ANNUAL REPORT

বার্ষিক প্রতিবেদন

For the year 2004 - 05

Jalpaiguri Welfare Organization

Regd. No. S/44735 of 1983-84

Club Road, Jalpaiguri

Observation of acute distress in the lower section of the social, rampant corruption and injustice in the socio-economic fabric and the inadequate efforts by noble individual in these regards led some zealous youngster of the town to conceive a noble idea of concerted action to fight effectively against the maladies prevent. It was novel in many respects – it aimed at giving utmost importance to humane feelings and attitude by virtue of which monetary considerations would assumed lesser significance, voluntary participation of people in works was encouraged rather than enforcing authoritarian culture and last but not the least, it would be free from political or religious bias. This resulted in the setting up of Jalpaiguri Welfare Organization in 1982, a voluntary association of like-minded people who would dedicate themselves towards the causes of the society. Judging by any standards, it was a tough going indeed, but the toughs kept on going. Priority was given to health and health-related matters and thus camp up a number of projects over the years like a Charitable Dispensary, a Day-Care Centre, a Generic Drug Centre. A Pathological Laboratory, an X-Ray Unit, Units for ECG and Spectacles, a Mobile Ambulatory Clinic, Oxygen Supply Service etc. A significant move towards fighting disability was the setting up the Centre for Special education for the Disabled Children, a special school for the physically and mentally challenged pupils, which caters to the needs of MR, CP, HH, and MD students of Jalpaiguri and neighbouring areas.

Today at this ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of Jalpaiguri Welfare Organization from the desk of the secretary let me offer my warmest regard to you all present here to discuss the Annual Report of the organization for the year 2004-05. But before that at first we express our deepest sympathy and respect at the demise of our long-standing friend, philosopher and guide Dr. M. N. Nandy, whose individually experience and inspired us to choose the right course all along and Sri Sankar Das, an eminent Social Worker of Jalpaiguri, whose untimely death has caused irreparable loss to the struggle of thee down-trodden mass. We are also engriefed for those who died in accidents, natural calamities, communal riots and political violence in different parts of the country. We pray that the souls of those persons may rest in peace.

A detailed report of our ongoing projects follows:-

HEALTH RELATED PROJECTS

a) CHARITABLE DISPENSARY

Initially Jalpaiguri Welfare Organization started with this service housed in a little room at Keranipara. Presently it is served in its own building in the ground floor of Uttara Club on average 25-30 patients once a week. This clinic provides free treatment and medicines to the poor patients. The medicines are collected from local Doctors, Medical Representative (Physician's Sample), Clubs and like-minded organizations etc. This financial we successfully served around 1,500 poor and needy patients. Besides, from our Club Road premises we were also able to provide medicines to around 2,000 needy patients free of cost.

b) DAY CARE CENTRE

Since 1991 this centre has been working for the benefit of the senior citizen at Debi Choudhurani Kalibari. The basic concept was to provide care and entertainment to the old persons. At present this centre provides free treatment to the patients of all ages once a week. One doctor and six volunteers are toiling hard to run this centre. This year an average of 40/50 patients received treatment and care at this centre.

c) LOW COST PATHOLOGICAL LABORATORY

Since its inception in 1990 the pathological laboratory has been providing all sorts of pathological tests at a low cost as well as at concession rate to all the patients and also at free of cost to those who were unable to bear even the minimum cost. This year about 7000 patients were served and a service of around Rs.16, 000/- was extended at low cost and at free of cost to 553 needy patients who were otherwise unable to afford the tests done form the market at market rate. This year we

successfully inaugurated the test for Thyroid at low cost. For the same, the State Bank of India provided the required loan. Except Sundays, the unit extents its services to the public from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. round the week.

d) LOW COST X-RAY UNIT

This unit was started in the years 1991 with a 300 MA X-Ray machine. It provides X-Ray at Rs. 50/- to all the patients. The unit also provides the service at concessional rate and if necessary at free of cost to the patients who cannot affords the nominal charge. This year the X-Ray unit served 5,500 patients. The unit has provide free service worth Rs. 14,500 to the needy patients whose market value is about Rs. 20,000/-.

e) LOW COST GENERIC DRUG CENTRE

This centre started functioning in the year 1992 with the aim of providing essential medicines at a low cost to all the people and at free of cost to the needy persons. The object of running this project is also to make people aware of Generic Drug. This is the only center in Jalpaiguri town that provides 24 hours service to the patients. Despite security hazards organization is determined to run this project for the benefit of the common people.

