



ASWB NEWSLETTER

Vol: 6 Issue: 2

April to June 2025

From the Editorial Desk

This April - June, 2025 quarter quarter has been transformative for ASWB, marked by empowering initiatives aimed at fostering independence and growth among students.

April, World Autism Awareness Month. To commemorate this important month, ASWB organized a series of insightful workshops tailored for parents, offering valuable guidance and support.

A major milestone was the inauguration of our consultation room, beautifully decorated by the ITC Ladies —a warm and welcoming space for meaningful conversations and care.

During this quarter Swami Vivekananda University, who is a MoU partner with ASWB invited two individuals with autism who have started their own entrepreneurship. The first speaker, Ms. Barsha Deb, trainee at the Aarohan Unit of ASWB used a PPT that showcased her artwork, homemade chocolates, bamboo pencil stands with her artwork that she sells (with the support of her parents). The second speaker, Mr Aditya Ganguly, who recently graduated from the Govt. Art College and an avid participant of YAAR at ASWB takes up painting assignments. He also sells his artwork in different exhibitions.

From the Editorial Desk

Our **Annual Concert** took center stage on 15th May, 2025 showcasing the dedication and remarkable talents of our students. Their performances lit up the evening, leaving lasting memories for everyone present. The passion and enthusiasm they brought to the event was truly inspiring. Just like previous years, our summer camps were full of excitement and enriching experiences. You may view the ASWB Annual Concert, 2025 in our YouTube Channel. The link is provided https://youtu.be/hSI9eUYstAg?si=D-2hrewcnCuRE-kb

A notable addition this year was the start of the **Independent Living Skills Program**—designed specifically for individuals with autism, empowering them with practical life skills. This initiative proved to be deeply impactful and well-received.

Additional programs continued to provide diverse learning opportunities, making the April - June, 2025 quarter one of growth, celebration and connection.

Special Events

Celebration of WAAD with ITC Ladies on 2nd April 2025 at ASWB





Celebration of WAAD with ITC Ladies on 2nd April 2025 at ASWB





Inauguration of consultation room on 2nd April 2025 at ASWB





Inauguration of consultation room on 2nd April 2025 at ASWB





Celebration of WAAD with ITC Ladies on 2nd April 2025 at ASWB





WAAD Program at Indian Museum on 2nd April, 2025



WAAD Program at Indian Museum on 2nd April, 2025



WAAD Program at Indian Museum on 2nd April, 2025





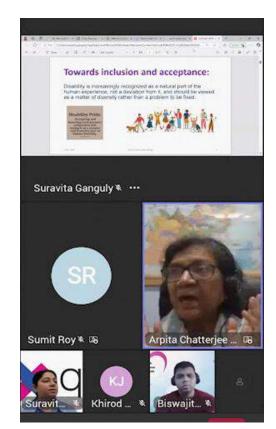
WAAD Program at Mohit Mancha on 2nd April, 2025

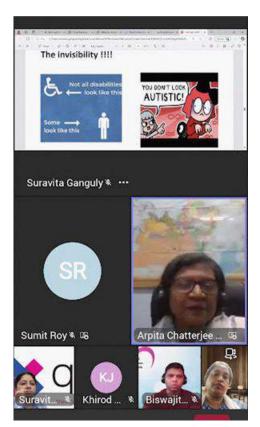




Autism Awareness Session at Quantum Business Advisory on 2nd April, 2025







Outreach Programs

Orientation Program at Daspara KMCP School on 4th April, 2025





ASWB Orientation Program at Nimtouri Tamluk Unnayan Samiti on 23rd & 24th May, 2025



ASWB Orientation Program at Nimtouri Tamluk Unnayan Samiti on 23rd & 24th May, 2025





ASWB Orientation Program at Nimtouri Tamluk Unnayan Samiti on 23rd & 24th May, 2025





Workshops & Visits

Swami Vivekananda University (SVU) students' Visit at ASWB on 4th April, 2025. SVU & ASWB are MoU partners



