

ARPAN SOCIETY

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ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19

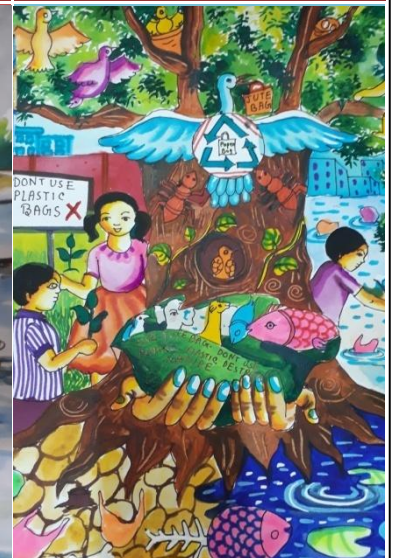


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DINESH SMRITI, KRISHNANAGAR, NUTANPALLI, NEAR CHATRA SANGHA,
AGARTALA, 799 001, TRIPURA

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Editorial Committee

Mr Dhiman Daschaudhuri

Mr Biswendu Bhattacharjee

Mr Sambhu Deb

Digitized By

Mr Dhiman Daschaudhuri

Mr Swapan Chakraborty

Mr Pradip Barman

Compiled &Designed By

Mr Dhiman Daschaudhuri

Cover Photo

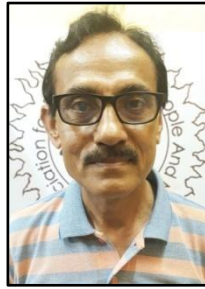
Award Winning Painting of WED 2018

May, 2019



*Jivane Yavada Danam Syat
Pradanam Tato Dikham
Ityesa prarthana Smakam
Bhagavan Paripurayatm*

Message from President



ARPAN Society has completed one more year of its eventful journey. In this year it has widened the field of its activities beyond the field it has been working on. Human being is the nucleus of the environment. So, to develop the environment it is necessary to develop its nucleus first. And this development should start from its budding stage. With this view the society has taken up the responsibility to educate some children at their growing stage outside their school education along with their mental and physical development. These children will grow up and maintain the environment, the society and nation responsibility.

This society has been continuing its activities to make the environment livable for all and work for the poor parents who could nurture their children better in spite of the hurdle of their no-education for the farmers who could improve their livelihood with a little more affect in the field of their work for the poor rural mass who would add a little more to their earning with value addition to their activities.

Thanks to all our executive members and volunteers who have kept the flag of this society flattering and marching ahead with devotion and determination.

SAMBHU DEB

May, 2019

Message from Secretary



It gives me immense pleasure to present before you the sixteenth Annual Report of ARPAN Society. I am proud to represent a society which is an assemblage of academicians, professionals, technocrats, social workers etc.

I am glad to inform that the society during last one year had successfully implemented all the responsibilities it was assigned. Getting the vision right, is a major task for any organisation and on that score, we are lucky that we have steadily built our strength in the respective areas.

We have not only implemented different projects or activities but also have developed human resources particularly in the field of Biodiversity and E-waste management. We have patronized a Farmres club, 'ARPAN Farmers Club' with the farmers of Brahman Pukur, Bamutia, West Tripura to encourage for scientific, profitable and organic cultivation.

We are thankful to our funding agencies for believing on us and extend their support for achieving our goal. The success we have achieved is the collective efforts of all our members.

Together we work together we achieve.

DHIMAN DASCHAUDHURI

May, 2019

Founder Secretary Speaks



I am happy to recount the glorious march of ARPAN Society over past 18 years. The journey of the society was begun with the core mandate to fight for protection of environment and nature. But over the years area of operation of the society has spread across research on socio-economic dynamics and implementation of sponsored projects related to social development. The spectrum of activities of ARPAN Society today stands apart not only in Tripura but across North-eastern region. The reputation of the society has been well acclaimed by the leading public corporate like ONGC and ONGC Tripura Power Company Ltd besides, different government departments and development missions like National Health Mission.

ARPAN made it's footprint at community level by rendering benevolent services with the spirit to make the mother earth livable for all. The multi-prong strategies and future plan of actions are believed to pump more blood to the heart of ARPAN Society in coming days.

