



NANRITAM began work in 2005 with one objective: Integrated Development of the entire Para block and the slums of North Kolkata – the two areas we had selected for intensive attention. We began by providing free of cost healthcare services to the needy and economically challenged. In the slums of north Kolkata the healthcare services that we provided included basic healthcare, a diagnostic centre and health education. At Para in Purulia we focussed on eye-care services. Our work in the last ten years has been considerably diversified and at present the interventions include a range of projects and activities:



LOKESWARANANDA EYE FOUNDATION

- Prevention of visual impairment
- Early detection of disease
- Early & prompt initiation of treatment for all sorts of Eye diseases, including Glaucoma and Retinal diseases
- Proper follow up & monitoring
- Adequate rehabilitation



UDBHAAS

- Diagnostic and interventional services to children with difficulties in physical, mental or language development
- Holistic and customized services to every individual child under treatment
- Interdisciplinary approach under development paediatrician



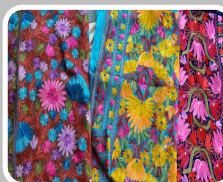
NANRITAM KRISHI KENDRA

- Comprehensive Agriculture development programme
- Training to combine traditional practices with modern technology
- Developing agro-based rural enterprises for generating employment
- Creating market linkages & strategies for farm produce



CHILD DEVELOPMENT THROUGH QUALITY EDUCATION

Shishu Sarada - A pre-school daycare & education centre in urban slum
Saradamoni Nibedita Sikhsha Mandir in Noapara Slum for child labour
FILIX School of Education in Para Block in Purulia for rural children



FASHION A LIVING: LIVELIHOOD PROJECT FOR WOMEN

Provide livelihood option to women who are sole earning members of family
Training in design and craftsmanship
Market support for products

URBAN INTERVENTIONS:

Adoption of slums in Baranagar to Kamarhati: Our work zone in these slums comprises of a long stretch of squatter colonies, which have cropped up along the railway tracks, right from Baranagar to Kamarhati, with a total population of 3.5 lacs. Our humble endeavour is to reach out to this community through sustained health care and widening of livelihood options through skill training.

- **Swami Lokeshwarananda Smarak Sevakendra (SLSS):** A healthcare centre that provides the following facilities:
 - i. **Specialist Clinic:** Free specialist consultation in Medicine, Pediatrics and Ophthalmology that takes care of about 200 patients every month
 - ii. **Low cost ECG Centre** (60% discount on market rate): Every month 50-60 patients from the slums avail this facility.
 - iii. **Pathological Laboratory** for low cost pathological tests. We offer 50% discount on the prevailing market rates. On an average 100 patients from very low income groups avail this facility.
 - iv. **Mobile Medical Unit** in collaboration with **Helpage India**, in the slum of Kamarhati for the elderly men & women (above 60 years). This is a weekly medical advice is given with free medicine distribution and low cost Pathology Investigations (at 50% market rate). We insist on BPL Card to accept each patient.
- **UDBHAAS:** Childhood developmental disorders and disability may express in various forms, which include Mental Retardation, Cerebral Palsy, Autism, Attention Deficit disorders, Visual & Hearing problems, Speech & Language disorders, Learning disabilities, behavioural problems and many more. UDBHAAS Project was planned to provide diagnostic and interventional services to children with difficulties in physical, mental or language development as well as learning and behavioural problems, through an interdisciplinary approach, under guidance of a developmental Pediatrician. In collaboration with **Unicef**, this is a unique project for the development of mentally challenged children. Our field workers identify and bring to the clinic infants and newborns for treatment. Early detection & Timely Intervention by an expert team of Pediatrician, Speech therapists, physiotherapists and child psychologists has helped many children born with neuro-development inadequacies to gradually join the mainstream of peer-groups.
UDBAASH is now extended into rural areas of Purulia and a regular clinic has been set up in the NANRITAM Campus in Para Block where the UDBAASH team visits and offers treatment.
- Educational Projects in the slums have three key areas of operation:
 - A. **SHILPI & SHAILI:** Livelihood training centre that encompasses both handicraft and cultural activities that can be taken up as profession
 - B. **SHISHU SARADA:** A Pre-primary school for children of mothers working as unskilled workers
 - C. **NIBEDITA MISSION SCHOOL:** Educational support for girls who are unable to attend regular schoolOur mission is empowerment of the under-privileged so that they can stand on their own feet and support themselves & their families is a key area of our activity. For youth in the age group of 18-25 years particularly from BPL category, who have basic school education we have the Arohan Project for skill training. Under Arohan Project we have conducted a series of training programs including Computer software and hardware training in collaboration with NASSCOM.



