

# Annual Report 2007-2008

## MUKTI

ANNUAL REPORT 2007-2008

## Message from Secretary, Mukti-India

Mukti is a developmental effort started by a handful of successful residents from Jata island in the

primary focus is on supporting and strengthening school education (including financial support to talented, but desperately needy students) as a means of reducing poverty. Mukti's programs also include training in and propagation of improved agricultural, fishery and bee-keeping techniques to increase yields and income.



*Book Bank Project at Bankura*

poverty-stricken Sunderbans region of West Bengal. Its

60,000 poor people of Jata

island are at the core of Mukti's activities, it also has talented student financial support and computer training programs in a few other remote rural poverty-stricken regions of West Bengal.

These efforts, though still limited by many constraints, have the potential of breaking the shackles of debilitating poverty and ushering in hard-to-imagine change in many lives.

- Madhusudan Bairagi  
Secretary, Mukti India



### Highlights:

- Started Coconut Plantation project in various parts of West Bengal . This project has signification influence in livelihood and ecology of West Bengal.
- Mukti opened a new chapter at USA with the help group of enthusiastic volunteers.
- Talented Students Sponsorship (TSS) once again proved its necessity and now conducted in Bankura with very good amount of responses from teachers and students of this area.
- Mukti has started Book Bank project in Bankura.
- Career guide campaign in Sunderban for poor but meritorious students became very successful and got popularity.
- Coaching center program in Sunderban continues to third successive years.

## Newest Member of Mukti Family: Mukti USA

Recently the newest chapter of Mukti has just been initiated in USA by a handful of likeminded Indian volunteers, who has a common goal of wanting to bring changes to the world they live in. The Gangetic Delta of Sunderbans, West Bengal, an UNESCO World Heritage center and habitat of unique flora and fauna, is shamefully underdeveloped and deserves much more public attention in the face of global

warming. The enthusiasts envision starting a movement of integrating development through improved education, heightened social and environmental awareness and fostering community development in the underprivileged areas of any part of world.

Through the internet they came to know about the grass root level efforts of Mukti India. Few volunteers from USA immediately part-

nered with the Mukti India team to start working on several ongoing projects including TSS (Talented Student Scholarship).

Currently volunteers of this chapter is working together to register the chapter as a public benefit non-profit corporation in the state of California. The organization is growing rapidly with support of members from all over USA & Canada.

## Coaching Program for Underprivileged Children 2007-2008

After successfully organizing the 'Coaching Program for Underprivileged Children' in Nagendrapur GP of Raidighi Sundarban (24 Parganas) in 2006 and considering the demand in adjoining areas, Mukti decided to conduct the same coaching program in Kankandighi GP in 2007.

Mukti started four new coaching centres at Babujan Sipai high school, Dakhin Kankandighi, Panchanan Sikkha Niketan and Jogenrapur at Kankandighi GP. More than 5000 students from six high schools (Nagendrapur HK high school, Nagendrapur High school, Babujan Sipai High school, Panchanan Sikkha Niketan, Santosh Goroui Balika Bidya-

laya and Jogenrapur High school) applied for this supplementary coaching program. The students were selected based on their merit and the financial situation of their families.

Each centre provided coaching to 120 Students. Each group of 120 students included 20 students from class V to X. Twelve teachers, two coordinators and 2 assistants were recruited by Mukti. Mathematics and English were taught in the morning classes every day. Mukti Book bank



*Meal Supplied during this Coaching Program*

provided all the text books and other required educational materials to all the students with a nominal fees (Rs. 10/- per month). Teachers' salary and other related expenses were covered by Asha, Chennai.

In the year 2007, Mukti rapidly expanded the coaching program by recruiting 1000 students with 24 additional teachers.

