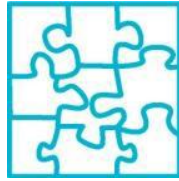


# Annual Report



2019-2020

# Annual Report 2019- 2020



## Registration Details

Under the societies Act - (Registration No S/IL/13372 of 2002)

Department of Social Justice and Empowerment - NO. 312(com)

National Trust. NO.051015391777021/MR/CP/AUTISM/MD

## Contact Details

Registered Office - 22 Anjuman Ara Begum Row, Kolkata 700033

## Located at

147, Krishakpally, Barakhola, Mukundupur...

Contact no.: 033 8274081576

Mob no - 9038008536,

Email - [autismsocietywb@gmail.com](mailto:autismsocietywb@gmail.com) Website - [www.autismsocietywb.org](http://www.autismsocietywb.org)

## **Message from the Founder Director**

The year 2019-2020 was an eventful year. In April, 2019 there were two Art exhibitions one at the Indian Museum and another at the Asiatic Society where the artwork of our students and trainees were displayed. People of different walks of life The Asiatic Society graciously allowed us to celebrate the five years of YAAR in their Salt Lake campus.

A book on 'Understanding Autism Through the lens of Parents and Professionals' edited by Dr. Subir Dutta and Dr. Mitu De was published by The Asiatic Society. We hope many people will become aware of autism as the publications of The Asiatic Society have a wide reach.

The Calcutta Tramways Company arranged for a tram ride for individuals with autism and their families in April, 2019. What a glorious way to spread Autism Awareness in the month of April, which is the World Autism Awareness Month (WAAD).

It was in this year that Samaj Sebi Sangha, a well known Durga Puja Committee of Kolkata came forward with the proposal of making Autism Society West Bengal their Social partner. Our students, teachers and members were invited to the 'Khuti Puja', Rakhi celebration, Independence day and Durga Puja celebration.

During Durga Puja some of our students of the Dikshan unit staged a fashion show with ramp walk. Other Dikshan students and Aarohan trainees staged a short skit on Durga Puja. Samaj Sebi Sangha gave an impetus to our autism awareness program.

During this financial year some staff, members have been invited as resource persons both within India and abroad. ASWB has also organized a number of free workshops. Outreach programs have been initiated in Jhargram and Nityaberia, Nazat, 24 Parganas (South).

In our school we endeavour to organise all events that are found in a mainstream school. Of course we have reasonable accommodations in place. So we had our Annual Concert in May where three self advocates co hosted the program along with a special educator. Rabindra Jayanti, Independence Day, Rakhi Utsav, Children's day, Christams, Saraswati Puja, Holi were all celebrated in school. The Summer Camp was great fun. Picnic and annual Sports were held in Jan, 2020.

The lockdown in March, 2020 and pandemic will surely change the way we function. We closed our school in March, 2020 when the Honourable Chief Minister issued a notification. Then the Prime Minister of India declared a nationwide lockdown. We understand that we will have to face this new situation calmly with fortitude. We hope all our staff, members, parents and well wishers will stand by us during the times of COVID-19.

Indrani Basu

## Message from the Secretary

A one month parent training program started this year, in 2019 for parents who could not get leave from office or had other difficulties for a three month long course. Afternoon respite started where students learn to spend their leisure time constructively. The 5 (five) year celebration of YAAR took place in April, 2019. The soft skills training program started in Mukundapur. We started some baking classes with the Aarohan trainees. We started yoga and skating classes.

The Library which was at 22, Ara Begum Row was shifted to Mukundapur premises. This was a boon to the D Ed students. We have started planning a student library section catering to our students in various sections. We are so glad to get guidance about Library from Dr. Banhisikha Chaudhury, retired In charge Bose Institute.

The second batch (2017-2019) passed the Final Examination with 100% success.

We had to close our school in March, 2020 following the directive of the honourable chief Minister. Nationwide Lockdown started in March, 2020. New strategies need to be implemented as we pass through unprecedented times.

Dr. Mitu De

## Our Logo



Our logo is made of puzzle pieces of different sizes and shape yet they all fit together. We believe in neuro-diversity. We believe that difference can work together to form a cohesive and just society. We need to understand and accept each other differences. Supporting each other difference and celebrating each other's strengths.

In isolation a single puzzle piece maybe interpreted differently by different people. To some, the symbol may be simply a reflection of the idea that autism spectrum disorders are puzzles that have not yet been solved. To others, the single puzzle piece may reflect that children who have autism are themselves pieces of the puzzle that do not fit in. To others still it could represent the mechanical nature of an ASD individual's thought process.

## **Autism Society West Bengal**

A nonprofit parent initiated organization started in 2002 to promote the support and inclusion of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder in society.

### **Autism Society West Bengal's Vision**

A supportive, social environment where persons with Autism are understood and their right to participation upheld.

### **Autism Society West Bengal's Mission**

To enable individuals with Autism and their families to participate in developing strategies to improve their quality of life; optimize their strength through education, advocacy and support.

### **Autism Society West Bengal Overview**

The organization started when a group of parents felt the need to qualitatively improve the lives of Autistic individuals and their families. In Dec 2002, ASWB began as a parent support group with 4 parents and 3 individuals (who were related to individuals with autism), with the focus on intervention techniques for autistic children, and raising awareness about Autism. ASWB was registered in December 2002.

Dikshan the special school for students with autism was started in 2003. In 2009 a section for older student started focusing on work and life skills. The Parent Training wing ASPIRES (**A**utism **S**pectrum **I**ntervention **R**esearch **E**ducation and **S**upport), started in the year 2008 with three parents. Since the number of parents looking to be trained has increased to about 12 families per training. Soon the early Intervention unit started providing school readiness program to young kids with autism. A one month parent training program started this year in 2019 for parents who could not get leave from office or had other difficulties for a three month long course.

We believe that young individuals with Autism need a platform to share their views and meet with their peers. In order to provide them with this platform we started YAAR (Young Adults With Autism Reach Out), a social club in the year 2014. We also had 5 year celebration of the club in the prestigious Asiatic Society campus in Salt Lake. ASWB always strives for supporting individuals with Autism to reach their full potential. The soft skill training program is an

initiation in that direction which started in the 2017. Over the years we have added new programs in our school so that the students get a rich and diverse experience.

Autism Society West Bengal (ASWB) creates awareness about the day-to-day issues faced by individuals with autism spectrum, and their families. We advocate for appropriate services for individuals across their lifespan, and provide information regarding management, education, research, and advocacy. We conduct several awareness campaigns, workshops and seminars and in house trainings throughout the year. Special walks, art exhibitions and Programs are held on 2<sup>nd</sup> April (WAAD) each year to increase the awareness in the general public. In April 2019 a book 'Understanding Autism' was published by The Asiatic Society and co edited by our Secretary.

To create awareness at all levels ASWB has been partnering with different mainstream schools, university colleges, corporate houses, different national and international organizations to reach out to more and more people in the society regarding Autism on one hand. In 2019 we had the privilege of being the social partner of Samaj Sebi Sangha, a well known Durga Puja Committee of Kolkata.

### **Organizational Profile**

Autism Society West Bengal is a parent-directed NGO. ASWB believed in open door policy so we encourage parents to actively participate in child's development process and share their feedback about the same. This helps us to ensure delivery of quality care and services to individuals with autism and their families. The organization has clear structures and open channels of communication between management and staff as well as with the beneficiaries and their families resulting in developing appropriate and suitable strategies to design programs for the beneficiaries. Equal opportunity for decision-making is reflected in the ways of working at Autism Society West Bengal. A team of highly dedicated, efficient professionals and active volunteers remain a source of strength and support, which will help us to reach our goals.

### **Networking with other organizations**

Autism Society West Bengal (ASWB) works closely with other organization not only in exchanging and sharing information but also in training and setting up services for individuals with autism. We have conducted lectures, orientation programs and/or hands on training with following organizations:-

- 1) Action For Autism, New Delhi

- 2) Autistic Children's Welfare foundation, Chittagong, Bangladesh.
- 3) Dwar Jinkerman, a school for students with special needs, Shillong, Meghalaya
- 4) Goodrike School, Siliguri, West Bengal
- 5) Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy, Kolkata, West Bengal
- 6) Mary Rice Centre, Shillong, Meghalaya
- 7) Supportive Learning Centre, Hyderabad
- 8) Spectra School of Autism, Bangladesh
- 9) Institute for Pediatric Neurodisorder and Autism in Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University, Bangladesh
- 10) National Institute for empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities (NIEPMD)
- 11) Mental Health Foundation (MHF), Kolkata
- 12) Keystone Institute, India; An Educational Institute on Disability, Community, and Innovation
- 13) Centre for Autism Therapy, Counselling and Help (CATCH), Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India.
- 14) National Institute of Developmental Education (A Unit of Atrayudh Foundation), Alipurduar, West Bengal.
- 15) Department of Nursing, Aliah University, Kolkata.
- 16) Shashwat Jigyasa, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- 17) KIIT International School, Bhubaneswar, Odisha
- 18) Institute for Handicapped & Backward People (IIBP). Nityaberia, Nazat, North 24 Parganas.

## **Milestones of Autism Society West Bengal (ASWB)**

**2003** – DIKSHAN, A Special School for students with ASD founded.

**2004** - DIKSHAN Therapy unit started which provided Hourly Intervention to children with ASWB who were not enrolled in Dikshan.

**2005** – The Telegraph Award for the “School that Cares”.

**2006-** Started Summer School during the summer vacation. (During summer school we accommodate families who cannot avail of our services at other times.)

**2008** – ASPIRES, Parent training with child commenced.

**2009** – Invited by Organizations in Bangladesh to train teachers & parents.

**2009** – Heart springs Award (USA) for innovation in Special Education given to ASWB Founder Director Ms. Indrani Basu

**2011** – Usha Uthup sings for Autism.

**2011** – Website launched by Governor of West Bengal, His Excellency M. K Naryanan.

**2012** – Self Advocacy by three individuals with Autism for World Autism Awareness Day

**2013** - The popular regional news channel, 24 Ghanta telecast an interview of Ms. Indrani Basu, Founder Director, Autism Society West Bengal (ASWB).

**2014** - A new project Young Adult with Autism Reach out (YAAR) was launched at ASWB.

**2015** - Computer and iPad training for the young children with ASD introduced in summer camp.

**2016** – Autism Society West Bengal started D. Ed Special Education (Autism) Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) approved course.

**2016** – Autism Society West Bengal was awarded ‘Outstanding Institution in the field of Disability’ by Department of Child Development, Department of Women Development, Department of Social Welfare, Government of West Bengal and Office of the Commissioner for Disabilities, Government of West Bengal and Department of Social Justice and Empowerment.

**2016** – Autism Society West Bengal in collaboration with Asiatic Society & Mental Health Foundation, Kolkata organized a 2 day International Conference on Autism. Theme of the Conference: ‘Autism Spectrum Disorder: Life in the Mainstream.’



**2017-** Autism Society West Bengal in collaboration with Keystone Institute and National Trust organized a one day workshop on Social Role Valorization (SRV).

**2017-** A short film about Autism Society West Bengal was telecast by Doordarshan Kendra Kolkata in April, 2017.

**2017-** Indian Museum observed World Autism Awareness Day by organizing a sit & draw event for individuals with Autism from ASWB.

**2017-** Ms Indrani Basu was invited as one of the specialist on Autism to formulate the Rehabilitation Council of India's curriculum for a 6-month Course in "Advanced Certificate in Inclusive Education (cross disability)".

**2017-** Ms. Indrani Basu was a member of the Screening Committee of State Awards for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities 2017 conferred by the Department of Women and Child Development and Social Welfare, Government of West Bengal.

**2017-** Ms. Indrani Basu, Director, Autism Society West Bengal, was invited as a panelist at the International Conference on Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders to be hosted by the The Ministry of Health of Bhutan, the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare of Bangladesh, WHO's Regional Office for South-East Asia, Shuchona Foundation, and Ability Bhutan Society organized this Conference and World Health Organization South-East Asia Regional Office.

**2017-** Autism Society West Bengal started soft skill training program for young adults with Autism to help them enhance their social skills which will help them perform better in their professional and personal life.

**2018-** Autism Society West Bengal shifted to new premises at Mukundapur where the space is more. ASWB has started the afternoon respite unit where individuals with autism will spend their leisure time. We have also started an afternoon unit of the school, Dikshan II. An Occupational Therapy room has been designated and all items related to OT have been gifted by Inner Wheel Club of Central Calcutta District 329.

**2018-** Keystone Institute organized two workshops in partnership with Autism Society West Bengal.

**2019-** In April, 2019 two art exhibitions by Aarohan Pre-Vocational unit Trainees and Dikshan students were organized by Indian Museum and The Asiatic society in collaboration with ASWB.

**2019-** A book on 'Understanding Autism Through the lens of Parents and Professionals' edited by Dr. Subir Dutta and Dr. Mitu De was published by The Asiatic Society.

**2019-** YAAR turned 5 (five) years. The celebration was held in association with The Asiatic Society and Rotaract club of Heritage Institute of Technology.

**2019-** ASWB participated actively in the Autism Quiet Hour with Big Bazaar.

**2019-** ASWB was the social partner of Samaj Sebi Sangha, a well known Durga Puja Committee of Kolkata.

**2019-** Person Centred Planning started in ASWB with the guidance of Elizabeth Neuville, Director, Keystone Institute.

**2019-** ASWB was one of the knowledge partners at the International Conference on Sustainability and Healthcare.

**2020-** Outreach program started in Jhargram and Nityaberia, Nazat, 24 Parganas (North).

In March, 2020.

## **Autism awareness programs**

### **Objective:**

- **To create awareness about Autism**
- **To showcase the talents individuals with Autism have**
- **To make them part of mainstream society**

Our aim is empowerment with knowledge. With this aim, we organize different awareness programmes in collaboration with Government departments, shopping malls, mainstream schools, corporate houses etc. Some of the awareness events are:

- a. **Awareness walk** – Awareness Walk for Autism is organized every year on World Autism Awareness day (2<sup>nd</sup> April). Every year all the students, teachers, staff, parents and

volunteers take part in this awareness walk which usually takes place in the centre of the city. We also invite celebrities and other distinguished guests. This year too on 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2019 there was a autism Awareness walk.

- b. **A –shadharan** – Since 2015, we have been organizing ‘A –shadharan’ an art exhibition by individuals with Autism. The main aim of the event is to bring out and speak about the talent individuals with Autism have. We have been fortunate enough to have collaborated with ITC Sonar, Victoria Memorial Hall and Gaganendra Pradharshanshala for the event. This year in April, 2019 ‘A –shadharan’ an art exhibition was held in collaboration with the Indian Museum. We were fortunate to have another collaboration in April, 2019 with The Asiatic Society. A 4 day art exhibition of the artwork of Dikshan students and 4 artists of the Aarohan unit was held in the Asiatic Society campus in Salt Lake.
- c. **Daan Utsav** – Autism Society West Bengal have been a part of Daan Utsav – India’s Joy Of Giving festival since 2013. We have an ongoing partnership with Apeejay School and ITC Limited since 2014 where we put up tree full of wishes of the individuals with Autism in the form of teaching learning materials, stationery items used in the classroom, items used for making art and craft items, food items which help as reinforcers etc.
- d. **Flash Mob Dance** - Autism Society West Bengal performed 1<sup>st</sup> Flash Mob dance at Quest Mall on 2<sup>nd</sup> may, 2014. Students, teachers and parents all participated in the dance to create awareness about Autism. Flash mob dance has been a part of awareness programme at IBM the 2015 and also as part of Autism Awareness Walk in 2018.
- e. **Sit and draw programme** – Students from Dikshan, the special school run by Autism Society West Bengal also takes part every year in Apeejay Anand Library Art Mela since 2015. This year too students participated.
- f. **Cultural Programs:** Some students took part in the cultural Program organized by the Paschim Banga Rajya Pratibandhi Sammeleni. This year, in 2019 students took part in Rakhi Utsav and Durga Puja celebrations of Samaj Sebi Sangha as their social partner.
- g. **Exhibitions** – Autism Society West Bengal also takes part in exhibitions cum sale of the handicrafts prepared by the students at pre vocational unit ‘Aarohan’. We have participated in exhibitions held at Gokhale Memorial school in 2016. We also took part on science exhibition held at Heritage Institute of Technology in 2016 and 2017.
- h. **Paper presentations:** In few national and International Conferences papers have been presented. This year papers were presented by Director, 2 staff members, 3 Board members and 1 life Member,
- i. **Paper publication:** Research papers have been published on a regular basis.