At our vocational training Centre in Belghoria, the youth are trained for non-urban and urban BPO operations in consultation with and based on the requirements of the potential employers from various companies. The curriculum includes a three months intensive field experience-based training module to train youths based in rural and peri-urban areas and connecting them to employment opportunities in nearby locations. Out of 94 students trained during 2013-14, 66 have got placement in IT and allied sectors.

RURAL INTERVENTIONS

We work in rural areas of Purulia district, one of the most under-served tribal districts of West Bengal. Our Project site is at Para block of Purulia, catering to a mixed population of nearly 2.5 lacs. More than 70% of the population lives below the poverty line. Education & health status show a very grim picture. Women, the major bread-earners, still remain mostly illiterate. The major source of income is through unskilled labour, mostly in the agricultural fields, hence ill paid. A very worrying health issue in this area is the wide range of vision disorders. Our initial survey showed the single major cause of blindness is Cataract and accounts for approx 62.2% of total blindness among the rural poor. Other causes of visual impairment include Nutritional deficiencies (Vit A), infections (keratitis, uveitis, retino-choroiditis etc), Refractive errors & squint, Glaucoma and retinal diseases.

The total picture is thus very bleak and dismal. Handicapped by loss of vision the poor village folk are unable to earn a living, contribute their share of work in the household or outdoors and often become burden to their families. Recovery of eyesight by timely intervention can put these hapless villagers back into the mainstream and reinstate them as useful members of their family and society. Our first intervention for rural Purulia was therefore treatment, care and awareness development for all kinds of eye-sight problems. This was founded our flagship project: Lokeswarananda Eye Foundation:

LOKESWARANADA EYE FOUNDATION

THE JOURNEY

2006

Monthly clinics were started in Para, Purulia by the ophthalmologists with instruments brought from Kolkata. The cataract cases detected were taken to Kolkata, operations were done at surgeon's city-based eye-care centre. Patients were then brought back to their base villages. All services were provided absolutely free of cost.



2007

Regular OPD services started at Para, Purulia with few basic instruments.



2008

A 1200 sq ft single storied structure was erected and an ophthalmic microscope was procured. Small OT constructed and surgeries started. This marked the beginning of the eye hospital -Swami Lokeswarananda Memorial Eye Unit. 300 cataract surgeries were performed in the 1st year.



2009

Extension of the hospital building took place with up-gradation of the OPD and procurement of new instruments.



2010

Increase in turnout of patients demanded further expansion of hospital premises and more equipments were procured. The outreach team started to reach out to other blocks to screen more patients and patients needing surgeries were brought to base hospital at Para. Annual surgeries went upto 6000. The hospital was renamed LOKESWARANANDA EYE FOUNDATION.

October 2010, NRHM India comes forward to support the outreach program. LEF begins to reach out to more interior rural areas. Number of surgeries go up.



February 2012 : Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal declared Lokeswarananda Eye Foundation to be upgraded to 100 bedded Referral Eye Hospital for all types of eye diseases for the district of Purulia , Bankura and Paschim Medinipur. The LWE patients from all those three districts would be offered free treatment. A formal order was passed for official hand-over of Mohanpur BPHC (West Midnapur) and Khatra Sub-Divisional hospital (Bankura) to Lokeswarananda Eye Foundation for the purpose of operating cataract surgeries.

