

ANNUAL REPORT

ANUBHAB



KULPI-ASTHA

AT & P.O. KULPI
DIST. SOUTH 24 PARGANAS
PIN 7433351
WEST BENGAL, INDIA

2017 - 2018

REPORT FROM THE DESK OF SECRETARY

To our donors and well-wishers....Kulpi-Astha has passed 16 years to the service of the people-in-need. Without any pomp and ostentation it serves them for changing their plight to attain a quality life with dignity and self-esteem.

We work primarily to benefit children, youth, women and elderly persons, irrespective of caste, creed and gender.

In our work, we emphasis more on capacity development introducing multifarious skill-oriented training courses. This drive enables especially unemployed youth and women to prepare them more adequately for self-employment / wage employment that in turn makes them to attain self-reliance.

Through education, nutrition and health care we have reached a sizeable number of children from poor and very needy families.

We are always beside the elderly persons living in neglect, misery and utter destitution. Within our limited financial capacity, we try to bring comfort in their lives.

We do admit that old is not obsolete. If properly guided, they are able to contribute much to their families and the society at large.

I am pleased to place the Annual Report of Kulpi-Astha for the financial year 2017-2018.

I take the privilege to extend my sincere thanks and deep gratitude to our donors and well-wishers for their unstinted co-operation and support to keep our drive on-going for people-in-need.

Last but not least, I feel pride for all our members, staff and volunteers who work as a team to the service of the suffering people. I convey my hearty thanks to all of them.



Kulpi
March 31, 2018

Ashis Kumar Pramanik
Secretary

KULPI ASTHA : A RESUME**Genesis:**

Origin of Kulpi-Astha lies in involvement of a group of youth in rescue and relief operation to save lives and belongings of cyclone-affected hapless village people in their quarter. It brought them in close contact with the community people. Their interaction with the people led them to develop a common platform for development of the village people, precisely benefitting those people living in poverty, illiteracy and ill-health. In 2002, they established Kulpi-Astha. Kulpi is the place of origin and Astha is the organization.

The connotation of Astha is confidence. The youth associated with the organization have stepped in creating a bond of confidence among themselves and also with those with whom they work. For commitment and dedication to the service to overcome the problems of most needy people, Kulpi-Astha has drawn acceptance of the people as a committed friend to them. In course of time, it has become a well-known NGO in the area. This is all about the background of Kulpi-Astha.

Legal Status:

- Registered under the West Bengal Societies Registration Act XXVI of 1961. No. 5/1L/10250 dated 26.06.2002
- Registered under FCRA, Govt. of India No. 147110784
- Income Tax Exemption under 12 (A) and u/s 80 (G)
- PAN : AAATK8409K

Vision

Promote rural life in all its completeness enabling the village people to live with dignity, self-esteem and self-reliance.

Mission

Ensure comprehensive development of village people, priority to those who are socially challenged and economically disadvantaged, irrespective of caste, creed and gender, for attaining a quality life.

Core Objective

Foster people's development through advancement in social, educational, cultural, physical, economic and other spheres of rural life in a congenial atmosphere.

Operational Spread

Housed in its our building at Kulpi, the organization has promoted a sound base in around 35 villages of 04 Blocks namely, Kulpi, Mandir Bazar, Kakdwip and Morgahat-II in South 24 Parganas district, West Bengal.

The people here largely belong to SC, OBC and Muslim families. The area is characterized as alluvial plains on the river basin of the Hooghly river being a part of Sundarban delta, not far away from the Bay of Bengal. Its economy largely depends on agriculture and its allied fields. During agricultural lean period, there is seasonal migration to adjoining urban areas, Kolkata and Howrah for manual and menial jobs. In the area, there is a large number of brick-fields on the northern bank of the Hooghly river, controlled by the outsiders.

Communication Net-work

The operational area of Kulpi-Astha is connected with Kolkata by the National Highway 117 and other parts of the district primarily by the State Highways. The main Railway Stations that connect the area with Kolkata are-Kulpi, Kakdwip, Namkhana in Namkhana-Sealdha Section and Diamond Harbour&Margahat in Diamond Harbour-Sealdha Section of Eastern Railway.

Management

At the apex, there is a General Body of all members of the organization. It is the supreme authority to critically examine the programmes implemented and the funds utilized during the last financial year and to approve the action plan and the budget for the next financial year in its Annual General Meeting (AGM).

The main Executive Body is the Managing Committee of 9 members elected from among the general members. The Secretary is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) who remains responsible for all financial, programme and personnel matters to both the General Body and the Managing Committee.

Under the leadership of the Secretary, day-to-day activities are being carried on by a core team of paid staff and volunteers in both administrative and field wings.

