

2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT



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



Registered Office – 156/1 B.T Road,
Kolkata – 700108



Administrative Office – 1/27, Poddar Nagar,
Kolkata – 700068



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01

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.

02 Vision



SARANI aims to provide a 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.

03

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, Kolkata 700108 West Bengal, India.
Address for communication	1/27, Poddar Nagar, Kolkata – 700068 West Bengal, India.
Contact person's Name	Smt. Antara Ghosh Sarma
Designation	Secretary
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	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	CSR00000479
TAN No.	CALS49041G
No. of staffs in the organization	15 staffs Project based staffs: Need based

04

Secretary's Message



It is with deep gratitude and pride that I present the Annual Report of Society for Action on Rehabilitation Awareness Networking & Information (SARANI) for the year 2024–25.

For decades, SARANI has stood beside women and marginalized communities, working quietly but consistently to create pathways of dignity, resilience, and self-reliance. During the past year, we continued our efforts among women, youth, and children living in some of the most vulnerable regions, including areas adjoining the Sundarbans—where life is shaped by poverty, isolation, and recurring natural disasters.

Despite these challenges, 2023–24 brought moments of hope. Through sustained awareness and skill-building initiatives, many women were able to access livelihood opportunities, strengthening not just their economic independence but also their confidence and voice. These small yet powerful changes remind us why our work matters.

I sincerely thank our Board Members, staff, donors, corporate partners, banks, and supporters who have been our constant strength. Above all, I express my heartfelt appreciation to the women and communities who place their trust in us and walk this journey with courage.

As we reflect on the year gone by, we are reminded that while we have come far, there is still much to be done. Our journey continues—with commitment, compassion, and hope.

05

Organization Details

Thematic Working Areas:



Health & Education –
Maternal & child healthcare, nutrition, hygiene, and promoting education, especially for girls.



Sustainable Development –
Eco-friendly livelihoods, organic farming, conservation of local resources.

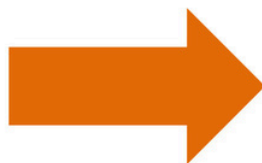


Women Empowerment & Gender Equity –
Vocational training, income generation, leadership promotion, women's participation in decision-making and leadership roles; challenging stereotypes.

What Sets Us Apart?



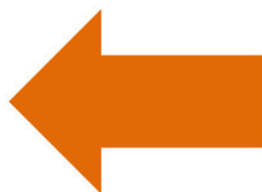
Community Owned



Natural Resource Management



Innovation in Action



Gender Equality



Grassroots Approach

06 Board Members



President: Dr Udit Ghosh Sarkar



Secretary & Founder: Antara Ghosh Sarma



Vice President: Mita Mukherjee



Treasurer: Banya Ghosal



Assistant Secretary: Tanuja Ghosh



Member: Jayanti Sarkar



Member: Saswati Banerjee

07 Activities covered during the period 2024-2025 (CRA,FCRA)

Australian Consulate -

Addressing Gender Diversity and Women Empowerment , Sundarbans

A situation analysis of problems and issues faced by women globally reveals a wide range of challenges that cut across geographical boundaries and affect women in different ways. Each region has its own set of challenges that require a calibrated approach that factors in the socio-economic situation and the cultural sensitivities of the region. However, there are some common issues faced by women the world over although the severity of the problem may differ between the developed and the developing nations. While progress has been made in many areas, gender disparities persist, and new issues continue to emerge. The project will initiate a multi-sectoral intervention and activities that will address the issues of livelihood, education, and empowerment.



In the Sunderbans, agricultural activities have become unsustainable due to the overuse of chemicals and the high saline content in the soil. here women can thrive and enjoy equal opportunities.

Geographically isolated by dense forests and the bordering nation of Bangladesh, this region presents formidable barriers to economic growth. As a consequence, the male members of the community rely on the forest for resources like wood and honey, and the river for fishing to support their families.



Tragically, this way of life exposes them to grave dangers, such as tiger attacks, crocodile encounters, snake bites, and shark attacks, which often lead to fatal consequences. In many families, the loss of their sole breadwinner to a man-eating Royal Bengal Tiger or snakebite has left them grappling with poverty, with nearly 90% of surveyed households residing below the poverty line.

