

Shamayita Math, Ranbahal, Amarkanan, Bankura - 722133





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# 1. From the desk of the Secretary:

My heart swells with pride and joy as I share the annual progress report of Shamayita Math for the financial year (FY) 2021-22. I truly believe that with the guidance and philosophy of our revered founder Sri Sri Prabhuji, this year too Shamayita Math has been able to touch the poorest souls of our society. To instill in them the feeling of being empowered in order to lead a life with dignity is the true essence behind the core activities of the organization.

As we navigate through the post-COVID-19 phase and enter into a year where life is picking up pace, we are faced with challenges both tangible and non-tangible. The staff, community, stakeholders, and donors are eager to minimize the economic devastation of COVID-19 and start working to re-create the present. A lot has been lost, and destroyed in every rural household but now the time has come to rise up and fill that gap. The time has come when we march ahead with zeal to overcome the losses.



In this report, we find the achievements of the past year, the outreach, new initiatives, and prototypes which have been established. We can proudly say that, despite insurmountable hurdles, our teams working in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, and West Bengal have been able to reach out to 44,854 households. All this was made possible by the efforts of our partners, well-wishers, government officials, community workers, and last but not least the members of Shamayita Math. Their relentless hard work and dedication are truly appreciated.

In the coming year, as the world recovers from the after-shock of COVID-19, we will rebuild communities and their institutions and strengthen livelihoods. To sustain and enhance our impact, women from marginalized groups will be capacitated to take ownership of initiatives that promote sustainable development and improve livelihoods. As we move forward, the organization will remain dedicated to its mission, striving to address both the livelihoods and spiritual needs of the community with even greater enthusiasm and dedication.

I again ask for the divine blessings of our Lord Prabhuji to continue forever on the entire family of Shamayita Math. My pranam at the lotus feet of our Lord.

With thanks & warm wishes

Rishi Riddha Anahata Secretary, Shamayita Math



## 2. Organization: About Us

Shamayita Math has been created with a mission 'to serve the marginalized with an aim to create a holistic development opportunity to help them a self-empowered life with dignity.' The organization envisions an empowered society with a focus on the welfare of the underprivileged, particularly women and children.

Shri Shri Prabhuji, an inborn Mahayogi dreamt of an organization based on the foundation of "spiritualism". Thus, on 15th August 1996, Shamayita Math was born with its roots at Ranbahal, Amarkanan in the Bankura district of West Bengal. Since then, the organization has undertaken diverse initiatives for the development of the society and empowerment of human beings. A person associated with Shamayita Math will realize the "existence of self". It is through affirmative thoughts that Shamayita Math enables its beneficiaries to develop the belief that they can improve their own life and those around them.

Over the years Shamayita Math has effortlessly worked with the poorest section of the society irrespective of caste, creed, gender, or age. Activities for the holistic development of the marginalized have been introduced, replicated, and sustained. The community is involved not only in income-generating activities but also in different celebrations, observation of special days, and relief works too.

The organization has deep experience in rural development having worked intensely and closely with the poorest of the poor to help achieve sustainable livelihood and enable communities to access healthcare and education. The Math, through its activities, touches all aspects of the life of the rural poor from easy access to healthcare, access to quality education, agriculture development, animal husbandry, vocational training for income generation, formation and development of village self-help groups, empowerment of rural women through income generation avenues, rural entrepreneurship development and formation and strengthening of village development groups – so that working livelihood models created and set up by the Math are now owned and sustained by the community.

The organization has built a network of linkages with various central, state and private sector organizations – in the rural development ecosystem. It has experience working with a large number of departments and agencies of state and central governments, private corporations and public sector undertakings in ensuring the delivery of development services and benefits to the rural poor.

Even though the COVID-19 phase is over, yet its lingering effects can be felt even today more so in rural India as they are still struggling to cope with the economy. We are confident that this too shall pass with the combined efforts of the staff, the community, and the stakeholders along with blessings from Sri Sri Prabhuji. 

# 3. Our belief:

Shamayita Math believes in the philosophy of ultimate empowerment through self-knowledge and self-consciousness. The vision and mission envisaged by the organization are -

### VISION

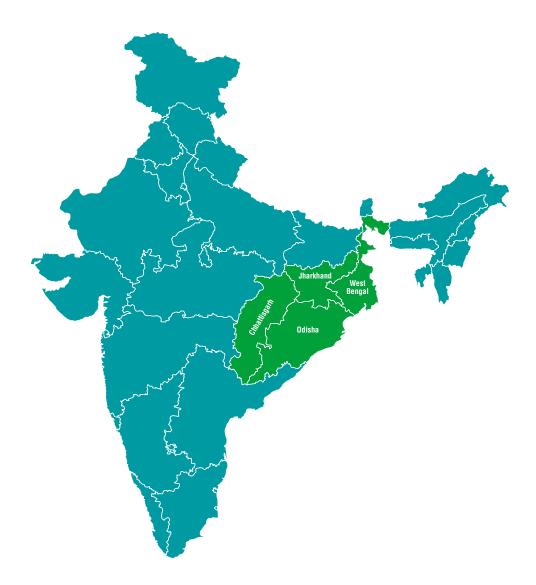
An empowered society, with a focus on women, where an individual, illumined with awakened consciousness, will be established with dignity, self-power and self-confidence.

### MISSION

To serve humanity with an aim to develop one's own self-own skill and potential, with a holistic approach, through self-discovery and help them to lead a self-sustained life with dignity.