## 2019 -2020: Beneficiaries

1. Dikshan
  - a. Junior Section - 12 students
  - b. Intermediate section - 15 students
  - c. Aarohan Vocational Unit - 8 students
  - d. Dikshan 2 - 6 students
2. Counselling – 284 families/individuals
3. Early Intervention Unit
  - a. Verbal Behavioural Analysis Programme -37 students
  - b. Parent training Programme 3months -20 students
  - c. Parent training Programme 1 month - 54 students
  - d. Intervention -154 students
4. Occupational Therapy Classes/sessions – 104 individuals
5. Individuals attending mainstream with support from ASWB – 35
6. Families and professionals who attended ASWB workshops - 200

## ASWB Programmes & Activities

- Counseling

**Objectives**

- To assess and diagnose child and suggest the most suitable intervention program for the child.
- Counseling the families to accept the diagnosis.

It is the main point of interaction or rather the first point of interaction with the individual and his/her family. Clinical Psychologist examines the child and try to investigate the problem area and how to work on it. It also include diagnosis, assessment, functional assessment as suggested by some schools, cognitive behavioural therapy for individuals, medical therapy etc

**Beneficiaries : 284 individuals have been counseled.**

- **Early Intervention School Readiness Programme**

**Objectives:**

- **To prepare individuals for mainstream schooling**
- **Developing social skill, classroom behaviour**

The programme will develop communication and enhance emotional and social abilities of the child. This will enable the child to learn from his /her environment. Through individual assessment, the child's strengths and areas where he/she may need support will be realised. The purpose of this programme is for the child to go into mainstream school with whatever support the child may require. Most of the kids coming to this unit are in the age group of 2 to 6 years. Some of the individuals attending our Early Intervention programme have been successful in getting into mainstream schools. This unit meets the educational and social-emotional needs of young children diagnosed with Autism through structured preschool classrooms, behavioural services, Individualized Program Plans (IEP) and Yoga.

**Beneficiaries: 35 individuals from this unit got admission in mainstream schools.**

- **Parent Training Unit**

**Objectives:**

- Empowering parents about intervention programmes to ensure that the learning process continues even after the programme gets over.
- To develop simple skills of an individual with Autism like eating habits, toilet training, imitation skills, play skills and communication skill.
- Creating awareness about Autism.

We believe that parents play an important part in child's life and parents of children with Autism are integral part of their child's educational programme. The parent training empowers parent with knowledge and skills. It enables the parents to take charge of their child's learning programmes and prepare them to advocate for their child in the mainstream. We welcome both parents to attend this program. We have also had incidents of grandparents attending. The program runs over 12 weeks period and starts each March, July and November. It uses research based teaching methods *viz.* ABA/VBA and TEACCH. A group of 8-10 parents are trained together with their children under the guidance of experienced trained therapists. The

program focuses on one-to-one intervention tailored individually to each child, and taking into account the child's strength, emerging skills and weakest skill areas. The main components of the Parent Training are Behavior Modification Techniques, effective Teaching Procedures, Play and Social Skills and the use of Schedules. It is an intensively communication based therapy. ASWB conducts both short parents training for 10 days, advanced Parents Training for 1month and 3months are conducted.

**Beneficiaries: 3 Months Parent Training program – 20 families**  
**1 Month Parent Training program - 54 families**

- **Dikshan**

**Objectives:**

- **To develop communication skill**
- **To support individuals achieve a wide range of functioning levels.**
- **Teaching academics.**

A school for students with autism. We are not tied to any one doctrine since children with autism typically have uneven patterns of development, resulting in a wide range of functioning levels. Students here receive ABA therapy (Applied Behaviour Analysis) at a 1 : 1 basis. The emphasis is on developing communication, also we aim to develop independence so we use a lot of structure. The students also work in groups to develop social and leisure skills. This includes schedules and other visuals that help the child to cope. There are 3 sections here:

Junior Section - The individuals here are in the age group of 6 to 13/14 years

Intermediate - The unit help individuals to learn basic academics as well as pre vocational skills.

**Beneficiaries: Junior Section– 12 students**

**Beneficiaries: Intermediate Section- 15 students**

- **Aarohan**

**Objectives:**

- **Providing skill development training**
- **Developing skills for employment opportunities**
- **Looking for avenues for employment for young adults.**

It is the pre vocational unit for young adults with Autism in the age group from 16 years to 25 years (approx) to learn vocational work as well as academics. The young adults here make note books, jewellery, bags, home décor, greeting cards. Once a week they also prepare food as part of Canteen time. They are also learning non flame cooking. On canteen days, they prepare

maggi, pasta, jhal muri, aloo kabli and different types of sherbaths. Recently baking has been introduced. The trainees have started to prepare cookies and cakes.

**Beneficiaries: 8 trainees are undergoing skill development training now.**

- **Dikshan 2**

**Objectives:**

- **Providing classroom teaching for those who are attending school or cannot be accommodated due to lack of availability of seats in the morning session.**
- **These classes also provide after school support class for individuals.**

We have started an afternoon classroom programme for children who attend play school in the morning or who due to some reason can't get admission to our Dikshan school programme (morning). It also caters to the needs of individuals with Autism who stays far off areas.

**Beneficiaries: Dikshan 2: 6 students**

- **Intervention**

**Objectives:**

- **To provide continuous support to individuals.**
- **To provide support for attending mainstream students**
- **Providing support to outstation individuals who are unable to attend regular classes.**

These are short term training programmes where individuals are allotted classes according to their needs for a specific number of days in a week/month for one hour duration. The aim of this programme is to provide support to individuals who are attending mainstream schools or stay outstation where they don't get proper support for their children.

**Beneficiaries: 154 individuals**

- **Young Adult with Autism Reach out (YAAR)**

**Objectives:**

- **Providing a platform to share**
- **Creating friendships, bonding**
- **Developing ways of communication with peers.**
- **Providing a Happy Place**

A monthly, social club which enables young individuals with autism to make friends and connect better with the society. Participants are some students of Dikshan, some students with ASD getting mainstream education, employees with ASD, students of colleges and universities. We strongly believe for social inclusion to be a reality people both with and without autism should spend considerable time with each other, getting to know each other.

**Participants: 20 to 25 young adults**

- **Diploma in Special Education (Autism)**

**Objectives:**

- **Preparing individuals to train and teach individuals with Autism.**

Autism Society West Bengal started special D. Ed course approved by Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) from the academic session 2016-17. The 1<sup>st</sup> batch started in 2016 with 12 students and 10 of them have been employed by different organizations working in the field of disability. The third batch students will write the exam anytime in this year as the pandemic has pushed the dates to uncertainty. There was 100% success rate in the final examinations for both 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> batch of students.

**Successful candidates: 18 students have completed D. Ed in ASD from ASWB (from 2 batches)**

- **Workshops/Seminars**

**Objectives:**

- **To share the knowledge**
- **To reach out to more people in the society who might be in need of the services.**
- **Creating awareness**

Autism Society West Bengal believes in empowering individuals. They can be parents, professionals, family members, and people in the community. This empowerment comes from sharing ideas, opinions as well as providing hands on training. Since its beginning, we have been organizing as well as attending different workshops in Kolkata, Delhi, Shillong, Hyderabad, Bangladesh, USA, Mumbai etc. We also believe through these workshops and seminars we can reach out to a wider population which is not always possible through therapy classes. Every year we reach out to 500 to 1000 approx people through such workshops. We believe it's equally important to organize as well as to attend workshops and seminars so as to keep ourselves updated. Professionals from ASWB are invited to be resource persons at various seminars and conferences.



## **Beneficiaries: Families and professionals who attended ASWB workshops - 200**

- **Free Interactive Sessions**

Autism Society West Bengal also conducted a series of free interactive Sessions:

- A. **On Young Adults with Autism** – with **Indrani Basu** from Action for Autism was the speaker.
- B. **Narrative Practices** by **Ranjana Chakraborty** and **Manisha Bhattacharya**.
- C. **SRV Principles and tools like MAPS AND PATH** to implement SRV rule by **Betsy Neuville**.
- D. **Financial Planning** - **Jitendra Solanki**
- E. **Learning to Let Go** – **Dr Animita Saha Chowdhury**
- F. **A free session with Dr Linda Lawrence**,(M.D) consultant Centro Ann Sullivan Peru & Consultant Kansas State School For the Blind, USA and comprehensive Ophthalmologist with emphasis in working with Persons with Different Abilities. The discussion focused on importance of Vision in the Education and lives of Students along with eye check up for all.
- G. **A free dental check camp was organized in association with Guru Nanak Institute of Dental Science and Research,Kolkata. Dr Prof Shabnam Zaheer Professor,Department of Pedodontics, Guru Nanak Institute of Dental Science and Research,Kolkata** along with her students came to our campus for dental check and also had an interactive session with parents about maintaining oral health and hygiene.

These sessions provide a platform for professionals and parents to update their knowledge about Autism and also to learn ways to improve their teaching techniques.

- **Outreach Program**

### **Objectives:**

- **To share the knowledge**
- **To reach out to more people in the society who might be in need of the services.**
- **Creating awareness**

Autism Society West Bengal also started outreach programs at Jhargram and Najat(South 24 Paraganas).

Resources persons Mr Pranabesh Bhunia and Mr Binay Samanta visited Jhargram Autism Society to conduct an initial screening for Autism. Professionals and parents attended the two day session where our special educators from ASWB suggested and discussed ways to develop their communication method with the individuals. Jhargram Autism Society is a parent initiated organization started by parents who took training at ASWB.

Autism Society West Bengal also tied up with Institute for Handicapped and Backward People to provide support at their resource cum training centre situated at Najat .

- **Occupational Therapy Unit**

**Objectives:**

- **Resolving sensory issues.**
- **Developing better motor coordination**
- **Strengthening muscles**

Occupational Therapy is an important therapy for Individuals with Autism. Occupational therapy (OT) works in the area of cognitive, physical, social skills. It does this by focusing on sensory integration therapy and enhancement of motor skills. The goal is to improve everyday skills which allow people to become more independent and participate in a wide range of activities. The therapy helps to improve the quality of life for individual with Autism as it helps them to function more independently. Our Occupational therapy unit caters to Individuals with Autism from our organization as well as those who are attending other schools.

**Beneficiaries: 104 individuals**

- **Job Skill Training Program**

**Objective :**

- **To support individuals to develop skills which will be useful in getting employment**
- **To teach them soft skills which are very essential for job**

Job Skills training are very important for individuals with Autism to get engaged in gainful employment. Individuals with Autism have some difficulty in communication. Teaching them job skill training will help the individuals to overcome the difficulty that they face while interacting or communicating in a work place. It also provides a guideline for work place behaviour.

**Beneficiaries:** 6 individuals with Autism are being trained now as part of job skill training programme.

**Regular extra curricular activities in ASWB.**

**Objective : At ASWB care is taken that all students have a rich typical school experience.**

All extra-curricular activities and cultural programs are arranged in school.

Every week a shop is set up with actual snack items. Students actually buy from the stalls during recess. Classroom assistant Babu Patra is in charge of this event lovingly called 'Babuda r Dokan.' Students get a hands on experience in handling money. Of course monetary issues are a part of their curriculum. The Aarohan trainees take part in the selling process and also keep count of the money earned under the guidance of the special educators.

Every month a movie is screened in the Main hall for all the students and trainees.

Summer camp is held with fun activities.

Students take part in inter school cultural events.

Students are taken to do their shopping during the Autism Quiet Hour at Big Bazaar on a rotation basis.

**Beneficiaries:** All students of Dikshan unit and trainees of Aarohan units

### **New programs and extra-curricular activities introduced in ASWB.**

During 2019-2020 one month parent parenting course was introduced which included group OT. Skating and yoga classes were arranged for students of Dikshan and trainees of Aarohan. Afternoon respite started.

**Beneficiaries:** Yoga for all students of Dikshan unit and trainees of Aarohan units

Skating was only for those who opted for this on a monthly payment basis.

Afternoon respite started small with 3 students.

### **Providing a supported working environment for all employees but especially for those on the spectrum**

ASWB firmly believes in providing a supportive environment for all employees. Care is taken to provide reasonable accommodations to our two employees who are on the spectrum. We also provide new opportunities so our employees may discover their latent interest.

This year our Classroom Assistant, Amitava Basu actively participated in the Orientation Program of the Parent Training unit at Lake Gardens unit. He also started taking Environmental

Science classes in the VBA unit. Office assistant Amitesh Das had been entrusted with additional duty as Library assistant.

**Beneficiaries:** 2 employees.

### Special Honour during 2019-2020

- I. In 2019, Autism Society West Bengal was invited to be the social partner of Samaj Sebi Sangha, a renowned club of Kolkata during Durga Puja. The club invited our students to be a part of social events like Rakhi and Kuthi Pujo. Students from Autism Society West Bengal also performed a song and dance skit on Kuthi Pujo and Panchami. They also participated in a fashion show at the event on Chaturthi.
- II. Big Bazaar in collaboration with Different NGOs in different cities of India started an initiative for Autism Awareness called 'Quiet Hour'. Autism Society West Bengal is the NGO partner in West Bengal. The initiative saw measures taken by Big Bazaar authorities to provide a shopper friendly atmosphere for individuals with Autism at various Big Bazaar outlets every Tuesday. This was followed by internship for Young adults with Autism at Big Bazaar outlets.
- III. It was a proud privilege of ASWB when the book on 'Understanding Autism Through the lens of Parents and Professionals' edited by Dr. Subir Dutta and Dr. Mitu De was published by The Asiatic Society.
- IV. ASWB was one of the knowledge partners at the International Conference on Sustainability and Healthcare organized by Dr Tarak Nath Podder Memorial Foundation in collaboration with Centre for Disaster Preparedness & Management, Jadavpur University, Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata and Lincoln University College, Malaysia on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2019.

## Events List 2019 -2020

### APRIL, 2019

1<sup>st</sup> APRIL

The Future Group launched Autism Quiet Hour through some of its selected Big Bazaar outlets at major cities in India. In Kolkata, Big Bazaar store on The Metropolis, Hilland Park observed the Autism Quiet Hour from 10 AM -12noon in collaboration with NGO Partner, Autism Society West Bengal (ASWB) on 1st April, 2019. The staff at Big Bazaar, Hilland Park not only provided a smooth, hassle-free experience which kept the customers excited and happy they also made the requisite accommodations for their customers with autism.

(Autism Quiet Hour became a common feature every Tuesday. Later it was introduced in Lake Mall Kolkata).



2<sup>nd</sup> APRIL

On World Autism Awareness Day, Autism Society West Bengal had planned different events since morning. The day started with Awareness walk with friends and family.



Later Aarohan students made new friends at 'Sip n Bite' over a hearty breakfast and adda.



ASWB Governing Body member Ms. Mitasree Biswas and Aliah University faculty Ms. Ishita Mandal presented a paper on autism, today, 2nd April, World Autism Awareness Day during a National Seminar at Aliah University, Park Circus campus, Kolkata.



Art Exhibition – ‘On 2nd April, 2019, World Autism Awareness Day, Indian Museum in collaboration with Autism Society West Bengal (ASWB) organised A-Shadharan, an exhibition showcasing the work of young artists with autism.