I tender my sincere thanks to all our members, executives and volunteers who have kept the flag of this society flattering with devotion and determination.

BISWENDU BHATTACHARJEE

May, 2019

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS 2018-19



(Dr Arjun Kr De)
Vice President



(Samrat Chowdhury)
Assistant Secretary



(Pranab Kumar Bhattacharyya)
Cashier



(Rekha Banerjee)
Executive Member



(Nabanita Banik)
Executive Member



(Swapan Chakraborty)
Executive Member



(Pradip Barman)
Executive Member

CELEBRATION OF WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2018

World Environment Day is the United Nations day for encouraging worldwide awareness and action to protect mother earth. Since it began in 1974, the event has grown to become a global platform for public outreach that is widely celebrated in over 100 countries.

ARPAN Society celebrates the day as annual event since its inception in 2002. In 2018 the day was celebrated on theme “Beat Plastic Pollution” as declared by the UN. The program started with poster painting competition among the school children. About 500 students of different age group participated in the program. Best 5 paintings from different group awarded with medals and certificate.

A day long program was also organised with the students of Gandhigram Higher Secondary School, where hundreds of students participated in different activities those include cleaning, planting, Debate, Quiz, speech etc. Dr Mihir Kanti Das, Scientist C of Tripura Pollution Control Board (TSPCB) was Chief Guest of the program.

An interactive session was organised at Shukanta Academy to share the views with the groups of academicians, scientists, policy makers, politician, business man, and general citizen etc to prepare a road maps to curb the challenges.

The 15 days long program ended with a cultural program by the artists from Sur-Taal academy. Dr Dilip Das, Hon’ble MLA and Chairman, Agartala Smart City project was the chief guest of the program. Dr Mihir K Das, Scientist C, TSPCB, Dr Pawan K Kaushi Scientist E & Head, Forest Research Centre for Livelihood Extension, Agartala, Tripura, Mr Ashit Chowdhury, Manager, NEEPCo, Agartala, Mr Bishnu Datta, ONGC Tripura Assets were the important dignitaries present in the occasion and handed over the prizes to the winners of different activities.





PLANT HEALTH CLINIC

To encourage farmers for Scientific and Organic Farming, ARPAN Society, organised a one day Plant Health Clinic Program on August 27, 2018 at Kali Bazar under Mohanpur Sub Division. Indiscriminate use of chemical pesticide has a tremendous negative impact on environment as well as in the soil. These uses not only degrade the environment around us but also substantially increase the input cost for the poor farmers. These chemical fertilisers are hazardous for human health if consumed within the window period. The best alternative to handle the situation is organic farming. But organic farming also has some limitations particularly in productivity. So the scientific and optimum use of chemical fertiliser and popularising the organic solutions is best alternative. Thus the program is organised to aware farmers about the menace of chemical fertiliser and promote scientific and organic farming. About 40 farmers were present in the program. The program is addressed by Rekha Banerjee, Sambhu Deb, Pranab Bhattachryya and Dilip Chowdhury. Local dealers of fertiliser, Insecticide and Pesticide were also present in the program.