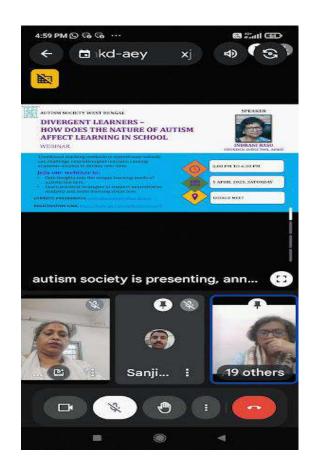


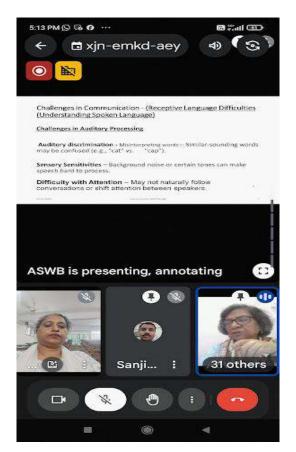
SVU Visit at ASWB on 4th April, 2025

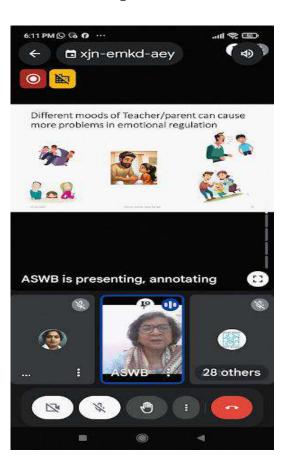




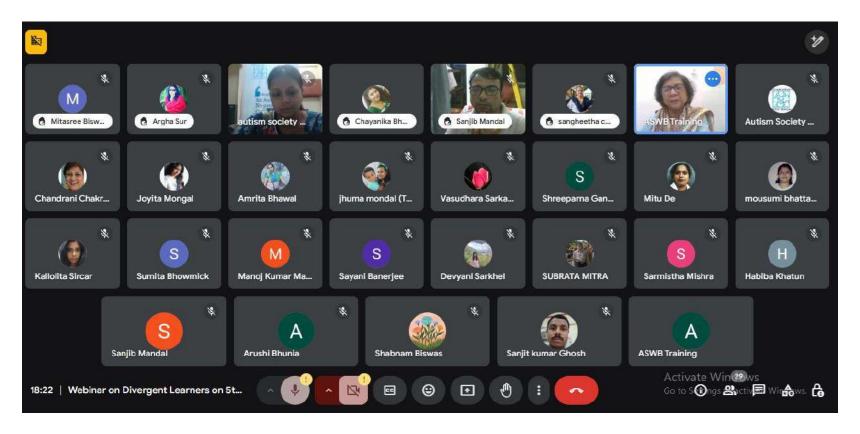
Webinar on Divergent Learners on 5th April, 2025



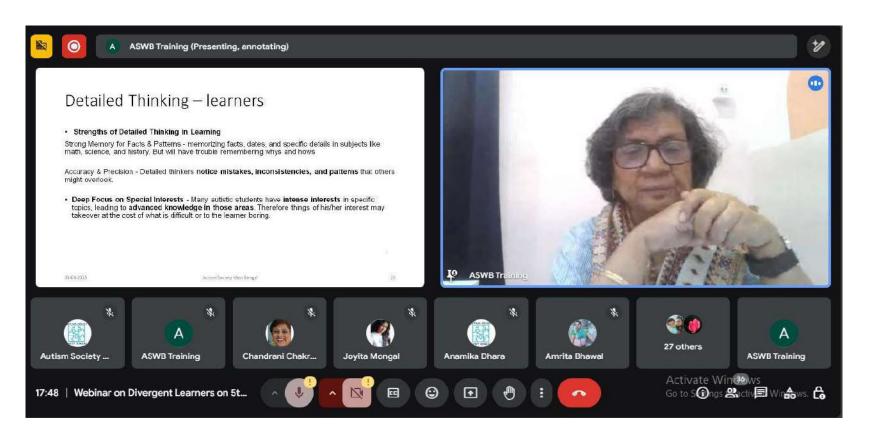




Webinar on Divergent Learners on 5th April, 2025



Webinar on Divergent Learners on 5th April, 2025





AUTISM SOCIETY WEST BENGAL

DIVERGENT LEARNERS – HOW DOES THE NATURE OF AUTISM AFFECT LEARNING IN SCHOOL

WEBINAR

Traditional teaching methods in mainstream schools can challenge neurodivergent learners, causing academic success to decline over time.

