

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

**Society for Action on Rehabilitation Awareness Networking and
Information (SARANI)**



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About SARANI

A non-governmental organization named the Society for Action on Rehabilitation Awareness Networking & Information (SARANI) was established in Kolkata, West Bengal, in 2003.

SARANI is committed to safeguarding the rights of small and marginalized women in low- income urban and rural settlements throughout West Bengal. The organization is formally registered under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) and the West Bengal Government Societies Registration Act. SARANI's primary goal is to empower women to become self-sufficient and break free from the constraints of marginalization and dependency, enabling them to play an active role in society and live with equality and dignity.

Vision

SARANI aspires to provide a community based grassroots level platform that would provide empowerment to women through adoption of various in-built vocational training programs. The organization aspires to ensure livelihood security to women to lead a dignified life with peace, equality, mutual respect, justice and harmony.

Mission

SARANI is an independent, non-Governmental Organization (NGO) dedicated to ascertain women rights in the rural and urban slums across West Bengal and different parts of the country.

Goal

SARANI's primary goal is to empower women through education, skill development, economic independence, social empowerment, advocacy, healthcare, and community development. They offer training programs that focus on raising awareness of social issues, improving literacy, and providing vocational skills to help women become self-sufficient. Additionally, SARANI assists women in low-income areas by providing economic opportunities and advocating for gender equality. They also conduct initiatives to enhance access to healthcare services and address issues like domestic abuse and malnutrition. Overall, SARANI aims to create a fairer and more just society by empowering women at various levels.

Genesis

Organization	Society for Action on Rehabilitation, Awareness, Networking & Information (SARANI)
Date & Year of Establishment of NGO (Registration No.) {Trust/Society}	03.04.2003 The society is Registered under Societies Registration Act XXVI of 1961, Govt. of West Bengal S/IL/14817 of 2003-2004
Registered Address	156/1, B.T. Road, Dunlop, Kolkata 700108 West Bengal, India.
Address for communication	152 B.T. Road, Dunlop, Kolkata 700108
Contact person's Name:	Smt. Antara Ghosh Sarma
Designation	Secretary, SARANI
Telephone Mobile Number	+91-983-042-7615
Email Id	Kolkata.sarani @gmail.com
Website (with links)	www.saraninari.com
12A Registration	DIT(E)/S-338 8E/145/06-07
80G with Validity period	DIT (E)/8E/145/06-07, extended in perpetuity unless specifically withdrawn.
FCRA No	Registration under Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976. Registration number: - 147110902
PAN No.	AACAS3652F
CSR No	SRN-T11793379
TAN No.	CALS49041G
No. of staffs in the organization	15 staffs Project based staffs: Need based

Secretary's Message



I'm happy to put before our well-wishers and supporters, the success story of the Society for Action on Rehabilitation Awareness Networking & Information (SARANI) in the year 2023 – 24 through the Annual Report.

We continued our work in impacting the lives of marginalized and most vulnerable groups, women, youth both Boys and Girls, and children – all of those are most neglected in the area and where the felt need is more. Our challenge is multiplied by the fact that we work in the close vicinity of the Sunderbans area which is the largest Delta and the mangrove forests which have Tigers, Crocodiles, and other wildlife. This area is now regularly affected by Cyclones and other natural disasters.

The years 2023-24 were very special for SARANI in many ways. As part of our work with many donors and partners, we could see some tangible impacts of our awareness and skilling work which led to livelihood opportunities among the stakeholders with whom we work.

I want to share my gratitude, particularly to the Board Members and all other colleagues at SARANI who have striven hard to uphold the traditions at work and deserve appreciation for the quality output.

I would also like to thank all our donors and supporters who have been pillars of our strength for many years. My sincere gratitude also goes to our corporate partners who have supported us through CSR projects. I on behalf of the entire Board Members and SARANI Team would like to thank the Banks and others for their support.

Finally, I would like to thank all the women, youth, and Men without their support we would not be what we are today.

Every year when we reflect on our work and what needs to be done we realize that we have only just begun, that we have a long way to go and many miles before we sleep.

Thank you for love and support.

