



KMSWS Virtual Site Visit

# Report- 25/09/2022

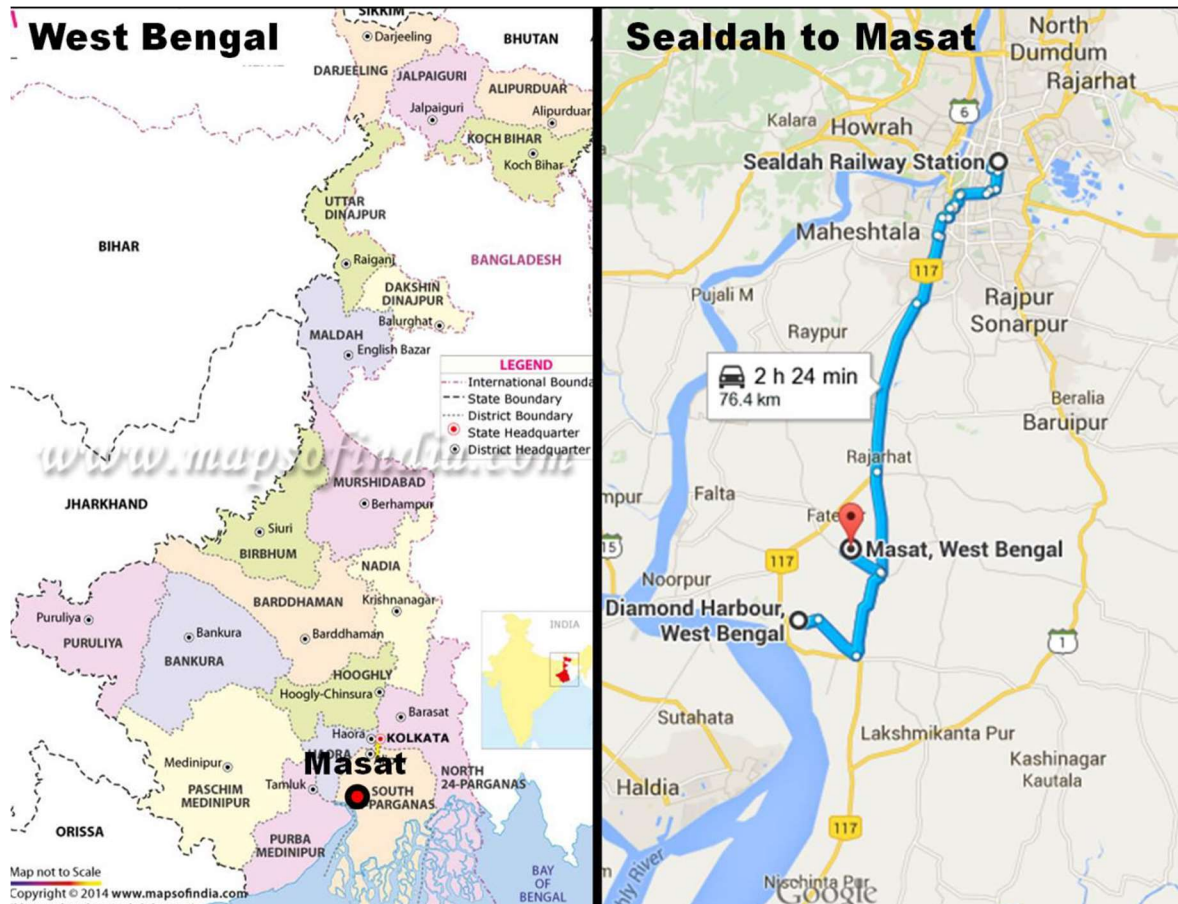
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# Introduction

Due to the disruptions caused by the COVID pandemic, a virtual site visit was conducted on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2022 for the KMSWS Tiyas project. Sajal and I had an extensive video meeting over the course of 2 hours during which he showed me the project infrastructure and introduced me to the teachers and students at the Tiyas coaching centre.

