

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **FOR THE YEAR 2019 – 2020**



*Seva Sangh Samiti*  
Committee of mutual help



**Registered under the West Bengal Act. XXVI of 1961**

**Registered under section 12A of the Income Tax Act. 1961**

**Donations exempted u/s 80G (5) (VI) of the Income Tax Act. 1961**

**Registered with the Ministry of Home Affairs under (FCRA) 1976  
Govt. of India – New Delhi**

## **Activity Report April 2019 to March 2020**

Seva Sangh Samiti is a social organisation (N.G.O) with its main objective "Committee of Mutual Help" established in the year 1968 in the slums of Pilkhana. It was founded by a French Priest Rev. Fr Francoise Laborde who was very much moved and concerned seeing the pathetic and wretched condition of the people of the slum. He vowed to change the lives of the people by providing them with the basic amenities of their lives. With a handful of local volunteers, he established Seva Sangh Samiti. Late Lawrence Souques a friend of Rev. Fr Laborde also visited the slums dwellers. She promised to help Fr Laborde in raising funds and help in social activities. Thus she founded the organisation "Les Amis De Seva Sangh Samiti France" (Friends of Seva Sangh Samiti in India). Gradually a few benevolent donors came to the aid of Father Laborde and soon their social organisation "Seva Sangh Samiti" was firmly established with different projects and departments benefiting lakhs & lakhs of poor people since its inception, and is a renowned and household name all over West Bengal. Its main centre of social activities are Health & Nutrition, Education, Vocational Training, Rural Development and to educate and train poor tribal women in self-development and be self-sufficient and not be dependent on anyone. This Samiti looks after people of all caste, creeds and religions, and does not discriminate against anyone. We are open to all. With its registered office at 12, Watkins lane, Howrah and in its 53 years(Fifty Three) of dedicated social service Seva Sangh Samiti is going strong and successful in its aims, objectives and mission because of our Benevolent Benefactors namely, Les Amis de Seva Sangh Samiti France for their continued support and encouragement since the inception of Seva Sangh Samiti. Fundacion Colores de Calcuta (Spain), for running the activities of Pilkhana Medical Centre and Anand Bhavan (Home for Girls), Mr Jean Paul Parishod (Switzerland) for running Banipur Dispensary and Banipur Baniniketan Education Centre, Mundos Unidos (Spain) for running the Jharkhali Sundarban School and other projects.

Details of Our Various Department and Activities:

### **A. Pilkhana Medical Centre**

The socio-economy condition of the majority of the people of Pilkhana & its surrounding neighbourhood is very poor and much below the poverty line. Due to poverty, most people in the area could not afford treatment and medicine when they fell sick. They fell most vulnerable to diseases. The governing body members of Seva Sangh Samiti realised that Health Care and free Medical Treatment & Free Medicines were most essential for these people & in the neighbourhood. Hence Pilkhana Medical Centre was established in the year

1976, right in the centre of Pilkhana for easy accessibility of the local people. It ran successfully for many years and gradually in the year 2002 it was closed down due to lack of funds and resources. It was closed for some time. The building was in a dilapidated and precarious condition. It was at the junction that a messiah in the name of Fundacion Colores de Calcuta (Spain) came to our rescue in 2007. The dilapidated building was thoroughly renovated, repaired and painted.

Now, this very Pilkhana Medical Centre functions like a Polyclinic offering comprehensive quality accessible and specialized primary medical care service in curing, preventing, improving long term health and early detection of diseases.

Here consultation & medicine are provided free of cost, only Rs 20/- (Rupees Twenty) is charged for registration of medical card. Seva Sangh Samiti purchases medicines through a community development medical unit specialized in selling generic medicines to NGO's.

