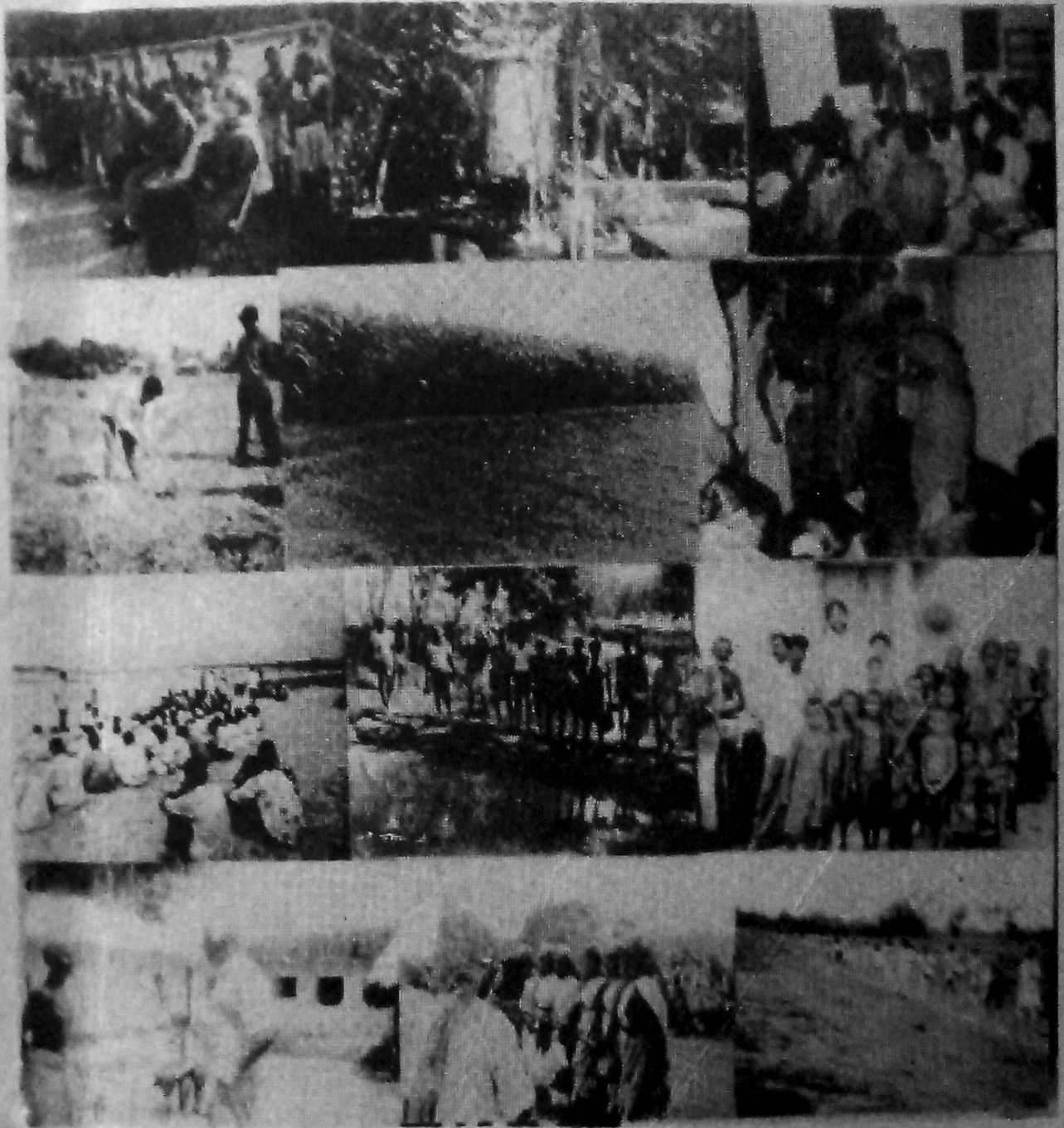


# ANNUAL REPORT 2000-2001



Society for Equitable Voluntary Action

3C Milan Apartment

52/3 Vidyayatan Sarani, Kolkata - 700 035

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

e-mail : [seva@cal2.vsnl.net.in](mailto:seva@cal2.vsnl.net.in)

*Society for  
Equitable Voluntary  
Actions*

**(SEVA)**

ANNUAL REPORT  
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## **QUO VADIS (Which way).**

There is something disturbing about the ease with which debate on vital issues of nation building, whose outcome will decide whether India survives or sidetracked into irrelevancy.

" India is great this utterance from billion mouths is not going to change the scenario. Take this paradoxical situation into the account. Fifty million Indians are starving when sixty million tonnes of food rots in godowns. Callousness, cussedness and apathy have created a massive tragedy, We are increasingly getting proud of our various missiles experiments, costing untold fortunes while three hundred twenty five million somehow survives below poverty line. Fifty million on the brink of starvation. We are yet to come out from the bondage of discrimination of various social levels. How long we will accept the variety of excesses of social evils and undermine the Indian democracy ?

Andreas Speck of War Registers International suggests social empowerment to come out from just silent dissent. We are in agreement with his understanding. Our feelings work in the following directions.

- A. The dimension of social empowerment should be a key element while considering the impact of any social movement.
- B. The framework of the social movement should have a perspective of cooperation between competing or even conflicting approaches.
- C. The methodology of non-violence offers specific insights to social empowerment.

With this ideology and attitude we participate to chart out a sustainable path in response to quo vadis.

*With this introduction we place our Annual Report 2000-2001.*

## **Panchayat Raj Institutions and Our Response :**

Last year we reported that a state level advisory committee has been formed under its Planning Board.

SEVA as member of this Advisory Committee for NGOs took active interest, moved from district to district and had earnest

interactions with several hundred NGOs having real grassroots.

We had the opportunity to receive *Dr. Gouripada Dutta*, member of the Planning Board secretary of this and Advisory committee, *Prof. Debkumar Bose* of the Planning Board, *Sri Tushar Kanjilal*, member of the Ad. Committee, in our village Atghara. Local Panchayat members and people from the medical profession interacted with them.

North 24 Parganas NGOs Forum had its annual general meeting and SEVA was chosen again as its president.

During the flood the Forum rose to the occasion and became immensely helpful to its members. The Forum also organized trainings on formation of Self-Help-Groups, menace of Arsenic contamination and such other lively issues.

The Advisory Committee and the Forum have the commitment to make the Panchayat Raj Institutions meaningful. SEVA in tune with them not only extended its loyalty but of its own reached the Panchayat people in commitment for commons.

### **Fury of the Nature :**

It we describe the devastations of 8000 villages of 9 districts of West Bengal during the months of September and October 2000 as fury of the nature, it will be unscientific. It is true heavy rains were there within a short period and many emergency lockgates of big dams had to be opened to discharge the accumulated water to save the dams but basically it is the resultant effect of thoughtlessness and greed of the people Their negligence for many decades resulted into heavy siting and raising of river beds. Normal flow of the rivers got obstructed.

A sizable part of the district North 24 Parganas shared the sufferings for nearly six weeks. Atghara, our project headquarter saw the rising water from the morning of September 30. Only 2 'paras' had dry areas out of 9 'paras'. People from nearby submerged villages made Atghara their temporary shelter. The village youth accepted the challenge for arranging food and shelter to 3,500 flood victims.

To meet the difficult situation an all-party committee was formed with several sub-committees namely store, kitchen, night guards, health, cleanliness, co-ordination etc. The committee with all its sub-committees used to meet every evening by the side of round table of Vikas Kendra, to take stock of the day and to plan the next step.

During the dark hour, all our staff rose to occasion and the village youth showed their metals. To combat the flood situation we thankfully received heartfelt co-operation from Indienhilfe, Rev. Tadashi Otsu [Okinawa Christ Gospel Centre], OXFAM Calcutta, T.S.R.D.,

MANSINGHKASONS, local Panchayat, North 24 Parganas NGOs Forum, Lions Club Calcutta, Bharat Sevashram, Pallikatha, Bira, Srma Mohila Samity Duttapulia, S.H.I.S., Rudrapur Primary Health Centre, Community Medicinal Unit, Gramin Sahitya Sammilan, Staff and innumerable friends and organizations.

We not only could look after our flood relief camps, we could also extend assistance to the following gram Panchayats Jashaikathi, Atghara, Chatra, Ramchandrapur, Chakla, Bagjola, Nayabastia. We could who support our youth-groups and Mohila Mondalies, relief camps of Bidhanpalli Ghoshpur etc. and Chatra H.S. School.

The fund allowed us to sink and also re-sink tube wells in the following places : Ghoshpur, Salua.

[Lions Club assisted us in sinking 18 tube wells in different villages of the area.]. We received many materials such as tarpaulin, rice, lentils, biscuits, clothes, buckets, medicines, milk powder and fresh milk, blankets, lime, water purifier, utensils, puffed rice, chapped rice, jaggery etc.

We had to purchase some blankets saris, dhotis, lungis etc. seeds of paddy, wheat, mustard. Seedlings and saplings for kitchen gardens were also procured. All these materials were distributed systematically through various groups after field visits and proper enquiry. We organized youth meetings, meetings with Gram Panchayats, NGO's Forum. During flood situation, trainings were imparted to the affected people for water purification and diarrhoea control.

During the crucial month October 2000, we faced many problems: Distress sale of all domestic animals could not be prevented due to the non-availability of their food and fodder. Scarcity of dry fuel was one of our major headache for cooking food for so many thousand people. Shortage of potable water and adequate number of toilets were our problems of reckon.

Some innovative measures like distribution of soaps for sanitation, announcement by public address system, availability of medical service round the clock etc kept the camps on even keel. Two tube wells from the P.H.E. department, medicine and medicaments from Primary Health Centre, local AL-MUSTAFA Hospital, WBVHA, CINI and many doctors as well as cash purchases could meet the requirements.

In the absence any dry land and when privacy was scared, our ingenuity was challenged to arrange for a decent burial and a proper labour room but the obstacles were surmounted. Through out this period the love and concern of the people poured in from many places unsolicited, which gave us the strength to shoulder the unbearable burden. In cash and in kind we received about half a million rupees to keep the hunger away.

The crisis gave us many lessons. People from different

religion, age and gender had to stay together, distances and differences lessened. On many times when we reached at one's wits end, our faith in people as gods solved our problems and restored our smiles. To face the calamities in future we must learn the language of disaster management.

### Foundation Day :

We observed our sixteenth foundation day on 1<sup>st</sup> April'2000 in a different way. It was looking within and imbibe the spirit of our mentors. The day started with an exhibition debate on "There is no compromise on the issue of communalism." The debates could forcefully bring out the danger of distant thunder of communalism

The 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the day was spent on our incisive discussion over "In the eyes of social workers – one and half decade of Vikas Kendra". Success as well as failures of the institution and workers were precisely brought out.

The day was concluded with the evaluation of the history of Vikas Kendra from its inception and direction towards future by Asok. He covered where we differ and what we share. He castigated, gasbag person talks a lot. Our march from idealism to critical realism. Hundred faces brightened. The foundation day charted a map of meeting of minds.

### Observance of Other important days :

We did not stop just by observing the foundation day. During the whole year by observing the following days of national and international importance we kept ourselves posted with changes.

World Health Day	April 07, 2000.
World Heritage Day	April 18, 2000.
Earth Day	April 22, 2000.
International Day of Families	May 15, 2000.
World Environment Day	June 05, 2000.
International Day Against Drug Abuse And Illicit Trafficking	June 26, 2000.
World Population Day	July 11, 2000.
Hiroshima Day	August 05, 2000.
Independence Day	August 15, 2000.
World Ozone Day	September 16, 2000.
Green Consumer Day	September 28, 2000.
Wild Life Week	October 1 to 7, 2000.
National Day for Disaster Reduction	October 11, 2000.
Pulse Polio Day & Human Rights Day	December 10, 2000.
Republic Day	January 26, 2001.