2<sup>nd</sup> April

On World Autism Awareness Day, Office of the Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities organized a panel discussion. Some of the D.Ed trainees along with Special educators from Autism Society West Bengal attended the discussion.



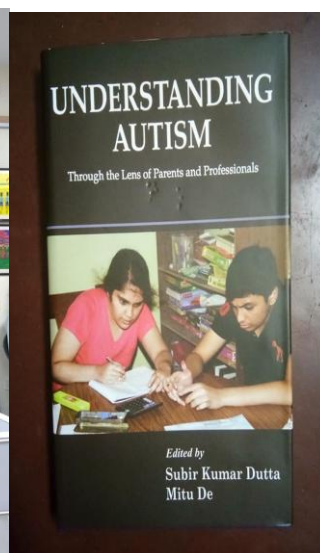
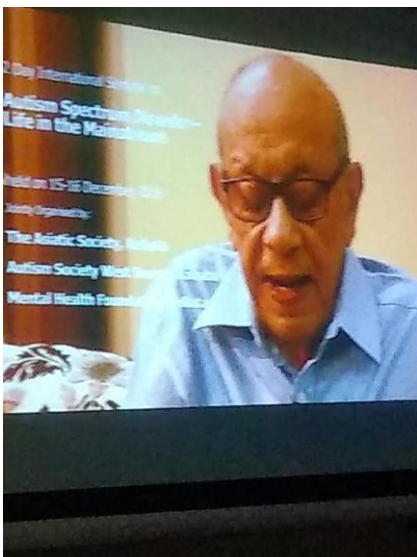
6<sup>th</sup> APRIL

Autism Awareness programme at Loreto Dharmatala where Indrani Basu was invited as speaker.

9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> APRIL

The book 'Understanding Autism Through the lens of Parents and Professionals' edited by Dr Subir Dutta and ASWB Secretary, Dr Mitu De was launched at The Asiatic Society, Salt Lake building (CL 24). The Chief Guest for the event was Dr Kunal Sarkar, renowned Cardiologist. Dignitaries of The Asiatic Society and other distinguished guests were present.

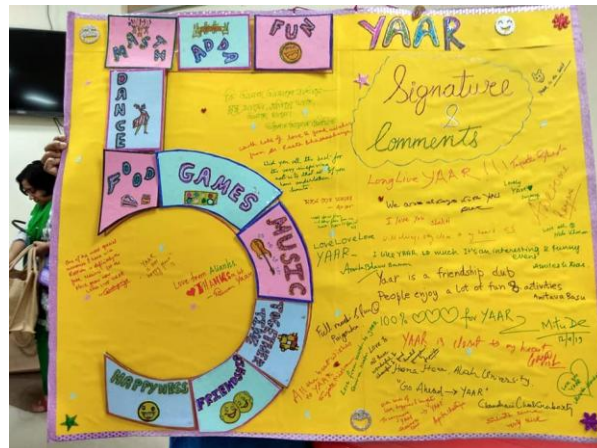
An art exhibition by 4 trainees of the Aarohan unit and other students of Dikshan units were exhibited in the Asiatic Society campus for 4 (four) days. The event was attended by President, Secretary, officials and members of Asiatic society and Autism Society West Bengal. Asiatic Society also hosted an exhibition cum sale of artwork and handicrafts (bags, jewelry, notebooks) made by young adults with Autism at our pre vocational unit - "Aarohan".



12<sup>th</sup> APRIL

YAAR TURNS FIVE!!!

Young Adults with Autism Reach out (YAAR), a social club of the Autism Society West Bengal celebrated Five Years of fun, laughter, 'masti' and joy. The program was organised by ASWB in collaboration with The Asiatic Society & Rotaract Club of Heritage. Over the years lasting friendship was formed. YAAR was a platform for buddies to meet and have 'adda,' a favourite pastime of the people of West Bengal. The 5 year celebration was held at The Asiatic Society, Salt Lake centre. This program could not be possible without the active support of Prof Ramkrishna Chatterjee of the Asiatic Society.





12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> April

Founder Director of ASWB, Ms. Indrani Basu, was the resource person for a 2 day workshop on 'Mainstreaming students with Autism' at Action For Autism (AFA), New Delhi on 12th & 13th April, 2019.





11<sup>th</sup> APRIL

Teachers from Autism Society West Bengal attended the awareness programme on 'Inclusion of Individuals with Autism in Mainstream 'at Heritage School.

16<sup>th</sup> APRIL

Rohan Biswas , one of the self advocates was selected to be a part of disability orientation program on 'Inclusive Education 'at the American Library, USIS Centre, Kolkata.

19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> April

Abhishek Sarkar and Barsha Deb, students of Aarohan, the Pre Vocational unit of ASWB, had their artwork displayed in the exhibition 'Views from Planet Autism 2019' organised by Action for Autism at India Habat Centre, New Delhi. Exhibition from 19th -21st April.

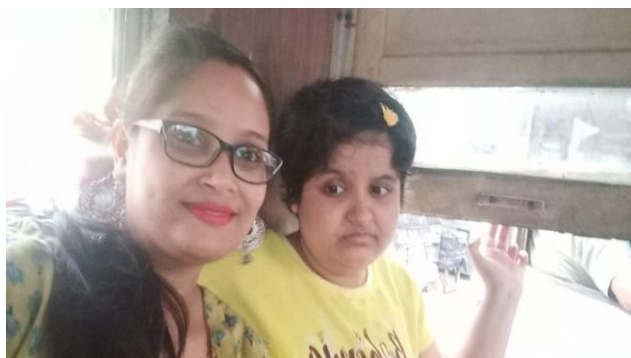


The artists of the Aaochan unit, Abhishek Bhattacharya and Barsha Deb



21<sup>st</sup> APRIL

Autism Society West Bengal in collaboration with CTC arranged a Tram Ride for individuals with Autism from Esplande to Khidirpore and back. All the students of Dikshan along with their parents enjoyed the ride. The ride was organized as part of Autism Awareness month.



26<sup>th</sup> April

Mentaid organized a workshop on specific learning disability. Ms Sonu Mehmi attended the workshop from Autism Society West Bengal.



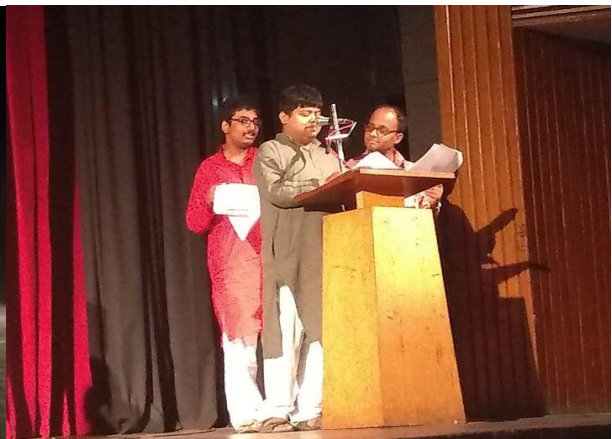
## MAY, 2019

2<sup>nd</sup> MAY

Annual Concert of Autism Society West Bengal was held at Madhusudan Mancha. The programme was co hosted by Amitava Basu, Amitesh Das and Amitrajit Biswas, three self advocates along with Chandrani Chakraborty. Students from different sections of Dikshan as well as parent training unit performed songs and dance numbers. The aarohan trainees staged a short play too. It was a wonderful evening enjoyed by everyone.









9<sup>th</sup> MAY

Dikshan students celebrated Rabindra Jayanti at School premise. They performed to the tunes of Rabindra Sangeet . Aarohan trainees performed a small skit to pay tribute to Rabindranath Tagore on his Birthday





During this program two students were felicitated by ASWB for successfully passing their Board exams. Amitrajit Biswas passed his 10+2 exams and Pinaki Bhattacharya passed his 10<sup>th</sup> standard exam. Both these students had received intervention from ASWB.



20<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> May

Summer Camp was held. The students enjoyed the fun activity.





28<sup>th</sup> MAY

Students from different section of Dikshan and other intervention programs visited Big Bazaar Hiland Park during Quiet Hour. They had a great time shopping their favourite food items.



**JUNE, 2019**

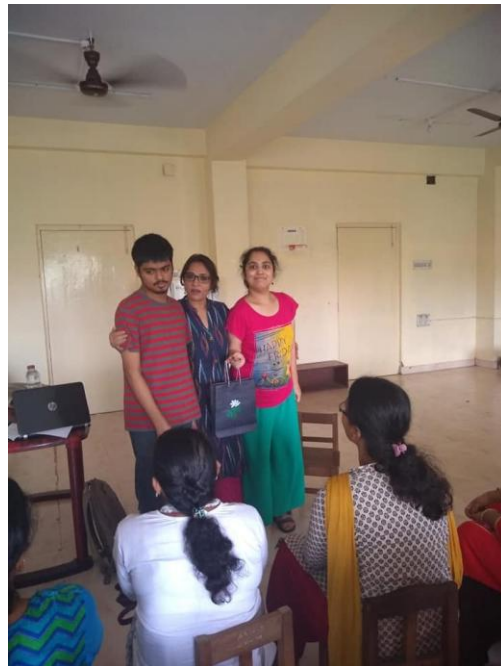
4<sup>th</sup> JUNE

Students from Dikshan went to shop during Quiet Hour at Big Bazar Lake Mall.



24<sup>th</sup> JUNE

Autism Society West Bengal organized an interactive session with the dynamic Indrani Basu, Head, Parent & Family Trainings, Action for Autism (AFA), New Delhi for the parents of Dikshan & Aarohan students. It was an enriching session.



27<sup>th</sup> JUNE

ASWB Governing Body member, Ranjana Chakraborty was the resource person at a workshop on Structured Teaching at Monovikas Kendra on 27th June, 2019.



**JULY, 2019**

5<sup>th</sup> JULY

Ranjana Chakraborty and Manisha Bhattacharya explored “Narrative ideas” in ASWB Team Building program. It enhanced the staff capacity, brought in giggles, smiles, fun and bonding.



5<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> July



Goodricke School for Special Education, Siliguri organised a 2 day workshop on 'Preparing for Adulthood' in collaboration with Autism Society West Bengal on 5th & 6th July, 2019. ASWB Director Ms. Indrani Basu was invited as the Resource person.



10<sup>th</sup> JULY

Kuthi Pujo at Samaj Sebi Sangha. It is a proud privilege for ASWB to be the social partner of Samaj Sebi Sangha, the well known Durgotsav Committee of Kolkata for 2019.

**SAMAJ SEBI SANGHA**  
**DURGOTSAV 2019**

**Idol**  
Pintu Shikder

**Illumination**  
Bumba Dutta

**Light Assistant**  
Subal Dey

**Decorator**  
Badal Pradhan  
Co.....

**Concept & Design**  
**Pradip Das**

**Chairman**  
Indrajit Sarkar

**President**  
Srinjoy Bose

**Working President**  
Debashis Dutta

**General Secretary**  
Arijit Maitra

**Treasurer**  
Sreyam Banerjee

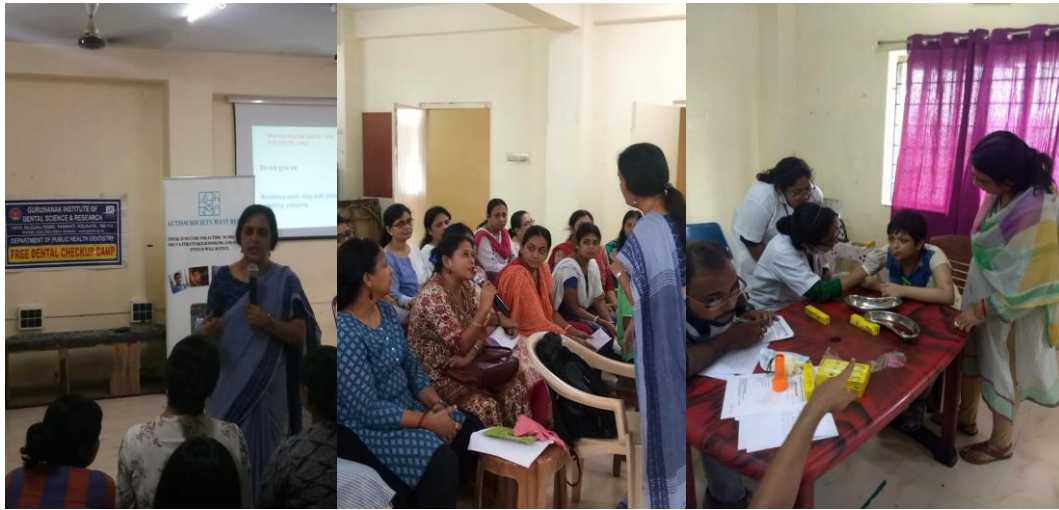
ESTD. 1946

Digital Partner: প্রতিদিন  
Social Partner: AUTISM SOCIETY WEST BENGAL  
Proud Member of: SAMAJ SEBI SANGHA



11<sup>th</sup> JULY

Dr Shabnam Zahir, Professor, Guru Nanak Institute of Dental Sciences and Research was invited by ASWB to conduct a free awareness programme on oral hygiene for children with autism along with dental check up. There was an interactive session with parents of students and trainees of Dikshan and Aarohan units. Interns of the Guru Nanak Institute of Dental Sciences and Research performed a short drama on 'Maintenance of oral hygienic' for students of Dikshan & Aarohan.





13<sup>th</sup> JULY

Kolkata Gives organized a workshop about fundraising. The workshop was attended by Dr Mitu De, Secretary Autism Society West Bengal and Shraboni Chakraborty, parent volunteer of Autism Society West Bengal.



16<sup>th</sup> JULY

Quiet Hour at Big Bazaar – Lake Mall

Students from junior section went shopping to Big Bazaar Lake Mall outlet during Quiet Hour. They had great shopping experience. They were serious shoppers, they were becoming valued customers at BigBazaar outlets.





17<sup>th</sup> JULY

A powerful tool of the Person Centered Planning process, PATH (Planning Alternative Tomorrows with Hope) was used for Asmi Sengupta, a teenager of the Intermediate section of Dikshan. Ms. Elizabeth Neville, Director of the Keystone Institute, India was the process facilitator and Ms. Indrani Basu was the graphics facilitator. The SRV graduates, Ranjana Roychoudhury, Manisha Bhattacharya, Arpita Chakraborty and Mitu De were part of the circle. It was an enriching session and learning experience for the SRV graduates. It was a privilege for us to have Ms Elizabeth Neville with us to do a hands on session on PATH.





18<sup>th</sup> JULY

Abhishek Sarker a trainee of Aarohan unit was with us to learn about his journey as an individual, as a son, as a nephew and the most important as an Artist that he has become today through MAP – a tool used to know a person in depth so that we can chart a PATH for the person that can provide him with a dignified and meaningful life and roles to play.





MAPS was done for Parthiv Ghosh (Rick), student of the Intermediate Section







It was a nice experience to visualize what we are thinking about our future as an organization, how we can support creation of more valued roles for individuals with Autism, how we can provide them a meaningful life. It was an engaging and enriching experience to see where we are now and how we should move forward. All the governing body members, some members of Autism Society West Bengal and well wishers were present along with some staff members.



18<sup>th</sup> July

Mr Pranabesh Bhunia, Course Coordinator of the D Ed course at ASWB, was the Resource person in a CRE program 'Training to be Teacher in a College/Institute' organised by Voice of the World on 18th July, 2019.



19<sup>th</sup> JULY

PATH for Amitava Basu with Betsy Neuville of Keystone Institute. It was great having his colleagues, friends and well wishers around him.





20<sup>th</sup> JULY

Elizabeth Neuville, Director Keystone Institute did a staff training for all ASWB staff based on Person Centred Planning process.