## Career Guide Program



*Career Guide Program*

In a program titled 'Career Guide counseling', prominent social worker Mr. Manas Chakraborty and other experts from Kolkata discussed career options with more than 200 students that would help Secondary and Postsecondary students choose their vocation based on their academic performance. It was a one on one career counseling based on the students' academic scores, interest, and family's financial position.

Experts discussed opportunities and options that are available in different academic areas and encouraged and inspired the students to pursue their interest. Moreover, Mukti volunteers are keeping touch with every student to provide further counseling and assistance.

## Book Bank 2007-2008 at Nagendrapur

On 2nd May'07 Mukti provided books to 3000 students in a ceremony attended by several eminent personalities such as the Director of Public Instruction, Prof. Pratik Choudhuri, who served as Chief Guest, former principal of Maulana Azad college Dr. Madhusudan Saha, former principal of Saltlake Govt. College Prof. Manilal Chakraborty, local Panchayat Chairperson Mr. Swapan Naskar, Mukti members

Madhusudan Bairagi and Biswanath Mandal, who acted as the program convener.

During his speech, Prof Choudhuri congratulated and praised the effort of Mukti's members and provided the students with valuable insights that would help find their footing and independence in future, in the context of their academic back-



*Book Bank 2007 - 2008*

ground. Similar concepts and sentiments were reflected in the speeches of Dr. Saha and Dr. Chakraborty.

## Talented Students Sponsorship (TSS) Program (2007- 2008)

After successfully executing TSS Project in 2006-2007, MUKTI wanted to bring more students under TSS project during 2007-2008.

Mukti put every effort in approaching people and requested them to sponsor talented but financially needy students. Mukti has dedicated itself to changing the lives of the Sunderban inhabitants through education. The next generation will require training in order to be prepared for an ever-changing world and to avail of the opportunities that are now cropping up in India. The low literacy rate in the area is significantly affected by the lack of

sufficient income, which puts pressure on the children to work to provide food for themselves and the family.

M u k t i found many students in Nagendrapur GP and Kankandighi GP, who were talented and excelling in their academics but having difficulties to continue their education further because of the poor financial condition of



*TSS program in Bankura*

their families. In 2007-2008 Mukti supported 60 students from Sunderban and 15 students from Bankura. The students were selected based on their merit and the financial situation of their family.

Sohini Mehta coordinated the TSS Project closely and reported to Mukti board.

## Mukti Bankura Chapter

On 10th June 2007, Mukti inaugurated its **Bankura** chapter of Mukti- India at Bansidi village of Bankura district in West Bengal. Bansidi is a small village located 30 km from Bankura district town. This is one of the most backward areas within the district and requires meticulous care and devoted attention to benefit residents living below the poverty line. In spite of the living conditions, there is a secondary school with around 350 students, and a primary school. On 29th

June 2007, Mukti through its 'Book bank project' provided books to 180 students of Bansidi High school in a ceremony attended by the school teachers and Mukti members Salil Patra, Sanjib Patra and Subal Patra, who also served as the program convener. In his speech, Head Teacher of Bansidi School applauded the effort of Mukti members and provided the students with valuable pointers that would help determine their future academic path. Mukti hopes this grassroots level

*"In its first year Mukti Bankura chapter provided text books to more than 180 students of Bansidi High School"*

work will ultimately help ameliorate basic living conditions of the area through education.

## Mukti Bankura Chapter General Meeting 2007

The general Meeting of Mukti Bankura group held at Bishnupur, Bankura. It is followed by a workshop. More than 50 volunteer attended the program. Mr. Anirban Banarjee from Mukti Bankura group, Mukti India President Sankar Halder and Mr Madhusudan Bairagi, the secretary of Mukti India were also present in the meeting.

Workshop was very successful. Fifteen TSS students received latest instalment of student scholarship. The

students who received the scholarship and their parents got a chance to interact with the volunteers.

Mukti volunteer committed to extend Mukti India work in Bankura, especially in Bansidi, Goyaltor and Bankura.



