

ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010

*SANTINIKETAN RATANPALLI VIVEKANANDA
ADIBASI KALYAN SAMITY
(SEVAKS)*

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SEVAKS

VISION – *We see West Bengal where vulnerable people realize their aspirations for better life in a better quality.*

SEVAKS commits to this by being a catalyst and innovator in Education, Health and Income generation, valued by all striving for excellence.

MISSION – *the Mission of our Samity is to impart man making character building education upon the ideas of **SWAMI VIVEKANANDA**. The intrinsic philosophy of the organization is, ‘.....be and make’.*

GOAL –

- *To impart education to the children with special needs and women of the community and to work for their empowerment.*
- *To promote physical and social health of vulnerable people.*
- *To work for Improvement of quality of life of the people of the communities by way of supporting income generation activities.*

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1. INTEGRATED EDUCATION FOR DISABLED (IED)

A. Introduction

Just a decade ago the disabled children, especially those living in the rural areas, could not even dream that they have some philanthropic souls to think for them and to try their best to juxtapose them with the multitude of general students without any deformity in them, be it Mental, Physical or anything abnormal. So came forward Santiniketan Ratanpalli Vivekananda Adibasi Kalyan Samity (SEVAKS) to meet-up the needs of the disabled children in the fields of their education and vocational trainings. As a matter of fact, India has for decades been famous for its voluntary agencies, their mechanism and methods of collaboration. SEVAKS is also a voluntary organization. If it is given certain incentives and is provided with the requisite facilities and are not looked upon with disfavour by officials, it can ensure better results in the social and economic arenas. It is true that voluntary bodies, especially those working at the grass root level, can render service of which official agencies and their staff are incapable. When Birbhum district aimed at spreading literacy to all, it was observed that a large section of children are far away from the light of education because of their deformities. No nation can progress if a portion of her total population is left out from any programme. It needs involvement of all people in any programme. Rightly Birbhum District Primary Education Programme tries to address the illiteracy problem especially among the disabled children along with the normal students. Rural people still believe that physical deformity is a curse and children with such deformity are always an object of ridicule and fun. Sarva Siksha Mission (SSM), Birbhum has done much to remove the above-mentioned prejudices of some people.

It goes to the credit of SSM that this has enhanced Literacy percentage almost to the full target in Birbhum district.

B. Aims and Objectives

Every plan and program has some objectives. SSM is not an exception to it. If we try to sum-up the motto of SSM; it reads like;

1. Disabled children are not disabled any longer.
2. They can compete with general students. They have right to read and learn with general students.
3. They can earn their living by themselves.
4. Extension of every kind of facility to the disabled children in their reading and learning process.
5. To give home service where necessary.
6. To teach them the lesson of self help.

So, to ensure all the above-mentioned facilities to disabled children is the main objectives of Sarva Siksha Mission.



C. Executive Summary

By keeping the lofty mission in mind, 28 special educators are rendering their services to the disabled students both in primary schools and giving home services to them. The term deformity embraces a lot of problems that the children face from the very moment of their birth or after birth as an aftermath of an accident in life. So, acquired or congenital deformity is dealt equal care and tenderness. We have three kinds of special educators working in their respective fields like M.R., H.I. and V.I. the areas they cover are Nalhati-I and II, Rampurhat II, Suri I, Illambazar, Nanoor, and Bolpur blocks. It is more important to point out that the rural disabled children of these blocks are equally competing with the normal students in schools or in the playgrounds. Their pictures in action as are shown in the concerning offices like SI office, SSM office, District Level Resource Organisation (SEVAKS) office and in magazines testify to this fact.

D. Programme Planned / Implemented

With a view to achieving total success of the programme as taken by SSM and DLRO (SEVAKS) a unique plan has been taken. The plan and services of the special educators are as follows:

i) Services in their Educational institutions:

In most of the Primary Schools some numbers of disabled children have been found initially by the concerning school teachers and then by the special Educators of the different areas. Then a special camp is held with the disabled children where expert doctors of different branches come and examine them and also offer their valuable suggestion regarding treatment and operations also. This camp is held in Block level for the convenience of the disabled children. This camp runs with the help of the special educators who tick primarily the deformities of the disabled children and final assessment is made by expert doctors. When it is found that the disabled children need more special help and guideline in the process of their reading and learning with the normal students, the special educators pay regular visits to the concerned schools. They hold healthy discussions with the teachers first about how to behave with the disabled students. Because, their school teachers are their regular friends. Then the special educators take initiative to teach the disabled students in their schools with their normal friends.

ii) Service at Dwelling Sets (home based):

Not only so but also the special educators pay regular visits in their homes and with a great many scientific appliances and special teaching aids they teach them. What is more important in the matter of home services is that the disabled students are more and more interested to learn with the help of their parents who are again taught by our special educators – the way of teaching a disabled child. As a result in the absence of the special educators they get a whole time teacher. Without the special educators the training of the parents as well as of the students would not be possible.

iii) Service to the Society:

It has been found that many people of the rural areas do not even know that their disabled children may be imparted proper education. It is because that they found no one to think for their deformed children. When SEVAKS took a programme for educating their disabled children they began to see some unknown faces to pay visits to their local primary schools. In course of time they came to know that these unknown faces are the Special Educators for their disabled children. From then on the community became aware that those children born with physical deformity are not pest of the society but they can do a lot for the society. A Special Educator by holding discussions among

the villagers, have created a mass awareness about the teaching of their disabled children. Without the special educators who cycle from village to village, from school to school, no such mass publicity was possible. Because most of the villagers have no connection with mass media like radio and television, so the living mass media like special educators play a great role to the ignorant villagers. They get necessary information from them. They get education for their children from them and they themselves are enriched about what prospects are laying ahead for their disabled children.

E. Bottlenecks

No sensible man can deny that without proper number of workers no plan or programme can be totally successful. Our survey report says that every school has disabled children in the average. But the number of special educators is not adequate to the need. So, more special educators are needed to guide the disabled children properly. So far, as the number of the special educators is not raised, daily meet with the disabled children is not possible. So it may be expected that more special educators will be appointed to render service to the students who need special care and help in school or at home. So shortage of staff is a great bottleneck in making this noble plan feasible and fruitful.

F. Future Plan

Keeping in mind the improvement of the disabled children SEVAKS are trying to solve the above-mentioned problems. More special educators are likely to be employed in the different fields of special teaching to the disabled children. What is most needed is that the parents of the disabled children should be brought into a Block Level training camp where they should be taught how to prevent congenital deformities first then they should be taught how to behave with an abnormal child, how to make him understand that in spite of being handicapped he is not lagging behind from a normal student in reading and learning. Deformity is deformity. Notwithstanding some cases like deaf and dumb, blind and mentally retarded and also severe cerebral palsy children should be taken greater care in their homes and schools. Necessary teaching materials should be supplied to them free of cost. A blind student cannot learn a little unless they are provided with Braille Slate, Stylus and Braille papers. These are not available in local rural markets and most of the guardians are unaware of these also. So the society has decided that all the necessary materials will be supplied to the disabled children in the very – very near future. The plan of the society is to bring the disabled children to the front fore of these days tough competition.

In spite of many difficulties, for the year 2009-2010 all the Special Educators working in this field under our supervision have providing special services regarding education and special training to three hundred and twenty (320) numbers of disabled children in order to improve their day-to-day living, social behaviours etc. at their schools and homes. Apart from the above the Special Educators are performing several duties such as the collection and preparation of updated list of disabled children in respective blocks with all relevant data, admitting the out of school or drop out disabled children in formal schools, conducting special teachers training programme for the teachers of formal schools and the guardians of Disabled Children etc. In the month of August 2009 several Guardians' Meetings were organised at circle level resource centres of each seven blocks of Birbhum, through which Special Educators delivered useful suggestions and knowledge to the parents and guardians of the disabled children on the proper care of disabled children, prevention of disability and causes of disability in prenatal and postnatal period including the role of inclusive education in the learning process of a disabled children. Further, in the session 2009-2010 total one hundred and eighty seven (187) disabled children are admitted in class I and IV in the local formal schools.



Under this programme the Children With Special Needs are enjoying a healthy educational environment, as a good number of (nearly 3000) disabled children are admitted in formal schools of respective blocks of Birbhum district since last seven years and therefore getting education along with the other non-disabled children. Out of them a considerable number of disabled children have completed their primary level education. Beside that after the implementation of programme strategy misbelieves and superstitious concerning disability is gradually vanishing from the general mind.



Guardians' Meeting under IED Programme at Nanoor CLRC, Basapara, Birbhum on 17.08.09.



Guardians' Meeting under IED Programme at Bopur West CLRC, Sriniketan, Birbhum on 25.08.09.

G. Picture at a Glance

Here is a Block wise picture of the children who need special help and also service provided to them by the special educators of SEVAKS.