In Pilkhana Medical Centre Nine Departments are running successfully:

1. General Medicine
2. Pneumology
3. Gynaecology
4. Paediatric
5. Physiotherapy
6. Dental Care
7. Dermatology
8. Ophthalmology
9. Optometrist

Seva Sangh Samiti is grateful and obliged to Antonio Mesas Garcia, Director in India of Fundacion Colores de Calcuta for his regular visiting the Medical Centre, interacting with the patients and doctors and arranging any special/ emergency requirement (medical etc.). Maria de Muns Ynzenga Director Fundacion Colores de Calcuta (Spain) for her untiring hard work in providing the funds for the project. She also occasionally visits Seva Sangh Samiti to help the administration in the work.

### **1.General Medicine**

In this department patients suffering from different types of medical problems such as cough & cold, flu, diarrhoea, gastritis, diabetes, hypertension, allergy, asthma, pain is treated here. Minor surgery and dressing are also done here. In

case of major ailments patients who are referred to the government hospital are often accompanied by our medical staff. Our service is highly appreciated by all the patients who come here for treatment and they go back home with a smile on their face.

Attending Physician - Dr Kausik Jana, Monday to Saturday (6 Days a week)  
Timing - 10 am to 1 pm

**No. of patients treated from April 2019 to March 2020 - 9629**

## **2.Pneumology(Chest Specialist) & Tuberculosis**

### **Department**

Tuberculosis (TB) is treated at this department since Pilkhana is a densely populated area. People are very vulnerable to their disease since their disease is carried due to contact or by coughing etc. This disease is curable by medicine which has to be taken regularly for 6months to 1 year depending on the severity of the case. Apart from the treatment and medicine, we conduct a monthly "Awareness Programme" to educate the people about the diseases and how to get cured and prevent oneself from being affected by the diseases.

Attending Physician - Dr Dilip Kr Dutta, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday  
Timing - 10 am to 12 pm

**No. of patients treated from April 2019 to March 2020 - 2099**

## **3.Gynaecology Department**

This department is for female patients aged 16 to 70 years since many women/lady patients are shy from getting treatment from a male gynaecologist. We always appoint a lady gynaecologist. A highly qualified lady gynaecologist Dr Geeta Rakshit attends this department.

Days - Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday

Timing - 9 am to 11 am

**No. of patients treated from April 2019 to March 2020 - 1329**

## **4.Dental Department**

This department is functioning very well since its inception in 2014. Many patients with a dental problem who cannot afford doctor's fees, costly treatment, medicines, etc. attend the Dental Clinic. The result of the treatment is highly successful and very satisfying. Here filling, extraction, sealing &

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cleaning, conservative rehabilitation, root canal, consultation and medication are provided free of cost. A highly qualified dentist Dr Arjun Sinha attends the department.

Days - Monday - 9 am to 11 am, Tuesday - 12 pm to 3:30 pm, Wednesday - 9 am to 10 am, Thursday - 12 pm to 3:30 pm

**No. of patients treated from April 2019 to March 2020 - 2740**

## **5. Paediatric Department**

This department is mainly for children from birth to six years of age. It runs for three days. A lady doctor Dr Mausumi Mukherjee looks after this department assisted by Paramedical Staff. In severe malnutrition, children apart from medicines and vitamins the doctor also prescribe health drinks & food like Cerelac, lactogen and other health food which the Samiti provide free of cost. Regular improvement of the health of the child is also taken care of by the doctor.

Days - Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Timing - 2 pm to 4 pm

**No. of patients treated from April 2019 to March 2020 - 2388**

## **6. Eye Clinic**

This department started operating in 2016 for the benefit of the local & needy people of Pilkhana and the surrounding neighbourhood. Here all types of eye-related problems except major surgeries are treated. A highly qualified ophthalmologist visits this department once a week on Tuesday and an Optometrist visit twice a week, Wednesday & Thursday. Here the power of the patient's eye is checked on the computer as well as manually. The doctor prescribes the power where spectacles are necessary 50 % ( fifty per cent) of the total cost is borne by the Samiti and 50 % by the patients. In the case of very poor patients, spectacles are given free of cost.