Join our webinar to:

- Gain insights into the unique learning needs of autistic learners.
- Learn practical strategies to support neurodiverse students and make learning stress free.

CONTACT: 09038008536 aswb.information23@gmail.com

REGISTRATION LINK: https://forms.gle/rpUsSyMwZam3mvo78

SPEAKER



INDRANI BASU FOUNDER-DIRECTOR, ASWB

5:00 PM TO 6:30 PM

5 APRIL 2025, SATURDAY

GOOGLE MEET

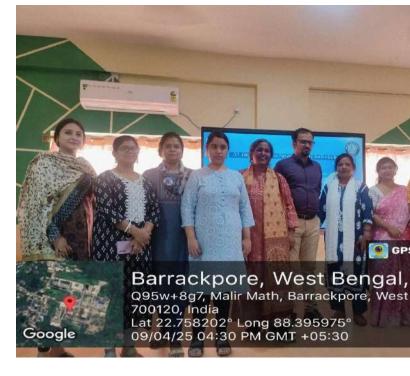
ASWB visit at Swami Vivekananda University (SVU), on 9th April, 2025. SVU & ASWB are MoU partners





ASWB visit at Swami Vivekanada University (MoU partner) on 9th April, 2025





Invited lecture at Swami Vivekananda University by ASWB President Dr. Mitu De on 'Entrepreneurship: A Unique Career for Neurodivergent Individuals: Sharing their stories.'



Individuals with autism shared about their own entrepreneurship at SVU on 9th April, 2025





An Evening with Ratnaboli Roy on 11th April, 2025 at Hotel Ritu IVY





An Evening with Ratnaboli Roy on 11th April, 2025 at Ritu IVY





An Evening with Ratnaboli Roy on 11th April, 2025 at Ritu IVY





Sushila Birla Girls School Visit at ASWB on 16th April, 2025





Sushila Birla Girls School Visit at ASWB on 16th April, 2025





Hands on Training on Writing Social Stories for Different Age Groups on 19th April, 2025



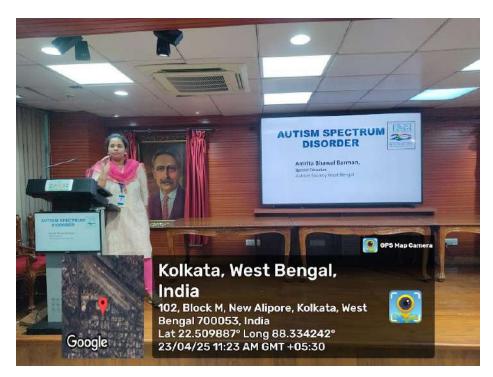


Hands on Training on Writing Social Stories for Different Age Groups on 19th April, 2025





Invited Visit at Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) on 23rd April, 2025





Visit at Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) on 23rd April, 2025



Visit at Zoological Survey of India on 23rd April, 2025





FREE WORKSHOP AS PART OF WAAD



AUTISM SOCIETY WEST BENGAL



FOCUSING ON

TEACHING STRATEGIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH ASD

WORKSHOP

INDRANI BASU Founder-Director ASWB

OUR SPEAKERS

ARPAITA DATTA



Understanding Natures
And Needs Of
Individuals With Autism

CHANDRANI CHAKRABORTY



Communication

PRANABESH BHUNIA



Behavioural Support

PIYALI CHAKRABORTY



Pre-Academics

BINAY SAMANTA



Functional Mathematics

AMRITA BHAWAL BARMAN



Reading

PRIYANKA SAHA



Writing

APRIL 26, 2025 SATURDAY 10:00 AM TO 4:30 PM MUKUNDAPUR KOLKATA

AUTISM SOCIETY WEST BENGAL, MUKUNDAPUR, KOLKATA

CONTACT M: 09038008536

E: aswb.information23@gmail.com

NO REGISTRATION FEES, BUT REGISTRATION IS MANDATORY REGISTRATION LINK: https://forms.gle/NkG7XCxV8TQoG4Hy5



SCAN TO REGISTER

Workshop on Teaching Strategies on 26th April, 2025





Workshop on Teaching Strategies on 26th April, 2025





AUTISM SOCIETY

AUTISM SOCIETY WEST BENGAL

The Importance of Managing Finances and Succession Planning along with Attaining a UDID Card & Legal Guardianship