## **Titumeer Fair :**

Saheed Nisar Ali Titumeer, the first martyr of India in its freedom struggle, became immortal on November 19' 1831, in Narkelberia, a near by village. Every year we hold a fair at Atghara to perpetuate his memory in the minds of the young people. This year the fair took place from Nov 17 to 19. The fair was inaugurated by Sri Amala Pramanik, Proddhan of local Panchayat. In the morning a group of friends assembled and offered floral wreath at Hyderpur, the birth place of Titumeer. Two girl children were admitted at the Ananda Kendra & unveiling of two marble plaques, in recognition of contributions, took place there. A day long seminar on flood & natural disaster held, participated by Prof Kalyan Rudra, our Project director Asok Ghosh, Srikanta Mondal, Mohan Biswas & local youth.

In the evening Tarja song ( rustic musical presentation in a debate form) sung by Sri Prafulla Sarkar was acclaimed by nearly 2000 people. Next day the renowned professor and economist Sri Anindya Dutta deliberated on India & Globalization. In the afternoon Dr Gurupada Sarkar & Dr Santi Ranjan Bandopadhyay both from the Bidhan chandra Krishi Viswavidyalay (Agricultural University) gave training on the sustainable agriculture. In the evening a Talkng Doll talked on cultural awareness. Magician Dilip Sharma showed magic on health awareness. Songs, Bratachari & dances were presented by the Anandhara & Ananda Kendra children. On 19<sup>th</sup> the last day the fair started with a blood donation session. 102 donors donated blood.

A workshop on development took place for the tribal leaders & others

In the evening tribal dance was presented by the members of the BOLD . It was followed by another dance sequence presented by Rudrapur Sohini Basanta Music Institution, Yoga demonstration was presented by the Centre for Physical Culture. Songs & citations by local boys & girls assured the audience of their future possibilities.

The memory of the recent destructive flood make the fair a subdued affair. Two new features was added in the fair. One stall was managed by the inmates of Ananda Kendra . They could sell home made eatables & handicrafts work more than thousand rupees. The profit has been retained as their own income for their future use.

Another stall put up by the Vikas Laboratory explained Scientific riddles & the importance of pure drinking water. The stall set up by the Mohila Mondali also sold their own products.

## **Alliance of Amity :**

It is a part of the recorded history of SEVA, two beaming Bavarian sisters came to India in eighty's to take care of the undernourished

children as medical students at the clarion call of Mother Teresa. On return they formed Indienhilfe (Aid to India). In 1985 SEVA, through its project V. K. , started to reach out rural people from its modest mud hut. Already I.H. got its roots & started extending its hands of cooperation to the young SEVA . It was in true nature of brotherhood & solidarity.

I.H. also assists almost a dozen of Community based organizations in India. Representatives of all these groups meet periodically in partners meeting to strengthen the bond of friendship among themselves & I.H.

For the ninth time partners met on February 2,3,4 at Seva Kendra, Calcutta. The thread bare discussions held there in ironing out differences in our journey for rural development

In our last report we have mentioned about the emergence of CEVA, the consulting organisation of I.H. On April 2 , CEVA, Eastern Region inaugurated its Eastern Regional office.

The representative of SEVA congratulated them for their expected role of guidance & cooperation by an experienced person, well versed in the field of development.

The Rural Alliance, an official platform of rural friendship between Chatra Panchayat & Herrsching village council is moving towards its cherished goal under Agenda 21 steadily. It has so far met 28 times since its inception in 1995. Dr Ms Elisabeth Kreuz of I H met the Rural Alliance Committee in its 28th meeting held on February 11 at Chatra. Next day our Project Director spoke on Germany & India's quest for freedom & there was an exhibition where drawings were exhibited by the Dakshin Chatra High School.

A group of youth led by R.A. visited CIMA gallery, Calcutta to see art work on Contemporary Art from Germany. It was part of the German Festival in India 2000- 2001.

Three of our friends Sri Krishnapada Kirtoniya, Prodhana of Chatra Panchayat , Sri Firoz Ahmed & Smt Sabari Sarkar visited Germany for three weeks at the invitation of German friends to strengthen the relation.

German friends of Chatra have donated rupees Seventy thousand, to Dakshin Chatra High School for purchasing a computer with E-mail facility; with an idea that this electronic equipment will enhance the growing relation between Student of Chatra & Herrsching, a true realisation of Agenda 21. During the distressing period of current flood situation. D. Chatra High school suffered a lot. They got rupees fifteen thousand only from the flood relief fund for the replenishment of their lost properties partly. A sizable part of the fund came from I.H. We are proud of the growing relation between SEVA & I H, Rural Alliance is getting continued nourishment from I.H. & SEVA.



## **Role of Education Support Division :**

The Education Support Division of Okinawa Christ Gospel Centre, Japan, represented by Rev. Tadshi Otsu, is another reflection of true international brotherhood. The loving couple Rev. Tadashi Otsu & Mrs Takako Otsu have made a nest at Bolpur to be near to the people whom they intend to serve. Their support is meaningful. They are not only extending their support for children and secondary education but during flood they saw the sufferings and to mitigate the same a handsome amount they donated. A. K. is also a dear cause to them. Our increasing number of friends whether in Germany or in Japan or elsewhere are constantly setting examples for the value of internationalism against narrow and sectarian nationalism. More responsibility is added on our shoulders to value humanism in true sense.

## **Our good Samaritans :**

Tagore society for Rural Development (TSRD). Pannalal Dasgupta one of last titans of our freedom struggle was a path finder of many of us. His creation TSRD is giving us supporting sustenance in the Programme of Greening India and Reproductive Child Health. Departmental reports will describe the detail. We bow our head to this society established by Pannalal Dasgupta. We have not forgotten his teachings for conservation of fishes "Meenmangal" i.e. releasing of small fishes in the flowing water by the young hearts. This was repeated in an organized manner both at Manab Jamin as well as at V. K.

## **Association of Voluntary Blood Donors (AVBD )**

AVBD has shown us the meaning of true voluntarism. Just two decades old, nurtured by the dedicated hands, has been able to send the message of Voluntary Blood Donation in the nook and corners at least of this state.

Our organized Blood Donation sessions are salutes to this worthy organisation.

## **International Eye Bank :**

We have moral responsibility to propagate the importance of donating eyes after death to restore sights of the millions of sightless. We are also under obligation to impress the senior citizens to make them agree to donate their bodies after death for the advancement of the Medical education.

Ganadarpan which is heading this movement deserves our whole hearted support.

Blood Donation, eye donation, body donation all are value oriented. Our efforts should be channelised to this direction increasingly.

### **Rural writers' conference :**

We are closely associated with this grassroot organisation for the last one and half decade. Three of their annual conferences had taken place at V.K.

2000-2001 is the silver Jubilee year of the Conference. The year long festival started in May 2000. the Padayatra (walk) of the Conference was led by our Project Director. He also delivered the key-note address. The Conference has taught SEVA, the importance of humility, of the relation between rural development and literary work.

### **Death do not be proud :**

Death has snatched away Hans Kreuz, a septuagenarian sculptor. He used to take loving interest for Indian guests at Germany. He was the father of our Elisabeth and left this earth on 30 March 2000. Golokendu Ghosh, an octogenarian literary figure left us on 20 October 2000.

Samar Ghosh nearly a nonagenarian left for his eternal abode on 17 May 2001 he was our life member. Before his departure he pledged for donating his eyes and body after his expiry and his commitment was honoured

We send our sympathy to the friends & relatives of these three departed souls. Friends in the developmental field who left us during the period of this report, made us poorer. We half mast our flag to show respect to all the departed souls & tell courageously, death do not be proud, we will make ourselves fit for the legacy left by them.

With these words we start our ritualistic report department wise.

### **Asking the Earth :**

"Most of the Two-Thirds World had sustainable systems in place until the advent of colonialism.

Colonialism should perhaps be seen as the means which enabled Europe to nurture its own unsustainable system and to destroy its own natural capital. The spread of neo-colonial Western 'development' continues the process of despoliation. A retrieval of sustainable practices is the most urgent task facing humanity."

The above statement is the introduction of the book Asking The Earth, written a decade ago. Agreeing with the above statement we begin our

report on agriculture.

SEVA is a member of IFOAM, the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movement.

IFOAM is committed to a holistic approach in the development of organic farming, production and life style systems including the sustainable use of resources. Our agricultural activities are developing within this ambit. We firmly believe, celebrating trees is celebrating life.

### **A) Technology Transfer :**

#### **(i) Cultivation without synthetic inputs :**

Last year we started our report on agriculture with the following words, we are green by choice and not by chance. We have completed the 4 year project of cultivation without synthetic inputs with 100 farmers in 10 villages. The evaluation has been made and found out that organic farming has by and large been accepted by the farmers and certainly opposition has decreased. Now the farmers have started to purchase organic fertilizer with a fair price from our centre. There is a pressure on our consultation service.

#### **(ii) Agriculture Extension Centre :**

Depending just on organic fertilizers this year also we have produced paddy and mustard seeds. The fertility of the soil has increased, production is good but we had to spend less amount on cultivation. The progress of the AEC is being keenly watched by the farmers of far and near.

#### **iii) Up gradation of quality of plants :**

It is our constant practice to upgrade sour jujube plants to sweet ones. It is easily applicable with low cost technology. This year we have trained half a dozen youth in this technology and they have successfully upgraded 20 plants of 11 families in 4 villages.

#### **iv) Dhaincha cultivation :**

This cultivation helps farmers to have quality green manure. We had to purchase dhaincha seeds from the Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya (Agriculture University), only one of its kind in this state. 42 kgs. of seeds reached in the hands of 14 indigent farmers of 12 villages in 2 blocks. There is a heavy demand for this kind of seeds.

**v) Azola :**

Farmers have accepted the production of Azola in the field of agriculture. It saves cost of nitrogen inputs, controls the weeds and minimizes the need of irrigation.

At our centre we have made an Azola Rearing Chamber. From this chamber we will be able to supply to the farmers Azola as green manure. During Boro season we have supplied Azola to the 12 farmers of 3 villages.

**vi) Cultivation of Jute :**

The agriculture department of the state Govt. assisted us in the making demonstration plots of jute cultivation. 12 farmers of 2 villages covering 2 hectares of land in Baduria block made demonstration plots to show the results to the other farmers. The department gave seeds and fertilizers free of cost. Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibre (CRIJAF) of Central Govt. located at Barrackpur supplied us 4 kgs. of energised jute seeds for demonstration plots. We gave these seeds to the 4 farmers of 3 villages under Baduria block for research work.

**vii) Compost pit :**

The cost of chemical fertilizer and pesticides are increasing every season. As a result of globalization the Govt. is decreasing the subsidy element. With the increasing awareness about the quality of bio-fertilizer farmers are leaning towards compost pit.

We have taken the task to provide technology and rock phosphate to the farmers. 15 farmers of 4 villages in 2 blocks have made their own compost pit.

**viii) Seed bins :**

We are earnestly participating in the Save Grain Campaign initiated by the Govt. of India. The Development Commissioner for Iron & Steel under Ministry of steel, Govt. of India has taken a lead to provide proper metal sheets from the Tata Steel Co. Ltd (marketing) at a competitive price. We have got a complementary full proof metal bin with 5 MT capacity to store grains.

Our trained manufacturers supplied us 670 metal bins for grain storage with 2.4 quintal capacity. Farmers have purchased these bins in a subsidized rate. Subsidy came from the Save Grain Campaign.

**ix) Integrated pest Management (IPM) :**

201 farmers have undergone 5 trainings on Integrated Pest Management. Agriculture Dept has extended their assistance to V.K. 50 acres of land of 3 villages in Baduria Block came under Boro cultivation without any chemical inputs. Farmers got the training on how to make scientific visit to their own lands and the training on how to identify the friendly and enemy insects, 25 farmers got instruments to catch enemy insects. Farmers of the neighbouring land were also influenced by the training on IPM.

**B. Direct Service :**

**i) Social Forestry :**

We have raised in our own nursery the saplings for fodder, fuel and furnitures. Heavy rain destroyed many plants. The surviving plants were distributed to the tribal organisations and to the selected 163 children of our child development centres.

**ii) Coconut Cultivation :**

The Coconut Development Board of the Govt. of India has released rupees 15,350.00 as encouragement for coconut cultivation, 15 farmers of 4 villages of Baduria block got this amount, we have processed and submitted applications to the Board for sanction for first and second year.

We are raising 500 good coconut saplings in our own nursery. From our old stock, we have given 82 plants to 5 farmers.

