



2022-23

ANNUAL REPORT

SARANI

**Society for Action on Rehabilitation
Awareness Networking & Information**

www.sarani.net

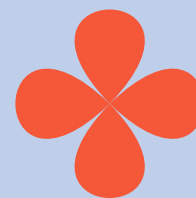


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About SARANI

SARANI's main goal is to strengthen the capacity of marginalized women in poor communities by promoting their social, political, economic, and cultural participation for holistic development in society.

To achieve this goal, **SARANI** has established the following objectives:

- Empower women, adolescent girls, and youths through skill development programs
- Provide education to women and their children
- Ensure good health for women and children
- Create employment opportunities for women and youth through alternative means and mechanisms
- Promote sustainable and judicious utilization of local natural resources by women
- Reinforce rural and urban community-based organizations to neutralize disruptive forces
- Inculcate women's rights and their involvement in socio-political and economic transformation
- Promote societal peace and harmony

Vision Statement:

SARANI aims to provide a grassroots-level platform for underprivileged women to empower themselves through vocational training programs. By utilizing their own resourcefulness, insight, and innovativeness, these women can achieve food and livelihood security, leading to peaceful and harmonious lives with equal justice and gender equality.

Mission Statement:

SARANI is an independent, non-governmental organization dedicated to ensuring the rights of women in both rural and urban slums. Over the next decade, SARANI will work across 50 villages and urban slums throughout West Bengal, targeting SCs, STs, OBCs, and other deprived members of society.

SARANI - Registration Details

**SARANI is a non-profit, voluntary organization having its Main Office at
156/1, B.T. Road Kolkata-700108.**

It is registered under:

- A. Societies Registration Act of the Govt. of West Bengal**
- B. Registered Under FCRA Act of the Govt. of India**
- C. Having Permanent Account Number under IT Act**
- D. Registered U/S 12A of the IT Act**
- E. Registered U/S 80G (5) (VI) of the IT Act**
- F. Registered under NGO Darpan of Niti Ayog**
- G. Registered under CSR Act of Government of India, Ministry of Corporate Affair**

Secretary's Message

Dear Friends

I am delighted to present the annual report of SARANI, a testament to our shared commitment and tireless efforts toward fostering positive change in our community. This year has been marked by remarkable achievements across various fronts, and I am immensely proud to share our progress and milestones with you.



In the realm of education, we have extended the gift of learning to 290 underprivileged children, providing them with access to quality education. Witnessing the transformative power of education in their lives has been truly rewarding. Moreover, our dedication to skill training has yielded substantial results. We've empowered 210 young individuals with essential skills, paving the way for their brighter futures. Among them, 135 have successfully secured job placements, signifying a tangible impact on livelihoods and economic empowerment. Our foray into sustainable agriculture through vermicomposting has uplifted 125 marginal farmers. Through the use of vermicompost, these farmers not only enhanced crop cultivation but also augmented their income by selling surplus produce.

Our awareness programs, have resonated with the community. Over 1,800 individuals actively participated in 42 programs covering critical topics such as environment conservation, child rights, anti-trafficking measures, and self-help group administration and more. These sessions have empowered individuals with crucial knowledge and fostered a deeper understanding of pressing social issues. None of these accomplishments would have been possible without the unwavering support of our donors and well-wishers. Your generosity and encouragement have been the cornerstone of our success. Your belief in our vision and dedication to our cause have fueled our endeavors and enabled us to create a meaningful impact in the lives of many. I extend heartfelt gratitude to each one of you for being an integral part of our journey. Together, we've made a difference, and your continued support is invaluable as we strive to expand our horizons and reach greater heights in our mission.