WORKSHOP / WEBINAR

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- ☐ Early Planning of Finances for a secure future of the special child & family needs
- Common Financial Mistakes families make (with case studies)
- ☐ Key Legal Documents for special needs children
- ☐ Succession Planning & Trust Formation ()12:00 PM to 2:00 PM
- Disability Card / UDID Card
- Guardianship

(1) 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM





CONTACT: M 09038008536 E aswb.information23@gmail.com

MODE: BLENDED

FEES: For ONLINE - Rs 100/-

For OFFLINE (including light refreshment) - Rs 200/-

For DIKSHAN & AAROHAN PARENTS - FREE

REGISTRATION LINK: https://forms.gle/v73rCPxfw6kFWVBN6

PAYMENT DETAILS

A/C Holder: Autism Society West Bengal

Bank: Axis Bank Limited Branch: Rash Behari Avenue

A/C Number: 910010027520081; IFSC: UTIB0000253



MEET OUR EXPERTS



Chitra lyer CEO. MFA Capital



Shreya Jain Founder Reservoir



Shailza Kabra Financial Coach. Happiness Factory



Pranabesh Bhunia

DED Course Training Coordinator, Special Educator, ASWB

PrintStudio@ASWB Unit

PrintStudio@ASWB & Aarohan Product Exhibition on 9th April, 2025 at Swami Vivekananda University





PrintStudio@ASWB products on display





PrintStudio@ASWB products on display



Baking Unit of ASWB

Cupcakes and cookies are made by the Baking Unit of ASWB at a regular basis.

These days often parents order birthday cakes for the Birthday celebration of their child at ASWB



School Events

ASWB Parent Teachers Meeting (PTM) on 12th May, 2025





PTM at **ASWB**

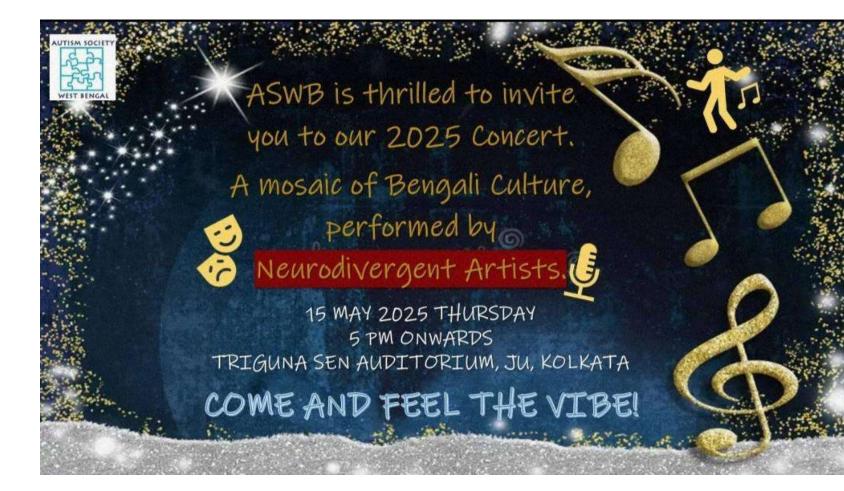








ASWB ANNUAL CONCERT, 2025







ASWB Annual Concert 2025: Release of New Brochure



ASWB Annual Concert, 2025 on 15th May, 2025















ASWB Classroom Behavioral Training 2025





ASWB Classroom Behavioral Training 2025





NEW PROGRAM AT ASWB



AUTISM SOCIETY WEST BENGAL



INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILL

26 MAY to 14 JUNE 2025 Monday to Saturday (6 days a week)

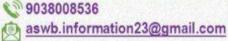
Ready to Level Up Your Young Adult's Life Skills?