**iii) Papaya Plants :**

People are eager to have papaya saplings from our nursery. These can be used when frution comes as vegetable, later on as fruit also. These are marketable product. We provided 1510 saplings to 165 farmers of 5 villages in 2 blocks. In addition 18 tribal family received 90 saplings.

**iv) Kitchen gardens :**

Mahila Mondolis are taking interest in popularising the idea of kitchen gardens. The adjacent lands of the families, using bio fertilizers, have become effective in producing quality vegetables for their own consumption. In three phases 50 women of 9 villages in 2 blocks got

seeds and saplings from V.K. After the devastating flood was over, additional 327 farmers of 21 villages of 2 blocks received our support in the form of seeds etc. to uplift their health conditions. Kalmi seeds from which grow a kind of green leafy vegetable, are in good demand. The production is available almost throughout the year. 165 farmers of 17 villages of 2 blocks got kalmi seeds.

This number is inclusive of members of the Mohila Mondalis, and tribal organizations. Teachers of SVK were also the beneficiaries.

#### v) Jack fruits :

Mature timber from the jackfruit trees are useful in making furnitures. The standing water from the flood destroyed a large number of jackfruit trees. We could not meet the expectation of the farmers, 1650 saplings were distributed to 82 farmers of 7 villages of Baduria block.

Jack fruits are useful as vegetable; and fruit when ripe. Seeds can be dried and preserved for further use as vegetable.

#### vi) Conchshell potato :

235 farmers of 15 villages of 4 blocks have received seeds from our centre. Production is quite reasonable.

#### Vii) Seed Exchange Programme :

Farm Directorate of Bidhan Chandra Agricultural University (BCKV) gave us paddy seeds for Aman and Boro cultivation. These were eagerly accepted. Standing crops were destroyed by flood. 15 farmers of 7 villages of 2 blocks got Aman seeds of 230 kgs. and seeds for Boro cultivation were given to 29 farmers of 13 villages of 3 blocks during Boro season.

In addition to the paddy seeds we have supplied the following other seeds at a subsidised price.

Paddy seeds were given to 290 farmers of 22 villages of 2 blocks Poto cuttings were given to 34 farmers of 8 villages of 1 block.

Wheat seeds were given to 65 farmers of 9 villages of 2 blocks.

Mustard seeds were given to 232 farmers of 16 villages of 3 blocks.

farmers are motivated to exchange these seeds among themselves.

#### Groundnuts demonstration plots :

The Agriculture Department supplied 2250 kgs. groundnuts seeds for making demonstration plots covering 50 hectares of land, 140 farmers of 7 villages of Baduria block came under this project.

### ix) Medicinal Plants :

Members of the Mohila Mondalis have engaged themselves in creating health gardens with different at reasonable price variety of medicinal plants. Interested people are visiting our centre to purchase medicinal plants. We have created relations with the dept. of medicinal plants of BCKV and R.K. Mission of Narendrapur. We had a one day training camp participated by 90 women on the use and efficacy of medicinal plants. Dr. Gopal Dasgupta and Dr. S.K. Chhatui from J. K. Ray state Ayurvedic College of Cospital, Dr. Dulal Pal from Botanical survey of India and Dr. Ila Chowdhury from Calcutta University were resource persons of this training camp. Women from Swanirvar also joined the camp. 65 women from 4 villages got Aloe plants 40 women got 230 kgs. of tamarind of 60 kgs. of ginger as seeds.

### x) Greening India Project :

TSRD is extending its assistance in developing this project. To stop land erosion, to prevent pollution, to keep balance in Nature and for economic regeneration, the project is working well. We have made and developed relations with the farmers individually and collectively. Emphasis has been given to plant fruit trees for the purpose. Experience showed us the fruit trees survive for considerable period of time and these are not easily vurnarable due to financial benefit.

502 farmers of 27 villages of 4 blocks have received the following plants :

Mango	1297
Lemon	2071
Jack fruit	520
Guava	385
Coconut	1988
Rain tree	<u>2681</u>
Total :	8982

### C) Trainings imparted and exhibition held :

#### i) Agricultural Exhibition :

We organized an exhibition of agriculture products lasting for 2 days at our centre We could secure the support of the Agriculture Development Directorate. Sri J Biswas, ADO of the block enthusiastically participated in the preparation of the exhibition.

There were two sections of the exhibition. One section showed the products using only organic fertilizer and the other showed the products using chemical fertilizers. Farmers saw the difference and felt encouraged to use organic fertilizer. Prizes were also distributed to the farmers for their quality products.

The exhibition was inaugurated by the Dean of BCKV, Directorate of Horticulture Dr. Tarapada Mukherjee. The chief guest was Dr. Gurupada Sarkar. Another eminent Scientist Dr. Santiranjana Banerjee spoke on the occasion.

A horticulture training was a part of the programmes of exhibition. The farmers got prizes for putting up exciting questions. ETV did telecast the whole programme. 43 farmers participated in the organic section and 258 farmers participated in the chemical section. Farmers belonged to 22 villages of 3 blocks.

#### **ii) Agricultural exposure for the farmers :**

The Directorate of Farm and the Directorate of Horticulture of BCKV, the only Agricultural University of W.B. permitted us to have a visit in their working places. In a day long tour 45 farmers including 2 women interacted with the scientists there and got practical experience how to conduct research work and develop method of cultivation. It was an enriching exposure.

#### **iii) Bio fertilizer and bio farming training :**

79 farmers of 12 villages of Baduria block have under gone a daylong training on the use of bio fertilizer as well as bio farming. How organic fertilizer increases the productivity of the soil, how the quality of crops and grains can be maintained by the controlled use of different organic fertilizers were practically demonstrated to the farmers. The Resource persons were provided by the Agriculture Department of the state Govt.

#### **iv) Floriculture training :**

Farmers are slowly realizing that if the same crop is grown in the same field repeatedly the soil loses its fertility. Production gets decreased and cost becomes increased. Farmers are resorting to floriculture instead of jute and sesame cultivation. To give incentive to the farmers, the Agriculture Department is providing subsidy for floriculture. Inexperienced farmers need training. At the instance of the V.K., Dr. Radhagobinda Maity, an eminent floriculturist, Dr. Manik Kabi, an expert on micro nutrients and Dr. G. Sarkar of Regional Research Station (new alluvial zone) all belonging to the BCKV came to our training centre and could enthuse 40 farmers of 7 villages.



**v) Oil seeds training :**

Agriculture Department and the V. K. jointly organized a 2-days long training on oil seeds cultivation. The course content had selection of oil seeds, cultivation method, preservation procedure and marketing. Non use of any chemical insecticides was part of the training. 200 farmers from 25 villages of Baduria block undertook the training.

**vi) Paddy cultivation training :**

Absence of good paddy seeds is a recurring problem. Farmers have to learn the seed preservation system. In that case they could preserve their own seeds for use in the next season. Scientists from the BCKV imparted training on this subject to 61 farmers of 13 villages of 3 blocks.

**TRAINING :**

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

		<u>Training days</u>
1.	Chemical free production	658
2.	Jujube budding	14
3.	Kitchen garden	229
4.	IPM	201
5.	Dhaincha Cultivation	13
6.	Bio fertilizer and bio farming	79
7.	Paddy cultivation	61
8.	Greening India Project	128
9.	Seed Exchange programme	117
10.	Oil seeds cultivation	200
11.	Floriculture	40
12.	Horticulture	145
13.	Medicinal plants	90
	<b>Total :</b>	<b>1,975</b>

Our Agriculture Department obtained assistance from the following office and institutions :

I)	ADO offices	Baduria, Bashirhat-II, Habra -I, and Deganga
II	S.A.O	Bashirhat & Barasat
III	P.A.O	Barasat

IV	BCKV	Kalyani
V	CRIJAF	Barrackpore
VI	Save Grain Campaign	Calcutta
VII	Coconut Development Board	Calcutta
VIII	C.A.D.C	Berachampa
IX	DAMO office	Barasat
X	Horticulture Research & Development station	Krishnagar
XI	J.B. Roy State Ayurveda college and Hospital	Calcutta
XII	Botanical survey of India	Howrah
XIII	TSRD	Calcutta

**Animal Husbandry – towards prosperity from poverty one step ahead :**

We feel it will be a right step towards easing the problems of chronic unemployment in India, if we can consistently develop our neglected prime resource just after agriculture, that is animal husbandry which plays a vital role in the regeneration of rural economy. Keeping this in view, the entire Animal Husbandry programme has been designed to meet the growing demands for livestock and poultry in the rural areas.

**I) Welfare programme and economic regeneration programme :**

**A) Veterinary Health Coverage in the rural areas.**

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

- a) No. of animals treated at Vikas Kendra – 685.
- b) No. of families covered – 590.
- c) No. of villages covered – 10.
- d) No. of Blocks covered – 1.

**B) Fertility Promotion Programme.**

This programme envisages the treatment of unproductive animals, which appears to be a great economic loss to the farmers. Appropriate medicines were selected for treatment of the unproductive animals. Prior to the treatment, the animals are examined to find out a etiology of the case.

- a) No. of Animal treated – 52.
- b) No. of families benefited – 52
- c) No. of villages covered – 08.

**C) 40 days residential training on Animal Husbandry veterinary and diary :**

Unemployed educated rural youth are facing Herculean task to find out a suitable job for their survival. Considering the magnitude of the problems some arrangements have been made to train up the educated and unemployed rural youth on animal husbandry veterinary & diary for their self reliance and economic regeneration.

- a) No. of trainees – 12.
- b) No. of families – 12.
- c) No. of Villages – 11.
- d) No. of blocks – 09
- e) No. of Districts – 03.

**D) Fodder Promotion Programme :**

Considerable progress has been made in connection with the fodder promotion programme. Of late the farmers have realized that for minimizing the cost of production of milk the fodder promotion programme should be given top priority. National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI) and Forage station both at Kalyani are continuing their assistance for the improvement of fodder cultivation. During the year we distributed the following fodder seeds.

- a) Fodder seeds distributed
  - Maize – 36 kgs.
  - Sarghum – 58 kgs.
  - Cow pea – 45 kgs.
  
- b) N.P.K. – 100 kgs.  
Urea – 190 kgs.
  
- c) No. of families benefitted – 73.  
No. of villages covered – 04.  
No. of block covered – 01.

**E) Pathological Laboratory :**

The concept of pathological laboratory envisages proper diagnosis of diseases and to get a positive direction for treatment.

- a) No. of samples examined – 22.
- b) No. of villages covered 06.
- c) No. of families covered – 22.
- d) No. of blocks covered – 02.

## F) 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 problems, 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 Govt. of West Bengal. Following services were rendered during the year.

- a) F.M. Dvaceines - 28.
- b) HS & BQ vaccination - 531.
- c) No. of families benefitted - 504.
- d) No. of villages covered - 06.
- e) Ranikhet vaccination - 739.
- No. of families benefitted - 77.
- No. of villages covered - 01.

## **II) Economic Regeneration Programme :**

### **A) Cattle show :**

A cattle show was organized at Paschim Simla village on March 22, 2001 to asses the development of cross bred in this area. More than 165 animals were assembled. The best animal was adjudged by a panel of judges, yielding 16 liters of milk per day.

- a) No. of total cows 165.
- b) No. of families participants - 96.

### **B) Farmers Induction Programme :-**

This programme plays a vital role in motivating the farmers to change their old pattern of livestock management along with assimilation on of modern scientific animal husbandry practices in the rural areas.

- a) No. of farmers - 50.
- b) No. of villages - 05.
- c) No. of families - 50.
- d) No. of block - 01.

### **C) 10 days residential training on Artificial Insemination :-**

This programme envisages a total development of livestock through infusion of superior germ plasma for augmentation of milk production and economic regeneration of the cattle farmers in the rural areas.

- a) No. of participants - 09.
- b) No. of villages - 09.
- c) No. of families - 09.
- d) No. of blocks - 09.

#### **D) Trainings Programme on Poultry :**

It is visualized to give more intensive training of poultry husbandry and poultry marketing. Two poultry refresher trainings were organized one at Magurkhali and the other at Baduria.

- a) No. of trainings – 45.
- b) No. of villages – 10.
- c) No. of families – 45.
- d) No. of blocks – 03.