**Ophthalmologist** - Dr Saudip Sen, Tuesday - 10 am to 12 pm

**No. of patients treated from April 2019 to March 2020 - 511**

**Optometrist** - Dr Tapas Ghosh, Wednesday & Thursday - 10 am to 12 pm  
**No. of patients treated from April 2019 to March 2020 - 1248**

## 7.ENT

An ENT department was very much needed since the consultation fee of ENT doctors and medicines/ointments are usually very high and poor patients could not afford it. Hence this ENT department was started in 2017. It was a great blessing for the poor patients and it is running successfully and a great number of patients came here for their treatment with numerous ENT problems. Apart from free treatment & consultations medicines and ointments are also given free of cost.

Attending Physician - Dr Anup Kumar Sinha, Monday & Saturday

Timing - 10 am to 12 pm

**No. of patients treated from April 2019 to March 2020 - 1151**

## 8.Skin Clinic

Skin disease and skin problem is a major disease in this part of rural area. Lack of basic cleanliness and hygiene awareness makes skin problems very vulnerable in this area due to the lack of dermatologists in this region and very costly doctors fees treatment consultation fees and medicine it is beyond the reach of poor and middle-class patients to afford treatment. Hence our skin department is a boon for these patients. Free treatment, free consultation, free medicines and ointments are given to the patients. Attending Physician - Dr Chanchal Banerjee, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

Timing - 10 am to 12pm

**No. of patients treated from April 2019 to March 2020 - 4148**

## 9.Physiotherapy Department

This department is for the disabled male and female patients young and old who need physiotherapy for their various disability problems etc. Due to insufficient physiotherapy units and costly treatment many poor people could not afford treatment. Hence our physiotherapy department is a great relief for them. One qualified physiotherapist and his assistant look after this department.

Attending Physiotherapist - Mr Sudhanshu Roy, Monday to Saturday, 10 am to 1 pm for outsiders, 2 pm to 3:30 pm for Ricket Home and Creche Home Children.

**No. of patients treated from April 2019 to March 2020 - 102.**

## 10. Pharmacy Unit

From this pharmacy unit, free medicines are distributed to the patients as per the doctor's prescription. Medicines are purchased from the Community Development Medical Unit which is specialised in the sale of quality generic medicines to NGOs. One qualified pharmacist looks after their pharmacy.

## 11. Awareness Programme

Prevention is better than cure. Hence every month Health Awareness Programme is held at our Pilkhana Medical Centre for the parents of the children of Ricket Home and Creche Home and other units like the Pneumology department, Skin & ENT. Each doctor of the Medical Centre gives a brief lesson on the different topics of their units. Preventive care, hygiene is taught so that most of the disease could be avoided and nipped in the bud before it spread its wings.

## 12. Nutrition Centre

a) **Ricket Home** - This is a daycare unit, children suffering from malnutrition, ricket are admitted here for treatment aged 4(four) months to 2(two) years. The children are kept here during the day and sent back home in the evening with medicines, food, milk and fruits for the night. It is pity to see skinnily undernourished and very weak small children at the time of admission. But it is satisfying to see due to the hard work of our qualified doctors, health workers and specially trained Masseuse followed by nutritious food, milk, complan, fruits and specialized massage with costly massage oil they are cured. At the time of discharge, they are hale and healthy transferred from skinny baby to bonny baby.

This centre runs five(5) days a week, Monday to Friday, 9 am to 4 pm. During closed days dry food, dry milk, cerelac and complan is given to the parents for their child.

**No. of children present from April 2019 to March 2020 - 360 yearly.**

b) **Creche Home** - When the treatment of children at the Ricket Home is complete and the child is healthy they are transferred to Crèche Home. Also, children of poor working women ( mainly maidservants, female labourers in the brickfield, etc.) who have no one to look after their children when they go to work are admitted here. Our basic aim is to provide pre-school

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education contributing to the psychological development of the child for their later schooling. They are taught alphabets, signs and recognition of different colours and shapes, drawing, colouring, educational games, etc. The children are provided three nutritious meals, milk and looked after with great care and love.