*Mukti Bankura Chapter General Meeting*

## Coconut Plantation Project in Sunderban

Sunderban is immensely picturesque and with its natural landscape, unique ecosystem and rich wildlife habitat. It is famous for salt water fish and large mangrove trees. It is also a home to the Royal Bengal Tiger. But it is a place where industry is feeble to non-existent.

Its inhabitants are financially challenged because of the lack of all basic needs and poor infrastructure. People here mainly depend on agriculture and small craft work for their livelihood. The lands used for cultivation are mostly single-crop and primarily dependent on rainwater for irrigation. Most of the people do not have round the year jobs. Being surrounded by saline water, deltas are rendered unfit for cultivation. Moreover, owing to communication hurdles with the mainland, villagers find it hard to sell their goods in the market.

Mukti started its Coconut Tree Plantation project in 2007 in an effort to improve the economical condition of these under-privileged people and provide them an opportunity to improve

their lifestyle.

The coconut tree is a kind of tree that vastly grows both in the coastal region of India as well as in areas without extremes in climate. There are several beneficial by-products of the coconut tree such as coconut oil, mattresses and several other products useful in our daily lives such as vinegar, medicine, soap etc.

Almost every household in Sunderban has one or two Coconut trees within their premises. However, people are unaware that these trees can be one of the main sources of their income. People need formal training on how to maintain these Coconut trees in large scale and how to extract the by-products from these trees.

As a pilot project Mukti planted 300 coconut tree seedling (both local and hybrid version) in the river embankment

Mukti planned to establish a



*Coconut Plantation Project*

coconut tree nursery and by-product industry in different parts of Sunderban, India in future. Mukti believes this project can help people of Sunderban in following ways:

- To boost economic standard by proper use of the many byproducts of Coconut trees.
- To maintain ecological recycling between the trees and human beings.
- To protect river banks from natural erosion.

## Book Bank Project in Bankura

A common goal connected three young Bengali researchers in Germany. They all dreamt to become a part of a movement of spreading mass education in the remotest parts of West Bengal. They found Mukti, a grass root level organization working for the same cause so beloved to them. That is how the Mukti Bankura chapter was initiated and with help from these energetic individuals Mukti could reach out to the extremely talented but needy students in Bankura.

Fifteen scholarships were distributed in an award ceremony amongst such students to help them continue their higher education. Additional district magistrate, Mr. Kanailal Maiti, who felicitated the ceremony, said Mukti helped realize the dream of these

youngsters that would otherwise have been impossible. The students voiced similar hope too. There are many stories of dreams of education lost to cold realities of financial distress. Ganesh, a meritorious student who secured 75% score in Madhyamik (school final) examination, could not enroll in the science curriculum due to financial hardships of his family. Instead, he had to enroll in humanities curriculum and with Mukti's support he can again dream of becoming a teacher. Another such success story is Tuasin Mallick, a student of poly-technique, who would have dropped out of the program and put an end to his dream of becoming an engineer had it been not for Mukti's help. These are the stories to name a few.

Chinmay Patro, one of the founding members of the Mukti Bankura chapter, who is a researcher in biotechnology at Max Planck Institute was also present at the ceremony. During his address he mentioned about how this effort became a reality by finding about Mukti's activities through internet. Being moved by the tireless efforts of the Mukti grass root level volunteers he immediately became a part of Mukti. He helped initiate the book bank project in Raidighi, Sunderban. Anirban Kar, another member of the Bankura chapter although was not able to be present at the ceremony delivered his message over the phone. He hoped that these students, the backbone of our future will also become a part of the organization to help & support the others.

## Site Visit Report of Neil Mehta from ASHA New York, USA



*Neil interviewing local school representatives*

Since sizeable amount of MUKTI projects are either partially or fully funded by ASHA, MUKTI invited an active member of ASHA New York chapter, Mr. Neil Mehta to visit Sunderban and MUKTI's site for a first glimpse of the problem and the progress made by MUKTI projects and volunteers.

