

NIHARIKA

A home for destitute and under-privileged children

**P.O. Anulia
Village: Ranaghat Shalbagan
District: Nadia – 741255
West Bengal
India**

Phone: 9434823197; 0-3473 214152

Secretary: Kunal Lama

Under
**Child In Distress And We Charitable trust
CIDAW Charitable trust**

CIDAW is working for education and rehabilitation of children of poor women living in prostitutions in Red Light areas of Kolkata and suburbs

*Help us to help the "Children of Destiny",
so that they can lead a happy and respectable life.*

BACKGROUND

Human beings, during the formative ages, have very little or no control over the powerful effects of the environment around them. As a result, many enter into childhood and adulthood in a morbid way, as a virtual cripple, and eventually become a burden to the society.

Such is the DESTINY of innumerable children living in red-light areas where they are born – a world of crime and other delinquent activities which, in course of time, push them into the system of flesh-trade and other criminal and antisocial acts. To save these unfortunate and innocent souls from the inevitable calamity, they must be removed from the red-light areas and educated and brought up in a loving and conducive atmosphere.

Based on these tragic realities Child In Distress & We Charitable Trust (CIDAW) was formed and registered under Indian Trusts Act 1882, at Ranaghat in the year 2001 with an aim to save the unfortunate children from the inevitable misfortune. And, in order to fulfill that dream, NIHARIKA was born. It is set up in a serene pollution-free countryside on the outskirts of Ranaghat Town, about 75 kilometers away from Calcutta. It has 28 boys and girls at present.

BENEFICIARIES

1. Direct Beneficiaries: Children living in red-light areas
2. Indirect Beneficiaries: Mothers and relatives of direct beneficiaries

AGENDA

1. Admission of children into NIHARIKA at an early age between 3 and 5 years.
2. Formal school education of the children including compulsory training in extracurricular activities like sports, music, dance, painting etc.
3. After the school education:
 - a. Opportunities to brilliant students for higher studies in specialized courses.
 - b. Vocational training to average and below average students according to their choice and capabilities.
 - c. Rehabilitation.

VISION

1. Creation of a model institution for education and development of children living in red-light areas.
2. Education for all children living in red-light areas.
3. Happy and respectable life for all living in red-light areas.

MISSION

1. All round development of children of NIHARIKA through education, extracurricular activities, involvement in charitable and cultural activities, and vocational training.
2. Awareness to the children about the circumstances and problems and hazards of red-light areas.

3. Instill spirit of NIHARIKA's motto "SIMPICITY" among the children and their mothers and relatives.
4. Instill aspirations and importance of self-reliance and self-respect among them.
5. Prevention of alienation of the children from their mothers and relatives.
6. Preparation of the children's mothers and relatives for a "tryst", in future, with their "educated" children after they leave NIHARIKA, to make a stand in the society.
7. Involvement of children/students of NIHARIKA in running/managing NIHARIKA by the year 2014.
8. Various educational programmes in red-light areas by the year 2015.
9. Self-sufficiency of NIHARIKA by the year 2015.
10. Rehabilitation.

PRESENT ACTIVITIES

1. We are providing free shelter, food and clothing to 28 boys and girls aged between 6 and 17.
2. All the children are being formally educated in local schools at Ranaghat.
3. All the children are being trained in various extracurricular activities such as football, athletics, painting and music.
4. Free coaching facilities being provided to the children to cope with their studies.
5. Kitchen gardening: all the students are growing vegetables etc. on the small plots of land allotted to them for the purpose.
6. All the children are involved in local cultural and social activities organized inside and outside NIHARIKA.

FUTURE PLANS

(Priority-wise)

1. Construction of a formal pre-primary and primary school at NIHARIKA for –
 - (a) education of new kids coming into NIHARIKA along with children from local community,
 - (b) rendering service to local community to ensure their understanding and social support for meaningful growth of children of the ashram,
 - (c) ensuring social mixing of children of NIHARIKA with mainstream children and grown-ups,
 - (d) creation of study rooms.
2. Annual admission of 10 new kids of red-light areas.
3. Income generating programmes such as Fishery, Duckery, Goatery, and Mango cultivation (NIHARIKA has 8 fruit-yielding trees on its land).
4. Annual Interschool Contests such as – quiz contest, Tagore songs contest, recitation contest and Sit & Draw contest at NIHARIKA, to attract local community for social mixing of children here with mainstream people.
5. Vocational training centers on vocations such as Carpentry, Electronics, Computer, Knitting, Toy-making etc.