

2021-
2022

ANNUAL REPORT

DEVELOPMENT ACTION SOCIETY



DEVELOPMENT ACTION SOCIETY
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DEVELOPMENT ACTION SOCIETY


President


Secretary

Thematic Area

EDUCATION

HEALTH

Livelihood

Emergency Response

Community Awareness

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FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK:

The organization was founded in the year 1989 and established in 1995. The little seed sown in the heart of the founders, over 30 years ago has now grown into a mighty tree with its branches spreading over three districts of West Bengal. Development Action Society fulfils the purpose of its existence through education, child protection, health care, water sanitation hygiene (WASH), livelihood and women empowerment and protection. It aims at developing the children, women and youth into committed people who would be putting meaning into their lives thus making a difference not only for themselves but also for the community as a whole. The year 2018- 2019 has seen DAS focus strongly on issues of urban / rural schemes and entitlements as one of the essential areas of work whereby people would gain increased accessibility to the much needed entitlements. DAS also focused on national and international development goals in each area of intervention. Through our entire intervention DAS tried to address the issues of access the education for all, development of community level child protection mechanism supporting the govt. structures, enhancement of health slicking behaviours addressing issues of child & maternal mortality and morbidity issues due to communicable and non-communicable diseases; encouraging community in safe accessing of potable water, sanitation and hygiene practices and facilities; Facilitate the skill building initiatives of women and youths and also facilitate the community level women empowerment mechanism through developing the financial and functional literacy. The child's interest and inherent potential are tapped not only in the classroom but also in other areas like sports [rugby], dance, drama, art and craft.

Like every year, this year too, we had eleven volunteers from SUAS Educational Development, Ireland to volunteer as teaching assistants in our Educational Centres. They engage themselves in a number of activities that benefit the children. DAS's experience has revealed that stand alone training inputs do not go a long way in enhancing the organization's capacities as these capacities are more often retained by the individuals trained and attrition leads to a drain of any such capacities built. A plan and design is in the process of being formalized and systematized where in a pool of resource personnel is created and retained within the organization thus overcoming this challenge. While we place on record the outstanding services of the staff, we also acknowledge their unflagging zeal in upholding the ideas and values of the Organization.

We appreciate and highly value the constant support rendered by SUAS Educational Development, Save the Children Bal Raksha Bharat, Azad Foundation, Me-Imports, Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), Friends of Calcutta (FoC), Toronto Canada Foundation (TCF), Samagra Siksha Mission (SSM), TEAM CAFÉ, West Bengal Pollution Control Board (WBPCB), ONGC, SMILE Foundation, Weavers Studio Resource Center (WSRC), Rotary Club, Lions Club, Urmibala Smriti Kalyan Sangstha (UBSKS), National Child Labour Project (NCLP), Child In Need Institute (CINI) and Kolkata Child Labour Rehabilitation Cum Welfare Society (KCLRWS).

I call upon our long standing supporters to further strengthen "Development Action Society", so that the organization can keep itself relevant to the development needs of communities across West Bengal.

Purabi Roy
Director

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

We wish to offer our sincerest gratitude to the following agencies, departments, groups, individuals and staff for their support and continued patronage.

- **Government:**

- *Samagra Siksha Mission (SSM),*
- *West Bengal Pollution Control Board*
- *National Child Labour Projects*
- *Kolkata Child Labour Rehabilitation come Welfare Society (KCLRCWS)*
- *State Education Department*
- *SUNDARINI*

- **International Agencies:**

- *Save the Children – Bal Raksha Bharat*
- *Friends of Kolkata*
- *Mennonite Central Committee*
- *Azad Foundation*
- *Toronto Canada Foundation*
- *Me Importas*
- *SUAS Ireland*
- *SMILE Foundation*
- *TEAM CAFÉ*
- *Charities Aid Foundation (CAF)*

