Annual Report 2013-14

"Ensuring an equitable social, political, economical & cultural order, where individuals, especially women and children have access to life with dignity"
Preface

Following the thematic aspects like education, health, child protection, women rights and livelihood the organization has been directly intervening in Howrah, 22 wards of Kolkata Municipal Corporation, 35 wards of Maheshtala Municipality, Chata Gram Panchaya, East and West Midnapore and Malda under South 24 Parganas.

The period is just a year ahead when the world is counting and finalizing their initiatives in lieu with the Millennium Development Goals. The development organizations are also assessing their efforts and strategies. Right Track is also in the process of prioritizing their intervention and strategies.

With the enactment of Rights of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act 2009, Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act 2012, amendment of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act 2000 the organization emphasizes on orientation and capacity building of stakeholders for their general awareness and participation for implementation of the aforesaid enactments.

The Annual Report envisages the brief stock taking as well as presentation of programme and finance team efforts in a very systematic manner. The report will update theme wise summarized activities, strategies and achievements which will show a roadmap to the team members to conceptualize and deliver at their best.
Executive Note from General Secretary's Desk

It has been a great pleasure to share with you that 27th March 2014 is a landmark for India which was officially declared 'Polio free' by the World Health Organization (WHO) along with other 10 countries in the South East Asian region and certified as being free of the wild polio virus. We appreciate the team of mobilizers whose whole hearted and restless efforts have led our country to receive the gratitude, honour and pride.

The education alliance and network has been widely spread in West Bengal for creating state level platform for discussion, research and review on implementation of Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act 2009. Presently Right Track has been partnering with three like-minded CBOs for understanding the status of implementation of the RTE Act 2009. The residential schools are providing safe shelter as well as window of opportunity to become healthy, educated and responsible citizens of the country.

The team working on women rights has been concentrating to strengthen alliance of city makers to access their right to entitlement, city and space. The process of assessing and evaluating of their initiatives and situation of the working areas is also taking place simultaneously. The programme is phasing out by end of 2015 hence phasing out strategies are being formulated and the organization will have to redefine its role in present paradigm.

The intervention on street and slum children is also at its bordering stage where modification of strategies and changed role of the implementing partners are expected by next year. We are expecting our intervention to be much more intensive and institutional where street and slum children to be nurtured with special efforts and methodology following provisions made under RTE state rules. The emphasis will also be laid on improvisation of child friendly learning environment of school and capacitiation of school authorities and community people for proper implementation of RTE 2009.

The prestigious programme on Child Domestic Workers got support from Comic Relief for building skills of dropped out, domestic labours and children from poor families and redirecting their lives towards dignified livelihood and simultaneously advocating for making Child Domestic Work socially and culturally unacceptable.

With this I would like to conclude the brief note and appreciate the programme and finance team members and management committee members for their extended cooperation for guiding the organization in a right way.

(Md. Ashraf Ali)
Hony. General Secretary
## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.N.</th>
<th>Particulars</th>
<th>Page No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>4-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Health</td>
<td>8-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Child Protection</td>
<td>12-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Women Rights</td>
<td>16-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Livelihood</td>
<td>20-25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>27-29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Education

Every child has a right to education. It enables children to learn and grow, developing their personality and potentials. It gives them tools to understand the world and participate in society as a useful citizen. It is vital for economic development and gives children when they are grown up chance to earn more and be more productive. Unfortunately, this is not the case for millions of children in India, where primary education has historically been neglected with educational expenditures being concentrated on tertiary education.

India being such a large democracy in the world is marked with vast inequalities in providing education and is among the group of countries where outcomes systematically tend to be gender-discriminatory favouring boys against girls.

Within this context Right Track - a social development organization attempts to contribute in India's progress towards achieving this Millennium Development Goal - Universal Primary Education.

Initiatives of Right Track -
- Forming a network / Coalition among the districts partners and other NGO's and CSO's to advocate on Right to Education
- Advocacy with the local authorities for mainstream and retention of drop out and never been to school children.
- Engage children groups to ensure pre-school education for children between 3 to 6 years and facilitate them to raise demand for new ICDS centers
- develop linkages with SCPCR, REPA, CWC and school authorities to address violations and gaps in implementation in schools related to RTE Act, 2009
- Develop community consciousness on the fundamental Rights of the Children to Free & Compulsory Education and more proactive civil society.
- Engaging in studies/research to understand the state situation and to build an informed campaign around Right to education Act, 2009
- Running two residential schools with the support of Sarva Shiksha Mission (SSM), Kolkata for ensuring access to free and compulsory education for street and children at elementary level (6-14 years),

Coverage -
Direct Population: Kolkata Municipal Corporation, District-Kolkata and Maheshtala Municipality, District-South 24 Parganas
Total number of authorized and unauthorized slums is over 150. A survey was conducted on 231 households of 5 registered and unregistered slums, namely, New Alinagar, Panchur, Azadnagar, Noornagar & Satyapir in the Maheshtala Municipality (MMA).