Antara Ghosh Sarma
Founder - Secretary

SARANI Board Members

1	Udita Ghosh Sarkar	President
2	Mita Mukherjee	Vice President
3	Antara Ghosh Sarma	Founder, Secretary
4	Banya Ghoshal	Treasurer
5	Tanuja Ghosh	Asst. Secretary
6	Jayanti Sarkar	Member
7	Pamlu Sen	Member



The comprehensive integrated approaches of SARANI

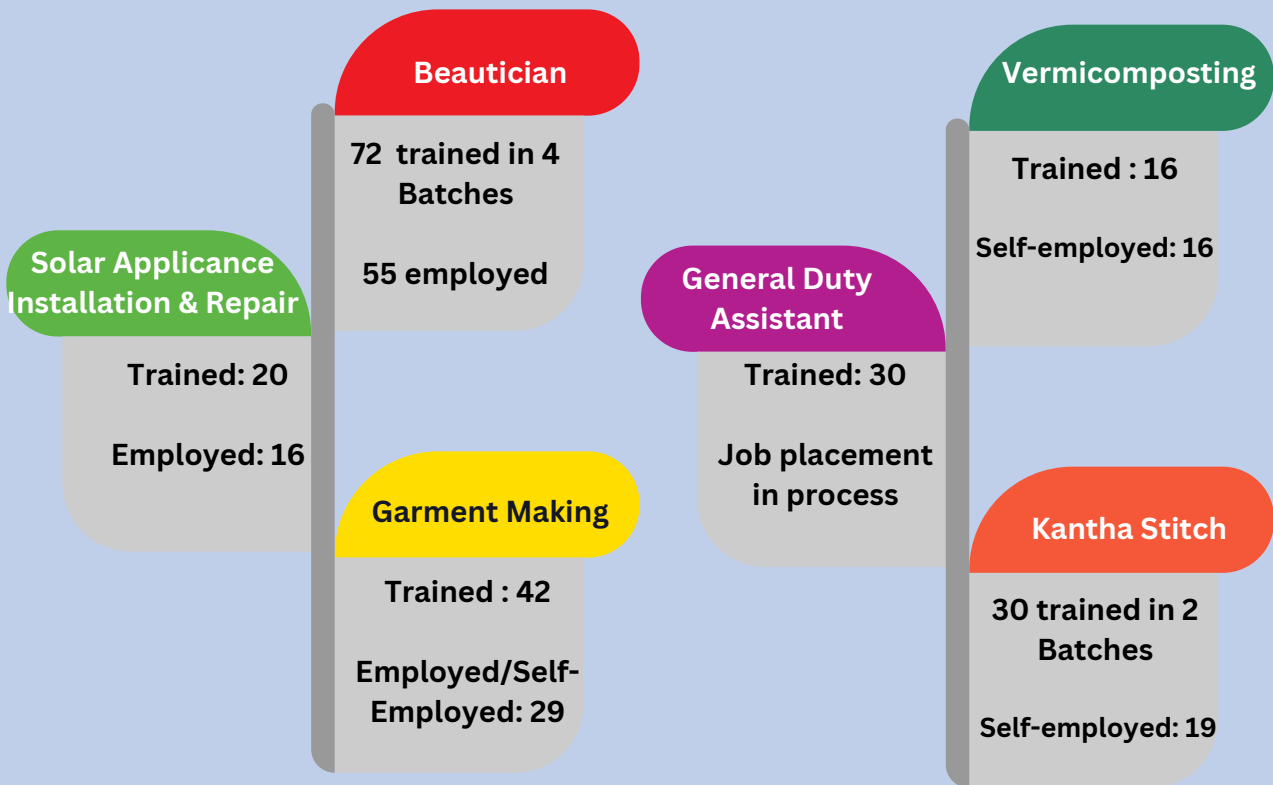
Empowering Through Various Schemes. SARANI aims to empower individuals and communities through a range of initiatives:

- **ATMANIRBHAR:** Encouraging self-sufficiency and independence
- **SAMPOORNA SWASTHA:** Promoting health maintenance and protection
- **SIKSHA JYOTI:** Providing education and knowledge to empower individuals
- **SWAWLAMBAN:** Fostering self-dependency in women and adolescent girls
- **KISHORI SHAKTI:** Empowering young girls through skill development in areas such as First Aid Nursing and Beautician courses
- **SACHETANA:** Raising awareness about education, healthcare, sanitation, organic farming, employment, and the environment
- **SPORTS FOR YOUTH:** Encouraging athletic activities among village girls for their overall development and well-being
- **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT:** Promoting awareness and action to protect our environment.