- **National Agencies:**

- *Weavers Studio Resource Centre*
- *ONGC*
- *Urmibala Smriti Kalyan Sangstha*
- *Rotary Clubs*
- *Lions Club*
- *Child In Need Institute (CINI)*
- *Individuals and Groups*
- *Jagori Rural Trust*
- *Delhi Public School,*
- *Silver Point School*
- *Ashoka Hall*
- *Riddhi Beauty Parlor*
- *Bantala Bhatri Sangha*
- *Kalarit Adarsha Shiksha Niketan*

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- *Ujjal Sangha Club, Ucchepota*
- *Santi Sangha Club, Bhagwanpur,*
- *Sabuj Sangha Club, Kalarkhal*
- **Individuals:**
 - *Sri. Swapan Samdder, MMIC- Bustee Development, Environment & Heritage and Ward-56 Councilor, KMC*
 - *Sri Jiban Saha MMIC, I&PR, EWS, Printing, IUM, Big-dia Tube-well, and Ward-57 Councilor, KMC*
 - *Sri Sandipan Saha MMIC Education and IT and Ward-58 Councilor, KMC*
 - *Smt. Nibedita Sharma, Ward-65 Councilor, KMC*
 - *Sri Sushil Sharma, Social Worker, Ward-65*
 - *Sri Sushanta Ghosh, Ward-107 Councilor, KMC*
 - *Sri Subhas Chakraborty, Social Worker, Ward-58, Kolkata*
 - *Smt. Mita Naskar, Panchayat Pradhan, Kheyedaha-II Panchayat*
 - *Mrs. SusilaAlmal*
 - *Mr. Nirmalendu Basu*
 - *Ms. Vishaka Das*
 - *Ms. Sujata Kar*
 - *Mr. NitishSapui*
 - *Mr. Bablu Mondal*

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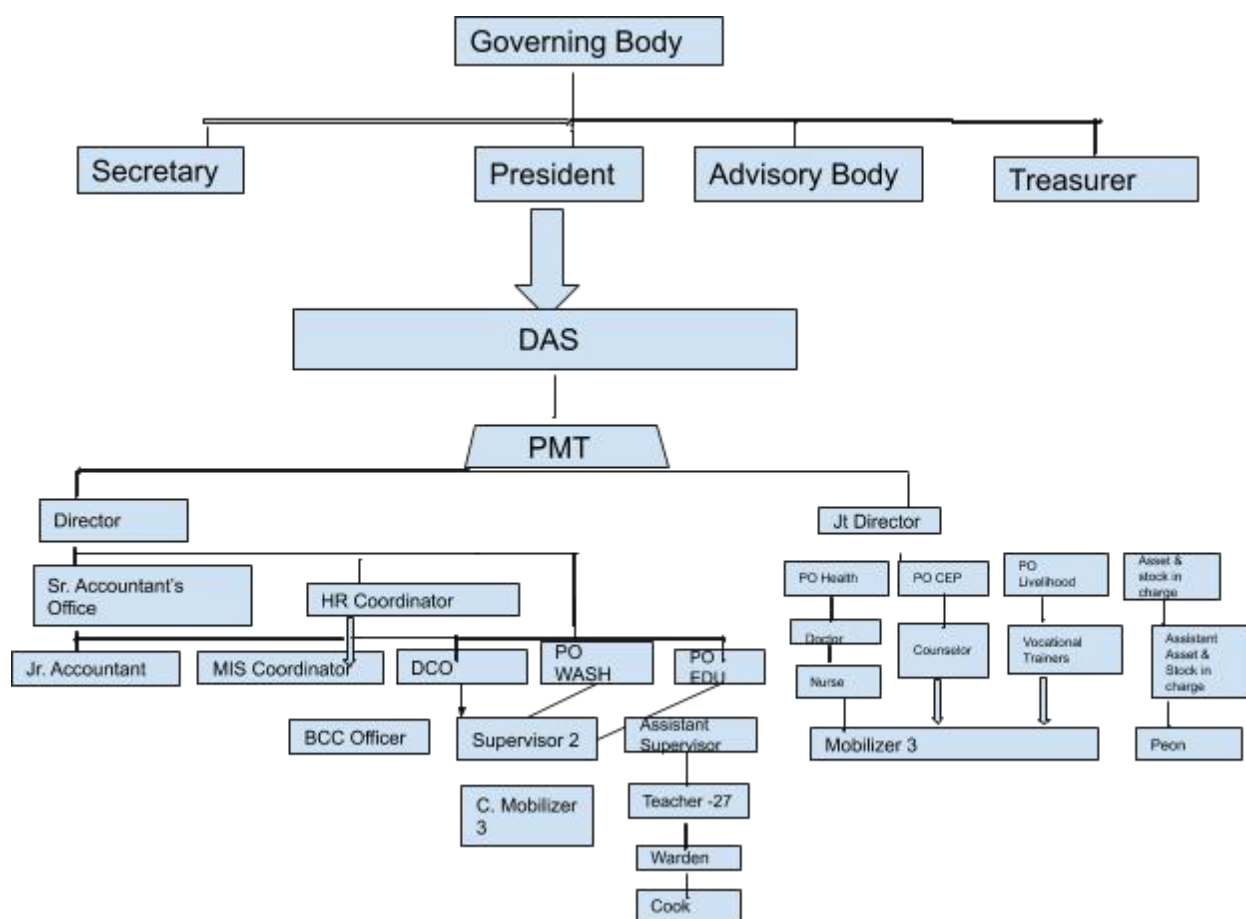
ORGANISATION PROFILE