Furthermore, young girls in the community face severe restrictions on their education due to social stigma, resulting in alarmingly high dropout rates. Child marriages are widespread, forcing girls as young as 15 into matrimony, making them dependent on men and their in-laws for basic survival. This project will have activities to break free from this cycle of hardship, a shift is imperative from the traditional patriarchal community attitudes to a more progressive environment, enabling girls and women to become selfreliant, productive contributors to society.

Hence SARANI proposes to address the issues through;

1. Livelihood through Vermicomposting and organic farming methods for ecologically sustainable practices
2. Education through Tuition Centers to enhance enrolment and retention.
3. Advocacy through Awareness Programs, Family Counselling and Community Engagement.



P.C Chandra Jewellery Apx Pvt Ltd - Medha Bikash Education Project (2024-2025)

105 rural children studying in grades III to X are supported through Medha Bikash Education Project which provides after school support coaching and an exposure to digital learning which sets the world order today. These children come from low income group families and many are first generation learners.

Educational Support:

Six teachers offered tutorial support across all three centers. Regular classes were conducted four days a week, with an additional day devoted to computer training.

Alongside formal studies, students were engaged in supplementary education that focused on health, hygiene, environment, and life-skill development. This included awareness on issues like waste management, composting, and overall personal well-being, fostering their holistic development.



Assessment & Outcomes:

- Regular class tests and examinations were conducted to monitor progress.
- 80% of students showed improved academic results compared to the previous year.
- 100% of students successfully passed their annual examinations and were promoted to the next grade.

Long-Term Impact:

The program continues to create a meaningful impact by reducing barriers to education, nurturing self-reliance, and offering parental counseling. With plans to expand training in spoken English and advanced computer skills, the initiative aims to further enhance students' career prospects and ensure their all-round development.



Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited

Swachhta Pakhwada Awareness Program – Samsernagar, Kalitala GP, North 24 Parganas (1st – 15th July 2024)

The Swachhta Pakhwada Campaign covers a total of 9 schools, namely, where we distributed 500 hygiene kits and sanitary napkins, conducted rallies, and community awareness sessions which focused on maternal health, nutrition, and cervical cancer prevention.

These programs and awareness sessions are educational and engaging. To take the message beyond classrooms, a Swachhta Rally was held with students, teachers, and community leaders which created visibility and strengthened the call for a cleaner, healthier environment.

In parallel, a community awareness program was conducted with the rural women on maternal health, pre- and post-natal care, prevention of cervical cancer, and the importance of using sanitary napkins instead of unsafe traditional practices.



Through these efforts, the initiative touched the lives of hundreds of students and villagers, empowering them with knowledge and essential resources. It fostered a sense of responsibility among children, encouraged women to make informed health choices, and inspired the community to embrace sustainable practices.

The program left a lasting impact– building awareness, instilling habits, and strengthening community participation in the journey towards a healthier and cleaner society.



Various Programs covered during the period 2024-2025

08



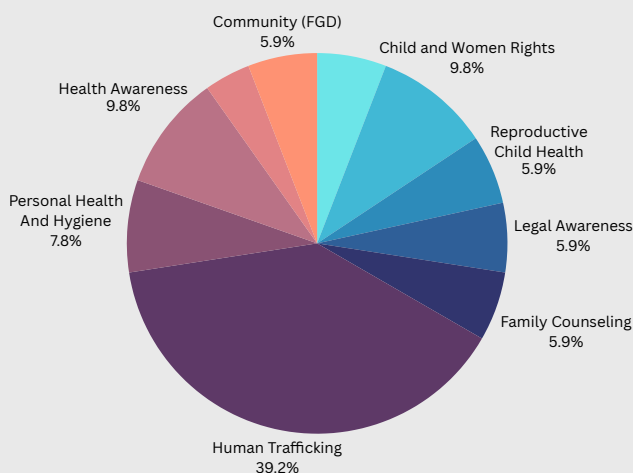
Awareness and Advocacy:

Sarani organizes a total 55 community awareness programs on issues including human trafficking, child rights, reproductive health, menstrual hygiene, and environmental conservation. Our total outreach is 3,030 participants across North & South 24 Pgs.

Long term impact:

Community members—especially women, adolescents, and youth—are now more aware of their rights and better equipped to protect themselves and others from exploitation and harmful practices. The discussions have broken taboos around sensitive issues such as menstrual hygiene and reproductive health, promoting healthier and more dignified lives.

Importantly, the awareness drives have also led to stronger community vigilance against child marriage and trafficking, while encouraging environmentally conscious behaviours. These attitudinal and behavioural changes are laying the groundwork for a safer, healthier, and more equitable society.

