

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20**

1. The year started with gaiety and merriment since it almost coincided with the Assamese New Year after thirteen days of the new financial year. The Assamese people embark on a month long celebrations of advent of spring with merriment and gaiety with cultural activities and delicious food items galore to usher in the New Year and prepare for the new harvest season that starts immediately after, that embodies toil and hard work. The festival is known as the Rongali Bihu, literally meaning the festival of merriment. The year went off smoothly with all round developments in all fields of our activities and we were able to wear a few feathers on our caps with new programmes of philanthropy, honour and goodwill. We progressed steadily but firmly forward. In all fields of activities we could curve out a name for ourselves. Our finances also looked good. Thanks to the participation of a large number of well wishers and their contributions. Our ranks of volunteers also swelled.

It was a year of fulfilment, hope and cheers for the jobs well done, and things falling into proper places for a sustained growth. This is because of the following broad reasons.

- a. We could get a lot of help and encouragements from philanthropic organisations/NGOs, the general public, institutions/associations, notable individual donors etc and with plenty of accolades for our humanitarian services to the deprived and the neglected.
- b. Give India has been relentlessly supporting our cause with largess. It is supporting us since last more than 8 years or so
- c. The Assamese Diaspora living in America under the banner of AFNA (Assam Foundation of North America) were overwhelmed by our efforts and they decided to contribute handsomely to our cause. The foundation had already released a sum of Rs. 4,06964/- specially for the purpose of meeting the medical expenses against the inmates who suffer from a plethora of diseases because of old age and previously acquired illnesses, both physical and mental.

d. AHAANA, philanthropic organisation based at ----- in US , donated sum of Rs. 1,01,685. 41 to meet the medical expenses against treatment of the inmates.

e. The president of the trust, Sri A.C. Barua and his son Sri Amarjyoti Barua had been continuously providing financial and material help on regular basis since inception involving substantial amount of money till date.

**f. I will be failing in my duties if I donot make a mention of the contribution made by Sri Amar Nath Gupta of Hyderabad who had contributed a sum of Rs. 2,11,000. to the Trust. Other than our Chairman and his son who each had been contributing regularly an amount of Rs 3,00,000/ annually, Dr. Guptas contribution is the largest single individual contribution to our cause. I salute him for his large heartedness.**

g. Sun Valley Hospital of Guwahati voluntarily decided to look after completely the health of the inmates through OPD and indoor services free for the whole year. As per the Managing Director of the hospital, Sri Abhoy Hazarika, this decision was taken after they were overwhelmed by our humanitarian efforts when he casually visited us.

h. There had been marked improvements in the quality of life of the inmates. Daily morning and evening prayers ,regular evening walks , engagement in daily sores(cooking, cleaning, gardening etc), practice of yoga and pranayama, hearing religious discourses, practising disciplines of the Art of Living foundation, Sathya Sai Santha and Cinnmoy Misssion and sermons by the Christian priests. All those brought solace in the minds of the inmates and helped them in living peacefully in a stress free environment etc

i.The inmates are engaged in a lot of productive activities like stitching, looming, embroidery, flower making, knitting and pickle making earning handsome profit. We keep a separate

account of this profit which is then used for taking them out to different places of interest.

With the above supports we have attained a very efficient financial position . We are also gradually in the process of handing over the management to the next generation who have shown tremendous potential to handle our organisation.

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### **Some of Our important humanitarian services and achievements.**

#### **SERVICES**

- a. We started “ENAJORI”, a project to feed the extremely poor attendants of general ward of Dr B Baruah Cancer hospital at least once a day since 02/10/2018. The project continued the service nicely till mid- March/2020. After that the service came to a temporary halt due to Covid-19 pandemic. The work will be resumed once the situation becomes congenial to its sustenance.

Similarly, the programme of providing mid-day meal to the above category of beneficiaries twice a month which was started on-13.7.2019- had to be discontinued for the same reason.

- b. Flood relief materials comprising of foods and other essential items, costing Rs. 40,000/-were supplied to the marooned people of few villages in Morigaon district under the scheme-ENAJORI on 20.7 2019 by the volunteers of SENEH. Finance was arranged from generous donations from the public.