This year about 1, 30,000 patients were benefited from this centre and medicines worth of Rs. 8500/- were distributed free of cost among the poor and needy patients. Not only were these but medicines colleted from the doctors and medical representative also distributed time to time among the people in need.

f) LOW COST SPECTACLES CENTRE

At Rs. 10/- and at free of cost this centre provides facility of an experienced Optometrist of Hospital who voluntarily examines the eyes and give suggestions for spectacles to the patients. Since 1995, the unit has been providing spectacles at a low cost or at free of cost to the ailing persons. This year about 4,200 patients were benefited and spectacles worth of Rs. 10,500/- were provided free of cost whose market value is about R. 20,000/-.

g) LOW COST E.C.G. UNIT

This unit was started in 1994 to provide ECG at free of cost to the poor patients and at a low cost to the people who can bear it. There is a new computerized ECG machine along with the manual one to serve more patients in a short time. We do the computerized ECG at Rs. 60/- and the manual ECG at Rs. 30/- whose market value is Rs. 150/- and Rs. 100/- respectively. This year we gave our serve to about 1,000 patients at concessional rate and about 100 patients at free of cost.

h) MOBILE AMBULATORY CLINIC

At a concession rate and also at free of cost about 1000 patients were benefited by this service. In addition, service is also provided during natural calamities by arranging medical camps. Jalpaiguri Welfare Organization started this 24-hours ambulatory clinic in the year 1989 as a community based project. This year 400 patients were provided the service worth Rs. 37,000/- free of cost.

i) OXYGEN SUPPLY SERVICE:

This 24 hour emergency center provides Oxygen facility. This very year about 90 patients were benefited by this service. This project was started in 1992. Now, one can get a cylinder for 24 hours by only depositing Rs. 100/- that is provided by the other organization at high rate. Like our other projects we render free service in this project too, to the patients who are really needy. This year around 23 patients were extended the service free of cost.

DISABILITY RELATED PROJECTS

a) Centre For Special Education for the Disabled Children

Through this Centre of ours all types of physically challenged children are getting education using modern techniques. Besides, medical services are also provided to them. Since its inception in 1987, the Centre has been earning reputation to attract the students the number of which is at present 178. Many bonafied students of this school have got enrolled in the normal school and have done well in the Secondary and the Higher Secondary examination. In addition, the students are also involved in the extra co-curricular activities like Art Competitions, Nature Study Camps, Sports, & other Cultural Programmes and have won prizes. The centre is helping the guardians of the children to get the certificates and necessary aids and appliances from the government sector. This year the centre has attracted the attention of the mass by participating in the different cultural programmes at Disabled Day Function etc. The Centre has also helped the guardians by making them aware through personal counseling using the platform of the Guardian's Forum. The senior students were given an Identity Card and were also provided special training to make them self-dependent. Jalpaiguri Municipality and the Ministry of Social Justice awarded scholarships to many meritorious and needy students of our Centre.

b) Handicapped People Industrial Co-Operative Society Ltd

Jalpaiguri Welfare Organization formed this society in 1991 to rehabilitate adult disabled persons. The purpose of this Society was growing mutual understanding and co-operation among the members. Since then this society is engaged in distributing the electric bills among the consumers of WBSEB. Now the member strength of the society has increased to 24 with the help of Telecom authority they even partially distributed the telephone bills among the consumers. We hope that in future they will be getting the responsibility to of the meter reading of the consumers. The society is committed to start a STD booth and a Xerox center in near future enabling more members of challenged persons to earn a livelihood.