Establishment: Founded on 18 August 1989, Development Action Society is a not for profit, non –political non - government organization registered under the Society's Registration Act XXI of 1961, registered under NTI Ayog, the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) and Income TAX Exemption 80G and 12A.

Mission:

Our mission is to empower women, children and youth to realize their rights and access resources, through quality interventions in education, health and livelihood, so that they are enabled to transform their communities.

Vision: We believe in a world where every human being enjoys equal rights and opportunities in order to lead a healthy and creative life with dignity and self-respect.



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[Signature]
President

[Signature]
Secretary

GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS 2021

SL	NAME	DESIGNATION	OCCUPATION
1	MRS. SOMA BASU-MALLIK	PRESIDENT SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	CONSULTANT
2	MRS. SUBRATA KAR	VICE-PRESIDENT SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	PROFESSIONAL
3	MRS. PURABI ROY	SECRETARY	SOCIAL WORKER
4	MRS. SATHI DE	ASSISTANT SECRETARY	HOMEMAKER
5	MRS. SOUMI GHOSH	TREASURER SOCIAL WORKER	CONSULTANT-ENVIRONMENT
6	MRS. BANI BISWAS;	MEMBER	HOMEMAKER
7	MRS. RINA SUKAI	MEMBER	HOMEMAKER

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION:



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POPULATION COVERAGE:

Parameter	Total Population Covered in Kolkata District	Total Coverage in 24PGS South District	Total Population Covered Nadia District	Total Population Covered in Burdwan District	Total Population Covered in 24-PGS North District	Total Population Coverage in West Bengal
No of Household	180932	18279	6226	30526	25,973	261936
Total Population Person	774172	81371	26906	137820	105,678	1125947
Total Population Male	399793	41661	13843	71033	52,899	579229
Total Population Female	374379	39710	13063	66787	52,779	546718
Population in the age group 0-6 Person	68145	9898	3585	12914		94542
Population in the age group 0-6Male	35029	5048	1815	6811		48703
Population in the age group 0-6 Female	33116	4850	1770	6103		45839
Literates Population Person	591116	51383	16013	110662		769174
Literates Population Male	317585	28969	8536	59323		414413
Literates Population Female	273531	22414	7477	51339		354761
Illiterate Persons	183056	29988	10893	27158		251095
Illiterate Male	82208	12692	5307	11710		111917
Illiterate Female	100848	17296	5586	15448		139178

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Promotion of Early Childhood Care & Education (ECCE) among Marginalized Children and Community Sensitization on Rights in South 24 Parganas District,

Activity Details

Operating three pre-school centers with 90 children in each year: (Mennonite Central Committee (MCC))

- 1st April 2021 center teacher started enrolled of 90 children at the end of 31st March 2022.