SCAN TO REGISTER

TIME OPTIONS

- 10:00 AM TO 2:00 PM
- 10:00 AM TO 4:00 PM



33 Tagore Garden, Brahmapur Kolkata 700084

ASWB Independent Living Skills started in May, 2025





ASWB Independent Living Skills 2025





ASWB Independent Living Skills 2025



ASWB Independent Living Skills 2025



The Telegraph e-Paper



FRONT PAGE

FOREIGN

NATION

FAST

MFTR(

Life skills for people with autism

JHINUK MAZUMDAR

Calcutta: A centre for autism has started training individuals with autism on home management and community-based skills.

Each chore, such as peeling a cucumber, making a bed or knowing how to use a washroom, make them more confident, help them to be independent and lead a life of dignity.

Being unable to do chores on their own develops a sense of anxiousness in them.

Several organisations urge parents to train their children with autism. But, often at home, parents or caregivers complete the task for their children to save time.

The result: The individuals become more and more dependent on their parents or

"This is about learning to do the chores at home without any help. It will be followed up with more interaction with the community like visiting banks, clinics and hospitals," said Indrant Basu of Autism Society West Bengal.

training programme during vulnerable," said Basu. Its summer vacation.

would help them finish a task by themselves instead of seeking help from others.







Individuals with autism learn basic chores at the training

For example, some individuals can take a bath but they don't know how to dry taught," she said.

If they are hungry, they should know how to make a sandwich or instant noodles.

"Knowing how to use the washroom would reduce the The centre started the caregivers makes them more to." a teacher said.

Basu said that the learning of themselves reduces their 1.30pm and from 2pm to 4pm. anxiety because they know to Individuals who are not part attend to their needs without of the centre can also attend waiting for someone to help

them," said Rasu.

Depending on others for minor and daily chores can be themselves. "That has to be a trigger for aggression, said

The training is being done In a separate house and not the centre. The house is a reflection of a home environment.

"The learning thus is not chances of abuse as well. clinical or rushed but in an en-Being too much dependent on vironment that they are used

The classes are being held "Being able to take care in two batches—from 10am to

The individuals are being taught to shave, wash their faces, hands, how to pat themselves dry, make a cup of tea, put pillow covers and other activities.

"Individuals with autism have varying degrees of abilttles and therefore, the time taken by one individual to learn a chore will vary from that of another," said Raikumar Bera, special educator.

"When they can do their chores, it helps the parents, too. It also gives parents some time to spare for themselves. which is very essential," said

The Independent Living Skills Unit newly opened by Autism **Society West Bengal** This Unit has started operating from last Monday. News about this new unit got featured in leading newspaper, The Telegraph, on 2nd June, 2025.

Discussion on "What's Next?" at ASWB on 31st May, 2025





Discussion on "What's Next?" at ASWB on 31st May, 2025





NEW PROGRAM AT ASWB



AUTISM SOCIETY WEST BENGAL

OUR PROGRAMMES:

- o Free Play
- o Structured Play
- O Imitative Play
- O Impulse Control

Parent Directed Play

9 June to 13 June 2025

4 to 8 Years 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM

- Parent directed play to enhance language and cognition
- o Parent with child training on how to enhance play







- o Discover and enjoy play with your child
- Expand his/her world of play
- Use play to enhance language and cognitive skills

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Autism Society West Bengal Mukundapur, Kolkata 700099



SCAN TO REGISTER

ASWB Parent Directed Play 2025





ASWB Parent Directed Play 2025





ASWB 2days CRE Program on 16th & 17th June, 2025





ASWB 2days CRE Program on 16th & 17th June, 2025





ASWB 2days CRE Program on 16th & 17th June, 2025





REGULAR PROGRAMS AT ASWB



AUTISM SOCIETY WEST BENGAL









SIX WEEKS PARENT TRAINING

A PACE (Parent And Child Empowerment) PROGRAMME

NEW BATCH STARTS FROM 28 APRIL 2025

About Programme

Six weeks hands-on intensive training programme provided free of cost to the families from lower income group as a part of the "Reaching Out" initiative of ASWB. Parent Training along with Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy & Parent Counseling by RCI accredited professionals.