Right Track in collaboration with State Education Chapter has arranged workshop how many w/s have been conducted? on girl child education at community level covering areas under Maheshtala Municipality and Kolkata Municipal Corporation covering 87 and 50 participants accordingly in two phases in order to discuss provisions of the RTE Act. Along with 220 no. of meetings with adolescent girls have been conducted with representation from existing 20 functional adolescent girls group.

During the period, a total of 15 street corners followed by street play and signature campaign have been undertaken centrally with support of local administration and police on the streets of Santoshpur under Maheshtala Municipality and Kolkata Municipal Corporation areas to create mass awareness related to admission in schools and components of RTE Act.2009, and against RTE non-compliance covering a total of 780 participants.

A total of 350 children and adolescents from different areas of Kolkata & Maheshtala participated in the occasion of International Child Rights Week celebration, organized by Right Track to ensure the national agenda- UNCRC declaration, ratified by India in 1992, on the 4 major Rights of Children, so that the children can enjoy their life with dignity.

Indirect Population: 24 Parganas (South & North), Howrah, Malda, Murshidabad, Purulia, West Medinipur, Jalpaiguri, South Dinajpur through alliance building and networking.

Qualitative and quantitative achievements -
- Due to proactive role of Right Tract, enrollment in primary schools within the intervention areas has increased considerably
- Continuous campaign & advocacy resulted in two significant development— 99 of 126 schools have started providing Mid-Day Meal and 115 having a separate toilet for boys and girls.
- Very recently 4 new ICDS centres are opened in the operational area and provision of food has been bettered; egg is being included in the food regularly. Right Track, by way of persistent effort, advocacy & campaign, helped to get more than 512 children to have birth certificates from concerned authority in the year 2013-14. This has helped in admission to schools.
- Residential facilities provided to 200 children under difficult circumstances including deprived urban children through 2 schools.
Learning and Challenges -

- Level of awareness regarding education rights is higher in some of the recognized slums than that in unrecognized slums. They are more active in raising their demands before the local authority.
- There are numbers of drop out cases in the project area, mainly due to early engagement in job. High fees at the time of admission and requirement of birth certificate act negatively in schooling of these almost first generation learners.
- There is discrimination even in the field of higher education those who seek it amidst adversities. Girls are not allowed to pursue and retain in higher studies, due to the prevailing 'conservative societal prejudices'. Poverty, Child Marriage, Gender Discrimination, Insecurity, Unavailability of female teachers and girl child eccentric infrastructure at schools are the well known barriers of girl child education have been found.
- Feeling of insecurity lies within parents for girl child living in slum areas in lack of nearby schools.
- Problems at schools such as infrastructural inadequacies, corporal punishment, castes based discrimination, language barriers etc make children traumatized for attending school regularly.

Good Practices or replicable models -

Study on the slum situation:
A study has been undertaken on the slum situation in Maheshtala Municipality in terms of access to basic education for children with the purpose of providing opportunities to retrospect into all forms of deprivations and exclusion experienced by slum dwellers and enabling policy environment that improve the scope to extend the people's struggle towards reduction of their socio-economic vulnerabilities and promote for a dignified life.

Refresher Training on RTE:
After two years of the Act, comes the State Rule of West Bengal, who has been among the lost States to have the same. Keeping this in view, Right Track in collaboration with State Education Chapter and with support of Action Aaid has arranged Refresher Training on Right to Education Act 2009 for members of Maheshtala Nabajagaran Manch (MNJM) in order to discuss underlying provisions of the Act with community representatives to strengthen responsive community role towards effective implementation and monitoring of the Act through strategic engagement and participation.

Meeting with Adolescent Girls group:
Meetings with adolescent girls have been conducted with representation from existing 20 functional adolescent girls group. These groups formed with the underlying objective to sensitize adolescent girls on Right to Education - focus on girl child education, to reduce incidences of child marriage.
Workshop on Girl Child Education:

A community level workshop on Girl Child Education was organized with an aim to generate awareness among community representatives on the provision related to girl child’s Right to Education and role of community towards ensuring every girl’s right to education adequately through effective advocacy for implementation of Right to Education Act.

Formation of community task force:

Children’s assembly will be engaged in school monitoring process and also they will take lead to prepare status report and share their observations with school authorities and to State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR). Children representatives and parents will form community task force to implement RTE in neighborhood schools and building pressure with SEC to form SMC.

