

KARUNAMOYEE PARENTS ORGANISATION FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED
Reg. Office: B/17/8, Karunamoyee Housing Estate, salt Lake, Kolkata – 91
Working Office : Jagatpur, Bagulati, Kolkata – 700059, Ph. No.-

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1. Profile :

Karunamoyee Parents' Organisation for the Mentally Handicapped(KPO) is exclusively a social service provider and, as such, virtually a humanitarian and philanthropic organisation insofar as mentally challenged and differently able people are concerned. KPO is religiously committed to patiently strive for realistic improvement upon state of existence of people with mental retardation, cerebral palsy , autism, physical handicaps, speech defect and hearing impairment and multiple disabilities.KPO, therefore, as an irrevocably contributory constituent, enlists vital participation of parents / guardians of such disabled people as also likeminded generous persons and organisation.

KPO is the brainchild of sensitive parents/ guardians of ill-fated handicapped children with a mission to assist and serve them and others similarly placed in various innovative and reformatory ways for warding off their handicaps and impairment to ensure phased restoration of behavioral habits thus to enable them converge in socio-economic mainstream to an extent sustainable. With assistive efforts emanating from all corners, it is certain that KPO shall become a parental harbor for the disabled in days to come.

2. Status :

To record facts in right perspective, this organisation with the working spirit and undiluted idealism started working right from 1984 with a different nomenclature but it was registered as it stands now as a society under Govt. of West Bengal Societies Act 1961 in 1997.KPO, already registered under Persons with Disability Act 1995 , is under process of registration under National Trust. It is acknowledged by Govt. of India as an organisation for receipt of foreign contribution under FC(R)A, duly enjoying exemption under 80G of income tax.

3. Flicker of spark at the end of tunnel reported in previous report manifested itself as an area of light in the year under report:

The recorded aims and objectives of KPO could not be taken up for follow-up action for various defeating reasons and negative constraints. Standing and waiting resulted in providing KPO with a prospective break in Roy Trust UK coming forward to shake congratulatory hands with KPO in having an Agreement signed by both Dr. James McKinnon, Chairman, representing Roy Trust UK and Shyamal Kumar Mitra, Secretary on behalf of KPO. RTKPO Project came into existence clearly defining the entire extent of activity – financial responsibility being borne by Roy Trust UK and performance area by KPO. RTKPO Project was inaugurated on 13 July, 2006 with ornate presence of British Dy. High Commissioner, Chairman, Secretary & Treasurer, Roy Trust UK, Commissioner (Disability), Govt. of West Bengal and other renowned persons in a befitting manner.

Discipline-wise hands were recruited and pressed into activity parameter which started developing as per latest methodology and, it may be noted, strength of disabled scholars reached the level of 104. Diagnosis of disability became authoritative and therapies recommended started working miracles. An aura of confident satisfaction was on every face.

The aims and objectives of KPO started being manifest through performing activities under the supreme captaincy of KPO. With the availability of modern aids and instruments work content of all professionals grew in depth. This is due to continue for three years with effect from 5.6.2006 as per the Agreement.

4. DLRO :

KPO continued to act as District Level Resource Organisation (DLRO) in providing District Project Director (District Magistrate), North 24 Parganas, 15 Special Educators for deployment for promotion of Sarva Siksh Abhiyan (SSA) . This function on development and deployment of human resources added to the quality of KPO.

5. Development of alternative wing at Joffe House.

KPO's building purchased with fund donated by Lord Joffe through Roy Trust , UK was lying unused and unguarded at Mondalpara, Kestopur was taken at the apex level for consideration when it was decided to repair and refurbish it in a manner to lend it a nice view for putting it for educative use and stay of Roy Trust representatives as and when required, besides making it a hub for vocational training. Accounts section stood shifted to Joffe House.

With profound input of sincere labour and painstaking supervision of Secretary and others Joffe House grew up to have a nice get-up with improved and sanitized facility and it was inaugurated by Dr. James McKinnon, Chairman , Roy Trust, UK on 26 February 2007 and declared operational. An alternative permanent wing was thus added to KPO for increased development of informal education, vocational training and therapies. Vocational training specifically in making file and folder was to be intensified for commercial purpose aiding KPO and the trained scholars as well.

6. Spectacles of attainment and display thereof in meaningful manner by disabled scholars – A Milestone.

Within a short while of intensive training and sincere practice and culture of modes of training, differently able male and female scholars picked up dance sequences and drama by mime and demonstration thereof by them in school's cultural and other functions attended to by local and foreign dignitaries attracted accolade admiration and applause..

CAMPUS NEWS :

I. On the happy occasion of Rakhi Purnima on 9 August 2006, female scholars tied coloured band on the wrist of male scholars and observed the occasion with dance and song.

II. Secretary of KPO Shyamal Kumar Mitra hoisted the National flag on the Independence Day on 15 August, 2006 in accompaniment with the National Song sung by the disabled scholars of KPO, teachers and others present.

III. KPO's scholars celebrated Teacher's Day on 5 September, 2006 and offered their teachers them gifts they could lay hands on.

