



ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16

The year 2015-16 has been a very satisfying year for us because we have crossed our main milestone of accommodating twenty destitute in our home "Seneh " and looked after their all encompassing welfare. **We have also made forays into newer avenues like helping poor but meritorious students and providing help to a village to ward off their drinking water problems and also organizing health camps for the elderly.** We are also inching towards financial independence and stability. We could also host the Honorable Governor of Arunachal Pradesh and a host of other dignitaries in a cultural extravaganza solely performed by the inmates in the Annual Day Celebration on 07-

November 2015. A souvenir with the title ‘CHENEH’ was released on that auspicious occasion.



His Excellency Governor of Arunachal Pradesh lighting the ceremonial lamp



The Inmates of ‘Seneh’ rendering a devotional song



Sri D.Chakravarty the most respected journalist of Assam releasing the Souvenir

The most redeeming feature of the year is the help and guidance we had the privilege to receive round the year mainly from Give India, a pan India organization, Lions Club, Guwahati Care and also scores of other local organizations and individuals who throng our premises offering small helps in cash and kind and also giving us morale support.

1. I intend to deal with each of our activities under the following headings
 - a. Induction of new Inmates and their brief backgrounds
 - b. Induction/ Exclusion in the Board of Trustees.
 - c. Welfare measures taken under shelter, food and medical support.
 - d. Induction of new employees and rationalizing their remunerations.
 - e. Visits and celebrations.
 - f. Other welfare measures taken, away from our core aim of running the destitute home originally not mandated in our Trust Deed but subsequently added by resolutions in Board Meetings.
 - g. Expansions of facilities/ new construction works undertaken.
 - h. Challenges
 - i. Future Plans.
 - j. Conclusions
- a. Induction of new Inmates and their brief backgrounds.**



i. Ruma

The seventy five year old Ruma is a M A in history and worked as a professor in Biswanath Chari Ali college for a

number of years till she had a sudden hearing loss. She was married to a Manager in Usha Company at Guwahati. Because of the hearing loss she lost her job. To add to her misery, she lost her husband in a brief illness. After her husband's loss she shifted to her brother's house, but her sister in law did not like her presence in the house. According to her, her benefactors robbed her of all her belongings including a substantial amount of gold and money and forced her to leave their house. She took shelter in a destitute home in Burdhaman of west Bengal. In a few years the home closed down after demise of the benevolent owner. She was on the streets when her niece took pity on her and brought her to Guwahati. She remained with her for a couple of years. The niece brought her to us. On arrival we found on her body bruises resulting from torture. She was blind and stone deaf. After two successive cataract operations she got back her vision. We found her suffering from hallucinations. She is under psychiatric treatment.



ii. Junu

The fifty five year old Junu is a graduate. After a failed affair she left home to work as a social worker in Kasturuba Ashram. She worked in the local unit of the Ashram for fifteen years and subsequently attached to Acharya Binova Bhaves village at Wardha where she remained for five years till hearing the news of her father's demise she left her post

and returned home to be spurned off by her only sister who even refused to give her shelter. She lost her mother when she was a kid. Driven away from home, she went back to Kasturuba Ashram but they had no vacancy for her. They in turn brought her to us. She is on anti depressant drugs since we found her withdrawn and aloof.



iii. Jharna

The immensely energetic and talented Jharna , sixty years old lost everybody in life, her husband, a daughter and lastly her son because of different illness. She was working as a maid in a school who would pay her pittance. She had no shelter. Hearing about Seneh she approached us for shelter. She is very happy here and is always beaming with energy.



iv. Usha

Seventy years old Usha was retrieved from the Railway platform by a NGO comprising of young volunteers and brought to us for rehabilitation. Originally from earstwhile East Pakistan she migrated to India because of religious persecution with her husband and two daughters. After changing places at the end they settled at Fakiragram. Her husband cooked and baked and sold homemade local eats like puffed rice, beaten rice, khurma, ladoos etc to elk out a living. They had a small house. A third daughter was added to the family and according to her, they adopted a son. The eldest two daughters eloped with truck drivers never to

return home. The youngest married to a small time sales man of a hardware shop. After the demise of her husband, her adopted son and his spouse started maltreating her and at times physically assaulting her. Unable to bear it, she left home, took a train and was detained for ticketless travel at Kokrajhar. She lived on the platform and begs for food when the NGO picked her up.