### OUTREACH

Shamayita Math works in four states of India- Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, and West Bengal. Each location has field-based teams with a team leader and a project executive, technical experts and community mobilizers. The work is spread out in the districts of Paschim Medinipur, Jhargram, Bankura, and Paschim Burdwan in West Bengal, Dantewada district in Chhattisgarh, East Singhbhum district of Jharkhand and Keonjhar district of Odisha. The number of personnel associated with the organization is 115.



### Key highlights of the year

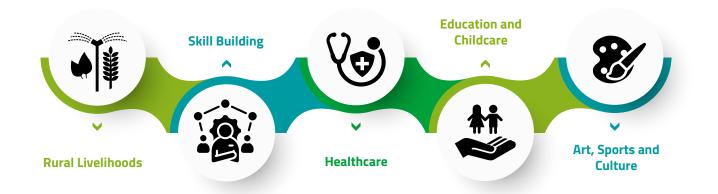
- Engaging with 44,854 households from the most vulnerable sections of society.
- Promoting 3,000 community institutions, including Self-Help Groups (SHGs), Producer Groups (PGs), Farmer Producer Companies (FPCs), and water management groups.
- Providing support for the adoption of improved agricultural practices to benefit over 25,000 families, enhancing food security and increasing their incomes.
- Introducing scientific livestock management practices to more than 10,000 families to improve animal husbandry and boost their livelihoods.
- Facilitating the diversification of livelihoods for 3,300 families by enabling the adoption of activities such as mushroom cultivation, orchard farming, and fisheries.
- Rejuvenating and treating 4,000 hectares of undulated and infertile land to make it more productive and sustainable for agriculture.
- Empowering 550 youths through skill development programs focused on micro-enterprises, fostering entrepreneurship and economic independence.
- Operating a hospital that serves the well-being of nearly 200,000 people, ensuring access to
  essential healthcare services.
- Supporting five learning centers aimed at improving educational outcomes for 235 underprivileged children.
- Running one cost-effective English medium schools, providing quality education to the community educating 900 students.

### 4. Our work:



The multifarious work of Shamayita Math can be broadly classified under five main pillars:

#### Pillars of Engagement



These core activities promoted help to improve the social and economic conditions of the marginalized while strengthening the role of women in society. Over the years these activities have spread out, upgraded, intensified and replicated as models. Other pertinent investment areas are healthcare, education and skill building. The Math works on all these fronts for the betterment of rural society. The COVID period witnessed a hiatus in the pace of the activities which is now gradually picking up the momentum.

The FY 2021-22 witnessed the outreach of Shamayita Math to 44,854 households.

### 4.1. Rural Livelihoods:

Shamayita Math is committed to improving the livelihoods of marginalized communities, particularly in rural areas of Eastern and Central India, which has a large percentage of economically deprived population. We strive to uplift disadvantaged communities and create sustainable pathways to improved livelihoods and overall quality of life by working on many pertinent thematic areas.



#### 4.1.1. Institution Building:

The promotion and strengthening of women collectives in the form of Self Help Groups (SHGs) and Village Organizations (VOs) are integral to Shamayita Math's developmental work. These self-governed and peer-controlled institutions serve as effective platforms to empower women in the communities they work with.

Recognizing that women play a central role in families, Shamayita Math focuses its efforts on empowering women as a means to uplift entire households and communities. By providing hand-holding support, training, and capacity building to SHGs and VOs, the organization ensures that these institutions can evolve into socially and financially sustainable entities.

Through these collectives, women gain the necessary skills and knowledge to advocate for their rights and interests, both within their families and in the larger community. They have a platform to voice their concerns and participate in decision-making processes, contributing to their empowerment and agency. Apart from SHGs and VOs, Shamayita Math also promotes institutions like Water User Associations (WUAs) to address issues related to water management and access. These initiatives aim to foster community-led solutions and ownership of resources, leading to more sustainable and equitable outcomes. Shamayita Math has engaged with over 3,000 such community institutions.

On 8th March 2022, Women's Day was celebrated across all the locations on the theme "gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow", to honour women leadership and acknowledge their contribution towards a sustainable future in the context of climate change and environmental and disaster risk reduction, which are some of the greatest global challenges of the twenty-first century.

In 2021-2022, the organization reached a milestone through the formation of Sanchari Women FPC, with 436 members, where primary business commodities are paddy, oyster mushrooms, and zero-pesticide vegetables. It is located in Bankura district.



#### 4.1.2. Improved agriculture practices:

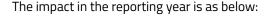
Shamayita Math has made significant strides in introducing technology and innovative agricultural practices to improve the livelihoods of farmers and promote sustainability in their regions of operation. In West Bengal and Odisha, we have implemented the System of Assured Rice Production (SARP), a climate-resilient methodology that involves scientific principles and simple practices to produce healthy and robust rice seedlings. This methodology allows for prolonging nursery duration if necessary due to delayed monsoons and shortening the main field duration of transplanted rice. By adopting SARP, farmers enhance their paddy production, leading to additional food sufficiency and increased cash income.

In Chhattisgarh, where rice productivity has consistently fallen below the national average, a gradual transition from the broadcasting method to the more precise line transplantation method has emerged. Moreover, an impressive 400 farmers have enthusiastically embraced the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) methodology, dedicating 251 acres of land to its implementation. SRI is a set of practices aimed at improving the productivity of rice crops while reducing the use of inputs like water and chemicals.

Furthermore, Shamayita Math introduced the innovative concept of "nutrition gardens" across all the locations. Amidst the persistent issue of malnutrition, particularly affecting among women and children, these nutrition gardens or "Pushti Bagaans" are a beacon of hope. They promote a diverse range of nutrient-rich leafy vegetables, organic manure, homemade pesticides, and natural pest control methods. This model has now successfully found its way into the lives of 6,506 households.