Warm personal regards,

(Antara Ghosh Sarma)

Secretary

Organization Details

Thematic Working Areas:

The goal of SARANI is to empower marginalised women in West Bengal, and to that end, the organisation focuses its efforts on a few major area themes. To make sure that its activities and initiatives are comprehensive, impactful, and sustainable, the organisation bases them on these core areas.

(1) Women Empowerment

- **Vocational Training:** Offering women in rural and urban regions vocational training is a top priority for SARANI. These training programs are designed with the needs and goals of the women in mind, assisting them in gaining skills that are applicable to their local economies and marketable.
- **Skill Development:** SARANI provides programs for women to improve their ability in a variety of trades, in addition to vocational training. With the help of these programs, women will be more employable and able to launch their own enterprises, which will boost their financial independence.
- **Income Generation:** SARANI actively seeks to provide women with chances for income generation through market connections, the provision of resources for launching small businesses, and ongoing assistance to guarantee the success of these endeavours.

(2) Health and Education

- **Access to Healthcare:** SARANI acknowledges the role that healthcare plays in the overall empowerment of women and their families. With an emphasis on nutrition, cleanliness, and the health of mothers and children, the organisation makes preventive and curative healthcare services more accessible.
- **Initiatives in Education:** An essential aspect of SARANI's mission is education. With a focus on female child education, the organisation supports women's and children's access to both formal and informal education. By guaranteeing that all children, especially girls, have access to high-quality education, SARANI's educational initiatives seek to end the cycle of poverty.
- **Health Awareness Programs:** SARANI runs health awareness programs to inform local populations about preventative medicine, important health behaviours, and the value of routine check-ups. The goal of these initiatives is to arm women with information that can enhance their health and that of their families.

(3) Sustainable Development

- **Use of Local Resources:** In order to guarantee long-term economic development, SARANI advocates for the sustainable use of natural and local resources. Through the utilisation of community resources, SARANI assists women and their families in establishing sustainable means of subsistence.
- **Eco-Friendly companies:** The group encourages the growth of environmentally conscious cottage and village companies that not only provide jobs but also help to protect the environment. In order to ensure their long-term viability, these industries are made to be commercially viable, culturally appropriate, and sustainable.
- **Environmental Conservation:** To make sure that progress does not come at the expense of the environment, SARANI incorporates environmental conservation into its initiatives. The group advocates actions that help increase public understanding of the need of safeguarding natural resources and environmentally sustainable.

(4) Sustainable Development

- **Emphasis on Gender Equity:** SARANI's mission is centered on gender equity, which serves as a guiding concept for all of its activities. The group strives to guarantee women's equal access to opportunities, resources, and decision-making processes in their local communities.
- **Empowering Women as a Leader:** empower women by involving them and putting them in a leadership role within their communities. Women's involvement in all facets of communal life, from economics to governance, is actively encouraged by the organisation.
- **Challenging Gender stereotypes:** One aspect of SARANI's mission is attempting to overcome gender stereotypes that impede women's opportunities and rights. Through promoting gender parity and increasing awareness, SARANI hopes to build a society in which women are seen as equal members.

What Sets Us Apart?

The Society for Action on Rehabilitation Awareness Networking & Information (SARANI) as a Non-Government Organisation, has always tried innovative and practical approaches to any program, working out on a topic, implementation of the works, in each field we have tried to set a new milestone for us, learning from the past works and setting up some unique working ideas. Here are some key points, which set us apart:

(1) Grassroots approach:

The communities that SARANI supports are fundamental to its operations. The group is of the opinion that problems should be solved from the ground up by interacting with the community to learn about its needs, goals, and difficulties. Because of this grassroots methodology, SARANI's programs are more pertinent and impactful because they are customised to the unique circumstances of each community.

(2) Community-Driven Initiatives:

In all facets of its operations, SARANI places a high value on community involvement. The activities of the organisation are intended to be community-driven, which means that those who gain from them also actively participate in their conception, implementation, and assessment. Community members feel more accountable and owned when using this participatory strategy, which produces more long-lasting results.

(3) Utilization of Local Resources:

One of SARANI's key differentiators is its focus on leveraging local resources. The organization believes in harnessing the potential of the communities it serves by utilizing their existing assets, whether they be natural resources, traditional skills, or local knowledge. By doing so, SARANI ensures that its programs are sustainable and can be maintained by the community long after the organization's direct involvement ends.

