

KOLKATA MARY WARD SOCIAL CENTRE



JANUARY- MARCH, 2018

NEWSLETTER

Commemorating of Mary Ward Day on 30th January 2018

Mary Ward

She was a Catholic nun whose activities led to the founding of the Congregation of Jesus and the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (IBVM), better known as the Sisters of Loreto, which have both established schools around the world.

Mary Ward was declared Venerable by Pope Benedict on 19 December 2009.



Paying Homage through Prayers

In the KMWSC family the prayer service was led by Sr. Edelin with a short biography of Mary Ward to honour her memories. Each staff shared incidents, events of Mary Ward life from her childhood to her last breath. It was the moment of rejuvenating and reliving of Mary Ward imbibing her virtues and values peace, integrity, justice and freedom. The maxims of Mary Ward were read.

The director shared the life sketch of Mary Ward in details. Every one thanked almighty God for the gift of Mary Ward to this world who stood firm, walked boldly with courage and simplicity to fight for peace, integrity, justice and freedom for each individual.

The prayer service was ended with the quote of Mary Ward "You may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker. We are workers, not master builders, ministers, not messiah. We are prophets of future not our own....."



Mary Ward

Mary Ward's day was commemorated at 10 brick field schools in Dhaltitha, Basirhat North 24 PGS, West Bengal. The children and teachers gathered around the photo of Mary Ward in the open place in brick fields. The teachers spoke about Mary Ward from the life sketch of Mary Ward and about Loreto sisters, KMWSC and its work through different projects. The teachers led the children in common prayer to remember all the followers of Mary Ward and Loreto sisters all the over the world. They sang prayer song to pay homage to Mary Ward.



Christmas celebration with KMWSC staff



Every year KMWSC conducts the Christmas get together for all the field associate of all projects before the Christmas Celebration. This time the get together was conducted on 20th of January 2018 at the ground of Loreto School Entally. KMWSC gives a space to unite all the staffs together imbibing the values of Mary Ward love, peace, integrity, justice and freedom to each human being. There were total 160 field associate from all the projects. The gathering started with registration followed by prayer service led by Sr. Edelin. Ms. Poulami read the biography of Mary Ward in the local language. Each coordinator gave a short introduction of the project and introduced the each field associate. Words of appreciation were given by the Director. She thanked and appreciated the hard work, commitment and dedication of each individual staff present for the gathering from all the projects.

Games were conducted to make them free and relax. The teachers from different projects performed dance sang songs. It was a family get together reviving the team spirit, uniting in values of Mary Ward and carrying the inspiration from the life sketch of Mary Ward. The Director gave the token of appreciation to each field staff. Lunch was provided to all the participants present for the event. After the lunch there was group photo session project wise and as whole KMWSC team. The field staffs were extremely happy, glad and felt grateful to be the part of this Loreto family.



Women's Day Celebration throughout KMWSC

WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION AT LODHA COMMUNITY: To mark the International Women's Day KMWSC celebrated the event on 9th March 2018 with the women of village in Lodha community where the people of Lodha community are considered untouchables, outcaste from mainstream society. There were more than 260 women participating in the celebration.

During rally all the women of the village were greeted, thanked and saluted for the wonderful contributions in the families and society over and again in loud speakers and microphone. After the rally all the women and participants were given snacks at the centre. All the guests and participants appreciated the programme as it was the first time to celebrate women's day together in the village.

The chief guest was Mrs. Namita Hazra Pradhan, Rudranagar Gram Panchayat, the guest of honour was Mr. Pradip Baleshwar Karmadhyksha, forest and land Dept. Ganga Sagar Panchayat Samiti, Mrs. Jamuna Tala, Secretary, Sagar Soikat Mahila Sangha, Rudranagar Gram Panchayat, Mrs. Durga Rani Das first ANM Radhakrishnapur Health Centre, Mr. Ashis Kumar Mondal, Secretary School Management Committee of Khelaghar Learning Center, Mr. Anup Kumar Sahoo, Ex- Deputy Chief, Rudranagar Gram Panchayat, SHG group and Asha workers were present to witness and celebrate the Women's Day



On 8th March 2018, under the **Sensitization on Anti Human Trafficking project** the KMWSC organized a grand celebration with the women members of Dighirpaar Gram Panchayat in Canning 1 block. Officer in Charge Ms. Munmun Chakraborty of Canning Women Police delivered a powerful message being a role model of the society on empowerment of women and girls and their rights of being women.

They have been also sensitized on human trafficking, child marriage issues. Childline canning also participated in the celebration. More than 200 women men participated in the celebration.



On the eve of International Women's Day puppet shows was organized at **Sonagachi education centre** in remembrance of the inspiring women around the world and to build more equitable societies. The main objective of organise puppet show was to sensitize the community people specially the women about their empowerment and contribution to the society. There was 50 participants including women, children, young children and many passers gathered and enjoyed the event. Sister Subhasini nicely explained the participants about the contribution of Mary Ward. After this the resource person brain stormed the participants and talked about the rights of women and using puppet.

The children also performed song and poem. The information about missing child report and CHILDLINE number 1098 also shared by the resource person. During this event many women witnessed their contribution and great role in the community. The acrobat and magician, Mr. Tanmay Chakraborty was engaged to conduct the show. 2 teachers and, Sr. Subhasini was present during the event.



Anti- Human Trafficking, Canning Block 1 South 24 Parganas

Creating Livelihood Opportunities

Under the Sensitization on Anti Human Trafficking project, beautician training unit in Canning helps to provide alternative livelihood option to the trafficking prone girls and women of that area and to restore and rehabilitate the trafficking Survivors in the society by creating an employment opportunity through developing their skill.

Recently materials were transported to the project location for the beautician unit at canning. And the course has started with 23 vulnerable women and adolescent girls.



Case Study

Soma Sarkar (name changed), now stays in Dumdum Cantonment of North 24 Parganas . She got married in 2007 and from 2010 she has been subjected to severe domestic violence. She has two daughters. The elder daughter will appear for Higher Secondary examination this year. The younger daughter, Richa Baroi, 7 years of age reads in a class II in Dumdum Baidyanath – a Government primary school.