#### **ACHIEVEMENTS**

- a. Sri A.C.Barua . president of the trust had been given the honour “GIVE CHAMPION” on 8.11.19 as ‘one of the leaders for better tomorrow’ as nominated by the Give India Foundation.
- b. The trust had been given the NGO LEADERSHIP AWARD under programme of ASSAM LEADERSHIP AWARDS-2019 on 26.2.2020 together with an individual award for

excellence in humanitarian work to our chairman Sri Barua in a function held at hotel Vivanta, Guwahati, organised by the Indian chapter of World CSR congress

The individual award was also given to Sri Barua in recognition of his extremely dedicated service rendered towards the cause of down trodden class of general population .

2. We had multifarious activities in the year, some of which were added to bolster our image and extend our reach. I intend to deal with each of our activities under the following headings

- a. Induction of new Inmates and their brief backgrounds
- b. Induction/ Exclusion of Trustees in the Board of Trustees.
- c. Welfare measures taken under shelter, food and medical support.
- d. Gradually rationalizing their remunerations.
- e. Visits and celebrations.
- f. Other welfare measures taken, away from our core aim of running the destitute home originally not mandated in our Trust Deed but subsequently added by resolutions in Board Meetings.
- g. Finances
- h. Expansions of facilities/ new construction works undertaken.
- i. Challenges
- j. Future Plans.
- k. Conclusions

### **Induction of new Inmates and their brief backgrounds.**

#### **1. Somari Orang**



Aged around fifty, Somari comes from an Adivasi family from a remote village , named Kundali in Nowgong district. Her parents died when she was around seven. She had two brothers. The elder one earned her livelihood by working as a driver. Their financial position being very pathetic, she, at the age o 10 yrs, earned her livelihood by working in a stone crusher quarry wih her younger bother earning One rupee per day. She was mentally retarded, and so no one came to marry her. She gradually became week and by around 45, she could no longer work. Her sister younger sister- in- law always considered her a burden and maltreated her. The elder one was considerate. Moved by her plight she was brought to Guwahati to live with her and to look after her toddlers. She gradually became unmindful of hr day to day chores , and she became a burden for her elder sister and her family. Finding no other alternative, the elder sister brought her to SENEH and got admitted here on 2.9.19..

With Regular food, exercise, yoga , daily prayers and by betting companionsip in Seneh with multifarious activities her mental faculties have improved a lot, and now enjoying almost a normal livelihood.

**Kusum Deka**



1. Kusum, 75, was born in a very poor family in a village named Chatiantola in Kamrup district, 150 km away from Guwahati. Her father died when she was seven yrs old. Her mother and old grandfather brought her up. The mother used to work part time as household help to sustain his livelihood. Her younger brother was unemployed . She never went to school. She was married at the age of fourteen to a small time vegetable trader ,a resident of Uttar Guwahati. They had one girl too.

Her husband was also very loving, had no vices and they had a happy conjugal life. But fate had an another story to tell. One day he died suddenly of a heart attack. The heaven fell on her. She had a twelve year old girl to be looked after. But fortunately her brother- in- law was extremely helpful. She remained under their care. The brother in law also was a vegetable vendor and had a meagre earning.

One day the brother in law also died ,and with this she became almost shelter less. Finding no other alternative she took shelter in already married daughter's house in Guwahati. The son in law use to be an alcoholic and he used to ill treat her regularly. Finding it unbearable, she left daughter's house and started to live in an open space nearby Down Town hospital .

Seeing hr pitiable condition ,we brought her to Seneh on 18.6. 19. Now she is very active, happy and participating in all sorts of activities of this home.



**2. Swapna Wary- Aged about 50 yr, born in a remote village i Bongaigaon district , lost her father when she was 15 yrs old. She was kept in a destitute home for children at Kokrajhar. At one point of time she became seriously ill,, and so she had to be brought to home. One day she was abducted by a local village boy , and the village people made him to marry her.**

**Unfortunately the husband was a habitual drunker and used to torture her quite often. Finding her survival very difficult and sorrow full, her widow mother, residing at Guwahati (Kahilipara) where she had given birth to a female child. Subsequently she was absorbed in a private company as 4<sup>th</sup> grade worker . with this means of financial support she managed her daughter to pass BA degree. After that the daughter was married to a boy at Tangla. Few months after her marriage Swapna's mother expired, Swapna has become lonely. She subsequently developed mental instability.**