IV. On 3 December 2006 all the disabled scholars of KPO celebrated World Disabled Day in a colourful manner. A long and winding procession with festoons, banners, flags, boards depicting meaningful sketches, writings and tableaux started its journey on being flagged off by local councillor Shri Shankar Narayan Dutta and moved through Kestopuir Road to VIP Road to Airport to Jessore Road to Nagerbazar to Lake town to Ultadanga to Kankurgachhi to Salt Lake to Baguiati Road to return to the starting point after around 4 hours. Slow movement of the disabled children with their parents /guardians stalled the vehicular traffic and all the gazing passers-by and other vehicle – driven people witnessed all being transfixed. All the participants were offered a box with mixed-up eatables.

V. December 8, 2006 was again observed as World Disabled Day at Jagatpur premises of KPO when all the disabled children participated in myriad shows like music, dance, recitation etc. A dramatic sequence through mime was presented by disabled scholars gaining much praise.

VI. On invitation of Sarva Siksha Abhiyan , North 24 Parganas, Govt. of West Bengal, drama on mime was performed by disabled children of the institution and their performance acclaimed as excellent. The venue attained dignity with presence of Shri P.K.Mishra, District Magistrate, 24 Parganas (N), Shri S. Mondal, Block Development Officer, Rajarhat Bishnupur Block, Smt. Aparna Gupta, Savadhipati, 24 Parganas (N), Shri Parimal Mistry, Savapati, Rajarhat-Bishnupur Panchyat Samity, Mr. Christopher McKinnon, Representative of Roy Trust, UK and others.

VII. Annual sports with events corresponding to their ability were held in a garden house shaded with trees at Rajarhat on 12 January 2007. It was a grand assembly of disabled children , their parents/ guardians, members of staff , Executive Committee members and some patrons. Sporting events were taken up one by one which all were enjoyed by all. All the rank- holders were awarded prizes and participants were given consolation prizes. There was community feast which also generated a sprit of integration and oneness.

VIII. Upscale achievement of the disabled scholars in cultural spheres found publicity as something unique and surprising. Resultantly, upon invitation by

United Club-4, a local club, this institution's disabled scholars showed their skill acquired in areas of mime drama, dance, music and recitation on 22 January 2007. In appreciation, the Club authority donated an aquaguard for use in the institution.

IX. On the occasion of Saraswati Puja all the disabled scholars with varied colorful dress in association with their parents and members of staff and executive committee brought on surface an air of holiness, sobriety and enjoyment. Utmost care was taken for making an idol of Saraswati and the mandap to instill a trait of uniqueness with a view to come out as a qualified participant in Parle's Saraswati Vandana competition. All the scholars were given a free rein to express their appreciation in their way. An important part of the puja being a community feast, it was profoundly enjoyed by all.

X. The Republic Day on 26th January, 2007 was celebrated with due honour. The national flag was hoisted by Treasurer Anshuman Sanayal in accompaniment of the national song sung by the scholars and educators of the institution.

XI. Doctors meet was held on 31st January, 2007 when parents/guardians were requested to muster with a view to hear from the doctors about various aspects of mental retardation in association with other disabilities, their genesis, growth and finality as well as remedial steps needed to be taken to combat the maladies. The session was educational and the platform was taken up by parents for raising queries to elicit doctoral advice as and where required.

XII. Kestopur building with Joffe House in dazzling letters, was inaugurated in its renovated and refined stature by Dr. James Mckinnon, Chairman, Roy Trust UK, on 26th February 2007, a red letter day in the developing life of KPO, to declare it open and operational thus adding a permanent wing for enlarging work potential for improvement of state of existence of disabled people. All the disabled children with their parents, all the members of staff and executive committee witnessed the function of inauguration. The reception accorded to Dr. James Mckinnon was simple and sincere but it touched him so much that he was profoundly moved about it. Proper arrangement for to and fro movement was made and sweetened were all the months with packets from a renowned caterer

XIII. Another bright chapter was added to KPO with inauguration of first Newsletter in print by Dr. James Mckeninon, Chairman, Roy Trust UK, on 2nd March 2007 at Jagatpur premises. The newsletter so published would spread information of KPO as an institution with particular emphasis on RTKPO project working in the field of mental retardation and multiple disabilities. This is indeed another benchmark of KPO as an institution for the disabled.

7. Dignified persons as under hailing from different walks had pleasure in visiting KPO for appreciation of innovative activities undertaken for improvement of state of existence of people with various types of disabilities.

1. Mr. Simon Wilson, British DY. High Commissioner.
2. Shri Supriya Gupta, Commissioner, PWD Act., Govt. Of West Bengal.
3. Dr. James Mckinnon, Chairman, Roy Trust UK.
4. Dr. Manjusree Mukherjee, Secretary, Roy Trust UK.
5. Dr. Shankar Biswas, Treasurer, Roy Trust UK.
6. Mr. Christopher Mckinnon, Director, Roy Trust Canada.
7. Mr. Nick Adams, Member, Roy Trust UK.
8. Shri Tapas Chatterjee, Chairman, Rajarhat Gopalpur Municipality.
9. Shri Bhupati Sengupta, Vice Chairman, Rajarhat Gopalpur Municipality.
10. Shri Shankarnarayan Dutta, Councillor and Leader-in-Opposition ,
Rajarhat Gopalpur Municipality.

Grateful Acknowledgement

While negotiating uphill journey during inclement and stormy days, sustainability of KPO for being in better days was possible owing to all-time association and co-operation of devoted workforce as also doses of munificence meted out by philanthropic persons and organizations like Roy Trust UK and others.