20<sup>th</sup> JULY

YAAR for the month of July saw Monsoon as a theme. There were fun activities based on monsoon along with music, dance and adda



21<sup>st</sup> JULY

Workshop for Teachers of Lower Primary wings from different schools of Odisha on behalf of Early Childhood Association, Eastern India

Theme – Education and Care, organized by KIIT International School, Speaker – Indrani Basu

22<sup>nd</sup> JULY

Workshop on developing curriculum for Special Education Need Department of KIIT International School - organized by KIIT International School, Speaker – Indrani Basu

27<sup>th</sup> July

Daan Utsav celebration started with putting up of Wish tree at Apeejay School Park Street and Salt Lake. Amrita Bhawal, Piyali Chakraborty, Kaberi Ghosh along with D.Ed trainee Arpaita Dutta and volunteers from Heritage Institute Of Technology were present to create awareness and put forward wishes of the individuals to the parents, teachers and students of Apeejay School.

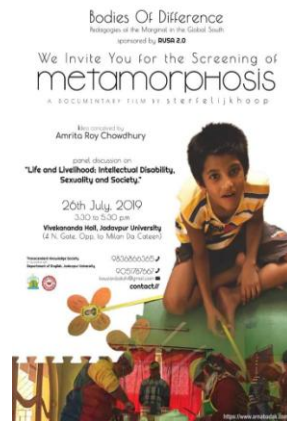




27<sup>th</sup> July

Ms Indrani Basu, Director Autism Society West Bengal was invited to be on the panel discussion.

During the screening of a documentary, Metamorphosis



27<sup>th</sup> July

ICC Young Leadership conclave .Ms Tapati Ghosh and Ms Soma Sarker represented ASWB.



28<sup>th</sup> JULY

Pannajhil Autism Welfare Society organized a workshop 'Understanding Autism, Role of Behaviour Management. Ms Indrani Basu was invited as the speaker for the workshop.

5<sup>th</sup> AUGUST

Ms. Indrani Basu was invited as resource person at the CRE workshop 'Ensuring Safety of Children with Disability' organised by Nobel Mission. CRE Program attended by two ASWB special educators.



7<sup>th</sup> AUGUST

Workshop at KIIT International School, Bhubaneswar, Speaker Ms Indrani Basu

9<sup>th</sup> AUGUST

Workshop at KIIT International School, Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Invited Speakers Ms Indrani Basu, Director ASWB and Elizabeth Neuville, Director, Keystone India

11<sup>th</sup> AUGUST

Autism Society Jhargram organized a workshop for parents and professionals . Mr Pranabesh Bhunia , Coordinator D.Ed training programme Autism Society West Bengal and Binay Samanta , special educator Autism Society West Bengal were invited as resource persons.





15<sup>th</sup> August

The trainees of Aaroohan had spent many days making Rakhi. On 15<sup>th</sup> Aug, both Independence Day and Rakhi was celebrated in school. Students and D Ed trainees tied Rakhi on the wrist of other students, teachers and staff. A cultural program was also held.



Rakhi celebration in school



Students of Dikshan celebrated Independence Day at School. They also took part in the plantation drive in Mukundapur organized by Paschim Banga Pratibandhi Sammelani



15<sup>th</sup> AUGUST

Students of Dikshan, Autism Society West Bengal, participated in the Rakhi Utsav & Independence Day celebration (which fell on the same day) at Samaj Sebi Sangha on 15th August, 2019 as their social partner. Dikshan students gifted their handcrafted Rakhi s to new friends at Samaj Sebi Sangha.





16<sup>th</sup> AUGUST

In-house workshop based on Person Centered Planning Method 'One Page Profile Making' – Hands on workshop on Narrative Therapy. Resource Person - Indrani Basu, Dr Mitu De, Ranjana Chakraborty and Manisha Bhattacharya



17<sup>th</sup> AUGUST

Ms. Indrani Basu, Director, ASWB, one of the resource persons at the workshop organised by Vidiyarthi & Meera Foundation on 17th August, 2019.



19<sup>th</sup> August

Amitrajit Biswas, a self advocate enthralled everyone at the American Library when he gave a presentation on autism. He spoke about his journey through school from his perspective. He shared what supports could prove to be beneficial for students with autism in school. The American Library, formerly the USIS had organized an event where one of the Self advocates Amutrajit (Rohan) Biswas was invited to share his experience of attending mainstream education.



24<sup>th</sup> AUGUST

YAAR Friendship Day Celebration.



5<sup>th</sup> September

Impromptu skits by the talented staff of Autism Society West Bengal on Teachers Day celebration at School premise.







7<sup>th</sup> September

Few students of Dikshan went to the screening of the movie Kia and Cosmos . The movie Kia and Cosmos was loosely based on the novel The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night.



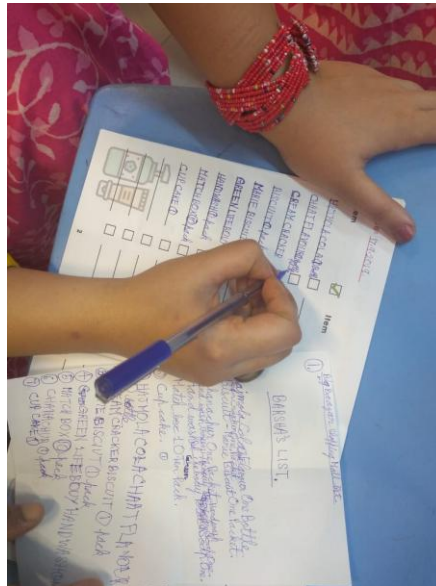
13<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER

Students of the 'Caregivers of individuals with disability ' training course conducted by IICP visited ASWB for class observation.



17<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER

Big Bazaar launched Tuesday Shopping Hour list booklet: A guide to shopping at Quiet Hour. The book was launched in the presence of students from Dikshan at Lake Mall & Hiland Park Kolkata. The booklets were handed over to all the students.





19<sup>th</sup> Spetember

A team of professionals from Foundation for Autism Research & Education (FARE), Chittagong, Bangladesh visited us for training on narrative practices with Board member Ms. Ranjana Chakraborty and ASWB Clinical Psychologist, Ms. Manisha Bhattacharya.





20<sup>th</sup> September

Trainees from Aarohan – the pre vocational unit of Autism Society West Bengal participated in the Talent Show organised by Paschim Banga Rajya Pratibandhi Sammilani.



21<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER

The monthly social club –'Yaar' had Puja celebration as theme for this month. Participants discussed about how they had celebrated YAAR last year and also shared their plans for coming Puja. There was video presentation, songs, games, food and music to enjoy pre pujo celebrations. Also we were joined by our friends from Bangladesh who shared about Durga Puja in Bangladesh.



26<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER

Workshop on Autism Awareness – J D Birla Institute of Management , invited Speaker – Indrani Basu

27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> September

Ms Indrani Basu participated in a workshop by Dr Brenda Smith Myles on Understanding Social rules in different context organized by Action For Autism at Delhi.



First Time in India!!

## WORKSHOP BY DR BRENDA SMITH MYLES

29-30 SEPTEMBER 2019  
India International Centre, New Delhi, India

THE TRAINING WILL FOCUS ON ISSUES ACROSS THE LIFESPAN-

- CURRICULUM TO UNDERSTANDING SOCIAL RULES
- CREATING INDEPENDENT LEARNERS
- COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING FOR SCHOOL, HOME & COMMUNITY
- MELTDOWNS & BEHAVIOURAL INTERVENTIONS
- SELF REGULATION & EMOTIONAL MANAGEMENT
- DEALING WITH SENSORY ISSUES

Dr Brenda Smith Myles is recognised internationally as an autism expert and has made over 1000 presentations all over the world and written more than 250 articles and books on ASD.

Formerly, a professor in the Department of Special Education at the University of Kansas, Dr Myles is the president of AAPC Publishing – a company that publishes books on autism spectrum disorder.



**Early Bird Registrations end on 29 August 2019**  
**LIMITED SEATS LEFT!**

For registration, contact:  
anvay.trainings@gmail.com  
+91 9911220316, 011 4054 0991/92



27<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER

Daan Utsav celebration at Star Mark, Quest Mall. A wish tree was put up at the outlet for 4 days . Teachers from Autism Society West Bengal along with volunteers from Rotaract Club of Heriatge Institute Of Technology were present to interact with the visitors at the store and to aware them about our cause and the wishes.







30<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER

Mr Pranabesh Bhunia, D Ed Course Coordinator participated in a conference on NGOs working for Child rights & Child protection in India organized by FICE India



2<sup>nd</sup> OCTOBER

Students from Autism Society West Bengal participated in the Cultural Programme held at Samaj Sebi Sangha during Durga Puja. Our fashionably dressed students participated on a ramp walk. Other students performed a short skit on Durga Puja.





3<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER

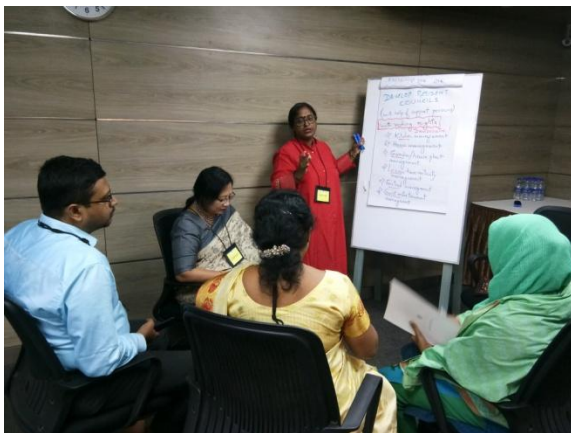
Kolkata Police arranged Puja Darshan for students and their families of Autism Society West Bengal (ASWB). We visited all the big puja pandals of South Kolkata. Students from Autism Society West Bengal along with their parents enjoyed the puja Parikrama.



9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER

It was indeed a honour for Autism Society West Bengal (ASWB) to be a member of the Technical Assistance team during a 2 day workshop on 'Social Role Valorisation, Residential Care and Adaptation' organized by the Neuro-Developmental Disability Protection Trust, Ministry of Social Welfare, Bangladesh/ সমাজকল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয়, বাংলাদেশ at the BRAC Centre in Dhaka on 9th & 10th October, 2019. Keystone Institute India's (KII) Betsy Neuville led the

workshops, in collaboration with KII's Bindu Sengar, and Autism Society West Bengal's Secretary, Dr Mitu De.





20<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER

Students of Autism Society West Bengal (ASWB) were invited to a movie show at the Alipore Body Guard Lines Auditorium organized by Kolkata Police (KP)





21<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER – 25<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER

Ms Ranjana Chakrabarty and Ms Manisha Bhattacharya were selected by Keystone Institute to be trained in PASSING: A tool for analyzing service quality according to Social Role Valorization criteria. The Passing Training took place at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, USA.

2<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER

Ms. Indrani Basu, Autism Society West Bengal's Founder Director was invited to conduct a workshop in Hyderabad on 'Teen & Puberty Issue'.





**From Soul Piece To Soul Peace**

- Teen & Adolescence Issues
- Behaviourial & Emotional Changes In Teens
- How To Deal With Behaviourial Changes
- Dealing with Puberty Issues
- Grooming & Personal Hygiene For Teens

**Teen & Puberty Issues**  
**Speaker Indrani Basu**  
 Founder & Director Autism Society of West Bengal

**November 2, 2019**  
 Time: 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Physical Problems  
 Psychological Problems  
 Behaviour Issues  
 Educational Challenges  
 Anger & Aggression

**social phobia**

To Register  
 Call : +91 93471 29256

Location Of Event: To be Announced Shortly

5<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

Dikshan students went shopping during Quiet Hour at Lake Mall Big Bazaar



12<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

Big Bazaar organized 'Fun n Learn' Camp during to celebrate Children's day at Hiland Park and Lake Mall outlets in Kolkata. The kids as well as young adults enjoyed shopping and drawing.



14<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

Autism Society West Bengal organized different fun games to celebrate Children's Day at Mukundapur and Lake Gardens Unit. Trainees from Aarohan made jhal muri for all and had put up a stall for selling the muri.







16<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

During the Post puja and Diwali YAAR all had a great adda session. Everyone shared how they celebrated Durga Pujo and Diwali.



17<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

Broadcast of the audio interview of Indrani Basu by audio magazine 'Pramila' on F.M Gold.

The graphic is a black rectangular poster for an audio magazine interview. At the top right, it says 'Audio Magazine' in white. Below that, the name 'প্রমীলা' (Pramila) is written in Bengali, followed by 'সাক্ষাত্কার' (Interview), 'ইন্দ্রানী বসু' (Indrani Basu), and 'সহেলি মুখার্জি' (Saheli Mukherjee). On the left, there is a quote in Bengali: 'নহি দেবী, নহি সামান্য নারী। পূজা করি মোরে রাখিবে উর্ধ্বে সে নহি নহি, হেলা করি মোরে রাখিবে পিছে সে নহি নহি।' Below the quote are four small photographs: a woman in a purple and gold sari, a woman in a green shirt standing outdoors, a woman in a pink shirt, and a woman in a light blue shirt holding an umbrella. At the bottom left, the broadcast details are listed: '100.1 F.M. Gold', 'Sunday', '2.30PM to 4.00PM', '17th November', and 'With RJ Ambalika & RJ Arpita'.

নহি দেবী, নহি সামান্য নারী।  
পূজা করি মোরে রাখিবে  
উর্ধ্বে সে নহি নহি,  
হেলা করি মোরে রাখিবে  
পিছে সে নহি নহি।

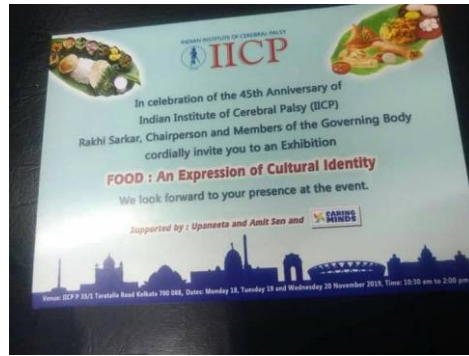
Audio Magazine  
প্রমীলা  
সাক্ষাত্কার  
ইন্দ্রানী বসু  
সহেলি মুখার্জি

100.1 F.M. Gold  
Sunday  
2.30PM to 4.00PM  
17th November  
With RJ Ambalika &  
RJ Arpita

18<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

Students of Intermediate & Pre Vocational units of Autism Society West Bengal visited the Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy during the celebration of the 45th year of IICP. They visited different stalls and also had delicious food from the canteen.





19<sup>th</sup> November

Young adults of the Pre Vocational unit of Autism Society West Bengal visited Big Bazaar Highland Park during Quiet Hour. Shopping with friends is so much fun.



19<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER – 22<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER

Keystone Institute India conducted a 5 day residential Social Role Valorization course at Delhi. Special educators Chandrani Chakraborty, Manoj Kumar Mahato and Piyali Chakraborty from Autism Society West Bengal attended this course.



20<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

The Indian Navy invited students of Autism Society West Bengal for a film show as part of the Navy Week 2019 program. Every year students enjoy this movie show and look forward to it.



22<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER

Field Testing on Sex Education conducted by Jeeja Ghosh as part of a project on Sexuality supported by CREA.



23<sup>rd</sup> November

Special educators Shampa Rani Sahoo, Kaberi Ghosh and Amrita Bhawal participated in a CRE program on Learning Disability organized by Noble Mission on 23rd November, 2019.



24<sup>th</sup> November

Autism Society West Bengal in collaboration with Step Ahead Investment Advisors, Pvt Ltd organized a free workshop on Financial Planning for families with AS & Special Needs. Mr Jitendra Solanki, Founder, Plan Special Needs, was one of the resource persons at the Workshop. He discussed about how we should plan our investment so that individuals with Special Needs can have a safe and secure future.



Autism Society West Bengal organized a free workshop on Insurance & Financial Planning for families with ASD and Special Needs at on 24th November, 2019. Resource person Ms. Munmun Ghosh spoke about different policies available from Life Insurance Corporation of India and they are beneficial in planning our future.