Siksha Adhikar Aviyan:

This campaign involves community people and children’s group to ensure mainstreaming of children dropped out and never been to school in the formal schools. In the previous years, this campaign helped to increase the enrollment and retention of the children in mainstreamed schools. The objective of the campaign was to generate awareness and ensure effective implementation of RTE Act 2009 at community level.

Success stories –

Right Track organized month long campaign (June-July 2013) on the perspective of Right of Children in Environment Protection for promoting sense of responsibility and environment friendly attitude and thereby ensure Right to Protection, Development and Participation on sustainable basis through different types of activities in different schools under Maheshtala Municipality.

The children and adolescents of children assembly have decided to plant tree in their school to celebrate the world environment day through-out the month. The four schools they selected are Satoshpur F.P. School, Santoshpur Podirhati School, Sarbodoya Hindi Vidyalaya and Purba Kankhuli School for this campaign. Right Track distributed 20 different types of plants for each school. Other school students also participated joyfully in this campaign.
Students are being aware about the importance of plantation through planting different types of plants in their school ground. Monija Khatun (age-7) studied at Purba Kankhuli School said that "Thank you Action Aid and Right Track for this valuable present to our school. Now we know the importance of these plants so I and my other school friends will take responsibility to take proper care of these plants."

The members of 'Maheshtala Naba Jagaran Manch' also participated for further nurturing the plants and with their active participation through this endeavor actually making them responsible for the cause. We are expecting in future favorable support from the forest department and allied networks towards protecting the environment collectively. In this context, we deeply acknowledge the support extended by Action Aid to address global warming.

Health

The main focus of Right Track is on Education but the major target beneficiaries lives in a very vulnerable condition. For their well being the support of health program is very much necessary. So health support is being provided in the fourteen wards of Maheshtala area. Right Track has been facilitating the pulse polio and routine immunization program since 2009 but in some of the areas of Maheshtala (ward no.3,4,5,6,8,9,10,11,16,18,23,24,25 and 29) and Chatta GP some resistant families used to refuse to participate in the pulse polio immunization campaign despite several efforts. Techniques like counseling and citing examples did not work and almost all efforts were in vain. These families are called XR from generation to generation and they believe in misconception on pulse polio. Then auto advocacy meeting, talking doll show etc. were organized in those areas to create awareness among the influential persons like Ostagars, Moulabis, Club secretaries and Ward Counselors and even local doctors. With the active participation of these influencers the task became easier in motivating XR families and their children were immunized with 2 drops of pulse polio. The influential persons not only made the campaign fruitful with their presence but also inaugurated booths and conferred polio drops to the children.
Qualitative achievement:

Earlier it was entirely resistant communities at Maheshtala and Chatta not entering their house premises and creates barriers to even communicate with the project staff. Situation has changed in the due course of time and local influencers are coming forward to join their hands in the campaign. Community people on the other hand has accepted the organization and responding positively. Our volunteers are reaching out the vulnerable pockets of the respective wards and interacting with the families and mobilizing for the aforesaid cause.

The religious leaders are co operating us by ensuring announcements in their mosques, involving themselves in inauguration of polio booths and mobilize communities for breaking of XR families.

Learning and Challenges:-

- Despite several efforts there are some pockets where people still are resistant towards polio and routine immunization
- Insufficient stock of vaccines leads to de-mobilization during booth day
- Active cooperation of health department is essential for achieving target of routine immunization
- Lack of awareness among the community people on health and hygiene
- Doctors are least interested in moving in water logged areas and consequently poor coverage in pulse polio immunization during X to P conversion
- Coverage of children in Pulse Polio(PP) and Routine Immunization(RI) can increase with the involvement of Ward level Task Force (WTF)
- Low priority for involvement in pulse polio campaign by many local key influencers
- Due to busy with their own schedule influencers provided low efforts

Brief summary of the major social mobilization events:-

Meeting with Ward/GP level task force:

As part of social mobilization activities meetings are organized in 14 wards of Maheshtala and 3 sub-center areas of Chatta GP to ensure direct involvement of the Councilor and other respective members in the mobilization process. The active ward/GP level task force members can influence the resistant families towards pulse polio and routine immunization. Through the activity approximately 170 persons are sensitized and mobilized.

Meeting with guardians/mothers:

At each high risks pocket we organized mothers’ meetings to sensitize mothers on routine immunization and Pulse polio. This meeting aims to generate awareness among mothers of
resistant families with proper use of IECs like Flip chart, green booklet, FAQs etc and with the anticipation that they can understand the needs of routine immunization and pulse polio.

Meeting with local influencers:

Local influencers like club members, religious leaders, ward councilors etc are invited in meetings to motivate the resistant families to immunize their children with polio vaccine. The meetings are organized during pulse polio rounds in two different pockets of each ward. Key influencers are involved right from the booth day till X to P conversion so that their influence may create enabling environment in the area.