Both the days of Mr. Mehta were very hectic as well as fruitful. He landed in Kolkata, West Bengal and was happily invited by MUKTI volunteers who brought him up to Raidighi in Sunderban. After a healthy lunch, he was taken for a motorcar ride to numerous villages in Sunderban delta. In the afternoon of the same day, Mr. Mehta toured two schools where MUKTI programs are in full swing, namely Nagen drapur High School and Jogendrapur High School. Just like the parents of the lucky school goers along with their children, Mr. Mehta was extremely happy to meet them and learn MUKTI's help from the beneficiaries. The remaining part of the hectic first day went in discussing with MUKTI volunteers over dinner time after a quick visit to the recently purchased plot of land by MUKTI in the region.

The second day for Mr. Mehta was welcomed by the lovely breakfast hosted by the Haldar family. It was soon followed by the much needed visit

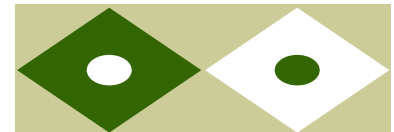
to the five coaching centers run actively by MUKTI volunteers before leaving for Kolkata to close the site visit program. Mr. Mehta was extremely happy to note first hand of MUKTI's progress in some projects and the

first one definitely comes as the Book Bank project. In 2007 itself, 2500 textbooks were distributed to needy but meritorious students, which was solely funded by ASHA. Students ranging all the way from Vth standard to XIIth standard benefited from this noble project. In addition to the above, MUKTI bought a piece of land solely for the construction of the book library for the needy students. The first brick for the construction would be laid on 30th March, 2007 with the sole purpose of creating a study space for students and a resource center for adults.

ASHA funded for the book bank construction and MUKTI has already requested an additional amount for the solar lighting of the library and if it succeeds, the local government will fund the remaining likewise amount. The five coaching centers were primarily a great supplement to the education the students receive in government schools with English and Maths being targeted with special emphasis. The teachers of these schools are great but are enormously outnumbered by the students in the ratio of more than 50:1 respectively. Hence, apart from lack of teachers, the schools themselves also lack proper facilities like lighting etc. MUKTI's great achievement in setting up these supplementary coaching classes with budget from ASHA Chennai chapter would be a great supplement to the needy and deserving students.

Mr. Mehta's visit also shed

some light on the plight of the educated rural students who with all the primary, secondary and college education, do not get into right employment due to lack of vocational training or examination preparation. Hence, programs for future ideas of generating additional solar lighting in schools and libraries, test preparation programs for local students as well as vocational school for external research would be some of the main focus as listed by the visitor. Overall, Mr. Mehta was extremely pleased with the warm welcome as well as great achievement shown by MUKTI projects and volunteers.



### ***Mukti's Mission***

*Mukti's mission is to implement programs for the upliftment of the underprivileged, illiterate, poor and backward people of the Sunderban region by way of motivation and human resource development. This mission is aimed at creating a self-reliant society through efficient and effective utilization of local resources through the implementation of environmentally sound policies.*