Details

DURATION: 4 DAYS A WEEK TIME: 4:00 PM TO 6:00 PM

MODE: OFFLINE

AGE LIMIT: UP TO 9 YEARS

aswb.information23@gmail.com

Celebration of International Yoga Day at ASWB on 21st June, 2025



ASWB Rath Yatra Celebration on 27th June, 2025







ASWB Rath Yatra Celebration on 27th June, 2025





YAAR



Autism Society West Bengal

YAAR Program

Date: 12/04/2025

Timing: 4:00pm to 5pm

Topic: Summer Vibes

ASWB YAAR on 12th April, 2025





ASWB YAAR on 12th April, 2025



YAAR on 28th June, 2025







Brown Bag Seminar Series

Topic: An Overview of Neurodiversity in Higher Education

Date 30th April, 2025

Time:5:00-5:30 pm India time ie., 7:30 to 8:00 pm Malaysia time Online

Organised by : Lincoln University College, Malaysia

Lincoln University College, Malaysia organizing Brown Bag Seminar Series for Strengthening International Collaboration supporting United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals 2030, which is completely free to all Autism aligns with several UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly those focused on health, education, inclusion, and economic growth. Specifically, it connects to SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth). SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).



Dr. Mitu De

President (Hony.) & Head of Research and Academic Studies Unit Autism Society West Bengal (ASWB) Kolkata, West Bengal, India

Associate Professor, Department of Botany Gurudas College, Kolkata, West Bengal, India

Dr. Mitu De is Associate Professor, Department of Botany at Gurudas College, Kolkata. She is mother of an 18-year-old young adult with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). After her son's diagnosis at the age of 3 years she started learning and empowering herself about autism so that she could understand and walk along her son in his journey of life. She did the Parent Training at Autism Society West Bengal (ASWB) in 2010 and has since been involved there at ASWB. She has participated in several workshops and training programs to get updated and empowered.

She completed her doctorate work traditional varieties of rice from Bose Institute. Along with e certificate will be provided research work on traditional rice and mango varieties she has started some preliminary research in the field of understanding different aspects of autism. She has co-authored publications on barriers to education for students with ASD. It was resulted in some publications in peer reviewed journals and book chapters. She has co-edited a book entitled 'Understanding Autism through the Lens of Parents and Professionals' published by The Asiatic Society, India along with Late Dr Subir Dutta. She has been actively involved in raising awareness on autism especially in institutions of higher learning in India and abroad.



Meeting ID: 476 662 006 549 7 Passcode: Ak3kw3p7

to all participants

Contact:

Dr. Sandeen Poddar Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research & Innovation), Lincoln University College, Malaysia Lincoln University College

Wisma Lincoln, No. 12-18, Jalan SS 6/12, 47301 Petaling Jaya, Selangor D. E., Malaysia Phone: 1300 880 111 (Malaysia), Phone: +603-7806 3478 (International) FAX: +603-7806 3479, H/p: +60127071827

www.lincoln.edu.my

INVITED LECTURES







As part of ASWB's autism awareness ongoing program ASWB President, Dr Mitu De was invited as guest speaker to give a presentation to Semester V (who will be semester VI shortly) students of the Sister Florence College of Nursing on 6th May, 2025.



Mainstream teachers at ASWB: Building a Two Way Connection. Mainstream teachers get a chance to meet neurodivergent learners.



Autism Society West Bengal

Workshopon

The Story of Stars

Date: 29/04/2024, Monday

Time: 11:30 am to 12:30pm

Mode: Offline



Speaker: Prof. Dipankar Dey

Asst. Prof. Department of Mathematics, Gurudas College, Kolkata-54 General Secretary, Sky Watchers' Association, Kolkata, West Bengal



New Publication

Harvest (Online); Bi-Annual

Autism Support

Volume 10(1); 2025

EXPANDING AUTISM SUPPORT: THE IMPERATIVE OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH IN RURAL AND SUBURBAN WEST BENGAL FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION

Mitu De^{1, 2*}, ³Anamika Dhara, ³Arpita Chatterjee and Indrani Basu⁴

¹Associate Professor, Department of Botany, Gurudas College, Kolkata, India 700 054.