Social Advocacy meeting:

Social Advocacy meeting is the mega events under pulse polio intervention to sensitize different stakeholders like parents, religious leaders, club members, local medical practitioners on importance and worldwide scenario of pulse polio. The meetings are conducted important locations like HAUs (Health Administrative Unit), Schools etc in collaboration with Govt. health department, South 24 Parganas district administration and Maheshtala Municipality. Information regarding worldwide scenario of polio, threats due to migration and forward strategies in the context of certification of India as polio free nation was discussed in the meeting.

Auto campaign and talking doll show:

These activities have been very effective for campaigning of polio messages. Autos were hired for 14 high risk wards of Maheshtala and Chatta GP) and supervisors and mobilizers rotationally disseminated messages regarding polio and routine immunization.

Talking doll show organized @ 5 shows per round at different pockets of high risks wards with poor immunization coverage. The activity is to make people aware about the need of pulse polio immunization through a simple and interesting way.

Health camp:

Health camps were organized in collaboration with govt. health department, South 24 Parganas district administration, Indian Red Cross Society and CMOH office, South 24 Parganas in 3 high risks wards of Maheshtala. CMOH office provided the medicine support whereas Indian Red Cross Society assisted with supply of doctors and Right Track is responsible for community mobilization. The camp aimed to conduct health screening of attended children as well as polio immunization for the unimmunized children. Medicinal support is also provided through the camps.
Children’s Rally:

It was decided that rallies would be organized in vulnerable pockets in different wards of Maheshtala involving the school and Madrasas children to create a visibility and sensitize large masses. The participants of rally use slogans, banners, placards, flag and caps. Rallies organized during pre-booth activity this helps to circulate the message among the community people for the coming booth day. During rounds 17 pocket rallies are organized with children and in two rounds 34 rallies organized and covered almost 34000 people directly.

Pre-polio workshop on social mobilization activities:

The capacity building programme is for supervisors and mobilizers on routine and pulse polio immunization. District Training Coordinator along with UNICEF DE facilitated the training before the pulse polio round began. It covered contents like status of polio in world and nationwide and understanding of importance and schedule of routine immunization.

Health Support at residential Schools

From April 2014 two residential schools have been started under the supervision of Right Track. Medical facilities were provided to all the children of residential schools. There were two types of medical services provided to the students-bi-monthly healthcare of all students and referral services for emergency situations. There were 85 students at Sri Shanti Niketan residential school and 97 students at Bikramgarh residential school. General diseases like fever, cough, cold, rhinitis, skin diseases etc general diseases were found from regular monthly check up. Various types of preventive measure were disseminated about seasonal diseases at the meeting with parents.

KNCLP: Monthly general health check-up is provided to every students of KNCLP. There were fifty students in the centre under the project.
Child Protection

Child protection is one of the major focusing areas of our organization since the beginning and our intervention leaves a remarkable sign in the community level regarding the overall development of the children specially who are in need of care and protection. We provide social safety net to them. In reference with MDG-2 to achieve universal primary education, we are aiming to bring all the children under the shade of education with an approach of bridge course and mainstreaming into the formal education and our emphasis laid on the retention of children into the educational process.

On the other hand, to promote child protection we also try to strengthen MDG - 8 to develop a global partnership for development. In this regard we arrange vocational or skill trainings for the children (14 to 20 yrs of age) who are drop out or never been to school and place them in various companies, organizations and self employment. Here we provide equal opportunity to boys and girls and try to ensure MDG - 3 to promote gender equality to some extent.

Initiatives of Right Track:

- Formation of different groups in the communities i.e. Community Support Group, Children's group, Employers group etc. to ensure the child protection in the family and community level by incorporating responsibilities to them.
- Enhance the capacity building of different stakeholders through Child Rights and Integrated Child Protection Scheme.
- Employers group Creating linkage between community support groups and duty bearers.
- Liaison with the District Child Protection Officer (DCPO) and also with the local police stations along with the deputy commissioner to implement and extend a special protective mechanism for the children.
- Liaison with the Sarva Sikhsa Mission Schools to strengthen the approach of 'Right to Education', organizing school orientation programme on child protection and excursion at Science City in aiming to increase the basic interest of learning of the children.
- Issue based street play or theatre for development with signature campaign to ensure the participation of the children in asking and sharing their rights to the general public and collecting their opinion against it. Besides that child published wall magazine twice in a year. They have participated in yearly children carnival or annual sports enthusiastically.
- Try to minimize the threat of the children from child labour or child domestic worker in consultation with adult domestic worker to stop their tradition generation wise. We
had also liaison with the puja committees and open temporary stalls in pandels to stop using child labour.

