

Inspired by the life and work of Swami Lokeshwaranandaji Maharaj, a Revered monk of the Ramakrishna Mission Order, NANRITAM was formed to carry forward the legacy preached by Swami Vivekananda —

“Service to man is Service to God.”



Journey

The journey of NANRITAM began in 2001 with a band of like-minded professionals from different spheres of life joining hands to work towards social and economic upliftment of the deprived and disadvantaged population. Their first initiative in this new direction was Lokeshwarananda Smarak Seva Kendra, a small health-care unit offering low cost diagnostic services and free of cost health check-up to the disadvantaged population of Baranagar and Kamarhati Municipality of Kolkata. Thereafter, NANRITAM has grown from strength to strength and today, NANRITAM has diversified into providing health-care services, educational support, agricultural support and vocation training support not just in the city but also in remote rural villages. Services rendered by NANRITAM have penetrated the interior-most villages of rural Bengal. The beneficiaries of services rendered by NANRITAM include deprived, underprivileged population not just from Purulia district of West Bengal, where NANRITAM campus is based but also from 23 LWE blocks of Bankura and West Midnapur and also some backward areas of Jharkhand.

Mission

The mission of NANRITAM is to provide quality education, healthcare services and livelihood generation avenues to all people irrespective of gender, caste, creed and religion thereby aiding in their fight against illiteracy, illness and poverty and bringing about holistic development of the target population.

Health-care

Rural

- ▶ Lokeswarananda Eye Foundation
- ▶ UDBHAAS- a multidisciplinary child development unit (Purulia unit)

Urban

- ▶ Swami Lokeswarananda Smarak Seva Kendra (Kolkata)
- ▶ UDBHAAS- a multidisciplinary child development unit (Kolkata unit)

Rural

- ▶ Filix School of Education

Urban

- ▶ Nivedita Mission School

Education

Rural

- ▶ Nanritam Krishi Kendra- an Agricultural Development initiative in Purulia

Agriculture

Handicraft

- ▶ Fashion A Living

Urban

- ▶ Shaili

Cultural Unit

Health-care project

LOKESWARANANDA EYE FOUNDATION



NANRITAM upon undertaking the integrated rural development project in the extremely remote, underdeveloped and tribal villages of Purulia, West Bengal, realised that eye problems especially cataract induced blindness is a major health issue among the concerned population. Lack of awareness (that the eye problem is treatable) coupled with absence of proper medical support, significant proportion of the concerned population were slipping into the realm of darkness. Handicapped by loss of sight, each affected person ceased to remain a productive member of the society and hence became a burden for their families and society at large.

NANRITAM, in an effort to provide timely medical intervention and prevent needless blindness, launched an eye-care programme in 2006 at Para block of Purulia. The programme started off as monthly clinic with ophthalmologists and instruments brought from Kolkata. The cataract cases detected were taken to Kolkata where operations were done at surgeon's city based eye-care centre and patients again brought back to their base villages. All services were provided absolutely free of cost. Increase in quantum of cataract cases demanded that facilities be set-up in Para itself to perform the surgeries. The first step towards this horizon was setting up of a 6 bedded eye-care hospital at Para. Today, the small 6 bedded eye-care initiative has taken the shape of a 100 bedded tertiary level, referral eye-care super-specialty hospital - **Lokeswarananda Eye Foundation**



Lokeswarananda Eye Foundation has acquired in due course of time the required technical and infrastructural competence and is today equipped to undertake Glaucoma surgeries, Squint surgeries, Advanced Sac surgeries as well as all sorts of sophisticated Vitreo - Retinal surgeries in collaboration with B.B Eye Foundation, Kolkata apart from the basic cataract surgeries.

www.lefhospital.com

Based on the work done in recent years, Lokeswarananda Eye Foundation has been assigned by the Government of West Bengal as the referral hospital for all complicated eye-care problems from 3 districts of Purulia, Bankura and West Midnapur.

With support received from NHM, Lokeswarananda Eye Foundation has been conducting weekly/fortnightly camps in 23 LWE blocks of Purulia, Bankura and West Midnapur. The cataract cases detected in the camps are operated absolutely free of cost.





Lokeswarananda Eye Foundation is now authorized by the Government of West Bengal to perform cataract surgeries at Khatra Sub-Divisional Hospital for patients from 4 LWE blocks of Bankura and at Mohanpur BPHC for patients from 11 LWE blocks of West Midnapur.

Supported by a dedicated team of senior Ophthalmologists and support staff, Lokeswarananda Eye Foundation has now crossed the boundary of the State. Its beneficiaries now include not just deprived and disadvantaged population of Bengal but also from Jharkhand.

In years to come, Lokeswarananda Eye Foundation(LEF) plans to increase the capacity of the hospital to cater to more number of patients, start Fellowship programme for Ophthalmologists and optometry training course at Para, Purulia.



