

# Baikunthapur Tarun Sangha (B.T.S.)



# Overview of Sundarbans



The Sundarbans is the world's largest delta and mangrove gene pool

The forest covers 10,000 km<sup>2</sup> of which about 6,000 are in Bangladesh

The Sundarbans is intersected by a complex network of tidal waterways, mudflats and small islands of salt-tolerant mangrove forests

The area is known for the eponymous Royal Bengal Tiger, as well as numerous fauna including species of birds, spotted deer, crocodiles and snakes



# A Little More About The Place



The Sundarbans has a population of over 4 million but much of it is mostly free of permanent human habitation

The vegetated tidal lands of the Sundarbans also function as an essential habitat, nutrient producer, water purifier, nutrient and sediment trap, energy storage unit and aesthetic attraction



Besides production functions of the forest, it provides natural protection to life and properties of the coastal population in cyclone prone Bangladesh



# The people of Sundarbans



# General Information About BTS PB

- Established in 1983
- Location : Baikunthapur – Moipith G. P.  
Block : Kultali  
District : South 24 Paraganas  
West Bengal
- Occupation of the local people : Fishing,  
Farming, Migratory Worker\*



# The Establishment of BTS

## Brief History:

The Baikanthapur Tarun Sangha came in existence in 1982. Their initiation to social work happened during the 1982 floods in the Sunderban area. The current project is based in Kultali block of the Sunderban area. The six villages involved in the project are the following:

1. Baikanthapur North and South
2. Ambikanagar
3. Kishorimohanpur
4. Binodpur
5. Nagenabad



## Transportation:

A road had been established between Sundarbans and Kolkata. It's about a three hour journey by car.



# Overall activity of BTS

- **Women empowerment & Micro finance**
- **Medical service in the area**
- **Crèche**
- **BTS-Patha Bhavan:**
  - The school funded by Asha
- **Activity after Aila:**
  - Initial relief work
  - Land rehabilitation
  - Use of bio-fertilizers



# BTS Patha Bhavan Activities

- It has approximately 200-250 students
- It has classes from *Preparatory* to *VI*
- 15 teachers and 1 non-teaching staff
- Fees : For Admission- Rs. 75.00 – 150.00  
Monthly- Rs. 15.00 – 20.00  
(it is the same as last year)
- Provides mid-day meal (thrice a week),  
Tiffin everyday, emergency healthcare,  
books, uniforms
- Joyful Learning Process





- Why BTS PB over Government School

- Reasonable student-teacher ratio at BTS PB compared to the pressure of roll strength in the government school

- VTR (Village Teacher Representative) to monitor students' home studies. Village-wise Parents' meet is a must for BTS PB's teachers to develop parent-teacher-students' relationship

- Study after BTS

- Most of the kids join high-schools after finishing their study at BTS PB



# Current Issues

## *Regarding BTS-PB*

- **Need to build new rooms for Patha Bhavan**
  - Aila damaged one of the old parts of the building
  - No space available inside the school campus to cook the mid-day meal
- **Electricity**

## *General*

- **Sanitation**
  - BTS providing temporary solution is not sustainable
  - Contacted organization in USA- Asha may help out?
- **Drinking water**



# Gallery

