## About KMSWS

KMSWS is an NGO working in the district of South 24 Parganas, West Bengal in different areas including education of underprivileged children and employment generation for youth. The North 24 Parganas has been classified by the government of India as amongst the least developed districts in the country.



KMSWS runs a school and a coaching center. They are also engaged in organizing annual health care/medical camps for the senior citizens of the locality, awareness programs for agricultural activities etc. KMSWS has been working relentlessly since 1999 to improve the living conditions of the socially and economically disadvantaged people in and around the Masat region. They actively promote Indian cultural activities through the organization of annual cultural events like Melas and festivals.

KMSWS is also involved in disaster relief programmes in the region, recent examples include rehabilitation for the victims of the Amphan cyclone and financial and medical support for the residents of the area during the Covid 19 pandemic .

Some of the project initiatives since the last site visit follow.





## Amphun Cyclone Relief efforts

Super cyclone Amphun left a trail of destruction when it made landfall in the North 24 Parganas district in May 2020. In concurrence with the first lockdown of the COVID 19 pandemic, this had a disastrous effect on the livelihoods of the residents of the district. KMSWS stepped up and conducted the following relief activities which were partially funded by the Asha London Chapter.

In the initial phase of relief the focus was on delivering food rations to the victims of the cyclone who had lost all of their belongings and constructing temporary accommodation for them.

Subsequently KMSWS began the following long term rehabilitation efforts for the afflicted:

- Reconstruction of houses damaged by the cyclone
- Vocational training of eligible cyclone victims to augment their income generation prospects

**Cyclone Amphun Struck West Bengal in 2020, bringing winds of 120mph and waves 5 metres high**





## Covid Delta Wave Relief Efforts

India was deeply impacted by the Delta wave of the Covid pandemic of 2021 with a near collapse of the health care system. KMSWS conducted for the following relief efforts in collaboration with Asha for Education

1. Providing relief materials with multivitamins and surgical & cotton masks to family of wage earners to support during this crisis of unemployment
2. Support Covid 19 infected patients with Oxygen through oxygen concentrator in absence of oxygen cylinders , monitor oxygen level through pulse oximeter, and provide relief to covid infected patients through vaporizer
3. Support eligible women through vocational trainings like beautician courses, computer courses and tailoring to enable earning and prevent early marriage, trafficking and dropouts

**The Delta wave of Covid is estimated to have claimed 2.4 million lives in India between April and June 2021**



# TIYAS Coaching Centre

The Tiyas coaching centre is supported by the London and Minnesota chapters of Asha for education. The centre provides coaching and vocational training to students from underprivileged backgrounds.

The vocational training streams running at the time of the site visit are:

- Tailoring Training
- Beautician course
- Computer skills.

The infrastructure to support the Tiyas coaching centre consists of a three storey building which has 9 classrooms, a seminar room and a library. The coaching centre has also acquired a van for transporting students to the school.

In addition to sponsoring teacher salaries for the coaching centre, the London chapter also funds the free meals and sanitary napkins for the students of the coaching centre

## **Addendum To Site Report**

March 16, 2023

- In 2023, there are 208 students for the coaching center and 309 students in Tiyas School.
- In 2022, 44 students dropped from the coaching center and 107 students dropped from Tiyas School
- Some Key Events conducted in 2022 included
  - Annual Day celebration
  - Sports day celebration
  - Independence Day celebration (Aug 15, 2022)
  - Teachers day celebration (Sep 5, 2022)
  - Rabindranath Tagore's birthday (May 7, 2022)
  - Visit to Scientist JC Bose's house
  - Visit of a small factory nearby
- Early 2022 (for a few months) there were government restrictions which forced classes to be virtual
  - For the rest of the year classes were entirely in person
  - 80% of classes have been in person this year
- Objectives for the 2022-2023 School Year:
  - Bring back all the students who dropped out from the school
  - Bridge any learning gaps due to the closure of the school
  - Ensure child safety
  - Reduce rates of child trafficking and child marriage
  - Create job opportunities