, kilometers across at places. The soil found in this region varies from red sandy, red loamy and older alluvium in the south western to brown and recent alluvium in the central and south eastern part. Of the total population, the district accounts for 91.72 percent in the rural areas and 8.22 percent in the urban areas. Our survey report in the Agricultural Profile, we have covered the following points :

- a) Land holding pattern - Communitywise
- b) Irrigation pattern - sourcewise
- c) Cropping pattern
- d) Use of chemical fertiliser
- e) Use of chemical pesticides
- f) Profile of Agricultural training received
- g) Women's participation pattern in different types of Agricultural work
- h) Existing kitchen garden profile - Communitywise

A physical survey map of our project campus has been prepared with the help Sri S.K.Bhattacharjee of M/s. Esbee Associates, Calcutta.

Based on experts' advices, available documents, our experience of 2 years there, survey report and resources available, we have formulated and implemented the following work :

Water harvesting - Check dam :

Our project area is mainly rainfed and monocropped. 7 check dams were made over 'Kandar' of the Ajay river by our farmers of Mirzapur,

Supur, Nurpur & Ballavpurdanga for rain water harvesting. By this accumulated rain water, 207 farmers cultivated second crop in their own land. They could harvest 75 percent of the second crop and 25 percent was dried due to acute drought. These check dams were made by filling used cement bags with soil available nearby.

Second crop production in Rabi season :

Check dams were mainly built for growing second crop in the winter season. 2302 kg. seeds were distributed among 184 farmers in Supur, Ramchandrapur, Nurpur, Mirzapur & Chandanpur villages. Seeds were of wheat, mustard, lentil, chilli, grams etc. It was a participatory programme.

Campus development :

To increase soil fertility, protection of soil erosion, as introduction of new plants, we brought different seeds and seedlings from different regions and Research Stations for experiments. Some seeds have already been harvested and distributed among the villagers for further observation.

Farmers Induction Programme :

As part of Lab to Land idea, we have brought some technologies from different Research Stations to our farmers' fields. We took them to different Research Stations for practical exposure.

a) On November 1999, 31 farmers were taken to the Chinsura Rice Research Station. Scientists met them and could remove some of their age old wrong conceptions.

b) In the same month, another group of 12 farmers visited the same station for learning about mushroom cultivation. They got the training as well as 2 kgs. of spawn for cultivation. Experiments have started in their own houses.

c) In February, 2000, 47 farmers visited Pulse & Oilseed Research Station and Soil & Fertiliser Testing Laboratory at Baharampur. They could widen their horizon.

Wasteland development :

We have taken up serious work to transform some non-cultivable land to cultivable. 23 farmers got appropriate training and 15 of them were motivated. They made small demonstration plots having support from us. They got black gram, mustard seeds and bio-fertilisers from our end. The value of the yield was more than the cultivation cost. 14 Farmers took green gram production. They too got support from us. Yield was promising and it was the third crop in a year.

Coconut cultivation :

Coconut Development Board, Govt. of India, has also started extending its co-operation to Manab-Jamin. They are old friends of Vikas Kendra. Their support is enabling farmers to enhance oilseed production and to better their income. 19 farmers got more than Rs.6,000/- from the Board. 2 youth got 2-days training and received instruments for easy climbing on the coconut trees.

Social forestry :

We could raise 18000 saplings in our own nursery and the same were planted in the lands of 132 farmers. Some were also planted on 'patta' land.

Orchard plantation :

353 families of 7 villages got 1300 fruit trees, mainly mango, coconut and lemon. They will reap the benefit shortly.

Kitchen garden :

Our survey report reveals that the area has not seen proper kitchen garden. Trainings were imparted to 397 women of 5 villages. 287 families got seeds and seedlings of kolmi, spinach, radish, redgourd, bittergourd, bottlegourd, corriander, tomato, eggplants, chilli, cabbage, cauliflower and ladies finger. Rathindra Krishi Bijan Kendra of Visva Bharati gave training to our 10 farmers for 4 days on vegetable cultivation. We supplied them seeds on participatory basis. 6 farmers got sizable amount by selling vegetables. This institution again arranged a training of a fortnight duration on plant propagation. 12 youth of different villages got the training. Slowly this scientific knowledge is penetrating into the so far untouched areas.

Medicinal plants in human life is an interesting and relevant subject. 54 women did participate in the training for propagation of medicinal plants. 19 women got 2 types of medicinal plants for multiplication and distribution.

Upgradation of jujube plants :

As part of our poverty alleviation programme, we upgraded sour jujube plants to sweet ones. 43 farmers got benefit out of this new technology. Sweet jujube fruits fetch market price several times more than the sour ones.