Sl. No.	Name of the Block	H.I.	V.I.	M.R.	O.H.	Others	TOTAL	Number of School covered
1.	Bolpur	103	87	96	202	90	578	159
2.	Illambazar	71	62	84	140	45	402	107
3.	Nalhati – I	236	99	166	298	93	892	121
4.	Nalhati – II	143	86	112	167	76	584	086
5.	Nanoor	141	96	109	203	84	633	112
6.	Rampurhat – II	103	79	161	182	83	608	105
7.	Suri – I	77	68	117	121	76	459	120
GRAND TOTAL		874	577	845	1313	547	4156	810

- Total number of disabled children covered: **4156**
- Total number of schools (Primary, Junior Basic, Part Basic, Converted, Madrasah, High etc.): **810**



2. ASSESSMENT CAMPS FOR DISABLED

In every year several Assessment Camps for Disabled Children are organised by SEVAKS in the seven blocks of Birbhum district in support of Sarva Siksha Mission, Birbhum. Through these camps the present status including the degree of disability of the disabled children are detected and the support service, Aids & Appliances and IEDC benefits are recommended to them according to their needs. In the year 2009-2010 during the month of August we have organised Gram Panchayat Level Assessment Camps in each Circle of the seven block through which total 807 Children With Special Needs were assessed and recommended with Aids & Appliances and other benefits. From the very beginning of this programme up to March 2010 total 3475 disabled children has so far been assessed through these camps, but on the other hand, it cannot be denied that a good number of disabled children are still out of the scene. However, our organisation is firmly determined to bring all the non-assessed disabled children of the seven blocks under this assessment programme within the following years.



Gram Panchayat Level Assessment Camp for Disabled Children at Aligram-Jubutia Primary School, Nanor Block on 19.08.09.



Gram Panchayat Level Assessment Camp for Disabled Children at Panchshowa Junior Basic School, Bolpur Block on 22.08.09.

Block-wise distribution of assessed disabled children for the year 2009 - 2010

Sl. No.	Name of the Block	H.I.	V.I.	M.R.	O.H.	C.P.	M.D.	Others	TOTAL
1.	Bolpur	015	011	034	036	00	013	03	112
2.	Illambazar	031	018	050	034	00	023	07	163
3.	Nalhati – I	011	019	022	033	02	013	02	102
4.	Nalhati – II	011	010	012	013	06	011	03	066
5.	Nanor	023	013	017	032	03	017	03	108
6.	Rampurhat – II	034	022	021	042	12	029	07	167
7.	Suri – I	013	009	019	027	06	013	02	089
GRAND TOTAL		138	102	175	217	29	119	27	807



3. CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATION

Children's day in India is celebrated on Pandit Nehruji's birthday as a day of fun and frolic, a celebration of childhood, children and Nehruji's love for them. As a tribute to his love for children, Nehruji's birthday is celebrated all over India as 'CHILDREN'S DAY' on 14th November in every year.

Celebrating Children's Day is about giving children the right to enjoy and grow into healthy and educated citizens of the country. But the fact remains that only a section of the country's children actually have an opportunity to celebrate their existence. And, there is an entire populace of young ones that are left ignored in some way on this special day – the Children With Special Needs. Besides celebrating it with pomp and show in schools and clubs, why not bring a difference into the lives of those unprivileged children by doing something special for them on this special occasion. Thus, SEVAKS has observed the Children's Day 2009 with the disabled children and with their parents on 14th November at the premises of SEVAKS at Ratanpally, Santiniketan, Birbhum. The celebration was begun with a Sit & Draw competition for the disabled children of all categories. All the disabled children had participated in this competition with great joy and enthusiasm. After that, a poetry recitation programme by the disabled children was held. At the end, attractive prizes were presented to all of the children participants. Besides this programme activity which was undertaken solely for the disabled children, an effort was also made on this occasion to provide their parents and guardians with the information on the rights of disabled children. They were participated in the discussion with great interest and on return they have also shared their ideas on child rights based on their practical experience on this issue in society. As a whole, the programme has become very much fruitful in the sense that it had created a wonderful memorable moments for those depressed children and we have been able to meet with the actual ground level reality of child rights in our society by going through the practical experiences of their parents, which may ever hardly been told.



Observation of Children's Day 2009 with the Children With Spl. Needs at Ratanpally, Santiniketan, Birbhum.



Sit & Draw competition for Children With Special Needs at Ratanpally, Santiniketan, Birbhum.

4. WORLD DISABLED DAY

Among many global problems the problem of the children who need special help, is a burning one and it has appealed all human souls that something has to be done for these helpless children. So a day in the caption of "**WORLD DISABLED DAY**" was fixed. It is on **3rd December** of each year. On this day many plans and programmes are undertaken for the upliftment of the disabled children in the global context. Likewise the world Disabled Day was observed by Santiniketan Ratanpalli Vivekananda Adibasi Kalyan Samity at Santiniketan on 3.12.2009. It was observed with much pomp and show. A procession with a multitude of disabled persons, children, and guardians leading by our Vice-President Sri Debabrata Chakrabarty moved along the areas with

decorative tableau and placards with written messages on disability creating many enquiries among the common people. Many social activists, parents of disabled children and above all disabled persons took part in the procession with greater heartiness and responsibility because the programme was meant for the encouragement and upliftment of disabled persons.

After the rally was completed, a Sit & Draw competition started with the disabled children at our organisation's premises at Ratanpally, Santiniketan, Birbhum. The paintings of the disabled children asserted the fact that they may be flanked by Leonardo-Da-Vinchi in future if a little more training and facilities are provided to them.

The function came to an end with the prize giving ceremony in the afternoon. The parents & guardians of the participators gave away the prizes making an earnest request to us so that we may stretch our helping hands to these disabled children and care them as our own brothers and sisters or sons and daughters.



Mass Awareness Rally on the occasion of World Disabled Day on 03.12.09 at Santiniketan, Birbhum.



Sit & Draw competition for Disabled Children on this occasion at SEVAKS, Sanitniketan, Birbhum

5. MASS AWARENESS ON INTEGRATED EDUCATION FOR DISABLED (IED)

It is needless to point out that the Poush Mela of Santiniketan is an international occurrence. Here we find many native as well as alien visitors to pay their much-coveted visit to this renowned place, which is coated with the memory of the world poet as well as Noble laureate Rabindranath Tagore. Aptly this is the most convenient place for spreading any kind of knowledge and information through sketches, pictures, data and cultural function.

In the last Poush Mela of 2009 a stall was set up there from 23rd December 08 to 26th December 08 and it was inaugurated by Sri Ashok Kumar Das, Sub-Divisional Officer, Bolpur Sub-Division and Sri Tapan Saha, Chairman, Bolpur Municipality. Many dignitaries spent their valuable time in the stall by establishing friendly rapport with those who expressed their eagerness to know something about the disabled children, their prospect of education, their ways of livelihood, their job assurance and many others enquires about them. This was very- very effective because visitors got direct answers from the elites and the Special Educators through question-answer method. No camp, no workshop, no propaganda can be as fruitful as a direct link was established there between two sides. Moreover, a large number of educated personalities offered their valuable advice and mentioned the names of a lot of disabled students who have come in contact with them as a student. Dr. Ramchandra Dom, Honourable Member of Parliament, Bolpur, Birbhum, Sri Sukumar Roy, District Project Officer, Sarva Siksha Mission, Birbhum, Sri Sukdev Chakrabarty, District

Coordinator, Integrated Education for Disabled (IED) Programme Sri Sushil Kumar Chowdhuri, President, SEVAKS, Sri Debabrata Chakrabarty, Vice President, SEVAKS and many others added to the grace and dignity of the awareness camp.



Written messages and posters on Disability at the Mass Awareness Stall at Santiniketan Poush Mela Festival from 23.12.09 to 26.12.09.

6. NAVODYAM SIKSHANIKETAN (A Special School for Disabled)

It is for the information of the people at large that this society is running a special school named Navodyam Sikshaniketan at it's premises at Ratanpalli, Santiniketan. 45 disabled students coming from the fields of M.R, H.I, and V.I are reading in this school. Special Educators teach them thrice in a week on Saturday, Sunday & Tuesday. It is more important to note that these disabled students are given vocational training here and rightly it may be expected that these disabled children will be able to earn their bread by themselves. When the students work in groups they throb with energy and vivacity. An attempt has been taken to enrol many other disabled students here and to provide a scope of their prosecuting studies here. Four (4) special teachers (VI, HI & MR) are constantly imparting lessons to them. The students also take vocational training here. Like previous years this year also a Sports competition was arranged for disabled students of Navodyam Sikshaniketan in which all the pupils have participated with great enthusiasm. At the end, prizes were distributed to every student participators.



Disabled Children are getting education in the homely atmosphere of Navodyam Sikshaniketan at Ratanpally, Santiniketan, Birbhum.

