GANJAM DISTRICT ORTHOPAEDICALLY HANDICAPPED WELFARE ASSOCIATION (Samarth)

Virtual Site visit on Aug 18th, 2021

My name is Prasenjit Biswas, a volunteer with Asha Austin. We did a virtual zoom session as part of the site visit of Samarth (GANJAM DISTRICT ORTHOPAEDICALLY HANDICAPPED WELFARE ASSOCIATION) on Aug 18th, 2021. I have uploaded the pictures here –


• Asha-Austin
  • Rangakrishnan Srinivasan (Project Steward, Chapter Projects Coordinator)
  • Minal Ahuja (Chapter Fundraising and Grants Coordinator)
  • Prasenjit Biswas (Samarth GDOHWA Steward)
  • Mohit Sood (Team Asha Chapter Coordinator)
  • Shruti Motiwale (Team Asha Coordinator)
  • Harsha (Team Asha Coordinator)
• SAMARTH school
  • Dr. Kakala Ananda (President, Founding Member)
  • Krishna-kumari – project co-ordinator
  • Sharmistha Mishra (Teacher, joined 2 yrs back)
  • Assistant teacher (crafts)
  • Main cook (was in the main kitchen)
  • Assistant cook (Narmada Rauro)
  • Music teacher
  • Teacher (Jiten Kumar Gowda, driver)
  • 2 attendants
  • Students

We recorded the entire session and uploaded to YouTube - https://youtu.be/jYuwe7svlEjg

At first we virtually visited the building where students are residing (temporary rented property)

Below are the few points that we have seen/been informed.

• Total Two floors – 4 main rooms (500 sq ft approx. each) (All rooms have attached bathroom)
• Main room has the office setup – Also had the TV funded by ASHA last year, many awards won by the students, big almirahs for common stuffs
• One big hall where all students can be accommodated for common classes
• Separate rooms for boys and girls (21 girls +24 boys)
One room has the physiotherapy equipments (a subset of what they actually had, and still maximum stuff is in the older building which is locked)

Ramps are there for easy entry of students (1st/ground floor is used for students with walking disability, upper floor for the rest)

Kitchen has necessary utensils and required setup

Two big male/female bathrooms outside the building but within the premises

Water: Pump motors, tube-well, tap water (24x7 service), water purifiers in every room

Vocational training equipments and products made by the students

First aid and medical boxes in each room (medicines like multivitamin, sanitizer, ORS packets, paracetamols, covid related items like masks, oximeters, thermometers)

Each student has separate box-es and eating plates
  - They use only a mat for sleeping
  - It would be good if they can get required funds for folding beds

Staff:
  - 11 staffs are sponsored by ASHA. (among them 8 are for physiotherapy) –
  - There are other 24 staffs for MR and CP school
  - The staffs we met: Krishna-kumari – project co-Ordinator, Sharmistha Mishra (Teacher, joined 2 yrs back), Assistant teacher (crafts), Main cook (was in the main kitchen), Assistant cook (Narmada Rauro), Music teacher, Teacher (Jiten Kumar Gowda, driver), 2 attendants
    - Staffs generally live in their houses and comes for work at scheduled times (sometimes they need to stay)

Samarth has a 7 member managing committee

Berhampur community is helpful in every aspect as this organization is very well known locally and state-wise also at govt level

We also met the students (There are many students who are staying in Samarth for more than 10 yrs, many study in Chhatarpur science college, students in colleges study pol science, math chemistry etc subjects – majors), tiffin, lunch, dinner all everything provided in the school

There is a Garden there, also we saw 4-5 scooters for conveyance – Their old van is out fo order – lack of van is creating difficulties in daily commute

We saw several vocational decoration items made by the students. The list includes mufflers, sweaters, tailoring items, cruise, teddy works, fancy products made of ice-cream sticks, greeting cards (ASHA to promote this work to its donors), paintings, money purses, sewing machines
Kitchen Room Photo:

Storeroom pics
Upstairs and Veranda

Virtual Visit miscellaneous pics