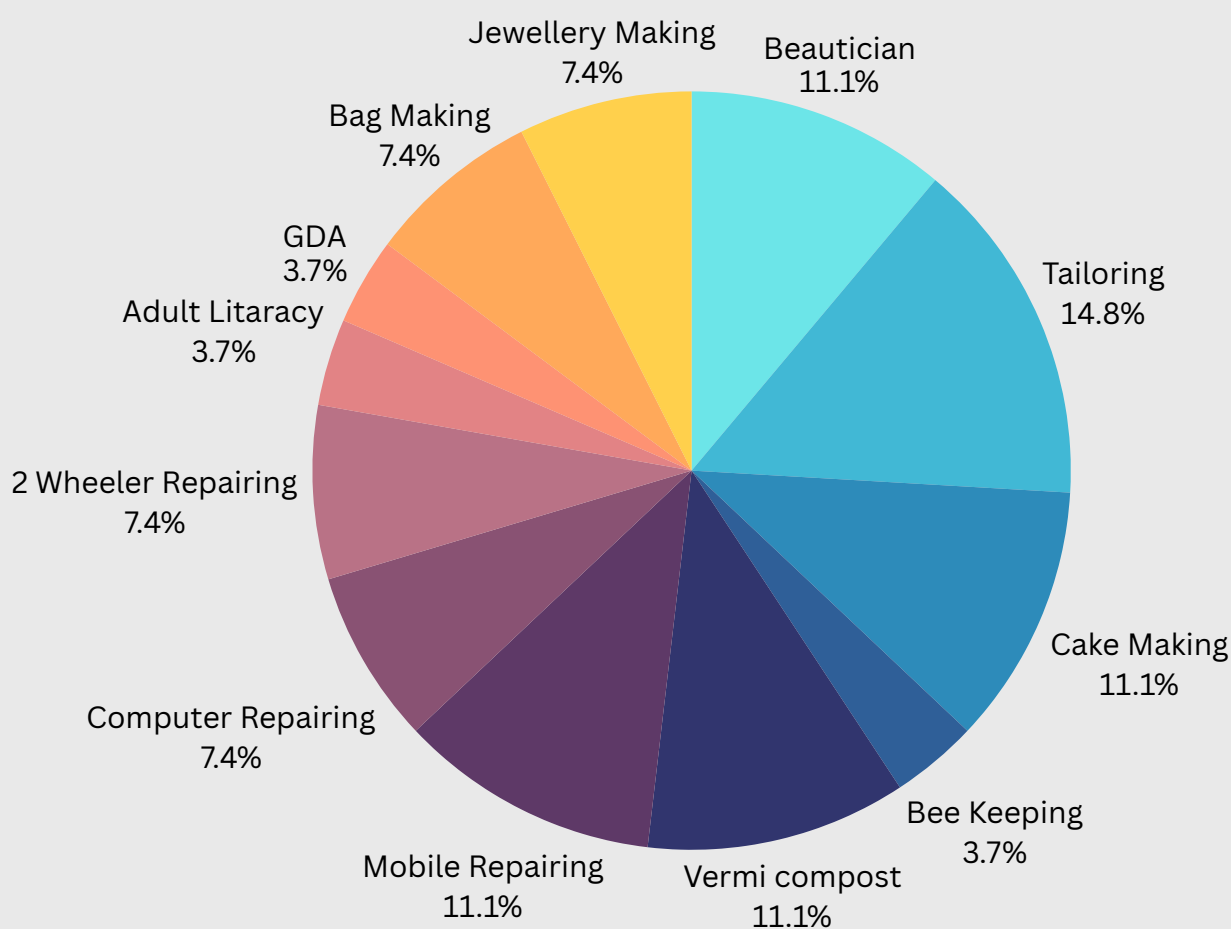




Skill Development Training Programs:

We organized 27 training programs across trades such as tailoring, beautician work, mobile repair & 2-wheeler repairing, bag making, jewelry making, General Duty Assistant, beekeeping, and vermicomposting.

Thus a total of 925 youth are trained, of which 58% are gainfully employed/self-employed.



Lasting impact: Furthermore, the initiative has fostered a culture of skill development and self-reliance, inspiring peers to pursue vocational learning. Local markets are benefiting from the emergence of small enterprises, while families are witnessing improved access to education, healthcare, and better living standards. In essence, the intervention has built a foundation for long-term community resilience and inclusive growth.