- In the month of January and March 2018, community vigilance follow-up meeting has been done in 10 Gram Panchayats by the respective field associates.
- On 4th January 2018, Bithika Halder attended a meeting of Sexual abuse unit of District Core committee under South 24 Parganas District police.

Community Awareness Camps on Anti Human Trafficking

Community Awareness Campaign on Anti-Human Trafficking Initiatives has been a core component of the project. The campaigns are conducted in remote villages targeting the women folk, local clubs and youth groups. In this first quarter 9 community awareness campaigns has been completed focussing on present trends of human trafficking(trafficking through using Facebook, WhatsApp), child marriage, child labour and domestic violence. Local youth group has been engaged to perform street drama followed by folk song (Baul) on highlighting human trafficking issues. A total of 584 community people actively participated in the campaign. Ideas and suggestions have been exchanged from the community level on strengthening the protection mechanism.

Gram Panchayat	Village	No. of Participants
Hatpukuria	Devisabad	80
Matla-II	Bahirbena	80
Dighirpaar	Uttar Angadberia	80
Gopalpur	Pattabhangi	78
Itkhola	Uttar Redhokhali	80
Matla 1	Durganagr	70
Daria	Thakurani Beria	116
Total		584



Continuation...

In India 23% of girls drop out of school when they start menstruating. We can end this with menstrual hygiene management.

BREAK THE SILENCE, BUILD AWARENESS: MENSTRUAL HYGIENE AROUND THE WORLD

STEREOTYPES AND TABOOS



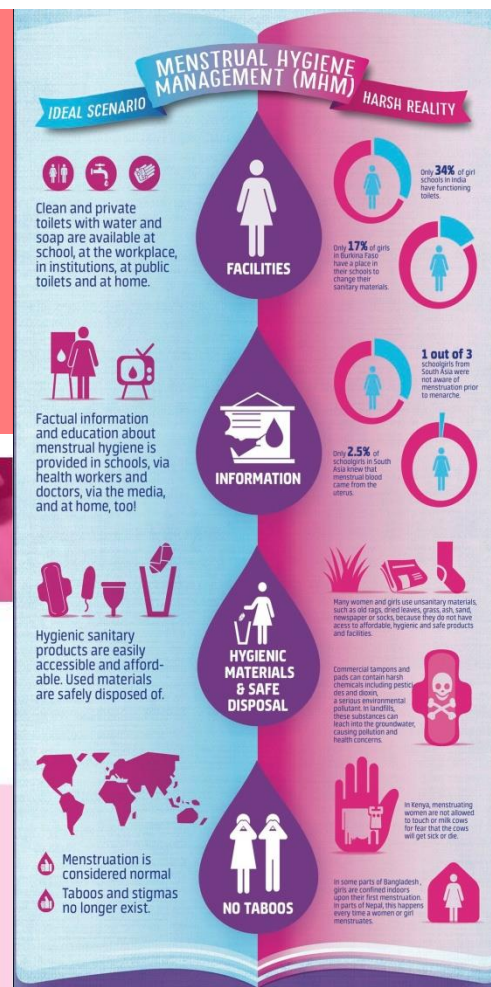
More than **1 in 2** women feel uncomfortable in social situations when they are on their period



Almost **1 in 2** men feel uncomfortable if he has to buy sanitary pads for his partner



1 in 4 women feel uncomfortable buying sanitary pads or tampons



Feminine hygiene Campaign

In the month of February 2018, Adolescent Girls Group meeting has been conducted in 10 Gram Panchayats. Sanitary Napkins and a small token of appreciation have been distributed among the AGG members. Through this meeting the AGG members has been sensitized to initiate practice of using sanitary napkins through distributing Sanitary pads in the interior villages of Sunderbans to the adolescent girls through sensitizing them on health factors related to feminine hygiene.



Success Story

Ms. Pratima Sardar a successful passed out trainee from Tailoring Course. She was the 3rd batch trainee of the Tailoring course. She belongs to a poor family and she is a house wife. Through the community awareness campaign in her village i.e. in Uttar Angadberia in Dighirpar Gram Panchayat she came to know about the tailoring course. She convinced her husband and mother-in-law to en-roll herself in the tailoring course. After completion of course she started a business in her home, where she started taking orders from her neighbourhood.

Gradually she opened a small tailoring shop in her home and started providing remedial tuitions on tailoring course to women and girls on tailoring who cannot en-roll themselves in the paid course. At present she is teaching 7 students from her own community and she feels now she is financially independent and earns respect from her family, neighbourhood and society. She is very thankful to Kolkata Mary Ward Social Centre for making her skilled enough to earn for her family. Now she can fulfil her children's basic needs.



নারী ও শিশু পাচার নিয়ে সচেতনতা

সুভাষচন্দ্র দাশ, ক্যানিং, ৩০ মার্চ : দক্ষিণ ২৪ পরগণা জেলার প্রত্যন্ত সুন্দরবন এলাকায় প্রায়ই ঘটে নারী ও শিশু পাচারের ঘটনা। সেই পাচার রোধে এগিয়ে এল কলকাতার এক স্বেচ্ছাসেবী সংস্থা। শুভলার দুপুরে কলকাতার মেরীওয়ার্ড নামের স্বেচ্ছাসেবী সংস্থার উদ্যোগে দক্ষিণ ২৪ পরগণা জেলার ক্যানিং থানার খাসকুমড়াখালি গ্রামে নারী ও শিশু পাচার নিয়ে এক সচেতনতা শিবির হয়। জিলেন ক্যানিং মহিলা থানার ভারপ্রাপ্ত আধিকারিক মুনমুন চৌধুরী, বিধীকা হালদার, বাস্টী মুখার্জী ও ক্যানিং মহকুমা চাইল্ড লাইনের ভারপ্রাপ্ত আধিকারিকরা। কলকাতার মেরীওয়ার্ড সোশাল সেন্টারের সুপারভাইজার রবিশংকর রায় বলেন, 'আমাদের মূল লক্ষ্য নারী ও শিশু পাচার আর শিশু শ্রমিক প্রথা বন্ধ করা।' অন্যদিকে, মেরীওয়ার্ডের সদস্য বিধীকা হালদার বলেন, 'মহিলারা যাতে স্বনির্ভর হতে পারেন, সেজন্য আমাদের সংস্থার উদ্যোগে বিনামূল্যে বৃত্তিমূলক শিক্ষার ব্যবস্থা করেছে।'

On 30th March 2018 KMWSC indicative of community awareness camp on Anti Human Trafficking was published in Sukhabar News Paper.