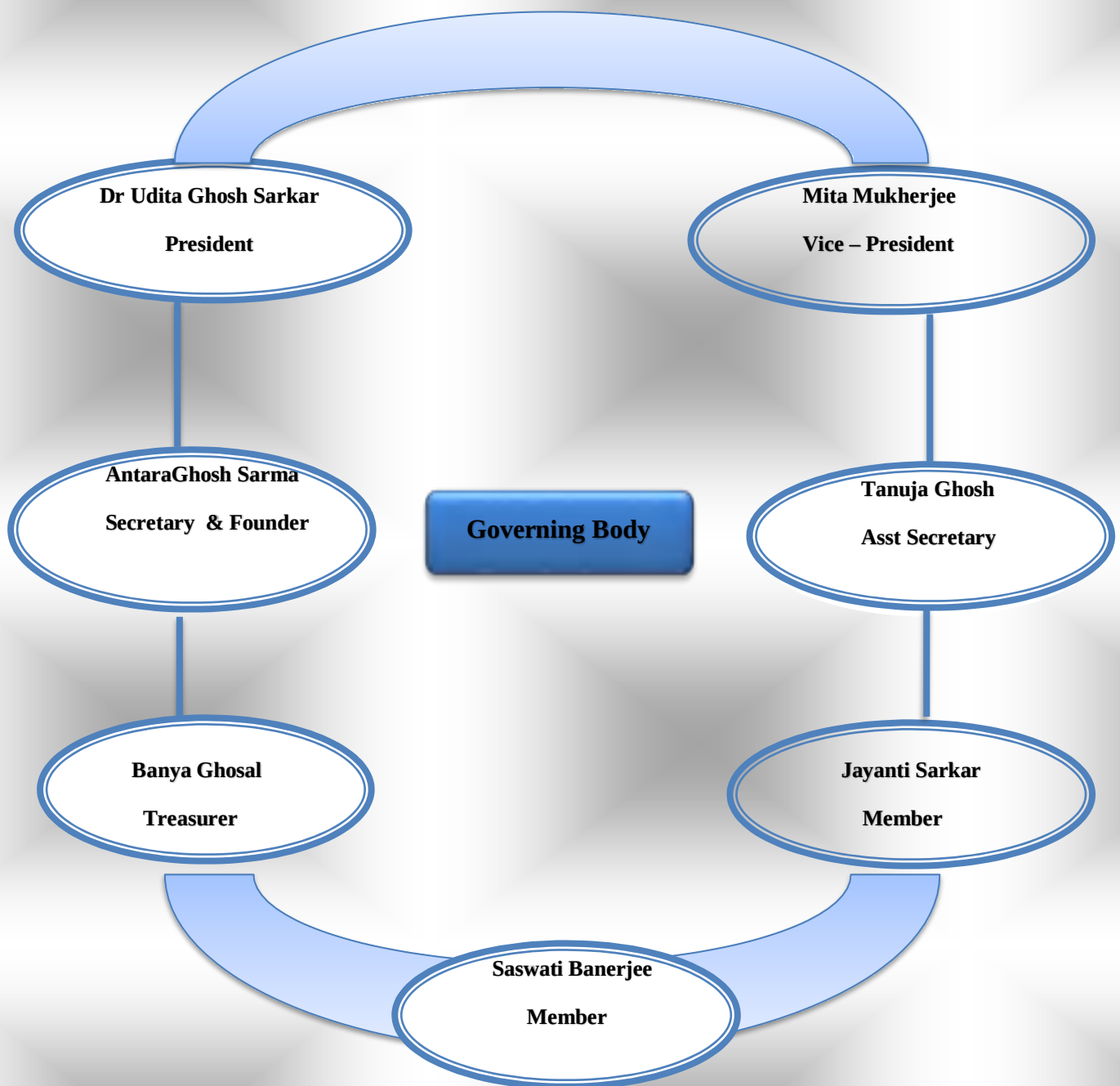
(4) Gender Equity as a core principle :

Gender equity is not just a focus area for SARANI; it is a guiding principle that informs all of the organization's activities. SARANI is dedicated to ensuring that women are not just beneficiaries but active leaders in their communities. The organization's programs are designed to challenge traditional gender roles, promote women's rights, and create opportunities for women to take on leadership positions. This commitment to gender equity is a key differentiator that shapes SARANI's identity and mission.