24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> November

Mr Pranabesh Bhunia, D Ed Course Coordinator and Mr Binay Samanta, special educator Autism Society West Bengal were invited as resource persons by Autism Society Jhargram. The two day workshop was about creating awareness, assessment about Autism along with a question and answer session. The parents and professionals participated in the workshop.



27<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> November

Awareness program and training on Autism at KIIT University. Indrani Basu was the resource person.

27<sup>th</sup> November

Autism Society West Bengal organized an interactive session with Dr Animita Saha Chowdhury, Associate Professor of Medicine, University of North Carolina School of Medicine on "How to Let it go". All the parents, teachers and volunteers attended the session.





2<sup>nd</sup> December

Dr Linda Lawrence, MD conducted a free and interactive session to innovative eye testing for individuals with autism for students of Autism Society West Bengal on 2nd Dec, 2019.







3<sup>rd</sup> December

Dr Mitu De, Secretary of Autism Society West Bengal received an invitation to attend the State Disability Awards function on International Day for Persons with Disabilities organized by Office of the Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities.



Awareness Walk on World Disability Day organized by Paschim Banga Rajya Pratibandhi Sammelani. Students of D. Ed course along with Classroom assistant Amitava Basu and D. Ed Coordinator Pranabesh Bhunia took part in awareness walk and other awareness events.



Future Group through its different Big Bazaar outlets observed International Day for Persons with Disabilities. Students of Aarohan and Intermediate section of Autism Society West Bengal were at BigBazaar Hiland Park outlet. Junior section of Dikshan during visited at Big Bazaar Lake Mall outlet. At both the outlets the students participated in a 'Sit & Draw' competition. The winners were handed out gifts.





4<sup>th</sup> December

Students of the Aarohan unit of Autism Society West Bengal performed at cultural event held during observance of International Day for Persons with Disabilities at College Square organized by Office of the Commissioner for Persons With Disabilities, Department of Child development, Women Development & Social Welfare, Government of West Bengal. They participated in the cultural event at the 'Rojgar Mela' which was held in College Square on this occasion.



6<sup>th</sup> December

D Ed Course Coordinator, Mr Pranabesh Bhunia was present at the book launch program organized by the Garia Institute of Education, Research and Training on the International Day of Persons with Disability.



**গড়িয়া ইনস্টিটিউট অফ এডুকেশন রিসার্চ এণ্ড ট্রেনিং - গ্রন্থ প্রকাশনার**

বিশ্ব প্রতিবন্ধী দিবস-উদযাপন ও শিক্ষা স্বাস্থ্য বিজ্ঞান পত্রিকার উদ্দেশ্যে গ্রন্থ প্রকাশ করা হয়েছে।  
 সহযোগিতায় - জগদীশ বোস ন্যাশনাল সায়েন্স ট্যালেন্ট সার্চ  
 স্থান : ১৩০০, রাজভাঙ্গা মেন রোড, কলকাতা-১০৭, সমরঃ ১১.০০ - বিক্রয় ৫ টা।

আগামী ৬ই ডিসেম্বর, ২০১৯ শুক্রবার বেলা ১১ টায় বিশ্ব প্রতিবন্ধী দিবস উদযাপন ও বই প্রকাশ উদ্দেশ্যে আপনাকে সাদর আমন্ত্রণ।  
 অনুষ্ঠানে প্রধান অতিথি হিসাবে উপস্থিত থাকবেন মাননীয় রবীন্দ্রনাথ ঘোষ - এল্লিকিউটিভ ডিরেক্টর (আর.এস.), ইন্ডিয়ান অরেল কর্পোরেশন

**বিশিষ্ট অতিথি হিসাবে উপস্থিত থাকবেন —**

শ্রীমতী কাঞ্চন গাথা, বিশিষ্ট সমাজসেবী, ড. অশোক কান্তি সান্যাল, চেয়ারম্যান বারো ডাইভানিটি বোর্ড (পঃ বঃ)  
 শ্রী গৌরকৃষ্ণ পট্টনায়ক, ফিন্যান্স অফিসার, যাদবপুর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়  
 শ্রী রাজনারায়ণ দত্ত, চিফ রিজিওনাল কোঅর্ডিনেটর (পিসিআরএ)  
 শ্রী স্বচ্ছ মজুমদার, প্রিন্সিপাল সায়েন্সিস্ট, (সিডিসিআরআই)  
 শ্রী আশিস চ্যাটার্জী, এল্লিকিউটিভ এডিটর (পুরাণী পত্রিকা)  
 শ্রী উজ্জ্বল রায়, এসিপি, কলকাতা পুলিশ

বই প্রকাশ করবেন অধ্যাপক (ড.) মৈত্রী ভট্টাচার্য - ডিরেক্টর (জেবিএনএসটিএস) কলকাতা।

**ডঃ সুজিত চ্যাটার্জী**  
সভাপতি

**খন্যবাদান্তে**  
**নিতাই শ**  
সম্পাদক

10<sup>th</sup> December

The students of Don Bosco University, Assam, Department of Counselling Psychology visited Autism Society West Bengal and enacted a play for our students of Junior section. All students were glued to the story telling session and enjoyed a lot.



10<sup>th</sup> December

Prevocational students of Autism Society West Bengal along with students from Master's Program of Department of Counselling Psychology of Don Bosco University, Assam visited BigBazaar at Metropolis, Hiland Park shared an amazing shopping experience. After shopping they had snacks at Food Court. They bonded over shopping and food.



18<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> December

Ms Indrani Basu, Ms Ranjana Chakraborty, Ms Manisha Bhattacharya and Dr Mitu De invited to be a part of the Action Summit organized by Keystone Institute India at Dehradun. It was a brain storming session spread over 3 days over what strategies we as an organization can take



to apply and implement SRV principles in our organization as well as future projects that we will take up.



20<sup>th</sup> December

Autism Society West Bengal President, Mrs Tapati Ghosh was invited to a seminar organised by SEVAC in association with Asiatic Society at their Salt Lake campus. Autism Society West Bengal Project Coordinator, Ms. Arpita Chatterjee accompanied her. The seminar highlighted to need

to address issue of Mental health and how we can seek legal support in order to safeguard the rights of people with Mental health issues.



21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> December

It was a proud privilege of ASWB to be one of the knowledge partners at the International Conference on Sustainability and Healthcare organized by Dr Tarak Nath Podder Memorial Foundation in collaboration with Centre for Disaster Preparedness & Management, Jadavpur University, Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata and Lincoln University College, Malaysia on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2019.

Dr Mitu De, Dr Santi Ranjan Dey, Ms. Ishita Mandal and Pranabesh Bhunia presented Papers on Autism in the special session on ASD in the International Conference held on 21st & 22nd December, 2019.



24<sup>th</sup> December

Autism Society West Bengal organized Christmas Party for students at Mukundapur and Lake Gardens unit. All the students enjoyed the party with music, fun and food. The trainees of the Aarohan unit baked a Christmas cake under the guidance of special educator Sukanya Das.





26<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> December

Staff Refresher Program for ASWB teachers, staff and D Ed trainees with lots of interactive sessions were held. Resource persons during the Refresher course were Indrani Basu, Dr. Mitu De, Ranjana Chakraborty and Manisha Bhattacharya.



1<sup>st</sup> January,2020

Autism Society West Bengal ushered in NEW YEAR by organizing a Picnic for individuals with Autism, their parents, families, special educators and staff. The picnic spot was near our school premise at Nayabad. There was good food along with music, dance and games.



7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> January

Autism Society West Bengal Governing Body member, Ms. Ranjana Chakraborty was one of the resource persons in a CRE program in collaboration with Rehabilitation Council of India on 'Managing Behaviours in the Classroom & Home' at Monovikas Kendra on 9th Jan, 2020. Two of the special educators from Autism Society West Bengal Soma Sarker and Swati Dasgupta also attended the CRE programme.



11<sup>th</sup> January

There was adda, games, dance, food and loads of masti with friends during YAAR celebration in January,2020. We also celebrated New Year and Christmas with our friends.



17<sup>th</sup> January

Autism Society West Bengal conducted an Orientation session on Autism for students of 3rd year B. Sc Nursing course under Aliah University on 17th January, 2020. Resource persons: Ms. Indrani Basu, Director, Autism Society West Bengal, Ms. Mitasree Biswas, Staff Nurse, WBHS & Autism Society West Bengal Governing Body member, Ms. Manisha Bhattacharya, Clinical



Psychologist. This event was possible by the initiative of Prof Ishita Mandal and Prof Lipika Mondal, Department of Nursing, Aliah University.



18<sup>th</sup> Januray

Self advocates Amitava Basu and Rohan Biswas along with Abhishek Sarker were invited at Ubuntu Community Café to share their expereince. Abhishek Sarker and Barsha Deb 's art works were also displayed at the Café along with some other artists.





22<sup>nd</sup> January

Students from Dikshan & Aarohan units of Autism Society West Bengal shopped during quiet hour at Big Bazaar High Land Park outlet. They had a great time choosing and purchasing their favourite items. They paid for their items at the priority billing counters too.





23<sup>rd</sup> January

Autism Society West Bengal organized Annual Sports on 23<sup>rd</sup> January at APC Polytechnic Grounds. There were events for everybody. Students, teachers, caregivers, volunteers, parents, D. Ed trainees all participated in different events. Everyone enjoyed and received their prize from Ms Indrani Basu, the director right after the event.





25<sup>th</sup> January,2020

Autism Society West Bengal's Director Ms. Indrani Basu was invite do a presentation about Autism at ANCIPS 2020 – 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual National Conference of Indian Psychiatric Society.



29<sup>th</sup> January

Saraswati Puja at Autism Society West Bengal where students, teachers, caregivers, parents participated together in worshipping the Goddess of Learning.





1<sup>st</sup> -2<sup>nd</sup> February

Clinical psychologist, Ms. Manisha Bhattacharya and Board member Ms. Ranjana Chakraborty of Autism Society West Bengal were invited as speakers in 'WEAVING OUR VOICES'---The 2nd International Narrative Practices Conference 2020, Mumbai, India on 1st & 2nd February, 2020. They also presented a paper.





6<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> February

Autism Society West Bengal Director, Ms. Indrani Basu and Secretary, Dr. Mitu De were invited by Foundation for Autism Research & Education (FARE) for staff training at Spectra School of Autism, Chattogram, Bangladesh.





Visit to Frobel Play School in Chattogram, Bangladesh 9th February, 2020.







Autism awareness program in Chittagong Medical College with Indrani Basu, Kylie Hinde, Farhan N. Chowdhury and Fahmida Islam Chowdhury on 9th February, 2020.



Seminar on Collaborative Approach in ASD Management organised by Foundation for Autism Research & Education (FARE) in Chattogram on 10th February, 2020. Speakers were Kylie Hinde, Farhin N. Chowdhury, Tahmina Huq with Indrani Basu and Mitu De from Autism Society West Bengal.



9<sup>th</sup> February

Anander Utsav – A fun filled event for kids organized by ‘Anando’ – a ngo working with underprivileged kids. Manoj Mahato, Amitava Basu and Arpita Chatterjee visited the event. There were games stall and food stalls.



15<sup>th</sup> February

YAAR was celebrated a day after 14th February, so the theme was Valentine’s Day. Different means of communication was used to introduce oneself viz. by writing, by speaking and by using a PowerPoint presentation. Technology makes communication easy so one need not

speaking in order to communicate. All the participants shared what according to them is love. They chose a person, food, thing that is close to them and which according to them is love.



17<sup>th</sup> February

The Aarohan Trainees with the help of special educators and the D Ed trainees set up a weekly canteen. A single menu is set once a week. On the menu were 'Jhal Muri,' pasta', 'Alu Kabli.' On special occasions they baked cake too. The baking was done under the supervision of special educator Sukanya Das.



21<sup>st</sup> February

D. Ed. Coordinator Mr. Pranabesh Bhunia was invited by 'Voice of World' as a resource person at a three Day CRE (Continuous Rehabilitation Education) Workshop held on 20th – 22nd February, 2020 at their Behala Sakherbazar centre. The Main Theme of the 3 - Day RCI Accredited Workshop was 'Gender and Disability.'



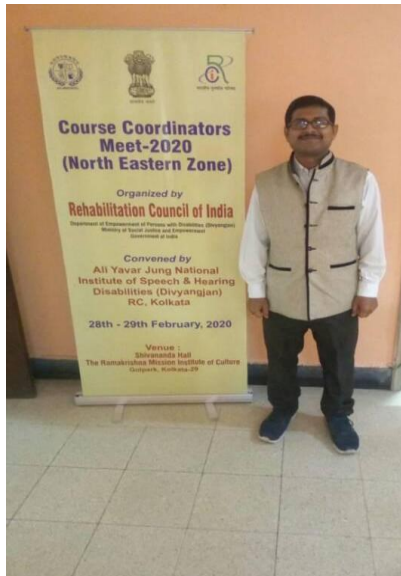
26<sup>th</sup> February

Apeejay Art Mela organized by Ananda Library. Students from Dikshan and Dikshan 2 participated in Art Mela. They beautifully painted the umbrella provided by the organizer.



28th & 29th February, 2020

Mr Pranabesh Bhunia, D. Ed. Course Coordinator at ASWB attended the Course Coordinators Meet-2020 (North Eastern Zone) organized by Rehabilitation Council of India at the Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Golpark.



28<sup>th</sup> Feb

ASWB firmly believes in providing a supportive environment for all employees. Care is taken to provide reasonable accommodations to our two employees who are on the spectrum. We also provide new opportunities so our employees may discover their latent interest.

Lake Gardens unit Classroom Assistant, Mr Amitava Basu started taking EVS class in Feb, 2020. Amitava Basu also takes a session on the 'Rules and Regulations of the Parent Training Course' during the Orientation Program at the onset of the new batch of parent training at the Lake Gardens unit of ASWB.





Office assistant Amitesh Das has been given the additional duty as Library assistant. He has checked the catalogue number of the books in the library. Dr. Banhi Sikha Chaudhuri, ASWB Library Advisor has provided with hands on training for cataloguing the new books purchased for the Library. Amitesh also helps in the issuing and receiving library books especially by the D. Ed students.

2<sup>nd</sup> March

Ms. Indrani Basu, Director, Autism Society West Bengal, was invited to present a paper in the National Seminar on 'Inclusiveness of the Differently Abled: Challenges and Opportunities in India' held on 5th & 6th March in Bhubaneswar. The National Seminar was organised by the School of Management, KIIT University, Odisha and sponsored by Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi.



### 3<sup>rd</sup> March

Students of Dikshan I & II (Junior section, upto 8 yrs) took part in the Young Athletes Sports Festival at Noble Mission of South Calcutta. This Sports Festival is the initiative of Special Olympics Bharat which is a National Sports Federation for development of Sports for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities. Special Olympics Bharat is an officially recognised programme of Special Olympics International which operates in India.



3th & 4<sup>th</sup> March

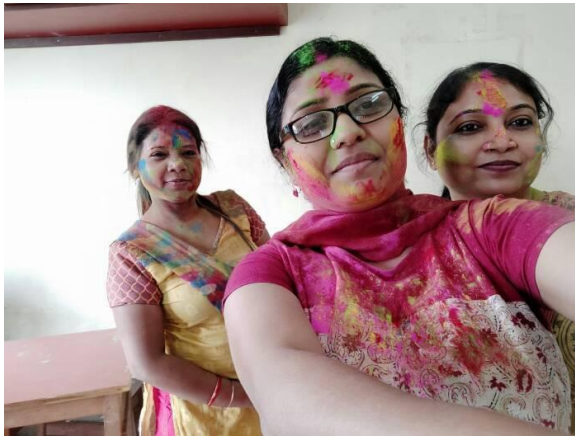
Mr Pranabesh Bhunia, D. Ed Coordinator, Autism Society West Bengal (ASWB) was at the "Institute for Handicapped & Backward People (IIBP)" at Nityaberia, Nazat, North 24 Parganas on 3rd and 4th March, 2020. He took counselling sessions for families with individuals with autism. This program is a part of ASWB's mission of autism awareness in collaboration with IIBP.