90 Enrolled children have started to receive pre-school education and nutrition till 19th April 2021 before announcement of the early summer vacation by State Govt. During this COVID-19 severe and restricted lockdown in West Bengal began from 15th May and continued till 15 February 2021 all education institutions remained closed as per govt. advisory. In the meantime since 1st July 2021 center teacher started vigorous home visit of the enrolled children and share the worksheets to each parent and also help wards to complete the same.



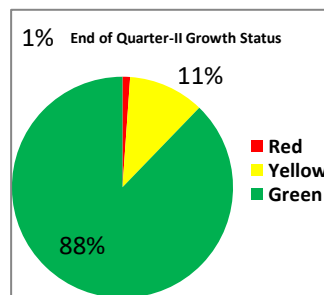
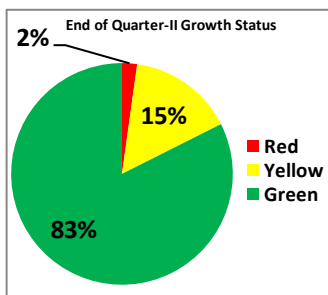
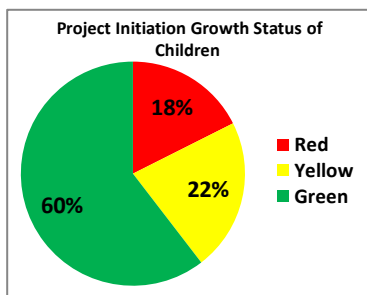
Total Students is 90
(Boys-49 and Girls-43)

Three project locations viz. Bhagwanpur, Ucchepota and Kalarkhal.

- Provision for Nutrition of children for early childhood education centre**

The Centers had been inaugurated on 1st April 2021 and continued till 20th April before early declaration of summer vacation by State Govt. and before lockdown due to COVID-19 Pandemic since 16th of May 2021. Provision of food to the children was possible for only 11 Days. Dry raw food have been distributed to parents of the children from the three centers on weekly basis –

Growth Monitoring was conducted during home visits by the centres teachers during lock down days. During this period, due to lockdown advisory all the schools were closed in this adverse situation DAS and MCC jointly decided to provide the marginalized school children raw food (ration) on weekly basis. The food support yielded the graphical result after growth monitoring:



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- Capacity building of Staff/teachers on preprimary curriculum.**

Participants: Center Teachers, 1 Coaching Teacher and 3 Cook cum Helpers

Capacity building event for centers' teachers and staff was conducted on 25th to 28th September 2021 and on 26th March 2022 the follow-up field level training has been conducted and due to COVID-19 pandemic's govt. advisory this training has been shifted from 1st quarter to 2nd quarter and 4th quarter.

Capacity building has been done on preparation of TLMs and Center Teachers have prepared relevant TLMs for the children.

Overall capability building conducted based on NCERT pre-school training guideline for the teachers.



Situation-appropriate methods during these COVID situations have been considered like use of electronic medium and Social Medias like, Google Meet or WhatsApp.

Follow-up field level capacity building conducted on 26th March 2022 involving 6 Center teachers and 3 cook cum helpers. Following topic covered during this training –

- ✚ Coping-up the class room atmosphere by newly enroll students especially in the post COVID satiation.
- ✚ Managing different level (Nursery-I, II and Transition) of students within one class room using toys, TLMs, Physical Activities, Crafts, Drawing, Music, Rhymes
- ✚ Acquiring best hygiene and food habits of pre-school children during using their toilets, coughing, sneezing and during having water or foods in the post COVID situation
- ✚ Handling of puking, pooping and peeing students in the class room in the post COVID situation
- ✚ Parents meeting regarding behavioral and academic progress based on teachers' assessments.