#### **E) Three days orientation trainings programme of rural farmers :-**

This programme envisages a training programme of rural cattle farmers to de-seminate modern and scientific animal practices.

- a) No. of trainees – 43.
- b) No. of villages – 43.
- c) No. of families – 43.

#### **F) Artificial insemination with frozen semen :**

This project envisages the improvement of local stock with superior germ plasma through the process of artificial insemination with frozen semen. This will be conducive for augmentation of milk production which will also generate economy of the rural farmers to a considerable extent. This programme will also reduce reproductive diseases.

- a) No. of total cows inseminated – 278.
- b) No. of villages – 10.
- c) No. of families – 205.

#### **G) Goat Development Programme :**

A small goat farm was established with the idea to distribute goat to the poor farmers for regeneration of economy. Initially goats could not thrive well because of worm infestations, during monsoon hours. Further replenishment of existing stock.

- a) No. of total goats in our farm – 10.
- b) No. of kids – 05.

#### **H) Goat Exchange Programme :**

- a) No. of goats – 18.
- b) No. of families – 18.
- c) No. of villages – 03.

Eight goats died on account of sudden presence of flood in our project village in the month of October 2000.

**H) Intensive Animal Husbandry and other development programme in the adopted village Purba Chandipur :-**

Vikas Kendra has innovated for the total development of the women folk in an adopted village viz. Purba Chandipur for self reliance and economic regeneration. Various developmental programmes as under.

- a) Self Help Group - 09.
- b) Establishment of small rural library.
- c) Workshop on literacy.
- d) Child & mother care workshop.
- e) Workshop on Fertility Promotion.
- f) Two (2) days legal aid training.
- g) Fodder cultivation training.
- h) Vaccination on Ranikhet - 673 birds.
- i) Birth control of stray/street and pet dogs - 100.
- j) Distribution of saplings (social forestry horticulture)
  - Sishu - 882
  - Mango - 164
  - Guava - 42
  - Lemon - 96
  - Jackfruit - 84
- k) Vaccination camp - F.M.D. - 148 (cows).
- l) Sewing Training for women.
- m) Flood relief distribution.
- n) Women conference at Purba Chandipur, total participants 269.
- o) Farmers day - participants - 151.
- p) Paddy seeds distribution - 21 farmers.
- q) Health camp of cows :  
No. of cows - 78.  
Families - 52.
- r) Rev. Tadashi Otsu donated one sewing machine for women after flood.
- s) Meeting on flood management.

**: TRAININGS :**

During the period under review we imparted the following trainings on animal husbandry and veterinary.

	No of training days
[01] Trainings on Animal husbandry and Dairy Management ( 40 days Residential)	
[02] Animal husbandry refresher training	480
	107

[03] Training on fodder cultivation	35
[04] Training for women farmers induction programme	50
[05] Two days training farmers on legal aid (Purba Chandipur)	122
[06] Poultry Refresher Training	45
[07] Ten days residential training on Artificial Inseminatio	90
[08] Three days orientation training programme of rural farmers	129
[09] Fodder cultivation training (Purba Chandipur)	65
[11] Orientation training on veterinary and A.I.	76
	1199

### **Education as a basic right :**

Imparting literacy to adults has today become an essential ingredient of adult education programmes. It is considered as a means of educating the adults to improve their living and working conditions. Education is a basic human right. We have unfortunately increased number of adult illiterates which was hundred eighty seven million in 1961, increased to two hundred nine million in 1971, to two hundred thirty eight million by 1981. The 1991 census indicated adult illiterates in the country had increased to two hundred seventy one million.

One of the important negative factor is non-realization of the value of education for our children, particularly the girl children.

Functional literacy, according to National Literacy Mission, implies : (i) achieving self reliance in literacy and numeracy, (ii) becoming aware of the causes of the deprivation and participation in the process of development, (iii) Acquiring skills to improve the economic status and well being and (iv) imbibing the values of national integration conservation of environment, women's equality etc.

National Literacy Mission was set up in 1988 to meet this challenging task in a mission mode in the following manner.

#### **01. Running of Non-Formal/Adult Education Centres :**

We had set up 9 Non Formal centres and 1 Adult Education centre for the women in the following six vilages : Atghara, Kirtipur, Nikarati, Paschim Simla, Sayedpur and Uttar Jangalpur.

We successfully completed NF/AE educational courses of 10 centres for the period of April 2000 to March 2001. 265 learners could complete the course. 143 female learners surpassed 122 male of that category. The age group of the learners was 7 years to 15 years for 9 NF centres and 16 to 35 years for 1 AE women centre. 170 learners (97 male and 73 female) took part in the annual evaluation process.

## 02. Meetings :

Eleven staff meetings were held to discuss related subjects. 2 meetings were conducted with the youth leaders of the village, five meetings with the guardians of the NF students of 7 meetings with the centre committee for continuing the local centres properly and effectively. Altogether twenty five meetings made the process participatory and democratic.

## 03. Visits :

Total 269 visits were made by the staff of the education dept of V.K.. during the year for monitoring the activities and giving guidance to the teachers.

## 04. Evaluation :

We have organized 4 annual evaluation of 4 NF centres for the period of 1999 – 2000. Sixty three learners (29 male and 34 female) took part in the evaluation process.

This year evaluation was made quarterly in 10 NF/AE centres. 183 learners have undergone the process.

## 05. Saheed Titumeer Public Library ( A bird's eye view ) :

- |     |  |          |
|-----|--|----------|
| (a) | Number of books at the beginning of the year | – 2066.. |
| (b) | Loss of books                                | – 09.    |
| (c) | Books purchased during the year              | – 40.    |
| (d) | Number of readers/members as on 01.04.2000   | – 91/77. |
| (e) | New readers/ members added during the year   | – 7/10.  |
|     | Total  | – 98/87. |
| (f) | Total number of book read during the year    | – 692.   |
| (g) | Total no. of working days                    | – 148.   |
| (h) | Working hours – Sunday, Tuesday and Friday   |          |
|     | Time : 10:30 AM – 12:00 Noon                 |          |
|     | 02:30 PM – 04:30 PM.                         |          |
| (i) | Number of newspaper                          | – 03.    |
|     | Number of Magazines                          | – 12.    |
- (10 come from the city office)

## 06. Trainings :

During the year we have imparted the following training.



**National Health Scenario and our Micro Planning :**

We have unflattering figures in rendering medical service on a national scale. Just 45 medical practitioner per 1,00,000 people. Not even half a million medical practitioner to treat more than one billion people.

World Health Organisation (WHO) study says, we have chronic shortage of four hundred thousand hospital beds. Infant mortality rate is demoralizing. Mortality rates for female children are significantly high in rural India. It is 113 in South 24 Pargana compared with the male child mortality rate 99.

It is necessary to intensify efforts to improve the situation by putting emphasis on preventive aspects. This year we not only continue our standard programmes in regard to health but the assistance of Tagore Society enabled us to implement the programmes of Reproductive Child Health.

Significant activities were undertaken in the scheme are

- (i) Completion of base line survey in targeted house holds.
- (ii) Formation of women health groups in the project area
- (iii) Group leaders were trained on RCH care
- (iv) Trainings were provided to community leaders enabling them to intervene at village level.
- (v) Linkage meetings with the Govt. Health Departments and Panchayat leaders.
- (vi) Group discussion with the village youth portraying the total situation
- (vii) Deep interaction with the midwives (Dai)

To understand the gravity of the situation, we take up under-five mortality rate in just 2 districts in West Bengal

District	1981	1991	Declined Percent
Birbhum	141	43	17.0
North 24 Pargana	123	101	17.9

Infant mortality variation has a gender dimension. The National Population Policy (NPP) has set an ambitious goal of reducing the IMR to 30 by the year 2010. Now, let us project our performances.

### **Polio Eradication Campaign :**

We had altogether 4 mass camps lasting for continuous 3 days, 4 big camps were held, where minimum attendance was 326 and maximum 409 children. When these large number of children came with their mothers V.K. became a garden of the children. Left out children were covered meticulously by home visits.

### **Mother's Day and Health Camps :**

We observed 12 Mother's Day to advice pregnant mothers about the importance of prenatal and postnatal care. Total 383 cases were attended. 213 mothers were given tetanus injection.

### **First Aid Centre :**

Our First aid centre had 219 emergency cases. As these were mostly injury cases 183 persons were given tetanus injection. Our service is available round the clock.

### **Combating chicken Pox :**

The world has been completely relieved from the dreaded disease of small pox. Often we face outbreak of chicken pox till today. Homeopathic system has preventive medicine against chicken pox. Total 2166 persons were covered of different 'para's of Atghara and some other villages with this preventive medicine.

### **Family welfare programme :**

During the year, 24 women has accepted permanent measures of population control. 144 women and 198 men have accepted temporary measures. Our silent campaign for population control is showing better results every year.

### **Immunization Camps :**

We held 11 camps to immunize different preventable diseases. Altogether 721 persons got the benefit out of those camps.

The following are the figures have some tale to tell.

	No. of beneficiaries
Polio	250
DPT	125
Measles	35
BCG	35
DT	06
Vitamin A oil	197
Vaccination for pregnant mothers	355

### **Health awareness Campaign :**

The primary Health Centre provided us with a trained magician and a group of singers of 'Tarja' songs for health awareness campaign. The magician showed meaningful magics in 5 villages in the evening. More than 2000 people got the message. The singer group held sessions in 3 villages and could captivate more than 1500 villagers.

The magician and the singers highlighted the importance of marriageable age, pure drinking water. Issues of environment was also presented. This powerful mass media was fully utilized by our village based health workers to get in touch with the villagers.

Our increased number of health workers taken for RCH campaign reached all the houses and talked about Govt. and non Govt. health services, importance of immunization in time and other health-related issues with the total women folk. Records are maintained for follow up actions.

From July 2000- to March 2001 total 2499 families were interviewed and covered. On 7 April, World Health Day we met 157 families where we gave small gifts to all senior citizens and sought their blessings for the development of rural life.

In another round of visits, our health workers met and convinced newly married couples and gave them family control measures. During flood situation we had many group meetings and 3 formal meetings about clean water and sanitation.

### **Our Health Clinics :**

Our Health Clinics could render medical service to 3177 cases. The following are the names of the clinics and numbers attended by and different doctors, during the period under review.

Homeo Clinic	Male	Female	Children	Total
Dr. Aich	59	127	17	203
Dr. S. Rahaman	182	1104	392	1678
Dr. H. Kayum	121	59	06	180
	362	1290	415	2061
<b>Allopathic Clinic</b>				
Dr. Aswini Srebastav	354	290	184	828
Dr. Sm. Saria	000	50	000	50
	354	340	184	878
<b>Ayurvedic Clinic</b>				
Dr. Ranjit Das	142	54	08	204
ECG	18	10	00	28

### **Training :**

During the year the following trainings were imparted on health related subjects.

	No. of training days
Health of Nutrition	348
Prenatal care	119
Family Planning	189
Use of medicinal plants	138
Aid training	63
Diarrhoea	225
Arsenic	48
Malaria	47
Dai training	77
Mental Health	50
Health and Nutrition (A 5 days training imparted by the Food and Nutrition Department.	150
	<b>Total : 1,454</b>

### **Reproductive Child Health Programme (RCH) and our response :**

The RCH approach may be seen in the following way. Women should have the ability to reproduce and regulate their fertility, go through the pregnancy and child birth safely. The outcome of the pregnancy should be successful in terms of maternal and infant survival.

Well being of the couples, understanding relations, free of fear of avoidable motherhood and diseases.

Accepting the approach we utilized the programme as an entry point to build up Mohila Mondolis, create Self Help Group and fight illiteracy. In our talks we took up gender issue.

We must express our appreciation to our health team headed by Arati, for their grassroot approach and for their ability to reach unapproachable.

### **Village based awareness camp :**

In total 14 camps, 593 women, many of them for the first time attended the meeting and most of them never attended any health meeting. The meetings were held almost in their hearth.

### **Reaching adolescents :**

Never we have approached these budding youths collectively. We had 2 discussion sessions. 80 boys and girls attended the same. They could ask many of their questions without being repressed. We tried to give answers to their relevant questions.