(5) Inventiveness and Innovation:

SARANI is committed to fostering innovation within the communities it serves. The organization encourages the use of inventive solutions to address the challenges faced by marginalized women. Whether through the development of eco-friendly industries, creative educational programs, or innovative healthcare solutions, SARANI's work is characterized by a spirit of creativity and adaptability that sets it apart from more conventional approaches.

Board Members



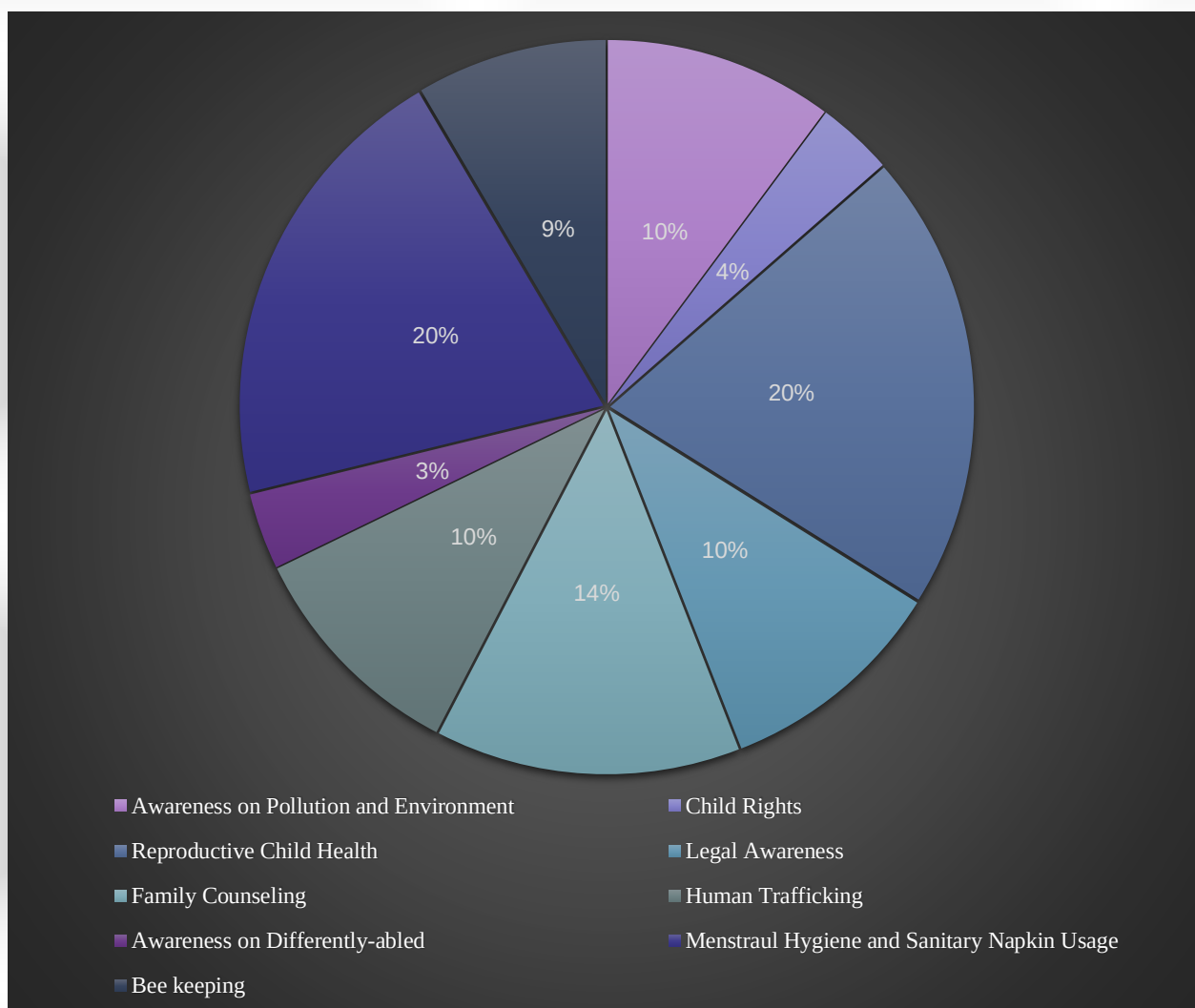
Activities covered during the period

2023-2024

Awareness Programs:

The organization carried out a total of 59 awareness, sensitisation and advocacy programs on various important issues like Child Rights, Menstrual Hygiene, Legal, Human Trafficking etc. The details are captured below –

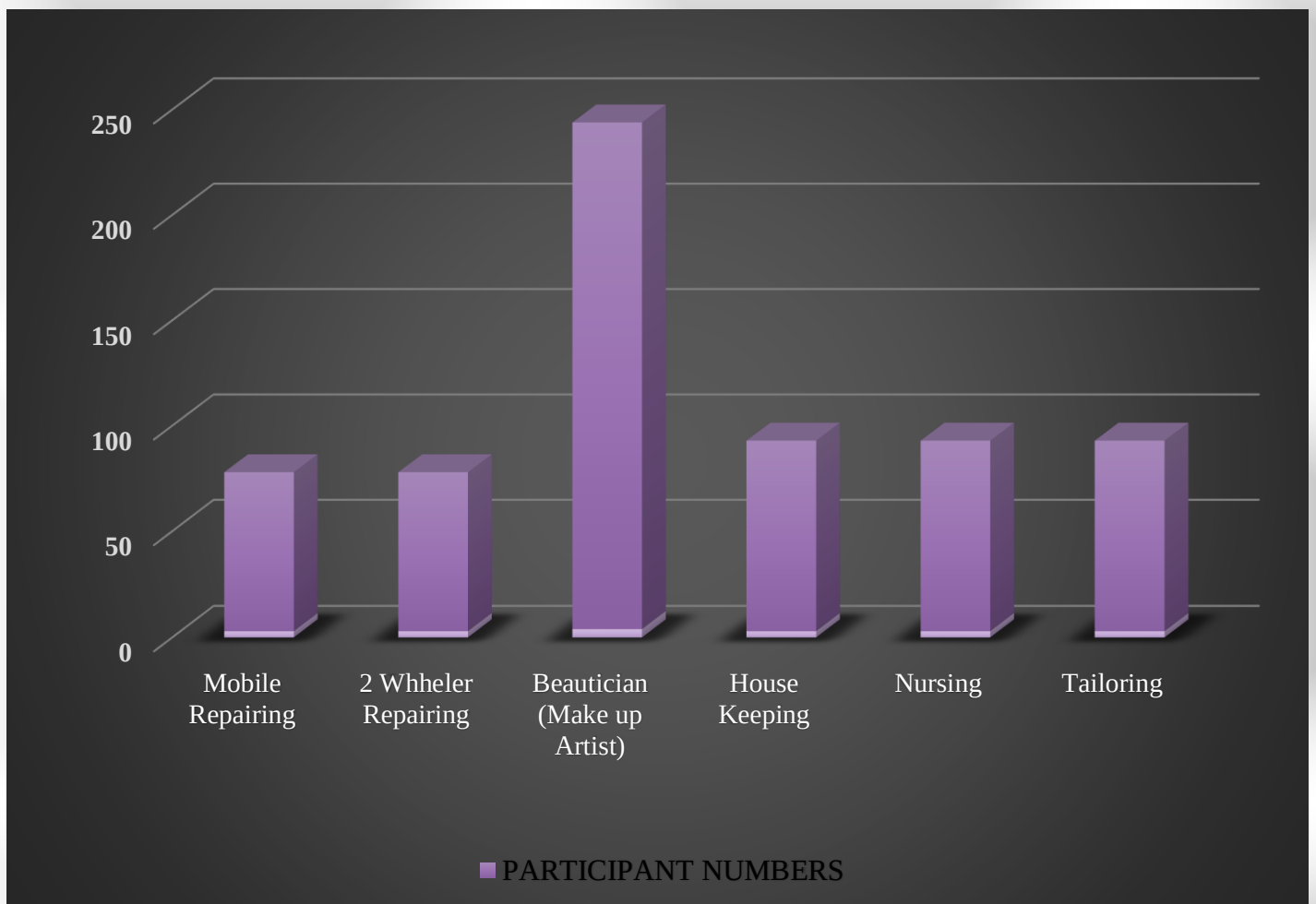
PROGRAM DETAILS	NUMBER OF PROGRAMS	PARTICIPANT NUMBERS
Awareness on Pollution and Environment	6	200
Child Rights	2	550
Reproductive Child Health	12	650
Legal Awareness	6	1200
Family Counseling	8	900
Human Trafficking	6	400
Awareness on Differently-abled	2	200
Menstrual Hygiene and Sanitary Napkin Usage	12	850
Bee keeping	5	510
TOTAL	59	5460