CASE STUDIES FROM 2024-2025

09



Case Study 1-

**Empowering Women Through
Livelihood Support**

Name: Barnali Mahish

Father's Name: Amar Mahish

**Address: 18, K.P. Mukherjee Road,
Kolkata – 700076**

Barnali Mahish, a resident of Kolkata, had a passion for tailoring. Despite her skills and dedication, she struggled to take regular tailoring orders due to the lack of an essential tool – her own sewing machine. This limitation kept her from growing professionally and earning a sustainable income.

Society for Action on Rehabilitation Awareness Networking and Information (Sarani), was provided with a Sewing Machine to her. Since receiving the machine, Barnali has been working from home and accepting tailoring orders regularly. Her work has improved in both quality and consistency, enabling her to contribute to the household income and gain recognition for her skills. She has also started engaging in work outside her home, expanding her client base and professional network.

This intervention has had a transformational impact on Barnali's life. The support from SARANI has empowered her to become self-reliant and confident. She expresses deep gratitude (This support has truly changed my life. I am grateful to SARANI for helping me stand on my own feet and take a step forward toward fulfilling my dreams).



Case Study 2-

Empowering Youth Through Educational Support

Name - Dipti Mondal

Fathers Name - Bikash Mondal

Mothers Name - Kabita Mondal

Age - 13

Class - VII

School Name - Samsernagar High School

At Shamsernagar Education Centre No. 3, one of our bright and hardworking students is Dipti Mondal, a 12-year-old girl studying at Shamsernagar High School. She lives with her parents, Mr. Bikash Mondal and Mrs. Kavita Mondal, in a small household. Her parents, like many others in the village, migrate to Maharashtra as daily wage laborers to support the family. Their earnings are meagre and uncertain, which makes it difficult for them to provide Dipti with the kind of educational support that many children usually get through private tutors.

Despite these limitations, Dipti's determination shines through. She has always been curious and eager to learn, but without proper guidance, she often struggled to keep pace with her classmates. Things began to change after she joined our Medha Bikash Centre, where she receives free educational support. With regular mentoring, structured lessons, and a nurturing environment, Dipti has shown remarkable improvement in her academic performance.

Dipti is not only a dedicated student but also a dreamer with a clear vision for her future. She aspires to become a nurse — a profession through which she hopes to serve people and uplift her family from financial hardship. Her teachers admire her sincerity, punctuality, and the way she never hesitates to ask questions in class. She often says that the centre has given her the confidence she once lacked, and now she believes she can achieve her goal if she continues to work hard.

Dipti's story is a reflection of how access to education and timely support can transform the life of a child. With encouragement and opportunities, she is moving closer to her dream, proving that economic challenges cannot stop a determined mind. She is an inspiration to her peers and a reminder of why initiatives like the Medha Bikash Centre are so vital for children in underserved communities.



Case Study 3 -

Empowering Women Through Livelihood Support

Name- Jayashree Ghosh

Husband Name- Pradip Kumar Ghosh

Address - Radhaballabhpur, Baman Gachhi,
South 24 Parganas, Kolkata- 700145

Jayashree Ghosh comes from a very poor family, where financial struggles have always been a barrier to her dreams. From an early age, she aspired to open her own beauty parlour, but due to her family's low economic condition, she had no means to pursue professional training.

Recognising her potential and determination, SARANI extended support by enrolling her in their Beautician Training Programme at one of the organisation's training centres. Through dedication and hard work, Jayashree successfully completed the training and passed her final examination.

After completing the course, she was placed in a beauty parlour where she started working and earning an income. This opportunity not only helped her support her family but also gave her the confidence to move closer to her long-cherished dream of opening her own parlour one day.

Today, Jayashree feels extremely happy and grateful to SARANI for giving her this opportunity. With her new skills and determination, she is steadily progressing step by step towards becoming a self-reliant entrepreneur.