### **Orientation camp for community leaders :**

We felt it is important to give a clear orientation to the community leaders of all shades. Their role as opinion initiators has vital influence; where print or electronic media are yet to be crucial. 196 community leaders understood that they have to stand by our side for change towards a better tomorrow.

### **Block wise linkage meetings :**

Medical officer of the block met and discussed with RCH group and 'dai's on the existing health facilities. There were 46 participants.

### **Training for women group leaders :**

20 women health groups have already been formed. 36 women leaders from these health groups have undergone one day training to be convinced of their effective role.

### Web of organizations :

4 sub centers at Simla Drugapur, Narayanpur, Rajapur and Rudrapur properly manned covering 13 villages are keeping constant contacts with 20 women health groups. Each group has 20 members. They also assisted in conducting the base-line survey. The survey covered 4469 families that means 4469 families were visited several times an enormous task performed. Total 24847 people was covered. In addition to this base-line survey, another random survey, covering 397 families, was made.

We reached 35 villages under the following 7 village Panchayats Jashaikathi-Atgara, Judurahati-uttar, Chandipur, Bagjola, Raghunathpur, Ramchandrapur and Chatra and could enlist the names of 80 traditional working 'dai's. They had no formal training. These enlisted 80 dai's have undergone 1-year long scientific training about safe delivery, pre-natal and postnatal care. The training was basically practical, using posters, charts, drawings and other materials.

To understand how their bearings have resulted, 250 mothers who have, taken service from our trained dai's were interviewed. This post training survey gave us insight. The dai's met 4 times in group meetings near their residences to provide answers to their immediate problems.

Again 'dai's got 3-days residential training in groups of 20. The time we spent applying methodical and scientific rigours for making the RCH programme meaningful and effective given us righteous claim that we were true to our salt.

### Organisation – our spine :

Our projects, centering Atghara and Mirzapur have nearly on hundred staff full time and part time, including our consultants.

Pannalal Dasgupta walked before us silently and imbued us eloquently with actions and attitude for social change. We learnt from him the importance of values and discipline. We submit our apologies for individual failures but collectively we kept our spinalcord erect in facing the turmoil outside and dissensions inside.

Decisions are democratic, decision making process is transparent . Let us see how these ideas have been reflected in every strata of our organisation.

### **Youth Groups and Mohila Mondalis**

We now cover 3 blocks but the work is mainly concentrated in the Baduria block. The following list of youth groups and Mahila Mondalis tell us the geographical area and location of our organizations.

List of the village based organisations with whome vikas kendra is WORKING:

<u>Sl. No.</u>	<u>Name of the Organisation</u>	<u>Village</u>	<u>Block</u>
1	Atghara Bandhab Club	Atghara	Baduria
2	Chandpur Yuba Sangha	Chandpur	
3	Dakshin Simla Seva Kendra	Dakshin Simla	
4	Deshbandhu Sangha	Dakshin Jangalpur	
5	Dishari Sangha	Paschim Simla	
6	Durgapur Sabuj Sangha	Durgapur	
7	Ghoshpur Unnyan Samity	Ghoshpur	
8	Gramin Seva Sangha	Srirampur	
9	Kirtipur Nabarun Sangha	Kirtipur	
10	Malayapur Najrul Smriti Sangha	Malayapur	
11	Mamudpur Azad Sangha	Panji	
12	Narayanpur Sabuj Sangha	Uttar Narayanpur	
13	Pally Unnyan Samity	Dakshin Narayanpur	
14	Panji-Mamudpur Jaghrani Sangha	Srirampur	
15	Pingaleswar Vivekananda Tarun Sangha	Mamudpur	
16	Provati Sangha	Pingaleswar	
17	Purba Simla Naba Kalyan Sangha	Purba Simla	
18	Rabindra Smriti Sangha	Bagan Atghara	
19	Sayedpur Jatio Unnyan Sangha	Sayedpur	
20	Shahid Titumeer Smriti Sangha	Hyderpur	
21	Uttar Simla Bulet Club	Uttar Simla	
22	Yuba Sangha	Ghoragacha	
23	Yuba Unnyan Sangha	Atghara	
24	Agnibina Sangha	Baliakhali	Deganga
25	Progati Sangha	Chandalati	
26	Subash Sangha	Nikrahati	
27	Ramkrishna Sangha	Bijaynagar	Habra - I

We have vividly described the work of Rural Alliance in the

28	Satyajit Yuba Sangh	Kumra
29	Simulpur Runner Pathachkra	Simulpur
30	Vidyasagar Seva Sangha	Bonbibitala

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**List of Our Mohila Mondali :**

a) Atghara Mohila Mondali	-Atghara	Baduria
b) Purba-Chandipur Mohila Mondali	-Purba-Chandipur	
c) Sarada Mohila Mondali	-Pingaleswar	
d) Subash Mohila Mondali	-Nikrahati	Deganga
e) Satyajit Mohila Mondali	-Kumra	Habra-I

Organisations held 27 meetings where we also participated. Local 666 youth joined the meeting. We are making it a practice to hold the meeting of the departmental heads regularly. During the year under review 11 such meetings took place attended by on an average 12 departmental heads. Staff also met 10 times, 18 staff attended on an average out of locally available a score of staff.

Mahila Mondalis are taking strides to make progress towards the common end. They met 21 times during the year with 28 participants on average

The working committee of Vikas Samabayika met 5 times and on an average 10 members out of 13 attended the meeting. The shop at the market place sold lungi, sari, country towel, ladies garments, soap, paste, honey etc. worth of rupees 9,111.00.

The Dharmagola (community granery ) was planned to prevent distress sale of local crops. We have been able to maintain the process. In the year under review we could purchase 17143 kgs. of paddy at a cost of rupees 98,605.00. As the sale proceed was rupees 1,00,824.00 the margin was just little over rupees 2,000.00, the amount was withheld from distribution for the time being.

We have miserably come down of honey trade of more than 4 million rupees to just rupees 1,04,383.00. We could purchase just 3,155 kgs. with this money. We have recovered rupees 10,135.00 as sale proceed and the rest of honey is lying in the store. We had a retail sale of honey worth of more than rupees 16,000.00.

We have 3 failures in the Samabayika front. Balance Sheet not yet made for the last 2 years. The sale of honey has drastically decreased and maintenance of the property is not up to the mark. We are in search of the new leadership.



beginning of this report. It met 4 times at Chatra H.S. School and the average attendance was 22.

We have organized one major blood donation session just after the flood during our annual Titumeer fair. The number of donors was 102. Some of the groups also organized blood donation sessions in their own villages.

### **Self – Help Group :**

The planners, the policy makers put emphasis in mopping up the local resources. Banks, Panchayat leaders, financial institutions are extending their expertise & influence in mobilizing small savings. Women are encouraged to form groups to take up issues and collect and deposit their small savings regularly. It is one of the ways of women empowerment. The movement known as formation of Self-Help-Groups deserves support from community based organisations. At the beginning of the present session we had 8 well organized groups in 2 villages Pingaleswar & Purba Chandipur. 8 groups have 160 members with total deposit of rupees nearly 58,000.00. They have already distributed loans to themselves of rupees 25,000.00. We have entrusted one of our seniormost workers to take up the issue of forming 100 groups. We have to chase collectively this difficult target to achieve. During the year, 15 women meetings specially convened for this purpose, were held with the attendance of 646.

### **Working Committee :**

Working committee of SEVA met periodically. In its 6 meetings during the year decisions were taken collectively about the projects, reports, balance sheets etc. General meeting also held in time.

### **Other Programmes :**

Some figures have been given about the numbers of Mahila Mondalis, specific meetings organized by them etc. But singularly & collectively they also participated in all development works of Vikas Kendra.

*Dr. Dipankar Roy*, during a daylong discussion, brought out the ominous signs of globalisation & consequences. Some other discussions like how Nobel laureate Dalai Lama sees happiness, the days of Lalan Fakir, the fighting spirit of Birsa Munda could keep the audience spell-bound. Altogether 15 centrally organized programmes took place at different places during the year attended by more than 11,000 people.

### **Tribal Development Centre :**

We have the yearning for tribal development. Adidashi population should be refreshed with their traditional culture. They must not forget their own vision & mission. About a dozen tribal pockets scattered in our project area should build up a platform for exchanging their ideas & building up their own leadership. We are supporting a group of tribal youth, based at Dighirpar to have their own organisation – Bonnua Organisation for Living culture and Development (BOLD). Happily we observe BOLD is boldly inching towards the goal of tribal development.

### **Training Programme :**

The budding workers of BOLD have undergone 7 training programmes on such absorbing issues like; human potentiality, false ego, delivery mechanism etc. They have earned 185 training days.

### **Monthly Meeting :**

The working committee members met at the TDC office 7 times & discussed survey reports, cultural environment, communication programme etc.

### **Exposure Visits :**

6 of the leading workers have undertaken 2 exposure visits to Bongaon & Purulia. At the first place they tried to understand different rituals of tribals. At the second place they were amazed on seeing the beautiful Chhou dance.

### **Communication Programme :**

The TDC incharge visited tribal pockets 20 times always with some interested workers to build up a bond of friendship & weave a durable relationship. At many tribal pockets, village groups have germinated.

### **Visits :**

Leading lights of TDC are keeping lively liaison with all the tribal pockets. 23 visits took place to keep the groups abreast of the situation & to ensure the participation in the central activities.

The visits led to 11 organised meetings at the pockets themselves attended by more than 400 tribals. The significant fact is that one fourth of them were women.

### A Case Study :

Sayedpur village has 2 communities Muslims & Tribals. A religious conflict was brewing. Normally both the communities were happy & helpful to each other. Several sittings brought out the fact that tribals had no permanent cemetery. They started savings some amount & already they raised rupees more than 15,000.00 With this money they will buy a graveyard of their own; thus burying the seed of conflict.

### Performance :

The BOLD team was invited by the Social Security Board of Govt. of India at their National Integration Programme. The BOLD team put up a dance programme along with their traditional musical instruments.

BOLD got another invitation from a tribal association in the adjacent block. 1500 tribals appreciated the performance.

Biswanath Sardar, Adibashi Utsav 2001, tribals own annual festival took place at North Kolsur, a tribal pocket in our area. An elderly tribal Sitaram Munda (82) presided over the function. Tribals came from 30 villages of nearby 4 blocks to witness the function. The BOLD cultural group & tribal women jointly performed dances & sang songs at the Bamundanga church.

We see bright possibilities of Tribal Development Centre.

### Small Savings Scheme :

Lok Sanchay Praklapa (LSP) was implemented long before the nation delved in forming Self-Help-Groups. During the 11 years of its existence more than one million rupees has been deposited by 545 depositors. Of them 368 are women. The nature of the depositors is housewives, rickshaw pullers, marginal & small farmers, share-croppers, market committee, mosque committee etc. There is steady withdrawals by the small depositors. It proves the formation of banking habit & utilization of hard earned money kept nearby in a trusted organisation. At the year end in the local post office cash balance was rupees 93,152.40. Loans was given to Vikas Samabayika, Atghara Women Dairy Coop Society & for other worthy purposes.

The LSP takes deposit even a fraction of a rupee. Deposit is accepted only on Sunday but withdrawal can be done 24 hours a day. It has created a trust relation. The deposit has earned interest of more than rupees 16000.00. The same will be ploughed back to our own depositors.

the accounts is submitted & passed in the annual general meeting of the depositors.

Under organisation we have mentioned the democratic character of its various wings, activities of co-operative, savings scheme, tribal organisation etc.

We are aware of our weakness. That is our strength.

### **Rural Technology Centre (RTC) :**

#### **Vikas Laboratory :**

The largest Bengali Daily circulated a news "Another death at Machhlandapur by arsenic poisoning " Haru Sardar (55) of Shimulpur village was suffering from arsenic poisoning from the last one decade, Govt. treatment could not cure him. North 24 Parganas district has seen death in more than 150 persons. Previously 19 blocks out of 22 blocks of the district had arsenic contaminated water. Now only 2 blocks left not yet contaminated. We do not want any more death like Haru Sardar. Our well equipped testing laboratory is deeply absorbed in fighting this menace. Our transport has visited 4 critically affected areas & this Mobile Analysis Centre (MAC) has analysed water samples there. Our spectrophotometer (340 mm to 960 mm) purchased during the year, following SDDC method correctly determined the presence arsenic in water.