Since Lokeswarananda Eye Foundation lacked the infrastructure to cater to the demands of increasing number of patients, Paschimanchal Unnayan Affairs (PUA), Government of West Bengal sanctioned Rs 3.05 crore for

- ▶ Expansion of infrastructure (construction of new hospital block and staff quarters).
- ▶ Acquisition of modern equipments.
- ▶ Acquisition of a mobile van for conducting camps.
- ▶ A bus for carrying patients back and forth from camps conducted in the LWE blocks.

10th April 2012 : The foundation stone for construction of the new hospital block was laid by the Hon'ble Minister of Paschimanchal Unnayan Affairs Department.

August 2012 : New equipments purchased and referral OPD starts.

November 2012 : Completion of construction of new OT Complex.

December 2012 : Completion of construction of OPD (ground floor). Surgeries started at the new OT complex including Retinal surgery and Glaucoma surgery.

January 2013 : Completion of construction of the 1st floor ward . Lokeswarananda Eye Foundation reaches 50 bed capacity .

December 2013 : Completion of construction of the 2nd floor of the hospital. Lokeswarananda Eye Foundation becomes a 100 bedded hospital. The staff quarters' construction completed.

27th January 2014 : Dr Sukumar Hansda ,Hon'ble Minister-In-Charge, Paschimanchal Unnayan Affairs, Government of West Bengal, inaugurates the new hospital block.

The most recent addition in technical capacity has been through collaboration with a team from SLR Eye and Retina Pvt Ltd. Through this tie-up with SLR forum of BB Eye Foundation, Kolkata, Lokeswarananda Eye Foundation has been able to bring in the expertise of highly reputed Retina surgeons namely Dr Sourav Sinha, Dr Rupak Biswas and Dr. Lav Kochgaway. Following this collaboration, specialized Retina surgeons from SLR Eye and Retina Pvt. Ltd. come down twice a week to Lokeswarananda Eye Foundation and perform Retina surgeries.



Technical competence of **Lokeswarananda Eye Foundation**

At Lokeswarananda Eye Foundation, we have a dedicated and highly qualified team of Ophthalmologists and physicians mostly from Kolkata . This team is headed by **Dr. Ashis Chatterjee**, Chief Ophthalmologist and Vice-President of NANRITAM.



Dr. Abrojit Chatterjee
Dr. Arkaprava Ghosh
Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay
Dr. Harisadhan Mandal
Dr. Krishnandu Nandi
Dr. Lav Kochgaway
Dr. Monojoy Banerjee
Dr. Pashupati Saha
Dr. Prasanta Chakraborty
Dr. Rupak Biswas
Dr. Sourav Sinha
Dr. Suparna Sinha
Dr. Surindar Prakash
Dr. Tathagoto Dey
Dr. Tushar Kanti Ghosh
Dr. Vaibhav Srivastav
Dr. Bharati Bakshi
Dr. Shyamal Kanti Datta



CHILD DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE: UDBHAAS

In rural areas, awareness about the possibility of mentally and physically handicapped infants becoming close to normal had to be developed gradually. We started work through local hospitals and primary health centres to identify and reach out to every child with disability, surpassing the socioeconomic barrier. WE followed the pattern developed at the slums of north Kolkata - provide holistic and customized services to every individual child through early screening & identification followed by Early Intervention Programs. For those children whose parents have financial constraints we provided full services at low or no cost. This project is supported by Unicef.

Children we have attended to:

URBAN		RURAL	
		Total identified thru Door-door survey	318
Total treated at clinic	480	Total treated at clinic	183
New	82	New	58
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASD: 17 • ADHD: 5 • Behavioural Problem: 12 • Cerebral Palsy: 8 • Myopathy etc: 4 • Downs : 1 • Mental Retardation & GDD: 14 • Speech Delay: 16 • Normal: 5 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASD: 6 • ADHD: 2 • Behavioural Problem: 4 • Cerebral Palsy: 12 • Myopathy etc: 3 • Downs : 1 • MR & GDD: 8 • Speech Delay: 22 	