c) Aparajeo Printing Press

We run a printing press in our Club Road premises for over a decade. Four differently persons are working in it and are earning their livelihood from this press. This is a glorious instance of rehabilitation of the challenged persons.

d) D.L.R.O. Project

In collaboration with the DPEP, Jalpaiguri, we started this venture in 2001 to facilitate the education of the disabled children. Our main aim is to get the non-school going children enrolled in the school. In addition, to build up an understanding among the students and to help the teachers of the primary schools is also a part of our duty. With this aim in view, this year Jalpaiguri Welfare Organization as DLRO has successfully fulfilled the following:

a) Making teachers of every primary school, some Madhyamik schools and S.S.K's aware of disability by visiting them and also to get a list of the dropout disabled children.

b) Helping the teachers to build up understanding between the normal and drop-out disabled students.

c) Doing home visits and also to prepare a list of the non-school going and dropout disabled students.

d) Doing parent-counseling to make them aware about the necessity of enrolling disabled children in the schools, about different problems of children and also made them aware about the steps necessary for their development.

e) Making the Gram Panchayat, Prodhan, Rural Officers and Non-Government Officials, Guardians and Educational Institution aware of the facilities and opportunities provided by the government-disabled children.

f) Helping the disabled children to get their Certificates, Scholarships and other necessary aid.

g) Advising challenged student of different issues by making regular visits to the special school.

h) Participating the different Seminars/Meetings at DPEP and other concerned departments to evaluate of the working.

i) Facilitating Grameen Pratibandhu Bandhu programme.

j) Identified 1166 challenged children and 986 challenged children in Sadar Block and Maynaguri Block respectively and proved our capability.

SOCIAL JUSTICE RELATED PROJECT

CHILDLINE SERVICE: 1098 a 24 hour free phone outreach service for children from 0 – 18 years. Jalpaiguri Welfare Organization is providing this service in collaboration with the Ministry of Women & Child Development, Govt. of India. This year we provided help to the following:

Target groups	*Service Provided*	*No. of children to whom services provided last year*
Street Children	Medical	21
Child Labour	Shelter	14
Abandoned children	Restoration	21
Child victims of HIV/Aids	Protection from abuse (sexual)	01
Child addicts	Sponsorship	186
Lost child	Death related (Last Rights)	03
Runaway child	Information & Referral to Services	59
Child affected by Natural Disasters	Educational awareness	
Child as political Refugees	Counseling for rehabilitation	
Challenged child.	Emotional Support & Guidance	03

Apart from the above we have also taken the following decisions to improve our services provided:-

- ✓ Reassessment of the service and adoption of new policy by conducting Weekly and Monthly meetings.
- ✓ To make the allied systems aware of the service.
- ✓ To restore and give shelter to a child after detailed discussion among the term members/volunteers.
- ✓ Organized 6 one-day NICP Workshop among the government & non-government sectors in collaboration with the NISD, New Delhi.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

During this financial year we have been successfully running our on going projects which are mentioned above. Besides, we organized the following programmes during this bygone year.

1) In keeping with our solemn pledge to stand by physically and mentally challenged population, this year too the "World Disabled Day" was observed by the Organization on the 3rd December with full dignity. This year a record number of people walked on the streets for

the challenged population. Besides placing a charter of demands to the district authorities the day included various cultural programmes, competitions and exhibition of handicrafts that were greatly successful with the enthusiastic participation of our challenged brothers and sisters.

2) At present a small but beautiful garden is adding to the beauty of the school environment.

3) The Guardian's Forum has helped us to get two school vans for helping the students. Efforts are on to increase this number.

4) We have constructed a shaded place for the visitors of our school to sit in the school premises itself.

5) Jalpaiguri Welfare Organization like every year organized workshops to make people are about the PWD Act and other related laws and facilities related to the disabled people.

6) The organization took up Programme for extending necessary medical help and advice including distribution of free medicines as well as clinical help in such areas where Malaria, Diarrah etc. affected a large number of people.