In the year 2021-2022, Shamayita Math achieved a significant milestone by forming the Sanchari Women Farmers Producer Company Ltd, comprising 436 members. The primary business commodities of this company include paddy, oyster mushrooms, and zero-pesticide vegetables. By forming such a producer company, we are determined to fortify the collaborative endeavours of women within the agricultural sector.

InterventionsSARP PaddyImproved PaddyVegetablesKitchen/<br/>Nutrition GardenOilseedsNumber of<br/>farmers11,6164,7457,3676,5064,145





#### 4.1.3. Improved Livestock Management:

Shamayita Math has been actively working on enhancing the productivity of goat rearing and backyard poultry as income-generating activities for poor families in the operational areas. These initiatives aim to provide sustainable sources of cash income and improve the livelihoods of the communities they serve.

In the case of goat rearing, the organization follows a two-pronged strategy. Firstly, we focus on decreasing goat mortality by implementing proper vaccination and de-worming practices. This ensures that the goats remain healthy and less susceptible to diseases, reducing the risk of loss for the farmers. Secondly, Shamayita Math promotes better shed and hygiene practices to create a conducive environment for the goats. A clean and hygienic living space helps improve the overall health and well-being of the animals, allowing families to increase their goat flock.

Similarly, in backyard poultry, the organization emphasizes vaccination and proper disease management practices to minimize mortality rates and maximize the productivity of the poultry. By providing training and support in improved poultry management techniques, Shamayita Math enables families to optimize their poultry production and boost their income.

Shamayita Math became the implementing organization for the project on Mobile Veterinary Clinic, under the Department of Animal Resource Development for providing doorstep services to the farmers. We were given the responsibility of implementing the project in two blocks of Bankura- Barjora and Gangajalghati. Equipped with a Veterinary Officer, a Paravet and a Livestock Assistant, the mobile clinic was held in villages as per the pre-scheduled dates. Services included vaccination as well as treatment of the animals – cow, goat, pig, sheep, and poultry along with medicine support. In the period October 2021 to March 2022, a total of 280 camps were held benefitting 11,966 families. In all, 71,345 animals were treated and 7,120 animals were vaccinated.



#### 4.1.4. Natural Resources Management (NRM):

Shamayita Math is actively supporting watershed projects in different blocks in the districts of Bankura (West Bengal) and Dantewada (Chhattisgarh). These regions heavily rely on rainfall and groundwater for agricultural activities, making proper water management crucial for sustainable agriculture. In collaboration with different stakeholders, the organization has been implementing minor irrigation schemes to ensure maximum utilization of surface water and prevent soil erosion to make a deeper impact on rural livelihood. The organization's approach to INRM includes:

- Building capacities of the frontline functionaries, PRIs, community members and CSOs on the ridge to valley
  principle of watershed implementation
- Leveraging expenditure of MGNREGA on NRM productive assets
- Linking NRM assets with gainful livelihoods of vulnerable groups
- Undertake land and water treatment measures and improve cropping intensity
- Strong and mutual relationships among People, PRI and Public Systems

The organization leverages the expenditure of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) to create assets that contribute to natural resource management (NRM). Through the Mega Watershed Project in Chhattisgarh and the Usharmukti Project in West Bengal, 70% of the MGNREGA expenditure is utilized for NRM asset creation. These assets are then linked with gainful livelihood opportunities for vulnerable groups, aiming to uplift their economic status.

The interventions in these projects involve de-silting irrigation channels, constructing models like hapa (a type of fish enclosure), plantation, orchards, social forestry, staggered trenches, elephant-proof trenches, cattle-proof trenches, new ponds, re-excavation of ponds, and check dams. These measures help in treating and managing more than 4,000 hectares of land, bringing about sustainable water resource management in the regions. The total area treated so far is 6042.18 hectares. The organization has leveraged more than Rs 127 crore from different departments.

In West Bengal, after four years of implementation, micro watersheds are selected based on existing irrigation infrastructures. (Producer Groups) PGs are then formed, involving active SHG members who are small landholders engaged in agriculture. The aim is to achieve synchronized production and aggregate marketing of selected "winner crops" (crops that fetch good cash return) with support from line departments for livelihood interventions. By March 2022, this led to a total crop production of 729.14 MT. The selected "winner crops" include mustard, lentil, tomato, brinjal, cabbage, cauliflower, and potato.

Area treated (hectare)	NRM structures (ponds, check-dams etc.)
6042	3,319



#### 4.1.5. Promoting diverse livelihoods:

Shamayita Math is actively promoting various livelihood opportunities to enhance the economic prospects of the communities they serve. Among these, fisheries, orchards, and oyster mushroom cultivation have been given special attention.

In the fisheries sector, beneficiaries receive partial support in the form of fish seed (fingerlings) and fish feed. For the demonstration of improved aquaculture management practices, specific ponds are selected where full support, including fingerlings and fish feed, is provided. Additionally, some ponds are used as nursery ponds to cultivate fingerlings from spawn, ensuring a steady supply of fish seeds.

Orchards are being promoted along with inter-cropping of vegetables to improve cash flow for families. Using principles of watershed management, the organization has developed small water bodies known as the 30x40 model, which helps in in-situ soil and water conservation in the orchards. This sustainable approach contributes to better orchard productivity and resilience.

To broaden the spectrum of livelihood options and ensure income during the post-Kharif lean period, Shamayita Math has been promoting oyster mushroom cultivation in collaboration with women's collectives. The Sanchari Women Farmer Producer Company and women groups from Keonjhar and Jhargram have jointly achieved a remarkable feat by producing over five tons and two tons of mushrooms, respectively.