We had difficulties in analysis & calibration; due to disruption of power supply often. But now a 1.5KVA Kerosene oil operated generator has removed this problem.

#### **Arsenic Analysis Kit :**

We have Arsenic Analysis kits capable of determining the presence of arsenic in water from 0.01 to 0.10 by colour chart method.

Under certain conditions we have given loans of these kits to several non-profit making organisations.

#### **Geological Mapping :**

We have made a geological map of our area indicating the existence of arsenic on the sub soil water level. This helps to determine the depth of tube well while sinking new ones. We have sunk a new tube well at the Dighirpar, our tribal area & buckets have been given to our Child Development Centres for filtering drinking water.

#### **Awareness Programme :**

The elected committee the LSP though not meeting often but To make the people aware of water pollution & arsenic contamination, the lab staff organized 20 village based programmes as follows :

With the assistance of our Health dept.	-	04
With the assistance of our staff		
School based	-10	
Vikas Kendra	-04	
Mother's meeting	<u>-02</u>	16
With the assistance of our A.H. staff	-	01
With the assistance of our Education dep		<u>-03</u>
		24

**Water Analysis :**

Our lab followed mainly APHA – IS-3025 method in analysing the water. Our friendly organizations also utilized our Arsenic Analysis Kits. Total samples analysed 72. Bacteria test was conducted in 42 samples. Hardness test was done on 10 samples. Our lab extended assistance to CMDA, Paribesh Unnayan Parisad & Water Treatment House. Village based workers utilising our kits have tested another 256 samples.

Our 12 SVK centres got the service of our lab. Their source of drinking water was tested every 4 months. We got the insight in different seasons quality of water continuously changing. The water of the tubewell at Ananda Kendra indicated bacteria contamination beyond permissible level .A new tubewell was sunk at a safer place. The new tubewell has depth of 360 ft. and we are getting better water. Neighbours of Ananda Kendra also fetching drinking water from the tubewell of Ananda Kendra.

**Soil Analysis :**

Number of soil analysis done in the lab is not very encouraging. Plant tissue analysis was just –1  
NPK, PH etc. test was done on 2 samples NPK in vermin compost was analysed in 6 samples.

**Training (Water Pollution) :**

Three trainings on water pollution, mainly on arsenic problems were conducted, lasting for 2 days Filtration, reasons for contamination, utilisation of kit were contents of the training. Along with our environmental scientist, Dr. Kingskuk Sen was another resource person.

### Training (Soil Pollution) :

There was a training on the source of bio-fertilizer & utilisation of vermi compost. Practical training was imparted on how to make vermi compost pit.

Dr. M. Bhowmick, expert on vermi compost, Mrs. Suniti Das, soil scientist, shared their knowledge.

### Publication :

A Bengali booklet was published on arsenic contamination with analytical methods & precautions against contamination.

North 24 parganas NGO's Forum & Paribesh Dushan Pratirodh Mancha (Environment Pollution Resistance Platform) have fully cooperated in publishing this booklet. The name has been given 'Jibaner Janya' (For the Life).

The lab has made a complete file with different standards, news etc. on arsenic contamination in West Bengal. A selective distribution has been made to friendly organisations, those who sought in writing. Another booklet has been published on how to make organic fertilizers with various data.

### Tailoring Training :

RTC was built with the technical assistance of Central Building Research Institution (CBRI). It has 5 rooms, laboratory, energy room, used for making solar cookers (room for making powder soap now closed). In the next session it is likely to be used for the production of processed food. The fifth room is gainfully utilised for tailoring & embroidery trainings.

10 women & 4 men have undergone one year long training during the session. The trainees in normal course learned cutting & tailoring but they are also exposed to embroidery & wool knitting. Selected inmates of Ananda Kendra have taken this training for their rehabilitation, A token fee is taken for registration. Many of our students have migrated to Calcutta & Delhi in search of their fortune. All of them are well established good tailors. It speaks of the quality of the training.

15 migrated tailors are earning minimum rupees 2000.00 per month. Women after training started earning using their sewing machine at home.

Trainees after completion of the training period, if they pass according to the syllabus, they get standard certificates. So far 15 women took loan from our LSP for purchasing sewing machine & all of them have repaid the loan.

**My name is Today : every child has a right to survival & development :**

The need of the children can not wait, there is an urgency to bring in forefront their needs.

Our 12 child development centres (Shishu Vikas Kendra) located in 11 villages are taking care of 319 distressed children. We take care of the formative period of their childhood, which is from 3 years to 6 years. Let us have a breakdown :

<u>3 Yrs. - 4 ½ Yrs.</u>		<u>Above 4 ½ Yrs. - 6 Yrs.</u>	
F	75	F	88
M	77	M	79
Total	152	Total	167

So half of children just come out from the warm laps of their mothers. These children of lesser God belong to world of silence. We can not allow them to be dumb. We have imparted trainings to the teachers to make the learning process a fun to the children. Sensitively to be there towards environment.

We cover 17 villages of 2 blocks. We had 246 working days. In each centre there are 2 teachers & in the Central SVK 3. Every morning the children get some varied nutritious food as refreshment. The syllabus is followed for 2 years in preparing children for preprimary education. Partly Montessori method is followed. Inputs include playway method consisting of songs, dances, drawing, painting etc.

**Activities :**

We took up the work of Child Development Centres not as an end it self but as an entry point to attend large issues of the society.

Our teachers arrange monthly meetings with the mothers. During the year hundred eleven such meetings took place in their our centres. Subjects like childcare, food & nutrition, safe drinking water, monthly contribution of the family, kitchen gardens, local problems & gender issues are discussed.

The teachers have made total 849 home visits to the houses of the children. The main purpose of the visit is to ensure regular attendance of the children to the school & to have personal interface with the mothers. Side talks include family problems, utility of medicinal plants etc.

Local tours are part of the fun & frolic of the children. A centrally organized tour took 60 children as well as the teachers to Sanhati

the children, not only for medicinal use but also for creating love for nature in children's mind.

Mothers are encouraged to attend meetings, trainings etc to make them parts of the mainstream.

A qualified Homeopathic physician visits every centre at least twice in a month for health check up of the children. During the year 381 such visits included serving the medicine also. Common cold, stomach problems, toothache, malnutrition etc. are attended.

### Trainings :

Teachers are urged to make visits to the project centre at least twice in a month. Once to take honorarium, submit reports , accounts & take note of the ensuing programmes. The visit is followed by a training of various nature. The other is restricted to just for trainings. During the year the following trainings were imparted to our SVK teachers.

	No. of training days
Health training (week long) Imparted by WBVHA	182
Pre-primary teachers training (weeklong) Imparted by Bikramshila	190
Songs & Dances	50
Pedagogy	80
	<hr/>
	502
	<hr/> <hr/>

### **Ananda Kendra (Centre of Joy)**

#### Lighting the glimmer of hope :

In the year 1993 at the fag end of September we received an ordinary letter from Missionaries of Charity. It was extraordinary in content. Mother Teresa m.c. has written to us by her own hand "My Gratitude is my prayer for you & for all the intentions of your society. God Bless You". We got the blessings for our Ananda Kendra which was slowly taking shape. It was her urging "Do not allow any body to be lonely, to feel unwanted unloved – specially your own & the poor".

We wanted to keep under one roof battered women, neglected orphans & deserted senior citizens. We worked hard & got lovely friends to get their supports. We tried to become to be true "May God



Park, Asok Nagar for a day long freedom.

Saplings particularly, medicinal plants are given for planting to use you to be His true instruments to bring His peace & love". We never had to look back. Ms Leila Janssen's Group at Vechta and Indienhilfe extended unselfish & powerful support.

Foundation stone of Seva Bhavana was laid by Panalal Dasgupta, inaugurated by Nanda Dulal Bhattacharya, the then Zilla Sabhadhipati.

Anada Bhavana was inaugurated by Dr. Phularenu Guha.

The project Ananda Kendra started taking inmates from 1995. One of our dreams became true. Ananda Kendra (centre of joy) has 162 decimal of land with a tank. Later on the land was fenced properly.

The three unfortunate sections of the Society orphans, women & elders are rendering emotional support to each other & living together like one family.

They came from different background but sufferings made them united. We got Govt. support for the women. They are undergoing various vocational trainings. Illiterates are motivated to become literates. After staying 3 years at A.K. some of them have already returned to the society with heads high & with self confidence.

An elderly couple has fitted in with the Ananda Kendra family.

In the beginning of the year we had 27 inmates. 7 joined later on for a new life during the year.

Kids are going to SVK. Children are attending village primary school. Boys & girls are undertaking studies at the local high school. Most of them are securing high places in the annual examinations. They are drawing appreciative look.

Women inmates are taking vocational training, doing gardening, cooking etc. All of them celebrate many important days of national life, perform the cultural functions. Children get gift on the occasion of their birth days. They feel that they are not uncared any more.

A Pediatric with MD visits AK once in a week.

In the last Titumeer fair the inmates arranged a stall from their own contributions & sold eatables garments & handicrafts. 12 inmates have opened their accounts in the small savings scheme of Vikas Kendra. Margins from the sale proceeds went as credit in their own passbooks.

The children & the women under careful guidance have enriched their cultural activities. Visitors have nothing but appreciation for all of them.

The kitchen of the Ananda Kendra uses solar & biogas energy & prepare food by using fuel efficient smokeless 'Chulla'.

Orphans in their path to adulthood have to learn many trades.

Arrangements have been made to involve them in Animal Husbandry without disturbing the prosecution of their studies. Later on they will have more openings.

'Paripurata' a half way home takes care of the mentally handicapped women. They have given to Ananda Kendra 2 such unfortunate women to nurse & to nourish. One of them, a non-criminal lunatic has spent a hard life for 5 years in prison. We could heal her wounds. Another woman is in the process of normalcy.

Medicines for them kindly provided by 'Paripurata'. We record here our gratefulness to them.

A unique project sustained by the love of values certainly can keep the glittering hope lighted.

### **Ananda Dhara :**

The success & satisfaction we derive from our work at Ananda Kendra gave us the idea of Ananda Dhara. Some of our 'Paras' are more povertystricken. Children hailing from these families are continuously neglected, affection & love may make them sober & amenable to social values.

Two of our workers were assigned to keep a warm relation with them & arrange some trainings dear to the children. Two part time teachers teach them dance, drill, bratachari etc. It was progressing well, their roughness was partially smoothed.

Then 2 assigned workers changed their field of work & one of the teachers got a better opportunity & left.

Still we like to continue the work and move for better days. Despite the shortage of staff & spirit, work could be continued. We report the same.

89 classes were held on bratachari, Khoko etc. 8 girls trained at Ananda Dhara, attended a colourful function of a youth group named Milan Sangha. Two girls secured 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> position in the cultural competitions held on the 46<sup>th</sup> foundation day of Milan Sangha. One of the girls was tribal.

On another occasion 15 girls & 2 boys performed a 'Kathi' dance & drew loud applause.

Though we had 51 students in our register, at the year-end only 19 students attended on an average. The age group of the students is following :

04 Yrs.	12 Yrs.	-	37
13 Yrs. -	18 Yrs.	-	14

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51

Next year after steps are taken to revamp we expect a revival.

## MANAB-JAMIN (MAN & LAND)

### We grow :

Birbhum the land of bauls, its mysticism, nearness of Tagore's Santiniketan & Sriniketan had definitely influenced us to start a rural development project centering the village Mirzapur. In this village the tribals have a sway. But we were also attracted to accept the challenging job of water harvesting transforming the land of mono crop to poly.

The doyen of development, Pannalal Dasgupta blessed us on the foundation day of the Manab Jamin project on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1997. We started with Mirzapur, Chandanpur & Supur villages. Then we added Nurpur, Ballavpurdanga, Ramchandrapur & Rashulganjhut after making data base survey of these villages.

The period under review saw the selection of a new cluster under Ruppur Gram Panchayat namely Benuria, Lohagaria, Islampur, & Bahadurpur. This cluster will have the benefit of the leadership of Rabindrapally, Benuria. For the new cluster data based survey is already under way.

The benign spirit of Pannalal Dasgupta has become a guiding force for all of us to grow. We are growing with his value.

This year we solemnly organized the forth foundation day in presence of all the staff & 200 villagers.