Eye care



at LEF



Lokeswarananda Eye Foundation

Barandanga, Para, Purulia, Pin: 723155

West Bengal, India

Ph: 7602131010

www.lefhospital.com

lef.nanritam@gmail.com / nanritam@gmail.com



Health-care project (contd...)

UDBHAAS CHILD DEVELOPMENT UNIT

Every child has to go through a complex process of growth & development at various levels to ultimately emerge as a normal adult. Any deviation in these stages of development will lead to developmental disability. Such 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. The overall cognitive stimulation of a developmentally challenged child will be poor, hence he will not be able to realize his/her full potential. Developmental disability affects not only the individual, but the family and the society at large. This grave problem can only be tackled through early screening & identification and Early Intervention Programs, to bring out the best in the affected children.



To address this issue Udbhaas Child Development Centre was launched

This unit was established with the goal to :

1. Bring about early identification and start of treatment for developmental problems.
2. Improve life quality of developmentally challenged children through provision of integrated, customized care.
3. Rehabilitate them into the mainstream of social structure so that they can lead a self- supportive and Purposeful life.
4. Educate the parents to take a lead role in the child's care and become essential partners in their Child's Development Program, thus learn to cope with the situation.
5. Provide Care for children of all sections of society, irrespective of their socioeconomic conditions. Children from families having financial limitations are provided full services at low or no cost.



Udbhaas runs :

1. Clinics at urban and rural centres for screening & diagnosis of developmental challenges ,performing developmental assessment & intelligence tests and offering therapeutic facilities for the developmentally challenged children.
2. Special educational unit for children with learning disability.
3. Counseling sessions for parents and schools.
4. Training programme for Pediatricians, primary physicians, school teachers, community based care-givers and parents.

In addition, Udbhaas in collaboration with UNICEF has been conducting detection and early intervention program for high risk babies and neuro-developmentally challenged children in Purulia.

Training and workshop in progress



Urban

Special Education Unit (for differently-abled children)
22M Srinath Mukherjee lane, Kolkata 700030, India
Email: udbhaas@gmail.com
Website: udbhaas.wordpress.com

Rural

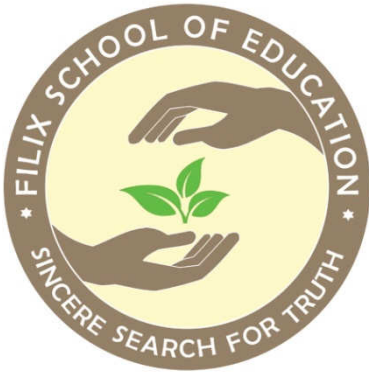
Special Education Unit (for differently-abled children)
Barandanga, Para, Purulia-723155
West Bengal, India

Swami Lokeswarananda Smarak Seva Kendra

It was the first project undertaken by NANRITAM. It started off as a small health-care unit offering low cost diagnostic services and free of cost health check-up to the disadvantaged population of Baranagar and Kamarhati Municipality. Currently it serves as an eye clinic where patients are examined free of cost.



Filix School of Education



Filix School of Education is an educational initiative of NANRITAM to make quality education at par with global standards available to all irrespective of caste, colour, gender and socio-economic background in the remote village of Para, Purulia. Located in a village where education itself is a luxury for many (48% population falling under poverty line), the medium of instruction has been kept strictly English to make the children from this backward section of society eligible to face the competitive world. To promote education of girl children, the school has been started as a co-educational institution. The primary objective is to encourage and enroll more number of first generation learners, children belonging to socially and economically backward segments of the society and girl students.

At Filix School of Education, we believe that every child has their own set of special gifts which will be unwrapped only at the right time and in the right environment. Filix School of Education aims at providing that conducive environment to bring out the true potential in every child and help nurturing the individual potential of each child by providing love, security, encouragement and appreciation of the child's efforts.

Filix School of Education became operational from 2nd April 2014 with three pre-primary sections (Nursery, KGI and KGII) and 70 children in total. This year two more classes (STD I and STD II) have been added and the number of students have more than doubled to 180. The subsequent higher classes will be added every year in phases. The target is to have a CBSE affiliated high school offering science, humanities and commerce streams operational by 2020. Though the curriculum to be followed will be that of CBSE board, it will be suitably re-designed to bring it at par with global teaching methodology. Children will be given greater exposure to interactive web based teaching solutions, audio-visuals, educative toys, charts etc. The purpose behind this is to make education deep rooted and ensure greater understanding as opposed to superficial knowledge gain.





FILIX

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

BARANDANGA, PARA, PURULIA, WEST BENGAL, INDIA

www.filixschool.com

Email: filixschoolofeducation@gmail.com

Currently the school is operating from the ground floor (covering 11,500 sq. ft) of the new school building under construction. The target is to complete construction of the entire school building by the end of 2017 (tentatively depending on funds mobilized).