In other non-farm sector too, Shamayita Math has been supporting underprivileged women through skill training and upgradation. Shamayita Math, in partnership, with Durgapur Cement Works (DCW) has been training the distressed women from the well-known urban slum of Kadaroad, in Durgapur for the past two years. This year a production unit has been established, where 20 women are engaged in jute bag production. For sustainability, an industrial cooperative society has been formed and at present the society is supplying large-scale orders of jute items- files, folders, and jute bags to different companies and government offices. As members of this society, the women have earned dignity and self-esteem in their family and society apart from monthly earnings by putting in hard labor.



### 4.2. Skill Building:

UBSMRUDSETI, established in 2008, is the only RSETI (Rural Self Employment Training Institutes) in the district of Bankura and is an initiative of the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD). While Shamayita Math has provided the infrastructure in the campus of Shamayita Math, the training and skill upgradation of rural youth geared towards entrepreneurship development is a joint initiative of United Bank of India, NABARD and Shamayita Math.

Shamayita Math's skill development training programs are designed to align with the National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF). The organization identifies potential rural youth and provides them with orientation, motivation, and short-term skill building training lasting from 6 days to 45 days. These training programs aim to empower the youth for self-development and create opportunities for them to establish micro-enterprises. After completing the skill building training, the trained youth are further facilitated for credit linkage from banks. This financial support helps them establish and sustain their micro-enterprises, thereby promoting entrepreneurship and economic development in rural areas.

Since its inception, the institute has organized a total of 314 training programs covering various activities, which have been attended by 7,428 rural youths. The representation in these training programs mainly comprises individuals from Below Poverty Line (BPL), Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST), and other backward sections of society. Out of these, an astonishing 4,650 youths have not only realized self-reliance but also forged their own entrepreneurial paths.

This year, Shamayita Math has organized a grand total of 23 training sessions on agriculture and management, beautician skills, tailoring, food processing, and more. These sessions have brought tangible benefits to an impressive cohort of 559 enthusiastic youths.

The program has been awarded Grade "AA" for 2021-2022 by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, and the National Centre for Excellence of RSETIS (Rural Self Employment Training Institutes) (NACER).



### 4.3. Healthcare:

Shamayita Math has identified Healthcare as one of the major areas of intervention as a part of its social welfare activities. Through Matribedi Shamayita Jeebansurya Hospital and its outreach services, it has touched more than 180,000 people residing in the rural areas of Bankura.

The promotion of health through mobile medical dispensaries has been one of the prominent community interventions in many of the project locations. The mobile dispensary addresses the healthcare needs of underserved communities by providing essential medical services directly to their doorsteps. Specialized doctors conduct health awareness camps at regular intervals through this program. These camps not only offer medical consultations but also focus on creating awareness about various health issues and preventive measures. The goal is to empower community members with knowledge about health and well-being, enabling them to make informed decisions about their health. The reach of this program extends to the remote villages around Durgapur and Burnpur and and Mosaboni-Ghatshila area of Jharkhand, where access to medical facilities is limited. By bringing medical services closer to these communities, the mobile medical dispensary has positively impacted the lives of 21,107 beneficiaries.



### 4.4. Education and Childcare:

Education and childcare are essential focus areas for Shamayita Math as part of their interventions. The organization recognizes that children from vulnerable groups are particularly susceptible to various challenges and face barriers to accessing quality education and safe childhood. To address these issues, Shamayita Math provides targeted support to ensure that these children have access to education and a nurturing environment. The organization supports communities by engaging on multiple issues in this sphere.



#### 4.4.1. Marang Buru Centers:

To address the issue of poor foundational academic ability in rural areas, Shamayita Math has established supplementary learning centers known as 'Marang Buru' schools in the remote villages of Bankura, West Bengal. Since their inception in 2010, these centers have played a pivotal role in bringing about a noticeable change in the lives of children and their families.

Currently, there are five primary learning centers operating with a total enrollment of 235 students. These centers aim to improve the academic abilities of children from underprivileged families.

To ensure regular attendance, students are provided with basic amenities like school uniforms, bags, books, and midday meals, along with umbrellas for rainy days. Local teachers and volunteers teach the students using interesting pedagogy and innovative teaching aids to accelerate the learning process. Through this approach, children gradually gain functional and numerical literacy, as well as proficiency in their regional language, Bengali.

Teachers' training is a fundamental aspect of this education project. Regular refresher and motivation training sessions are conducted for teachers to enhance their teaching skills and foster a positive attitude toward their students.

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#### 4.4.2. Shamayita Convent School:

Shamayita Convent, established in 1996 in the Bankura district, is a prestigious CBSE-affiliated 10+2 English medium residential school. The school aims at imbibing eternal values in a child. The school emphasises on the development of inner traits, aptitudes and potentialities of every student, apart from providing quality education to the low and middle income groups. It takes immense pride in its practice of recruiting highly qualified, talented, and dedicated teachers who are committed to nurturing the holistic growth of students during their formative and vital developmental years.

During the reporting year, a total of 60 students appeared for class 10th, and 48 students appeared for class 12th exams, and all of them passed their respective board exams. However, during the COVID-19 lockdown, like many Indian schools, Shamayita Convent also faced challenges. While online classes were initiated, many students couldn't avail of internet facilities, hindering their access to education.

To address this, offline classes were conducted for classes 9 to 12 for one month in November-December 2021. However, due to the rise in COVID-19 cases, the school had to return to online mode in January 2022. Later, from February-end, the school reopened for senior classes and conducted annual examinations in offline mode for classes 9 to 12, while the rest of the classes continued in online mode. Finally, from the last week of March 2022, the school reopened in offline mode for all classes.

