

ANNUAL REPORT

2023-24



ASRA

ASSOCIATION FOR
SOCIAL RECONSTRUCTIVE
ACTIVITIES

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ASRA - THE SHELTER | EMPOWERING LIVES OF NEEDY PEOPLE

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

In our ongoing commitment to community development, ASRA has tirelessly served the most vulnerable sectors of society for over three decades, striving to meet their basic needs and witness their smiles of contentment. Despite financial challenges, we have expanded our intervention programs across various sectors, making a tangible difference at the grassroots level.

The year 2023-24 marked significant progress, characterized by qualitative interventions in empowering persons with disabilities, senior citizens, women, and marginalized communities. Our projects encompassing senior citizen care, drug addiction treatment, adolescent substance abuse prevention, physiotherapy, education for disabled children, special teacher training, capacity building, skill development and various other community development activities have been successfully executed with the support of our dedicated team and vital financial support from governmental bodies such as the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment; Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship; and state government departments.

As we continue our endeavors in Jagatsinghpur, Cuttack, Kendrapara and Balasore districts, we aspire to extend our reach to additional areas where communities face significant challenges. It is our privilege to stand by their side, addressing their needs through collaborative efforts.

On behalf of ASRA, I extend heartfelt gratitude to our beneficiaries, workers, associates, partners, and all those who have contributed to the success of our programs. We look forward to further enhancing our impact in the future, guided by our collective dedication to service and empowerment. Sincere thanks to everyone associated with ASRA for their invaluable contributions toward our organizational goals and the betterment of society at large.

Ajaya Kumar Khuntia
(Ajaya Kumar Khuntia)
Secretary
Association For Social
Reconstructive Activities (Asra),
Cuttack

ABOUT ASRA

Association for Social Reconstructive Activities (ASRA) is a philanthropic voluntary organization working towards the upliftment of the marginalized and needy people. The organization, from its humble beginnings, has persevered through countless challenges, embraced new commitments and nurtured endless hopes, continuously propelling forward.



With an unwavering commitment to community development, ASRA has embarked on a comprehensive journey to uplift the well-being of diverse marginalized groups. Addressing the needs of Persons with Disabilities, Senior Citizens, Drug addicts, Women, Children, and SCs/STs, the organization extends its outreach across various sectors. Through initiatives encompassing education, healthcare, skill development, capacity building, and income generation for economically weaker sections, ASRA leaves no aspect unattended in its pursuit of social equity and inclusivity.

LEGAL STATUS

ASRA received legal status as a state level non-government non-profit making Society with registration under the rules and provisions of Societies Registration Act 1860 in the year 1991, 12AA and 80G (5) (vi) of Income Tax Act 1961 and Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act 1976, Persons with Disabilities Act 1995 and J. J. Act 2005. The Organization is registered under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs to avail CSR funds on the basis of project submitted at a particular location. The organization is also registered under GST Act.

MISSION AND VISION

Our Mission is to engage in diverse community development initiatives aimed at fostering socioeconomic, physical, mental, and sociocultural advancement, with a primary focus on empowering vulnerable groups within society.

Our Vision is to create a society where every individual has the opportunity to live a dignified life, free from discrimination and adversity. We strive for a world where people are empowered to reach their full potential through access to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

ASRA operates with a fifteen-member General Body and a Governing Board comprising five members elected for a term of four years to oversee the organization's operations. Supported by a dedicated team of 200 trained and experienced employees and volunteers, the Governing Board effectively executes the organization's programs and initiatives.



ASSETS AND BUILDINGS

ASRA operates from a fully equipped registered office in Cuttack, supplemented by branch offices located at Jagatsinghpur HQ, Singharpur, Naugaon in Jagatsinghpur district, and Isani Brahmapur in Cuttack district. Each office is spacious and well-furnished, equipped with essential amenities such as furniture, fixtures, telecommunications, internet access, and transportation facilities. ASRA also owns 1.5

acres of land in Singharpur, where a two-story building spanning 15,000 square feet has been constructed. This building includes classrooms, office spaces, separate hostels for boys and girls, as well as facilities for kitchen and dining. Similarly, in Naugaon, ASRA operates from another two-story building covering 12,000 square feet, housing a Senior Citizen Home and an Integrated Rehabilitation Center for Addicts.