- To sensitize the mass in a large scale, we have done bus back banner campaign and auto sticker campaign with CSTC buses and autos in the route of Taratala, Deshopriyo Park, Ballyganj, Tollygunge etc. It helps to mobilize the thought process of the people against child labour.

**Coverage (Direct and Indirect):**

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<th>Coverage</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Direct (including mainstreaming and VT)</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>630</td>
<td>1410</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>16000</td>
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**Programme quantitative and qualitative achievements:**

- 85 girls and 29 boys received skill training in AC fridge repairing, facility management, driving, beautician etc and out of which 79 girls and 11 boys got job opportunities.

- Presently 13 community support groups/ child protection committees consisting of 102 female and 54 male have been formed and made functional through capacity building programmes. Presently they are taking interest in child protection issues and contacting relevant stakeholders.

- The organization has successfully nurtured 53 children's groups comprising of nearly 600 children and are involved in identification of needs of their respective communities and submit charter of demands to the relevant authorities.

- Covered more than 2500 students and 150 school teachers, 1500 parents, 85 police personnel, 78 employers on child education and protection.

- Child Friendly Corners were formed in 4 primary schools and facilitated special training classes for 94 children who are academically poor.

- 12 theatre groups helped to create awareness within community as part of advocacy on different social issues i.e. child marriage, child labor, child education etc.
Consequently the awareness level of community people have raised and they are taking interest in education of their children.

- 2 interface meeting with 20 different police stations & CG, CSG members helped to have coordination while working in the community.
- Sensitization workshop with Assistant Commissioner and other Child welfare officers provided a scope to form child friendly corners in different police stations

Programme Learning and Challenges:

- Seasonal migration obstructed the continuation of study for children and at the same time it increases the dropout rate of the children.
- The Right to Birth Registration - still a distant reality for street children which is required to continue education in schools.
- Ensure the placement of the vocational students and retain them in the proposed trade is still a challenge for us.
- More non-live in children are prevalent than the live in children as the employers have become aware of the laws against child labor as well as its loopholes.
- For Vocational Training many children are not interesting in getting low salaried income as per the market price.
- The Councilors are least interested in helping us with the cause.
- The employers themselves threat us for calling the police while conducting survey for identification of the CDWs.
- Teachers of formal school are not up to the mark aware about early marriage- early pregnancy-malnourish children- ill health mother.
- Family members of trafficked children are not really interested to rescue their children due to their own social security purpose.
- Lack of cooperation from local administrator in all level and from police officials also in specially trafficking issues.

Good practices or replicable models:

- Strengthen "Jagriti Paricharika Sangha"-Adult Domestic Workers Group to identify new CDWs and motivate them towards MAC (Multiple Activity Center). This is a platform where group members raise and gather their voice towards their rights.
• Adolescent girl's group sensitize people for prevention of early marriage with their peer group simultaneously they advocate with their parents and senior members of the community regarding the issues.

Success stories:

Poonam, 19 years old child lives in BB Hall area after her parents came from Bihar for a better job and life opportunity. Her father Mr. Shyam Bahadur Gond is a security guard in a factory and earns around Rs. 4000 / month. Her mother Sarada Devi, a housewife looks after the household works. Mr. and Mrs. Gond have three children and Poonam is the youngest. Poonam’s elder brother after being married went outside and doesn’t supported his family. At present they do not have any relation with their elder son. Poonam at the early stage use to go to school but due to poor financial condition dropped out from school in class VIII in the year 2008. For supporting her family she started private tuitions in the area for a specific amount and went to earn Rs. 200 – 300 on monthly basis. But still this was not enough for her as she wanted to do something different which will remove all her problems and she will be able to expand her helping hand for her family.

Poonam was engaged in Pre-vocational session after being identified and also provided all kinds of support to realize own potentialities. Later on it was came to know that she had a deep interest in tailoring trade and wants to learn the trade and to make it as a source of income. In the year 2012 she was enrolled in Priti Rotary Institute where she learnt all the tools and techniques of tailoring and based on that appear for the examination in June 2013.

At present she has successfully completed her course in scheduled time without any failure and is waiting for her mark sheet. She is in move to start her work as soon as possible. Also she had a wish to provide and share her learning to those who are interested in same trade but do not have any scope or opportunity. She also wants to do something for them who seek her support. She is already receiving number of orders of work.

According to her "I am happy that I have successfully completed the course and now I want to make full utilization of it. I am lucky to have such an opportunity."
Women Rights

Keeping in view, MDG 4 - Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women, the thematic framework work on approach towards ensuring rights of women, the prevailing situation of women and girls in partner communities represent affirmative change to an extent as they are collectively responding to acts of violence and incidences of child marriage within their communities but such number is very less which shows that situation started to change gradually. In the present day context more than thousand women became member of MNJM and actively engage with the work related to ensure women’s rights in all spheres. Women groups are identifying violence cases, playing proactive role in watch committee within the slum, assisting victim women to report their cases and call community meeting on behalf of women, which can ensure temporary security of the victim.