7) This year we have been given the added responsibility to work as the DLRO for the Maynaguri Block too. Like the Sadar Block, here also we have proved ourselves. This year we successfully reached 1600 disabled children and provided our assistance to them.

8) This year we also organized a Saree distribution function on the occasion of Durga Puja Festival with the generous support of Sri Indrajit Dey, a dedicated member of ours Birpara. The function was organized in four different regions viz. Jalpaiguri Welfare Organization, Club Road, Jalpaiguri, Jalpaiguri Welfare Organization, Anandanagar, Maynaguri, Lataguri Social Welfare Organization and Birpara Welfare Organization. Through these about 550 poor and disabled women were benefited. In add addition, poor and needy men, women and children were also distributed clothing as per our capability throughout the year.

9) Our organization has always stood by the deprived women of the society who gets no protection or support form the society and the family itself. In some cases arranging mutual discussions etc. this year we successfully brought a number of ill-fated women to the mainstream of the life solved the problems. In this context I would like to inform you all that this year with the support of the district administration we rescued a number of girls and women forced to work as prostitutes and helped them to lead a normal life.

10) The enthusiastic members of our organization gave their services voluntarily for the Pulse Polio Immunization Programme, T.B. Awareness Programmes, Leprosy Elimination Programme etc. and several other government and non-government programmes organized to create awareness among the common people on different issues.

11) The members of our organization are actively participating in the different programmes and discussions for the development of the district and are also giving constructive suggestions on every platform for the benefit of the mass.

12) Our organization is always conscious about the decision taken in the interest of the mass. We have always protested the decisions against the mass interest of the people whenever and wherever were necessary.

13) As usual the organization stood up for extending necessary medical help and advice including distributing of free medicines as well as clinical help in such areas where Malaria, Diarrhea etc. affected a number of people.

14) You are all aware that a number of tea gardens of our district have been declared locked out. The once flourishing tea industry of Doors is gradually becoming sick. The workers of the closed tea gardens are passing their days amidst terrible hardships and misery. More than 500 people died during the last year due to lack of food and treatment, in this grim situation we can not remain mute spectators. So along with some other voluntary organizations we are running medical camps in some closed tea gardens. In these camps we are not only treating the ailing persons, but supplying them the required medicines, some foods, clothing and ensuring for them the supply of pure drinking water. In this regard we are extremely grateful to Jalpaiguri Municipality for offering us a helping hand to continue these camps. But the situation in the tea gardens is so grave that our effort is bound to prove inadequate in the long run. So we appeal to every responsible citizen of this locality to stand by us and support us in every respect so that we can continue our service to prevent the procession of death and ensure the minimum support to the unfortunate tea garden workers.

15) Motivation camps for Blood Donation were organized during this period at a number of places. This year in such a camp at Police line about 27 police personnel donated their blood. Motivation camps for identifying blood groups of individual (Know your Blood Group) were also organized during this period at a number of places and more than 400 patients were assisted in getting blood.

16) This year too with the generous contribution of the S.J. Jindal Trust and ours we helped many needy patients finaanciallt during their treatment in and outside the state. We also provided medicines to them from outside which were not available on our stick. Last year we benefited about 18 such patients but this years the number rose to 40.

17) With the financial support from a kind hearted person, this year we started renovating a part of our school building for the proposed Short Stay Home. We have also applied to the government for sanctioning a grant for the smooth running of Home.

18) Thyroid test is normally an affordable test. But still Jalpaiguri district don't have the facility. Keeping this in mind Jalpaiguri Welfare Organization has already started this very facility in its own Low Cost Pathological Laboratory at low cost. This year about 56 patients have been benefited by this service.

19) This year was declared as the Year of Scientific Awareness. Jalpaiguri Welfare Organization is trying to create awareness among the students by organizing street plays, scientific awareness camps, group discussions etc.