Case Study

On 15th March 2018 KMWSC, Field Associate received a call from childline that Jahanar Molla (name changed) aged 14 years has run away from Laxmikantapur Railway Station. Jahanar Molla was a rape survivor and as per the order of Child Welfare Committee (Children's Court), South 24 Parganas District she has been put to a NGO run Children's Home in Laxmikantapur. She was assisted by one female representative from Childline to Laxmikantapur. Suddenly Jahanar Molla pushed the lady from childline and boarded to train which was going towards Kolkata.

After receiving all the information our filed staffs informed the Railway Police. When the train reached to Sonapur railway junction, our filed associates found unconscious with a unknown person. It has been discovered Jahanara was given high dose of sedative (Clorofom) by the unknown man. When our staff started enquiring that person about his relationship with him and why she is in such state the man panicked pushed away our staffs and left the place in hurry leaving Jahanar unconscious on the floor. In the meanwhile childline representatives and Railway Police came and took the custody of Jahanara and she was sent to Govt. Hospital for further proceedings. At present Jahanara has been shifted to another children's home as per the order of Child Welfare Committee.

Brickfield School

School Bag Distribution

The school bags were distributed in the brickfield schools in 4 districts of Nadia, Hooghly, North and South 24 Parganas.

No of Schools	No. of bags distributed
57	3000



Joti Kumari

Joti Kumari Shaw is a 9 year old girl migrated from Nadawa District along with her family in the brickfield of Koikala South 24 Parganas district in West Bengal.

Living in a family of 7 members with poor economic condition owning a school bag was a luxury to her.

With the support from Not a Ordinary Bag and KMWSC team the children experience the joy of having their first school bag.

- Along with the school bags the children also received stationeries for their school purpose like copy, pencil, sharpener, and eraser by KMWSC.



Spreading Joy

New Clothes were distributed to the migrant children of 10 Brickfield schools in Pujali South 24 Pargana District. As most of the BF is located near the river bank the children's were overwhelmed with joy after receiving the clothes.



Continuation...

Medical Camp

During the month of January to March (First Phase of Medical Camp)

No of Health camp and participants		
North 24 Parganas	Hooghly	South 24 Parganas
10	14	20
679	874	1209
Total participant in sanitation and hygiene awareness camp		
265	448	693



Strategic Plan Workshop

On 29 and 30th January 2018 along with 7 KMWSC staff and 7 leading teachers from different BFS attended the Strategic plan workshop.

During the 2 day workshop many exercise were conducted by the exterior consultant involving the BFS staff to construct the first road map on which the strategic plan will be constructed for the Brick.



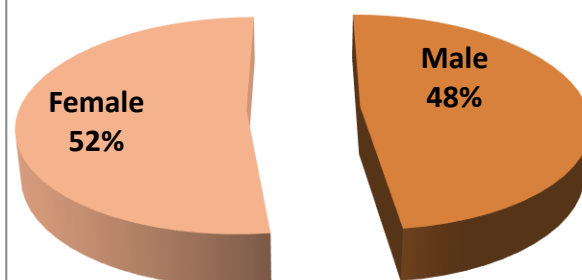
Sports Day

Sports were organised in 57 BFS in 4 Districts of West Bengal.

Districts							
Hooghly		South24 Parganas		North 24 Parganas		Nadia	
8 BSF		29 BFS		10 BFS		10 BFS	
Total children participated							
760		1,682		441		280	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
391	369	832	850	216	225	127	153



% of Participant



Continuation...

Different Trainings

Type of training	Description	No. Of participant
Leading teacher's Training	Leading teachers are responsible to monitor the entire brick field according to their responsibility. KMWSC organized leading teacher orientation at KMWSC on January 05 th 2018.	9
Demonstration training in Kalyani	Kalyani is the newest field on current BFS Session (2017-18). KMWSC is starting 10 BFS on this location. It was organised to help the new teacher to cope up with the BFS teaching module.	20
BFS Teachers training	Child safety and Protection	100
Leading Teachers	Evaluation sheet, Data assembling	42





Brickfield School Visits

- On 15th March 2018, 7 teachers and 38 students from **Loreto School Elliot Road** visited Brick Field Schools Project centres at Pujali, in district of South 24 Parganas, West Bengal.
- On 23rd March 2018, 4 teachers and 16 students from **Loreto School Bowbazar** visited Brick Field Schools Project centres at Pujali, in district of South 24 Parganas, West Bengal.

All the teachers, students and principal were welcomed by the BFS team in the field on behalf of the director of KMWSC at Indian Brick kiln, Budgebudge. They were given orientation on the BFS programme, its activities and implementation.

Each group was shown the curriculum and lesson plan in every centre. The students also taught the children of brick field as per the lesson plan. The students conducted games and played with them. They also distributed food to the children along with BFS local teachers. The students took the attendance of children in each brick field centre. This exposure was both ways learning. The BFS centre children got opportunity to speak, interact, play and learn rhymes with actions from the students.

Success Story

During the Pujali brickfield health camp on 31st March 2018 in South 24 pargans the BFS teachers noticed Shuru Biruli who was already 9 months pregnant was not present for the check-up. When the teachers approached her husband Laxman Biruli he said she has fever and they don't want any medical assistance. It took few hours for the teachers and the BFS staff to convince him to let her avail the medical assistance. Once the doctor checked her he immediately prescribe her to the nearest hospital as she was already in labour pain.

The BFS staff and the teachers admitted her to the government hospital took care of all the documentation and within 35 minutes of her admission she gave birth to a beautiful girl. The team helped the parents by supporting the nursing mother's nutritional balance by providing her with food prescribe by the doctor.

Nawada Intervention and Advocacy in Bihar under Brickfield Project

Strategic Plan Visit

BFS project staff Ms. Rina Singh, Ms. Nabanita Shome and Md. Nadim visited the Nawada District from 11th March 2018 to 15th March 2018.