MANPOWER



ASRA currently employs a total of 155 individuals across various projects. Among them, 20 are female employees, highlighting the organization's commitment to gender equality. Additionally, several employees belong to the SC category, reflecting ASRA's dedication to diversity and inclusivity. Employee selection is based on eligible qualifications and relevant experience, ensuring that the organization maintains high standards of expertise and professionalism in its workforce.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

A Monitoring and Evaluation Committee, comprised of five members from the Board of Management, including experts in the social field, has been established by ASRA. This committee conducts regular visits to various project sites to assess the effectiveness of work performance. Additionally, it ensures that monthly progress reports are obtained from respective project heads. Furthermore, the committee provides necessary advice and suggestions to help achieve the desired outputs, leveraging its expertise and insights in the social sector to enhance project effectiveness and impact.



ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

There is no greater joy nor greater reward than to make a fundamental difference in someone's life. ASRA remains unwavering in its dedication to community development, prioritizing the upliftment of marginalized groups such as Persons with Disabilities, Senior Citizens, Drug addicts, women, children, and SCs/STs. Our comprehensive range of initiatives encompasses education, healthcare, women's empowerment, economic upliftment of the underprivileged and skill enhancement. Through these multifaceted efforts, ASRA endeavors to ignite transformative change and foster inclusive growth within our communities.

ON-GOING PROGRAMMES

- ❖ Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens
- ❖ Physiotherapy Center for the Senior Citizens
- ❖ Mobile Medicare Unit (MMU) for senior citizens
- ❖ Outreach Drop In-Center (ODIC)
- ❖ Integrated Rehabilitation Center for Addicts (IRCA)
- ❖ Residential School for the Children with Special Needs
- ❖ ASRA Teacher Training College in Special Education (VI and HI)
- ❖ District Disability Rehabilitation Center (DDRC)
- ❖ Therapeutic and Rehabilitative Service Center for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities
- ❖ Special School for Cerebral Palsy affected children
- ❖ Induction - cum - GPDP Training Programme
- ❖ Training to ASHA workers
- ❖ Training to SHG Members through OLM
- ❖ Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) in Kendrapara district
- ❖ Jute industry under SFURTI scheme

OTHER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

- ❖ Tree Plantation Programme
- ❖ Supply of aids and assistive devices to the PwDs
- ❖ Community Based Disaster Preparedness programme
- ❖ Climate change awareness and Tree plantation programme, Road safety Programme
- ❖ Observation of International Day of Older Persons and PwDs
- ❖ Workshop on Women Empowerment

WHO SUPPORTS WHAT

Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India

Senior Citizen Home under AVAYA Scheme.
Integrated Rehabilitation Centre for Addicts (IRCA) under NAPDAR Scheme.
Outreach Drop-In Center (ODIC) under NAPDAR Scheme
Residential Special School of Disabled Children under the Disable Affairs.

Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Govt. of India

Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS).

Ministry of Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), Govt. of India

Scheme of Funds for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI)

SSEPD Department of Govt. of Odisha

Two 25 bedded Senior Citizen Homes under AVAYA Scheme.
Therapeutic & Rehabilitation Services to the Intellectual Disabilities.
Special School for Cerebral Palsy affected children
Mobile Medicare Unit for the Senior Citizens.
Physiotherapy unit for the Senior Citizens.

National Rural Health Mission, Govt. of Odisha

Capacity Building Training of ASHA workers, Jagatsinghpur District

Odisha Livelihood Mission, Govt. of Odisha

Sensitization of Elected Representatives, Jagatsinghpur District

State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD), Govt. of Odisha

Capacity Building Training of Elected Representatives of PRIs, Jagatsinghpur District

Other Programmes Supported by ASRA

Observation of International Day of PwDs
Observation of International Day of Older Persons
Awareness Programme on Climate Change, Road Safety etc.

ON-GOING PROGRAMMES

SENIOR CITIZEN CARE

INTEGRATED PROGRAMME FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

Our Commitment to Senior Citizens: Honoring their Legacy, Supporting their Journey. Since our organization's inception, prioritizing the well-being of senior citizens has been at the heart of everything we do. We hold deep respect for their wisdom and experience, always ready to stand by them whenever and wherever they require our assistance.