At the village-level, programmes are executed ably assisted by the 'Paradal' (the group functioning at the part of a village), the Village Development Committee and the Beneficiary Committees in each operational village.



Programme Support

For implementation of its programme activities, Kulpi-Astha, in the year under review, received the financial support from the sources mentioned below:

- Community Contribution
- Individual Donation
- Grants from State & Central Governments
- Sitaram Jindal Foundation
- Shamdasani Foundation
- Own Resources

Monitoring And Evaluation

The organization has developed an internal system for effective monitoring and evaluation by involving some experienced members and staff guided by the programme officer. The Secretary is the ex-officio chairperson in this system. The Village Development Committee in each operational village is also associated with this system

Our Contact

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E-mail : astha.kulpi@gmail.com | Website: kulpiastha.org.in

Story of Change

Sudipta leading a dignified life



Sudipta D/o Arabinda Mondal comes from a very needy family of Uttar Banandari village in Kulpi Block, South 24-Parganas district. She is a young girl of 19 years old. After completion of her graduation, she was in search of a white-collar job. But her search did not bear any fruitful result. Sudipta contacted KulpiAstha for Skill-training in a Beautician course. After a short-interview she was enrolled in a 3-month course in Beautician sponsored by West Bengal Swarajgar Corporation Ltd. at KulpiAstha premises.

After completion of the course, being advised by her parents, she started a home-based parlour. For her pleasant behavior and efficiency in parlour work she has become very popular among women and young girls in her area.

She is now very busy with her parlour. Her present monthly income is around Rs. 10,000/-

She is planning to make her home-based parlour well-equipped. She is also attending the marriage parties in the area for Bridal Make-up.

She now does not search a job outside. The parlour has made her self-employed. She lives with dignity and self-esteem.

PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE: 2017-2018**Child Education Centre**

For mainly first generation learners of local poor and very needy families, a Child Education Centre is run at Kulpi. There are 30 tiny tots in the age-group of 03-06 years. The Centre emphasizes on cognitive, emotional, physical and social development of the enrolled children. They heartily participate in the Centre activities. The programme coverage relates to the following activities :

- Per-School joyful learning
- Formation of the habits of health and hygiene
- Habit formation for good manners
- Regular Health Check-up
- Supplementary Nutrition
- Hobby Classes
- In-door games
- Enrollment in Primary School

During the reporting year, 40% of the children were enrolled in local Primary School. No one is found to be school drop-out.

Study Centre

To perform academically better, a group of 30 school-going boys and girls belonging to poor families, in Standard-V to Standard-VIII were provided with tutorial support in a Study Centre. The Centre is voluntarily run by 04 members of Kulpi-Astha.

The enrolled children made progress in the last class-examination as graded below:

Performance	Outstanding	Good	Moderate	Total
Number	07	19	04	30
Percentage	23.3	63.4	13.3	100.0

Story of Change

Where there is a will.....



Sandip S/o Chandi Charan Pramanik hails from a very needy OBC family of Durganagar village under Kulpi Block in South 24-Parganas district. He is an energetic youth. He successfully completed the Higher Secondary Examination. For much economic hardship of the family, he could not continue his studies.

Having heard from a friend, Sandip made an application to Kulpi Astha for skill training in Refrigeration. After a short-interview, he was selected for a 6-month course in Refrigeration sponsored by Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of West Bengal at Kulpi Astha. He completed the course from 01 February 2016 to 31 July 2016.

With a small capital fund from his family, Sandip started a home unit for repairing and servicing of refrigeration.

He toils hard to run his home unit. He is now earning, on an average, Rs. 12,000/- per month from his unit.

He is quite happy. In his words, "I am now a self-employed person living with dignity and self-esteem." He often quotes the words of Swami Vivekananda, "It would be better if the people got a little technical education, so that they might find work and earn their bread, instead of dawdling about and crying for service."

Astha Health Programme:

With financial support mainly from Sitaram Jindal Foundation, the organization rendered the services viz. diagnosis, treatment and medical advices to 1286 patients from its Homeopathy Clinic, coming from adjoining 05 villages in the reporting year.

Besides the Clinic, Kulpi-Astha conducted the following health care services:

- Health Education : 856 Beneficiaries
- Health Counseling : 284 „
- First Aid : 436 „
- Hospitalization : 132 „

Astha READ

With a view to promoting rural environment and sensitization among the villagers for performing their social responsibility towards environment conservation, the organization through its Rural Environment Awareness Development Programme made the following interventions during the year under review:

Intervention	No.of Participants
AGP on Protection from Dengue fever due to stagnation of clean water	62
AGP on Cleaning Rural Drinking Water Sources	58
Orientation on Promotion of Greenery of Rural Environment	46
Awareness building on pollution & its control	52
AGP on Proper Disposal of Kitchen Waste & Garbage	58

Plantation

With a view to checking soil corrosion and degradation, the organization distributed both forest and fruit seeding among 500 families in the area. It also oriented them about plantation and post-plantation care to maintain high survival rate of seedlings.