During the visit the team conducted meetings to build network with:

- Education Department in Nawada District in Bihar
- Labour Department
- Block Development officer
- District Child Protection Department
- Panchayat
- ICDS
- Primary School
- Kasturba Gandhi Residential Home
- World Vision
- Justice and care
- Bal Sakha



Reshma Kumari

From the very first day at the brickfield school Reshma stood out among all the migrant children in her school. Since then it has been 3 long years we have stood by her to help her achieve her dream to become a doctor.

The BFS team had enrolled her in Kasturba Gandhi Residential Home at Nawada District so that she does not need to migrate with her family every year and concentrate in her studies.

The team visits Reshma once every year to monitor her growth. During the visit the team hands over few tokens of appreciation to her on behalf of the entire KMWSC family to boost her confidence and motivate her.



Barefoot Teachers Training at West Bengal

About The Training

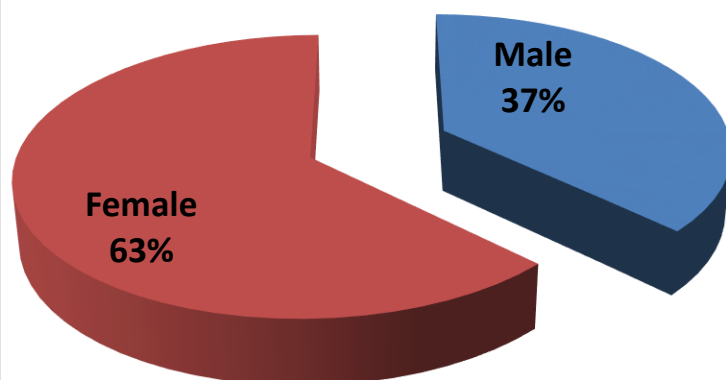
A teacher is the crucial element in any education system. Being competent and well-performing teacher is one of the most important resources influencing student achievement. Lack of professional training of teachers can be a key source of dissatisfaction in the quality of their teaching. KMWSC train and support both new and experienced teachers through Barefoot teachers training to breed competent students with the necessary knowledge and skills in the different subject matters.



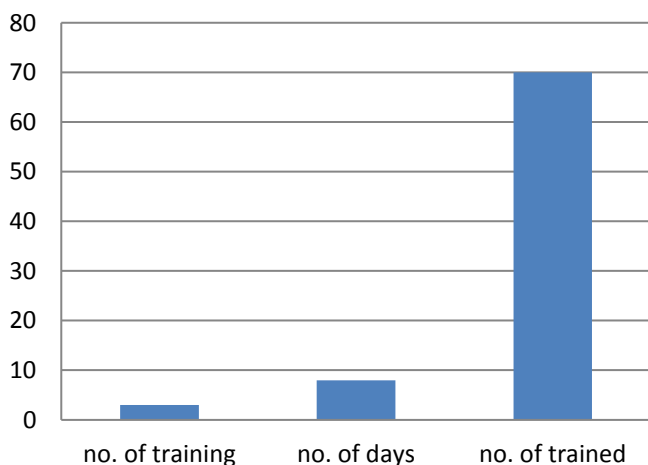
Level	No. Of training	No. of days	No. of trained male teachers	No. of trained female teachers	Total no. of trained teachers
II (Primary)	3	8	26	44	70



% of trained Teachers



Training Details



Upgrade of skills

Three of the KMWSC staff was the part of Loreto teachers Training program at TTC Loreto in the month of March for to upgrade their skill so that they can train the teachers with more upgraded skills.

1. Centric methodology
2. All Round Development methodology
3. Games
4. Teachers Learning materials

Lodha Community at Ganga Sagar Island

Health Camp on 24th February, 10th March and 24th March 2018.

No. Of beneficiaries	
Male	Female
35	57

Sports Day

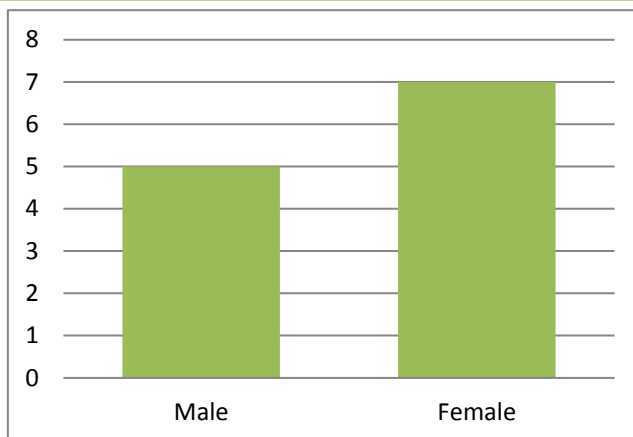
The annual sports day was organized on 21st February 2018 with the students of centre at Radhakrishnapur Tankpar playground of Khelaghar Learning Centre. Along with games drawing competition was conducted and prize distribution program was held on 23th February 2018. There were 150 participants and 147 community people were present in the audience to encourage the children. Various games were conducted according to group wise. The games included racing in the ground, 100 meters and 50 meters race, musical ball, musical chair, sack race, bombing the cities, throw the ball etc.

Mr. Shailoja Panigrahi Head teacher of Subodh Smriti Shishu Shiksha Kendra was invited as the chief guest who declared open the annual sports. About 112 people attended in the prize distribution program. The children enjoyed the day and were happy to be part of KMWSC through Lodha Community Project. It has given them enough space and opportunity for sound development of their potentials and personalities.



Achievement over the months in Lodha Community

No of children Mainstreamed



Meetings details over the months:

Community Meetings	
29 January 2018	14 th March 2018
Male	Female
5	27
Panchyat Meeting	
8 th February 2018	
Male	Female
13	9
Parents Meeting	
18 February 2018	
Male	Female
10	37



Continuation...

Milestones

Aadhaar Card

Male

8

Female

7

SBI Bank account

Male

0

Female

4

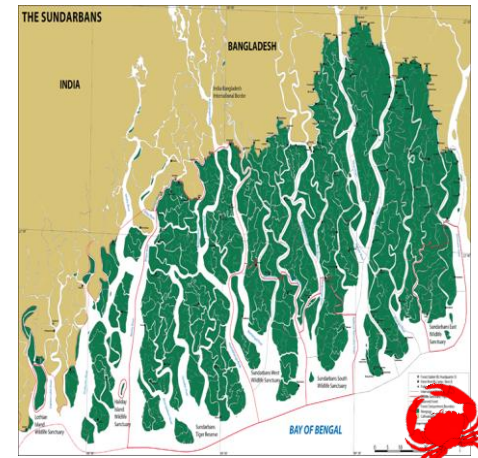


Solar Enlightenment and Community Empowerment at Sundarban

About The Project geographical area

The Sundarbans is a cluster of low-lying islands in the Bay of Bengal, spread across India and Bangladesh, famous for its unique mangrove forests. This active delta region is among the largest in the world, measuring about 40,000 sq km. whereas the Sundarbans forest is about 10,000 sq km across India and Bangladesh, of which 40% lies in India.