Women groups and adolescent groups at slum level already initiated mechanism to collect information on child marriage incidences and address those within their capacity. But the increasing rate of child marriage compelled them to think other options and they have decided to form a sub-committee within MNJM who will act on child marriage related issues. Regular case report will be delivered to SCP/NCPCR and to CWC to ensure child's best interest. Some school based plans also have been proposed by the community members and adolescent groups where they will engage school teachers in that Anti child marriage campaign. In Ward level meetings with councillor and Municipality Chairman child marriage cases will be discussed and child parliament will submit their demand to free their slum from child marriage.

Initiatives of Right Track

Street Corner and Street Play on Violence Against Women and Girls:
8 street corners and 8 street plays have been undertaken to generate scope for sensitizing community on different forms of violence against women and girls and existing legislative measures and legal aid for women towards protest against violence and protection of rights.

School wise film screening on Anti Child marriage
In 2013 Right Track developed an animation film on Anti child marriage and conducted workshops with schools addressing child marriage in the neighbourhood.
Celebration of International Women’s day on Violence Against Girls (VAG)/ Violence Against Women (VAW):
The representative from Right Track, MNJM leaders and Adolescent Girl Group leaders (two each) accompanied the tableau on the road and facilitated the process of information dissemination through distribution of leaflets and issue based communication respectively.

An oath taking process at schools was organized during the celebration covering Shyamprasad High School, Kankhuli Girls High School, Jayeeeta F.P. School, Purba Kankhuli F.P. School and Santoshpur Padorhi F.P. School involving school students in the process to ENSURE ALL GIRLS IN SCHOOL, STOP CHILD MARRIAGE and STAND UP TO END ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN & GIRLS. A total of 1170 participants were covered during the school based intervention.

One Billion Rising Campaign
Crude statistics reveal that one woman in every three women in the world is either raped or abused, which actually means that across the world at least one billion women (100 million) have faced violence at some point of their lives. Hence the coming together of one billion on a single day -14th February 2013 across the globe has evolved.

In Kolkata, urban partners collaboratively participated in the campaign with its formal inauguration at Park Circus Maidan. The form of protest took the shape of a human chain, signature campaign and kite festival. Followed by this, the campaign moved into the streets of Maheshtala with a tableau covering 550 people from Taratala, Santoshpur Beltala, Rail station, Akra Fatak and Dak Ghar.

International Fortnight Campaign on VAW/VAG:

Few specific activities were undertaken to observe fortnight campaign on violence against women and girls in different slums under Maheshtala Municipality and Kolkata Municipal Corporation. The activities like community film show, workshop on girl child education, tableau on beti zindabad campaign’, miking, signature campaign and handing over of ‘letter of demand’ by Maheshtala Naba Jagaran Manch (people’s collective) were undertaken during the period 28th November - 10th December 2013 involving cross section of the community to collectively ensure the right of women and children to live free of violence and protection of their human rights to end any form of violence against them.

Coverage:

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<th>No of wards</th>
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<th>Reaching out (women)</th>
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A total of 40 slums (25 Authorized and 15 Unauthorized) are under its direct intervention.
Programme qualitative and quantitative achievements:

- Increase rate of Women participation in people's collective namely Maheshtala Naba Jagaran Manch. Nearly 65% of membership represent women. It is to be mentioned in this context that 72% members in the governing body also are women.
- The status of mainstreaming children in the partner community represents a positive trend in girls enrolled into mainstreamed schools as compared to boys respectively. A total of 868 girls have been enrolled as compared to 428 boys in mainstream school.
- The status of registration of cases relating to VAW/VAG represent that such cases are being identified and registered and accordingly community initiatives are processed to address any such form of violence. A total of 23 cases of child marriage have been prevented out of a total of 67 identified cases.

Programme Learning & Challenges:

- An important learning is their progression in thinking through only by sharing, debates and discussions and obviously with the help of knowledge building sessions. How community mechanism can address domestic violence is a great learning in the project. Though lots of work remains in the aspect but women's initiative and aspirations to transform their condition and make their lives free from violence is really remarkable.
- Besides that positive note it has been seen that how patriarchal structure becomes a constant challenge for women, how religious norms confined them within the stereotyped ideas where girls are being seen as burden and early marriage becomes only solution of that. Patriarchal system reflected from each and every layers of society- where police denied registering cases of domestic violence and child marriage and girl children mobility has been restricted.
- The proposed initiative of MNJM towards identification, compilation of information on child marriage and development of Anti Child Marriage committee within MNJM where youth members of the team will take major responsibility over the aspect and one member from Right track will take cases and accordingly go to the families, police and administrative bodies for effective collective mitigation seek to ensure child marriage prevention in the partner community.