This Creche Home is open for 5 days in a week Monday to Friday, 9 am to 4 pm, on holidays food, milk, fruits etc are given to their parents to feed the children.

**No. of children present from April 2019 to March 2020 - 504 yearly.**

### **13. Milk Distribution to Outside Children**

Very poor malnourished children aged 4 months to 2 years who cannot be admitted to Creche Home due to lack of accommodation are provided Lactogen milk(400gm) one packet of Cerelac(300gm) every week for their children to consume at their home. This is given as per the advice of our paediatrician. The ration is also given to their families.

**No. of children present from April 2019 to March 2020 - 324 yearly.**

### **14. Emergency Help at Watkins Lane Samiti Office**

Some patients very poor go to Government Hospital for major ailments or disease although they are treated, they could not get all the medicines. Some of the medicines are costly and the poor could not afford so they come to us for help. We try to help some very poor and destitute patients in a small way according to our capacity.

### **15.Coaching Class**

The coaching class in Bengali is held at 12, Watkins lane for children from Pilkhana. Students from classes 6 to 10 attend this coaching class which runs from Monday to Friday from 3 pm to 5 pm. A qualified lady teacher teaches the students.

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There is also a huge Cyclone Shelter at Jharkhali. In this shelter, around 5000 people and animals can take shelter in case of cyclones, floods or other natural disasters.

## **D. Anand Bhavan**

Anand Bhavan means "Happy Home". It is located in the neighbourhood of Salkia in Howrah District. Anand Bhavan is a residential home for girls from 5 years to 18 years, K.G. to Higher Secondary. Here the girls are from different religions, castes, creeds, but live together as one family. They come from families living in extreme poverty in different places of Howrah & Kolkata. Anand Bhavan provides a secure and caring environment growth where girls reside under the careful supervision of the warden. The home covers their basic needs, education, food, clothing, hygiene, medical etc. The girls go to school according to their medium of language (Hindi & Bengali) and come back to the home after school ends. The children are also given coaching in computer, classical dance and spoken English by qualified teachers. The home has 30 beds for the girls.

**No. of students till 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 - 30**

For the girls who have completed class 12 successfully and wish to study further from their home, their education expenses are borne by Fundacion Colores de Calcuta. If a girl wants to do vocational training in any course from her home, all the expenses are borne by Fundacion Colores de Calcuta.

## **E. Vocational Training**

Vocational Training is imparted to poor women who lack resources and training and family situation finds it very difficult to find an income-generating job to support their families. Training is imparted in sewing, hand embroidery, and batik and the course is for 10 months.

## **B.BANIPUR EDUCATION CENTRE**

In this centre, three projects are in progress:

- i. Banipur Free Primary School
- ii. Banipur Tailoring Training Centre for Women & Girls
- iii. Banipur free charitable dispensary

### **i. Banipur Free Primary School:-**

This primary school educates children from classes K.G. to 4 with full devotion sincerity and love irrespective of caste creed or religion. Apart from academic education, handicraft, painting & drawing, SUPW, are also taught. Lunch, stationery, uniforms, etc are also provided to the students free of cost. We also teach them self discipline, good behaviour, lessons of co-existence, so that they could apply in their life to become good and worthy citizens of our country. Most of our students who pass class 4(four) from our school get admitted to class 5(five) in government or private schools. Annual sport is held every year in the school ground. All the children take part in the sport. Parents and a few influential local people are also invited to this sports meet. An event for guests, trainees of the tailoring department is also held in the sport. In the end, prizes are distributed to the winners. Food packets are given to all the students. The children enjoy the sport meet very much.