ASRA extends its reach to senior citizens across Jagatsinghpur and Cuttack districts with the establishment of four dedicated *Senior Citizen Homes*. Located in Kosal, Naugaon, Ersama, and Isani Brahmapur, these homes provide a nurturing environment for twenty-five residents each, providing them with wholesome meals and regular medical check-ups. Our devoted team of physicians, yoga instructors, and physiotherapists ensures that residents receive holistic medical care and engaging opportunities for physical activity, fostering their well-being and peace of mind.



PHYSIOTHERAPY CENTER FOR THE SENIOR CITIZENS

ASRA operates a *Physiotherapy Center for Senior Citizens* in Singharpur, Jagatsinghpur district. This center serves elderly residents of ASRA's senior citizen homes as well as local seniors from nearby villages. Approximately fifty senior citizens visit the center daily to engage in tailored exercises and receive professional physiotherapy services. Our experienced physiotherapists ensure the effective management of the center, supported by well-equipped facilities. Additionally, a part-time doctor is available to provide necessary dietary advice and prescribe exercises for physical fitness, while also monitoring the health conditions of senior citizens on a regular basis.

MOBILE MEDICARE UNIT (MMU) FOR SENIOR CITIZENS



In remote areas of Jagatsinghpur where access to healthcare is limited, our *Mobile Medicare Unit (MMU)* steps in to bridge the gap. Staffed with a doctor, nurse, driver, organizer, and multi-tasking personnel, this unit delivers vital medical services directly to elderly individuals in need. From distributing medications to arranging pathological tests, we ensure that no senior citizen is left without the care they deserve.

PROGRAMMES ON DRUG ABUSES AND ADDICTS

OUTREACH DROP IN-CENTER (ODIC)

ODIC is a community-based facility for substance users. ODIC is client-focused with an ultimate goal to prevent people in the community to initiate substance use, also to help the current users to become sober by taking treatment.

ASRA takes a proactive approach to addressing substance abuse within our community through our *ODIC* located in Singharpur, Jagatsinghpur district. Our trained outreach workers are dedicated to identifying individuals in need of assistance, offering support, and guiding them towards the path of sobriety. Through regular community-level interventions, we engage with villagers to raise awareness and promote healthy behaviors, fostering a drug-free environment.



At ODIC, our team conducts comprehensive assessments and diagnoses under the supervision of qualified medical professionals, evaluating factors such as medical history, substance use patterns, and previous treatment experiences. Those identified as needing further support are referred to our organization's IRCA in Naugaon Block Chhak, Jagatsinghpur district.

INTEGRATED REHABILITATION CENTER FOR ADDICTS (IRCA)

IRCA provides whole range of community-based services for the identification, motivation, counselling, de-addiction, aftercare and rehabilitation for Whole Person Recovery (WPR) of addicts to make a person drug free, crime free and gainfully employed.

Realizing the serious consequences of drug abuse, the organization has set up an *Integrated Rehabilitation Center for Addicts* at Naugaon Block Chhak in Jagatsinghpur district. The center serves as a beacon of hope for individuals struggling with addiction, providing a wide range of community-based services aimed at holistic recovery. From identification and motivation to counseling, de-addiction, and rehabilitation, we prioritize the well-being and whole person recovery of our clients. We have successfully supported and treated a number of cases of chronic alcohol and substance abuse, enabling them to lead drug-free, crime-free, and gainfully employed lives.



PROGRAMMES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL FOR THE CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS



Since 1995, ASRA has been at the forefront of providing specialized education and integrated facilities for children with mental retardation, hearing and visual impairments at our *Residential Special School* in Singharpur, Jagatsinghpur. Here, the children receive education and comprehensive support for their physical and mental development, aiming to groom them as productive citizens.

Currently, our school accommodates 136 children with special needs. Our qualified teaching staff, trained in special education, ensures personalized attention and tailored learning experiences for each child. Additionally, non-teaching staff, including part-time doctors, are engaged to provide holistic care. Nutritious meals are provided to all children, along with clothing and other necessities as required.