The COVID-19 pandemic presented severe difficulties for Shamayita Convent. Many students from underprivileged families were unable to enrol due to financial strain, while some students lost their parents to COVID. To accommodate distressed students, the school set up sponsors. On the other hand, students from immigrant families enrolled in the school. Post-COVID, teachers struggled with irregular attendance, indiscipline, and lack of concentration among students. The biggest challenge was learning loss, particularly in disciplines like Mathematics and Science that are more practical in nature. Now that we have resumed our learning, it is because of our diligence and persistent effort. Additionally, 175 of our students took part in Olympiad exams, where 50 of them won gold medals, 34 silver, and 9 bronze medals.



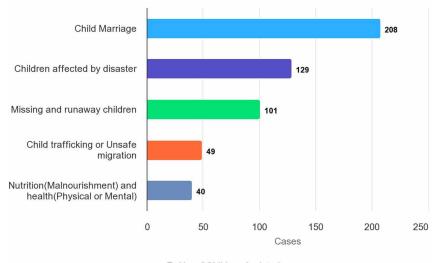
#### 4.4.3. Childline:

Shamayita Math is actively involved in implementing the CHILDLINE -1098 service in Bankura, West Bengal, and Kirandul, Dantewada district, Chhattisgarh. As a collaborative organization, its major objective is to reach out to every child in need of care and protection by responding to emergencies through the toll-free helpline number, 1098.

During the reporting year, CHILDLINE Bankura handled 614 cases. The top five areas of concern include child marriage, children affected by disasters, missing and runaway children, child trafficking and unsafe migration, and addressing mental health or nutrition-related needs of children.

To create awareness and educate various stakeholders on child protection and available services, CHILDLINE Bankura conducted 254 awareness programs. These programs reached 9,112 school children, 16,215 adults, and 588 stakeholders from different sectors and line departments. The organization collaborated with police, health personnel, SHGs, and other stakeholders to ensure a comprehensive approach to child protection.

Special occasions like "Childline Se Dosti," a week-long program with school children, Children's Day celebrated with COVID Orphan children, National Girl Child Day, and Child Labour Day were commemorated through collaborative efforts with the District Legal Services Authority.



No. of Children Assisted

Highcharts.com



### 4.5. Arts, Sports and Culture:

Recognizing the importance of arts, sports and culture in holistic development and community empowerment, Shamayita Math focuses on various initiatives to enrich the lives of the people. These not only contribute to physical and mental well-being but also serve as vehicles for self-expression, creativity, and identity, particularly for Adivasi people. It also fosters a sense of unity, pride, and empowerment, ultimately paving the way for comprehensive and sustainable development.



#### 4.5.1. Annual tribal meet:

Shamayita Math celebrates the art and culture of Adivasis in Bankura through the celebration of the Kherwal Tukou festival. This popular legacy folk festival, held annually on the 1st of January, showcases the rich cultural heritage of the region. The event takes place in the captivating landscape under the foothills of Susunia Hills, in the small tribal village of Shiulibona.

In 2022, the festival marked its 25th year of celebration, and it was conducted with full enthusiasm and spirit. Approximately 18,000 villagers participated in the day-long event, making it a grand gathering to honor and celebrate the Adivasi traditions. The festival brings together the local community to revel in traditional dance and music with open air lunch for all.



#### 4.5.2. Shamayita Math Sports Academy:

The Shamayita Sports Academy (SSA) is committed to identifying and nurturing raw sports talent from underprivileged families. Youth between the ages of 5 and 18 years are selected and provided with sports education in football by licensed coaches. Irrespective of gender, caste, or race, these young athletes are encouraged to embrace sportsmanship and even pursue professional careers in football.

To promote football in rural areas, SSA realized the importance of developing football coaches at the grassroots level. About 30 volunteers expressed their interest in conducting football training and attended a training-of-trainers program led by AIFF Coach Educator - SM Lodh from 17th to 18th December 2021. Following the training, satellite centers of SSA were established in three village. Villages. Footballs and training accessories were provided to these centers, and regular coaching continued despite lockdown challenges.

The enthusiasm of young boys and girls persisted, and the senior team of SSA participated in two tournaments held on the 5th and 12th of December 2021. On the foundation day of SSA, 24th July 2021, a football match between SSA and a district team was organized to celebrate the occasion.

From 11th February to 13th February 2022, in collaboration with Nehru Yuva Kendra, rural sports meet of 20 villages was organized. Additionally, on the 24th of December 2021, a tribal sports meet was organized at Shamayita Krirangan for students of Marang Buru Schools.



## 5. New Initiative:

Shamayita Math remains committed to fostering community-based sustainable development and empowering rural farmers and women SHGs. We also invest organizational focus on creating innovative ways to support marginalized households, whether it is through marketing new products or initiating demonstration plots and technologies for training.



#### 5.1. Krishani:

Krishani, a Green Initiative by Shamayita Math, stands as a boutique outlet nestled in Durgapur, dedicated to championing safe and natural products among the urban community. The vision behind Krishani is to forge a marketing platform for the treasures of natural farming produced by rural farmers. These treasures encompass an array of produce, including paddy, pulses, mustard oil, sunflower, oyster mushrooms, and zero-pesticide vegetables.

At Krishani, one can find an assortment of natural and organic products, such as natural honey, fresh date jaggery, and handicrafts from Bankura, including terracotta, bamboo-craft, and jute bags. Additionally, the outlet offers a variety of seedlings for vegetables, fruit saplings, and decorative indoor plants, providing urban dwellers with options to cultivate greenery at home.

In line with promoting chemical-free farming, Krishani also offers bio inputs like bio manures and bio-pesticides, encouraging eco-friendly agricultural practices. By providing a platform for both rural farmers and urban consumers, Krishani supports sustainable livelihoods and fosters a deeper connection between rural and urban communities.