Story of Change

Empowered Woman Leads A Dignified Life



Tanuja W/o Samsuddin Molla is from a very needy family of Paschim Gopalnagar Village of Kulpi Block, South 24-Parganas district. To assist her husband economically she decided to do something on her own.

Having heard from a neighbour, Tanuja made an application to KulpiAstha for skill-training in Tailoring. After a short-interview she was selected for a 6-month course in Garment Design and Dress Making. She successfully completed the course on 31st December 2013.

With a meager capital fund from the family she started a home unit in Tailoring & Garment Making. She is now earning about Rs. 6000/- per month from her unit. During the festive seasons it is more.

Tanuja is in view that no member in her family now passes even a night without food. From her income, she also saves a little for emergency / future need.

Workshop

In its campus, Kulpi-Astha conducted the following workshops:

- 2-day Workshop on Disaster Management with 35 rural youth
- 1-day Workshop on Solar-a renewable energy source with 42 villagers

Street-Corner Puppet Show

In 2 places, the organization conducted the puppet shows on the following issues:

Subject	Venue	No. of Viewers
Atrocities on Women	Mandir Bazar	365
Safety on Road	Mollickpur	296

Blood Donation Camp:

The organization conducted a Blood Donation Camp at Kulpi, it has performed its social responsibility by responding to "Let us live; give us a drop of blood" the inner voice of the patients-in-need of blood, especially the Thalassemia patients who need frequent blood transfusions. A group of 71 donors donated their blood. Of them, 63 were male and 08 female donors.

Skill-training Programme:

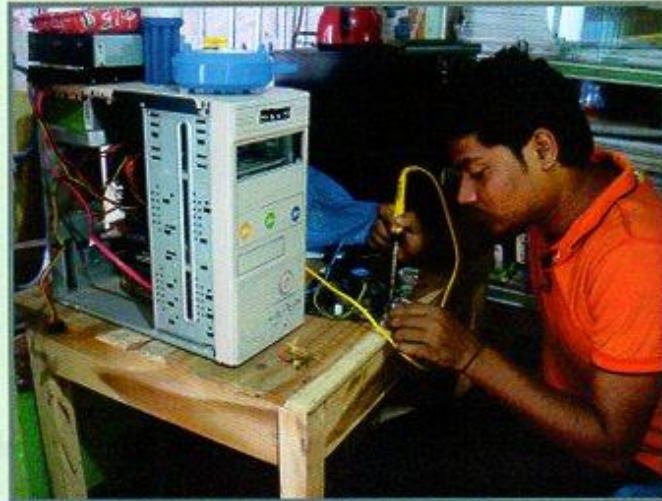
Kulpi-Astha accords due importance to develop technical efficiency, professional competence for self-employment / wage employment and a zest for life among unemployed youth and women in its quarter.

During the reporting year, the organization conducted the following training courses as a part of livelihood support drive:

SI	Name of the Course	No. of Batches	Total No. of Participants	Funded by
1	Garment Design & Dress Making	01	30 Women	Department of SHG & SE, Govt. of W.B.
2	Kantha Stitch	01	20 Young boys & 10 girls	- Do -
3	Solapith	01	30 Women	- Do -
4	Computer Software	01	30 Women	- Do -
5	Tailoring & Garment Making	08	240 Women	West Bengal Swarojgar Corp. Ltd.
6	Beautician	01	30 Women	- Do -
7	Goat Farming	12	306 Women & 54 Men	- Do -
	TOTAL	25	750	

Story of Change

Where hope not disappears



Manas S/o Ramprasad Mondal belongs to a very needy SC family of Kulpiin, South 24-Parganas district. He somehow completed the Higher Secondary Examination. Owing to economic hardship of the family he could not continue his studies. He was in search of a white-collar job. But his search was invain.

Manas applied to KulpiAstha for Computer Hardware training. He was selected for a 6-month course in Computer Hardware sponsored by Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of West Bengal. He successfully completed the course from 12 July 2014 to 11 January 2015.