Elephant feet plant demonstration :

This new plant called elephant feet (arum) has been introduced in our project area. 16 farmers planted the same during the year and derived benefit.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY :

Preventive vaccination programme :

This programme provides security to the cattle farmers. Their cattle wealth is protected in the wake of any serious epidemic problem of dreaded disease bringing great economic loss. We arranged 9 FMD and BQ vaccination camps for bovine population and 7 vaccination camps for poultry birds, ducks and chicks against R2b and duck plague. Animal Husbandry Deptt. of the State Government extended their collaboration in this respect. The following quantity is for record :

FMD vaccines	1594
BQ vaccine	209
Duck plague vaccine	356
R2b vaccine	512

Training on poultry management :

Again the Animal Husbandry Deptt. of the State Government extended their co-operation in rendering a 2-day long Poultry Management training. 55 women undertook the training.

Fodder cultivation :

With the collaboration of the Animal Husbandry Deptt., 24 farmers undertook the training for fodder cultivation, 14 farmers received seeds for fodder cultivation.

Distribution of khaki cambell duck eggs :

This is a novel programme introduced by us. These ducks survive long and give eggs almost daily. It has an advantage of quality and quantity. 15 needy families received 90 eggs for propagation of this breed.

Animal health camp :

This programme covered the treatment of animals of our project area. 6 veterinary doctors of Animal Husbandry Deptt. treated 490 animals in the camp. Executive Secretary of Birbhum Zilla Parishad attended this programme.

Training :

Following trainings were imparted during the year under review at Manab-Jamin project :

	<u>Training days</u>
1. Water harvesting	83
2. Vegetable cultivation	56
3. Fruit trees plantation	96
4. Pisciculture	36
5. Pulses cultivation	471
6. Bio-farming	131
7. Plant Propagation	192
8. Kitchen garden	397
9. Rabi crop production	126
10. Paddy cultivation	31
11. Mushroom cultivation	12
12. Fodder cultivation	28
13. Wasteland development	23
14. Youth training	80
15. Primary poultry management	67
16. Piggery	78
17. Non-formal teachers training	53
18. Medicinal plant propagation	54
19. Shishu Kendra Teachers training	90
20. Sanitation for primary school students	1788

Total : 3592

EPILOGUE :

When we started our days in a mudhut at Atghara, we made the community as the focus of development. Endearment came slowly but surely.

Now we are supporting Panchayat Raj Institutions as a forum for people's planning.

We have quoted vision 21. The purpose is making your voice count. In this journey we got whole hearted support from many quarters. The foremost is Indienhilfe of Germany. Continuously their co-operation deepened our debt of gratitude. In spite of the phalanx of procedure, gloom turned to gleam. In the present milieu, the quintessential of our relation has remained the same. We could sing paeon to life in a participatory way.

We have the desire to innovate and not imitate. This attitude may create problems. We are both dreamers and doers. We have remained loyal to the people. In the way numerous assistance have emanated from different government departments and from the human hearts.

Thanks will be just a nominal word. Their warm hands ensured the continuity of our journey. Our intention is to admit mistakes.

Leaders must lead and not duck. The well intentioned criticism is an essential element in any constructive work. We heartily welcome the same.

We have just taken a few steps to change ourselves as well as our immediate environment towards temporal and spiritual upliftment. In this age of apathy, our answer is labour of love. Pain and poverty cannot be the last words in this creation. So, while entering into the new millennium, let us celebrate humanism based on vigour, vision and values.

EXTERNAL TRAINING, SEMINAR, WORKSHOP, CONFERENCE ETC.

ATTENDED BY THE MEMBERS OF STAFF DURING 1999-2000 :

<u>Name</u>	<u>Subject</u>
Asok Ghosh	a) 10-days training on Education for Human Growth b) 12-days Vipassana Meditation c) 3-days All India Adult Education Conference
Palash Bardhan	a) 2-days Seminar on Civil Society Movement b) 1-day Seminar on Environment c) A Week long Trainers' Training on Panchayat System d) A Seminar on Automobile Pollution
Arati Bardhan & Sarifuddin	1-day Seminar on AIDS
Rama Mondal & Sarifuddin	4-days Workshop on Reproductive Child Health
Sabari Sarkar	5-days Training on Pre-primary Teaching Method

Humayun Kabir	A week long Training on Agriculture
Humayun Kabir & Mohobul Baidya	A day long training on Coconut Cultivation
Humayun Kabir & Abdur Rahaman	A day long Workshop on Scientific Agricultural Equipment
Ranjana Dutta & Tahamina Khatun	2-days Workshop on Sexual Exploitation
Firoz Ahmed	a) A Seminar on Women Development b) 5-days Training on Continuing Education

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO :

INTERNATIONAL :

01. Indienhilfe, Germany
02. International Federation for Organic Agriculture Movement (IFOAM), Netherland
03. Fr. Tadashi Otsu, Okinawa Christ Gospel Centre, Japan.