Good practices or replicable model

1. Adolescent Girls group:
20 no. of functional adolescent girls group exist in the partner community. These groups have been formed with the underlying objective- to sensitize adolescent girls on
protection issues, to reduce incidences of child marriage and to ensure child marriage & abuse related case detection by adolescent girls through discussions. Moreover, the group members have started to sensitize other peers / girls of their age on the importance of going to school and adversities of child marriage on regular basis.

2. Maheshtala Naba Jagaran Manch:
As part of strengthening people's alliance, in many spheres it has been experienced by members of MNJM that new techniques and approach are needed to reshape its role and function. Thus, not only MNJM's members but slum representatives discussed their pertaining issues- Increase of membership through existing MNJM members, building leadership within MNJM and streamlining of MNJM structure and linkage with Kolkata Naba Jagaran Manch (KNJM) - Homeless people's alliance to establish a city level platform for urban poor and suggested some strategies to address those. In the present approach, MNJM seeks to work in cluster and extend efforts to work on membership. In this way, the people's collective aspires to extend their membership coverage and identify prioritize area problem for effective mitigation. Women members within MNJM proposed to have community complaint box at each slum from 2014 where women without any fear can disclose their problems and slum representative of that specific slum will collect issues from the box and share it at community level.

Success story: 'Small steps towards big change'
' My name is Mona Bibi (aged 31) and my husband name is Chattu Lasker (aged 36). We are inhabitant of Bhangipara Mahestala area. We are economically very weak as I had to feed seven people comprising myself and my husband Chattu and five children. My husband is an only earning member of my family who was a tailor. His monthly income is 3000 per month. It's very difficult to manage family's daily need. In this situation every now and then there was quarrelling between me and my husband regarding economic scarcity and I had to both ends meet in my day to day routine with very hardship. One day I came into association of Right track activist and came to know that there are ways for economic improvements above their present standard. According to their suggestion I started producing playing dolls and helping my husband in tailoring, as a consequence within a few months my economy started improving in addition; Right Track activist helped me to get SASFAUW how many people have associated with SASFAUW (State Assisted Scheme of Provident Fund for Unorganized
Workers) membership so that future suffering may be reduced. As a matter of fact now our economic condition is better and smoothly can manage the day to day requirement. Luckily I could meet the Right Track activist and support from Action Aaid who make me to understand how to be self sufficient and I am really indebted to them.

Livelihood

India is a home to almost 19% of the world's children. More than one third of the country's population, around 440 million, is below 18 years of age. Almost 200 million children have engaged with different laborious activities across the whole world and also very poor situation of India as well as west Bengal.

Right Track has working to ensure Child protection and reduce Child Domestic Workers (CDWs) in different wards of Kolkata Municipal Corporation from last ten years and preparing street children for a life with dignity from KMC ward No.75, 79 and 80. Based on our long working experience finally we decide should ensure first alternative livelihood option for working children named “New Horizon Programme” and vocational training with support of Save the Children and others community and Govt. stake holders.

Through this initiative we have successfully reduce Child domestic Workers from South Kolkata as well as mainstream the lives of street children from KMC ward no.79 and 80. From last five years almost 35% Children from our target group has joined in gainful employment of various trades through skill development training organized by Right Track. Now those Children once upon a time who engaged in different kind of hazardous work are able to fight with great poverty of their family as well as established financial security for other family members through their skills. Where is the COWC project livelihood programme. Make it a matrix.
Initiatives of Right Track:-

- Selection process of candidates on the basis of fixed criteria through one to one interview, home visit & after guardian consent finally
- Meeting with different stakeholders like club members, parents/ guardian of children, councilor etc.
- Orientation of selected candidates on prospects of vocational training
- Comprehensive Life skill Training/ Pre Vocational Training for selected candidates on five different skills like communication skills, risk of daily Life etc for ensure retention.

Brief summary of different programmes:-
Community Mobilization programme on Vocational training:-
Community Mobilization is a strategy for candidate identification. In different crowded area of Kolkata & Maheshtala we organize Auto Campaign & Talking Doll Show, Street Kiosk.

Beauty fair:-
Every year during Durga Puja festival Right Track organizes Beauty fair within community to provide customers low cost services and to create scope of freelance in their own locality.

