

## Asha Seattle Site Visit

*by Subhadeep Basu*

Dec 23, 2022

### 1. Sarada Balika Bidyamandir (SBB), Shibganj, Basanti, West Bengal

#### a) General Info

- Total students 218 (all girls) - From class I to class VIII
- Funding approved by Asha for classes IX for now
- Staff information: 12 full time teachers, 1 clerk and 2 cooks
- 2 new teachers just joined in January 2023. During our site visit, the process of interview was ongoing.

#### a) Site Visit feedback

- Teachers and students seemed genuinely interested and engaged
- Met with 3-4 special needs children (couple of them on class VII or VII, and others are at lower grades)
- Not many questions from the students – except one: who asked for library funding.
- I looked into their existing library, it's very small, and mostly all torn and very old books, number is also very small
- Not many demands from teachers either – they were mostly being thankful for all that Suma Mandal and Asha have done for them
- The candidates identified for interview (mostly local) seem to have a decent resume – have done BA/MA in the field of arts/language



Image 1. a) In front of Sarada Balika Bidyamandir (SBB) b) Assembly Hall at SBB



Image 2. a) Main ground of Sarada Balika Bidyamandir (SBB) b) Students performing cultural program in the assembly hall c) Lunch preparation ongoing in the kitchen d) Daily meal menu at Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> e) Champa Mahila Society (CMS) headquarters f) Discussion with the teachers at SBB



### List of Teachers and their Salaries for Sarada Balika Bidyamandir (SBB)

Sarada Balika Bidyamandir Supported by Asha for Education. Run by CMS Name of the Teaching and Non-teaching Staff Shibganj, Basanti				
Sl. No	Name	Designation	Subject	H
1	Alauddin Laskar	Head-Teacher	Math, Eng, Paribesh, Hist	
2	Alokelata Mondal	Assistant Teacher	Beng, Hist, Eng.	
3	Minati Das	Assistant Teacher	Beng, Math, GK	
4	Putul Mandal Debnath	Assistant Teacher	Beng, Paribesh, Eng.	
5	Sahana Shekh	Assistant Teacher	Beng, Eng, GK	
6	Imroja Sardar	Assistant Teacher	Eng, Beng, GK	
7	Jalal Shekh	Assistant Teacher	Geo, Physical Edu, Beng.	
8	Sudhansu Maity	Assistant Teacher	Eng, Paribesh, W. Edu.	
9	Subhosree Laskar	Assistant Teacher	Beng, Paribesh, Eng.	
10	Ananya Das	Assistant Teacher	Math, L.Sc, P.Sc.	
11	Nilanjana Patra	Assistant Teacher	Eng, Paribesh . Recitation	
12	Mousumi Das	Assistant Teacher	Math, P.Sc, Computer	
13	Asima Majumdar	Clerk		
14	Benu Sardar	Cook		
15	Chandana Naskar	Cook		

Alauddin Laskar  
Head-Teacher  
SBB

Teacher Salary Range at SBB: Head Teacher ~INR 6000, Assistant Teacher ~INR 5000, Non Teaching Staff INR 2000-3000

### Distribution of students in SBB

Sarada Balika Bidyamandir Shibganj, Basanti Class wise No. of Students	
Nursery	14
Class - I	24
Class - II	11
Class - III	21
Class - IV	13
Class - V	29
Class - VI	29
Class - VII	28
Class - VIII	22
Class - IX	27
Total	218

## 2. Surendra Smriti Bidyaniketan (SSB), Amlamethy, Bally Island – Gosaba, West Bengal

### a) General Info:

- Total students 326. 32 more students are going to join from January 2023 or from the next academic session
- From classes: Nursery to IX
- Recently funding approved for IX. Interview ongoing for 2 more teachers
- School has 13 full time teachers, 1 clerk and 3 cooks.

