Sathi for Education Support Programme
“Under Bridging the Divide”
A Joint Programme of Hijli INSPIRATION and Asha for Education

**Brief report on activities conducted during lockdown due to COVID 19**

With the suspension of physical center activities, the volunteers are now adopting new approaches to connect with the students so that they are not away from books and the learning environment and that a schedule that is usually followed on regular days is adhered to. To help the students continue with their daily lessons and keep them involved in academics, the teacher volunteers have gone a step ahead to make use of the time. In the absence of physical interaction, students and teachers are keeping in touch remote system and are trying to make productive use of their time.

**Activity accomplished**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity detail</th>
<th>Supporting document/ Photograph</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Students are being monitored over the phone and are being assigned lessons.</td>
<td><img src="image1.jpg" alt="Md. Falz (Cl VII) asking us to stay at home" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Volunteers are assigning tasks, which includes spelling, questions from a particular lesson taught, sums, etc. to students over the phone or through WhatsApp and the students are exchanging their tasks in the similar manner</td>
<td><img src="image2.jpg" alt="Science homework by Ruksar Khatoon (Cl VIII)" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Students are being encouraged to indulge in creative engagements, which will later be used in their scrap books, which they update periodically with their creative and academic content</td>
<td><img src="image3.jpg" alt="Muskaan Parbeen (Cl X) saluting the doctors in this fight" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- No students or their families have been reported to be ill.</td>
<td><img src="image4.jpg" alt="Nawedul Hasan (Cl X) on the dedication of a nurse" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- The INSPIRATION team at office along with Dr. Chandreyee Das had been in regular contact with the field team through conference calls to take stock of the situation and guide them to make the most of their time. The volunteers are being encouraged to read or engage in creative work.</td>
<td><img src="image5.jpg" alt="Kasturi Mukherjee, mental health consultant, who is also the in charge of conducting the gender sensitivity workshop at Kamarhati, had been roped in to help the team cope with the stress and overcome the anxiety, a direct by product of this" /></td>
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</tbody>
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strenuous phase that the world is going through now.

- Students are being monitored over the phone and are being assigned lessons.
- One of the volunteers have created “WhatsApp” group with the students who have access to android phones. The teacher assigns work to the students in the group and they share their assignments in the group for the teacher to get them corrected.
- Students without access to android phones are being imparted lessons over one on one calls or “conference call” in small batch of 2/3 students.
- Students without access to phones are being contacted through their neighbours or any kin.
- One of the volunteers have prepared a more feasible and relevant schedule to conduct classes through conference calls at the convenient time of students.

**DISCUSSION TIME**
Monday - Class 8 and class 9
Wednesday - class 9 and class 10
Friday - class 8 and class 10
Sunday - class 10 (optional)

- Students are being engaged with learning games, handwriting assignments, creative writing etc. Some students are learning craft on “YouTube” and carrying out similar activities at home with materials available around.

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A sum assigned, exchanged and corrected through “WhatsApp”

Science homework shared on “WhatsApp”

A sum assigned, exchanged and corrected through “WhatsApp”

Md. Sohel (Cl VIII) on the current global pandemic
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- Volunteers are engaging parents to support students at home with lessons and take revision.
- No students or their families have been reported to be ill.
- The parents, mostly daily wage earners and especially the mothers who work as domestic help have been out of work, since the lockdown. Some of these mothers have been asked to collect their salary for the month while some are dealing with no work no pay. Some families especially in Israel Colony have complained of food shortage at home, however with the public distribution system now functional this situation will be taken care of. Besides this one of the volunteers is in touch with the local councilor, influential people and ration dealers to facilitate the arrangements of staple food items and groceries for these families.
- The Volunteers in the meanwhile are also preparing for the gender sensitivity workshop. They are preparing posters and slogans, which will later be used during the workshop. Every Thursday the Gender Workshop conducting by Mrs. Kasturi Mukherjee through Zoom Meeting Platform.
- The Quarterly conference call as well as Zoom Meeting Platform with entire INSPIRATION team and each member shared their experiences work and life. They shared various incidents and decisions were taken on the next course of action.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Image 1</th>
<th>Image 2</th>
<th>Image 3</th>
<th>Image 4</th>
<th>Image 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Volunteers preparing for the gender sensitivity workshop.</td>
<td>A sample exercise on ‘fun maths at home’ by Md. Aziz (volunteer).</td>
<td>MATHS TEST!</td>
<td>The necessary precautions to be followed and measures to be taken during COVID 19; Resma Khatoon (Cl VIII).</td>
<td>Poster has been prepared by Tamali Das (volunteer) on gender parity.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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- Students are continuing to exchange their assigned tasks through WhatsApp. The ones who do not have access to internet are being asked to keep all tasks dated and maintained in their notebooks.
- Students are being encouraged to practice handwriting, spellings etc. at home now.
- The School Education Department too has shared links to all the schools affiliated to Madhya Siksha Parshad. Class appropriate tasks have been assigned on the link and students are being asked to work on them.
- The volunteers are being encouraged to read various relevant study, which are available on the digital platform.
- Parents too are extending complete support to the students now. They are helping them with tasks assigned by volunteers and one of them have found time to engage in creative activity with the child.
- The initial concern over supply of ration and other necessary commodities have been taken care of the government. Besides this, they have also received aid from the local councilor, the missionary.
- No students or their families have been reported to be ill.
- INSPIRATION has initiated a study on handwashing practice of the community and identify the other needs that they might have beyond food.
Nutrition Support at Lockdown period