ASRA TEACHER TRAINING COLLEGE IN SPECIAL EDUCATION



ASRA has established a *Teacher Training College in Special Education* at Singharpur in Jagatsinghpur district. Two years Diploma Course in Special Education (HI and VI) and two years B.Ed. course in Special Education (HI) approved by Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) is being imparted in the college. Through a meticulously crafted curriculum blending theory with practical application, we equip our students with the knowledge, skills, and empathy necessary to become effective educators in the realm of special education.

Our institution fosters an environment of inclusivity and understanding, where students are encouraged to embrace diversity and champion the rights of individuals with special needs. With dedicated faculty guidance and hands-on learning opportunities, our graduates emerge empowered to make a meaningful impact in the lives of those they serve, embodying the ethos of compassion and inclusion that defines our college community.



DISTRICT DISABILITY REHABILITATION CENTER (DDRC)



DDRC facilitates comprehensive services to Persons with Disabilities in the rural area. The center provides services like identification of Persons with Disabilities, Awareness Generation, Early Detection and Intervention, Provision / Fitment, Follow-up and repairing of Assistive Devices, Therapeutic Services like Physiotherapy, Speech Therapy, etc.

Nestled within the nurturing embrace of ASRA Special School in Singharpur, Jagatsinghpur, this center stands as a beacon of inclusivity, steadfast in its commitment to empower individuals with disabilities. We extend our efforts beyond basic assistance, cultivating a holistic approach that encompasses multiple dimensions of support.





From the critical task of identifying Persons with Disabilities to raising awareness and delivering early detection and intervention services, our unwavering commitment to enhancing lives is evident. We provide a comprehensive range of essential services, including the distribution of assistive devices tailored to meet the unique needs of each individual. Moreover, our center prides itself on delivering therapeutic services such as physiotherapy and speech therapy, ensuring that each individual receives personalized care and attention.

THERAPEUTIC AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICE CENTER

ASRA is deeply committed to offering comprehensive care and unwavering support to individuals with intellectual disabilities. Our dedication is reflected in the establishment and operation of the *Therapeutic and Rehabilitative Service Center for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities* in Singharpur, Jagatsinghpur. This center caters to the needs of ten residential and twenty non-residential beneficiaries, offering a range of services including therapeutic care, counseling, education, awareness programs, and rehabilitative services. Our dedicated team of physiotherapists, special teachers, assistants, and caregivers ensure the provision of exemplary care and support to all individuals.



Over time, we have witnessed remarkable progress among children with Intellectual Disabilities who have resided in our campus. Many have experienced significant improvement in their conditions and have transitioned back to their homes. These individuals continue to benefit from our center's services as non-residential beneficiaries, engaging in regular exercises to maintain their well-being.

SPECIAL SCHOOL FOR CEREBRAL PALSY AFFECTED CHILDREN

ASRA has extended its commitment further by establishing a *Special School exclusively for Cerebral Palsy affected children*. This dedicated center, situated in Singharpur, Jagatsinghpur, caters to 30 children, providing not only specialized food but also essential therapeutic services for their comprehensive well-being. Our dedicated team of special teachers, physiotherapists, and support staff ensures that each child receives the care and attention they deserve. Moreover, local affected children also benefit from the center's services, including treatment and daily exercises, with some experiencing remarkable improvement.

CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMMES

INDUCTION - CUM - GPDP

The organization regularly conducts *Induction-cum-GPDP training* in Biridi block of Jagatsinghpur where the ward members, krishi mitras, office bearer of GPLFs, ANMs, ASHAs, AWWs and GP level standing committee members are being trained on *Role of GP in Natural Resource Management*.



ASHA WORKERS' TRAINING

ASHA refresher training is going on throughout the year at our Naugaon training center of Jagatsinghpur, where the ASHA workers are explained about community health care system, process of counseling of family members, giving vaccine to the infants, advice pregnant women about health checkup, etc.



TRAINING TO SHG MEMBERS THROUGH OLM

The organization has been providing *training to the SHG members* of Jagatsinghpur where they are trained on capacity building and entrepreneurial activities. The trained SHG members have been able to lead various business activities at their own locality and now they are able to enhance their earning capabilities and maintaining their families.