#### 5.2. Weekly Jaivik Haat:

The Weekly Jaivik Haat in the Mosaboni area of East Singhbhum district, Jharkhand, is an innovative initiative by Shamayita Math to promote natural farming and micro-enterprise development among women SHGs. The primary objective of this open field market is to provide a platform for farmers from remote villages to market their freshly grown vegetables and other products.

Held every Sunday, the Jaivik Haat has gained popularity among the residents of Mosaboni town. It offers a diverse range of products, including freshly grown vegetables and fruits, oyster mushrooms, puffed rice made from a low-cost puffed rice making machine, and wooden crafts. The market provides farmers with an opportunity to directly connect with consumers and showcase their produce, ensuring fair prices and better income opportunities for them.



#### 5.3. Orchard demonstration:

A demonstration orchard, developed at the premises of Shamayita Math, serves as a vital platform for nearby farmers to learn about modern agricultural technology and practices. By showcasing high-density and ultra-high-density orchard systems, the orchard aims to transfer knowledge, demonstrate proof of concept, and mitigate risks associated with adopting innovative techniques.

The region's farmers often lack exposure to the latest farming methods, leading to reluctance in implementing new practices. The demonstration orchard bridges this gap, providing tangible evidence of the benefits of high-density and ultra-high-density orchards, such as increased yields and resource optimization. Moreover, the orchard addresses local challenges, tailoring solutions to suit land scarcity or water constraints in the area. Through workshops and interactive sessions, capacity building among farmers is facilitated, empowering them to manage these orchard systems effectively.

Additionally, the farmer-to-farmer learning model fosters peer-to-peer knowledge sharing, creating a supportive community of adopters. Stakeholders from various sectors are also attracted to the orchard, promoting collaboration and development of sustainable agriculture.



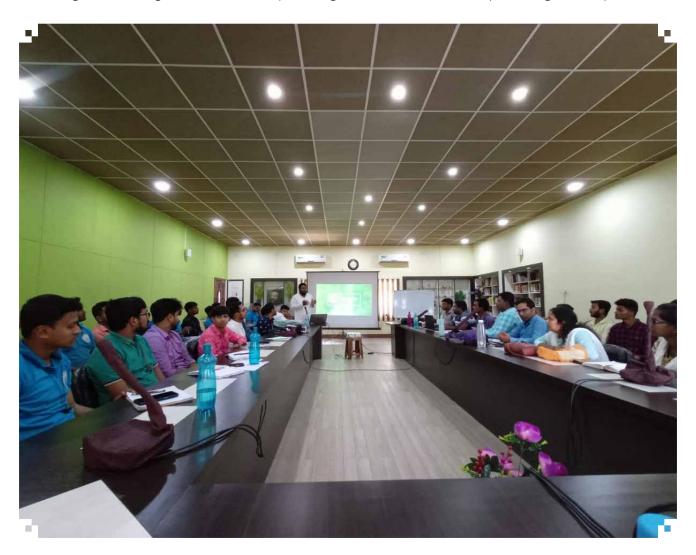
# 6. Training, capacity building and exposure:

Over the past 15 years, Shamayita Math has focused on enhancing agricultural productivity through the transfer of technology. However, with growing global awareness about the adverse effects of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, the organization shifted its focus towards promoting chemical-free agriculture in 2020. To bring about this change in belief system, orientation cum training on natural farming was organized for the staff of Bankura, Salboni, and Jhargram districts.

As part of its commitment to sustainability and community empowerment, Shamayita Math developed a 36-day online training module on agriculture entrepreneurship. The training aimed to equip agriculture entrepreneurs (AEs) with the knowledge and skills to act as one-stop resource providers for small and marginal farmers. AEs offer services such as credit and market linkage, access to high-quality inputs, and crop advisory, thereby playing an active role in agricultural and livestock development in their regions. Online training was provided to 78 trainees from West Bengal. In the Keonjhar district of Odisha, 29 trainees received the same training.

To facilitate the formation of a Farmer Producer Company (FPC), staff members underwent training on Governance and Management of FPO conducted by APMAS, a national-level resource organization.

Furthermore, to gain practical insights, a team from Salboni and Jhargram locations had an exposure visit to a Farmers Producers Company in Gurabandha block of East Singhbhum district. This visit provided valuable learning experiences and strengthened the organization's efforts in promoting sustainable and community-driven agricultural practices.



# 7. Relief work:

Shamayita Math's extensive network with remote villages enables it to identify families facing true distress, including single individuals with no support, widows, and oppressed women deprived of basic necessities like food, shelter, and clothing. To address their needs, the organization organized the Bastradaan Utsav on 10th October 2021, coinciding with the festival of Durgapuja, which holds great significance. During this event, 1500 rural people received new sarees or dhotis, providing them with clothing and a sense of dignity.

Additionally, 220 students from Shamayita Marang Buru Learning centers were gifted new sets of dresses on the occasion of Durgapuja, ensuring they have appropriate clothing for the festivities and beyond.

Shamayita Math also showed its care and concern for the elderly by distributing blankets to 200 elderly individuals on 31st December 2021, helping them stay warm during the colder months.



# 8. Lingering effects of COVID:

During the promotion of livelihood interventions, the impact of COVID-19 on mental health became evident, especially due to confinement restrictions. Shamayita Math's community cadre played a crucial role as foot soldiers in India's fight against the pandemic. Across all locations in West Bengal, the organization's professionals sensitized and provided training to 80 community cadre members through printed flex banners on prevailing issues, including Covid-19 norms, vaccination schedules, and maintaining mental health. Each Community Resource Person (CRP) was equipped with a kit containing face shields, masks, handwash, and sanitizers.