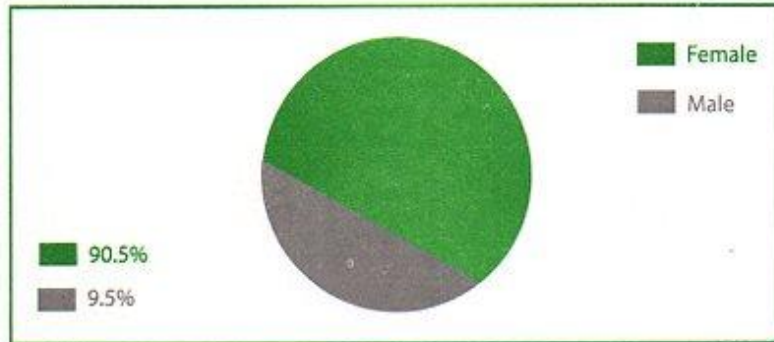
With a small capital fund from his parents he started a home-based servicing unit in computer repairing and servicing. He also moves from Kulpi to other places like Diamond Harbour, Kakdwip, etc. for his job.

At present, his monthly income from the unit is about Rs. 15000/- . He is happy to work in his own unit.

He is in view, " I am now really a self-employed person."

In organizing the vocational training, Kulpi-Astha truly follows the words of Swami Vivekananda, "It would be better if the people got a little technical education, so that they might find work and earn their bread, instead of dawdling about and crying for service."

From the graph below, it reveals that bulk of the participants hailed from local women from very needy families and the rest come from unemployed young boys:



Social Relief:

To save the hapless aged men and women, Kulpi-Astha distributed the winter garments covering 751 beneficiaries. In chilling cold of winter these elderly persons could feel comfort. The humane touch brought back smile in their faces. With smile they expressed, "We are now able to sleep well".

Art & Culture:

- Drawing & Painting Competition : 60 Participating School-going Children
- Alpana (a decorative art work) : 32 Village women & young girls
- Annual Cultural Meet-ANANDALOKAY : 36 Performers in dance, drama, recitation, vocal music, etc.

Others:

- Observance of Foundation Day (June 26)
- Observance of Important National & International Days
- Annual Sports Competition



Beautician Training



Blood Donation Camp



Puppet_Show



Shuli Industrial Officer
Kulpi Block distributing plants



Training in Tailoring Course
(W.B.S.R.C.L)



Trainees in Goat Farming

KulpiAsth acts as a catalyst for development of poor and marginalized people in rural milieu. Its efforts are for the wellbeing of the meanest and the most downtrodden, socially and economically, attaining a quality life and living. In this venture it has still miles to go. And it deserves that like minded people and development agencies will be with KulpiAsth and provide immense co-operation and assistance for ameliorating the suffering humanity.

To conclude with the words of Swami Vivekananda.

"Arise ! Awake ! Stop not till the goal is reached"

YOU CAN HELP US

Fund Support

Material Support

Moral Support

Extend your helping hand to the aged in distress

Visit us to boost our drive



Trainees in Kantha Stitch



Trainees in Shola Pith



Trainees with their finished products (Tailoring)



Training in Tailoring Course (SHG & SE)



Winter Garments to Hapless Villagers



Participants in Awareness Camp

Our Thanks

In our drive for the people-in-need, we have received generous support and co-operation from different govt. and non-govt. agencies / departments and philanthropic individuals. We express our sincere thanks and profound gratitude to all of them for their magnanimous assistance to keep our endeavour on-going for the well-being of the village people in distress.

1. Ministry of Textile, Government of India
2. Ministry of Culture, Government of India
3. Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprise, Govt. of India
4. Central Social Welfare Board
5. West Bengal Social Welfare Board
6. West Bengal Women Development Undertaking
7. West Bengal State Council of Technical Education
8. Department of Science & Technology, Government of West Bengal
9. West Bengal Swarojgar Corporation Limited
10. SHG & SE Department, Government of West Bengal
11. Department of Sports & Youth Service, Government of West Bengal
12. Oil & Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC)
13. Sitaram Jindal Foundation
14. Shamdassani Foundation
15. Dr. Ashok S. Ganguly, MP, Rajya Sabha
16. Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation
17. District Administration, South 24 Parganas
18. Panchayat Raj Institutions, South 24 Parganas
19. Nehru Yuba Kendra, Diamond Harbour
20. Block Development Office(s), Kulpi, Mandir Bazar, Kakdwip, Magrahat-1
21. Block Primary Health Centre, Kulpi
22. Bani Mandir, Khordanala, South 24 Parganas
23. UBI, Kulpi Branch
24. State Bank of India, Kulpi Branch
25. State Bank of India, Mandir Bazar Branch
26. U.C.O. Bank, Kulpi Branch

And all other well-wishers and friends who like to remain behind the curtain