We are still under the lockdown and it’s been more than near about 4 months. The government here is taking all measures to contain the disease. Areas have been categorized as, Green, Orange and Red Zones and further a Containment Zone, all decided upon the presence of active and positive cases in each area. The Government is reaching out to the mass through the Public Distribution System and various other financial assistance schemes.

Volunteers are continuing with curricular activities, in this extremely challenging situation. The regular interaction with the students, yielded that many of the families are dealing with food shortage on a daily basis. The bread earners of the family are out of job, since the beginning of the lockdown and it is now, that the problems are surfacing. It was found that majority of the families are receiving rice as government ration which is covering their cereal needs. But since they are in dearth of liquid cash they are often unable to procure anything to supplement the cereal intake.

Lack of adequate nutrition intake was observed which, the need and the expectation was assessed;

INSPIRATION stepped in at this point and decided to support each family with a food basket comprising

- Soya Bean Chunks (1 Kg)
- Sattu (Ground Gram) (1Kg)
- Suji (semolina or ground wheat) (1kg)
- Mustard Oil (500 gms)
- Sugar (1 Kg)

Along with these protein supplementation 2 Soap Cakes and 1 pack of 10 Sanitary Napkins to all adolescent girls for maintaining corona linked hygiene and personal hygiene have been included too.

The contributions from staff and members and well-wishers have been able to make it happen.

We distributed the dry nutrition 95 families (near about 400 family members) May and June 2020. They are very much happy to get that type of food. They said that no one gave them that type of food. That type of food very much help to children as a nutritious food.

INSPIRATION also initiated to support the Amphan effected families with the support of Asha for Education. 40 Nos of families (near about 200 family members) get the food baskets of Isreal colony, Kamarhati.
Asgari Bano, mother of Nabedul Hassan, have particularly remarked that, this was a well thought of support, as rice, pulses etc were available from the Public Distribution System and in local shops, but most of the families are unable to arrange beyond the staple rice and pulses. She was of the opinion that the nutrition basket would be able to take care of the nutrition requirements. Similar opinions were shared by Nusrat Parveen, mother of Shahnaz Parveen and Tajmira Khatoon, mother of Shahid Akbar too. Shama Parveen, mother of Farhan Ali, shared that they had received rice, pulses from the local jute mill, but never received this sort of nutrition support from anywhere. Manjura Khatoon, mother of Simran Parveen, shared that lack of ration card was making it difficult for them, and this nutrition basket with dry and nutritious food was ideal in this condition.

Menstrual hygiene, which is nonetheless, a less discussed concern, has especially been jeopardized in this lockdown phase. Where providing for the family is the only concern, it is only obvious that bearing all other expenses would be impossible for many families. Asgari Khatoon and Fuljan Bibi, mothers of Alfia Imam and Sagorika Khatoon, were all praises for the distribution of sanitary napkins to female adolescent students.
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A small study on effectiveness of IEC on Corona (Designed by INSPIRATION) on our Focused students of Kamarhati.

INSPIRATION has designed and developed some IEC on awareness raising about COVID-19 Corona.

We are trying to make aware to our focused students through our designed IEC by talking over phone and sending leaflets on WhatsApp. Our volunteers continuing all this work.

Our other team have tried from those students how much they have become aware or how much they have been made aware through over phone.

We found that -

1. 88% students said that they aware about uses of Mask in this period.
2. 61% students aware that Corona is a viral disease
3. 84% know the symptoms of corona disease
4. 74% are aware of how it is spreading
5. 80% are said that they aware about social distance and hand wash practice
6. During the lockdown many people given service properly and continually
   - Police, Doctor, Nurse & Grocer – 44% mentioned their name
   - Police – 41% mentioned only their name

7. To save from Corona -
   - Mask use, hand wash, social distance – 85% students mentioned
   - Mask use, hand wash – 15% students mentioned

8. 71% students said that they are doing other activities (Painting, making craft items, helping to household activities, cooking, indoor game etc.) besides studying at home during lockdown.
9. 29% said that they are doing only study.
10. 75% students said that they maintain all masers to protect them from Corona and they also aware their family members and neighbour friends
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Students busy during Lockdown

Md. Fahiz – Class VII
Md. Faruk – Class VII
Md. Shahnawaz – Class VII

Muskan Parveen – Class X
Md Sohel – Class VIII
Resma Khatoon – Class VIII

Sonia Khatoon – Class VII
Ruksan Khatoon – Class VIII
Nawedul Hasan – Class X

Phool Das – Class VIII
Sona Das – Class VIII