v. Ashalata

First of the three wives that her husband took, Ashalata had a son of eight years when as per here story her husband and his two other wives started mistreating and torturing her and forced her to leave their house. From the way she abhors any physical work and fakes illness, we feel that must be the reason that made them to drive her away. She came to Guwahati and started living with a family whom she new earlier. Here again she had problems but the ultimate was when her son, by then eleven years old, went out to fetch milk as per her house owners dictat never to return back. He disappeared for good. Broken, she left his home and a young couple found her near their house loitering aimlessly and brought her to Seneh.

b. Induction of New Trustees

In the year we had the misfortune of the sad demise of one of our founder trustees Late Nakul Chandra Barooah. His void can never be filled But we persuaded his wife, a reluctant Mrs Anjana Barooah, to take his place. She obliged. At a later date we also inducted Mrs Ashima Dev Choudhary, a very dedicated, talented woman of repute as a Trustee. Unfortunately within a couple of months she was diagnosed with a heart condition that forbade her taking any physical activity and true to her character, she requested us to relieve her of her responsibilities which we were forced to accept. She promised us that as and when she is fit she will return back to our midst. With this presently we have sixteen trustees. They are

- i. Gp capt A C Barua (Retd)
- ii. Dr N C Rabha
- iii. Er Paresh Dev Choudhary
- iv. Dr Shila Bora
- v. Dr Minoti Barthakur
- vi. Mrs Mina Barua
- vii. Mrs Anjana Barooah
- viii. Mrs Dipali Barua
- ix. Dr Padmapani
- x. Dr M K Baruah
- xi. Mrs Purabi Kakoty
- xii. Mrs Mitra Phukan
- xiii. Wg Cdr Uma Mahanta
- xiv. Mr Rabhijit Barooah
- xv.** Mrs Rashmi Bansal
- xvi.** Dr Bikash Saikia

c. Welfare Measures Taken

- i. (a) Food : We have been able to improve on the quality of food in the year gone by. This has been possible because of help received by a host of donors who give us regular food materials. Some of them who donate regularly deserves our heartfelt gratitude. I will be mentioning a few names shortly. In addition, very frequently a host of kind hearted persons come to “Seneh” to celebrate different occasions of their families like death anniversary; birth days etc and bear the cost of a sumptuous meal. We thank them all for their gesture.

The following kind hearted organizations/gentlemen have been donating rice regularly to Seneh, namely,

- a. Nathmal Chiranjilal Jasrasaria Cheritable Trust, Fancy Bazar- supplying 50kg of rice per month since Oct/2013.
 - b. Sri Gautam Kothari, Hengrabari, Sri Prasanta Gogoi and Devid Bathani , both from ASEB colony, Kahilipara are supplying 25 kg of rice individually per month since Jan/2016.
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- ii. Shelter: Under shelter, we club clothing, house hold items including white goods, sanitary items and furniture. I am overwhelmed to inform the house that here the enthusiasm of the public in general has literally put us in a spot. There are so much of donated items like blankets, mekhela chadar, saris, bed sheet and pillow covers etc that we have paucity of storage space since these items are much more than what we need. But request pour in for more such donations which

we politely have to refuse. We now normally request the donors to donate daily use items like soap, detergents, cleaning materials , hair oils, powder etc in lieu of clothing items.

- iii. Medical Needs: Our biggest challenge is looking after the medical needs of the inmates. Rarely a day passes when a visit to the hospital is not needed. I profoundly thank the authorities of GMCH, Regional Dental College hospital and Sankardev Netralaya, Guwahati for their support in this regard without which we would have been on the sea. I also thank Ashadeep for providing us free consultation for the mental problems of the inmates. Unfortunately, half of the inmates suffer from different mental conditions that require regular psychiatric consultations and medication. In this regard, I will be failing in my duties if I fail to mention the dedication and hard work put up by the two nurses that we have employed.

d. Induction of new employees and rationalization of their remunerations:

We have inducted the following three employees to replace the old ones and also to augment the manpower resources. We have added a new nurse to our kitty. Miss Janmoni Saikia has joined our team of employees as the additional nurse. Mrs Bijoya Paul , a very dedicated lady has replaced Sri Thakuria , who left us for his personal reasons as the new caretaker. Bijoya is showing immense dedication and talent. Another employee Sri Dipak Hazarika also left us because of personal reasons. He has been

replaced by Sri Chandra Bahadur Chetri who has been also showing potential.