**অর্পণের প্রাকৃতিক
স্বাস্থ্য শিবির অনুষ্ঠিত**

আগরতলা

৩০ আগস্ট ১ বৈজ্ঞানিক ও জৈবিক
চাষের জন্য কৃষকদের উৎসাহিত
করতে অর্পণ সোসাইটির উদ্যোগে
মোহনপুর মহকুমার কালীবাজারে এক
প্রাকৃতিক স্বাস্থ্য শিবিরের আয়োজন
করা হয়। শিবিরে বলা হয় রাসায়নিক
কীটনাশকের অপরিবর্তিত ব্যবহার
পরিবেশ ও মাটিতে ব্যাপক নেতিবাচক
প্রভাব ফেলে। এগুলি চারপাশের
পরিবেশকে বিনষ্ট করা সহ চাষিদের
জনা উৎপাদন খরচও বৃদ্ধি করে। এই
রাসায়নিক সারগুলি মানুষের স্বাস্থ্যের
জনাও যথেষ্ট ঝুঁকিপূর্ণ। পরিস্থিতি
মোকবিলা করার সর্বোত্তম বিকল্প হচ্ছে
জৈব চাষ। কিন্তু জৈব চাষেও বিশেষ
করে উৎপাদনশীলতায় কিছু
সীমাবদ্ধতা রয়েছে। তাই রাসায়নিক
সারের বৈজ্ঞানিক এবং সর্বোত্তম
ব্যবহার এবং জৈব চাষ জনপ্রিয় করা
সবচেয়ে উপযুক্ত বিকল্প। রাসায়নিক
সারের বিপদ সম্পর্কে সচেতন করতে
এবং বৈজ্ঞানিক ও জৈব চাষকে এগিয়ে
নিয়ে যাওয়ার লক্ষ্যে এই কর্মসূচির
আয়োজন করা হয়। অনুষ্ঠানে প্রায় ৪০
জন কৃষক উপস্থিত ছিলেন। অনুষ্ঠানে
রেনা বন্দ্যোপাধ্যায়, শম্ভু দেব, প্রণব
ভট্টাচার্য এবং দিলীপ চৌধুরী
আলোচনায় অংশ গ্রহণ করেন।

CHILD DENTAL CLINIC

A healthy teeth leads to a healthy smile. And a healthy and happy smile leads to a good psycho-physical well-being. A preventative dental health habits is unique need to keep the children free from dental arrays. But unfortunately this habits are missing and consider to be a luxury for the children in challenging socio economic condition. Children become the victim of different dental problem from very childhood due to lack of knowledge about importance of good dental health. ARPAN took series of initiatives to aware both parents and children of Mullapara JB School, Agartala as part of it's concern for growing dental problems.

An awareness camp on oral Hygiene and Dental care was organized on September 8 2018 jointly with India Dental Association, Agartala Chapter at Mullapara J.B. School. About 60 students attended the camp along with their guardians. The guardians were made aware the necessity of maintaining oral hygiene for natural growth of their children. A team of doctors led by Dr. B.B. Senapati, Dr. Ankita Bhattacharyya have examined each of the students and issued necessary advice to the guardians.



AWARENESS ON PERSONAL HYGIENE

In a country where women have reach the frontiers of space, basic necessities such as access to clean and safe drinking water, toilets, basic education, fundamental knowledge and products for feminine hygiene are still unavailable to women in rural areas. Women's hygiene in India has always been a topic that has courted a lot of controversy and hearsay. Report said, about 70% of all reproductive diseases in India are caused by poor menstrual hygiene and women continue to put their health, livelihood and dignity at risk. According to a survey, 88 percent of women use unhygienic material such as newspapers, cloth and husk when menstruating; 70 percent of women suffer from reproductive tract infections and 23 percent of girls drop out at school when they start menstruating due to social taboo and inadequate support and facilities for menstruating girls at schools.

In the recent years, an array of movements aiming to educate women about menstrual hygiene and sanitation has been initiated by government as well as personal and public level. The taboo associated with menstruation outnumber the women who have to go through this process every month. From not touching the pickle, to not entering the kitchen area, India has menstruation taboos and beliefs which have almost crippled its women with chronic reproductive infections. The taboos are not only limited to rural but even urban areas. Therefore, the need to talk and educate in favour of menstruation hygiene practices is extremely necessary at a time like this.

ARPAN Society organised a daylong awareness camp on Personal Hygiene on September 20, 2018 at Ananda Vidyaniketan, Camper Bazar, Agartala. More than 200 girl students of that school attended the progarmme. Mrs. Rekha Banerjee Executive Member of the society along with Dr. Banti Das interacted with the students. They explained them that Womanhood which starts with the menstruation is not a curse but a blessing for a girl. It is a Biological process through which every girl or woman must go through. A girl cannot be isolated in the name of 'impure' because of her periods. Periods are the symbol of good health; we should celebrate it not to surround her with foolish taboos & myths. Every girl must know about her periods and society including the school must take care for that.