**She becam weak and unable to take care of herself. The daughter also stopped taking care of her.**

**On 2.9.19 she visited Seneh and narrated her story which touched our heart, and on that vey day she was admitted in Seneh.**

**Rahima**



**3.** Rahima, aged about 35 years ,is the woman admitted latest on 14.7.19 . Honestly we are unable to decipher her name correctly even today because of her mental retardness. Few days before she brought to Seneh from GMC hospital, she was lying below a flyover, heavily wounded, unconscious and completely dissipated. Someone took photograph of her motionless body and pasted it on Face book. We took a little time to organize and rushed to the site. We were trifle late. We were told, some young boys have taken her away. We assumed they must have taken her to the Guwahati Medical College Hospital. We rushed to GMCH and we found her there . A local NGO organized her rescue. As soon as we reached,the NGO officials who had no infrastructure to deal with such cases, handed her over to our care. Next day , on 14.7 19 she was brought to Seneh . We started working on her. The first challenge was to clean her up. Her knotted hair had even nails embedded in it . The next challenge was to clean her up. And lastly dress her up and dressing /bandaging her multiple wounds.. We provided her a waist support. Gradually she was improving with the exception that the wounds on her toes of rt foot are refusing to heal which , according to surgeon would require amputation . Fortunately enough she became alright of its own in due course of time.

Now with medication she has improved a lot and now capable of doing her daily chores

### **INDUCTION AND EXCLUSION OF TRUSTEES**

a. Smti Rashmi Barua, a teacher of JNU has been inducted as adviser of the trust..



b.Sri Sujit Bhakharedia and Smti Rina Borthakur , both from Guwahati have been inducted as trustee members

The following persons have been inducted as co- opted members.

Dr. S.N. Sarma

Smti Rita Chaudhury and Smti Darsana Saraswati Dutta.

### **WELFARE MEASURES UNDER SHELTER, FOOD AND MEDICAL SUPPORT**

**Food:** We have been able to improve on the quality of food in the year gone by. This has been possible because of help received by a host of donors who give us regular food materials. Some of them who donate regularly deserves our heartfelt gratitude. In addition, very frequently, a host of kind hearted persons come to “Seneh” to celebrate different occasions of their families, like death anniversary, birth days etc and bear the cost of sumptuous meals. Some others come just to visit the inmates with short eats and fruits. We thank them all for their gesture.

**Shelter:** Under shelter, we club clothing, house hold items including white goods, sanitary items, clothing, expenses for water and electricity, municipality charges, conservancy charges, office expenses, furnishers, repairs and celebrations. I am happy to inform the house that here also, the enthusiasm of the public in general has been extremely encouraging. We hardly spend anything for clothing items since scores of donors want donate them. Overall the quality of life of the inmates has improved tremendously.

**Medical Needs:** Our biggest challenge is looking after the medical needs of the inmates. Rarely a day passes when a visit to the hospital is not needed. I have already mentioned about the most gratifying support given by Sun Valley hospital. But for their support, we would have been in the sea. Demands on our finances for provision of medicines and other related expenditure is no longer a headache for us. Assam Foundation of North America, under their “Adopt a grand ma” scheme started providing us financial support from this year onward for their medical needs.

“Ashadeep” has been providing free consultancy for the mental health problems of the inmates. Unfortunately, half of the inmates suffer from different mental conditions that require regular psychiatric consultations and medication. In an average, we spend more than Rs 8000/ per month on psychiatric drugs alone. Similarly.

**a. Induction of new employees and rationalization of their remunerations:**

Sri Tirtha Lochan Nath has been engaged as field worker wef 20.3.2020. Honestly we had been paying pittance to them mainly because of not so healthy financial position.

**e. Visits and celebrations.**

A. The following celebrations & occasions were held by the Trust at ‘Seneh’ premises itself -

1. The most enthralling evening for one and all was the Bihu celebration organized by us on the 13.4.19 in a splendid manner. The following famous artists of Assamese Cultural arena performed musical items enthralling the audience. A huge crowd assembled.

For the first time in the history of Seneh, Bihu-Huchari was performed by the trustee members and many of the well wishers .

This unbelievably unique performance enthralled the gathering.