7. DISTRICT DISABLED REHABILITATION CENTRE (DDRC), BIRBHUM

It was indeed a great news and event for the disabled population of our district when in the year of 2008-2009 the District Disabled Rehabilitation Centre of Birbhum was inaugurated by the noble hands of Sri Somnath Chatterjee, Honourable Speaker of Lok Sabha of that period at Gitanjali Auditorium, Bolpur, Birbhum in presence of all the eminent personalities and district officials of Birbhum. Presently, the DDRC, Birbhum is functioning under our care and under the supervision of District Management Team headed by the District Magistrate, Birbhum with firmly adopted objectives to serve the entire disabled population of Birbhum district.

The main objectives of this centre is to provide all kind of rehabilitative supports to the Persons With Disabilities of any category under all ages which comprises various facilities like loan for self employment and special concession existing under government rules, different therapeutic treatments like physiotherapy, occupation therapy, speech therapy, psychotherapy, counselling service etc., assessment of needs and provision of Aids & Appliances to the Person With Disabilities according to their needs, arrangement of surgical correction if needed and providing disability certificate through camp approach. In addition, the promotion of barrier free environment, and awareness generation to prevent disability and remove the misconceptions and superstitious believes prevailing in our society are the other main objectives of this centre.

From the very beginning of its commencement in the month of March 2009 and at the initial stage of the programme the District Disabled Rehabilitation Centre, Birbhum has prepared an action plan for the following months. On the basis of this action plan and in spite of lacking necessary equipments and instruments for rendering therapeutic service to the target group, the DDRC, Birbhum has performed several important tasks with its technical and other staff for the benefit of disabled population of our district, such as, awareness campaign through distributing leaflets, preparing list of disabled Children, finding out the needs of Disabled Children as well as their parents by holding meetings with them etc.

A. Awareness Campaign

At first, a written material in form of leaflet containing the details of service to be provided from the centre, the classification of disabilities, cause of disability in pre-natal or post-natal period, benefits and facilities for the disabled persons existing under the government rules etc. was distributed among general people especially at the crowded areas like bus stands, railway stations, market places, busy roads etc. Beside that at the end of December 2009, SEVAKS has initiated a campaign programme on DDRC, Birbhum along with other awareness programmes at its own Mass Awareness Stall at Santiniketan Poush Festival from 23rd to 26th December 2009. Further, at the Swasthya Mela organised at Khujutipara of Nanoor Block by the Chief Medical Officer of Health, Birbhum for two days from 13.02.10 to 14.02.10, an awareness stall on DDRC, Birbhum was setup, through which the physiotherapy treatment was provided to the Persons With Disability of OH category. In addition, the Clinical Psychologist have assessed the MR persons and provided counselling service to the disabled and their parents. An effort was also made continuously at those Swasthya Mela to aware the general people on the prevention of disability in peri-natal & pre-natal stage and on the facilities available at DDRC, Birbhum for the Persons With Disability.



Mass Awareness & Information Stall on the facilities provided by DDRC, Birbhum including HIV/AIDS & Voluntary Blood Donation at Khujutipara, Nanoor, Birbhum from 13.02.10 to 14.02.10.



Written messages and posters on Disability at the Mass Awareness Information Stall at Khujutipara, Nanoor, Birbhum from 13.02.10 to 14.02.10.

B. Meetings with the Parents of Disabled Children

An initiation to find out the need of disabled children and their parents was also undertaken by the DDRC, Birbhum in selective areas of the district through holding meetings with the parents of disabled children during this year. Through these meetings the staff of DDRC, Birbhum intimated with the difficulties those faced by the parents in day-to-day life to bring up their disabled children. On the other hand, the parents were also provided with the appropriate knowledge of hygiene, health and childcare through IEC materials and group discussions. Such group meetings are the most effective means to prevent the disabilities in our society, as the parents or guardians of disabled children can play an important role to spread that basic knowledge on disability in our society.

C. Preparation of a survey list of Disabled Children

In order to identify the actual status of the area-wise prevalence of disabled population in our district, the DDRC, Birbhum has prepared a list of the Disabled Children prevailing in block level of this district with detail information on their disability status with degree & category, complete address, recommended aids & appliances etc including numerical & graphical interpretation. For this purpose, the DDRC, Birbhum took the help of Special Educators, Anganwari and others officials and workers of this field in the concerned blocks. In first phase of this activity the DDRC, Birbhum has prepared the list of Disabled Children of 9 Blocks and in next phase two more blocks has been added to this list. Therefore, DDRC, Birbhum has so far prepared the details list of disabled children of total 11 blocks. The details of block-wise distribution of Disabled Children with numerical data are given below.



D. Therapeutic Service to the Disabled

In absence of proper instrument & equipments the Physiotherapist of DDRC, Birbhum has only manually providing physiotherapy to the Persons With Disability of Orthopaedically Handicapped and Cerebral Palsy on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Similarly, the Mobility Instructor of DDRC, Birbhum have rendering necessary support to the Visually Impaired Persons accordingly. The Children with Special Needs are provided with the protective technique and guidance for identifying different objects existing around them, which is the most necessary and effective means to improve their daily living skill. The Clinical Psychologist has providing counselling service to the Mentally Retarded Persons of all ages in order to buildup their self confidence and mental capacity to overcome any adverse environment. Further, their parents are also provided with necessary tips on how to handle their children.



The Physiotherapist, DDRC, Birbhum examining the Disabled Children of CP Category at DDRC, Birbhum

E. Medical Board for Disabled

The Implementing Agency had engaged its Clinical Psychologist in the Assessment Camp of IED Programme under Sarva Siksha Mission, Birbhum held at Nanoor and Bolpur from 18th to 21st August 2009. The DDRC, Birbhum has also extended its support to the District Health Department by providing its Clinical Psychologist to the Medical Board held in the month of December 2009, January 2010, February 2010 and March 2010 at three Sub-Divisional areas of Suri, Bolpur, and Rampurhat. During this year (2009-10) the Clinical Psychologist of DDRC, Birbhum have assessed total 442 Mentally Challenged Persons through these Medical Boards.



Details of the Mentally Challenged Beneficiaries assessed by DDRC, Birbhum through medical boards held in Birbhum for 2009-2010

Sl. No.	Date & Time	Venue	Total No. of assessed MR	No. of Persons selected as Mentally Challenged
1.	16.12.09 10.30 am - 5.00 pm	Suri Sadar Central Circle Level Resource Centre, Birbhum	55	50
2.	21.12.09 10.30 am - 5.00 pm	District Disabled Rehabilitation Centre, Birbhum	53	50
3.	29.12.09 10.30 am - 5.00 pm	Office of the B.D.O. Suri-I Block Birbhum	17	12
4.	06.01.10 10.30 am - 5.00 pm	Rampurhat Spastic & Handicapped Society Rampurhat, Birbhum	61	54
5.	15.01.10 10.30 am - 5.00 pm	Office of the B.D.O., Lohapur Nalhati-II Block	75	35
6.	19.01.10 10.30 am - 5.00 pm	Suri Sadar East CLRC Purandarpur, Suri-II Block	27	21
7.	11.02.10 10.30 am - 5.00 pm	Ajoypur Pry. School Suri-I Block	23	15
8.	19.02.10 10.30 am - 5.00 pm	B.D.O. Office, Paikar Murarai-II, Block	65	55
9.	08.03.10 10.30 am - 5.00 pm	Surul Jr. Basic School, Sriniketan Bolpur Block	32	28
10.	12.03.10 10.30 am - 5.00 pm	Dakshingram High School Mollarpur Mayureswar-I	34	28
Total			442	348



The Clinical Psychologist of DDRC, Birbhum have assessing the Mentally Challenged Children in presence of the SI of Schools, Nanoor at the GP Level Assessment Camp held at Nanoor Rami Smrity Pry. School on 19.08.10.



The Clinical Psychologist of DDRC, Birbhum have assessing the Mentally Challenged Persons at the Special Medical Board held at Surul Junior Basic School, Sriniketan, Birbhum on 08.03.10.





The Clinical Psychologist of DDRC, Birbhum have assessing the Mentally Challenged Children at the Special Medical Board held at DDRC, Birbhum on 21.12.09.



The Clinical Psychologist of DDRC, Birbhum have assessing the Mentally Challenged Children at the Special Medical Board held at the Office of the BDO, Paikar, Murarai-II Block on 19.02.10.

F. Identification Camp for the Persons With Disabilities

During the year 2009-2010 several Camps were organised for the disabled persons of all category at Birbhum for providing them with necessary Aids & Appliances. More than, 700 Persons With Disability were assessed through these camps. On 12th February 2010 an Identification Camp was held at Suri Police Line Hospital in support of National Institute for Orthopaedically Handicapped for providing Aids & Appliances to the Persons With Disabilities under all ages and having any type of Disability of Suri Sadar Sub-Divisional Area by the experienced medical experts and technicians of the concerned fields. More than 435 Disabled Persons under different disabled category were assessed by the technical experts of concerned field through this Identification Camp. The Identified Persons were recommended with various types of Aids & Appliances and assistive devices according to their needs.