The entire area is a conglomeration of river channels, creeks and islands which total about 102 in number. Of these 54 islands are inhabited and the rest 48 islands are forested.



People

The population is economically backward and the area has very poor infrastructure like roads, jetties and electricity which render most of the places remote and inaccessible. Majority of the population is dependent on agriculture in the absence of any major industry. However, as the agriculture is mainly rain fed, the yield is poor. There is an acute shortage of drinking water in the villages. People without any land are dependent on professions like fishing and tiger prawn seed collection. The latter particularly is causing large scale damage to marine biodiversity. During the honey season from April to May local honey collectors called as 'Maulies' are engaged in honey collection.

These landless peasants, largely work for rich landlords or migrate to larger towns and cities to engage in menial work. Their womenfolk tended to the household chores, the livestock and the children. The children helped around the house, tended to their younger siblings and generally played around. Driven by extreme poverty and lack of opportunity, their children's education was an impossible dream.



About the Project Area and Communication

Manmathanagar is a remote, nondescript island village, on the fringes of the world's largest mangrove forest, the Sunderbans, on the borders of India and Bangladesh. With no consistent electricity or proper roads, the 40,000 inhabitants here, are deprived of even basic amenities and necessities. Technically just about 120 kms from Kolkata, the largest metropolis in eastern India, it takes more than 7 hours to reach Manmathanagar, starting with a train journey ,a bus, a ferry, 2 boat rides, motor van and a bumpy cycle van ride.

Thus the people here remained a forgotten people, far removed from empowerment and inclusive development.

Project Details

We have 4 technicians who have been trained as teachers and they prepare children for mainstreaming into schools as well as provide coaching support after schools to the children. Besides teachers training, they have been provided training on making of solar lights and training on Self Help Group formation.



Continuation...

What is the project about?

Continuous inhalation of the kerosene gas is very harmful for lungs women and children are affected easily. Thus besides the much needed educational support, we aim to build awareness on the usefulness of solar energy, biomass energy and solar lights – initially by providing the solar lights to each child so that they can study. 500 solar lanterns have been distributed till date in the community which has helped them in continuing their day to day tasks after sunset, children are able to study, men are able to continue to weave fishing net and mothers are able to cook meals with the same light. After intervention of three years in Manmathnagar village KMWSC has conducted need based assessments in the village. After identifying the findings and problems KMWSC has taken new initiatives on installation and construction of improved cooking stoves in the village besides the solar work.

To start with 13 men and women from the local community were trained from 28th October to 6 November 2017 in collaboration with SAMUCHIT enviro tech, Pune who provided training support to the staff of KMWSC. 80% there will be no smoke with this new cooking stove, cooking will be faster with less firewood.

We hope to reach out to other islands with solar light intervention and construction of smokeless chulas/ improved cooking stoves.

This initiative gives them the opportunity to generate alternative income through assembling solar lamps and constructing smokeless chulas.

We also aim to promote self help group and women's group in the days to



Continuation...

Monitoring and support visit to ICS trainees in Sundarban

The technical expert Mr. Ravindra Deshmukh from SAMUCHIT, Pune has visited the trainees in Gosaba from 20th to 25th March 2018. We had meeting with BDO of Gosaba, Panchayat Pradhan of Rangabelia and Gosaba. This support visit was to get the feedback from the trainees and the families as well. We visited some of the houses in Chandipur where the ICS are installed.

On the second day we had meeting and evaluation with all the trainees regarding the construction of ICS. Each one shared about the problems and challenges on installing ICS. Ideas and suggestions were given by Mr. Ravindra. After meeting we had door to door house visit in the locality at Janargheri- 1. We had interaction with the women of families as they use the ICS in the families for cooking. This support visit gave a good platform to network with the government stakeholders in Sundarban.



Empowering vulnerable children as agents of change

Mainstreaming of the children of Multi Activity Centres (MAC).

A total of 27 children were enrolled in mainstream schools from the MAC centres in Chinikuthi, Talah, Baranagar, Cossipore, Rajabagan spread across the Kolkata Municipal Corporation and Bara Nagar Municipal.

Total enrolled	Male	Female
27	29.63%	70.37%



Visits over the months

- 25 volunteers (St. Stephens Green) from Dublin visited the MAC centres from 5th to 9th January 2018. The visit was very successful and the delegation felt that it gained a great insight into challenges faced by the slum children in their daily life. Each day the teacher divided groups among themselves. After reaching the centre they spent times with the children.
- 27(4 teachers + 23 students) Volunteers from Loreto Abbey, Toronto visited 4 MACs at Muraripukur(ward-32), Talah(ward – 5), Cossipore(ward-1) under KMC, Dunlop(ward -1) under Baranagar Municipality. They interacted with the children, performed action rhymes, songs, art, painting. They spent 3 hours with the children. It was great experience for the children as they never this kind of exposure this kind of people.



Lotus Child Project

Training

It is significantly important for the teacher's to closely interact with the children and impart knowledge to bring out the best in them with a positive attitude.

A comprehensive teacher's training for the trainers had been designed to develop training capacity to create a holistic learning atmosphere for providing quality education through the innovative methods to the children, to overcome a vast learning gap



Field Visits

It was such a joy to have Allanh's mother Mrs. Anne Marie Smith and her younger sister Richlle Smith who visited the project site and met the beneficiaries of Sonapota and Chaulgola project on 27th and 28th of February. It was a visit to listen to their queries and relook to plan strategically for the sustainable development al livelihood for the community

Women's Day

Women's Day is celebrated globally on 8th of March every year. But the celebration was prepone to have it celebrated with the two great women who travelled a long way to be with the community both in Sonapota and Chaulgola. The women and children showed great enthusiasm and interest by their active participation.



