

ANNUAL



**S A H A Y I K A**

Regd. No. 4006 of 1990-91

GUWAHATI CHILD GUIDANCE CENTRE

(To help children with special needs)

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ANNUAL REPORT MARCH 2020 TO APRIL 2021

**Introduction** : Sahayika Sishu Nirdeshan Kendra, located in Bamunimaidam, Guwahati. Assam is a not for profit organisation founded in 1986 by Mrs Kalpana Bezboruah, a child psychologist who did her masters from Benaras Hindu University. The NGO was registered under the Societys Act of the Government of Assam in 1991. We are also registered under the PWD Act under the Govt of Assam It runs a school for MR , together with a vocational rehabilitation centre in another unit located about 15kms away in greater Guwahati itself with a vision of integrating children with special needs to the main stream of society and ensuring a dignified life for them. With a team of highly qualified and trained psychologists, special educators, speech & language therapists and other therapists, Sahayika is constantly evolving and using evidence based practices to deliver high quality therapeutic interventions for children. As a commitment to the society, Sahayika also provides free services to the differently abled children from the economically backward section, with a strong belief and philosophy that every child has the right to be treated with dignity, respect and must have access to high quality education.

Our vision

- Striving to make the differently abled children as independent as possible, ensuring self-sufficiency through vocational training and skills development.
- Preparing the child for rehabilitation and total inclusion to the mainstream school and community under the RTE Act.

We run a special school for MR with a student strength of about 56nosof various age groups

The students can be broadly classified into the National Trust disabilities-Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Intellectual Disabilities, Downe's syndrome, Hearing impaired, ADHD, Multiple Disability. These children with cognitive/academic/ behavioral problems often face difficulty in

performing routine household activities, self-help skills, in developing speech & language, in learning to read and write and in socializing with peers and others. are helping and assisting them in achieving these goals, after assessment of the student, individual education plan (IEP) are prepared and the therapists and special educators move forward.. Yoga, music and art form an integral part of their education , together with proper games like, Boche, Volleyball, football, badminton etc.

The students are broadly classified into three groups, the above eighteen are given lessons in money concept, marketing, cooking and serving. According to their aptitude they are taught basic skills of needle work and tailoring, assisting in handicraft making.

The younger group between eleven and seventeen are taught basic academics, colour concept, shape concept etc for improvement of their cognitive learning

#### **Activities of Sahayika Sishu Nirdeshan Kendra Special School:**

Due to the unprecedented closure due to COVID pandemic, activities of the school came to a total standstill from April to June 2020. From July 2020, the older students with Android phones were given homework and by the special educators through whatsapp classes and some parents from impoverished background were provided assistance in procuring medicines and other foodstuff. From October onwards upto December 2020 this process continued, however teachers were attending the school for doing the handicraft works. From January 2021 , all students subject to parental consent attended offline school maintaining strict COVID protocol. Assessment of students took place in March 2021.

#### **Lankeswar Unit**

: From June 2020, with permission from the district administration, this unit was running regularly with five weavers in the handloom and weaving section and production was on full swing.

#### **Tezpur unit:**

The Tezpur unit too remained closed from April 2020 to July 2020 and finally opened from September 2020 with 50% attendance and full covid norms. In December and March 2021, special educators from Guwahati unit visited Tezpur to give training to the special educators and therapists of Tezpur unit

**DISHA centre:** this functioned as per guidelines of the National Trust. Most parents would come and take homework from the special educators and next week come back with the answer sheets. From the month of August 2020. Classes through phone and whatsapp were continued and assistance provided for procuring medicines etc. From January 2021 onwards only four Disha students joined school with parents consent. Other seven continued with whatsapp classes.

## ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT 2020

**January 2020:** New session and admission for new students started. Magh bihu celebrations with lighting of a traditional meji (a small fireplace) was done.. Saraswati puja was celebrated on 29<sup>th</sup> January with lot of enthusiasm among students, teacher, parents and well wishers. Our unit at Lankeswar is functioning fully with five under privileged persons of local area.

**February 2020:** Normal school activity, academic and therapeutic were started. Student's were taken to Sarusajai stadium to participate in the STATE DIVYANJAN SPORT MEET organised by the Govt of Assam. .

**March 2020:** On 14<sup>th</sup> March, an Educational tour to Lankeswar unit , Ganesh Mandir and Nehru park was conducted , the children enjoyed greatly .Light snacks were provided from school.

**The Govt. Assam by a circular dated 14-3-2020 directed all educational institution , coaching center etc to be closed from 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020 until further orders due to acute COVID -19 Pandemic Accordingly the school at Bamunimaidam and Lankeswar unit was kept closed forthwith.**

**April 2020:** Our unit's continue to remain closed.

**May 2020:** As per guidelines of National Trust regarding activities to be taken up with the students of DISHA Scheme during the school closed period, our special educators and therapist were asked to take up following

- a. Give home work to the PWIDs either through whats app or over normal phone , so that the parents could keep them active and in touch with their academics as per guidelines of National trust.
- b. Works given were in general as follows:
  - i) Writing numbers from 1 to 10
  - ii) Writing letters A to Z or upto their individual capacities
  - iii) Fingerprint painting or colouring of shapes etc.
- c. Our special educators and therapists were instructed to continue to keep in touch with family of the PWIDs and their family, telephonically.
- d. The importance of explaining and ensuring the regime of Hand washing and Sanitization, wearing of Masks and Maintaining the social distancing among people was emphasized
- e. The parents were regularly enquired about availability of medicines and multi vitamins for the PWID and help provided where needed
- f. Nutrition facts were imparted
- g. Local Anganwadi and ASHA workers and NGOs were requested to ensure that the Government supply of food items had reached the families of PWIDs

**June 2020:** Activities of May continued. Parents were requested to continue with yoga activities as taught earlier.

July 2020: Activities of May continued. Parents were requested to continue with yoga activities as taught earlier.

August 2020: Activities of May continued. Parents were requested to continue with yoga activities as taught earlier. The Lankeswar unit was made operational with handloom weavers and handicraft workers after taking permission from local administration and ensuring observation of full COVID protocol.

**September 2020:** teacher and therapist attended school as per instruction of Govt.Assam after clearing the COVID-19 test. All COVID protocols of hand washing and sanitizing and wearing of mask and social distancing was strictly followed. Cleaning of school campus etc after such period of long closure was taken up.

**October 2020 :** teacher and therapist attended school as per instruction of Govt.Assam after clearing the COVID-19 test. All COVID protocols of hand washing and sanitizing and wearing of mask and social distancing was strictly followed.

**November 2020:** teacher and therapist attended school as per instruction of Govt.Assam after clearing the COVID-19 test. All COVID protocols of hand washing and sanitizing and wearing of mask and social distancing was strictly followed.

**December 2020:** teacher and therapist attended school as per instruction of Govt.Assam after clearing the COVID-19 test. All COVID protocols of hand washing and sanitizing and wearing of mask and social distancing was strictly followed.

**January 2021:** All the school and institutions were directed to be kept open from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 as per Govt. Assam directive. Accordingly parents teacher meet was arranged and the willing parents were asked to submit No Objection for their wards to attend school. Around 20 parents are sending their children which includes only four numbers enrolled under DISHA scheme. All other parents are still fear full of sending their children to school and some parents have gone back to villages due to joblessness due to the pandemic .

The students were extremely choool.

**February 2021:** All educational and activities were started in full swing . The students actively participated in their academics. Music therapy was continued

**March 2021: Activities of** February continued.