Identification Camp for the Persons With Disabilities of all category at Suri Police Line Hospital on 12.02.10.



**Details of the Beneficiaries assessed through the Identification Camps
organised by DDRC, Birbhum in the year 2009-2010**

Sl. No.	Date & Time	Venue	No. of Identified Persons					Total
			OH	HI	VI	MR/CP	MD	
1.	12.05.09 9.00 am–5.00 pm	Bolpur, Birbhum	039	040	05	04	1	089
2.	22.08.09 9.00 am–5.00 pm	Nanoor, Birbhum	126	100	27	13	2	268
3.	12.02.2010 9.00 am–5.00 pm	Suri Police Line Hospital, Suri, Birbhum	266	95	52	22	0	435
TOTAL			431	235	84	39	3	792

**8. BIRBHUM DISTRICT VOLUNTARY BLOOD DONORS' FORUM
(Another Wing of SEVAKS)**



With much pleasure it may be informed that SEVAKS has extended its work-area and in a treaty with West Bengal Voluntary Blood Donors' Forum in the field of Voluntary Blood Donation as a District unit of Birbhum District Voluntary Blood Donors Forum. This achievement is entirely goes to the credit of SEVAKS.

A. Voluntary Blood Donation

Every conscious person knows that there is always a dearth of blood bottles in Blood Bank. The main reason of it is that most people are still in superstition or fear in donating blood. SEVAKS is working in this area because it motivates people about blood donation. So far SEVAKS has organized 94 camps in the various places of Birbhum District in this year. Again, it goes to the credit of SEVAKS that it has been able to procure 2400 units of blood from the motivated blood donors. It is crystal clear to the medical men that in the Sub-divisions of Bolpur, Rampurhat and Suri there is an acute crisis of blood and SEVAKS has come forward to solve this problem through motivation and organizing voluntary blood donation camps in the remotest corner. Besides our initiation of organising Blood donation camps we also arrange training camps with specific social groups like club members, conscious villagers, students and teachers including mass awareness campaign through rally in this regard. Further, in this year's campaign programme it was also emphasized on the Safe Blood Donation as an initiation to increase the purity of blood in the sense that it is free from any type of Blood related disease which has been collected through Voluntary Blood Donation Camps throughout the district. The exposition of rightful knowledge on Safe Voluntary Blood Donation to the Donors' is the only effective means to ensure the desire quality of collected blood.

B. "Walk for Safe Blood"

Such type of special campaign programme was undertaken at Rampurhat, Birbhum in support of Rampurhat Sub-Divisional Hospital on 7th April 2009 under the "Walk for Safe Blood" programme. Under this programme, a Mass Awareness Rally was organised at Rampurhat Town which started from the Rampurhat Sub-Divisional Hospital. The Walk for Safe Blood was inaugurated by Dr. Himadri Sekhar Halder, Superintendent of Rampurhat Sub-Divisional Hospital at the hospital complex. This procession after travelling through all the crowded places of the town ended at Rampurhat Railway Station. A considerable number of Blood Donors which includes members of local clubs, voluntary organisations, and students were participated in this Walk for Safe Blood holding placards, posters and banners depicting meaningful and attractive messages and slogan on Safe Voluntary Blood Donation. No doubt this rally gained a special attraction among the general mass of Rampurhat.



Sri Himadri Sekhar Halder, Superintendent, Rampurhat SD Hospital delivering his speech before the participators of "Walk for Safe Blood" at the SD Hospital complex on 07.04.09



The Mass Awareness Rally "Walk for Safe Blood" at Rampurhat Sub-Divisional Town on 07.04.09.

C. Seminar-cum-Workshops on Voluntary Blood Donation

In support of State Blood Transfusion Council, W.B., we have successfully arranged three "Sensitisation-cum-Motivational Workshops on Voluntary Blood Donation" with all the local agencies including clubs, voluntary organisations, local political bodies and the students from different colleges of respective areas to increase the rate of Voluntary Blood Donation towards hundred percent in our District and in order to overcome the seasonal acute crisis of Blood at three Sub-Divisional Government Blood Bank at Rampurhat, Suri and Bolpur. The said workshops was organised on 4th September 2009 at Rampurhat, on 11th September 2009 at Suri and on 12th September 2009 at Bolpur in support of State Blood Transfusion Council, West Bengal, West Bengal State AIDS Prevention & Control Society and in support of concerned Sub-Divisional Officer and Sub-Divisional Hospital. Sri Asish Banerjee, Hon'ble MLA of Rampurhat, Sri Amarnath Mukherjee, Deputy Director of SBTC, West Bengal, Smt. Sayanti Sen, Advisor of Youth Affairs Department, Govt. of West Bengal, Sub-Divisional Officer of Rampurhat Sub-Division, Dr. Himadri Sekhar Halder, Superintendent, Rampurhat Sub-Divisional Hospital and the Consultant, Voluntary Blood Donation, West Bengal State AIDS Prevention & Control Society, Kolkata were present at the Workshop of Rampurhat held at the conference hall of Sub-Divisional Office, Rampurhat. At Suri, the Workshop was held at the conference hall of Assistant Chief Medical Officer of Health-III, which was presided by Smt. Saswati Samanta, Sub-Divisional Officer of Suri Sadar Sub-Division. The others dignitary persons present at this programme were the Joint Director (Blood Safety), WBSAP&CS, Dr. Ashis Kumar Mallik, CMOH, Birbhum, Dr. Dilip Kumar Dutta, Dy. CMOH-II, Birbhum and Sri Samar Das, the Member of Central Committee, WBVBDF and Consultant, VBD, WBSAP&CS, Kolkata. Next, this programme was successfully organised at the conference hall of Bolpur Sub-Divisional Office in presence and active involvement of Dr. Ashis Kumar Mallik, Chief Medical Officer of Health, Birbhum, Sri Sunil Ranjan Sikdar, Sub-Divisional Officer, Bolpur, Dr. Subhabrata Ghosh, Superintendent of Bolpur Sub-Divisional Hospital, Dr. Tirthankar Chanda, MOIC, Bolpur Sub-Divisional Blood Bank, Consultant, VBD, WBSAP&CS, Kolkata and Sri Debabrata Chakrabarty, Vice President, SEVAKS. Through these workshops the participators were provided with the true knowledge on Voluntary Blood Donation in various aspects from HIV/AIDS transfusion, Blood Components, recent district-wise scenario of Voluntary Blood Donation, the social responsibility of Donors etc. through presentation and IEC materials by the knowledgeable persons of the concerned field. Nearly, 150 representatives from the local organisations and social activists were participated in each workshop at Suri, Rampurhat & Bolpur.



Sensitisation-cum-Motivational Workshop on Voluntary Blood Donation at the Conference Hall of SDO, Rampurhat on 04.09.09.



Sensitisation-cum-Motivational Workshop on VBD at the Conference Hall of ACMOH-III, Birbhum at Suri on 11.09.09.



Sensitisation-cum-Motivational Workshop on VBD at the Conference Hall of SDO, Bolpur on 12.09.09.



Participants of the Sensitisation-cum-Motivational Workshop on VBD at the Conference Hall of SDO, Bolpur on 12.09.09.

D. Red Ribbon Clubs in Birbhum; Formation & Activities



A unique programme was launched by the West Bengal State AIDS Prevention & Control Society in the previous year to boost up the fighting spirit against HIV/AIDS by involving the young generation in the awareness campaign against HIV/AIDS. Under this programme an action plan was made to form Red Ribbon Clubs at the Educational Institutions of our country. Our organisation in support of West Bengal State AIDS Prevention & Control Society has taken the initiation to form Red Ribbon Clubs at different Educational and Technical Institutions of our district.

In the previous year we had formed Red Ribbon Clubs at Bolpur Purnidevi Girls College, Illamabazar Kavi Joydev College, Khujutipara Kabi Chandidas College, Nalhati Hiralal Bhakat College, Bengal Institute of Technology & Manangement, Bolpur and Social Work Dept. of Visva Bharati University. Now, during this year by our sole effort we have formed & established more Red Ribbon Clubs at Rampurhat College, Birbhum Mahavidyalaya, Suri, Sree Ramkrishna Silpa Vidyapith (Govt. Polytechnic College), Suri and Kabi Nazrul College, Murarai. In every college 50 students have taken the membership of their Red Ribbon Clubs. The student members of Red Ribbon Clubs are now participating in every awareness campaign against HIV/AIDS in our district.