Nivedita Mission School

Urban



Nivedita Mission School provides educational support to students up-to Standard II, post which they get admitted to reputed schools in the city. Though, the school is primarily for children from the slums there is no compromise in quality of education. At Nivedita Mission School, NANRITAM has tried to provide the best new-age teaching techniques to the kids which are at par with any of their privileged counterparts in other schools. To make learning fun and a joyful experience, children in Nursery, KG-I and KG-II learn mostly through activities , educative toys and audio-visual aids.

Nivedita Mission School was established in the year 2006 with the primary objective to provide a safe environment to children from Noapara squatter's colony near Dumdum metro car shed in Kolkata and to playfully engage them into constructive learning. Since the children were mostly first generation learners, it was necessary to assess whether they were school ready. Thus NANRITAM started its first non-formal school in the year 2006 in a temporary club room in the slum itself. The school started with a strength of 35 kids in Agnisikha Club in 2006.

With time the school grew in popularity and by 2007, the space of the club-room was insufficient to house all the kids. The school was shifted to another larger premises and 3 classes were formally started – Nursery, KG I and KG II. The school was named "Sishu Sarada ".More families from the slum began enrolling their kids realizing the benefit of education. Transport facility was provided by the school to encourage parents to send their children to school. Ably supported by a band of dedicated teachers, Nivedita Mission School grew from strength to strength. The current student strength at the school is 102 and the school has been re-named as Nivedita Mission School.

Rural

NANRITAM KRISHI KENDRA



The poor agricultural output is primarily due to:

1. Poor soil quality (absence of good alluvial soil).
2. Extreme climatic conditions.
 - Summer month average temp: 47 degree Fahrenheit,
 - Winter month temperature goes as low as 6 degree Fahrenheit,
 - Average rainfall 1:325m.m, with 80% - 90% rainfall between June to September only.
3. Absence of irrigation water and lack of financials for investment in irrigation infrastructure
4. Lack of education and exposure to good farming practices preventing farmers to try out new and innovative technology of farming.



NANRITAM in-order to bring about a change in the plight of the population, launched its agricultural initiative at Para block, Purulia – “NANRITAM KRISHI KENDRA”. Agriculture, being the main occupation of the population could alone serve as a major driver of growth and poverty alleviation. Hence, NKK was launched with the objective to bring about sustainable agricultural development in the drought prone villages of Purulia, thereby improving the livelihood of the associated population. The work began in 9 villages of Para block with 70 farmers participating initially. Today, NKK has 2253 farmers from 21 villages participating in the various programmes launched.

The main occupation of both tribes and general population of Purulia is agriculture. In spite of high agricultural participation, income generated through agriculture is not significant thereby adversely affecting the standard of living of the population.



Broadly the areas in which NANRITAM KRISHI KENDRA works include:

1. Involving more no of farmers to adopt good and modern farming practice.
2. Paddy productivity enhancement programme.
3. Shift from mono-cropping to multi-cropping concept.
4. Promotion of cultivation of common vegetables
5. Promotion of cultivation of wheat, oil-seed and pulses
6. Formation of farmer-help-groups and self-help-groups to derive profit due to economics of scale.
7. Conducting demonstration, training and workshops on good farming practices and subsidies given by Government.
8. Effective utilization of wasteland through creation of water harvesting structure and fruit orchards.



Farmers, who have adopted the practices promoted by NANRITAM KRISHI KENDRA, have significantly gained from financial point of view. This year NANRITAM KRISHI KENDRA is going to launch a Paddy seed production cum processing unit and development of model demonstration farms at NANRITAM KRISHI KENDRA, Barandanga, Para, Purulia.



Handicraft

Fashion a living

It is a training cum production unit based at Bolpur under Birbhum district of West Bengal. The current strength of the unit is 450 women who are sole providers for their families. These women mostly belong to below poverty line. Through this unit, women are trained in intricate Embroidery works, Batik and Fabric painting on garments.

To transform their exquisite handworks on cotton and silk into elegant latest top designer dresses and sarees, NANRITAM has joined hands with a high-end designer unit of Kolkata. The products (Trendy and Traditional sarees, Western style jackets and suits, long and medium skirts and dresses, silk trousers, Anarkali dresses, kurti, kurta, bags, bed sheets and other gift items) thus created are sold in the city and also abroad.

NANRITAM organizes exhibitions on their behalf in Trade fairs and Corporate sectors in India and the sale proceeds are handed over to the artisans.



Cultural Unit

Urban

To engage children in more constructive activities, NANRITAM set-up its first urban cultural wing – SHAILI in the year 2011. At SHAILI, not only the kids from Nivedita Mission School but also other children from Noapara squatters' colony are trained in classical Odissi dance under guidance of renowned Odissi dancer, Smt Sharmila Biswas. The children are regularly given reputed platforms in Kolkata to showcase their talents. Their performance has always been highly acclaimed by the august audience. This has helped establish their self-esteem and given them encouragement and motivation to continue with their constructive activities.

Shaili

(Cultural initiative of Nanritam)