### Earth Day :

Earth day was observed on 22<sup>nd</sup> April at the Supur play ground in the presence of 300 persons; half of them were students. They carried the message of the day.

Prof. Moloy Mukhopadhyay of Visva-Bharati spoke on the occasion. Our General Secretary & Incharge, Manab-Jamin also elaborated different issues related to Earth Day. Data was provided on the adverse effect of plastic bags synthetic inputs in agriculture etc. How the nearby Ajoy river is getting endangered was highlighted. The importance was stressed for increasing the social forestry.

### Meen Mangal Utsab :

The novel idea came from Panalal Dasgupta an environmentalist per excellence to release small fishes in thousands by our children in the flowing water of rivers to keep balance between consumption &

growth of fishes.

On 13<sup>th</sup> September, nearly 300 youth & children joyfully released several thousand small fishes in the water of the river Ajoy. Children presented a cultural programme Prof. Shakti Bhattacharyaya not only blessed the children but also set the tone of the festival. Our vice president represented the good wishes of SEVA.

### **Tribal Festival :**

So called modern culture has mesmerized a large section of tribal population. They have forgotten their own traditional colorful culture. To rejuvenate the same, a tribal festival is organized for the last 3 years on 26 January every year at a well decorated festival arena.

Sri Mansa Hansda, Sabhapati Sriniketan-Bolpur Panchayat Samity inaugurated the festival this year Performances of 21 groups of men & women & 367 individuals were judged & prizes were awarded accordingly. Local M.P., S.D.O. of Bolpur, C.M.O. of the local hospital, many pradhans, officials of Govt. & Non-Govt. organisations staying with the participants for long time extended their moral & vocal support for the festival. In the evening a colorful cultural programme was added with glory by the participation of Paschim Banga Bijyan Mancha, Boul group etc.

4000 tribals & others thronged the festival ground. Dozens of stalls supplied snacks, sweets, tea and did a brisk business.

### **CBRI Report :**

Central Building Research Institute (a constituent establishment of CSIR, Govt. of India) Extension Centre, Calcutta has extended their technical cooperation to us since the inception of SEVA.

In May, 2000 we entered into an agreement with them on "Construction & Demonstration of low cost housing". 10 numbers of demonstration houses & upgradation of one house will be part of the project. The construction has already undertaken on the land of Manab-Jamin. In our next report we hope that we shall happily carry the report of completion. It will give us another dimension in our field of social work. The covered space will enable us to undertake more training programmes & facilitate growth of human relation.

### **Agriculture :**

Our area is part of Suri-Bolpur plain, soil in partly laterite. Landscape is undulating and it is mono crop rain fed area. Drought or flood is constant companion of the farmers.

### **Water Harvesting :**

Naturally low cost water harvesting is one of the way out. 9 check dams were made on 4 water channels (kandore) by the farmers at Supur – 2, Mirzapur – 2, Nurpur – 3 and Ballavpurdanga – 3. These were erected with help of almost voluntary labour of farmers. The stored water helped 220 farmers to cultivate 68 hectors of land as scond crop in the rabi season. 60% of 220 farmers got proper yield. The 40% farmers did not get expected yields due to insufficient water in the check dam. The ingredients of check dams were empty cement bags filled with simple soil near by.

Wheat, mustard seeds, lentils & grams were the main yields. Manab Jamin assisted the farmers with seeds Total 4035 kgs. of seeds were supplied.

### **Waste Land Development :**

We have trained 14 farmers to develop the waste land at least for some yield initially. We gave them not only motivation & training but also supplied bio-fertilizers & seeds.

### **Traditional Paddy Cultivation :**

We could procure from Govt. Research Stations 115 kgs. of traditional paddy seeds which we distributed among 8 farmers for production & 21 farmers for seed propagation.

### **Medicinal Plants :**

Tribals unfortunately have forgotten their own tribal medicine. Five trainings were imparted on method & use of medicinal plants in 3 villages. 147 women undertook this training As part of the follow-up action 3 types of plants were given to them for planting in the household land.

### **Farmers Induction Programme :**

One of our major thrust is transfer of technology from laboratory (Research Station) to land. For this purpose we took the farmers to different Research Stations for appropriate Research work exposure. On 8 November 2000, 23 farmers visited Rice Research Station & Banana Research Station at Chinsurah.

On 14<sup>th</sup> February 2001, 44 farmers visited Pulse & Oil Seed Research Station, Soil Testing & Fertilizer Testing Laboratories at Berhempur. There some scientists met them & shared their experience & showed the research results.

### Orchards :

In our survey report we found none of the families have fruit trees neither have any habit of fruit consumption. To change the situation and to have better dietary habit, we have given 600 mango saplings, 600 coconut plants & 300 lemon saplings to the villagers under our project.

### Kitchen Gardens :

To support the nutrition & health programme we are continuing our kitchen garden programme for the women. This year particular trainings have covered 257 women of 6 villages. All of the families got variety of seeds, the seeds and saplings were distributed 3 times as per the seasonal requirements.

### Social Forestry :

This year we raised 21,000 saplings of Sonajhuri, Shishu & Subabool in our nursery (Manab-Jamin campus) under social forestry programme. Fifteen thousand saplings were distributed among the villagers. They planted mainly in their own land. 123 farmers participated in this programme.

### Jujube Upgrading :

As part of our long term planning, continuously we are upgrading our jujube plants to sweet ones.

This year 90 jujube plants were upgraded. Out of 90; 72 plants got good yields & the families could earn money by selling their sweet fruits.

### Campus Development :

To improve the fertility of the soil, protect the soil erosion & to introduce some new types of plants suitable for our area, we brought some seeds & seedlings from different regions & Research Stations. Within last 3 years we have already grown some mother plants and started distribution of those saplings. This year we have distributed 655 guava, lemon, and sweet lemon saplings among the villagers of Mirzapur, Supur, Nurpur, Chandanpur, Ramchandrapur & Ballavpurdanga.

Fifteen kgs. of dhaincha seeds were produced in our campus.

## **Animal Husbandry :**

### **Preventive Vaccination Programme :**

Our large bovine and ovine population do not get proper fodder due to absence of green manure. Their health get jeopardized & become vulnerable. As a preventive measure we organized 5 vaccination camps with the help of the Animal Husbandry Dept., Govt. of West Bengal.

The animal population became immunized by following vaccination.

FMD Vaccination	-	299
Duck Plague Vaccination	-	420
R2 b Vaccination	-	538

### **Fodder Cultivation :**

Unless the cattle farmers are able to produce green fodder for their own cattle wealth, health & maintenance of the same become difficult. So, under Animal Husbandry Programme, we have given 3 varieties of fodder cuttings for the demonstration plots as encouragements.

### **Chicks Demonstration :**

Poultry birds & country chicks can play a pivotal role in the poverty alleviation programme. In that case upgrading of birds is a must. To the economically weak & SC ST, we have given to 71 women 760 Rhode Island Red chicks for upgradation. Before introduction of the chicks all women got training on primary poultry management. The state Animal Husbandry Dept. has provided the required medicine & technical assistance.

### **The Animal Health Camp :**

The Animal Health Camp was organized at the village Nurpur. The veterinary doctor & 2 Field assistants treated 391 animals. Again in this score also Animal Husbandry Dept. of the state extended cooperation.

### **Education :**

We could gather practical experiences from our 2 already established Shishu Kendras at Supur & Mirzapur Children of 3 to 6

yrs, of age in their formative period looked after by our Shishu Kendras. The third one at the Nurpur village saw the day on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2000. Support was assured by Rev. Tadashi Otsu of Education Support Division of Okinawa Gospel Church, Japan. The presence of Otsu couple & Sri Dasu Bhowmik, our good friend lent color to the inaugural ceremony. Panchayat members & Visva-Bharati officials shared the platform.

The gender of caste of the children are as follows

	<u>Supur MJSK</u>	<u>Mirzapur MJSK</u>	<u>Nurpur MJSK</u>
Boys	16	17	17
Girls	24	13	13
S.C.	16	17	28
S.T.	13	09	00
O.B.C.	05	02	00
General	06	02	02

We have a follow up programme when the children complete their schooling of the Shishu Kendra, we take them to their nearest primary school. This year 20 from Supur & 15 from Mirzapur Shishu Kendra got admitted into the village Primary School.

At our Shishu Kendra health records are maintained & some nourishing food is provided. The practice of going to the school has become a durable habit.

Our teachers are subjected to different educational training. They regularly join our other project Vikas Kendra for undertaking training there.

Our one non-formal school for the S.C. women at the age group of 16 & above is progressing well.

### **MJSK Building :**

From a standard hut with mud walls and Tin roof we are conducting our normal rural work. Though the verandah of the office is not spacious enough, we conduct our Shishu Kendra there. At present 70% of the construction of the new Shishu Kendra have been completed. Next



year we will have a new home for Shishu Kendra there.

Education Support Division has extended their support to 25 students of class VI to IX of local high schools with all text books & other educational materials needed for the whole year. Another 54 students individually got 22 exercise books needed for the whole year.

The social composition of these 25 students is SC – 15, ST – 07 and OBC – 3. Out of 25 students 09 were girls.

### **Health :**

Sixteen youth of Supur, Nurpur & Mirzapur have undertaken a full 2 days training on First Aid. 45 women in Nurpur & 43 in Supur have undertaken a day long training on personal hygiene, nutrition & sanitation. Dr. Arindam Chatterjee imparted the training.

### **CONCLUSION:**

We have meaningfully survived the first one and half decade of our existence and service. This is also our first report in the new millennium. Perhaps we have the right to be little nostalgic, self laudatory but we have to be mercilessly self critical.

During our journey, we came very close to two tall personalities. Pannalal Dasgupta was one of our beacon lights. Father G. Beckers still surviving and even now he is guiding many social movements. We must have the strength to be equals to their expectations. Our fluctuating workforce sometimes touching hundred has a range of workaholic to 'kamchor'. Our assertion 'kam nehi, dam nehi' did not penetrate to all strata of the staff. Our partial unproductive human material and unused properties are our weaknesses. We are aware of it and often forceful corrective steps are taken. Blessfully our honesty was never questioned. But it must be appreciated that still it is the strength of the workers, which acts as moving force to keep the wagon of SEVA rolling forward.

Our strong points are that we have soulfully valued the integration whether national or international. We feel proud for our inputs in agriculture and welfare work of taking care of the deprived sections of the society. We have the satisfaction that we could better the sanitary habit of the villagers by constructing several thousand low cost toilets.

Of late, gender issues and health service deserve notable mention. Our humble beginning, low cost life style saved us from many conflicts,

but ego problem is still there.

We had to cross swords with Indienenhilfe, our friendly strong prop. We took stand, count the trees and miss the wood. It was about the recently introduced elaborate reporting system based basically on electronic system. They have also an irrefutable point, because of detailed accountability to their own donors.

Our collective affinity for rural regeneration keeps the accord in proper place. Convincingly we say that paradigm of relation has not changed.

Before we come to close, we submit our apologies to those we have hurt unintentionally and we promise ourselves to behave better in future.

Our icon Pannalal Dasgupta had also his own icon in Jayaprakash Narayan, symbol of humanity. Popularly known as JP was among India's tallest leaders, "Worked and marched, fought and died". Only person in India revered as 'Loknayak' could mix Gandhism and the spirit of revolution in his life.

The nation is celebrating his birth centenary. His values could help us cling to our hopes.

We promise ourselves to overcome the trauma and tragedy because our initial commitment was to make tiny titan. The environment where invisible wounded souls are rendered visible and silent voices are made audible is yet to usher. The price is to be paid by blood, sweat and tears.

We are aware, march continues in the millennium.

### **External Training, Seminar, Workshop, Conference etc**

#### **Attended by the Members of the Staff during 2000-2001:**

<u>Sl No..</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Subject</u>
01	Sri Asok Ghosh	4-days' Workshop on North-South Solidarity.
02	Sri Utpal Sanyal & Sri Siboprasad Sarkar	2-days' Training on Low Cost Media & Aids.
03	Kutubuddin	9-days' Training on Artificial Insemination.