Recently , we have hiked their pay across the board by Rs 1000/ . We have also with the help of our Trustee Sri Rabhijit Barooah, included them in the Employees provident Fund and Medical schemes. Here we pay double the amount of what the employees pay from our coffers.

e. Visits and celebrations.

We celebrated Rangali bihu, Bhogali bihu,Kati Bihu, Independene day etc amongst the inmates,trustee members and some well wishers. Kati bihu was organized by the NGO, “THE TREE” in an attractive manner in Seneh premises . Moreover , NGO/organizations like Priyabandhu, pratyasha, Prayas, BBians , Sathya Sai Santha, Khushi Creations, Stop Human Trafficking Organisation, Airpot Authority of Guwahati’s wife’s association and many other organizations and individuals either provided food material/eatables in addition to arranging short amusement programmes/spiritual sessions etc . WE are very much thankful to all of them, and we welcome their future support in all our activities.

Above all, the inmates were taken to Saibaba temple and State zoo and Tetris kouti temple within the city..



Kati Bihu Celebration



Independence Day



Bhogali Bihu Celebration



Rongali Bihu Celebration Rongali Bihu Celebration



f. Other welfare measures taken away from our core aim as mandated by the original trust deed that had been added subsequently by the Board Of Trustees.

- i. Scholarship to Meritorious and economically extremely poor students. We have taken the responsibility of looking after the educational needs of one Sri Nilabh Jyoti Sarma, , a very intelligent student of the Narakasur High School for the year. Based on his performance we plan to renew this.
- ii. For the information of the house recently we paid an amount of Rs thirty five thousand to the best performing students of Patacharkuchi Girls High School. This was done in collaboration with the Assam Foundation of

- America who funded the project. In the current Financial year we are also paying a monthly grant
- iii. of Rs 1500/ only to a meritorious boy who lost his father and has no way to meet his educational expenses. The amount is being paid from additional contribution made by our Chairman for this specific purpose to the Trust fund.
 - iv. We are also very proud to announce that the trust has made provision for drinking water to a remote village last year. The entire cost was borne directly by the Chairman.

g. Finances:

We had a very satisfying year as regards financial management. The details will be presented by the Member i/c Finance in his presentation that will follow.

h. Expansion of Facilities and work undertaken:

The following construction works were undertaken and completed in the year. The Finance member will present the financials for this.

- a. Completion of storm water drainage in the entire compound.
- b. Filling the front area of the building with river bed sand and planting of grass. With this there is no accumulation of water and the green cover has made the compound more attractive as you may have already noticed. Approximately an amount of Rs. 1.5 lac was spent for both the works.

i. Challenges

The biggest challenge we have in future is the deteriorating age related health conditions of the inmates. We need to firm up a strategy to meet this challenge. As of now two of the inmates are

suspected cases of cancer. One of them is almost bed ridden. Two others are a big challenge for our supporting staff because of dementia. We welcome suggestion from this august gathering to find a solution to this problem.

Another problem area is provision of water mainly in lean season that is in the months of November to April when the only source of water the well dries up. Till recently we used to get water in this period from the bore well of the under construction multistoried dwelling units located next door. Now their construction is complete and the flats are handed over to the owners. We donot hope to get help in future from this source since their own demand will be very high. Hence we are groping for solutions. Probably we will require a huge expenditure (Approximately Rs 7 lakh) to dig a bore well to reach the water table which may exceed 600 meters. We have plans to approach the local MP for help from MPLAD in this regard. Any other suggestion will be welcome.

j. Future Plans

- i. Extend the financial help to other needy and deserving students.
- ii. Start a geriatric first aid care unit in the premises and also extend this to remote areas with a outreach programme.
- iii. To start a similar home for Destitute at North Lakhimpur. A local gentleman has offered assistance in this regard.
- iv. Tap CSR resources more vigorously for funding .
- v. Approach State Government for help.
- vi. Approach foreign sources for Financial help.

k. Conclusion

I want to conclude with the famous lines which Nehru quoted

“ Woods are lovely, lonely and deep

And I (we) have promises to keep

And miles to go , Before I (we) sleep.’

Let us promise , we will not sleep till death closes our eyes forever, in our resolve to serve the poor , abandoned and the needy.

Thank you everybody for your compassion, guidance and help.

Dr. N.C Rabha

Managing Trustee