## RONGALI BIHU CELEBRATION

2. Bhavada Devi Memorial Philanthropic Trust celebrated Mother's Day on 12/05/2019 by planting trees on the bank of Brahmaputra near Panikhaiti. Inmates, Trustees, well-wishers and our Chairman joined in planting trees.



### MOTHER'S DAY CELEBRATION

3. Independence Day was celebrated by us on 15/08/2019 at our own premises with unfurling the tricolour by senior most Aita Priyobala Karmakar.



## INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

4. All inmates of Seneh were taken out for holy visit to different Durga Puja Mandaps. Governor of Assam Sri Jagdish Mukhi felicitated our residents at Christianbasti Durga Puja Mandap.



## DURGA PUJA

5. Our residents of Seneh celebrated Kati Bihu at own premises on 19/10/2019 by lighting Diya and prayer meeting (Naam).



## KATI BIHU CELEBRATION

6. Annual Day of 'Bhavada Devi Memorial Philanthropic Trust', SENEH was celebrated 25/11/2019 with pomp and gay. Assam Minister of Social Welfare Smti Pramila Raani Brahma graced the occasion as chief guest. The celebration started with lighting the lamps by the dignitaries. The huge gathering appreciated the songs

and dances offer by the residents. A documentary on the lives of the inmates was displayed. Our chairman highlighted the excellent humanitarian works by the volunteers and staves.

After the programme, a cultural night was arranged, which was followed by a simple dinner, In this function some of our Trustee member along with well wishers performed Bihu dance. Well known singers Mr. Prasanta Rajkhua, Mr. Palash Shivam and dancer and choreographer Nur Ali graced the cultural night.





## ANNUAL DAY CELEBRATION

7.Christmas was celebrated on 25/12/2019 at Seneh by cutting cake, singing and dancing. Some of our Trustee and well wishers also joined the eve.





## CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

8. We celebrated Bhogali Bihu on 14/01/2020 at our own premises with lighting of Mezi by our Chairman and offered agni puja.



## BHOGALI BIHU CELEBRATION

9. Republic Day celebration was Organized by our Trust on 26/01/2020 at Seneh.

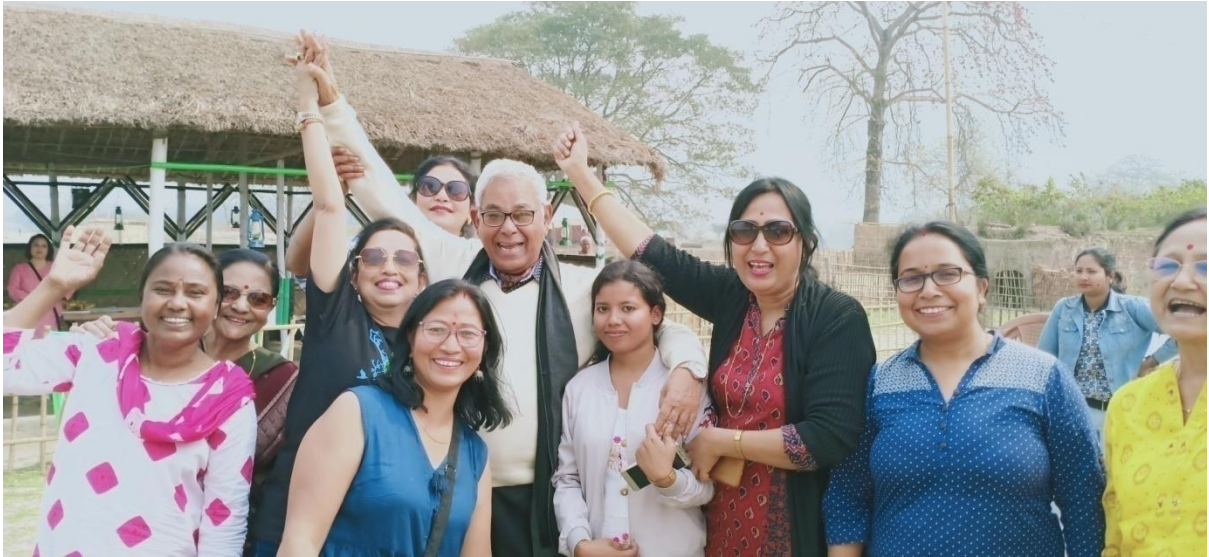


9. Inmates of Seneh were taken out for a holy visit to Balaji Temple and Basistha Temple on 9/02/2020.



10. The inmates were taken for a picnic on 15.02.2020 to Panikhaitil, a beautiful place on the bank of the mighty river Brahmaputra with memorable scenic beauty. Accompanying persons were the trustee members and many other people with philanthropic mind. It was a day full of joy and cheers.





