

Site Visit Report: Mukti TSS Project (Feb 2007)

(Web-link <http://www.ashanet.org/projects/project-view.php?p=820>)

Project Description: Mukti is a charitable and socio-economic development trust established in 2003 in Sundarban, West Bengal. Mukti Talent Student Sponsorship (TSS) program supports more than 80 talented but needy students in 2006-2007 academic year. Asha, Sheffield committed to sponsor 5 students for 2 year tenure. Project details and proposal can be found in the given web-link.

Purpose of the Visit:

- Meeting the students, sponsored by Asha, Sheffield
- One to one conversation with the students about their education and overall progress
- Visit Mukti as an organisation

Visit Description:

Deepayan Bhowmik from Asha Sheffield visited Mukti, Sundarban, West Bengal for TSS project in February 2007. During the visit:

- He met the students sponsored by Asha Sheffield. 3 out of 5 students were present in the meeting. Parents of these students were also present there.
- Mukti organising members including Mr. Madhusudan Bairagi, Mr. Haldar were present during the visit
- He met the head master of the locale primary school and coaching centre tutors run by Mukti and discussed progress and issues of the students
- He checked the educational progress reports the students under the TSS scheme

Comment: An overall performance of Mukti is really appreciable especially its commitment towards development of underprivileged children in such a remote place in Sundarban. The following comments have been made after the visit:

Appreciation	Area to improve
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Students get real encouragement and opportunity by Mukti2. Family condition and lack of awareness made students dropped out from schools. But Mukti did a commendable job by returning them in main stream of education.3. Mukti coaching centre really supports the student's extra need for their study.4. This example set by Mukti can encourage others to help the underprivileged children	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. There is need for self-development of coaching centre staff2. Overall bad result particularly in English is noticed3. Some students in this TSS project including Asha sponsored students use other coaching or private tutorial other than Mukti run coaching centre. Probably they don't have enough trust on Mukti run coaching centre.4. Mukti should encourage students in other activity other than only study. They can be encouraged in extra-curricular activity like sports, drawing, some hand made craft etc.

Recommendation: Deepayan recommends Asha Sheffield and other chapter to encourage and support Mukti projects.