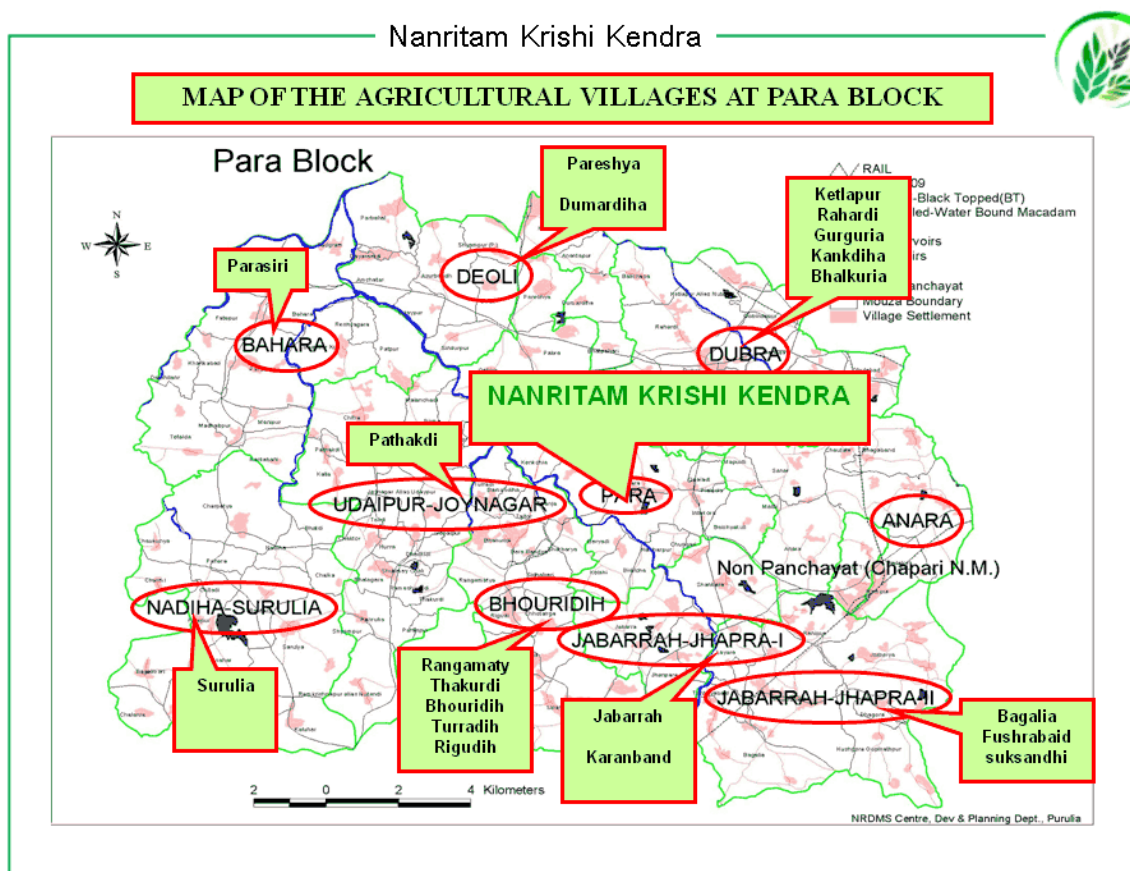
The various programs include:

- ❖ **RURAL SCREENING PROGRAM:** We have conducted a door to door survey of 16,000 population in rural Purulia and have identified 318 Developmentally challenged children. If the projected child population is considered as 40% of the general population, then 5% of children are having some sort of disability in this community.
- ❖ **EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM** to prevent developmental delays in children at-risk and to curb the progress of the existing disabilities.
- ❖ **SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PROGRAM** by special educators to provide structured play based educational support to children with mental challenge and learning & behavior problems, and also stimulate all-round life-skill development, thus help prepare them for main-streaming to regular schools. The special educators work through play, music, stories and various other activities. Parents are actively involved in the process.
- ❖ **COUNSELLING & ADVOCACY:** Our team constantly works with the parents, to sensitize them to their children's problem. Parents are groomed and actively involved in the regular therapy procedures. We also actively take up issues on advocacy for the child with special needs at schools and other social settings.
- ❖ **TRAININGS:** Udbhaas organizes training programs and awareness programs for various groups of professionals and care givers. Our target groups include Pediatricians, primary physicians, school teachers, community based care-givers and parents.