20) We are a part of the Combined Forum formed by the different NGO's of North Bengal. We are committed to work for the cause of the region. We are actively participating in the programmes organized by the forum on the issue of starting of Circuit Bench at Jalpaiguri, East-West Corridor issue, Jalpaiguri Tea Auction Centre etc.

21) An active member of ours, trained on the issue of Disaster Management, is working as a Resource Person on many forums.

22) This year the organization motivated 15 male members and 16 female members to form their own Self Help Groups to make them financially and independent. The boys group is running their own XEROX successfully and are making paper COVER-FILES for sell in different offices, organizations etc.

23) This year we have been able to provide books free of cost to many needy students through our Subhrojit Sanyal Memorial Book Bank & Study Centre to help many more needy students.

24) Our organization is an active member of the District Level Committee formed to facilitate the District Disability Rehabilitation Centre, National Trust, and District Health Development in

their working and has proved its presence on many occasions through its suggestions and decisions.

25) In our office at Club Road, Jalpaiguri, we have started a Charitable Dispensary. At this centre of ours we are providing free medical treatment to the poor patients thrice a week and are also providing medicines free of cost.

26) Through our CHILDLINE Service we helped a 5 month child of Maynaguri suffering from Hydrocephaly (Abnormal enlargement of the circumference of the head). We helped him to get treated and operated at NRS, Kolkata. The child is now recovering.

27) In association with the renowned Kolkata based Blind Opera and in collaboration with the Kalakushali Drama Society the challenged students of our special school successfully staged a drama.

28) We honoured Miss. Saswati Guha Roy a Hearing Handicapped who participated in the Winter Olympic held at Melbourne, Australia. Besides the organization didn't forget to honour the 5 brave mountaineers of HNAF who captured the Virgin Peak of the Great Himalayas.

29) The organization also performed other duties through the year. Other services like Monitor problems of the handicapped people, Rescue & relief operation during FLOOD ENERGENCIES and ROAD ACCIDENTS, various health awareness camps in the rural areas on Malaria, Diarrhea etc. and awareness camps against social evils like early marriage, witch hunting, dowry etc.

OUR PROTEST, OBJECTIVE AND SUCCESS

To protest the injustice is our motto. We agree to the fact that the way we succeeded in our constructive work we didn't do much to sharpen our revolutionary image. To find out the probable reasons we sat many times this year. In the meeting discussions were made on the increasing materialistic culture in the society. In the past few years we saw that many voluntary organizations are exploiting the innocent people in name of the so-called Non-Government Organizations. It has seen that these so called NGO's mis-utilize the public money for their own benefit and get diverted from the noble path of social service. We admit that these types of intentions are emerging in our organization too. We are committed to de-root this by promoting discussions and self-analysis.

We have been striving for the hapless of the society. We will continue our zeal for the noble cause and will never divert from the noble path of social service. In days to come we will successfully and firmly maintain our character of a voluntary organization and we appeal all the members to work for the same.

THE FUTURE PLANS:-

a) To start a Health Worker Training Programme.

b) To install an Ultra Sonography Machine.

c) To facilitate the Gramin Pratibandhi Bandhu Programme at Maynaguri.

d) To start a Short Stay Home for women.

e) To open a Study Centre of the needy students.

f) To improve the existing projects to increase the quality of service

g) To create awareness about the blood donation, domestic violence, health & hygiene and disability among the common mass.

CONCLUSION

In fine, I take pleasure to say that our services under reference in all projects have been increased 5% to 10% during this financial year. It is needless to say that it has been possible for all the volunteers, activists, well-wishers and donors' dedication and tireless efforts without whose co-operation it could not have achieved the dimension it now boosts of. I appeal you all to take a vow that we are satiated but must not be satisfied till we achieve our goal. With this hope and appeal and once again congratulating you all I am submitting the Annual Report.

With good wishes & warmest regards.

Date: 29.01.2006

Place: Jalpaiguri.

(Sanjoy Chakraborty)
Secretary
Jalpaiguri Welfare Organization
Club Road, Jalpaiguri.