On 10th and 11th November 2009 a seminar-cum-workshop on HIV/AIDS and Voluntary Blood Donation was organised at Kabi Joydeb Mahavidyalaya, Illambazar and Hiralal Bhakat

College, Nalhati respectively in support of West Bengal State AIDS Prevention & Control Society and West Bengal Voluntary Blood Donors' Forum. Nearly 150 students of those colleges have participated in this programme. The Principal and teachers of those colleges have extended their necessary support and cooperation with their active participation to organize the said programme successfully. Further, on 21st November 2009 the opening ceremony of Red Ribbon Club and the seminar-cum-Workshop on HIV/AIDS & Voluntary Blood Donation together was held at the Dept. of Social Work, Visva Bharati. Total 67 students of this institution have participated in this programme. The entire programme was started with the theme song of RRC and after that the Head of the Dept of Social Work, Professor Prasanta Kumar Ghosh delivered his welcome speech. The Voluntary Blood Donation Consultant from WBSAP & CS and Mr. Debkumar Kar, Field Organiser, Social Work Dept., Visva Bharati were also present at this programme and conducted the seminar. Next, during the month of March 2009 the said seminar-cum-workshop on HIV/AIDS and Voluntary Blood Donation was organised at the different units of RRC at Birbhum Mahavidyalaya, Suri, Dept. of Social Work, Visva Bharati, Santiniketan, Chandidas Mahavidyalaya, Khujutipara, Purni Devi Chowdhury Girls College, Bolpur, Kabi Joydev Mahavidyalaya, Illambazar, Kabi Nazrul College, Murarai and Hiralal Bhakat College, Nalhati.



Seminar-cum-Workshop on Voluntary Blood Donation at Social Work Dept., Visva Bharati on 21.11.09.



Seminar-cum-Workshop on Voluntary Blood Donation at Hiralal Bhakat College, Nalhati on 11.11.09.



Seminar-cum-Workshop on Voluntary Blood Donation at Birbhum Mahavidyalaya, Suri on 26.03.10.



Question-Answer session of the Seminar-cum-Workshop on Voluntary Blood Donation at Kabi Joydeb College, Illambazar on 10.11.09.

Through these seminar-cum-workshops, we have provided the participators consisting of the entire students along with the members of RRC of the colleges with the true knowledge of preventing the dreadful disease of HIV/AIDS including the way of making changes the behavioural attitude in an individual towards leading good quality of life. Beside that an initiation is taken to

motivate the youth members of RRC for donating their blood voluntarily by removing their baseless fear and ignorance on blood donation with proper information on blood components and blood transfusion. All those efforts were properly made with the help of IEC materials, books and slide show presentation by the representatives from our organisation and West Bengal State AIDS Prevention & Control Society. It is indeed a great success that each of the student members of RRC of the respective colleges was actively involved in this programme with great enthusiasm especially during the question - answer session of this programme.

9. MASS AWARENESS STALL ON VOLUNTARY BLOOD DONATION & HIV/AIDS AT POUISH MELA

(A Special Campaign on Voluntary Blood Donation Movement in Birbhum & Murshidabad District)

Pouish Utsava of Santiniketan is 114 years old. Rabindranath Tagore's father Devendranath Tagore who was known as the Maharshi started the festival to mark the foundation of the Santiniketan Ashrama. The Pouish Festival is internationally famous and near about 7-8 lakhs people are coming from different parts of our country as well as outside the country to enjoy the grand occasion of Pouish Festival.

This year Santiniketan Ratanpalli Vivekananda Adibasi Kalyan Samity (SEVAKS) organized a unique stall on Voluntary Blood Donation under the special campaign programme as a part of the Special Promotion of Voluntary Blood Donation Movement in Birbhum & Murshidabad District in collaboration with State Blood Transfusion Council, West Bengal and West Bengal Voluntary Blood Donors' Forum at Pouish Festival during 23rd to 26th December 2009 at Santiniketan. This campaign programme was specially initiated in those districts as because the rate of Voluntary Blood Donation at those areas was much disappointing in compare to the other districts of West Bengal. It is needless to point out that such situation only arises when there is much ignorance as well as fear for blood donation prevailing in general mind. So, in order to overcome this obstacle in way of our ultimate goal to ensure hundred percent Voluntary Blood Donations, SEVAKS was directed to launch this special campaign programme through Mass Awareness Stall.

Further, in this campaign programme, the blood related diseases or disorder like HIV/AIDS and Thallassaemia including the information on Blood and its components were naturally included. AIDS has come to be the most pressing public health problem of this century and the only effective means to prevent the spread of HIV infection is to bring a positive behaviour changes in terms of safer sex and awareness through public education. On the other hand, thalassaemia is Hemoglobin disorders, which is the commonest of human inherited diseases and that can be prevented by taking proper measures at the community level.

The stall was inaugurated on the very first day (23rd December 2008 at 10 a.m.) of Pouish Festival by Sri Ashok Kumar Das, Sub-Divisional Officer, Bolpur Sub-Division and Sri Tapan Saha, Chairman, Bolpur Municipality. The interior decoration of the stall was made with various colourful posters, banners, written messages on Blood, Thalassaemia & HIV/AIDS including red ribbons and campaigning of our friend BULADI (1097) as well as VCCTC, PPTCT. A series of programme were undertaken at the Voluntary Blood Donation and HIV/AIDS information stall to reach the general people with emphasis on the key information on Blood & HIV/AIDS. From this stall general people from urban and rural areas were educated and were made aware on the above issues. Leaflets, Booklets, Red Ribbon and condoms were also distributed from the HIV/AIDS stall. It was indeed a great moment for us while Dr. Ramchandra Dom, the Hon'ble MP, Bolpur have visited this awareness stall and encouraged the volunteers for such campaign initiation. The others important visitors of this stall were the Consultant, Voluntary Blood Donation, West Bengal State AIDS Prevention & Control Society and Sri Sukumar Roy, District Project Officer, Sarva Siksha Mission, Birbhum, Sri K.P. Bhattacharya, the representative from West Bengal Voluntary Blood

Donors' Forum including the member representative from Murshidabad District also visited this Stall.



Inauguration of Mass Awareness Stall on VBD & HIV/AIDS by Sri Ashok Kumar Das, SDO, Bolpur, at Santiniketan Poush Festival on 23.12.09



Mass Awareness Stall at Santiniketan Poush Mela from 23.12.09 to 26.12.09.



Dr. Ramchandra Dom, Hon'ble MP, Bolpur visiting the Mass Awareness Stall at Poush Mela.



Sri Sukumar Roy, DPO, SSM, Birbhum visiting the Mass Awareness Stall at Poush Mela.

i. Spot Counselling:

SEVAKS made an arrangement for the spot counselling about the diseases. By keeping up secrecy of those men who came forward for the discussion on these diseases and for safe Blood Donation, be it is his own or a case of other people, SEVAKS continued the discussion programme with experts of these diseases. At least 58 persons took advice on the spot. Thus the discussion at the stall was highly fruitful. Again, many posters, pictures were displayed there that fed people with the primary knowledge of Safe Voluntary Blood Donation & HIV/AIDS.

ii. Condom demonstration and Distribution:

The works of SEVAKS in the Mela stall was not limited to discussions only, it distributed some contraceptive materials like condom also, free of cost. The recipient of this Condom was 4300 and the number of demonstration of the same was 617. With the distribution of the condoms people were educated about the proper use of this materials and it was also taught that condoms could prevent the attack of these diseases. But a greater stress was given on living a good moral and normal life.

iii. IEC Distribution:

Earlier it is told that leaflets were distributed in the stall. During the four days of the Poush Festival our volunteers and experts constantly tried to aware general mass on Safe Voluntary Blood Donation and HIV/AIDS with the help of those IEC materials. Beside that a good number of leaflets bearing the important information on the said issues were distributed to educate people on the blood contamination and HIV/AIDS. Total 8600 pieces of leaflets and 1570 booklets and 830 red ribbons were distributed for this purpose. What is more important to note is that many common people were ignorant about the red ribbon, its meaning and its purpose and its indication, etc. Similarly, they were lack of proper knowledge on Safe Blood Donation. Now it was clear to them that red ribbon is the symbol of AIDS and how to become a responsible Voluntary Blood Donor.

iv. Cultural programme on Voluntary Blood Donation, HIV/AIDS & Thalassaemia:

To appraise the general public, flying sex workers, truck drivers on the objectives of our stall and about the knowledge of Voluntary Blood Donation, HIV/AIDS and Thalassaemia through local folk (Baul) song on the subject was arranged. More than 10000 people were educated from this cultural programme. Many people came to the stall and asked questions and encouraged us to conduct such type of activities in every fair.



Baul Songs on Voluntary Blood Donation
at the Mass Awareness Stall at Poush Mela.



ix. Blood Donation Camp at Mela ground:

A Blood Donation Camp was organized on 25th December 2009 at Santiniketan Poush Mela Stall for Motivation on safe Voluntary Blood Donation in support of Bolpur Sub-Divisional Hospital. Total 15 Mela viewers voluntarily donated their Blood at our stall at Santiniketan Poush Mela. Sri Debabrata Chakrabarty, Vice President of SEVAKS has inaugurated the Voluntary Blood Donation Camp in presence of Dr. Tirthankar Chanda, Medical Officer in charge of Bolpur Sub-Divisional Blood Bank and Voluntary Blood Donors and social activists of this field. After the Voluntary Blood Donation Camp, all the voluntary donors were provided with proper nutrition, medical care and Donors' Badges including appreciation certificate. Total fifteen volunteers have donated their Blood in this Camp.