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## **B. Other Activities of the Trust**

1. Scholarship to Patacharkuchi High School on 10/04/2019. In association with Assam Foundation of North America, Bhavada Devi Memorial Philanthropic Trust is providing annual Scholarship to meritorious and economically extremely poor students of Patacharkuchi High School.



SCHOLARSHIP

2. Rimali, 14years of age was a mad, in a house of a couple . Both of them worked. They had a kid. Rimali was brought to the house five years back mainly to look after the child . The family did not pay a dime to the parents. However the family s promised to her parents, admitted her to the local Government run school at Patacharkuchi.

Our Trust is providing Scholarship to those students of Patacharkuchi High school who come first or second in each class of the school. On the 10<sup>th</sup> April last , when the Chairman along with Trustee members went to hand over the Scholarship , Rimali was one of the recipient since she came first in the annual examination of class vii. The Head Mistress of the school narrated Rimali’s story to our Chairman. Chairman promptly acted, called her father and three days back she was rescued and brought to our home for Destitute Old Women, “SENEH” on the 26<sup>th</sup> April2019. Rimali has since been admitted to a reputed school of Guwahati .





### 3. 'ENAJORI' the Dream Project of Bhavada Devi Memorial

Philanthropic Trust expanded the service by offering lunch to the attendants of the indoor patients of B Baruah Cancer Hospital on 13/07/2019.