**No. of Teachers - 08**

**No. of Students - 80**

**Classes - K.G. to Four (4)**

**Days - Monday to Friday**

**Timing - 9am to 2pm**

### **ii. Vocational Training at Banipur Home**

At the vocational training centre, the tailoring training course is taught. In this training, not only young girls but also aged and married women come to learn tailoring because after the training they hope to earn some money to supplement their family income. After completing the course successfully they are awarded certificates.

**No. of Teachers - 01**

**No. of Students - 40**

**Days - Monday to Friday**

**Timing - 11:30am to 2pm**

### iii. Banipur Free Charitable Dispensary

Since Banipur is in the remote part of Howrah nearby Medical facilities were scarce, hence Banipur Free Charitable Dispensary was started. The dispensary is running very well and local people are very happy and greatly appreciated the project. Apart from local people who came for treatment students trainees and staff also avoid the facilities. One qualified doctor, a nurse and a pharmacist look after the dispensary. The patients receive free medicines and doctor's consultations. It runs three days a week, Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 3 pm to 5 pm.

**No. of patients treated from April 2019 to March 2020:**

**Male - 402, Female - 1424, Child - 605**

### C.Sundarban School & Cyclone Shelter

Sundarban in Bengali means the home of the famous Royal Bengal Tiger. The areas are covered mostly with forest rivers and streams and are mostly undeveloped and people here are poor. In such a place is our school Sunderban free primary and upper primary school. Due to poverty, many parents could not afford to send their children to private schools due to high fees and other expenditures, as such Sundarban School was a great gift for them. Our school is situated in an area called Jharkhali which is South 24 Parganas. The school is running successfully. There are nine(09) classes{K.G., K.G.II to VII(07)}. No. of students 256, teachers 13 and non-teaching staff 06. Apart from free education the students also receive all kinds of textbooks, exercise books, study materials, school bags, uniforms, transport, food, medical support, etc free of cost. Apart from academic education teachers also give them practical knowledge in physical education, drawing, crafts, games, singing, classical dance, regular library books, to study at home, human values(through moral science classes) cleaning, gardening, basic computer education, etc. Tiffin and mid-day meal is provided during the break and lunchtime. The teachers and staff work as a team and with their experience and guidance they give the students a solid foundation. Annual Sports, Annual Function is also held on school Foundation Day. Guardians and some local guests are invited on this day. All the students take part in the sport's meet prizes are awarded to the winners in the sport and all students & guest receive food packets.



**Acknowledgement:-**

Seva Sangh Samiti expresses sincere thanks and gratitude to the President and members of Les Amis de Seva Sangh Samiti France for their continued support and encouragement since the inception of Seva Sangh Samiti.

We thank Mr Jean Paul Parishod (Switzerland) for his generous help and support in sponsoring the projects of Banipur and Baniniketan Educational Centre.

We also express our sincere thanks and gratitude to Fundacion Colores de Calcuta (Spain) for sponsoring the activities in Pilkhana Medical Centre and Anand Bhavan Home for girls.

We also express our sincere thanks to Mundos Unidos (Spain) for their contribution to Jharkhali Sundarban.

We also express our sincere thanks to the Governing Body members, staff, and workers for their sincere support and hard work in running Seva Sangh Samiti successfully.

***List of Governing Body Members***

<i>Hony. President</i>	<i>Mr Swapan Kumar China</i>
<i>Hony. Vice-President</i>	<i>Mr Pradip Kumar Banerjee</i>
<i>Hony. General Secretary</i>	<i>Dr Rajab Ali</i>
<i>Hony. General Treasurer</i>	<i>Mrs Rita Minj</i>
<i>Member</i>	<i>Mr Prabir Kumar Roy</i>
<i>Member</i>	<i>Mr Dilip Kumar Pal</i>
<i>Member</i>	<i>Mrs Philomena Bergeon</i>
<i>Administrator</i>	<i>Mr Reginald John</i>

Lazarus John  
General Secretary