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 04 | Sri Debdulal Samaddar   | a) 8-days' Training on<br>Communication, Documentation.<br><br>b) 6-days' Training on<br>Development of Human<br>Potentiality. |
| 05 | Smt. Sumitra Pal, Sarifuddin,<br>Abdul Hai & Smt. Rama<br>Mandal.   | 3-days' Training on<br>Reproductive Child Health<br>(RCH).   |
| 06 | Sarifuddin  | 5-days' Training on Preven-<br>tion of Blindness,<br>Nutrition, & Mother & Child<br>Care.                                      |
| 07 | Sri Arup Bardhan,<br>Sri Siboprasad Sarkar &<br>Smt. Kum Kum Mondal.  | 1-day Seminar on Urban<br>Solid Waste and Water<br>Pollution.  |
| 08 | Sarifuddin &<br>Smt. Sumitra Pal  | 2-days' Training on Dai.   |
| 09 | Abdul Hai,<br>Smt. Rama Mondal &<br>Sarifuddin  | 3-day's Training on RCH.   |
| 10 | Smt. Sumitra Pal,<br>Smt. Arati Bardhan,<br>Abdul Jalil,<br>Sri Siboprasad Sarkar &<br>Smt. Kum Kum Mondal. | 1-day Training on Dai.   |
| 11 | Sarifuddin,<br>Abdul Hai,<br>Sri Palash Bardhan &<br>Mohobul Baidya   | 2-days' Training on RCH<br>and Accounting.   |
| 12 | Sri Sufal Kole  | 1-day Seminar on Green<br>Fodder Cultivation.  |
| 13 | Humayun Kabir   | a) 2-days' Seminar on<br>Horticulture.   |

- b) 1-day Seminar on Bio-fertiliser & pesticide.  
c) 1-day Seminar on Jute.
- 14 Smt. Ranjana Dutta 1-day Seminar on Mental Health.
- 15 Sri Sufal Kole & Abdur Rahaman 3-day's State Level Conference of Voluntary Blood Donors & Donor Organisers.
- 16 Chanchal Pal
- A. 6 Days training on Human Rights Education.
- B. Week long training on Development at Academy of Dev. Science.
- 17 Ruby Bhowmik
- A. 6 Days training on Human Rights Education.
- B. 7 days training on school health & adolescence problem.
- 18 Shibani Majumdar
- A. 7 days training on school health & adolescence problem.
- B. Health training 40 days for community health development imparted by WBVHA.
- 19 Sumitra Khan
- A. 7 days training on school health & adolescence problem.
- 20 Sabita Saha, Bharati Das, Kabita Sardar, Swapna Majumdar, Thakuran hemram.
- A. Five days training of Child education.

## WE ARE GRATEFUL TO:

### INTERNATIONAL:

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

### NATIONAL:

01. Central Research Institute for Jute & Allied Fibres (CRIJAF), Govt. of India, Barrackpore.
02. Central Building Research Institute (CBRI), Govt. of India, Kolkata.
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, Kolkata.
06. The Horticulture Society of India, Kolkata.
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, Kolkata.
10. Deptt. of Science & Technology, Govt. of India, New Delhi.

### STATE:

01. Agriculture Deptt., Govt. of West Bengal.
02. Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Mohanpur, Nadia.
03. Zonal Adaptive Research Station, Govt. of West Bengal.
04. Horticulture Research Station & Development Centre, Govt. of W.B., Krishnanagar
05. Agricultural Marketing Deptt., Govt. of W.B.,
06. Directorate of Food Processing Industries & Horticulture,

- Govt. of W.B.
07. Deptt. of Animal Husbandry, Govt. of W.B.
  08. Ichhamati Co-operative Milk Producers' Union Ltd.
  09. Deptt. of Botany, Calcutta University.
  10. Deptt. of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of W.B.
  11. Deptt. of Panchayat & Rural Development, Govt. of W.B.
  12. West Bengal Pollution Control Board, Govt. of W.B.
  13. Block Literacy Committee, Govt. of W.B., Baduria
  14. Directorate of Social Welfare, Govt. of W.B.
  15. Sub-divisional Office, Govt. of W.B., Basirhat
  16. Block Development Office, Govt. of W.B.
  17. Office of the District Magistrate, North 24 Parganas.
  18. Regional Agricultural Research Institute.
  19. Regional Fodder Research Institute
  20. Rathindra Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sriniketan.
  21. Block Live-Stock Development Office, Bolpur.
  22. Palli Siksha Bhavan, Sriniketan
  23. Social Forestry Range Office.
  24. Tuber & Plantation Crop, Govt. of W.B.
  25. Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre, Santiniketan.
  26. Chinsurah Rice Research Station, Chinsurah
  27. Pulses & Oil Seeds Research Station, Berhampur
  28. Information, Culture & Broadcasting Office, Bolpur.
  29. State Poultry Farm, Govt. of W.B., Suri
  30. J.B.Roy State Ayurvedic College & Hospital
  31. Comprehensive Area Development Centre, Berachampa
  32. M/s. ESBEE Associates, Kolkata
  33. Tagore Society for Rural Development, Kolkata
  34. Eye Care & Research Centre, Kolkata
  35. International Eye Bank, Calcutta
  36. Association of Voluntary Blood Donors, West Bengal, Kolkata
  37. Socio-Legal Aid Research & Training Centre, Kolkata
  38. Al-Mustafa Hospital, Mandra
  39. Paripurnata, Kolkata

40. Gram Seva Sangha, Hatthuba
41. Charukala, Barasat
42. Vets Pharma
43. Jeps Pharma (P) Ltd.
44. Intas Pharmaceuticals Ltd.
45. Bio-Herbs
46. Rural Literary Conference
47. Sri T.K.Ghosh, Rajani Bhattacharyya Lane, Kolkata
48. Local Schools
49. Local Panchayats
50. Lions Club, Kolkata
51. Pallikatha, Bira
52. Sreema Mahila Samity, Duttapulia
53. North 24 Parganas NGOs Forum.

**NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF THE WORKING  
COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**FOR THE YEAR 2000-2001**

Sl. Name & Address	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<br>Chowdhury<br>54 A, Sashtitala Road<br>P.O. Talpukur-743187<br>Barrackpore<br>North 24 Paraganas | Treasurer        | Bank Official  |
| 5. Smt. Arati Bardhan<br>Vill. & P.O. Atghara-743438<br>North 24 Paraganas   | Asstt. Secretary | Health Worker  |
| 6. Sri Ranjit Roy Choudhury<br>89 East Sinthee Road<br>Fakir Ghosh Lane<br>Calcutta 700030                                 | Asstt. Secretary | Social Service |
| 7. Sri Alauddin Ahamed<br>Vil. & P.O. Atghara 743438<br>North 24 Paraganas   | Member           | Farmer         |
| 8. Sri Srikanta Mondal<br>South Jambuni<br>P.O. Bolpur 731204<br>Birbhum   | Member           | Farmer         |
| 9. Sri Palash Bardhan<br>Vill. & P.O.<br>Atghara 743438<br>North 24 Parganas   | Member           | Social Service |



## OUR VISITORS

For the year 2000-2001

### A

- 1 DR. A. K. PAIN
- 2 ABDUL OHAB
- 3 ADHAR RAJ SINGH
- 4 AJIT SOM
- 5 AKRAMUL HAQUE
- 6 AMBARISH BANERJEE
- 7 AMALA PRAMANIK
- 8 AMINUL AHASAN
- 9 PROF. ANINDYA DATTA
- 10 ARGHA KUSUM DATTA GUPTA
- 11 ARIJIT BHATTA
- 12 ARINDAM DASGUPTA
- 13 ARUNA MUKHERJEE
- 14 ATUL ROY
- 15 ALOK KUNDU
- 16 ANJALI DAS
- 17 ARINDAM CHATTERJEE

### B

- 18 B.B. SHAHOO
- 19 B.M. RAJA REDDY
- 20 BIPLAB BASU
- 21 B. N. RAJA REDDY
- 22 BISWAJIT MONDAL

### C

- 23 DR. CHANCHAL GAINE

### D

- 24 DASU BHOWMIK
- 25 DEBANUJ MUKHERJEE
- 26 DEBPRASHAD CHAKRABORTY
- 27 PROF. DEB KUMAR BASU
- 28 DHARA SINGH
- 29 DHIRESH GHOSH
- 30 DILIP SHARMA
- 31 DR. DIPANKAR ROY

### E

- 32 DR. ELISABETH KREUZ
- 33 ELKE CHAKRABORTY
- 34 EKIN KHAN

### G

- 35 PROF. GANESH CH. MALIK
- 36 GANESH MALLICK
- 37 DR. GOPAL SENGUPTA
- 38 DR. GOURI PADA DATTA
- 39 DR. GURUDAS SARKAR
- 40 GOKUL HANSDA

### H

- 41 HABIBAR RAHAMAN
- 42 HANS LINDER

### I

- 43 DR. ILA CHAUDHURI
- 44 INDRANIL GANGULY
- 45 ISITA DASGUPTA

### J

- 46 FR. JACOB PEENIKAPARAMBIL
- 47 JAHAR DAS
- 48 JHUMA BANDYOPADHYAY
- 49 JIBAN KRISHANA MONDAL
- 50 JIBAN SARKAR
- 51 JYOTIRMOY BISWAS

### K

- 52 PROF. KALYAN RUDRA
- 53 KATHARINA LINDE
- 54 KRISHNA CHAKRABORTY
- 55 KRISHANA PADA KIRTANIA
- 56 KUMAR RAY
- 57 DR. K.C. DEY
- 58 K.C. JANA
- 59 KALIPADA SOREN
- 60 KARTICK CH. JANA
- 61 KARTICK CH. DEY
- 62 KUSHAL CHATTERJEE

<u>M</u>	
63	MANIK BANERJEE
64	MIDORI ONDA
65	MINAKO HAYAKOWA
66	MOHAN BISWAS
67	MONJUSHREE GUHA MAJUMDER
68	MANORANJAN BHATTACHARJEE
69	DR. MORTAJA HOSSAIN
70	MRIGANKA PANTI
71	DR. M. L. MURTY
72	MAKINO
73	MANABENDRANATH GHOSH
74	MANASA HANSDA
75	MANIKESHWAR GHOSH
76	MALOY MUKHOPADHYAY
77	MULCHAND AGARWAL

<u>N</u>	
78	NAOMI AKIMOTO
79	NIKHILESH CHATTERJEE
80	NILIMA CHOWDHURY

<u>P</u>	
81	PAMPA MAITRA CHAKRABORTY
82	DR. PARIMAL DATTA
83	PARIMAL GHOSH
84	PARITOSH BANERJEE
85	PRABIR SARKAR
86	P. BISWAS
87	P. B. MONDAL
88	PINTU GHOSH

<u>R</u>	
89	RAFIQUEL ISLAM
90	DR. RAJAT CHAUDHURI
91	RATNA BHATTACHARJEE
92	REGINE LINDER
93	RITA DAS
94	RUPEN ROY
95	PROF. R. G. MAITY
96	R. S. THAKUR
97	RAM CH. DOM
98	RAMENDRANATH ROY CHOWDHURY

<u>S</u>	
99	SABITA MAITY
100	SAIBAL RAY
101	SAMIR SARKAR
102	SAMSEL HAUQUE
103	SANJAY BOSE
104	SANTANU SINHA
105	DR. SANTI RANJAN BANDYOPADHYAY
106	PROF. SHAKTI BHATTACHARJEE
107	SHYAMAPADA BISWAS
108	SOMESH DASGUPTA
109	SONIA MONIKA
110	SRI SRI RAY JOHN IBRAHIM
111	SUBAL DAS
112	SUJAY BOSE
113	SUTAPA DATTA MUKHERJEE
114	SWAPAN KR. CHHATUI
115	S. DASGUPTA
116	S. K. DAS
117	DR. S. K. GHOSH
118	SATYABAN DASGUPTA
119	SHYAMALI KHASTAGIR
120	SOMAI MURDY
121	SUSANTA RANJAN UPADHYAY

<u>T</u>	
122	REV. TADASHI OTSU
123	MRS. TAKAKO OTSU
124	DR. TARAPADA MUKHOPADHYAY
125	TOMOKO TOMI
126	DR. TRIDIB MUSTAFI
127	TUSHAR KANJILAL

<u>U</u>	
128	MS. ULRIKE LESTI