Continuation...

Meeting with Community Women

To mobilize the women of the community a meeting has been held at each centre.

- The women of Sonapaota are very enthusiastic and very much interested in the adult classes and aspire to learn as well as receive basic awareness on various topics to broaden their outlook and their life skills. Thus they have expressed their enthusiasm in looking forward to the activities to be conducted in the centre.
- The women of Chawlgola have shown their interest in the vocational exposure program and had given a good response at the meeting. They are more interested in income generating activities and in various mental nourishing activities on general Adult education give a chance to brush up the old skills or learn new ones, all in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere in the local venue itself. There is a wide range of lifelong learning activities, to encourage people of all ages and backgrounds to get into learning.

The adult education can take many forms and cover many different subjects as well as literacy and numeracy, many matured aged students study languages, and a range of other important lessons and skills. The main objective of this programme is to empower the women and continue the chain of educating another adult learner who is interested in gaining their confidence and independence.

Stakeholders Meeting

On 24th March 2018 stakeholder meeting was organized by the teachers from Sonapota centre South 24 Parganas. At the meeting the councillor, Mr Tarun Kanti Mondal Sonapota Ward 5 along with another ward office member.

After a short introductory conversation the following issues were discussed:

- Health checkups for the children and women from the community.
- Repairing the tube well at the centre for easy access of drinking water for the children.
- Repairing the road connecting to the centre.
- The making of the concrete bridge for the children to cross over safely. Especially during monsoon.
- The councillor was very positive in promising to extend his support for the children's safety and education.



Puppet Show

A puppet show was organized to sensitize the community members and the children on safe sanitation.

In the beginning of the programme the coordinator oriented the children about the general health and hygiene issues to gain the degree of knowledge of the hygienic habit they practice in their daily life.

The children were very active in responding to the resource person. As the show was interactive and informative the children were thrilled to be a part of it.



Continuation...

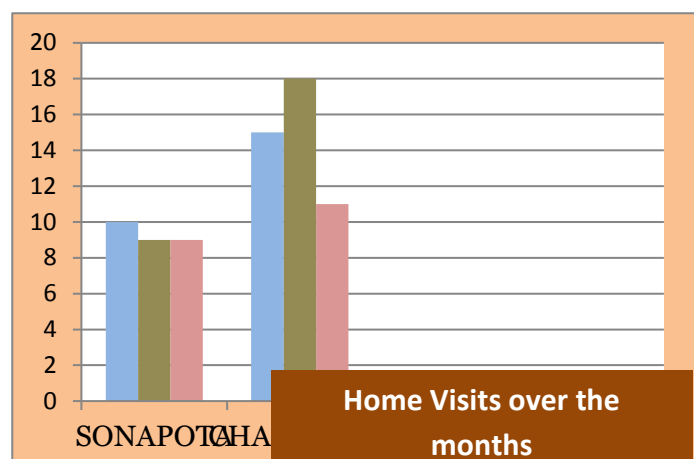
Parents Meeting

The meetings were conducted for an hour where the progress of the students their performance in school everything was discussed. The response at Sonapota and Chawalgola was satisfactory. The parents are satisfied with the remedial education provided to their children. The parents find the activity oriented lessons as rhymes, TLM for teaching to be very innovative and are happy that the centre is functional in their area. The parents were asked to inform about the needs of the students to which they made the following recommendations:

The parents of Sonapota expressed their gratitude for all the efforts been made for the community.

Total no. of Parents attending the Meeting

Sonapota centre	Chawalgola centre
23	25



Skill development

Tailoring Unit

The trainees are girls from marginalised community. They are trained for six months. They are taught cutting, drawing and stitching in their course.

In the last few months the unit has prepared 50 bags. They have catered to orders for 70 karate dress and 70 karate belts in the last 3 months. 21 candidates appeared for an examination in the month of February. There were 90 students in the previous batch and for the current batch the enrolment is still in process.



Bakery Unit

Apart from the regular school orders, there were regular orders from different, corporate houses, KMWSC projects and locals.



Continuation...



Beautician Unit

Important events over the months

- **Promotional events** - Auto campaign, leaflet distribution, poster campaign, magic show. On an average 400 people have been mobilized during each of these campaigns. On the whole approx 2000 people have been mobilized.
- **Batch Inauguration** – A formal induction and orientation of the trainees is carried out. The trainees share about their expectation. Parents had been invited too to make them aware of the possibilities they can create for their children through skill training.
- **Batch Convocation** – This is a formal procedure to end the batch after the certification. Close to 100 participants had been present. The parents were invited too. Students shared their experience and some of the ex students who are working as assistant beauticians in salons were invited to boost the confidence of the young trainees.
- **Cross learning visit** – This was done through Exemplar Academy of Beauty, in Park Circus. The visit enabled them to gather some additional and relevant knowledge about some of the important components covered during the course. They were exposed to new techniques of hair styling, fairy-tale make up and skin treatment. The classes were thoroughly enjoyed as the trainees were exposed to a beauty lab with modern and upgraded equipments.
- **Guest Lecture** – Additional and special classes had been arranged for all trainees. These classes were conducted by trained and established beauty experts from the industry, who are entrepreneurs in their own right. These classes were conducted to inculcate communicative skills, professional etiquette and customer handling.
- **Exam** - A third party external evaluation exam has happen on 23rd to 24th March 2018, which will include all candidates. The assessors took a three step evaluation, including theory, oral and demonstration. The students gave the exam in tablets as well to reduce the chances of errors.

Placement

Skill training bears fruit only when a trained candidate begins to earn a living in exchange of service; the knowledge of which has been acquired through learning. Creating employment scope through skill training is the newest mission that the government is stressing upon.

Name of the Parlour/Salon

Star & Style, Park Circus

Jawed Habib

Magic Mirror

Bombay Lady Parlour, Creek Road



Continuation...



Success Story

Laki Hari belongs to economically backward section of the community. Over the years watching her parents struggle to bring food on the plate for the family Laki always wanted to contribute in the family income. After completing her course from the KMWSC bakery unit. With the help of the KMWSC team she got the opportunity to work in the Bakery of Taj Gate Way Hotel.

Upcoming Programmes

From the month of April 2018 the Skill Development Unit will add two more programmes 1. Spoken English 2. Computer Education.