### a) Site- Visit feedback:

- I visited on a day which was last day of classes and the annual reports are out
- Not much focus on studies on that day, but classes were full of students
- Each class seem to have about 32-35 students on average (Nursery has less number of students, 20)
- From limited interaction, the students seem to be enthusiastic and eager about attending the school
- Teacher interaction during the staff meeting, it seemed to me that the teachers were little more vocal about their needs (more than what I saw in Basanti)
- I asked them to send me a list of things that they are looking for, but did NOT promise anything
- But overall – everyone were thankful for all the support Asha (and Suma) has provided them
- Did not get a chance to see the resume's of the interview candidates
- Cooking area is very small – may be some help needed their
- Observed one safety issue: the lunch assembly area is adjacent to a water body (pond) and during rainy season becomes hazardous for kids to assemble and have food – danger of sliding and getting into the water. Some sort of a barricade and a shade can be helpful



Image 3. a) In front of Surendra Smriti Bidyaniketan (SSB) b) Students performing cultural program





Image 4. a) and b) Students assembly and performing cultural program in the front yard of the school c) inside a class at the SSB d) Discussion with the teachers at SSB e) Inside the kitchen location e) In front of SSB, with the building that was built with direct funding from Asha-Seattle

### List of Teachers and their Salaries for Surendra Smriti Bidyaniketan (SSB)

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Surendra Smriti Bidyaniketan</b>                      Supported by Asha for Education. Run by CMS                      Name of the Teaching and Non-teaching Staff                      Mathurakhanda, Bali Island, Gosaba</p>			
Sl. No	Name	Designation	Subject
1	Sawpan Mandal	Head-Teacher	Beng, Eng, Physical Edu.
2	Kalipada Mondal	Assistant Teacher	Eng, Geo, Paribesh, Physical Edu.
3	Nilmadhab Sarkar	Assistant Teacher	Beng, Math, Eng Gram, Phy.Edu
4	Banamali Mondal	Assistant Teacher	Beng, Hist, Paribesh
5	Bivas Mandal	Assistant Teacher	Beng, Math, L.Sc.
6	Parimal Barkandaj	Assistant Teacher	Eng, Geo, W.Edu.
7	Madhab Mandal	Assistant Teacher	Math, P.Sc.
8	Mahadeb Das	Assistant Teacher	Math, Paribesh, Phy.Edu,
9	Minati Mondal	Assistant Teacher	Beng, Hist, Sanskrit, W.Edu, Dance
10	Bandita Bera Mandal	Assistant Teacher	Beng, Paribesh, Dance, Rhyms.
11	Shyamali Patra	Assistant Teacher	Paribesh, Beng, Song
12	Pravas Chandra Halder	Assistant Teacher	Eng, Eng. Gram,
13	Panchanan Bera	Assistant Teacher	Math, P.Sc, L.Sc.
14	Anup Das	Clerk	
15	Debi Mondal	Cook	
16	Saraswati Mandal	Cook	
17	Sarathi Mondal	Cook	
<p style="text-align: right;">Sawpan Mandal Head-Teacher SSB</p>			

Teacher Salary Range at SSB: Head Teacher ~INR 6000, Assistant Teacher ~INR 5000, Non Teaching Staff INR 2000-3000

### Distribution of students in SSB

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Surendra Smriti Bidyaniketan</b>                      Mathurakhanda, Bali Island                      Gosaba, Sundarban                      Class wise No. of Students</p>	
PP	20
Class - I	33
Class - II	34
Class - III	26
Class - IV	40
Class - V	45
Class - VI	42
Class - VII	35
Class - VIII	20
Class - IX	31
Total	326
** Extra 32 Students are coming from the community	

### **Champa Mahila Samity for Supporting Special Needs Students**

CMS currently supports a total of 19 special needs students: 8 Girls and 11 Boys.

The students stay in ashrams supported by CMS (via Asha Seattle) and go to local schools for studies.

Girls stay in the hostel attached to the Sarada Balika Bidyamandir and Boys stay in the hostel at the CMS headquarters in Shibganj, Basanti.