SARANI in collaboration with Inner Wheel, Calcutta West organised a Cancer Awareness for Women in Kheyadah Gram Panchayat, S. 24 Parganas

Skill Development Programs



2022-23
Skill Trained - 210
135 - Employed

SARANI conducts Vocational Training Programmes for skill development of women and youth with a view to ensure enhancement of knowledge and livelihood options. The Organization, in collaboration with esteemed donor agencies such as BPCL, FVTRS, P.C Chandra to provide vocational training in rural and urban areas of West Bengal. Creating job opportunities and options for income generation for the underprivileged community is the basic objective of such programmes. This year, vocational training was given on Garment Making, Vermicompost, GDA, Solar Applications, Kantha Stitch and Beautician courses.

Education

SARANI's remedial education project helped **288 deprived children** with educational support in the Samshernagar, Parghumti and Kalitala villages of the Sunderban area. All the children selected for this project come from impoverished families who are not in a position to provide educational support to their children. Being first-generation learners the children find it hard to cope with the academic curriculum and tend to drop out of the formal education system. Another reason for children dropping out is the family's poor economic condition. The parents feel tempted to send the children to work to earn extra income. This project has helped retain the children within the formal education system by providing education support outside of school hours and parental counselling to help them understand and appreciate the long-term benefits, economic and social for the family as a whole. We thank our sponsors M/s. P.C. Chandra Jewelers for part sponsoring SARANI's Education Project.



Above: SARANI's Remedial Education Class - Medha Bikash in Samshernagar, Sunderban
Below: Health and Hygiene class in progress Parghumti, Sunderban



100% Retention in Formal Education System, Up from 65%
100% pass rate and promotion to the next class

Parents & community leaders get involved in advocating children's right to education

Below: Computer Class in Sunderban



Awareness Programs

Sustaining development hinges on widespread awareness among the populace—a crucial factor often overlooked. Insufficient information acts as a barrier, preventing people from fully leveraging developmental initiatives. Even when people have a basic understanding of these initiatives, their unfamiliarity with the associated norms and procedures poses a challenge. To address this gap, SARANI regularly conducts Awareness Camps aimed at informing and inspiring participants, bridging the knowledge divide and empowering them with essential insights into these initiatives' intricacies.

S N	AWARENESS PROGRAM	NO. OF PROGRAMS	PARTICIPANTS	IMPACT
1	Environment protection & Pollution Reduction	06	298	Participants are aware of the need to protect h environment and adopt practices like forming watch groups to prevent the illegal felling of trees.
2	Children's Rights	10	470	Community is aware of various forms of child abuse and ways to prevent them. children and adults pledge to prevent child marriages.
3	Reproductive Child Health	06	448	Participants got to know about the Six key components of the RCH program, Maternal Health, Child Health, Nutrition, Family Planning, Adolescent Health (AH) and PC-PNDT.
4	Resisting Human Trafficking	04	120	Community is aware of the reasons and factors responsible for human trafficking. and are informed about the rules and protection mechanisms to protect innocent children and women.
5	Information on Legal Rights	04	128	Participants informed of the basic laws needed in our day to day life in order to confront .issues concerning fundamental rights and consumer rights.
6	Orientation on Strengthening SHG's	12	352	Women expand their their knowledge on functions of SHGs, like administration, negotiating bank loans, customer development etc.

Towards a Sustainable Development Model for the Fragile Sunderban Ecology

SARANI is playing a pivotal role in fostering environmental consciousness among the locals in the Sunderbans, particularly through its initiatives in Samshernagar, a remote hamlet in the Sundarban area of North 24 Parganas, West Bengal. By constructing 25 vermicompost pits for 120 underprivileged families, SARANI has not only provided essential infrastructure but also empowered these families. Through this effort, 125 marginal farmer families have reaped financial benefits by producing organic manure at no additional cost, bolstering the fertility of the saline affected irrigation lands. Encouraging the adoption of bio-pest controllers among these families further contributes to sustainable agricultural practices.