HEALTH CAMP ON NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), also known as chronic diseases, tend to be of long duration and are the result of a combination of genetic, physiological, environmental and behaviours. People of all age groups, regions and countries are affected by NCDs in today's world. These conditions are often associated with older age groups but evidence shows that 15 million of all deaths attributed to NCDs occur between the ages of 30 and 69 years. So, its our utmost duty to create awareness among at all level about NCDs and to encourage them to adopt a healthy lifestyle for a healthy future, both for them and also the society.



Two Health camps on Non-communicable diseases were organized with support from NPCDCS program, Govt of Tripura. The first one was on October 2, 2018 at Kanchanbari under Unakoti District and the second one was on January 23, 2019 at Baruakandi, North Tripura. About 500 people attended the camps were made aware of the causes of the diseases and advised to get rid of these diseases by simply practicing good life style and giving up bad habits. Local Helath Administration and two local NGOs extended their full support to make the event success and meaningful. The participants were examined and prescribed in the camp by the Govt health practitioner. Free medicines also distributed by the organiser.



PROGRAMME ON MENTAL HEALTH OF THE CHILDREN AT KHILPARA, UDAIPUR

Mental health issues, which include a wide range of conditions, often have their roots atx early childhood. This includes depression, anxiety, ADHD, autism and disruptive behavioural problems. If they are not being treated at the initial stage then later on, it can take a very destructive form especially the adolscents. It’s a crucial period for developing and maintaining social and emotional habits important for mental well-being. So, Children need to have a good mental health state, if they are going to live up to their full potential and truly live a life that is filled with positive experiences and the willingness to do what is best for themselves and the people around them. And then only they can build up a healthy and successful society. Unfortunately, in our society mental health problem most of the cases believed that it related tolunatic expression only. In general sense we never consider it as a health problem and most of us overlook them. The scenerio is more or less same in rural and urban society.



ARPAN took an initiatives to arrange an interactive program on Understanding of Student Psychology organised on December 8, 2018 at Khilpara HS School under Gomati district. About 100 students and their guardians were present in the program. Ms Nabanita Banik, Clinical Psychologist of Agartala Govt Medical College and executive member of the Society, volunteered to talk and counsel the students and guardians personally and advised them accordingly.



OFF SCHOOL COACHING FOR UNDER PRIVILEGED STUDENTS OF KHILPARA, UDAIPUR

Though rest of the country, imparting private coaching to school students are considered as an extra ordinary need of the wards beyond school hours when they were eager or otherwise empathic for the quest of knowledge, in Tripura situation is reverse. It is most common even for the pre-school students while for



entrance appearing students at higher secondary level and board exams appearing candidates private coaching is a compulsion. The poor parents have to send their wards to private tuition and if

necessary they sacrificed the regular classes in the school and rural or remote Tripura have no difference.

Khilpara, a minority dominated hamlet close to Udaipur town of Gomati district, which falls in the proximity of ONGC Power Company Ltd (OTPC). The OTPC has invested over Rs 10,000 Cr targetting to generate 726 MW power using gas based combine cycle. It is happend to be one of the biggest Clean Development (CDM) Project of India under Keyto protocol to contribute the mission of arresting green house gas emission. The OTPC project, yet hardly reach to it's optimum level of power generation but it's commitment towards the people around is appeared to be very high. To demonstrate it's social obligation, a Coaching Centre for under privileged students of Khilpara HS School was approved by OTPC Palatala under CSR activities for financial year 2018-19 to ARPAN Society. The programme started on Octber,2018 and completed on 31stMarch,2019.

The main objective of the project is to provide coaching beyond school hour and develop basic skill to the students. More thn 90 under privileged students of Class IV to VI enrolled on first come first service basis. Coaching given for English, Math, Science and Social Science weekly twice on Saturday and Sunday. Coaching for extra curriculum activities like music, dance, drawing and recitation also be given to interested students.

Coaching Centre was inaugurated by Hon'ble Member of Tripura Legislative Assembly Sri Biplab Ghosh on October 01, 2018 in presence of Vice President

OTPC, Sri Sudhin Chattopadhyay and other dignitaries from OTPC Palatana, ARPAN Society and School Authority of Khilpara HS School. The first session of the coaching centre held on October 6, 2018 with 81 enrolled students.