Follow up of Candidate after Placement:-
The prime responsibility of our organization is make positive development of Children's life therefore we continue the follow up with children after their training and placement. Make it short, it is too long and also make a graphic presentation

Coverage (Direct and Indirect population in different strata like children, women, men)

Direct coverage of Children (2013-2014):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beautician</th>
<th>AC &amp; Freeze Repairing</th>
<th>House keeping</th>
<th>Driving</th>
<th>Computer hardware</th>
<th>Tailoring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
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<tr>
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<td>111</td>
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Direct Coverage of parents:-

<table>
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Indirect Coverage of Children (2013-2014):-

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Indirect Coverage of Parents (2013-2014):-

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Programme Qualitative and Quantitative Achievements:

Trade wise Quantitative Achievements:

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<th>Trade</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Training Received</th>
<th>Placement Received</th>
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<td>62</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Hardware</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
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<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>tailoring</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Qualitative Achievements:

- We can able to reduce CDWs/ other Child Labour/ street Children from our project area through this Vocational Training Programme from last five years
- The children who are already has joined with gainful employment has working as a peer influencer within their community
- Through strong advocacy with Govt. officials regarding vocational training for working children we are able to establish rapport.
Programme Learning and Challenges:

- The Ward Councilors are least interested in helping us in identifying children for vocational training due to ongoing similar programmed under their jurisdiction.
- For Vocational Training many children are not interesting in getting low salaried income as per the market price.
- Children are less interested in the House keeping trade as they deem it as dirty work.
- Peer to peer influence regarding vocational training are very effective within community.

Good Practices or replicable models:

- The "New Horizon programme" itself is a model programme. For its outstanding performance this programme has been awarded by international choenix award at Berlin organized by save the Children UK.
- Right Track has been developed a platform of Adult Domestic Workers named "Jagritiparicharikasangha" this group has taken an initiative to motivate children as well as their guardian to join vocational training programme.

Success story:

**Story of Mampi**

Mampi Yadav lives in a slum called Rongkal just about 200 meter south of the Anwarsah Road in Kolkata. Her parents are daily labors, unable to feed and rare her properly. At the age of 15 she got married with an enough adult person without her interest. Over the next few month, she got pregnant and born a female baby. She was extremely tortured by her husband and in-laws for dowry. She was bound to leave her in-law house due to inhuman torture. Later on she was working on small snacks shop with her grandmother on a daily wage basis. She felt that she has so many hungry mouth and she have to satisfy their feed and she has new born baby.

At the next stage, our survey team identified her from Rongkall slum at the age of 16+. Our team members informed her with her family members about our approach of New Horizon. After several motivations she was interested to get training under save the children. She wanted to continue training seriously. Mampi had not given up on her dream. She was determined to continue her training apart from all obstacles in her daily life. She put aside the majority of what she earned and after around 2 months of employment, she earned sound on depends her urge. She is staying independently and she can rare her child
appropriately. Presently she is working in Sonali Beauty Parlor at Baghajati Parlor, Kolkata. New Horizon provide the opportunity to live a vulnerable child with full of life.

The Story of Kundan

Kundan Dhanuk(19) comes from very poor family. His native place is Lakhnou. Due to better livelihood option the family came to Kolkata (8 No. Mayurvang Road, Kolkata-23). After death of his father his elder sister became earning member. Kundan has 6 sisters and two brothers. Kundan was identified by Right Track staff through daily survey. He says us during interview he has been dropped out when he was class X and started earning as Truck Khalasi due to their poor family financial condition. During home visit Kundan & his other family members showed interest in Vocational training. After few counseling he finally decided to take the Driving training. Kundan was very bright candidate. During course very attentively he takes the training and finally he joined as a truck driver in very appropriate salaried. Now he is very happy because his whole family is very happy for his development.

Comments of project associate:-

Mr. Palash Ghosh, Asst. project Coordinator: - "I believe New Horizon programme can be positively changed the life of those children who engaged in different kind of hazardous work"

Protima Yadav, Field Staff: - "Vocational Training Channelized the Youth to proper direction"
# Administration

## Management Committee of Right Track

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
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<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Ms. Kajal Chakraborty</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Rtd. From Service</td>
<td>5/6, MIGL, Swaranika Housing Cooperative Society, P.O. Sarsuna, Kolkata - 700 061</td>
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<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Ms. Indrani Bose</td>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Service</td>
<td>P - 4, Dhakuria, Kolkata - 700 056</td>
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<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Mr. Md. Ashraf Ali</td>
<td>General Secretary</td>
<td>Service</td>
<td>15/H/12, Braunfeld Row, Kolkata - 700027</td>
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<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Mr. Md. Israfil</td>
<td>Assistant General Secretary</td>
<td>Service</td>
<td>12/5, Mominpore Road, Kolkata - 700027</td>
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<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Mr. Md. Shakil Haider</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Service</td>
<td>37A, Hosein Shah Road, Kolkata - 700023</td>
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<td>06</td>
<td>Mr. Selva Raj</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Service</td>
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<td>Mr. Sk. Sanawar Ali</td>
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<td>Business</td>
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<td>Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>09</td>
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<td>Member</td>
<td>Service</td>
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