Providing protection and Education to vulnerable children in Sonagachi

Mainstreaming of Children to Schools:

Throughout the year the children who had dropped out of school were identified as well as those who had never been to school in spite of reaching school going age. Thus in the month of January 8 children were admitted to the local govt schools. Later in the month of March 2 more children have been admitted to school.

The handholding of the parents and the children and providing them with financial (admission fees), school bags and material assistance for the admission in schools has been supported by KMWSC.



Counselling

Psycho social support has been given to the children of Sonagachi who are vulnerable. The Counselor visited the Sonagachi Center and interacted with the children to know about their lifestyle. He also did home visit and meet with the parents. Group counselling organised with 10 children during this quarter.

Continuation...

Eye Check up Camp

KMWSC organised an eye camp in Collaboration with GKB optical on 22nd March'2018 at Cossipore 99 gali ward (1) under Kolkata Municipal Corporation. There were three Optometrists. It was started from 12 pm onwards. There were total 77 participated (F - 41, M - 36) in the camp. Out of this 38 will be provided specs and 11 were identified for Cataract Operation and 4 needs observation.



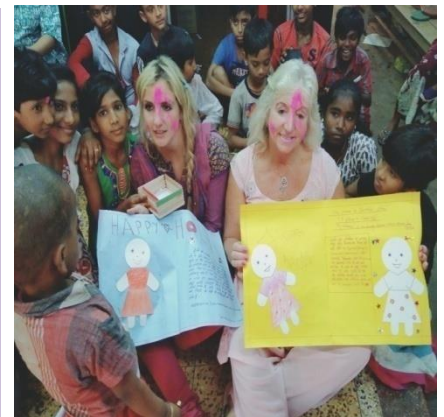
Future Plan

CLEAN INDIA MOVEMENT



Visits in the Project area

- Day before the festival of colour Holi the funder visited Sonagachi centre to meet with the little friends. They were accompanied by the Project coordinator and KMWSC representative. The children welcomed the visitors with "Abir" (the colour). The children were very much excited as it was the first time they celebrated the festival with new people. All the teacher like dance, drama, art & craft and the centre teacher attended the class on the same day. The small and the older children showed their dance, drama and painting whatever they learned from their respective teachers. Two students gifted two big cards to Richlle Smyth and Marie(Visitors), where the significance of holi, their(children) dreams and their experience about the centre was written on the card. The children and their mother thanked Alannah, Richelle and Annie Marie for their continuous support to continue their education and also to built their life skill.
- 27 volunteers (4 teacher and 23 students) from Loreto Abey, Toronto visited KMWSC office on 5th March, 2018. They were welcomed by the KMWSC staff in office. An orientation about the ongoing projects of KMWSC was shared by the individual project coordinators. 4 teachers were interested to visit the red light project area. And the children in the centre welcomed them. The teachers interacted with the children. They besides observing the classes also participated in classes with the children. Hence, they did home visits with the two staffs of the project. The objective of home visit was to gather knowledge about the situation of the area also to know about their living conditions.



Networking over the months

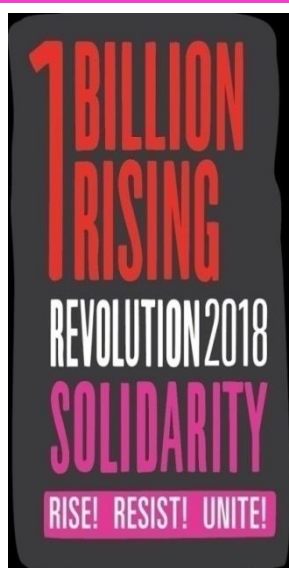
Sr. No	Hosted by	Topic	Date
1.	WBCPCR	Consultation on Child Trafficking	31 st January 2018
2.	Nomi Network	Anti- Human Trafficking	1 st February 2018
3.	Tata International	CSR	1 st February 2018
4.	West Bengal Renewal Agency	Smokeless chulas	16 March 2018
4.	KMWSC	Conference Forum Meeting	5 th February 2018
5	WBCPCR	Brickfield Migrant children	3 rd March 2018
6	Justice and Care, World Vision	Inter Faith conference on Child Protection	12 th March 2018
8	Cognizant	CSR	12 th March 2018
8.	Counsellor – Ward 18	OBR 2018	13 th February 2018
9.	NSHM	External evaluation	13 th March 2018
10.	Orion Edutech	PMKY and NSDC for Skill development	16 th March 2018
11.	KMWSC and B.Periwal & co.	Workshop on Accounting	17 th March 2018
12	West Bengal Renewal Agency	Smokeless chulas	19 th March 2018
13.	WBCPCR	Advocacy and Networking	27 th March 2018

One Billion Rising 2018

“SOLIDARITY”: RISE! RESIST! UNITE!

Once again, the theme of SOLIDARITY remains the focus of One Billion Rising 2018.

We are coming into a time defined by a fierce escalation of fascist, imperialist, neo-liberal attacks on the lives of people around the world. And the most marginalized – working class, minority and women on the margins in every part of the globe – experience the impact and are forced to confront these attacks on their welfare and rights and homes.



Why the location of venue for OBR was selected.

The venue for OBR 2018 was Jatin Maitra Park which is situated opposite to the India's largest red- light district Sonagachi. Its area contains several hundred multi-story brothels and an estimated more than 11,000 sex workers. Women and girls every hours are exploited and are subjected to abuse in Sonagachi.

Our main focus was to spread the message of One billion rising to ever corners of the dark lanes of Sonagachi.

Kolkata Rising

We danced to end the violence; we shake the earth into awareness on 17th February 2018 at Jatin Maitra Park from 11 AM to 2 PM.



Continuation....

Kolkata Rising

On 17th February 2018, Kolkata Mary Ward Social Centre-Loreto organised "One Billion Rising" Campaign at Jatin Maitra Park from 11 AM to 2 PM. The campaign was joined by approx 1500 population from different segments; Schools Local Community, NGO's and community people from different project areas of the organization along with our chief guest Dr. Manobi Bondopadia.

Dr. Manobi Bandopadhyia is India's first transgender principal and her presence not just motivated the transgender community but her never ending spirit to fight against the society to create a space for herself with dignity and honour intact has also encourage many women.