- **Awareness of mothers on Education issues and available govt. services.**

90 mothers and care givers have attuned the event in 3 centers Participated the training.

The was objected

To aware mothers and caregivers of pre-school children on Early Childhood Education and Care during COVID time

- To aware about home based hygiene practices at home especially for small children; using of hand sanitizer, face mask and washing hand with soap before meals.
- To aware on low cost nutritious foods which can maintain the age appropriate growth of the children
- To aware about local COVID service points
- In 4th Quarter another 3 awareness event have been conducted involving 90 mothers on 30th and 31st March 2022 based on three education centers with the following objectives –
- To aware Children and mothers and caregivers of pre-school children on Early Childhood Education and Care during COVID time
- To aware about home based hygiene practices at home especially for small children; using of hand sanitizer, face mask and washing hand with soap before meals.

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- To aware on low cost nutritious foods which can maintain the age appropriate growth of the children
- To aware about local COVID service points

The participants draw a plan of action regarding relevant linkage with available entitlements like Birth Certificates, Aadhaar Card, Ration Cards, Kanyashree, Shishasree, SwathaSwathi and Laxmi Bhandar Prakalpa

- **Capacity building of teachers on Child Rights & Entitlements:**

Participants Center Teachers, 1 Coaching Teacher and 3 Cook cum Helpers

Capacity building had been organized during COVID pandemic lockdown phase on 17th and 27th June 2021 when some curbs were lifted by the administration, maintaining the social distance and adequate precautions to prevent spreading of COVID. Checking of Body Temperature, usage of Clinical Face Masks, using Sanitizers and maintaining Social Distance were some of the foremost measures adopted during the training period. Due to lockdown public transport remained suspended from the road as per govt. directives. Office hired special permission to continue the session with minimum staff strength as mentioned in govt. directives. During this situation some of our staff members could not attend the training session due to their sickness (other than COVID infection)

Training objective:


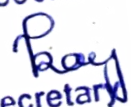
- ✚ To enhance the knowledge and understanding of teachers and others staffs about child rights within the framework of rights based approach
- ✚ To develop clear understanding about analyzing the factors contributing to violation of child rights in the intervention areas
- ✚ To achieve clear and uniform understanding about the right to protection and the means of securing it for children.

Training Outcome:

- Training was given by Resource Persons from ISARA Foundation. All teachers were new from both the schools so the training started with introduction of their role in DAS office or aims of objects of DAS and well as MCC supported project.
- They were introduced about the basic components of Child Rights as UNCRC. The trainees learnt about 04 main rights of children: 1- Right to Survival, 2- Right to Development, 3- Right to Protection, 4- Right to Participation. Trainers explained all the 04 rights one by one with examples.
- Participants came to know about government entitlements relevant for the local people like birth certificate, ration card, Aadhaar Card, Shikshashree, Kanyashree (K-1,2 & 3), SabujSathi, SwasthyaSathi RBSK, Passport, etc

- **Formation of CPC groups in three centers and awareness meeting on Child Rights:**

09 Meetings (03 Meetings in each field) have been conducted in three project locations Bhagwanpur, Kalarkhal and Ucchepota-Kharki. All center teachers, field supervisor, and project coordinator facilitated the meeting after being trained on Child Protection in Qtr-I. The meetings were held on 29th August, 5th September 2021, 16th November, 18th November and 14th December 2021. Objective of the meetings were as follows-

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- ✚ To aware the proactive and vocal children 10 to 18 years on the needs of children protection in their community in the COVID pandemic.
- ✚ To understand the local child protection issues through feedback session.
- ✚ To aware the children how to address the child protection issue in their community.
- ✚ To map the aspiration for participation in child protection community
- ✚ To form child protection committees in intervention locations

Meeting Outcome:

- ✚ Children from 3 location Bhagwanpur and Ucchepota has formed the CPC and in Khalarkhal CPC can be formed in 3rd quarter
- ✚ Children are interested to know the local child protection service points which will be discussed in next meeting for all three centers

• Awareness of school adolescent on Child Rights

Participants: 60 Children (36 Boys and 22 Girls)

School awareness meeting conducted with Children at Chamurat Free Primary School on 25th March 2022.