The training focused on various aspects, such as combating misinformation, addressing myths, dealing with psychosocial issues of returning migrants, promoting behavioral change to reduce the risk of exposure to the virus, and ensuring access to entitlements.

Shamayita Math further extended its support to the community by identifying and providing PPE kits, medicine kits, and pulse oximeters to 100 ASHA volunteers. Additionally, hygiene kits containing masks, hand gloves, sanitizer, bath soap, and detergent powder, along with dry ration kits, were distributed to 300 underprivileged families in Salboni, Jhargram, and Bankura.

The organization also prioritized the well-being of school children by distributing masks to 3,000 students. Furthermore, 1500 families were identified for the distribution of kitchen garden kits containing vegetable seeds, promoting self-sufficiency in food production and addressing food insecurity during the pandemic.

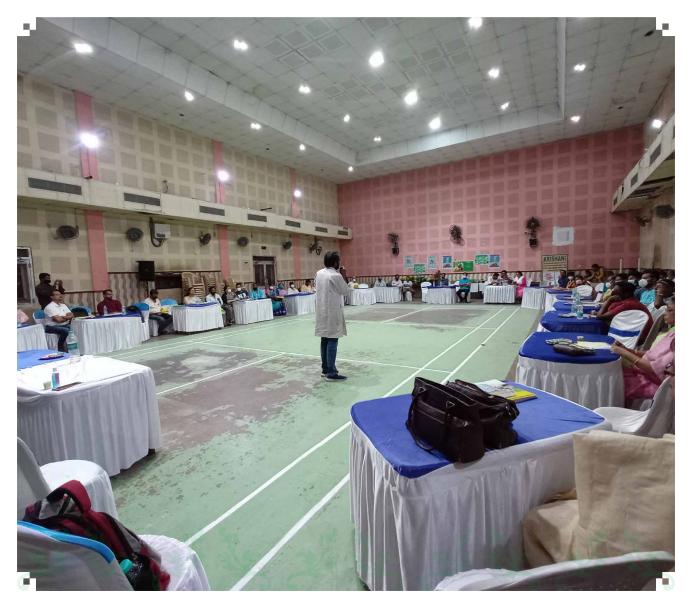


# 9. Organizational review and visioning:

In Shamayita Math, monthly team meetings are held to review the progress of work. Quarterly meetings were held centrally, where the achievement of the projects was reviewed for each of the field teams and strategy was discussed for the next quarter.

In the reporting year, a two-day annual meeting was organized for vision building of Executives so as to enable them to set the long-term and short-term goals aligning with the overarching vision of the organization. A comprehensive handholding exercise was conducted, encouraging the exploration of new avenues for development. Location-specific annual action plans were shared by the team leaders, which were meticulously amalgamated into a final, consolidated blueprint for our collective progress.

A highly productive meeting was held on livelihood model development. Through the sharing of ideas by the members, participation, interaction and facilitation by external resource persons, women-based micro-enterprise models for engagement with the community were developed- such as spawn to fingerling, puffed rice making, handicraft -wooden craft, market-led agriculture extension through institutions like Producer Groups. Moreover, innovative models such as eco-friendly pest control measures for fisheries, models of kitchen gardens, and Integrated Farming Cluster emerged from the workshop. These models are now being introduced within the community, marking a significant step towards sustainable livelihoods and community development.



### 10. Moments of Reflection-Spiritualism, the elixir of life:

Shamayita Math is deeply rooted in spiritualism, focusing on the attainment of oneness through self-discovery, which is the ultimate goal of life. The organization transcends the boundaries of caste, creed, color, nationality, and sex, believing in the idea of Universal Religion and Human Religion. The philosophy of Vedanta, which advocates the oneness of God, Man, and Religion, forms the basis of our approach.

The concept of Religion of Oneness promotes universal love among all, rejecting fanaticism, sectarianism, and fundamentalism. Shamayita Math believes that spiritual knowledge enriches one's life with humane qualities, an awakened conscience, and a quest to understand the purpose of human existence. This understanding helps individuals maintain a balanced lifestyle and find peace and tranquility.

The organization has a global network of followers, volunteers, well-wishers, and staff members. Regular events, conferences, spiritual talks, seminars, and meetings are organized to create a platform for sharing and exchange of thoughts. Pratibhas, the foundation day celebration of the Durgapur branch, and Anandan, the spiritual evening celebration, are among the events held to foster a sense of community and unity.

Mind motivation sessions with school students and staff members further contribute to the spiritual growth and understanding of the universal philosophy of divine love as the guiding force, inspiration, and truth in the world.

By emphasizing spiritualism and universal love, Shamayita Math aims to create a harmonious and compassionate world, where all beings coexist with love and respect for each other.



# 11. Stories of Change:

#### 11.1. A harbinger of change:

Dipali Mahata, a dedicated homemaker and mother of two, has emerged as a source of inspiration for her community as she dreams of a better life for her family. With the support of Shamayita Math, she took the initiative to mobilize farmers in her arid and undulated region to form the Jaybandhi Sabuj Water Users Association in the Jhargram district of West Bengal. This association took charge of operating and maintaining minor irrigation schemes, leading to investment in irrigation infrastructure which in turn has led to a significant increase in agricultural production and productivity.

Under Dipali's leadership, farmers converted 21 hectares of single-crop land to double-cropped fields, and they started cultivating vegetables and oilseeds alongside paddy. The availability of assured irrigated water has had a direct impact on agriculture, transforming the livelihoods of these farmers.

