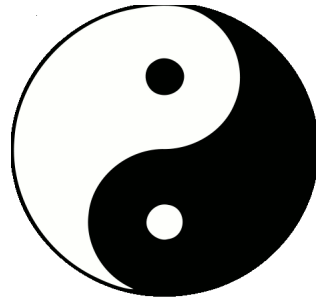


SANTI TRUST

Andrews Pally, Santiniketan

West Bengal



Annual Report

2013-2014

OUR TRUSTEES

1. Smt.Sujata Parekh

Member of the Spastics Society of Eastern India
(Presently Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy)
And consultant in the Field of Disability
Kolkata

2. Sri Dilip Kumar Das, I.R.S

Chief Commissioner of Income Tax (Retd.)
Formerly Dy. Secretary, Union Public Service Commission.

3. Geeta Banerjee

Consultant in the field of HIV/AIDS,
Formerly Technical Support Consultant of Family Planning
Association of India, Kolkata Branch
Fields of work: Population
Education and Family Life Education

4. Dr.(Ms.) Neerja Chand

Formerly Superintendent, Teg Bahadur Hospital, Kolkata
Visiting Physian, Taj Bengal Hotel,
Member Rehabilitation Centre for Children, Kolkata

5. Sanghamitra Deb

Teacher (Formerly), Mothers International School, New Delhi

6. Smt. Sukla Deb Kanango (Chair Person)

Formerly Professor of Social Work, Visva-Bharti

7. Sk. Alaul Hoque Mondal

Formerly, Assistant Registrar, Visva-Bharati

8. Ms. Madhura Chakraborty

M.S.W., Ph.D.Scholar, Visva-Bharati



As have been generally known the main thrust area of activity of the organization is education for family life and engagements of youths in different constructive work which again is related mainly to education. The Centre for Family Life Education in collaboration with secondary and higher secondary schools, organized Family Life Education Programme (FLEP) for adolescents and youths, studying mostly between VIIIth Standard and XIth Standard. The Centre has also initiated a programme named as Value Education through Story Telling (VESTP) at primary schools in Bolpur and nearby villages where youths have volunteered to render their service.

The collaboration with Utsarga, a local organization is continued.

The Centre has also initiated a programme to explore the feasibility of carrying out Family Life Education Programme with the parents.

The Centre is striving hard to keep its focus rooted on this area, so that the input of the programme can be objectively assessed. Based on this the future course of action will be worked out.

Resource Persons:

Santi Trust has been fortunate that it has received support of some external professionals who came forward and took active interest in its activities. Not only that, they even contribute immensely to its programme by conducting educational sessions for the beneficiaries. The following professionals have been associated with the Trust since its inception and the Trust acknowledge with gratitude their invaluable help and support.

Smt. Tripti Bose, Psychotherapist, based in Washington and presently freelancing. She is a past graduate of the Tata Institute of Social Science, Bombay and worked in various mental health institutions in the United States.

Sri Krishnapada Sil, Yoga Teacher and Yoga Therapist, graduated from B.K.S. Iyengar Institute, Pune, Maharashtra.

Workshops on Family Life Education:

Both the academic session and the system of examination have been changed. As a result, there is very little time for the students to participate in other programmes like these workshops on Family Life Education. Still the growing need for such guidance on family life education for adolescents and youths has been realized by some of the school authorities. Hence, even in the present busy schedule they have come forward and took the initiative to organize such workshops for the students of their school. The Centre has also welcomed and supported their initiative. Therefore, two-days workshops were organized with the students of Patha Bhavana (Visva-Bharati), Tarasankar Vidyapith Bolpur and Bergram Palli-Sevaniketan, a Higher Secondary Schools village Bergram. Bergram situated at a distance of 13 Km. from Santiniketan. In these three workshops all together 60 girl students and 19 boy students participated.

Their participation demonstrated high enthusiasm and their queries proved the need for such workshops in a more regular manner for better guidance. The feed back



from the school authority was also very positive and the feed back received by them from the students, reported to have had good learning opportunities during these workshops. The students reported to have had learned different ways of looking at the daily issues that bothers them. They also learnt working as team during the session when group activities were organized. In a way they gained new perspectives and learnt about need for developing appropriate attitudes and outlook towards many vital aspects of their personal and social life.



Means of conducting the programme is mainly through recreational activities', e.g. oral exercises like verbal games for pronunciation, spellings, as well as composition of stories etc. Besides these, other activities like drawing, posturing etc. which gives opportunities for developing the skill of writing also. Story telling, recitation, singing and dancing form an important part of these activities to harness their creative urge. As the children are made to do these activities in groups they are helped to become sensitive to their fellow mates' feelings and change their way of relating to them where needed. This also enables them to differentiate between proper and unhelpful behavior.

This particular programme has been initiated at the concurrence of the Birbhum District Primary Education Council of the Govt. of West Bengal. The programme is being implemented in one school in collaboration with a voluntary organization called Utsarga based in Bolpur.

Keeping in view availability of time and convenience of each school the schedule of activities has been fixed. On the whole, response from the school authority has been quite good. Although initially apprehension was there but now it turned out to be appreciation for such kind of work. Response from the students has been very enthusiastic. As reported by the schools, on these particular days attendance become almost hundred percent. Parents of these students expressed quite positive attitude towards this programme.

Debate:

The Trust organized a debate on the theme "Social Networking Sites have contributed more to social abuse than to social use". The participants were from Department of Rural Development and Department of Social Work, Visva-Bharati University. Professor Debabrata Dasgupta, former Vice-Chancellor, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Visva-Vidyalaya and Professor Amrit Sen, Department of English, Visva-Bharati judged the session.

This particular programme was sponsored by Smt. Sanghamitra Deb in memory of her late parents.

In view of the financial constraints the Trust, although desire to expend its sphere of activities, has to make do with these few programs and activities. It may also be

mentioned here that educationists and management of many educational programmes are appreciate of the value of these activities but are not in a position to support the expansion of these programmes in an active manner. Some of their difficulties are rooted in their administrative hurdles while some are due to limited resources – manpower, money and time wise. However, our hope does not diminish and therefore, look forward to movement ahead with determination.