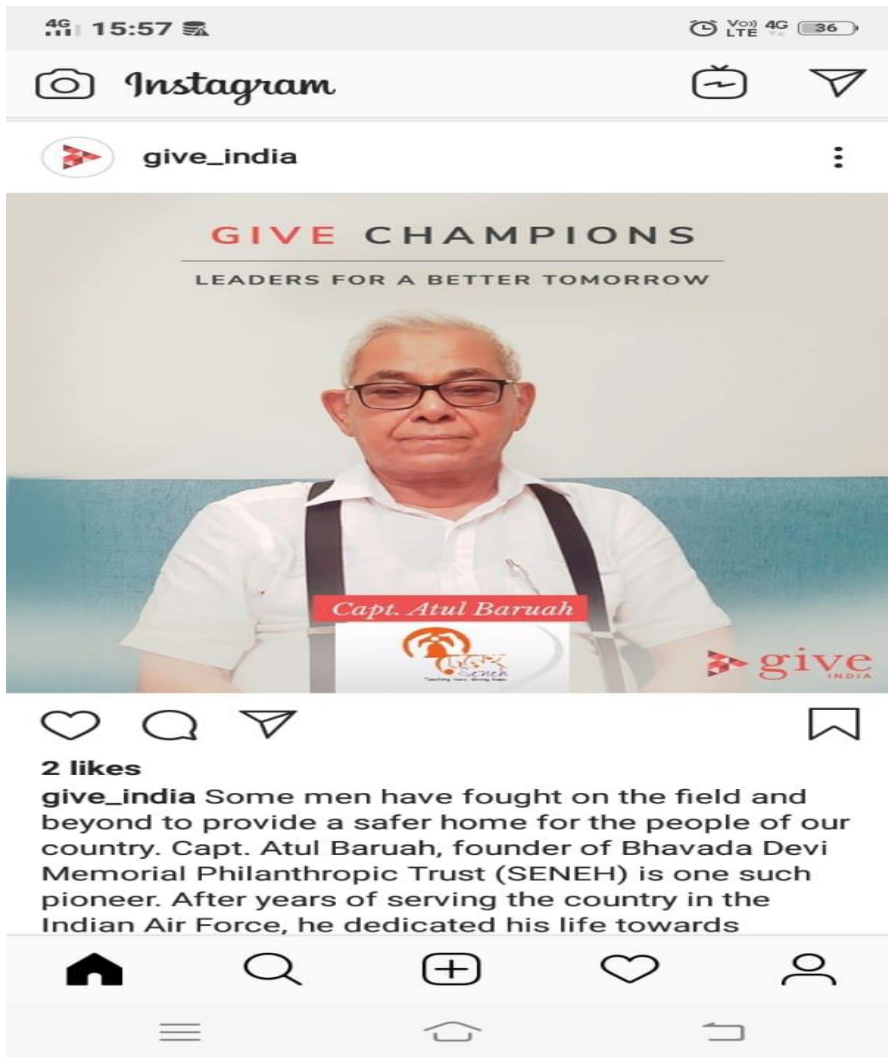


4. Our Trust distributed foods and essentials to the flood effected area near Marigaon District.



5. Great Day of SENEH. Give India conferred Give Champion to our Founder Gp. Capt. Atul Chandra Barua.





6. NGO LEADERSHIP AWARD on 26.2.2020 together with an individual award for excellence in humanitarian work to our chairman Gp. Capt. Atul Chandra Barua organized World CSR congress.



7. Our Trust started the New Project Sanitary Pad Distribution to the girl students of Patacharkuchi High School, Lal Bahadur Sastri Girl's School at Patacharkuchi and Japori Madhyamik Vidyalay at Marigaon On 20/11/2019.



8. On 06/03/2019 work of extension of the existing building started with simple rituals. With this extension we will be able to give home to five more destitute old women.



**C. In addition ,the following reputed organizations and well known persons visited SENEH during the Year 2019-2020 and under taken the activities as mentioned herein under.**

1. On 7/04/2019 the Lions Club Care, Guwahati celebrated pre Rongali Bihu. Utsav.



### LIONS CLUB CARE

2. On 08/04/2019 the TOPCEM Cement authority celebrated Rangali Bihu Utsav with displaying Husari performance and distribution of Assamese c



TOPCEM CEMENT

3. Kid Veda School of Guwahati celebrated Rongali Bihu with our residents on 10/05/2019 at our own premises.





### KID VEDA

4. Mother's Day was celebrated at SENEH with Health check up and Bihu dances in collaboration with Future Life Style Fashion Ltd. And GNRC.



### FUTURE LIFE STYLE FASHION LTD.



GNRC HOSPITAL

5. On 16/05/2019 Ms. Pramila Rani Brahma , Minister of Social Welfare, Assam visited SENEH and shared valuable time with our residents and Trustee member.



6. Global Impact Day celebration organized by Nielson India Pvt. Ltd. On 25/05/2019 at SENEH.



NIELSON INDIA PVT. LTD.

7. Vivekananda Kendra celebrated International Yoga Day on 21/06/2019 at SENEH.



VIVEKANANDA KENDRA, ULUBARI

8. Free Dental Health Camp was organized by Public Health Dentistry, Regional Dental College on 27/07/2019 at SENEH





REGIONAL DENTAL COLLEGE

9. Guruji with members of ISCON, Ulubari visited SENEH and offered food among residents and joined in prayer meeting on 27/07/2019.



ISCON, ULUBARI

10. Members of PRERONA, IAS Officer's wives Association visited SENEH on 24/08/2019 and offered many essentials to the inmates.



## PRERONA

11. International Senior Citizen Day was celebrated in a function organized by Social Welfare Dept. and Senior Citizen Board on 01/10/2019 at PWD auditorium at Dispur. Hon. Minister of Social Welfare Smti Pramila Rani Brahma felicitated our residents in the function and Gita Aita recited a heart touching poem.





## INTERNATIONAL SENIOR CITIZEN DAY

12. Lakhmi Mandir Beltola, Guwahati Puja Committee invited our residents on the occasion of Lakhmi Puja on 13/10/2019 and felicitated the all inmates with Assamese Gamosa.



## LAXMI PUJA

13. Dewali celebration organized by AALSHA, Delhi Public School, Meghalaya, Khanapara and International Public School, Lakhra at Seneh on 27/10/2019.



AALSHA



INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOL



DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL

14.Members of Vipassana Meditation Centre, Guwahati visited SENEH on 11/12/2019



VIPASSANA MEDITATION CENTRE

15.Saraswati Kala Kendra ,Narengi celebrated New Year with our residents at their premises on 01/01/2020.