Snapshot of the event

- The programme was started with a short prayer by the KMWSC team members.
- The official flag off of the programme was done with an introduction of OBR followed by a flash mob on the OBR theme song "Break the chain" by the 140 students of Loreto Rainbow Bowbazar, Loreto School Bowbazar and Loreto School Entally.
- The first Performance was done by St. Ignatius School on the struggle of a girl child life.
- The 6 teachers from the brickfield school project performed on the social taboos and evils of dowry.
- Then the girls from Sree Vidya Niketan Girls' High School performed on the theme Woman being the ultimate source of power.
- The next performance was by father daughter duo. Mr. Kalyan Banerjee and Miss Sukanya Banerjee they are renowned, artist.
- The students of St. Mary's Orphanage & Day School, Dum Dum performed.
- Sr. Anet performed next in the OBR 2018 she is a gifted singer. The audience loved her song and sang along with her.
- Our next performance was by Komolgandhar, the cultural wing of Durbar Mahila Samannay. They performed on the modern women by comparing them with Draupadi.
- Our next performance was by Loreto Day School, Bowbazar. They performing on rising together in solidarity.
- Christopher lobo has been singing professionally in Kolkata for the last 10 years and he performed next. His songs made the crowd shake their foot along the beats.
- The next performance was by the girls of Loreto Convent Entally. The girls performed on Woman empowerment.
- Padadhwani the all women dance group performed on the theme -There is a new dawn.
- Loreto Rainbow Bowbazar performed on the dance drama trains its lens on the transgender; who have visible presence in a culture normally associated with strict gender divides.
- Our next performer was of KMWSC Project kids from the red- light area. The children performed on the theme of two Durgas.
- Then the crowd was cheering on the songs sung by the Voices the boys band. Kamran the lead vocalist of the band has accomplishments boasts of being the first ever Karaoke World Champion India in 2011.
- The end of the programme declared by flash mob performed by Loreto school Bowbazar, Loreto school Entally and Loreto Rainbow Bowbazar after the vote of thanks.

Continuation....

Facilitation of the honourable guests

- We felicitate the Mr. Mohan Kumar Gupta, Councillor Ward no. 17 and he assured the audience he would try his best to assist KMWSC to reach out to the vulnerable women's and girls' in his ward.
- We felicitate next the chief guest of OBR 2018 Dr Manabi Bandyopadhyay. She became India's first third gender principal at Krishnagar Women's College in Nadia district in West Bengal.



We salute the bravery of such heroes

- One survivor from the sex- trade share her tale of valour and grit - Situations make or break a man. The hurdles and the stiff cliffs we aim to climb, determines the path we choose. The chosen path reaches us to the destination and we become the heroes.
- Not all tales end in happily ever after. Some tales have more to tell after the happily ever after. We had one more survivor from sex trade who is a fiery fighter. She shared her story of struggle and how she got rescued.



Through the lenses



Directors Visit Phase I

Every year the director of KMWSC Sr. Monica visits all the project location of the organisation in multiple phases multiple times to monitor and evaluate all the project activities.

During the visit she meets with the project field associates, beneficiaries and interacts with the people from the local community.

The visits are conducted in two formats A) Scheduled B) Surprise.

Sr. No.	Project Name	Location
1	Brickfield School Project	Kalyani, Hooghly, North and South 24 Parganas
2.	Providing protection and Education to vulnerable children (Red Light Project Area)	Kolkata
3.	Lodha Community Project	South 24 Parganas
4.	Solar Enlighten and Community Empowerment Project	South 24 Parganas
5.	Lotus	South 24 Parganas
6.	Empowering vulnerable children as agent of change	Baranagar Municipality



Farewell for Sister Rani

On 28th March 2018 the entire KMWSC family came together to bid farewell to Sister Rani. The Time spent with her was special and memorable which will always be cherished.

The day continued with good wishes for the new journey from all the staff followed by a short recap of her days spent with us, games and team lunch.



Social Media Campaign

Why Social Media is important

Over the last few years, social media has emerged as an important medium of communication globally for reaching out to a vast audience. Currently there is a plethora of social media sites and applications that are being used by diverse organisations. The main purpose of using social media is to connect to a large audience spreading across the globe, within fraction of a second and spread your message.



For the month of January to March 2018 the KMWSC team focused on three key issues like 1. Animal Safety 2. Women's Day and 3. Feminine Hygiene. Through the help of our social media platform the organisation has generated awareness and advocacy in a larger forum.

<https://www.facebook.com/Kolkata-Mary-Ward-Social-Centre-Loreto-408814509556542/>
(Follow and like our page)

Spreading Far and wide



Thank you to all our friends and well-wishers

- We want to thank Loreto Day school Dharmatala for supporting the BFS project by donating dry food items.
- We want to thank the noble efforts of Loreto Day School Elliot Road who clothes and foods for our beneficiaries.
- We want to thank Loreto Day school Bowbazar for all their support towards our projects by providing clothes for the underprivileged.



Continuation...

Happiness in the form of Visitors

- In February 2018, 22 students and 3 teachers from St. Stephen's Green Ireland visited different project area of KMWSC.
- 27 volunteers (4 teacher and 23 students) from Loreto Abey, Toronto visited KMWSC office and other project areas.
- John Scottus coordinated with KMWSC team to visit the project areas.



Visit to DMWSC

- The director of KMWSC and Finance officer visited DMWSC in the month of February 2018.
- KMWSC Staff visited DMWSC in the month of March for project monitoring

Interns

- Mr. Sayandeep Pal 1st year's student of Masters in Social Work from Vidya Sargar School of Social Work has been doing his internship with KMWSC.
- Sr. Subhashini Lakra has been a part of KMWSC family from 28th January 2018 as she is been doing her internship in KMWSC



Happy
EASTER

Easter Celebration at KMWSC office



*Make this fire within us holy, and
in flame us with new Hope and
peace.....*

*May we always live as Easter People
with the spirit of Joy and Hope.....*

*On behalf of the entire KMWSC
family we wish you peace love and
happiness at Easter and always.....*

*Join us to share the gift of Trust and
Hope to make this world a caring
place for every one*

#KMWSC

Before the Easter Break the KMWSC family celebrated Easter on 28th March 2018 with the special prayer followed by team lunch.