Case Study 4 -

Empowering Women Through Organic Farming Support

Name - Nargis Khatun Bibi

Husband - Milan Gazi

Address - Samsernagar Kalitala GP

North 24 Parganas , 743439

Nargis Khatun Bibi resides at Samsernagar village under Kalitala GP of Hingalganj Block. The family has around 3 bigha Agriculture land and generally uses chemical fertilizer like all other farmers residing in the village. Later after attending our Agriculture training Nargis took the initiative to prepare Vermi compost with our technical support. She prepared a pot [5 ft x 3 ft x 1.5 ft depth] and filled it with wet waste materials and later spread earthworm on it. Time to time sprinkle water over the pot, cover it and keep the pot under wet atmosphere. After some days she collects 40 kg organic fertilizer from the pot and used it in her own kitchen garden. Balance quantity of organic fertilizer. She will use in coming monsoon for Paddy cultivation. She will initiate salt Tolerant variety for the first time.

Nargis looks very excited and satisfied with her own initiative. In the next cycle, she is going for bulk production for coming monsoon season. She has become a role model in her village; others are encouraged by seeing her and getting involved in vermicompost preparation.

Grateful Acknowledgement

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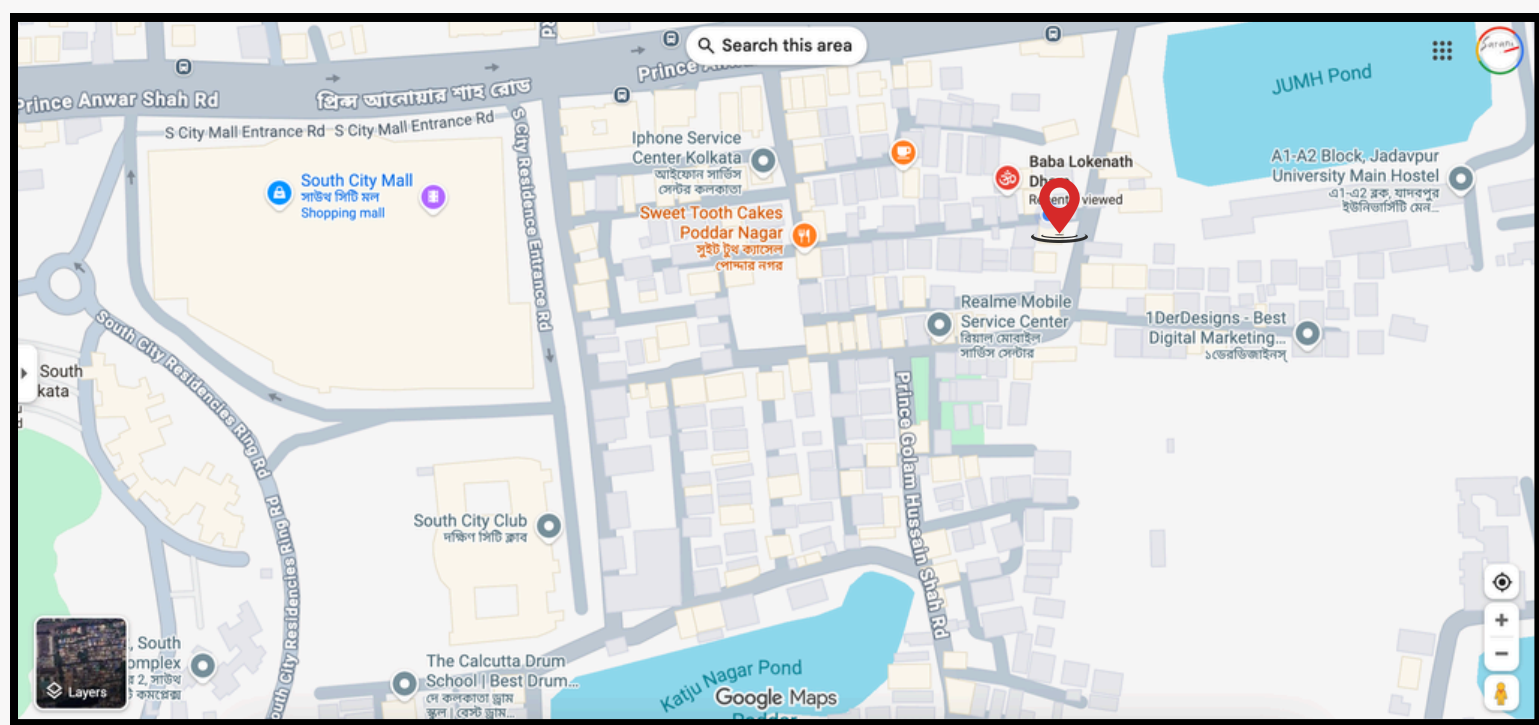


Australian Aid



Muthoot Finance





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