Voluntary Blood Donation Camp in support of Bolpur Sub-Divisional Hospital Blood Bank on 25.12.09 at Poush Mela Stall.



Sri Debabrata Chakrabarty, Vice President, SEVAKS providing Donors Badge to the Voluntary Donor at VBD Camp on 25.12.09 at Poush Mela Stall.

10. World AIDS Day

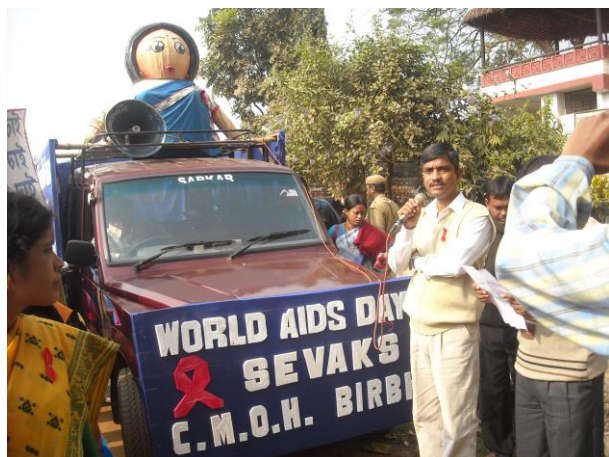
AIDS has come to be the most pressing public health problem of this century. Despite of this fact that AIDS is a preventable disease, it is spreading rapidly all over the World in a speed which never witnessed before in case of any other public health disease. Unlike other public health disease, there is no cure for AIDS. The possibility of developing a safe and effective vaccine to control the spread of the virus is still a long way off. The most important and effective strategy for controlling the spread of infection at present is through public education to bring about positive behaviour changes that emphasize safer sex and awareness of High-risk behaviour. To destroy the roots of these devils what is needed is the cultivation of mass awareness among people, especially among the High-risk groups. Santiniketan Ratanpalli Vivekananda Adibasi Kalyan Samity (SEVAKS) is playing a great role in this regard. Many meetings, rally, awareness camps, workshops are held to create mass awareness.

The observation of World AIDS Day 2009 at Bolpur was a big event in terms of mass awareness campaign. In this year, the World AIDS Day was observed in a large scale throughout the Bolpur Sub-Divisional area for ten days from 1st December 2009 to 10th December 2010 in support of Chief Medical Officer of Health, Birbhum. This observation programme includes Mass Awareness Stall, Mass Awareness Rally and Seminar on HIV/AIDS including a huge Mass Awareness Campaign programme organised by us with Mobile Quiz and Poster Drawing Competition on the same issue.

i. Mass Awareness Rally on HIV/AIDS:

The observation of World AIDS Day 2009 began with a big Mass Awareness Rally with Decorative Tableau from the Bolpur Duktunglow Maidan at 9.00 am on 1st December 2009. The Rally was inaugurated by Sri Ashok Kumar Das, Sub-Divisional Officer, Bolpur with a welcome speech mentioning the role of the Rally to the participators in presence of Dr. Jayanta Sukul, Assistant Chief Medical Officer of Health, Bolpur Sub-Division, Dr. Nandi, President, Rotary Club of Bolpur-Santiniketan and other eminent personalities from all walks of life at Bolpur Sub-Division. Many club members, voluntary organisations, students including common people joined the rally with the messages on HIV/AIDS written on placard and banners including this year's World AIDS Day theme "UNIVERSAL ACCESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS" to aware and educate the general people as well as the inmates of Bolpur Town. The Rally was moved through all the important places of the town including the Bolpur Railway Station and ended at its starting place. It

was indeed a great experience to witness that near about 350 people turned out to march leading by the SDO and ACOH of Bolpur including Rotarians, Members of Voluntary Organisations, Club Members, students, teachers including common people in support of HIV positive persons and AIDS prevention efforts.



Welcome speech by Sri Ashok Kr. Das, SDO, Bolpur before the commencement of Mass Awareness Rally on HIV/AIDS on 01.12.09



The Mass Awareness Rally on the occasion of World AIDS Day 2009 at Bolpur leading by Sri Ashok Kr. Das, SDO, Bolpur and other eminent personalities.

ii. Mass Awareness Stall on HIV/AIDS:

On the occasion of World AIDS Day 2009 a Mass Awareness Stall was organised at Bolpur Railway Station from 1st December 2009 to 3rd December 2009. On 1st December 2009 at 10.00 am Sri Ashok Kumar Das, SDO, Bolpur Sub-Division has inaugurated the stall in presence of Dr. Nandi, President, Rotary Club of Bolpur-Santiniketan and other social activists and eminent personalities of Bolpur-Santiniketan. Dr. Dilip Gupta, Deputy Chief Medical Officer of Health-II, Birbhum, Dr. Jayanta Sukul, ACOH, Bolpur Sub-Division later on visited the stall and provided useful suggestions to the volunteers of SEVAKS. The Stall was decorated with colourful posters and messages on HIV/AIDS. During the three days of this stall all the Railway passengers, Taxi Drivers, Auto Drivers, Railway Kuli, Rickshaw Pullers & others general people were aware and educated by the continuous effort of the Volunteers of SEVAKS on STD/HIV/AIDS. Condoms, leaflets, booklets and Red Ribbon were also freely distributed from this awareness Stall.



Inauguration of Mass Awareness Stall on HIV/AIDS on the occasion of World AIDS Day 2009 by Sri Ashok Kr. Das at Bolpur Railway Station on 01.12.09.



The Mass Awareness Stall on HIV/AIDS on the occasion of World AIDS Day 2009 at Bolpur Railway Station from 01.12.09 to 03.12.09.

iii. Video Shows on HIV/AIDS:

Next, at the Mass Awareness Stall an important programme was undertaken in order to aware general mass through video shows on HIV/AIDS as a major part of the occasion, which draw a special attraction among the Rickshaw pullers, Kuli, Auto and Taxi drivers of Bolpur Railway Station. This video show programme was arranged at the stall during three days of the programme at 8.00 p.m. for two hours. It is important to note that most of the viewers of this show were the rickshaw pullers and taxi drivers who like to enjoy such type of programme very much. It is to be noted that the occupational groups like taxi drivers, rickshaw pullers, labourers are high-risk group in the town. Some time the sex workers are used in the rail line side in night. Therefore, we think that the video show is very important programme to the viewers. More than 200 people enjoyed the show.



Video shows on HIV/AIDS are watching by Taxi drivers, Kulis, Rickshaw Pullers, labourers at the Mass Awareness Stall at Bolpur Railway Station from 01.12.09 to 03.12.09



Video shows on HIV/AIDS are watching by the general public including the Railway passengers at the Mass Awareness Stall at Bolpur Railway Station from 01.12.09 to 03.12.09

iv. Special Campaign on HIV/AIDS at Bolpur Sub-Division:

On the occasion of World AIDS Day 2009, a special campaign programme on HIV/AIDS was conducted by a group of volunteer experts of this field with a mobile van especially in rural areas, such as, Kirnagar, Bahiri, Illambazar Cattle Market, Illambazar Bus Stand etc. of Bolpur Sub-Division from 1st December 2009 to 10th December 2009. The mobile van was decorated with meaningful messages and posters on HIV/AIDS highlighting the theme of World AIDS Day 2009 “UNIVERSAL ACCESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS”. This programme was comprised with Mobile Quiz Competition and Poster Drawing Competition on HIV/AIDS. It is interesting to note that under this programme initiation our volunteers have received a huge response from the rural people of those areas representing different occupational groups like farmers, shop keepers, labourers including the young students. They have participated in both Quiz and Posters Drawing Competition with their innovative ideas and with great enthusiasm. Through Mobile Quiz Competition, we have been able to rightly assess the knowledge level of general people with the help of the questionnaires covering vast areas of knowledge regarding HIV/AIDS, HIV-TB Coordination, ICTC and Voluntary Blood Donation etc., and in return, we provided them with the true knowledge on the said issues. At the end of each competition, prizes were handed over to the participators giving right answers and also to them who drawn unique poster with unique message on it. The Volunteers were engaged in continuous campaign through microphone under this programme while in mobile or in spot. Numerous leaflets bearing all the information on HIV/AIDS & allied subjects like Voluntary Blood Donation etc. were distributed from this campaign programme. In addition, condoms were also freely distributed among the general public.



Special Campaign Programme on HIV/AIDS at Illambazar Cattle Market, Birbhum on the occasion of World AIDS Day 2009.



Spot Quiz competition & IEC distribution on HIV/AIDS at Illambazar Cattle Market, Birbhum on the occasion of World AIDS Day 2009.



Spot Quiz Competition on HIV/AIDS at Kirnagar, Birbhum on the occasion of World AIDS Day 2009.



Poster Drawing Competition on HIV/AIDS at Bahiri, Birbhum on the occasion of World AIDS Day 2009.