NATIONAL :

01. Central Research Institute for Jute & Allied Fibres (CRIJAF), Govt. of India, Barrackpore
02. Central Building Research Institute (CBRI), Govt. of India, Calcutta
03. Central Institute of Fresh Water Aquaculture (CIFA), Govt. of India, Kalyani
04. Central Social Welfare Board, Govt. of India, New Delhi
05. Coconut Development Board, Govt. of India, Calcutta
06. The Horticulture Society of India, Calcutta
07. National Dairy Research Institute, Govt. of India, Kalyani
08. Regional Station for Forage Production & Demonstration, Govt. of India, Kalyani
09. Save Grain Campaign, Govt. of India, Calcutta
10. Deptt. of Science & Technology, Govt. of India, New Delhi

STATE :

01. Agriculture Deptt., Govt. of West Bengal
02. District Agriculture Office, Govt. of W.B., North 24 Parganas & Birbhum
03. Sub-divisional Agricultural Dev. Office, Govt. of W.B., Basirhat, Barasat, Bolpur
04. Block Agricultural Dev. Office, Govt. of W.B., Baduria, Habra, Deganga & Bolpur
05. Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Mohanpur, Nadia
06. Zonal Adaptive Research Station, Govt. of West Bengal
07. Horticulture Research Station & Development Centre, Govt. of W.B., Krishnanagar
08. District Agricultural Marketing Office, Govt. of W.B., Barasat
09. Sub-divisional Agricultural Marketing Office, Govt. of W.B., Bolpur
10. Deptt. of Forest, Govt. of W.B.
11. Directorate of Food Processing Industries & Horticulture, Govt. of W.B., Salt Lake
12. Deptt. of Animal Husbandry, Govt. of W.B.
13. Ichhamati Co-operative Milk Producers' Union Ltd.,
14. Deptt. of Botany, Calcutta University
15. Deptt. of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of W.B.
16. Deptt. of Panchayat & Rural Development, Govt. of W.B.
17. West Bengal Pollution Control Board, Govt. of W.B.
18. Block Literacy Committee, Govt. of W.B., Baduria
19. District Social Welfare Office, Govt. of W.B., Barasat
20. Sub-divisional Office, Govt. of W.B., Basirhat
21. Block Development Office, Govt. of W.B., Baduria
22. Office of the District Magistrate, North 24 Parganas, Barasat
23. Regional Agricultural Research Institute
24. Regional Fodder Research Institute
25. Rathindra Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sriniketan
26. Block Live-stock Development Office, Govt. of W.B., Bolpur
27. Palli Siksha Bhavan, Sriniketan
28. Social Forestry Range Office
29. Tuber & Plantation Crop, Govt. of W.B.
30. Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre, Santiniketan
31. Chinsurah Rice Research Station, Chinsurah
32. Pulses & Oil Seeds Research Station, Berhampur
33. Information, Culture & Broadcasting Office, Bolpur
34. State Poultry Farm, Govt. of W.B., Suri
35. M/s. ESBE Associates, Calcutta
36. Tagore Society for Rural Development, Calcutta

37. Eye Care & Research Centre, Calcutta
38. International Eye Bank, Calcutta
39. Association of Voluntary Blood Donors, West Bengal, Calcutta
40. CEVA, Ghaziabad
41. Socio-Legal Aid Research & Training Centre, Calcutta
42. Al-Mustafa Hospital, Mandra
43. Paripurnata, Calcutta
44. Nari Adhikar Raksha Samannay Samity, Calcutta
45. Gram Seva Sangha, Hatthuba
46. Charukala, Barasat
47. Bakra Gramin Mohila Samity, Bakra
48. Adyama Nari Kalyan Samity, Ariadah
49. Vets Pharma
50. Jeps Pharma (P) Ltd.
51. Intas Pharmaceuticals Ltd.
52. Bio-Herbs
53. Rural Literary Conference
54. Sri T.K.Ghosh, Rajani Bhattacharyya Lane, Calcutta.
55. Local Schools
56. Local Panchayats
57. Villagers

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

FOR THE YEAR 1999 - 2000.

