

I visited NISHTHA on Dec 26, 2006. It was not a surprise visit. This was my second visit to them. This time I got very good feed-back about them, particularly about their secretary Mina Das, from three independent resources. My own impression is also very good.



Mantu-da and Mina-di standing in front of the main gate A map of 24-parganas showing Nishtha centers

Nishtha got Rs.46012/- on 18.08.2006 after the conversion of a cheque of \$1000. Of this amount they are spending Rs.3600 per month for 30 children (in other words, Rs.120/- per monthly per child). They have spent another Rs.2000/- for purchasing beddings and kitchen utensils but they need to purchase a few more beddings and utensils (see photographs). I also took photographs of the receipts and got a copy of their last year's audit report. The details of the expenditure are given at the end of this report.

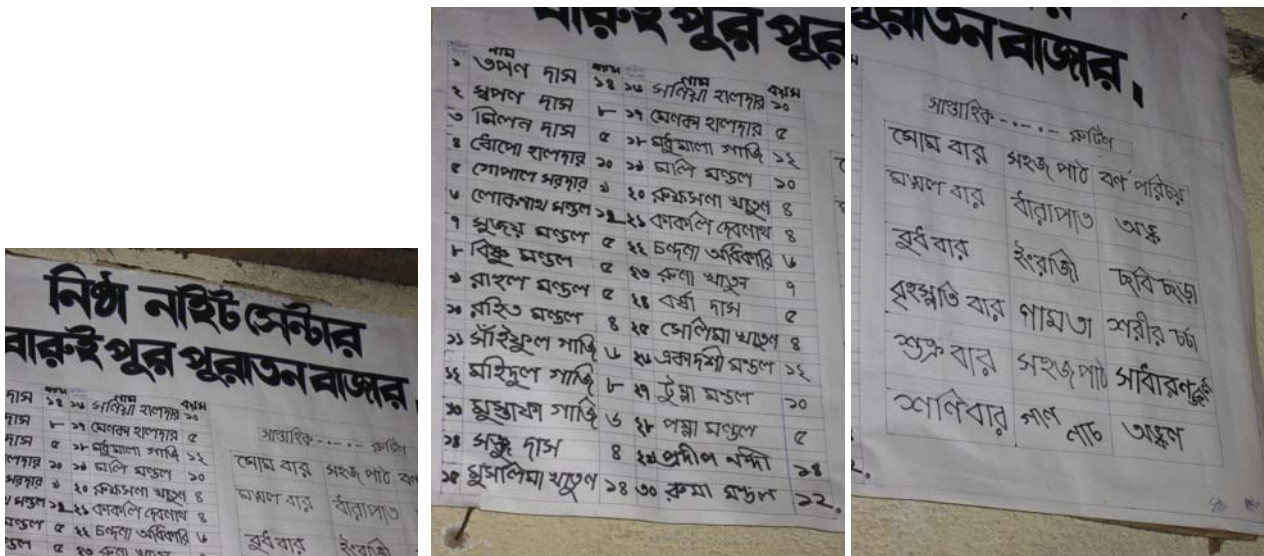
Receipt & Payment A/c from 01.09.06 to 16.12.06

Particulars	Receipt	Payments
Grant Received (8/18/06)	46012.00	
Food A/c		12270.10
Bedding and Kitchen Utensils		2000.00
Misc expenditure		50.00
Total expenditure		14320.10
Balance		31691.90

Apart from that USD1000 , one of the Asha volunteers made an individual donation of Rs 2000. Using that money Nishtha provided woolen sweaters to 20 children as these children did not have any woolen garments to protect them from the biting cold of the winter. Before my visit the students were told that I would do the site seeing and some of them wore the new sweaters they got (see the blue sweater in the picture of the kids).



Night Shelter



Names and ages of the children staying at the night center



This is the room where 30 to 40 kids stay at night.



The roof of the night shelter.

The small room shown above is the night shelter for 30 to 40 kids. This shelter plays a significant role in improving their lifestyle. When these kids stay with their mothers, they learn vulgar expressions very quickly and get exposed to many things which are unthinkable for kids of their age-group. In order to protect them from these harsh realities of life, Nishtha keeps them in the night shelter. **The night shelter is also badly needed for teenagers like this girl below.**



A teenage student



Mina-di with one of the teachers.

I met twenty-odd sex workers and they told me that Nishtha does a wonderful job in that area. Mina Das is like an angel to them. They told me how grateful they are to Asha for providing money to run the night shelter. All the sex workers realize the need to keep their children away from their residences at night, and they all understand the importance of education. A very famous girls school (Loretto) in Calcutta had agreed to admit six girls (who used to stay in the night-shelter run by Nishtha) and I was told two girls had already joined the school and moved to the school-hostel. Also I believe that things have changed significantly over the last six months, the area looks cleaner and more hygienic now. Nishtha is doing wonderful work though they have a long way to go. I was proud to see that Asha provided funds to them and was deeply moved when the sex workers told me how they felt blessed by the work Nishtha does with that money for these helpless, poor children.