SARASWATI KALA KENDRA

16. Mr. Rupak Kumar Mazumdar, IAS, Secretary, Assam Govt. Guwahati, Development Department visited Seneh on 28/01/2019



17. A free ear check up program organized by SHRUTI under Dr. Avinava Ghose on 20/03/2020.



18. International Women's Day celebration organized by Sonapur College, NEF College and Sampriti Mahila Marcha on 08/03/2020 at our premises.



**f. Other welfare measures taken away from our core aim as mandated by the original trust deed that had been added subsequently by the Board of Trustees.**

i. Scholarship to Meritorious and economically extremely poor students. We have adopted a girl student from the local Government school who despite of being the daughter of a housemaid made a mark as a brilliant student. In addition, like last year, in collaboration with Assam Foundation of North America, we have distributed one time scholarship to the meritorious students of Pathsala Government School. The total value of scholarship distributed was Rs 40,000/-.

ii. We have conducted a day long medical camp for the benefit of the students, parents and the teaching staff at the above school on the 05/05/2018. All the three volunteer doctors including the lady doctor are all our associates. Free medicines were distributed to the needy as prescribed by the doctors. The lady Doctor was entrusted with the task of finding and advising to the young girls about menstrual hygiene and if they have access to sanitary pads.

**g. Finances:**

We had a very satisfying year as regards financial management. The details will be presented by the Member i/c Finance in his presentation that will follow. The audited balance sheets are displayed and available at [www.seneh.in](http://www.seneh.in).

**Expansion of Facilities and work undertaken:**

**Extension work of existing building with provision of first flooring for the purpose of having meeting hall, office room & rest room etc. have been started**

**Challenges**

i. The biggest challenge of future is the deteriorating age related health conditions of the inmates. We need to firm up a strategy to meet this challenge. Our strategies formulated as per your advice of last year have given positive results. The single most challenge however remains the mental health of the inmates since 40% of the inmates are on psychiatric drugs for different mental condition. More than the money involved it is the unavailability of a credible psychiatrist who can devote some time with the patient. We are on the look out to find one. Unfortunately in this part of the country the concept of psychiatric counselling is almost non-existent

ii.) The next challenge is; in case of death, how do we organize a decent funeral. I must confess my last appeal in the Annual report for your participation has bore some fruits as was seen in the funeral of Late Tarini Basumatary. Specially our appeal to the local residents for help gave dividend. This, however in no way will



supplement your cooperation. I appeal to all of you to spare some of your valuable times as and when need arises. The departed deserves all of our respect.

iii) The third challenge is to find out young blood to carry the mantle forward is also showing sunshine. I am very happy to inform more and more young blood is coming forward to associate and help. We the older generation are hopeful gradually they will take over some of our responsibilities.

vi. Another problem area is provision of water mainly in lean season that is in the months of November to April when the only source of water, the well, dries up. We had been spending handsome money every year to purchase water from water vendors. As per News Paper report the Guwahati water supply scheme will be operational in this area by the end of the year. I pray to God it is true.

#### **h. FUTURE PLANS**

- 
- Extend the financial help to other needy and deserving students.
- Start a geriatric first aid care unit in the premises and also extend this to remote areas with an outreach programme. (This was planned last year but shelved because of paucity of volunteers and fund.)
- Tap CSR resources more vigorously for funding.
- Approach State Government for further help.
- Approach foreign sources for Financial help.
- Procure and distribute sanitary pads in more schools located in rural areas.
- Extend Enajori's activities by providing at least a full meal a day

#### **Conclusion**

**I want to conclude by repeating the same words I used last year.**

**What we have been doing is a tip of the iceberg. There are thousands who require succour and dignity to live. We are committed to embrace more and more destitute who really requires a comforting place to live a life of comfort and dignity in the sunset years of their lives. We have two constrains viz.**

**Adequate resources in terms of space, financial and Human resources. For this to succeed we will require adequate planning and hard work. I am hopeful the new generation will take it as a challenge and together we will scale new heights.**

**Attachments**

- 1. Audited Financials for 2019-20**
- 2. Budget for 2020-2020**
- 3. Status of Corpus Fund**

(Dr. N C Rabha)

Managing Trustee, Bhabada Devi Memorial Philanthropic Trust,  
“SENEH”