# Income and Expenditure Statement 2007 - 2008

**Mukti (2007-2008)**  
Vill & P.S- Purbasridharpur, P.S-Raidighi,  
Dist-South 24 Parganas

## Income & Expenditure Statement 1-Apr-2007 to 31-Mar-2008

Particulars	1-Apr-2007 to 31-Mar-2008	Particulars	1-Apr-2007 to 31-Mar-2008
<b>Purchase Accounts</b>		<b>Direct Incomes</b>	
<b>Indirect Expenses</b>	<b>10,044.04</b>	Bank Interest	2,180.00
Agriculture Project Exp	1,020.00	Building Donation Received	4,82,031.75
Bank Charges	97.00	<b>Indirect Incomes</b>	
Depreciation	4,909.04	<b>BOOK BANK INCOME</b>	<b>4,15,645.70</b>
Social Work (S.H.G)	4,018.00	B.B.Application Fees Received	18,450.00
<b>BOOK BANK EXPENSES</b>	<b>4,36,965.95</b>	B.B.Donation Received	3,97,195.70
B.B.Conveyance	6,772.00	<b>Coaching Center for Under Privileged - Income</b>	<b>1,12,830.00</b>
B.B.Printing & Stationary	4,046.75	C. Cup Fund Received	1,12,830.00
B.B.Program Exp	15,777.25	<b>General &amp; Administrative Income</b>	<b>51,065.00</b>
B.B.Project	3,97,195.70	GR Donation Received	51,065.00
B.B.Purchases	4,622.00	<b>Sanitation Project- Income</b>	<b>4,000.00</b>
B.B.Staff Salary	6,000.00	S. T. Project Fund Received	4,000.00
B.B.Tea & Snacks	2,552.25	<b>Talented Student Sponsor- Income</b>	<b>1,97,386.00</b>
<b>Coaching Center for Under-Privileged - Expenses</b>	<b>1,75,243.04</b>	T.S.S.Donation Received	1,97,386.00
C. Cup Centre Material Purchase	3,741.00		
C. Cup Conveyance	3,896.54		
C. Cup Other Exp.	2,499.00		
C. Cup Printing Stationary	4,152.00		
C. Cup Teachers Salary	1,60,000.00		
C. Cup Tiffin Exp	954.50		
<b>Coconut Plantation Exp</b>			
<b>General &amp; Administrative Exps.</b>	<b>52,225.29</b>		
G.R.Accounting Exp	776.00		
G. R. Audit Exp	129.00		
Gr. Conveyance	6,451.00		
Gr Exp (Honorarium)	17,100.00		
GR Food & Beverage	731.00		
GR Meeting Expenses	3,025.25		
GR Office Stationery Expenses	84.00		
G.R Others Exp	8,605.04		
GR Printing & Stationery	3,189.00		
GR Tea & Snacks	1,888.00		
GR Telephone & Communication	10,247.00		
<b>Plantation Exp</b>	<b>5,865.00</b>		
Plantation Exp	5,865.00		
<b>Sanitation Project-Expenditure</b>	<b>22,960.00</b>		
S.T Conveyance	460.00		
S.T Project Material Cost	22,500.00		



... continued

**Mukti (2007-2008)**  
Income & Expenditure Statement  
**Particulars** 1-Apr-2007 to 31-Mar-2008

Particulars	1-Apr-2007 to 31-Mar-2008
<b>Talented Student Sponsor- Expenses</b>	<b>1,44,445.60</b>
Bakura Branch	37,000.00
Special Guide Programme of M.P	11,191.00
T.S.S Admission Fees	4,865.00
T.S.S Book Purchase	40,055.00
T.S.S Conveyance	2,618.00
T.S.S Co-Ordinator's Salary	4,500.00
T.S.S Mess Fees	27,200.00
T.S.S Misc. Expenses	4,940.50
T.S.S Phone & Communication	516.00
T.S.S Printing & Stationery	704.00
T.S.S Site & Students Visit	653.50
T.S.S. Study Materials Purchase	800.00
T.S.S Tea & Snacks	9,402.60
Excess of Income over Expenditure	<b>4,17,389.53</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,65,138.45</b>

Particulars	1-Apr-2007 to 31-Mar-2008
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,65,138.45</b>

For R.S. Ray & Associates  
Chartered Accountants  
*Ankur*  
(ASIM KUMAR SINHA) 27/03/08  
Membership no. - 50845



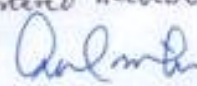
*Ankur*  
Secretary, Mukti  
(Madhusudhan Bairagi)  
27/8/08