NANRITAM KRISHI KENDRA

87% of the total work force of the villages in Para and adjoining blocks are engaged in agricultural and allied activities. But Purulia, being a drought prone district with wide expanses of arid land has rendered traditional agriculture a difficult option for the villagers as a source of earning. Newer technology alone can motivate them to return to the soil & take up agriculture as a livelihood.

Our objective is to bring a holistic improvement in the life of the tribal and backward community of Purulia district. Primary focus will be given on Employment Generation utilizing the existing natural resources for more production, improving efficiency in life-stock management and better water management for suitable livelihood and agriculture. Side by side, we have also to work with them for improving market linkages and developing agro-based and other rural enterprises for generating employment. Once employment options can be generated, the young generation of farmers will be motivated for promotion of literacy, health-awareness, sanitation etc., in other words for overall betterment in their life pattern.



Objective of NKK:

- Introduce new technology as support system for traditional practices
- Productivity enhancement through new methods of cultivation in paddy and pulses
- Vegetable cultivation in commercial scale
- Marketing linkage for farm produce
- Alternate livelihood generation through :
 - - Animal Husbandry
 - - Mushroom Cultivation
- Creating rainwater harvesting structures
- Integrated Rural Development through combination of pisciculture, animal husbandry and horticulture

Case Studies



Paddy Cultivation

Magaram Mahato was trained at NKK Skill enhancement programme in paddy cultivation. He belongs to Rangamatya Village in Para Block. He cultivated paddy on 3 acres of land, using variety MTU-7029, under active guidance of NKK. He meticulously followed the package of practice planned by NKK. Outcome was as follows:

Item	SRI Performance	Traditional Performance
Cost of cultivation (Rs.)	3015/-	3178/-
Production (Quintal)	7.54	5.75
Gross Earnings	7.54 x (Rs. 800/Qt) = 6032/-	5.75 x (Rs. 800/Qt) = 4600/-
Net Earning	3017/-	1422/-

Mixed cultivation of paddy and vegetable crops

Farmer's name: JITEN RAJWAR, village-Rahirdih, Block – Para.

He cultivated paddy by SRI method on 1.66 acres and vegetable (Brinjal, Tomato, Okra and Ridge gourd) on .83 acres of land under active hand-holding by NKK And got the following results:



Particulars	Description
Intervention by NKK (2011-2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply of a good quality seeds & seedlings for veg. and paddy Technical support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRI & other improved practices for paddy Total hand holding support for vegetables Tunnel nursery by NKK (50% contribution) exposure visit on vegetables
Before Intervention (Gross income)	Paddy –Rs.18000 +Vegetable-Rs.14000
After Intervention (Gross Earnings)	Paddy –Rs.25000 +Vegetable-Rs.27000
Incremental Earning	Rs. 20000
Social Implication	He is now in comfort zone to plan his daughter's marriage
Next Plan	He is planning his entire annual cultivation with the advice of NKK



Sustainable Agriculture

Sustainable agriculture programme had been launched in May 2010, with 70 farmers in 9 villages of Para Block initially. About 35 women's groups in the villages comprising of more than 400 women have been engaged in mushroom cultivation with substantial production of the crop, having had training from Nanritam Krishi Kendra (NKK).

At present 689 farmers are involved in 19 villages of Para block in the various projects of Nanritam Krishi Kendra

FILIX SCHOOL FOR EDUCATION

Felix School of Education (FSE) is an initiative by NANRITAM to make quality education at par with global standards available in the backdrop of Purulia.

Our aim is to appreciate the uniqueness of each child and provide them with adequate support and space to bloom. Understanding every child and accordingly determining the child's strength and weakness will be given the first priority. Every child's innate and latent capabilities along with the qualities that need to be developed and enhanced further will be identified and nurtured. The curriculum is so designed to help children identify and reach their maximum potentiality.

