



Kishalay Foundation

Sahaj Path (সহজ পাঠ)

Quarterly NEWSLETTER OF KISHALAY FOUNDATION | FOURTH EDITION , OCT 2024



We thank all our supporters for your continued support to enable us sustain our rural transformation activities and grow over the years. From now on you will receive latest update on our work through this Newsletter. Highlights and key achievements of Kishalay Foundation from July to September 2024 are mentioned in this Newsletter. ”



Inauguration of Rainwater Harvesting Project

We are thrilled to announce the inauguration of our Rain Water Harvesting Project at **Godkhali** on September 27th, developed in partnership with the **Young Indians** Kolkata Chapter. This initiative boasts a storage capacity of 100,000 liters of rainwater, collected in rooftop tanks at the Flood Relief Centre. The collected water will undergo chlorination to ensure its safety for drinking, benefiting the local villagers. This project is part of Young Indians' "Rural Initiatives" program, aimed at developing five model villages in the Sundarbans, including **Godkhali**, **Mokamberia**, **Ramkrishnapur**, **Kamardanga**, and **Ramgopalpur**. The event commenced with inspiring speeches from the **Young Indians** and Kishalay teams, followed by a vibrant cultural program celebrating local talent.

Library facility at Edukids

Kishalay Foundation is pleased to announce the introduction of library facilities at two of our Edukids Centres—**Battali** and **Godkhali**. Each centre now features a selection of 2 English and 3 Bengali storybooks for the students, with the aim of fostering a love for reading and enhancing their literacy skills. This initiative is set to encourage reading habits among the children, helping them explore new ideas and stories while improving their language proficiency. The addition of these libraries is a valuable step towards enriching the educational experience for our students.



Nutrition Programs

From July to September, Kishalay Foundation organized a series of nutrition programs across its EduKids centers, emphasizing the distribution of healthy foods to students. The initiative began on 11th July, with Moog Dal from the foundation's organic farm being distributed at centers in **Battali**, **Kamardanga**, and **Satjelia**. On 15th July, centers such as **Birajnagar**, **Canning Taltala**, and **Ranigarh** joined the program, providing students with Moog Dal, cucumber, lemon, and other nutritious items. The effort continued on 16th July at the **Sonakhali** center, where 57 students received Moog Dal, lemon, cucumber, and peas.



On 18th July, centres like **Dulki**, **Shibgunj**, and **Bali** Island distributed jackfruit, a seasonal fruit rich in nutrients, to their students, while **Kalahazra** and **Baduria** centres also joined the effort. The nutrition program continued throughout the month, with **Goranbose** distributing Moog Dal, cucumber, and guava to 75 students on 19th July.



On 25th July, **Kalahazra** distributed ripe papaya, known for its health benefits, to 22 students. In September, **Baikunthapur** and **Taltala** centres

organized in a nutrition program, with a combined total strength of 68 students. These ongoing efforts reflect Kishalay Foundation's commitment to promoting healthy eating habits and providing essential nutrition to children in need.



Birthday Celebrations

In July and August, Kishalay Foundation's EduKids centres celebrated multiple birthdays with vibrant events and special lunch programs. On 29th July, the **Kamakhypur** Kishalay EduKids Centre in **Gosaba** block hosted a lunch program to celebrate the birthday of "Tari," attended by 38 students and 4 teachers. The celebrations began earlier in the month with Avneesh's birthday at the **Birajnagar** and **Bali** centres on 3rd July, where 36 students and 4 teachers at **Birajnagar**, and 28 students with 2 teachers at **Bali**, enjoyed birthday cake and chicken.



On 4th July, the festivities continued at the **Manipur** and **Amratala** centres in the Sundarbans, with 30 students and 4 teachers celebrating Nitish Sir's birthday at **Manipur**. On the other hand, 29 students and 4 teachers at **Amratala** celebrated Abhishek Sir's birthday. Pencil, erasers, and toys were distributed to the children during these sessions.



On 12th July, the **Chotomollakhali** EduKids Centre marked another birthday with a lunch program attended by 48 students and 5 teachers. The celebrations reached a grand scale on 26th July at the **Goranbose** EduKids Centre, where the birthdays of faculty members **Rojina Aunty** and **Pratima Aunty** were celebrated with 104 students and 9 teachers, enjoying "Payesh" made with Gobindobhog rice. Finally, on 23rd August, the **Godkhali** EduKids Centre celebrated **Barsha's** birthday with great enthusiasm, bringing joy to the students and staff alike.

Eye check-up camp



On 30th and 31st August, Kishalay Foundation organized two preventive healthcare camps at two Edukids centres in collaboration with our partner organization, **Nanritam**. On 30th August, the Eye check-up camp was held at our **Manmathanagar** Edukids Centre in Gosaba block, where over 250 people, including school children from **Manmathanagar High School**, benefited from the check-up.



The following day, on 31st August, a similar camp was organized at our **Godkhali** Kishalay Edukids Centre in Basanti block, where around 180 people, including students from the centre, participated.

Cultural Celebrations



Across Kishalay EduKids centers, several celebrations brought joy and unity among students and teachers. The series of events began with Independence Day on 15th August, celebrated with enthusiasm as students and teachers hoisted the national flag and enjoyed cultural performances.



On 19th August, Rakh Bandhan highlighted the spirit of togetherness, with students and teachers exchanging rakhis and chocolates. On 7th August, the 83rd death anniversary of the great poet **Rabindranath Tagore** was observed with the "22 se Sraabon" tribute program, where students and faculty paid their respects, adding a solemn and meaningful note to the celebrations. Concluding the series of events, **Teachers' Day** on 5th September was observed with heartfelt tributes to **Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan** on his birth anniversary,

accompanied by cultural programs performed by students to honor their teachers.