Sl.Names & Addresses	Designation	Occupation
1. Sri Chandan Mukherjee 24/1B, Biswas Nursery Lane Calcutta 700085.	President	Consultant
2. Smt. Sandhya Ghosh 3B Milan Apartment 52/3 Vidyayatan Sarani Calcutta 700035.	Vice-President	Retired Headmistress

- | | | |
|--|-------------------|----------------|
| 3. Sri Asok Ghosh
Vikas Kendra
Vill. & P.O. Atghara-743438
North 24 Parganas. | General Secretary | Social Service |
| 4. Sri Mrinal Kanti
Roy Chowdhury
54A, Sashtitala Road
P.O. Talpukur-743187,
Barrackpore
North 24 Parganas. | Treasurer | Bank Official |
| 5. Smt. Arati Bardhan
Vill. & P.O. Atghara-743438
North 24 Parganas. | Asstt. Secretary | Health Worker |
| 6. Sri Ranjit Roy Choudhury
89 East Sinthee Road
Fakir Ghosh Lane
Calcutta 700030. | Asstt. Secretary | Social Service |
| 7. Sri Alauddin Ahamed
Vill. & P.O. Atghara 743438
North 24 Parganas. | Member | Farmer |
| 8. Sri Srikanta Mondal
South Jambuni
P.O. Bolpur 731204
Birbhum. | Member | Farmer |
| 9. Sri Palash Bardhan
Vill. & P.O.
Atghara 743438
North 24 Parganas. | Member | Social Service |

LIST OF FRIENDS/OFFICIALS VISITED OUR PROJECTS DURING THE YEAR 1999-2000 :

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 01. Ajit Paul | 44. D.K.Biswas |
| 02. Alokesh Sarkar | 45. Dr. Debotosh Sanyal |
| 03. Amalendu Dev | 46. Dhiren Ghosh |
| 04. Amela Pramanik | 47. Dr. Dipak Mondal |
| 05. Amiya Jana | 48. Dipankar Guchhait |
| 05. Anil Sasmal | 49. D. Sarkar |
| 07. Prof. Arunava Dasgupta | 50. Dr. Dulal Ch. Manna |
| 08. Ashis Banerjee | 51. Dr. Elisabeth Kreuz |
| 09. Ashis Bhattacharjee | 52. Md. Ekin Khan |
| 10. Ashim Chatterjee | 53. Firdousi Ahmed |
| 11. Asit Ghosh | 54. Franko Beital |
| 12. Avijit Majumder | 55. Gandhi Babu Das |
| 13. Prof. A.K.Chatterjee | 56. Gopal Chakraborty |
| 14. Dr. A.K.Pain | 57. Gouri Bhadra |
| 15. Dr. A.K.Singh | 58. Dr. Gurupada Sarkar |
| 16. Dr. A.Majumder | 59. Giridhari Ghosh |
| 17. A. Nandi | 60. Gokul Hansda |
| 18. Dr. A.Sengupta | 61. Gunter Schnurer |
| 19. Dr. Adhip Ranjan Dutta | 62. Haripada Das |
| 20. Alope Kundu | 63. Ila Chaudhuri |
| 21. Anjali Das | 64. Irmi Holzinger |
| 22. Anupam Mitra | 65. Ishita Roy |
| 23. Arati Kundu | 66. Irmi Scholten |
| 24. Dr.Arindam Chatterjee | 67. Jagadish Biswas |
| 25. Asok Bhattacharjee | 68. Jahar Das |
| 26. Bankim Das | 69. James Kutti |
| 27. Basudev Debnath | 70. Jyotirmoy Biswas |
| 27. Bhakti Bhusan | 71. Fr. Jacob Peenikaparambil |
| 29. Prof. Buddhadev Bhattacharjee | 72. Fr. Joseph Ampatt |
| 28. Bidyut Roy | 73. Kamala Bandyopadhyay |
| 30. Bappa Mohan Raja Reddy | 74. Karin Jehle |
| 31. Bijan Kr. Parial | 75. Kousik Halder |
| 32. Birgitt Kohl | 76. Krishna Pada Kirtania |
| 33. Biswajit Mondal | 77. Kyoung Im |
| 34. Prof. Borka Soren | 78. Dr. K.M.Das |
| 35. Chinmoy Kar | 79. K.R.Kuttikrishnan |
| 36. Dr. Chandrajit Karak | 80. Dr. Kartick Ch. De |
| 37. Dasu Bhowmik | 81. Kumar Ray |
| 38. Dipankar Ray | 82. Dr. Kushal Chakraborty |
| 38. Dirk Provoost | 83. Ludwig Gothe |
| 39. Dulali Mallick | 84. Dr. L.K.Das |
| 40. D. Basu | 85. Michael French |
| 41. Dr. Dulal Paul | 86. Mili Mukherjee |
| 42. Dr. D. Ghosh | 87. Prof. Miratun Nahar |
| 43. D.K.Basu | |

PROJECTS OF :

Society for Equitable Voluntary Actions

(SEVA)

1) VIKAS KENDRA
Vill. & P.O. Atghara
North 24 Parganas
Pin 743438.

2) MANAB-JAMIN
Vill. Mirzapur
P.O. Raipur, Birbhum
Pin 731204.