PROPOSED SCHOOL BUILDING



PROPOSED G + B STORED SECONDARY SCHOOL (NURSERY TO CLASS -X)
AT BARANANDANGA, PURA, PURULIA.

ARCHITECT
PLAN VISION
KOLKATA

Dr. Kaushik Basu (Vice-President and Chief Economist, World Bank) has kindly agreed to guide the activities of the school.

The School Board comprises of:

Chairperson : Mr Asok M Chakraborty (Former Chief Secretary West Bengal)

Members :

Revered Swami Suparnanandaji Maharaj (Secretary Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture)

Prof. Suranjan Das (Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, University of Calcutta)

Prof. Subha Shankar Sarkar (Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Netaji Subhas Open University),

Dr.(Prof). P.K.Giri (Former HOD Statistics, Narendrapur RKM)

Mr. Swapan Bandyopadhyay (Teacher RKM Purulia)

Mr Shakti Prasad Mishra (Teacher RKM Purulia)

Dr. Tridip Roy (Prof. Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi)

Prof. Dwaipayan Dasgupta (Prof. M.I.T, U.S.A)

Prof. Tajuddin Ahmed (Prof. English, Alia University)

Dr. Nilima Sinha (Former Principal, Nistarini College, Purulia)

Dr Bharati Bakshi, Dr Asis Chattopadhyay, Dr S.K.Datta, Ms. Ranjana Sengupta and others.

We believe that each child has a unique way of exploring the world around, a distinct process of acquiring knowledge and a unique individual style of interacting with people around. This makes every single child special in his/her own way. Our job is to provide them with adequate support and space to bloom and to make learning fun so that the tender minds do not feel pressurized with the academic load. We intend to make learning enjoyable with the purpose that child himself/herself comes forward to learn at their own will. This initiative is undertaken as we strongly feel that mind can learn new things only when it is free from fear or stress. The curriculum is so designed so that the focus does not remain only on book based theoretical knowledge. With most new concepts that the child learns from a book, is backed up with audio-visual aids and practical exposure to the concept. Studies have revealed that by stimulating the senses

of touch, feel, hear and see not only do the children comprehend better but it also helps in better retention of concepts learned. We are introducing all these concepts in our school primarily to encourage children to have a strong foundation of every concept than merely mugging up for examination purpose.

FILIX School for Education is for rural children, many of whom are meritorious but unable to avail school education due to poverty. Proceeds from sale of garments created by NANRITAM initiative "Fashion for Living" support such students through sponsorship.

FASHION A LIVING: LIVELIHOOD PROJECT FOR WOMEN

Kantha is a widely acclaimed traditional craft of Bengal, a tradition entirely kept alive by women. The tradition is almost synonymous with Bolpur where the craft was given a new lease of life in early nineteenth century by Protima Devi, daughter-in-law of Poet Rabindranath Tagore. Through her efforts, what was once a loving past-time activity, became a source of livelihood for many women in rural Bengal. NANRITAM identified about 450 women in the Birbhum district in and around Santiniketan, who are experts in Kantha craft and solely depend upon their craft for survival as they also happen to be the sole bread-earners for their



families. They were dependant on middlemen for sale of their work as well as for finance to acquire raw material like cloth, coloured threads, designs, etc.

NANRITAM organized them into a guild, and started to support them with sale of products, arranging exhibitions, etc. However our long term focus is to make them self reliant so that they can lead a healthy life and have the capability to maintain their family -- providing education to their children, basic health-care facility & overall self sustainability.



NANRITAM has now entered into a collaborative venture with some well known designers in Kolkata who will create a variety of products with emphasis on quality and usability using the embroidery material. NANRITAM directly buys the embroidered material from these own, thus eliminating the role of the middlemen entirely.

The products designed from these hand-crafted materials are sold through exhibitions and on-line shopping. This has not only helped these women, but also many rural children. The sale

proceeds are used by NANRITAM to sponsor meritorious but economically challenged children for education at the FILIX School at Para in Purulia.

By buying these handcrafted items, you not only get a beautiful product, but you also help a rural woman artisan to earn her livelihood, educate her children and build up her self confidence.