Following Topics have been covered during the session -

- ✚ Understanding the perception of child rights and child protection among the children during their school time
- ✚ Structure of child parliament
- ✚ Monitoring of school children and peers during the school time and in their community to ensuring the child rights and protection

• Quarterly meetings with the School authorities on Child Rights issues:

11 Meeting have been conducted with 11 Free Primary and upper primary school after re-opining of govt. schools on 16th February 2022 in Khayadaha-II Gram Panchayat covering the following topics. The meeting conducted on 23rd to 25th March during vigorous visits of targeted schools after getting their permission in Post Lockdown situation. 32 (Male – 19 and Female-13) schools teachers shared their views.

- The names of the schools are –
- Golabati Free Primary School
- Kharki Free Primary School
- DewaraSaraswati Free Primary School
- Kantipota Free Primary School
- Athghara Free Primary School
- Jagadhipota Free Primary School
- ChakKalarkhal Free Primary School
- Ranabhutia Free Primary School
- Dargatala Free Primary School
- Najirabad Free Primary School
- Chamurat Free Primary School

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Covering Topics:

- Understanding the functions of existing child protection mechanism and child parliament

- The measures follow by the schools to protect the child rights and child protection as suggested by school education dept.
- Monitoring mechanism and case reporting
- Addressing mechanism of raised child protection issues

Awareness of school adolescent on Child Rights:

All the public schools are closed during this COVID-19 pandemic situation. This meeting can be possible after reopening of the schools. Schools have been opened on 16th February 2022 as per govt. advisory and accordingly the activity has been done 25th March.

Bi monthly meeting with mothers on progress of children:

421 participants (Mothers and Caregivers of Pre-School Children)

16 Bi-Monthly Meetings have been conducted in three centers' location. All the parents and caregivers have been attended the meetings.

Progress of children communicated to mothers based on each set of worksheets files of individual students. Mental and physical healths have been emphasized in these meetings keeping in mind the difficult situation in the pandemic.

After collecting all the worksheets and considering the attentiveness, timely submission of worksheets, perfections in subjects, hand writing, sense of colours, numeric ability; half-yearly assessment

conducted. The outcomes have been plotted in the graph. After collecting all the worksheets and considering the attentiveness, timely submission of worksheets, perfections in subjects, hand writing, sense of colours, numeric ability; half-yearly assessment conducted.



Progress of children communicated to mothers based on each set of worksheets files of individual students. Mental and physical healths have been emphasized in these meetings keeping in mind the difficult situation in the pandemic.

Awareness of mothers and care givers on Child Rights (break up in detail costing sheet):

506 Women, Mothers and Children have been attended

4 Street Play have been conducted on 29th December 2021 and 23rd March 2022 in

Ucchepota, Kalarkhal and Bhagwanpur on Child Protection and Child Rights by Bara Nagar

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Nandirole, State and Central Govt. empanelled Street Play Group on Child Protection. Panchayat Pradhan and All Sadasya were present in the street plays.

Monthly meetings with mothers/women on issues related to education, health and Govt. services:

12 meetings have been organized with 405 Mothers

In this COVID-19 pandemic situation the meetings conducted regarding special care of children during COVID situation. Most of the children are stuck at home due to lock down and children need special attention in this time at home. Hand washing is a major area of taking care for children by parents, frequent use of hand sanitizer, maintaining social distances etc.

Quarterly meetings with the Panchayat members on the social issues surfaced and the status

Total 24 (Male – 9 and Female – 15) participated in these 2 meetings.