Skill Development Training Programs:

SARANI carried out a total of 19 skilling programs on various trades like mobile and 2-whheler repairing, Beautician, Nursing, Tailoring and House Keeping covering a total of 660 youths. Almost 58% of them are gainfully/self-employed and have sustained livelihoods. The details of the skilling programs are given below

PROGRAM DETAILS	NUMBER OF PROGRAMS	PARTICIPANT NUMBERS
Mobile Repairing	3	75
2 Wheeler Repairing	3	75
Beautician (Makeup Artist)	4	240
House Keeping	3	90
Nursing	3	90
Tailoring	3	90
TOTAL	19	660



SOME CASE STUDIES FROM
2023-2024

Case study 1:



Tanuja Jha

Tanuja Jha is a 34-year-old woman from the slums of Kamarhati Municipality, North 24 Parganas and hails from a marginalized family. She could not complete her education and got married in her childhood when she was 14 years old. Her husband is a daily wage laborer, with 5 dependents to be fed with a family income of Rs 6000/- only in a month. In the meantime SARANI initiated a project through which she was selected and motivated her to take the skill development training of Designing Boutique.

She honed her skill with singular focus, hard work and dedication and now she dreams to earn for herself and her family. Tanuja, a mother of a 14-year-old daughter says, "I won't allow my daughter to go through the same fate; I will earn myself after the training and will secure my daughter's future".

Case study 2:



Mallika Mandal

Mallika Mandal's Husband is a daily wage laborer. The sudden loss of job plunged the family in to a severe financial crisis. The family found it extremely difficult to sustain the monthly expenses.

Mallika Mandal was unable to manage the daily expenses of her family including 2 square meals a day. She joined the Creative Make Artist and Beautician Course and has started earning thereby helping her family to pay off the debts and live a better life.

Case study 3:



Mehendi Hasan Gazi

Mehedi Hasan Gazi is a 21 year old youth and is a local resident of Samsernagar area which is situated in the Sundarban Island. His father collects crabs from the streams/creeks that run through the dense jungle adjoining the village.

One day he spoke with SARANI trainer on the course on Mobile Repairing which was being run close to his village. He joined the Mobile Repairing training and after successfully completing his training has opened a shop at Samsernagar the name of the shop is “New Papia Mobile Service Center”. He is now earning regularly and is is happy that he got an opportunity for undergoing the training programme.

Case study 4:



Purnima Mondal is a 13 year old from Kalitala GP, Hingalganj Block, and North 24 Parganas in class 7 at Samsernagar High School. She is the daughter of Sabita and Bikash Mondal. Her life is full of Struggle and hard work.

Her parents do not have regular livelihoods. They go to the Sundarban forests and the creeks to collect firewood, honey, Crab, Snails and fish that they sell and earn some money. Purnima also accompanies them after or before school hours sometimes not attending the regular school to help her parents in this daily livelihood struggle. Working for 3-4 hours in the saline waters which is waist high has affected her skin and she has rashes on her body, during her periods she also has developed complications, and the chances of her having cervical cancer are also very high. She has to be a part of this daily struggle otherwise the family may go hungry. But she is a fighter and wants to pursue her education seriously. She is a bright student and has performed very well in her studies.

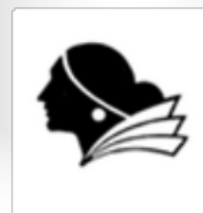
Photo Gallery of Various activities during this year:



Grateful Acknowledgements



Bharat Petroleum
Corporation limited



West Bengal
Development
Undertaking



Nabard



P.C. Chandra Jewellery Apex Pvt. Ltd.



HDFC Parivartan



Inner Wheel Club,
Calcutta West

Special Thanks to our Individual Donors and Well Wishers