

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MASS EDUCATION EXTENSION OFFICER, NADIA

Introduction: The Mass Education Extension Department which is in charge of implementation of various Literacy Programme as its main work and supervision of the Library Services in the State was created on 1st April, 1998. It has under its administrative control and supervision two Directorates viz. (i) The Directorate of Mass education Extension and (ii) The directorate of Library Services through which various plans and programme on literacy, education and that of library services are executed.

Address: The District Mass education Extension office is situated at 11 K.B. Mukherjee Lane. Kalupara, Krishnagar, Nadia and District Literacy Cell are in the 3rd Floor of Collectorate Building, Krishnagar. Contact numbers of these two offices are **(03472) 252832 and (03472) 255302** respectively.

Works of the District Mass education Extension:

The most important work of this office at moment is

- (A) the implementation of State Funded Literacy programme in the district
- (B) education and training of the handicapped students in special schools
- (C) running of State Aided Welfare Homes and Destitute Welfare Homes

Implementation of Literacy programme:

With the objective of reducing illiteracy among women, the Union Government has launched the Saakshar Bharat Mission. The objective of this programme is to provide functional literacy to the adults over 15 years of age. The same is running successfully over the nine backward districts of the State, where female literacy are less than 50% according to the Census' 2001. Considering the aspects of discontinuation of the learners due to the end of Continuing Education Programme (CEP) Department of MEE & LS has contemplated to launch a programme of literacy in those districts, which were not covered under Saakshar Bharat Mission, including Nadia.

This programme is solely funded by the State Government and a volunteer based programme. The programme entails imparting education to the learners through instruction based teaching of 300+ hours spread over a period of three months or beyond, depending on local conditions, followed by another one hundred hours of "guided learning" for another three months. Special emphasis will be given to the illiterate women particularly belonging to SC, ST, Minority Communities and OBC. SHGs, particularly those run by the women will be involved in the programme.



50,000 learners will be covered under this programme with the provision to provide funds for Learning Kits, Teaching Kits, Lighting arrangement, training of MTs/VTs, RPs, Resource Mobilization, Monitoring & Supervision etc. Till date 20,000 learners have been identified by the VTs scattered over 17 development blocks of this district. The learning centers will be opened very shortly after equipped as per the guideline. Intensive campaign has been initiated at both Block and GP level towards successful implementation as well as achieving the target within desired time period.

Auspicious Day of International Literacy day was observed on 8th September with traditional gaiety.

To sustain the interest of the learners and neo literates District level Sports & Cultural meet was organized on 13th February after 5 years intermission. Nadia district stood first in the 19th State Level Sports & Cultural Meet held at Asansole on 18th to 19th February, 2013.



Social Welfare Home:

The main purpose behind running these Homes is to provide social security and education to its inmates who come from the deprived section of the community and unable to arrange their minimum basic needs. This is an important social service rendered by the State Government to its citizens and it is one of the granted works of the MEE Directorate.

In these homes, besides providing food, shelter and other basic necessities to the inmates, education is imparted up to Madhyamik level and an inmate is allowed to stay at a Home up to his/her attaining 18 years of age or Madhyamik pass whichever is earlier. Only one child of a family may be admitted to a Home subject to availability of vacancies and at the time of admission, age of a boy/girl should generally within the age group 6-12 years.

The present status of the Aided Welfare Homes in Nadia district is as follows:

Sl No.	Name of the Aided Welfare Home with address	Category	Sanctioned Intake capacity	Present Enrolment Strength
1.	SANKAR MISSION JANAKALYAN SANGHA, KRISHNAGAR	BOYS	140	140
2.	BHAGIRATHI SHILPASHRAM, SHUMURALI	GIRLS	145	144
3.	BHAGIRATHI SHILPASHARM (DESTITUTE), SHIMURALI	WOMEN	35	04
4.	SISTERS OF CHARITY WELFARE HOME, KRISHNAGAR	GIRLS	150	76
5.	DON BOSCHO WELFARE HOME, KRISHNAGAR	BOYS	110	81
6.	DON BOSCO WELFARE HOME, CHAPRA UNIT, CHAPRA	GIRLS	80	68

Education and training For the Physically Handicapped

Students:



Amongst the various programme of MEE Directorate, the education and vocational training for the special children find a very unique place. In Nadia there is one Sponsored Special School, i.e. Nabadwip APC Blind School and four Academically recognized special schools, viz. Hellen Keller Smriti Vidyamandir, Karimpur Social Welfare Society and Uttaran Special Schools are catering the educational needs of the special children.



Sl No.	Name of the Special School with Address	Category	Existing Enrolment
1.	NABADWIP APC BLIND SCHOOL, NABADWIP	SPONSORED	50
2.	HELLEN KELLER SMRITI VIDYAMANDIR, , KRISHNAGAR	RECOGNIZED	85
3.	UTTARAN PRATIBANDHI SCHOOL, KRISHNAGAR	RECOGNIZED	110
4.	KARIMPUR SOCIAL WELFARE SOCIETY, KARIMPUR	RECOGNIZED	115

Students of Nabadwip APC Blind School are already established their own identity in the field of swimming and chess not only within the State boundary, rather spread over to the country too. Students of this school participated in the National Level Paralympics by representing the West Bengal and got 24 individual and group medals for the State. The students are also participated in different cultural events at regular interval and performing their cultural programme on different auspicious occasions, organized over the West Bengal.



The students of the academically recognized schools also take part in cultural competitions, drawing competitions and other events on regular basis.

Scholarship for the Disabled: Directorate of MEE award scholarships for the special children and trainees studying in class IX onwards through the district offices. During this financial year total number of awardees are 159 and total amount will be disbursed for the same is Rs. 2,38,260/-.