We have conducted a stakeholders' meeting involving Club Secretary, President and Kheyadaha Gram Panchayat Pradhan on 20th of April 2021 about the salient features of the project and centre operations. Electric connection is an issue in Kalarkhal center and Panchayat Pradhan Ms. MitaNaskar assured help to get electricity connection with a nominal cost of around Rs. 4000/-. Panchayat Pradhan also assured to help if DAS-MCC jointly wants to install a submersible pump for water supply at the said centre. 07 Members including Panchayat Pradhan (Male-06, Female-01)

Quarterly Meeting Panchayat is done on 15th December 2021 with Panchayat Pradhan, Sansad Members, Women and Child Development Executive and Education Officer related to pre-school education on post COVID pandemic situation. Total 24 (Male – 9 and Female – 15) participated in these 2 meetings.

Workshop with Panchayat members on Govt. services / entitlements

50 Participants (Male-11 and Female-39)

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Workshop with Panchayat members on Govt. services/entitlements: Specific workshop has been conducted on 28th March 2022 with local Gram Panchayat members in the issues of social entitlements related to their eligibilities, local issues, status, process of linkages and monitoring.

Interface meeting with stakeholders and women group on Govt. Services:

97 Participants attended in these interface meetings.

3 Interface Meeting with Mothers and Care Giver of Enrolled children have been done in three center and project location on Govt. service like social entitlements like AADHAR, SwathaSathi, etc. Small Creative activities also arraigned for children like art work and sports.

Workshop with School authorities, Police, Panchayat & Stakeholders:

90 Participants (59 Women and 31 Men) have attended this workshop

1 Workshop was conducted with School Teachers, Panchayat Members and local key stakeholders on 29th March 2022 on Child Protection and Child Rights issues.

21 Teachers from 11 schools under Kheyadaha-II Gram Panchayat has attended the workshop.

Following Topics have been in this workshop

1. Schools level child protection issues and their mitigation measures
2. School surrounding community level child protection issues and its mitigations

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Mission Education (SMILE)

Location -Arupota and Bantala

Multi-grade coaching centers (coaching support offered to students from Classes I to X) conducted in 02 locations among the semi-urban and urban slums of Kolkata. These centers cater to mainstreamed students of formal schools who are mostly FGLs. The coaching helps them to cope up with the academics of the schools and therefore continues largely to the retention of these students in education. The NFE centers promote school-going habit and help the community of understand the significance of education in the progress and development of the community at the micro level.

M: 63
F: 94
33 children enrolled in
free BYJUs classes
organized by SMILE

CIP-Livelihoods

Direct emergency response/relief during COVID pandemic - Sustainable livelihoods for women of those families where earners have lost jobs during COVID pandemic

DAS VT, Bantala, Bhagwanpur, Ucchepota, Chowbaga

According to aspiration mapping 5 indigenous trades have been finalized for the targeted women and the trades are

1. Tailoring
2. Diversified Jute Products
3. Puffed Rice Production
4. Spice Grinding and Production
5. Poultry Farming

100 women battered by COVID-19

To provide dry ration support (to last a month) to 200 most distressed marginalised families who are suffering from food crisis due to loss of home and income owing to Yaas Super Cyclone at Budhakhali and Patharpratima villages and similar populace across the target areas of DAS as part of direct relief and emergency response and thereby alleviate their hunger and suffering and stabilise food consumption.

To provide sustainable income generation opportunities for women in the target areas and thereby help the families to be resilient after being adversely impacted by the pandemic and natural calamities.

To provide adequate training for skill development, production monitoring and marketing liaison support to enable women to become entrepreneurs in the long run and thereby increase decision making power of the women in the community.

To enhance earners in the family and secure financial stability through sustained household income to offset financial losses caused by the pandemic and natural disasters and impending risks.

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Puffed Rice Machine were given for COVID affected Women alternative livelihoods for COVID and Amphan -YAAS affected women in Chatua Sunderbans total of 20 Women to Chatua



04 Oxygen Concentrator was supplied to Community for COVID affected people who can use the machines free of cost. It is actively installed DAS Project areas from the support Team Café Ireland

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