Dipali also identified the untapped potential for women to participate in livelihood activities. She, alongside seven other determined women, spearheaded the establishment of a cost-effective poly-house nursery on leased land, producing quality saplings at an affordable price. The nursery not only benefits the farmers in the region but also serves as a source of income for the women involved. Currently, they collectively earn around INR 60,000 annually. Due to the sale of the saplings and improved agricultural practices, Dipali has managed to augment her annual income by INR 25,000.

With her newfound income, Dipali now comfortably provides for her family and extends support to other women in her community.

She shares with a smile, "Now my son attends an English medium school."



#### 11.2. No challenge too big:

Bikas Mahata, a resident of Sagarbhanga in Jhargram district, faced numerous challenges in his life. Bikas Mahata, a resident of Sagarbhanga in Jhargram district, confronted a series of formidable challenges in his life. With mere 0.6 acres of cultivable land, he struggled to make ends meet, relying on paddy cultivation during the monsoon season, while the land remained fallow for the rest of the year due to water scarcity. As the sole breadwinner for his family, he toiled as a daily laborer under a railway contractor to provide for their needs.

However, tragedy struck when Bikas lost his right leg in a workplace accident. This incident brought immense struggles for him and his family. Despite the adversity, his wife remained a pillar of support. Attending monthly meetings of the Water User Association (WUA), she familiarized herself with the concept of 100-plant vegetable cultivation. This concept was ideal for farmers with limited irrigated land, allowing them to grow a minimum of 100 plants of a single vegetable type with improved technology. This approach not only fulfilled the family's daily needs but also generated income from a small cultivation area.

With unwavering encouragement and support from his wife, Bikas made the courageous decision to embrace the 100-plant vegetable cultivation concept. Despite lacking any prior experience in vegetable farming, he obtained 100 brinjal saplings from the village nursery and cultivated them on his backyard land. Taking guidance from his WUA, he underwent training in the best practices for cultivating brinjals.

Despite his physical disability, Bikas found a new lease on life through this venture. The 100-plant vegetable cultivation provided him with a sustainable and profitable way to support his family. Fueled by determination and the support of the WUA and his wife, Bikas triumphed over the challenges he faced, embarking on a transformative journey towards self-reliance and prosperity.



# **12. Our Partners:**



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# **13. Shamayita Math finances:**

	SHAMATIYA MATI KOLKATA	ł		
BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31st MARCH, 2022				
	SCHEDULES	AS ON 31ST MARCH,2022 Rs. P.	AS ON 31ST MARCH,2021 Rs. P	
FUNDS AND LIABILITIES				
A) FUNDS				
General Fund	А	49404078.13	47078145.31	
Corpus Fund	в	129037588.80	129037588.80	
B) LIABILITIES				
Unsecured Loan	c	387403.00	2647404.32	
Current liabilities	D	21341946.19	15873567.27	
	TOTAL	200171016.12	194636705.70	
APPLICATION AND ASSETS				
A) FIXED ASSETS	E	71802225.00	72723810.00	
B) INVESTMENTS IN	F	57525058.87	57531398.10	
C) CURRENT ASSETS				
Sundry Debtors	G	9862021.13	9306644.67	
Cash & Bank Balances	н	52608800.08	47350478.0	
D) LOANS & ADVANCES	г	8372911.04	7724374.8	
	TOTAL	200171016.12	194636705.7	

Schedule Reffered as above from an integral part of the Balance Sheet

This is the Balance Sheet referred to in Report of even date

For AJIT KUMAR & CO.



12A, N.S.ROAD 5TH FLOOR, ROOM NO.11 KOLKATA - 700001

Dated: The 1st Day of September' 2022 UDIN: 22053254AXQDSZ7947

SHAMATIYA MATH KOLKATA INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022					
I) INCOME					
Grant Received	J	33527049.98	28726400.86		
School Fees Collection		20227151.00	18156918.00		
Hostel Fees Collection		3641443.00	6249036.00		
Interest Income	к	2672249.77	2896202.22		
Other Income	L	15221312.50	13129802.93		
		75289206.25	69158360.01		
II) EXPENDITURE					
Grant Expenses	м	35648382.98	31718063.97		
Direct Expenses		5015213.90	3065715.00		
Other Charitable Expenses	N	4694088.22	2925775.06		
Employees Emoluments	0	17823669.78	15584220.00		
Financial Charges	P	49353.19	89451.40		
Administrative Expenses	Q	5653797.26	4958894.73		
Depreciation on Fixed Assets		4000902.00	4521575.00		
		72885407.33	62863695.16		
III) EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPI	ESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		6294664.8		
Significant Accounting Policies &					
notes on Accounts	1				
Schedule Reffered as above from					
an integral part of the Profit & Loss acc	count				
This is the Balance Sheet referred to in	Report of even dat	e			
For AJIT KUMAR & CO.					
Chartered accountants					
FRN-317140F14					
AND CON					
EO/ \ \ A DE					
(A.K.TULSIAN)					
THE CO ACCOUNTER					
12A, N.S.ROAD 5TH FLOOR, ROOM NO.11					
KOLKATA - 700001					



Shamayita Math Head Office: Ranbahal, Amarkanan, Bankura - 722133. Phone: (03241) 265201/02, +91 7001089004

Coordination office: Durgapur (West Bengal) DII/9, 4/34, Sarojini Naidu Path, City Centre, Durgapur -16 Jhargram (West Bengal) Shamayita Srotoswini, Kadamkanan, Jhargram, Dist. - West Midnapore Maa Manasa Apartment, 575 S. K. Deb Road, Flat 1C, 1st Floor, Kolkata – 700048 Quarter Number Type - IV/SP5, KV Teachers Colony, NMDC Township, Danteweda, Chhattisgarh - 494556