6<sup>th</sup> March

Dikshan students celebrated Holi at school with song and dance. Students put 'abir' on each other's face,





16<sup>th</sup> March, 2020

Our school has closed from 16th March, 2020 as per the directive of the Honourable Chief Minister of West Bengal. Later the Prime Minister called for total nationwide lockdown. Our special educators made social stories for the students. Instructions were given to students to improve their Self Help Skills.

Emphasis was given on Activities of Daily Living. Parents were encouraged to post pictures of their children doing these activities. As we celebrate WAAD every year in April our students were encouraged to make cards thanking the healthcare professionals and all other people who were in the frontline making sure that we don't get COVID. These were unprecedented times and ASWB decided we will stay positive and learn new ways to keep the learning process on for our students.



Artwork by Barsha Deb, trainee at the Aarohan Unit.

### **ASWB Management Staff meetings**

The ASWB Governing Body members met the Staff members at regular intervals. Each Section had to submit Section reports. Self appraisal reports were submitted in April, 2019 by all staff.



## **As we bid Farewell**

### **1. Ms Sharmistha Das**



Sharmistha Das, our very own Sharmistha di popularly known among colleagues and parents took retirement on 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2019. It was a memorable journey for all of us as she became the first person to take retirement from Autism Society West Bengal.

She started her journey with Autism Society West Bengal in the year 2007 as programme coordinator. She was a hard working, soft spoken and dignified lady always working as the bridge between teachers and parents. She used to look after how an individual can get maximum benefit from the classes as it was her job to assign classes to teachers. Apart from being a programme coordinator, Sharmistha di was a very good trained singer. Autism Society West Bengal had a small event on the day of her retirement. All students of Dikshan presented hand made cards to her. All teachers, office staff and Governing body members shared their experience of working with her. It was an emotional moment for all of us. The teachers and office staff also performed songs.

2. Nilanjana Ghosh: she left ASWB in April, 2019.
3. Banani Saha: she left ASWB in Sept, 2019.
4. Syed Wahid Murad: he left ASWB in Sept, 2019.

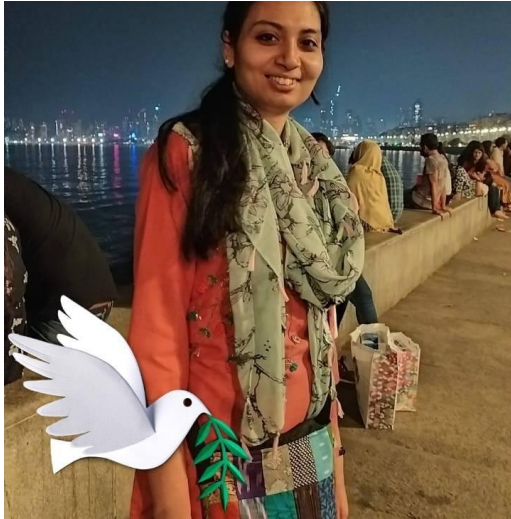
## **Appointment of New Staff**

Shreya Bhattacharya joined as Programme Coordinator in Sept, 2019.



## **Testimonial from Staff**

### **Shabnam Rahman- Rehabilitation Psychologist**



Autism Society West Bengal is one of the most desirable NGOs to collaborate with. I am lucky that I am associated with this esteemed NGO as Rehabilitation Psychologist. They are conscious about the initiatives they take for the development and growth of the children and young adults with ASD by organising events and workshops that are extremely fruitful for the children, parents, teaching and non-teaching staff and professionals over there. The success rates, therefore, are high and I am obliged to have a contribution in the same.

With regards  
Shabnam Rahman

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### **Shreya Bhattacharjee – Programme Coordinator**



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After completing my Graduation, I joined Autism Society West Bengal as a Programme Coordinator. I was not aware of Autism when I first joined here. It was here that I got to know about Autism and how we can support individuals with Autism to help them lead a life of dignity. The work environment is very good as provides a positive vibe. I am thankful to all my colleagues and senior management for making me part of this organization and helping me to learn so many things. It has been a good learning experience for me till now and I hope to learn more about Autism and the training process in future too.

Warm Regards  
Shreya Bhattacharjee

**Insana Konoki Majumdar – Occupational Therapist**



Well it's been 2 years for me to work in this beautiful organization Autism Society West Bengal. It's been a great journey so far. I would like to thank Indrani Basu mam for being very kind to me always and guiding me. Similarly, Dr Mitu De mam has been so encouraging and always wants the best for me. The management and other staff have been so cooperative and helpful. I feel much positivity in this place and love to come to work every time. My day brightens up seeing all the people with their cheerful faces and new themes of work. The best part is that everyone stopping to make me feel valuable despite their busy schedule. Sometimes it's not just about your job that motivates you, it's also the place where you work and with whom you work that makes the journey a meaningful one. So I feel so blessed to be a part of ASWB for which I really love my work and want everyone also to be happy around me.

Best Wishes and Love

Insana Konoki Majumder

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## Feedback of D.Ed Students



**Adrija Roy – 1<sup>st</sup> Year D.Ed Student**

It is a wonderful experience to be associated with ASWB. It has been one year I have been associated with ASWB. I came to know about this organization from one of my esteemed professor who is himself associated with this organization. Initially I had a very brief experience about “AUTISM” but when I got associated with this society I got a broad knowledge about “AUTISM “.When I entered here then I came to know WHAT ACTUALLY AUTISM IS? Then I analyzed that it is a developmental disorder characterized by difficulties with social interaction and communication including repetitive behaviors. As the days went by I came to know that each autistic individual have different behavioral aspects and they behave or act differently under different circumstances. When I joined ASWB I gained the knowledge about how to deal and communicate with these children .Day by day an unbreakable bond formed with all the children, members and teachers working here. I am very lucky that I got the opportunity to be a part of this society and will look forward to use my training and skills in serving the society towards these children and helping them in all possible ways so that they could lead a normal life.



### **Soumyashri Dingal -1<sup>st</sup> Year D.Ed Student**

It's been a year I joined Autism Society West Bengal as a D. Ed. Trainee on special education and I'm fortunate to be a part of ASWB team. Here I get the opportunity to gain knowledge and learn about several things on Autism, like how we should behave with the children with ASD, how we can teach them through the use of schedule as well as teaching learning materials and help them to lead their life independently. The students with ASD are so fun loving and some of them show their talents in various activities, like singing, dancing, drawing etc. I always enjoy the way teachers entertain and encourage the students to participate in group or individual activities. I feel pleasure to be with the staffs and teachers as they are so cooperative, friendly and encouraging. Thanks to ASWB for giving me the scope to support the students, in achieving important learning milestones by using various teaching methods. For me it is a great learning experience and best guideline to become a special educator.



### **ARPAITA DATTA, 2<sup>nd</sup> Year D.ED STUDENT**

During my two year's course of D.Ed in ASWB, I learned a lot. After being enrolled here, I came to know what the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is, what are the challenges faced by the person with ASD and how to educate them to cope with this challenges. This is totally a different and challenging arena. I owe my gratitude to the special educators, teachers, who make this difficult field of study more comprehensible and enjoying too. Besides the academic part, challenges lies more in practically handle those specially abled children and supporting or educate them to explore their special abilities. Apart from our educators, the volunteers and care giver helps a lot in understanding those person. Hope I will be a good professional after passing out from this institution and I am indebted to all my teachers of ASWB.



### **Suparna Natua - 2<sup>nd</sup> Year D.ED STUDENT**

At first I want to thank Team Autism Society West Bengal for providing me such an opportunity which really helped me to learn a lot, as it introduced new perspectives of learning (various kinds of techniques and their successful use). It is a really helpful course that enriches my mind to new ideas and increases my knowledge about the individuals with special needs. Here I get a very cooperative learning atmosphere; the trainers, special educators as well as the volunteers are always ready to help me for better learning. I must mention about the discipline which attracts me first. Special thanks to our director of the institution, Mrs Indrani Basu madam and our course coordinator, Mr Pranabesh Bhuniya sir. I am also thankful to my other trainers and teachers who instruct and guide me properly with their vast knowledge and experiences.

### **Parents Feedback**

Aalapath Bandopadhyay – ‘The main priority is mainstreaming my child ‘- Three Months parent training program

Aalapath was diagnosed at an age of 3 years. After diagnosis, his parents went to other organizations and even went to visit different doctors. It was one of such visits that they came to know about ASWB. At ASWB, Aalapath and his mother went for the three months parent with child training program. According to his mother, the conditions were moderate even before the training but completion of training program saw some major improvements. Sangeeta Bandhopadhyay said that ‘He has got overall betterment in communication and cognition. Even though he is a non verbal child but after the training program he has started to speak two or three meaningful words.’ Moreover, she feels that the program has brought her closer to her son now. The understanding between them has developed. Now her main priority is child’s mainstreaming into the society and to make this world a better place for him Sangeeta is all praise for the therapists at ASWB as they provided proper guidance to her and her child. The therapists also gave encouragement to her so that she feels confident now to face all the challenges ahead.

Turna Routh – “I have got positive energy now” - Three Months parent training program

Turna was diagnosed at an age of 2 years. He was restless, unwilling to communicate and used to have behavioural issues. Then they came to know about Autism Society West Bengal. At Autism Society West Bengal, he went for counselling followed by ten days parent with child training program. After completion of the ten days training, some improvement was noticed in Turna. But he significantly changed after a three months parent training program. According to Pampa Routh, Turna’s mom he is a happy child now. His waiting skill has improved. Turna is now conscious of his environment and situation. He is eager to communicate and express himself. He likes to do different activities now. In her opinion, “I now feel confident about my child. Our relationship has become stronger. My life is full of positive energy”. She thanked all the teaching as well as non teaching staff of Autism Society West Bengal as they have been good and caring to Turna and her. There is so much to learn from them. Pampa further states that it is because of Autism Society West Bengal that we parents are learning to manage and communicate with our kids.

Sagnik Saha – “School experience has helped in overall development” - Junior Section Dikshan

Banti Das Saha, Sagnik’s mother said that it has been a wonderful experience to get enrolled in Dikshan – junior section. Sagnik has got an experience of how school atmosphere is. He got so

many new friends with whom he can spend a good amount of time everyday .In her view, the school has also helped Sagnik to understand instructions and how we should follow them. The school experience has helped in his overall development as Sagnik has learned play skills, sitting habit, eye contact and understanding. However, the online classes started by ASWB have also made him experience how digital learning can be fun too. She further stated that all the teachers here are very helpful and cooperative.

Shibam Mukherjee - “Impressive virtual medium as mode of teaching” - Junior Section  
Dikshan

Though just after 1 month of class, the lockdown commenced, the experience of joining Dikshan was enriching. Different varieties of group activities, yoga and exercises as well as art and craft were quite good and novel additions. Post lockdown, the idea of conducting online classes through ‘Virtual Medium’ is quite impressive. Kids are getting more exposure to online platform. Shibam is cooperating in the classes through video calls. Looking forward to more such online classes.

Aneesh Naskar – “Uninterrupted intervention during lockdown along with concessional seat”-  
Dikshan 2

Aneesh got enrolled at Dikshan 2 in the month of November 2019. After joining the classes,Aneesh ‘s improvement was quiet visible. We wanted him to continue the programs run by ASWB as earlier 10 days and three months intervention program were so much helpful for Aneesh. He is now enjoying the online classes started by ASWB since April because of the lockdown caused by Pandemic. According to Biva Naskar, Aneesh’s mother “We were worried when heard about the closure of schools but the online classes have given us the hope that there won’t be any compromise on our child’s development”. He loves to attend the online classes as well as special activity sessions, yoga, occupational therapy session. His parents are grateful and thankful to ASWB management for such a wonderful planning and teachers for execution of the same. Dhrubojyoti Naskar also states that if ASWB management would not have considered his application for concession then it would have been difficult for them to continue Aneesh ‘s intervention.

Ranit Roy –“ Happy with the overall improvement and grateful for concession” - Dikshan 2

Ranit 's father is happy with the improvement in his son and he thanked ASWB management for providing him a chance to put forward the application for a concessional seat so that they were able to continue his intervention program over the years. Ranit came for counseling and went for 10 days parent child training program as well as three months parent child training followed by hourly intervention program. Finally Ranit got a chance to get enrolled in Dikshan 2 from Jan 2019.

### **One Month Parent training Parent Feedback**

Nairiti Adhikary

I am thankful to this society. After taking one month training from the organization, my little princess is now able to speak distinctly. Thankful to all of you.

Adhyayan Nath

My child was non verbal and also had some behavioural issues. We went to consult a clinical psychologist who referred us to Autism Society West Bengal. At Autism Society West Bengal, Adhyayan was enrolled for one month Parent training. After the training program, he has developed speech and he has become a bit matured now.

Ahrashi Mukherjee

My son was suffering from some problems which led us to consult a renowned pediatrician. The pediatrician at once identified my son to be on Autism Spectrum Disorder and referred us to Autism Society West Bengal. Aharshi went for one month Parent training program at Autism Society West Bengal. After the completion of the program, we saw improvement in Aharshi. He can now speak few words and can identify things. I am very happy with the training program and thankful to all the teachers and counselors at Autism Society West Bengal.



## VBA Parent Feedback

**Student: Sayak Mandal**

**VBA batch: July 8-October 18, 2019**

After completing a six-week VBA programme at Lake Gardens, we noticed so many positive changes in Sayak that we decided to go for another three-month training at the centre. And at the end of three months, we couldn't be more happy about my decision.

While Sayak had already learnt to respond well to his name, take instructions and follow the sequence of events that took place in the class, at the end of three months these responses have now become sharper.

The following are the new and positive changes I am noticing in Sayak now:

**i) Use of sign language:** The use of sign language has now become more regular and accurate. He can now clearly show his needs through signs while asking to go to toilet and wanting water.

**ii) Pointing and verbalising:** Sayak has started verbalising. He mostly says one word but those are meaningful and need-based. He points, says the word, and demands. Hence, his ability to communicate has improved massively and is very assuring for us. This will certainly help him to express himself in a formal school environment.

**iii) Interest in academics:** Sayak has started taking a lot of interest in academics. He knows alphabets, numbers and even a few sight words. His interest in letters is also helping him in increasing his vocabulary.

**iv) Better cognitive skills and understanding:** Sayak is now better aware of his environment and is better able to understand what is being said to him. It's gradually becoming easier to talk to him, make him understand the dos and don'ts and adapt better to the environment. Overall, it's now become easier to communicate with him.

*Area of improvement:* The fun quotient of being a child can be worked upon.

After VBA, we can now hope that Sayak is in a position to get integrated into a mainstream school. VBA has been a big learning experience not only for Sayak but also for the parents. It has brought about a big change in our lives and the way we interact with our kids.

A Big Thank You to all the teachers!

*Sehmi Latta (mother)*

**Sayak Mondal, student of VBA.**

To,  
Autism Society West Bengal

Ref:- Letter Of Appreciation

Respected,  
Sir/Madam

● My son Abhirup Das student of Aspire has been selected for the class of TinyTots in South City International School. Early Intervention Programme at Aspires immensely improved his condition which helped him to join the mainstream education.

I am extremely thankful to the entire team of Autism Society West Bengal for helping my child.