Menstrual Hygiene Workshop at Satjelia



On Monday, 26th August, Kishalay Foundation member Madhumita Dolui organized a Menstrual Hygiene awareness workshop for 15 adolescent girls from Class 8 and 9 at **Satjelia** in the Sundarbans. The session aimed to educate the students on menstrual health and hygiene, providing them with essential knowledge to manage their menstrual cycle with confidence. At the end of the workshop, biodegradable sanitary pads were distributed among the students.

Kishalay Hope Scholarship

Kishalay Foundation, through its Kishalay Hope Scholarship program, is empowering deserving students to pursue education despite challenges. Recently, scholarships were awarded to Sova Mahato at the **Jhalda** EduKids Centre in Purulia and Poonam at the **Jharkhand** EduKids Centre, encouraging these two meritorious students to

overcome obstacles and fulfill their dreams. Additionally, we also supported **Srabani Kairi**, a resident of **Nimta**, Belghoria, who is in her second year of a **BCA course** at JIS University, Kolkata. After tragically losing her father in 2022, the sole breadwinner of her family, Srabani and her ailing mother faced immense financial difficulties. The **Kishalay Hope Scholarship** stepped in to ensure she could continue her education and achieve her aspirations.



Saree distribution to underprivileged people



On 14th September, Maheshpur Rakhachandra Sevasram, based in Basanti, in association with Kishalay Foundation, distributed 100 sarees to underprivileged individuals at Satjelia village. We extended our support to ensure the success of this event. Our heartfelt thanks to Maheshpur Rakhachandra Sevasram for organizing this initiative and partnering with Kishalay Foundation in making a positive impact in the community.

Enhancing Learning Experiences at Kishalay EduKids Centers



We are pleased to share that recently, we were able to provide benches to the early learners at our **Godkhali** Kishalay Edukids centre. Additionally, we are excited to have distributed toys to our **Dulki** Edukids centre. The students were delighted to receive the toys, which will play a significant role in implementing the right pedagogy within our early education model.

Faculty development Training Through Innovative Workshop



Kishalay Foundation recently organized a Teachers Training Workshop in collaboration with our partner organization, **Nanritam**, on the 30th and 31st of August at our **Godkhali** office. The workshop

focused on the "Foundational Curriculum for Literacy and Numeracy," and was attended by 50 faculty members from Kishalay Foundation. A key highlight of the session was the introduction of **Filibot**, a chatbot developed by Nanritam's Filix School of Education, designed to transform teacher learning, pedagogy, and assessment. This innovative tool aims to enhance the quality and accessibility of education, especially in underserved communities. The workshop proved to be a valuable learning experience for our faculty members, contributing to their professional development and improving the educational outcomes for the children we serve.

Sports Program and Yoga session



On 8th July, Kishalay Foundation organized a Sports program combined with Yoga sessions at the **Ranigarh** Centre, attended by 21 students and 3 teachers. Later, on 29th July, a similar initiative was conducted at the **Godkhali** EduKids Centre by our Sports Instructor, **Billu Chakraborty**. This session also included a nutrition program and was attended by 31 students and 5 teachers. These events aimed to promote physical well-being, mindfulness, and healthy living among the participants.



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Expansion of Educational Reach



The inauguration of two new Kishalay EduKids centers on 1st September 2024 marks a significant milestone in our mission to enhance educational opportunities for children. The second center in Purulia district, situated in Bishria village, Jhalda, has officially opened, becoming the 37th learning hub under the Kishalay EduKids initiative. On the same day, the 6th center in Murshidabad district, located in Mahalong within the Kandi block, was inaugurated as the 38th learning hub. These new centers represent a substantial step forward in our ongoing efforts to expand access to quality education in underserved regions.



Plantation Drive

Throughout July and August, Kishalay Foundation actively promoted environmental sustainability through a series of plantation drives and sapling distribution programs. On July 16, our **Jhalda**

EduKids Centre in Purulia distributed plant saplings to students, who enthusiastically participated in an awareness campaign promoting tree plantation. Similar efforts were mirrored on July 19 by our **Battoli** EduKids Centre, where 80 students received saplings, spreading smiles and the green message. On July 30, we also planted 75 mango saplings along the roadsides of Ramgopalpur village.



In celebration of India's 78th Independence Day, Kishalay Foundation, in collaboration with **Young Indians** - Kolkata Chapter, launched a large-scale plantation program, distributing 7,800 saplings on August 17 at Masjidbadi, Godkhali, followed by an additional 1,100 fruit and other saplings distribution on August 25 in the five adopted villages.



Furthermore, on August 10, a 15-member team from the foundation planted over 200 saplings along a 2 km stretch in Godkhali, featuring species like Mehogini, Chatim, and Krishnachura. Additionally on 18th September, 50 water apple saplings were distributed to 45 students at the

Kamakhyapur EduKids Centre in Basanti block, Sundarbans and the children were excited to receive the plants. This was followed by the distribution of water apple and mango saplings to 55 students at the Chotomollakhali EduKids Centre in Gosaba block on 20th September. These efforts highlight our dedication to protect the environment and enhance sustainable development through community-driven initiatives.

Puja Clothes Distribution at Murshidabad Centres

On September 28th and 29th, the Kishalay management team visited all six of our Kishalay Edukids centres in Murshidabad. During this visit, Puja clothes were distributed to the children, spreading joy and festive spirit among them. The team also held an engaging interactive session with the students, fostering a strong and meaningful connection. The centres warmly welcomed the team, making the visit a truly memorable experience for everyone involved.



Kishalay Foundation

Kishalay Foundation is working towards improving learning outcome of early education in Rural India along with Nutrition and basic preventive healthcare for rural people.



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