# Balance Sheet 2007- 2008

**Mukti (2007-2008)**  
 Vill & P. S- Purbasridharpur, P. S-Raidighi,  
 Dist-South 24 Parganas

## Balance Sheet 1-Apr-2007 to 31-Mar-2008

Liabilities		as at 31-Mar-2008	Assets		as at 31-Mar-2008
<b>Capital Account</b>		<b>6,29,406.00</b>	<b>Fixed Assets</b>		<b>6,51,284.52</b>
CORPUS FUND	6,29,406.00		Building Construction	20,222.87	
<b>Loans (Liability)</b>		<b>24,600.00</b>	Furniture & Fixture	13,370.40	
Unsecured Loan	24,600.00		Land A/C	4,11,564.54	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		<b>83,514.00</b>	Library Building Construction	1,99,450.00	
Sundry Creditors	83,514.00		Office Equipment	6,666.61	
<b>Profit &amp; Loss A/c</b>			<b>Current Assets</b>		<b>86,235.48</b>
Opening Balance			Cash-in-hand	28,638.52	
Current Period	4,17,389.53		FCRA Bank Account(8666)	2,982.11	
Less: Transferred	4,17,389.53		Loans & Advances	15,000.00	
			Saving Bank A/C (7858)	39,614.85	
<b>Total</b>		<b>7,37,520.00</b>	<b>Total</b>		<b>7,37,520.00</b>

For R. S. Ray & Associates  
 Chartered Accountants  
  
 (Asim Kumar Sinha) 27/03/08  
 Partner  
 Membership No - 50845



**MUKTI**  
 (A TRUST ORGANISATION)  
 Regd. No. IV-104 Estd. 2008  
 Secretary  
 MADHUSUDAN BARRAGE  
 27/8/08  
 (Madhusudan Baring)



## MUKTI

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[www.muktiweb.org](http://www.muktiweb.org)

Let's Help the Needy



## MUKTI

### Educational Camp for the Needy Students

Mukti has implemented various programs for the development and facilitation of education, such as 'mid-day meal', 'coaching center' project, 'talented student sponsorship' and 'book bank' project. Food, or its lack; thereof, is perhaps the biggest threat for the education of underprivileged kids across nations. Hunger compels these prospective students to abandon education and work for food, resulting in a severe detriment to the literacy rate. At present, Mukti's program provides food for 75 kids Monday through Friday. Schools in underdeveloped areas have a poor teacher student ratio. The Coaching Center project provides 800 student 8 centers with 16

teachers who provide out-of school tutoring and mentoring that complements and strengthens student learning at school. In addition, Mukti provided 80 students with sponsorships. In 2007, 14 of these 80 students appeared for Madhyamik (10th standard) examination, 2 students obtained star marks (over 75%), 8 obtained first division (over 60%) and 4 secured 2nd division (over 45%) marks.

Finally, with the aim of providing students with a proper educational platform, Mukti has undertaken a simple, yet fundamental program, referred to as the Book bank project. Since its inception, Mukti has provided curriculum books free of cost

to students. In the 2004-05 academic year, 150 students were provided with text books, in 2005-06, 800 students obtained this facility, and in the 2006-07 year, this number increased to 1850 and in the current academic year 2007-08, Mukti provided text books to 3000 students. The student recipients were from more than 10 schools spread across 50 villages.

This phenomenal growth rate has been possible with the help and support of an ever-expanding pool of members.

### !! Sponsor a Student Today !!

Talented Students Sponsorship (TSS) is one of the many good projects supported by MUKTI for the betterment of our society. Lack of education is one of the major causes of economic backwardness and helplessness of the people in Sunderbans, similar to the poorest regions of the world. Towards a goal of eradicating illiteracy in the region, and to encourage young talented children not only to complete school with good grades but also to go for graduate studies, MUKTI has been facilitating sponsorship of talented students.

Visit [www.muktiweb.org/tss](http://www.muktiweb.org/tss)