Regards,

● Amrita Das

**Abhiroop Das ,student of VBA unit got admission at South City International School.**

Donors, Well wishers, visitors & Volunteer Feedback



Dr. Banhi Sikha Chaudhuri,  
Volunteer, Advisor, ASWB Library

Library is the heart of any educational Institute. ASWB has its own library, which is small but rich with collections. It serves all teachers, staff members and students of D. Ed. Last year we have completed accession and processing of all resources of our library. Now users can easily access all books and journals at their need. User card has been issued to each student. We have already procured some books this year. Apart from books, we have some e books and journals published by RCI. Though we have some limitations like space problem, shortage of fund etc, authority of ASWB, all teachers and staff members are very enthusiastic to develop this library. Next we are trying to establish a kid's corner for the children of Dikshan. All of us are working together. It is a nice & happy experience for me.

Dr. Banhi Sikha Chaudhuri,  
(Retd, In Charge, Bose Institute Library)



Coming to ASWB is like coming to home. Such creative, caring people fighting for change -  
Betsy Neuville, Director, Keystone Institute India

Happy to be a part of the Autism family & care/love seen over the faces of children are result of the effort by your team. Thanks a lot for making them happy – Debanjan Ghosh,

Kudos to you all. You are doing a fantastic work. Samaj Sebi is glad and honoured to be associated with ASWB - ArijitMitra, D.K.Banerjee, Vaswati Sarkar – Members of Samaj Sebi Sangha.

We are honored and privileged that you people allowed us to interact with so many enthusiastic, different people. Wish to be a part of your good work in near future also - Dr Prof Shabnam Zahir, Prof, Department of Pedodontics, Guru Nanak Inst of Dental Sciences and Research

So, back in 2015 when I first volunteered for a YAAR session of ASWB, I really had very little idea about Autism. Although unlike a major percentage of people I knew that it's totally not a disease but a condition. In the 5 years that I have been a part of this beautiful organization not only I have learnt a lot about Autism (which I don't think can be learned through any other course) but I have met some people who have taught me a lot about the difference between living and feeling alive.

Through ASWB I personally have learnt a lot. One major learning would be 'Acceptance' which I think is really important to understand. On a very selfish note I would like to say that I have made some amazing friends here. I get calls/messages often from friends I made through YAAR and they genuinely care about me with a lot of purity. This I think would be the best thing I have got from here.

Cheers to ASWB and Acceptance! - Abhijeet Singh, Volunteer from Information Technology Department, Rotaract club of Heritage Institute of Technology

**Workshops organized by Autism Society West Bengal 2019-2020 with nil Registration charges.**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name of the workshop/conference</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Resource Persons</b>	<b>Participants</b>
24 <sup>th</sup> June	Interactive Session on the Young Adults with Autism	School premises	Ms Indrani Basu (Action For Autism, New Delhi)	Teachers, parents and volunteers of ASWB

5 <sup>th</sup> July	Exploring narrative ideas in team building programmes	School premises	Ranjana Chakraborty And Manisha Bhattacharyya, ASWB	Teachers and staff of ASWB
17 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> July	In house training programme on SRV principles	School premises	Elizabeth Neuville, Keystone Institute and ASWB SRV Grads	ASWB Staff
16 <sup>th</sup> August	In house workshop based on person centered planning method – ‘One page profile making’ and narrative therapy	School premises	Indrani Basu, Dr. Mitu De, Ranjana Chakraborty and Manisha Bhattacharya	Teaching staff of ASWB
27 <sup>th</sup> November	An Interactive Session: Learning to Let Go	School premises	Dr. Animita Chowdhury Saha, USA	Parents, teachers and volunteers of ASWB
24 <sup>th</sup> November	Workshop on Financial Planning	School Premises	Jitendra Solanki	Parents and GB Members of ASWB
2 <sup>nd</sup> December	An Interactive Session on Importance of vision in the education in the lives of students	School Premises	Dr. Linda Lawrence, MD, consultant Centro Ann Sullivan Peru & Consultant Kansas State School For the Blind, Ophthalmologist, USA	Teachers and parents of ASWB
26 <sup>th</sup> and 27 <sup>th</sup> December	Staff Refresher Course	School Premises	Indrani Basu, Dr. Mitu De, Ranjana Chakraborty and Manisha Bhattacharya	Teaching staff of ASWB

#### **Workshops where ASWB members/staff/teachers participated 2019 -2020**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name of the workshop/conference</b>	<b>Venue/Organized by</b>	<b>Participants</b>
11 <sup>th</sup> April,2019	Inclusion of Individuals with Autism in Mainstream School	Heritage School	Kaberi Ghosh & Sonu Mehmi

13 <sup>th</sup> July,2019	Workshop on Funding & CSR	Kolkata Gives Foundation	Dr Mitu De & Shrabani Chakraborty
30 <sup>th</sup> September,2019	Annual Conference on Child Rights, Care and Protection	FICE India	Pranabesh Bhunia
21 <sup>st</sup> -25 <sup>th</sup> October,2019	Assessment of SRV Tools(Passing)	Keystone Institute, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, USA.	<u>Ranjana Chakraborty</u> & <u>Manisha Bhattacharya</u>
19 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup> November,2019	Residential Five Days Social Role Valorization course	Keystone Institute,India	Manoj Mahato, Piyali Chakraborty & Chandrani Chakraborty
23 <sup>rd</sup> November,2019	CRE Programme on ‘Learning Disability’	Noble Mission South	Kaberi Ghosh, Amrita Bhawal & Shampa Sahoo
18 <sup>th</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup> December,2019	Social Role Valorization – Action Summit	Keystone Institute, India	Indrani Basu Dr Mitu De, <u>Ranjana Chakraborty</u> & <u>Manisha Bhattacharya</u>
20 <sup>th</sup> December,2019	Salient Features of Human Rights Violation in real life situation of the persons with Mental Illness	SEVAC	Tapati Ghosh & Arpita Chatterjee
3 <sup>rd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Community and Mental Health	Mental health Foundation & Department of Education ,Jadavpur University	Indrani Basu

**Workshops where ASWB members/staff were invited as Resource persons 2018-2019**

Date	Name of the workshop/conference	Venue/Organized by	Resource Persons	Participants
2 <sup>nd</sup> April,2019	National Seminar on	Aliah University	Mitasree Biswas	Students of

		Campus		B.Sc Nursing, Aliah University.
6 <sup>th</sup> April, 2019	Awareness program about Autism	Loreto Dharmatala Campus	Indrani Basu Director, Autism Society West Bengal	Students and teachers of Loreto School, Dharmatala Campus.
12 <sup>th</sup> & 13 <sup>th</sup> April, 2019	Mainstreaming students with Autism	Action For Autism	Indrani Basu, Director Autism Society West Bengal	Parents, special educators and rehabilitation professionals .
24 <sup>th</sup> June, 2019	Interactive Session	AFA, Delhi	Indrani Basu Director, Autism Society West Bengal	Parents, special educators and rehabilitation professionals.
27 <sup>th</sup> June, 2019	Structured Teaching	Manovikas Kendra	Ranjana Chakraborty	Parents, special educators and rehabilitation professionals.
4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> July, 2019	Preparing for Adulthood	Goodricke School for Special Education, Siliguri	Indrani Basu Director, Autism Society West Bengal	Parents, special educators and rehabilitation professionals.
18 <sup>th</sup> July, 2019	CRE programme	Voice Of The World	Pranabesh Bhunia, Training Coordinator, ASWB	Special educators and rehabilitation professionals.
21 <sup>st</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup> July, 2019	Workshop on Education & Care	KIIT International School	Indrani Basu Director, Autism Society West Bengal	Teachers and Special educators of the school.
28 <sup>th</sup> July, 2019	Understanding Autism – Role of behaviour management	Pannajhil Autism Welfare Society	Indrani Basu Director, Autism Society West Bengal	Parents, special educators and rehabilitation professionals.
5 <sup>th</sup> July, 2019	CRE Programme	Noble Mission of	Indrani Basu	Special



		South Kolkata	Director, Autism Society West Bengal	educators and rehabilitation professionals.
7 <sup>th</sup> to 9 <sup>th</sup> July, 2019	Workshop on Autism Awareness & Role of SRV	KIIT International School	Indrani Basu, Director, Autism Society West Bengal & Elizabeth Neuville	Teachers and Special educators of the school.
11 <sup>th</sup> August to 12 <sup>th</sup> August, 2019	Workshop On Autism Awareness	Autism Society Jhargram	Pranabesh Bhunia, Training Coordinator, ASWB & Binay Samanta, Special Educator	Parents, special educators and rehabilitation professionals.
17 <sup>th</sup> August, 2019	Aggression Management and Allied Behaviour, Sexual issues on early Adolescents	Meera Foundation & Vidyarthi, Lake Town	Indrani Basu, Director, Autism Society West Bengal	Parents, special educators and rehabilitation professionals.
21 <sup>st</sup> August, 2019	Awareness on Inclusive Education	USIS Campus	Rohan Biswas (Self Advocate)	Administrative officer, higher officials and Staff of USIS as well as professionals from different field, other invitees and student participants.
26 <sup>th</sup> -27 <sup>th</sup> August, 2019	Certificate course on 'Caregivers for Persons with Disabilities'(Definition, characteristics & intervention)	IICP	Indrani Basu, Director, Autism Society West Bengal	Individuals enrolled for the course.
26 <sup>th</sup> September, 2019	Workshop on 'Autism Awareness'	J.D.Birla Institute of Management	Indrani Basu, Director, Autism Society West Bengal	Students and professors of the institute.

8 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> October,2019	Social Role Valorization in residential care & adaptation	Neuro – Development Disability Protection Trust, Ministry of Social Welfare, Government of Peoples Republic of Bangladesh	Dr Mitu De, Secretary Autism Society West Bengal & Elizabeth Neuville, Director, Keystone Institute India	Parents, special educators and rehabilitation professionals.
2 <sup>nd</sup> November,201 9	Workshop on Teen & Puberty Issues	AAWAM, Hyderabad	Indrani Basu, Director, Autism Society West Bengal	Parents, special educators and rehabilitation professionals.
6 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> November,201 9	Teachers Training on Autism at KIIT International School	KIIT International School	Indrani Basu, Director, Autism Society West Bengal	Teachers and Special educators of the school.
24 <sup>th</sup> -25 <sup>th</sup> November,201 9	Two day Parent orientation Programme	Autism Society Jhargram	Pranabesh Bhunia, Training Coordinator, ASWB & Binay Samanta, Special Educator	Parents, special educators and rehabilitation professionals.
27 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup> November,201 9	Awareness Programme and training on Autism	KIIT International School	Indrani Basu, Director, Autism Society West Bengal	Teachers and Special educators of the school.
21 <sup>st</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup> December,201 9	Paper presentation	International Conference on Sustainability and Healthcare	Dr Santi Ranjan, Life Member, Autism Society West Bengal	Delegates of the International Conference on Sustainability and Healthcare
21 <sup>st</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup> December,201 9	Paper presentation	International Conference on Sustainability	Pranabesh Bhunia D. Ed. Coordinator,	Delegates of the International

		and Healthcare	Autism Society West Bengal	Conference on Sustainability and Healthcare
22 <sup>nd</sup> December,2019	Paper presentation	International Conference on Sustainability and Healthcare	Dr Mitu De, Secretary Autism Society West Bengal	Delegates of the International Conference on Sustainability and Healthcare
25 <sup>th</sup> January,2020	ANCIPS	Indian Psychiatric Society	Indrani Basu, Director, Autism Society West Bengal	Medical professionals and delegates.
27 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup> January,2020	Awareness Programme and training on Autism	KIIT International School	Indrani Basu, Director, Autism Society West Bengal	Teachers and Special educators of the school.
1 <sup>st</sup> -2 <sup>nd</sup> February	'WEAVING OUR VOICES'---The 2nd International Narrative Practices Conference	UMMEED	Manisha Bhattacharya, Ranjana Chakraborty	Psychologists, Special Educators, medical professionals
5 <sup>th</sup> – 11 <sup>th</sup> February,2020	Awareness Programme and teachers training programme	FARE, Chittagong, Bangladesh	Indrani Basu, Director, Autism Society West Bengal & Dr Mitu De, Secretary, Autism Society West Bengal	Parents, special educators and rehabilitation professionals.
9 <sup>th</sup> February,2020	Collaborative Approach in ASD Management	FARE, Chittagong	Indrani Basu, Director, Autism Society West Bengal & Dr Mitu De, Secretary,	Parents, special educators and rehabilitation professionals.

			Autism Society West Bengal. The other speakers were Kylie Hinde, Farhin N. Chowdhury and Tahmina Huq	
21 <sup>st</sup> February, 2020	CRE Program on Gender & Disability – Sub Theme: vulnerability, Trafficking & abuse of Disabled Women	Voice Of The World	Pranabesh Bhunia, Training Coordinator, ASWB	Special educators, rehabilitation professionals and social workers working with Voice of the World
2 <sup>nd</sup> March	'Inclusiveness of the Differently Aabled: Challenges and Opportunities in India'	KIIT University & Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi.	Indrani Basu, Director, Autism Society West Bengal	Parents, special educators and rehabilitation professionals.
3 <sup>th</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Counselling & awareness program	Institute for Handicapped & Backward People (Nityaberia, Nazat) South 24 Paraganas	Pranabesh Bhunia, Training Coordinator, ASWB	Parents, special educators and rehabilitation professionals.

## **2019-2020 ASWB Publications and Paper Presentations**

### **Full paper publication in Journals:**

1. Mandal, Ishita, Basu, Indrani and De. Mitu. 2020. Role of nursing professionals in making hospital stay effective and less stressful for patients with ASD: A brief overview. *International Journal of Advancement in Life Sciences Research*, Online (ISSN: 2581-4877) Vol. 3, no. 1, pp. 1-9.
2. Bhunia, Pranabesh, Mahato, Manoj Kumar, Chakraborty, Piyali, Basu, Indrani and De, Mitu. 2019. Teacher Education and Inclusive Education: An Overview. Harvest- Online Journal (ISSN 2456-6551) Vol. 4 (2), pp. 26-34.
3. Bhattacharya, Manisha, Chakraborty, Ranjana, Basu' Indrani and De, Mitu. 2019. Assessment of parental stress among mothers and fathers of children with autism. Harvest- Online Journal (ISSN 2456-6551) Vol. 4 (1), pp. 9-18.
4. De, Mitu, Bhattacharya, Manisha, Saha, Animita C., Basu, Indrani, Ganguli, Sayak and Dey, Santi Ranjan. 2019. Influence of Oral Microbiome on Human Health: an Overview. *International Journal of Advancement in Life Sciences Research*. Online ISSN: 2581-4877. Volume 2(1): 16-21.

### **Publications as Book Chapters**

1. Basu, Indrani. 2020. An overview on the challenges and opportunities for inclusive education in India: with emphasis on the students with invisible disabilities. Book chapter of papers presented in the National Seminar on 'Inclusiveness of the Differently Aabled: Challenges and Opportunities in India' held on 5th & 6th March, 2020 in Bhubaneswar organised by the School of Management, KIIT University, Odisha and sponsored by Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi (in press).
2. Chakraborty, Ranjana. 2019. Play and its importance in children with ASD. In, *Understanding Autism: Through the Lens of parents and Professionals*. (ISBN 978-93-81574-92-8). Edited by Subir Kumar Dutta and Mitu De published by The Asiatic Society, 1 Park Street, Kolkata. 51-62pp.
3. Basu, Indrani. 2019. Understanding the unique nature of autism and accommodating a student with autism in a supportive learning environment. In, *Understanding Autism: Through the Lens of parents and Professionals*. (ISBN 978-93-81574-92-8). Edited by Subir Kumar Dutta and Mitu De published by The Asiatic Society, 1 Park Street, Kolkata. 63- 85pp.