OTHER PROGRAMMES

JAN SHIKSHAN SANSTHAN (JSS) IN KENDRAPARA

JSS under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship aims to provide vocational training to non-literates, neo-literates as well as school drop-outs in rural regions by identifying skills that have a relevant market in that region. The objective of JSS is to uplift the rural population economically by imparting essential skills training, thereby enabling local trades to grow and creating new opportunities for the natives of the region.



ASRA is running a *JSS* center in Kendrapara district where the director and his team are identifying different trades based on the requirement of the local needs, and the trainers are being deployed at different panchayats and blocks to give skill development training on tailoring, beauty and wellness, domestic data entry, mushroom cultivation, agarbatti making, etc. 90 batches of training are conducted each year with 1800 beneficiaries being trained.

The organization has provided necessary infrastructure and facilities for smooth functioning of the training. All records are properly maintained and adequate steps are being taken to provide them sustainable earning sources. The nearby banks are also consulted to provide necessary loan facilities to the successful passed out candidates to take up their own self-employment units.



JUTE INDUSTRY UNDER SFURTI SCHEME

ASRA is setting up a *value-added jute industry* at Seragarh in Balasore district. All the artisans shall be given skill development and capacity building training to enhance their skill capabilities. Since jute is available in plenty in the local market and the artisans shall be highly skilled in making various value-added products, the organization effort to set up the jute industry shall definitely help them for their sustainable earnings.



OTHER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

TREE PLANTATION PROGRAMME



ASRA is at the forefront of fostering environmental consciousness through awareness programmes. By organizing *tree plantation* initiatives, we actively engage communities in safeguarding the environment and combatting the effects of global warming. We successfully planted numerous plants of various species in collaboration with villagers, NGO activists, and students from local schools and colleges.

SUPPLY OF AIDS AND ASSISTIVE DEVICES TO THE PWDS



ASRA remains steadfast in its support for persons with disabilities, providing essential *aids and assistive devices* such as tricycles, crutches, walking sticks/canes, spectacles, and hearing aids. Through pre-detection camps and proper checkups, we ensure that PwDs receive the appropriate assistance they need to enhance their mobility and quality of life.

COMMUNITY BASED DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PROGRAMME

Prioritizing community resilience, the organization conducts *Community Based Disaster Preparedness Programmes*. Locals, Panchayati Raj Institutions, and Community Based Organizations are educated on protective measures during cyclones and floods. This initiative aims to enhance the capacity, resources, and networks of communities, enabling them to effectively cope with and recover from disasters.



ROAD SAFETY PROGRAMME



Our commitment to safety extends to the roads, where ASRA organizes *road safety awareness programmes* to educate the public on safety measures, and distribute informative pamphlets. Additionally, our volunteers monitor road accidents along the Cuttack-Paradip express road, providing support when needed.

OBSERVATION OF INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS AND PWDS

International day of older persons is celebrated every year on 1st October to raise the awareness about various issues affecting the elderly, such as senescence and elder abuse; and to appreciate the contributions that older people make to society.

International day of PwDs is celebrated every year on 3rd December to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities; and to increase awareness of gains to be derived from the integration of persons with disabilities in every aspect of political, social, economic and cultural life.



WORKSHOP ON WOMEN EMPOWERMENT



Women empowerment takes center stage at ASRA, where interactive sessions highlight its significance. By prioritizing women's empowerment, we contribute to a skilled workforce, promote local economic growth, enhance business efficacy, and uplift families from poverty, fostering generational wealth and self-sufficiency.

CONCLUSION

ASRA has maintained its integrity even in the toughest times and has continuously worked towards social upliftment. In the upcoming years, the organization will build upon the strong foundation laid in the previous years and continue to advance its impactful initiatives.

While implementing the programmes during last year our volunteers have mainly faced shortage of funds which have restricted the desired output as expected. Lack of resources like manpower and material is probably the greatest challenge that the organization is facing today. In the coming years the organization will take forward the good work started in the previous years. Focuses shall be given mainly on development of health, education, livelihood, disaster preparedness, agriculture, micro-credit activities and food processing. Our special emphasis will be on welfare of PwDs, senior citizens, SC/ST, women and children.



PHOTO GALLERY



PHOTO GALLERY