11. THALASSAEMIA

Thalassaemia is Hemoglobin disorders, which include thalassaemias, are the commonest of human inherited diseases. They represent the first group of common inherited disorders for which prevention is possible at the community level. The thalassaemias are further classified into alpha or beta thalassaemias depending on whether the alpha or beta chain production is reduced or absent.

Those who require regular blood transfusion (transfusion dependent) are referred to as thalassaemia major, while those occasionally may or may not require blood transfusion are known as thalassaemia intermedia. The carriers who are absolutely asymptomatic and have normal hemoglobin level are referred to as thalassaemia minor or thalassaemia trait. If the would-be parents are screened prior to marriage, and efforts are made to prevent the marriage between the carries, then the disease can be prevented. Moreover, even if two carries marry, prenatal diagnosis of the unborn baby can provide us the information as to whether the baby would be a thalassaemic or not. Medical termination of a thalassaemic pregnancy can reduce the disease load to a significant extent.

There is no denial of the fact that Thalassaemia is one of the most dreaded diseases in the world. In India, the number of Thalassaemia patients is very alarming. Many renowned persons have come forward to solve the problem of this disease. Most of us have heard of the generosity of the film star Mr. Mithun Chakraborty in solving this problem of Thalassaemia by donating money and everything necessary for the purpose. SEVAKS is not nonchalant in this regard. In spite of having its financial capacity limited, is trying its best to help the Thalassaemia patients by donating blood indirectly through motivating people to donate blood to the needy patients.

World Thalassaemia Day is observed on 8th May in every year. This time SEVAKS have observed the World Thalassaemia day on 10th May 2009 at Bolpur for the awareness on Thalassaemia among the general mass through conducting a seminar on Prevention of Thalassaemia and Blood safety at Bolpur Rotary Bhawan, Bolpur, Birbhum followed by a Voluntary Blood Donation Camp at the same venue. Many eminent personalities, social activists including professionals and specialists were participated in the seminar at Rotary Bhawan. The seminar was presided by Sri Sushil Kr. Chowdhury, President, SEVAKS. Sri Tapan Saha, Chairman, Bolpur Municipality, Rotarian Saptarshi Das, President, Rotary Club of Bolpur-Santiniketan were present in the seminar and expressed their views from different social aspects of the said issue. Dr. Subhabrata Ghosh, Superintendent, Bolpur Sub-Divisional Hospital, Dr. Tirthankar Chanda, MOIC of Bolpur Sub-Divisional Hospital Blood Bank and Consultant, Voluntary Blood Donation, West Bengal State AIDS Prevention & Control Society has elaborately explained and discussed the cause of Thalassaemia and the need of practicing Thalassaemia testing before marriage as an active habit among individuals, Blood components and the details of transfusion mode of HIV, cause of developing AIDS in an individual, right way to prevent HIV/AIDS and above all the responsibility of every social beings to prevent such disease and disorderness. It is estimated that nearly 100 people attend the seminar. After completion of the seminar a Voluntary Blood Donation Camp was held in support of Bolpur Sub-Divisional Hospital. Total 30 people donated their blood for Thalassaemia patients.



Sri Sushil Kr. Choudhury, President, SEVAKS delivering welcome speech to the participators of the seminar on the occasion of World Thalassaemia Day 2009 at Rotary Bhavan, Bolpur on 10.05.10.



Dr. Subhabrata Ghosh, Super, Bolpur SD Hospital delivering speech on Thalassaemia in the seminar at Rotary Bhavan, Bolpur on 10.05.10



Activities of Voluntary Blood Donation at Rotary Bhavan, Bolpur
on the occasion of World Thalassaemia Day 2009

12. FREE MULTIPURPOSE HEALTH CHECKUP CAMP

In every year SEVAKS has organised free health checkup camp for the general people at Bolpur and Santiniketan. Here is a piece of good news for the Heart, Kidney and Diabetes patients that this year our society had organized a Multipurpose Health Checkup Camp for providing the free health checkup and medical advice specially for those who are suffering from those diseases in support of renowned R.N. Tagore Institute of Cardiac Science, Kolkata at our organisation's premises at Ratanpally, Santiniketan, Birbhum on 9th August 2009. At least one month prior to this programme, a leaflet bearing the information on the holding of the said programme was prepared and distributed in nearby rural areas and also the mobile announcement was made for this purpose, so that the beneficiaries can attend this Health Check-up Camp from remote villages. The Health Checkup Camp started after a formal inauguration programme held at the said place at 9.00 am. The eminent personalities like Sri Tapan Saha, Chairman, Bolpur Municipality, Sri Sunil Ranjan Sikdar, SDO, Bolpur Sub-Division, Sri Sushil Kumar Chowdhury, President, SEVAKS, Sri Debabrata Chakrabarty, Vice President, SEVAKS including a team of doctors from the RN Tagore Institute were present in this inauguration programme and expressed their ideas on such joint effort made by our organisation and the RN Tagore Institute before the viewers. The Health Checkup Camp was properly conducted under the three departments of Cardiology, Nephrology and Diabetes, each of which was attended by the Specialist Doctors of the concerned field. Along with the above facility a general health check-up facility was also provided by a general physician at the said camp. It is important to note that in this Health Check-up Camp the heart patients were examined by the experienced and specialist Doctors through Electrocardiogram (ECG) and other costly test like Echocardiogram (ECHO). A mobile medical van equipped with sophisticated medical instruments

and facilities was also brought by the RN Tagore Institute from Kolkata, and kept at the said camp, where the other complicated and costly tests including the ECHO test was arranged.

Through this Multipurpose Health Check-up Camp total three hundred and forty five patients having Heart, Kidney and Diabetic problem has took the free medical advice of the specialist Doctors and undergone free medical test.



Inauguration of Multipurpose Health Checkup Camp at Ratanpalli, Santiniketan, Birbhum on 09.08.09



General people are getting free Health Check-up facility at the Multipurpose Health Checkup Camp.

13. PULSE POLIO

It is not that SEVAKS works in its own field only but it is linked with many other Government Programmes. Hence its objective is many faceted. Pulse polio programme is being carried away earnestly by our Government and SEVAKS is an institution to stand by the Government in its programme. So, SEVAKS has been working in this programme through two pulse polio centres at (i) Bolpur Nichupatty and (ii) Bolpur Chowrasta by sending their volunteers to the centres and they have assisted the concerning staff of health department.

14. SELF HELP GROUPS

India is still far away from being a developed country because many people live here below poverty line and many of them are emaciated for want of square meals a day. SEVAKS is by these starved men because it has inspired them to form self help groups so that they may earn their living by themselves and may live a prestigious life. So far it has formed 47 SHG(s) in the rural and tribal areas of Birbhum District. The group members are trained on the vocational planes like food processing, kitchen garden, needle works and bamboo works. SEVAKS in collaboration with NABARD is trying to reach the remotest corner of rural villages to make them self supported. Many spouses of rural farmers by forming groups have been able to earn money creating an instance that woman also can earn money by running cottage industries in their homes. In this regard, in the month of February 2010 SEVAKS in support of NABARD has organised in Illambazar Block of Birbhum. Within the first week of February 2010 total three awareness programmes on Formation & Nurturing of SHG(s) was organised at the Villages of Ghurisha, Dharmapur and Nanasol, which covered not only these villages but also a vast areas of rural population surrounding those villages of Illambazar Block. The duration of each Camp was one day and more than three hundred villagers were participated in the said camps. At the end of the each awareness programme five Self Help Groups were formed with the women of Below Poverty Level, therefore, total 15 SHG(s) were formed from these three awareness programmes. Further, in the same month, two Self Help Groups Leaders Training Programmes was organised with the members of those Self Help Groups at Nanasol village for two days duration of each from 15th to 18th February 2010. Near about hundred Members of different Self Help Groups were participated in this Leaders Training Programme. Under these Awareness and Training Programmes, the entire rules & regulations regarding the formulation & nurturing of SHGs, manage & maintenance of accounts, role of Self Help Group in the development programme under Panchayat System, information on concerned government programmes & institutions by the knowledgeable persons, government officials, from local banks, elected members from panchayat.



Awareness Programme on formulation & Nurturing of SHGs at Dharampur, Illambazar Block on 03.02.10



Awareness Programme on formulation & Nurturing of SHGs at Nanasol, Illambazar Block on 03.02.10



Leaders' Training Programme for the members of Self Help Groups at Nanasol from 15.02.10 to 18.02.10



15. NATIONAL CHILD LABOUR PROGRAMME (NCLP)

It is beyond doubt that the child labours that belong to socio-economically backward family are prevailed almost every part of rural, urban and semi-urban areas of our country as well as in Birbhum district. Due to poverty they are not in position to get formal education and other normal daily requirements. Therefore, in order to improve their worst condition especially in aspect of education, the Government of India launched the National Child Labour Programme in all over the country including Birbhum district since 2006. Through this programme certain numbers (50) of child labours are provided with free primary level education up to class IV within the time span of three years under a non-formal school setup. After the completion of their study the child labours are admitted in local formal schools in class-V to proceed with further study to the upper level of school education.