PLASTIC WASTE AUDIT UNDER HIMALAYA CLEAN UP PROGRAM

With the theme of 'Beat the plastic pollution' of World Environment Day 2018, UN has focused to mobilise the world to tackle plastic pollution, including creating support for a global effort to eliminate single-use plastics along with global regulation for the disposal of plastics. It advocates for sincere efforts to educate millions of people about the health and other risks associated with the use and disposal of plastics, including pollution of our oceans, water, and wildlife, and about the growing body of evidence that decomposing plastics are creating serious global problems.

However, ARPAN believes requirement of a comprehensive policy to handle this challenges. It is a trend to blame the consumer for this meance always but we believe the producer has also equal responsibility as they do it for their profit. And a portion of the profit must be spend for its solution.

To assess quantiative volume of each type of plastic waste in 10 locations of Agartala city society organised a Palstic Waste Audut withmore than 100 volunteers from various organisations on May 26, 2018 under Himalaya Clean Up Drive ahead of celebration of World Environment Day 2018.



Honb'le Minister for Health and Environment Sri Sudip Roy Barman and Honb'le MLA of Surma Assembly Constituency of Dhalai district inaugurate the central program in front of Ujjayanta Palace. Within 3 hours of cleaning drive about 119 Kg plastic wastes excluding polybags were collected from different locations.

While seggregation of plastic waste, it is found that the volume of tetra packs of different food and grocery item is more than 80 percent. The volume of plastic bottles of carbonized drinks and drinking water shares about 12 percent. The other plastic waste like poly bags, different packaging items etc shares the rest. The detailed report submitted to the concerened Govt Department for suiteale actions.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- The society supported Institute of Tourism and Travel Management in holding one day “Workshop” at Gandhigram H.S School and Interactive Session at Bhagat Sing Youth Hostel on February 02, 2019 to promote “Swachhta Abhiyan” at local level. Street Play has been performed by the local artists at two locations in the Agartala City.
- **Distribution of Warm Cloth** to the 90 poor students of Khilpara Higher Secondary School on January 05, 2019.



- **Distribution of Study Materials** to the Poor Students on February 5, 2019.



- Environmental Film Show for the Students at Udaipur under Gomati district on December 16, 2018.



- Exposure visit to the members of ARPAN Farmers Club at ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Tripura Centre, Lembucherra.



TRAINING, WORKSHOP, SEMINAR ATTENDED

- I. Mr Shambu Deb attended Master Trainer training on Bio-diversity at NIRDPR, Guwahati.
- II. Mr Samrat Coudhuri, Executive member attended 3(three) days Master Training on Management and handling E-west of NEILIFT, Agartala.
- III. Members of ARPAN Farmers' Club attended Tripura Krishi Unnati Mela 2019 at ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Lembucherra, West Tripura on March 01, 2019

PROJECT INITIATED

1. Free off school coaching for under privileged students of Khilpara, Udaipur, Gomati District, funded by OTPC Palatana under CSR fund of 2018-19. Total Project cost Rs 8,66,000/- (Completed)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

At the last but not the least we acknowledge the support and cooperation of all our esteemed members, namely Dr A K Nath, Dr S K Dhar, Dr Sumanta Chakraborty, Dr Biprojit Debbarma, Mr Siddhartha Sankar Chowdhury, Ms Ruma Ghosh, Mr Tridip Bhattacharjee, Mr Anjan Sengupta, Dr Jayanta Roy, Dr Purnendu Narayan De, Mr Bijitendra Chowdhury, Mr Nimai Kumar Roy, Mr Sujit Sarkar.

We also acknowledge the support of Dr Mihir Kumar Das, Scientist C, Tripura State Pollution Control Board, Dr Pawan K Kaushik, Scientist E & Head, Forest Research Centre for Livelihood Extension, Agartala, Dr Kumarjit Sinha, Chest Specialist, GB Panth Hospital & Agartala Govt Medical College, Dr B B Senapati, Dental Surgeon, Tripura Health Service, Dr Anktia Bhattacharyya BDS.

We convey our sincere thanks to the institutions like ONGC Tripura Assets; OTPC Palatana; NEEPCo Agartala & Manarchak; NPCDCS Tripura; TSPCB, Deptt of Horticulture, Fisheries, Govt of Tripura for their support in different occasions.