Students in the night shelter

Details of Expenditure

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Cash Book

1-Aug-2006 to 16-Dec-2006

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Date	Particulars	Vch Type	Vch No.	Debit	Credit
31-8-2006	Cr P.N.B. A/c No-2472 <i>Ch. No. .574316, Cash withdrawn from Bank</i>	Contra	1	3,200.00	
				3,200.00	
	Dr Closing Balance				3,200.00
				3,200.00	3,200.00
1-9-2006	Cr Opening Balance			3,200.00	
1-9-2006	Dr Food A/c <i>Amount paid to Barik Modern Order Supplier for cost of 135 kg rice as per c.m.no.318</i>	Payment	1		1,687.50
2-9-2006	Dr Misc. Exp. <i>Amount paid to Dutta variety Stores for one liquid soap</i>	Payment	2		20.00
20-9-2006	Dr Food A/c <i>Amount paid to Maa Tara Oil Mill for the cost of Mustard oil as per c.m.no.817</i>	Payment	3		252.00
23-9-2006	Dr Food A/c <i>Amount paid to Maa Kali Bhandar for the cost of potato & onion</i>	Payment	4		1,110.00
				3,200.00	3,069.50
	Dr Closing Balance				130.50
				3,200.00	3,200.00
1-10-2006	Cr Opening Balance			130.50	
17-10-2006	Dr Bedding & Kitchen Utencil <i>Paid to New Dutta Variety Stores as cost of Pail & Mug as per c.m. no-2956</i>	Payment	5		86.00
31-10-2006	Dr Food A/c <i>Amount paid to Kalam Bhandar for the cost of various grocery items as per c.m.no.896</i>	Payment	6		4,507.00
	Cr P.N.B. A/c No-2472 <i>Ch. No. .034666, Cash withdrawn from Bank</i>	Contra	2	6,500.00	
				6,630.50	4,593.00
	Dr Closing Balance				2,037.50
				6,630.50	6,630.50
1-11-2006	Cr Opening Balance			2,037.50	
2-11-2006	Dr Bedding & Kitchen Utencil <i>Paid to New Dutta Variety Stores as cost of utencil as per c.m. -3081</i>	Payment	7		74.00
7-11-2006	Dr Bedding & Kitchen Utencil <i>Paid to Kamalashree Bastralay as cost of Blanket , Mosquito Net & Cover as per c. m. -75</i>	Payment	8		1,840.00
11-11-2006	Cr P.N.B. A/c No-2472 <i>Ch. No. .077783, Cash withdrawn</i>	Contra	3	500.00	
14-11-2006	Dr Food A/c <i>Amount paid to Ma Tara Oil Mill as the cost of M. Oil as epr c.m.no.642</i>	Payment	9		358.40
	Carried Over			2,537.50	2,272.40

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Cash Book : 1-Aug-2006 to 16-Dec-2006

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Date	Particulars	Vch Type	Vch No.	Debit	Credit
	Brought Forward			2,537.50	2,272.40
21-11-2006	Dr Misc. Exp. <i>Paid to Ma Bisalakshmi Basanaray as cost of twizer as per c.m. no-747</i>	Payment	10		30.00
30-11-2006	Cr P.N.B. A/c No-2472 <i>Ch. No. :077798, Cash withdrawn from Bank</i>	Contra	4	5,000.00	
	Dr Food A/c <i>Amount paid to Naskar Bhandar as the cost of Grocery Item as per c.m.no.-102</i>	Payment	11		4,176.00
				7,537.50	6,478.40
	Dr Closing Balance				1,059.10
				7,537.50	7,537.50
1-12-2006	Cr Opening Balance			1,059.10	
16-12-2006	Dr Food A/c <i>Amount paid to Adarsha Oil Mill as the cost of M. Oil as per memo attached</i>	Payment	12		179.20
				1,059.10	179.20
	Dr Closing Balance				879.90
				1,059.10	1,059.10

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P.N.B. A/c No-2472 Book

1-Aug-2006 to 16-Dec-2006

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Date	Particulars	Vch Type	Vch No.	Debit	Credit
18-8-2006	Cr GRANT <i>Being the amt received by Chq</i>	Receipt	1	46,012.00	
31-8-2006	Dr Cash <i>Ch. No. :574316, Cash withdrawn from Bank</i>	Contra	1		3,200.00
				46,012.00	3,200.00
	Dr Closing Balance				42,812.00
				46,012.00	46,012.00
1-10-2006	Cr Opening Balance			42,812.00	
31-10-2006	Dr Cash <i>Ch. No. :034666, Cash withdrawn from Bank</i>	Contra	2		6,500.00
				42,812.00	6,500.00
	Dr Closing Balance				36,312.00
				42,812.00	42,812.00
1-11-2006	Cr Opening Balance			36,312.00	
11-11-2006	Dr Cash <i>Ch. No. :077783, Cash withdrawn</i>	Contra	3		500.00
30-11-2006	Dr Cash <i>Ch. No. :077798, Cash withdrawn from Bank</i>	Contra	4		5,000.00
				36,312.00	5,500.00
	Dr Closing Balance				30,812.00
				36,312.00	36,312.00