200 Marginal Farmers are cultivating chemical free crops



Sita Mondal of Samshernagar village makes and uses vermicompost in their farm



This project stands as a beacon for maintaining ecological equilibrium, ensuring a cleaner environment in multifaceted ways. SARANI's endeavors in the Sunderbans exemplify the transformative impact of community-driven environmental initiatives, fostering both local empowerment and environmental sustainability.

Health & Hygiene

The Health and Hygiene Project in Sunderbans aims to address critical health concerns by implementing comprehensive training programs and distributing essential hygiene products. Focused on handwashing, hygienic food preparation, personal hygiene, and menstrual health, this initiative targets both adolescent girls and the wider community.

1. **Handwashing Training:** Conducting workshops and training sessions to emphasize the importance of proper handwashing techniques using soap and water. Practical demonstrations and educational materials are employed to ensure effective learning and implementation.
2. **Hygienic Food Preparation:** Training modules designed to educate community members on safe and hygienic food handling practices. Emphasis is placed on storage, cooking methods, and avoiding contamination to prevent foodborne illnesses.
3. **Personal Hygiene:** Comprehensive sessions covering various aspects of personal hygiene, including dental care, grooming, and overall cleanliness. Practical tips and demonstrations are provided to encourage healthy habits.
4. **Menstrual Health Awareness:** Distribution of sanitary napkins to adolescent girls, accompanied by educational workshops addressing menstrual hygiene management. Breaking taboos and providing access to hygienic products are fundamental aspects of this initiative.
5. **Soap Distribution:** Community-wide distribution of soaps to promote regular handwashing and personal cleanliness. Collaborating with local partners ensures equitable access to these essential items.



A Sanitary Napkin distribution program for adolescent girls and women in Sunderban

The Young Inspire Us

My name is **Radharani Gayen**, I am 14 years old and studying in Class IX, in Samshernagar High School. My father Asit Gayen is a farm labourer. His earnings are not enough to make ends meet and often we do not have enough to eat. Our family is classified as Below Poverty Line. My mother Chandana looks after the home consisting of myself, two siblings, parents and grandparents. My parents were not inclined to send me to school because of the expenses. A year ago they fixed my marriage to a person from another village. I did not want to get married so early. I want to study and build a career for myself. The Didi's from **SARANI** spent a lot of time to convince my parents about the importance of education. I attend SARANI's **Medha Bikash** Classes that has helped me improve my grades. I am grateful that SARANI is helping me to achieve my dream of becoming educated so that I can help my family's condition.



I'm **Sudipta Mondal**, 16 years old, studying Class X, I had to drop out due to my family's economic condition. Moreover i wasn't able to cope with the syllabus as I had no one to turn to for help in my studies. Fortunately SARANI came to my rescue and invited me to join their Remedial Education Centre known as Medha Bikash. After regularly attending the Medha Bikash Classes, I gradually gained confidence and got readmitted in school. That was a year ago, now I am doing well in studies. My father is a farm labourer and my mother stays at home. And when there is no work in the farm he goes into the dense jungle to collect crabs. It is dangerous as many people from my village have lost their lives to tiger attacks and snake bites when they went crab collecting or fishing inside the forest. We feel scared and worried at such times and spend our time praying for his safe return. With **SARANI's** help I will complete my education and get employed in a job so that I can help my family and help educate my younger siblings.

Photo Gallery



Swachata Pakhwada in Sunderbans supported by BPCL



General Duty Assistant (GDA) Training in Baruipur, South 24 Parganas



SARANI Stall was a great hit at the Karigari Haat supported by NABARD



Shefali Mondal, a marginal farmer in Sunderbans sells the surplus vermicompost in the market

Grateful Acknowledgements



NABARD



**West Bengal Women
Development Undertaking**



Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited



P.C. Chandra Jewelry Apex Pvt. Ltd.



HDFC Parivartan



Inner Wheel Club, Calcutta West

**Special Thanks to our Individual
Donors and Well Wishers**