²President & Head of Research and Academic Studies Unit (Hony),

Autism Society West Bengal (ASWB), 29/1 Stadium Colony, Mukundapur, Kolkata, India 700099

³Project Coordinator, Autism Society West Bengal (ASWB), 29/1 Stadium Colony, Mukundapur, Kolkata, India 700099

³Founder- Director, Autism Society West Bengal (ASWB), 29/1 Stadium Colony, Mukundapur, Kolkata, India 700099

(*Corresponding author e-mail: mituaswb@gmail.com, mitu.botany@gurudas.education).

Abstract

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) services in India are predominantly urban-centric, leaving rural and suburban populations unreached. This paper examines the outreach initiatives by the Autism Society West Bengal (ASWB) in rural and suburban areas of mainly district 24 Parganas, (South), highlighting the challenges faced and the insights gained. This article highlights the unexpected absence of autism services in peri-urban zones near Kolkata, such as Nayabad, Garia, Kamalgazi, and Mahamayatala. Drawing from recent studies and field data, it underscores the necessity of community-based interventions to bridge the service gap. This paper underscores the importance of inclusive, decentralized models. It advocates for culturally sensitive, locally embedded approaches to ensure that children and adults with autism are not excluded from essential services and community life.

Keywords: Outreach, social inclusion, ASD, community-based intervention services, ASWB,

1. Introduction

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) affects an estimated 1–1.5% of children in India, yet structured support systems are largely limited to urban centres [1]. Autism support services in India have largely remained concentrated in urban centres, leaving significant gaps in awareness, diagnosis, and intervention in rural and suburban regions. In West Bengal, this urban-rural divide is particularly pronounced, where children and adults with autism living outside metropolitan areas often remain undiagnosed or unsupported due to a lack of resources, trained professionals, and community understanding. In West Bengal, the majority of available ASD services are situated in central Kolkata, bypassing both remote rural communities and the rapidly urbanizing peripheries of the city. The lack of services in such

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Review Article

Neurodiversity: A Paradigm Shift in Understanding Neurological Differences in the context of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Mitu De1.2, Indrani Basu3

Abstract

The World Autism Awareness Day, 2025 observance, on 2nd April, 2025, under the United Nations theme "Advancing Neurodiversity and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)", highlights the intersection between neurodiversity and global sustainability efforts, showcasing how inclusive policies and practices can drive positive change for autistic individuals worldwide and contribute to the achievement of the SDGs. Neurodiversity is a concept that acknowledges and values neurological differences as natural variations of human cognition rather than deficits. The concept of neurodiversity emerged in the late 1990s as a sociopolitical movement advocating for the acceptance of neurological differences as part of natural human diversity rather than as disorders that require fixing. The neurodiversity concept challenges the traditional medical model of disability and promotes the social model, emphasizing inclusion and acceptance of individuals with conditions such as autism, ADHD, dyslexia, and other neurodevelopmental differences.

Publication in Peer Reviewed Open Access journal

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²Autism Society West Bengal, Stadium Colony, Mukundapur, Kolkata, 700099 West Bengal, India

^{*}Corresponding Author's Email: mitu.botany@gurudas.education; mituaswb@gmail.com

How you may help:

As Autism Society West Bengal is a not for profit organization there are several occasions when upgradation of our units are done using gifts in cash and kind from our well wishers. You may help ASWB in many ways. You could help in our fundraising 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 nurshage and installation

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.

Acknowledgement: The pictures that have been used in this Newsletter have been taken by several persons viz. ASWB staff.

Editorial Team:

Ms. Indrani Basu, Dr. Mitu De, Ms. Shreya Bhattacharjee,

Ms. Arpita Chatterjee, Autism Society West Bengal