4. De, Mitu. 2019. Supporting students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in Higher education. In, Understanding Autism: Through the Lens of parents and Professionals. (ISBN 978-93-81574-92-8). Edited by Subir Kumar Dutta and Mitu De published by The Asiatic Society, 1 Park Street, Kolkata. 86–101pp.
5. Chakraborty, Debasish. 2019. Computer Based Learning Software – Training Autistic Children through Computers. In, Understanding Autism: Through the Lens of parents and Professionals. (ISBN 978-93-81574-92-8). Edited by Subir Kumar Dutta and Mitu De published by The Asiatic Society, 1 Park Street, Kolkata. 149-157 pp.
6. Basu, Indrani and De Mitu. 2019. Supporting and Enabling Persons with Autism in the Community. In, Understanding Autism: Through the Lens of parents and Professionals. (ISBN 978-93-81574-92-8). Edited by Subir Kumar Dutta and Mitu De published by The Asiatic Society, 1 Park Street, Kolkata. 158–167pp.
7. Bhattacharya, Manisha. 2019. The Importance of Soft-skills Training for Individuals with Asperger’s Syndrome Heading for Employment. In, Understanding Autism: Through the Lens of parents and Professionals. (ISBN 978-93-81574-92-8). Edited by Subir Kumar Dutta and Mitu De published by The Asiatic Society, 1 Park Street, Kolkata. 168-180pp.
8. Dey, Santi Ranjan, Basu, Indrani, and De, Mitu. 2019. Neuroplasticity and Autism: A startling revelation of the 21st century. In, Understanding Autism: Through the Lens of parents and Professionals. (ISBN 978-93-81574-92-8). Edited by Subir Kumar Dutta and Mitu De published by The Asiatic Society, 1 Park Street, Kolkata. 181–189 pp.

#### **Paper Presentations by ASWB in Seminars/Conferences as Oral or Poster presentation**

**(Without any subsequent full paper publications as proceedings)**

1. Bhunia, Pranabesh, Basu, Indrani and De, Mitu. 2019. An investigation of the challenges faced by students with ASD, an invisible disability, in the mainstream education system: A case study. Oral presentation in the International Conference on Sustainable Environment & Healthcare organized by Dr Tarak Nath Podder Memorial Foundation in collaboration with Centre for Disaster Preparedness & Management, Jadavpur University, Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata and Lincoln University College, Malaysia on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2019.

2. Bhunia, Pranabesh, Mahato, Manoj Kumar, Chakraborty, Piyali, Chakraborty, Chandrani, Basu, Indrani and De, Mitu. 2019. Reasonable accommodations and supports to provide a learning environment for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in the mainstream education system: A brief overview. Oral presentation in the International Conference on Sustainable Environment & Healthcare organized by Dr Tarak Nath Podder Memorial Foundation in collaboration with Centre for Disaster Preparedness & Management, Jadavpur University, Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata and Lincoln University College, Malaysia on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2019.
3. Dey, Santi Ranjan, Bhunia, Pranabesh, Mahato, Manoj Kumar, Chakraborty, Piyali, Basu, Indrani and De, Mitu. 2019. Early intervention for young children with ASD and Neuroplasticity: A case study. Oral presentation in the International Conference on Sustainable Environment & Healthcare organized by Dr Tarak Nath Podder Memorial Foundation in collaboration with Centre for Disaster Preparedness & Management, Jadavpur University, Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata and Lincoln University College, Malaysia on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2019.
4. Mandal, Ishita, Basu, Indrani and De, Mitu. 2019. Role of nursing professionals in making hospital stay effective and less stressful for patients with ASD: A brief overview. Oral presentation in the International Conference on Sustainable Environment & Healthcare organized by Dr Tarak Nath Podder Memorial Foundation in collaboration with Centre for Disaster Preparedness & Management, Jadavpur University, Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata and Lincoln University College, Malaysia on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2019.
5. Banerjee, Aindrila, Ganguly, Sayak, De, Mitu and Dey, Santi Ranjan. 2019. Review on Gut Microbiota In Young Children With Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Oral presentation in the International Conference on Sustainable Environment & Healthcare organized by Dr Tarak Nath Podder Memorial Foundation in collaboration with Centre for Disaster Preparedness & Management, Jadavpur University, Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata and Lincoln University College, Malaysia on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2019.
6. De, Mitu, Basu, Indrani and Saraiwala, Vineet. 2019. An initiative to make shopping hassle free for individuals with ASD: Steps towards sustainable development. Oral presentation in the International Conference on Sustainable Environment & Healthcare organized by Dr Tarak Nath Podder Memorial Foundation in collaboration with Centre for Disaster

Preparedness & Management, Jadavpur University, Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata and Lincoln University College, Malaysia on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2019.

7. Biswas, Mitasree, Mandal, Ishita, Bhattacharya, Manisha, Chakraborty, Ranjana, Basu, Indrani and De, Mitu. 2019. Mental health and wellbeing of adolescents with a disability: An overview of empowering students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), an invisible disability, in colleges and Universities. Poster presentation in the National Seminar on 'Empowering Adolescent Minds with Special reference to College and University Students' organized by Department of Nursing, Aliah University held on 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2019.

### **Resource Persons & Medical professionals associated with ASWB**

Dr Animita Chowdhury, Dr J. R. Ram, Kalyani Saha, Elizabeth Neuville, Dr Thomas Neuville, Merry Barua, Dr Prashanta Roy, Indrani Basu ( AFA, Delhi), Dr Prof Shabnam Zaheer.

### **Active Supporters of ASWB**

Mandira Dutt, Roshan Dutt, Dr Tathagatha Dutta, Minati Chowdhury, Tarunima Gupta, Dr Jayati Bose, Dr Manikuntala Kundu, Dr Subir Dutta

### **Funders & Donors**

ITC Limited, ITC Ladies Social & Welfare Society, Inner Wheel Club of Central Calcutta, L& T Prayas West Bengal, Samaj Sebi Sangha, Bridge & Roof, B.D. Endowment, Debanjan Ghosh

### **Partners & Associations**

Mental Health Foundation

The Asiatic Society

Indian Museum

Victoria Memorial Hall

Star Mark

Apeejay Group of Schools, Kolkata

Kolkata Gives

Future Group, Big Bazaar outlets( Lake Mall & Highland park)



KIIT International School, Bhubaneswar

Institute for Handicapped and Backward People

Guide Star India

Financial Management Service Foundation

### Travel details

During 2019-2020 there have been several national and international travel mostly when the Director, staff or Board members have been invited as resource persons for workshops and training programs. In all cases the travel has been 100 % sponsored by the organization who invited us. The details are given below:

### International Travel

Name	Designation	Destination	Purpose	Gross Expense	Sponsored by External Organization	%	Name of the sponsoring Organization
Dr Mitu De	Secretary	Dhaka, Bangladesh	Resource person at SRV workshop by Keystone Institute	00 (by ASWB)	Yes	100 %	Keystone Institute, India
Ms Indrani Basu & Dr Mitu De	Director & Secretary	Chittagong, Bangladesh	Resource person at Conference & Staff training at FARE, Chittagong	00 (by ASWB)	Yes	100 %	FARE, Bangladesh
Ranjana Chakraborty &	Governing body member,	Pennsylvania, USA	Participants for PASSING	00 (by ASWB)	Yes	100 %	Keystone International Human

Manisha Bhattacharya	Clinical psychologist, ASWB		course				Services
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### Domestic Travel

Name	Designation	Destination	Purpose	Gross Expense	Sponsored by External Organization	% Sponsored	Name of the sponsoring Organization
Indrani Basu	Director	Hyderabad	Resource person for a workshop at	00 (by ASWB)	Yes	100%	AAWAM
Indrani Basu	Director	Bhubaneswar	Resource person for a workshop at KIIT international school	00 (by ASWB)	Yes	100%	KIIT international School
Indrani Basu	Director	Delhi	Resource person for a workshop at AFA	00 (by ASWB)	Yes	100%	Action For Autism, Delhi
Indrani Basu, Dr Mitu De, Ranjana Chkarabor	Director, Secretary, ASWB Governing body member & Clinical	Dehradun	Participants at Action Summit	00 (by ASWB)	Yes	100%	Keystone Institute, India

ty & Manisha Bhattacharya	Psychologist respectively						
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### Salary Details

Slab of Gross Salary (in Rs) paid to staff plus other benefit	Male Staff	Female Staff	Total staff
Less than Rs 5000	1	3	4
Rs 5000 – 10,000	5	13	18
Rs 10,000 – 20,000	5	11	16
Rs 20,000 – 30,000	1	2	3

### Salary & benefits of highest and lowest honorarium of staff members

	Designation	Remuneration(in Rs) (Gross yearly + benefits)
<b>Operational Head of the organization (including hon):</b>	Director	Nil
<b>Highest paid person in the organization (Staff or consultant)</b>	Special Educator	Rs 3,33,600/- (Yearly)
<b>Lowest Paid person in the organization (Staff or consultant)</b>	Gate Keeper (Part time)	Rs 37,200/- (yearly)

### Staff Details

1.	Ms Indrani Basu	Founder Director
2.	Madhumita Dhar	Finance Officer
3.	Arpita Chatterjee	Project Coordinator
4.	Amitesh Das	Office Assistant
5.	Nababrata Guha Roy	Accounts Assistant
6.	Sarmistha Das	Parent Training Coordinator/Office Assistant, retired on 30 <sup>th</sup> November,2019
7.	Shreya Bhattacharya	Programme Coordinator Joined in Sept, 2019.
8.	Chandrani Chakraborty	Special Educator, Cordinator Aspires Unit
9.	Shibani Biswas	Special Educator
10.	Dolon Paul	Special Educator
11.	Pranabesh Bhunia	D Ed Coordinator
12.	Manoj Kumar Mahato	D Ed Faculty/Special Educator
13.	Binay Samanta	Special Educator
14.	Rajkumar Bera	Special Educator
15.	Chhabi Das	Special Educator
16.	Soma Sarker	Special Educator
17.	Piyali Chakraborty	D Ed Faculty/Special Educator
18.	Kaberi Ghosh	Special Educator
19.	Amrita Bhawal Barman	Special Educator
20.	Priyanka Saha	Special Educator
21.	Shampa Rani Sahoo	Special Educator
22.	Swati Dasgupta	Special Educator

23.	Sanjit Kumar Ghosh	Special Educator
24.	Banani Saha	Classroom Assistant upto Sept 2019
25.	Jhuma Choudhury	Special Educator
26.	Babu Patra	Classroom Assistant
27.	Sonu Mehmi	Special Educator
28.	Sukanya Das	Special Educator
29.	Syed Wahid Murad	Classroom Assistant upto Sept,2019
30.	Manisha Bhattacharya	Clinical Psychologist & D.Ed Faculty
31.	Insana Konoki Mazumdar	Occupational Therapist
32.	Sefali Naskar	Care Giver
33.	Bishaya Bayen	Care Giver
34.	Mina Bibi	Care Giver
35.	Nazma Bibi	Care Giver
36.	Sabina Bibi	Care Giver
37.	Anita Saha	Care Givers
38.	Dipali Mondal	Care Givers
39.	Mamoni Sardar	Care Givers
40.	Lakshman Mondal	Gate keeper
41.	Joydeep Sarkar	Gate keeper (Part Time)
42.	Shankar Vella	Cleaner

### **Consultants**

Sl.No	Name	Designation
1.	Priyanka Roy	Psychologist & D Ed Faculty

		upto May,2019
2.	Neha Singh	Physiotherapist upto May,2019
3.	Shabnam Rahman	Rehabilitation Psychologist

### **Volunteers of Autism Society West Bengal**

1.	Tusi Sadhukhan	Volunteer
2.	Anupama Bhaduri	Volunteer
3.	Debjani Paul	Volunteer
4.	Abanti Pal	Volunteer
5.	Mounisha Sarkar	Volunteer
6.	Swati Mallick	Volunteer
7.	Smriti Ghosh	Volunteer
8.	Sucharita Roy	Volunteer
9.	Arpita Chakraborty	Volunteer
10.	Mou Saha	Volunteer
11.	Aparna Chakraborty	Volunteer
12.	Banti Das Saha	Volunteer
13.	Sumana Bera Gupta	Volunteer
14.	Chayanika Mukherjee	Volunteer

**AUTISM SOCIETY WEST BENGAL (ASWB) GOVERNING BODY  
MEMBERS FOR 2019-2020**

Sl. No	Name	Post held in the ASWB GB	Gender	Nationality	Occupation	Name of Father/Husband	Residential Address
1.	Mrs. Tapati Ghosh**	President	Female	Indian	House Wife	Mr. P. K. Ghosh (Husband)	Flat no. 1B,1 <sup>st</sup> Floor 297 Jodhpur Park , Kolkata 7000678
2.	Dr. Suparna Deb*	Vice President	Female	Indian	Medical Practitioner	Dr. Sougata Deb (Husband)	4A/70 Dharmatala Road , Kashba , Kolkata 700042
3.	Dr. Mitu De*	Secretary	Female	Indian	Associate Professor	Dr. S. R. Dey (Husband)	A 7/5 Purbasha Housing Estate 160 Manicktala Main Road. Kolkata – 700054.
4.	Mrs. Roma Basu	Joint Secretary	Female	Indian	Retired	Mr. A.K. Basu (Husband)	5C Wedderburn Road , Kolkata 700033
5.	Mr. Sudip Ghosh*	Treasurer	Male	Indian	Service	Late Pranab Kanti Ghosh (Father)	Mohan Garden Murari 1/1,Kamalgachi Kolkata 700103
6.	Mrs. Mitasree Biswas *	Member	Female	Indian	Health Service	Dr Abhijit Biswas (Husband)	29/3C, Chetla Central Road Kolkata -700027
7.	Mrs Ranjana Chakraborty*	Member	Female	Indian	House wife	Mr. Debashis Chakraborty (Husband)	52A, Jubilee Park. Tollygunj

							Kolkata – 700 033.
8.	Mr. Ashoke Kumar Basu*	Member	Male	Indian	Retired	Late Prabhat Kumar Basu (Father)	22 Anjuman Ara Begum Row KOLKATA 700033
9.	Mr. Vaskar Roy Chowdhury*	Member	Male	Indian	Self employed	Late Manoj Kr Roy Chowdhury (Father)	C-194,Santoshpur Sarvey Park,Kolkata – 700075

\* Being a parent led organisation, most of the members of ASWB's Govering Body members are parents of persons with autism.

\*\* Grandparent of a person with Autism

None of the governing body members are related to each other.

The governing body is elected every two years.

### HOW YOU MAY HELP:

Autism Society accepts gifts in cash and kind from our well wishers. Their gifts are used to give concessions for our intervention services for those families who need it.

You may help ASWB in many ways. You could help in our fund raising efforts; some of the ways funds may be used are listed below.

1. For procuring Teaching and Learning materials
2. For purchasing Furniture
3. For Sponsorship of 10 days one to one intervention for families who might need your help.
4. Sponsorship of Parent Training for families.
5. For construction of Building
6. For procuring and maintenance of Infrastructure
7. For Equipment purchase and installation
8. Corpus Fund
9. For purchasing Computer, printer and accessories
10. For purchasing Books

Apart from the above there are others ways to lend a helping hand.

- You could help in our various extracurricular programs.
- You could also be a buddy with our some of our students.
- You could buy some of the products that our students make



- You could network for us to get CSR funds
- You could organize exhibitions of the handcrafted products our students make.
- You could help in our autism awareness programs in educational institutions, hospitals, police stations, airports and railway stations.
- You could pave the way for social inclusion.
- You could also give us some of your time and get to know people with autism
- You could give information about job opportunities in open/sheltered employment.
- You could accept an individual with autism as he/she is and see the person and not their disability.

### **Acknowledgement:**

The pictures that have been used in this Annual Report have been taken by several persons. Parents, special educators, well wishers and some professional photographers have contributed pictures.

## **Classroom Activities**



## Students celebrating Rathayatra in school



## Teacher's day celebration





**Teacher's day celebration**





### Pre Diwali Celebration in School





**Students celebrating Christmas in School**



**Visiting Pandals during Saraswati Puja**



**Holi celebration in School**



## Birthday Party Celebration of students in School



## Gifting cards to the Birthday Boy