Our Society is involved in this programme since 2006 by running five Child Labour Schools in Birbhum district at Basapara (Nanor Block), Maheshpur, (Nalhati I Block), Hazarpur, Mostafadanga and Nowapara (Nalhati II Block) in support of the Birbhum District Child Labour Rehabilitation-Cum-Welfare Society under the Chairmanship the Assistant Labour Commissioner of Birbhum. In the session 2008-2009, the first batch of 250 Child Labours of those schools were successfully completed their study of primary level up to class IV and admitted by our instructors to the local formal schools. Thus, SEVAKS has achieved a remarkable success in bringing those unprivileged children under the main stream of our education system. Further, at the beginning of this session of 2009-2010 a new batch of 50 child labours were admitted in class one in each Child Labour School. For this purpose, at first, a survey was conducted in the surrounding areas of respective schools to identify the existence of child labours. Due to non-availability of the required number of Child Labours at Basapara and Nowapara, we have transferred these two schools at the new place of Sukbazar in Bolpur Block and Atkula in Nalhati-II Block, where we have been able to trace the required number of Child Labours through the survey. Next, from those survey lists, 50 Child Labours were selected for this programme in the respective places of Hazarpur, Mostafadanga, Maheshpur, Atkula and Sukbazar for the next three sessions till 2012. Thus, from this session, five Child Labour Schools running under our care at Maheshpur (Nalhati-I Block), Hazarpur

(Nalhati-II Block), Mostafadanga (Nalhati-II Block) and at the two new places at Atkula (Nalhati-II Block) and Sukbazar (Bolpur Block).

Like previous years, total 25 staffs comprising fifteen teaching and ten non-teaching staffs are engaged in this programme and total 250 Child Labour Students are learning in these Child Labour Schools. The school starts at their convenient time and classes continues for three and half hours. Besides imparting education several other activities are undertaken to improve their quality of life and to make the learning more attractive for them such as students are provided with vocational training; nutrition is also provided to them every day; free health check up facility is provided twice in a year annual Sports are held and cultural programme is also organised in every week. Side by side stipends are given to the students in every month as they are experiencing great loss regarding their daily work. Under the supervision of SEVAKS the students of all child labour schools are developing a good sense of living and conduct in them, thus leading towards the main stream of our society.



16. ALTERNATIVE INNOVATIVE EDUCATION CENTRE

West Bengal State Sarva Siksha Mission had initiated a new programme with an innovative idea to support the primary level education system by providing education to the drop out school students prevailing in every part of our state through setting up of Alternative Innovative Education Centres (AIE) in the previous year. The duration of this programme In our district SEVAKS is involved in this programme in collaboration of Sarva Siksha Mission, Birbhum with firmly adopted objectives of bringing those drop out children under the main stream of our primary level education by establishing total 178 AIE Centres at the different places of Bolpur, Illambazar, Nanoor, Nalhati-I, Nalhati-II, Suri-I, Rampurhat-II, Mahammad Bazar and Dubrajpur Block, which covered nearly four thousand (3669) Drop Out Students consisting 2238 boys and 1431 girls. The programme was conducted under two phases, the first phase was from February 2009 to July 2009 and the second as well as the last phase was from November 2009 to February 2010. Thus, the Alternative Innovative Education Programme of Birbhum has completed its time limit in the month of February 2010. In every AIE Centre one Siksha Sebi was engaged as a teacher for 20 students, and for each twenty AIE Centres there was one supervisor to look after the said centres. Under the supervision and care of SEVAKS total 178 Siksha Sebis and 9 Supervisors worked in this programme from the month of February 2009. Through these centres the Siksha Sebis have imparted lessons to the pupils for three and half hours. The necessary teaching aids and learning materials including the books had also been provided to the Siksha Sebis and students. Beside that a training programme was also arranged for the Siksha Sebis engaged in the AIE Centres of Illambazar and Dubrajpur Block on 22nd to 23rd May 2009 at Panditpur Ramkrishna Satyananda Ashram. In this training programme the Siksha Sebis were trained by the Resource Teachers and others knowledgeable persons of the field with the special and scientific method of teaching which is most useful for such drop out children. Moreover, the aims & objectives of this programme were also discussed by District Coordinator, IED, SSM, Birbhum in this training programme. Next, on 15th & 16 June of 2009, another training programme was organised at the premises of our society for the rest of Siksha Sebis engaged in the AIE Centres at Bolpur, Nanoor, Suri-I, Illambazar, Rampurhat-II, Nalhati-I & Nalhati-II Blocks. This training programme was conducted by Sri Debabrata Chakrabarty, Vice President, SEVAKS and other resource persons in this programme. On the basis of our evaluation of the entire programme at the nine blocks of our District, we can conclude without any hesitation that this programme has achieved a big success, as there was a huge number of drop out children received proper education and similarly, many out of schools children were also received their primary education for the first time

through these AIE Centres. In addition, under the mainstreaming policy of this programme total 196 Drop out and out of school children were admitted in the formal schools of nearby locality.



Training Programme for the Siksha Sebis at Panditpur Ramkrishna Satyananda Ashram at Dubrajpur on 22.05.09 & 23.05.09.



Training Programme for the Siksha Sebis at the Premises of SEVAKS at Ratanpally, Santiniketan, Birbhum on 15.06.09 & 16.06.09.

17. NON-RESIDENTIAL BRIDGE COURSE (NRBC) CENTRE

SEVAKS has been engaged in the Non-Residential Bridge Course (NRBC) Programme in support of Sarva Siksha Mission, Birbhum by running ten NRBC Centres especially for the Children With Special Needs (CWSN) including Drop Out & Out of School Children from the month of February 2010 at Bhandirbon, Suri-I Block, Santiniketan, Bolpur Block, Santra, Brahmankhanda, Angora & Bandar of Nanoor Block, Nalhati Municipality & Kalitha of Nalhati-I Block, Bhadrapur, Nalhati-II Block and Bharatpur, Illambazar Block of Birbhum. The main objective of this programme is to bring the disabled children especially of the remote area of birbhum under the main stream of primary level education. In each NRBC Centre one Siksha Sebi has providing special training regularly to the disabled children for three and half hours and in accordance to their convenient time. All the teaching learning materials are provided to each centre in free of cost and the Siksha Sebis were specially trained by the NGO so that they can render education and support to such target group in most proper manner. At present, total 186 disabled children are getting special training through these NRBC Centres.

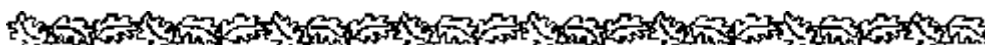
DATABASE DISTRIBUTION OF CWSN & DROP OUT/OUT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN OF NRBC CENTRES IN BIRBHUM UNDER THE NRBC PROGRAMME

Sl. No.	Location of the Centre	HI	VI	MR	OH	CP	MD	SP	LD	General	TOTAL
1.	Bhandirbon, Suri-I Block	00	01	14	03	00	00	00	00	00	018
2.	Santiniketan, Bolpur Block	01	00	08	07	02	02	00	00	00	020
3.	Santra, Nanoor Block	01	01	07	02	00	00	00	00	11	022
4.	Brahmankhanda, Nanoor	03	00	01	04	01	00	01	00	07	017
5.	Angora, Nanoor Block	07	00	05	01	00	00	00	00	05	018
6.	Bandar, Nanoor Block	02	00	05	02	00	00	00	00	06	015
7.	Napitpara, Nalhati-I	03	00	04	08	00	01	00	00	00	016
8.	Kalitha, Nalhati-I Block	00	00	09	09	00	01	01	00	00	020
9.	Bhadrapur, Nalhati-II	01	00	06	03	00	04	01	02	03	020
10.	Bharatpur, Illambazar	02	03	01	03	00	02	03	00	06	020
GRAND TOTAL		20	05	60	42	03	10	06	02	38	186



DISTRIBUTION OF CWSN & DROP OUT/OUT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN OF NRBC CENTRES IN BIRBHUM WITH BOY-GIRLS BREAKUP

Sl. No.	Location of the Centre	No. of Learners		Total
		Boys	Girls	
1.	Bhandirbon, Suri-I Block	04	14	18
2.	Santiniketan, Bolpur Block	11	09	20
3.	Santra, Nanoor Block	14	08	22
4.	Brahmankhanda, Nanoor Block	13	04	17
5.	Angora, Nanoor Block	11	07	18
6.	Bandar, Nanoor Block	05	10	15
7.	Napitpara, Nalhati-I Block	11	05	16
8.	Kalitha, Nalhati-I Block	08	12	20
9.	Bhadrapur, Nalhati-II Block	14	06	20
10.	Bharatpur, Illambazar Block	11	09	20
GRAND TOTAL		102	84	186



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