



NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 2023

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Official Newsletter of FMR India

This issue:

Communications Coordinator

PAGE 02

From the desk of the President

PAGE 03

FMR India

PAGE 05

Asha Niketan Asansol

PAGE 07

Asha Niketan Bangalore

PAGE 10

Asha Niketan Chennai

PAGE 13

Asha Niketan Kolkata

PAGE 17

Asha Niketan Nandibazar

PAGE 21

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Embrace the glow of joy in our festive newsletter! Diwali, a radiant celebration of triumph, sets the stage for our members crafting candles, embodying dignity and self-worth. The season unfolds with Bhaiphota traditions and heartwarming Puja festivities, radiating love and inclusion.

Explore our spirited World Disability Day events, celebrating achievements and rights. Inclusive Christmas celebrations, filled with adaptive activities, highlight unity and diversity. Join us in reliving these moments of light, resilience, and festive togetherness throughout the communities.

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Subin Varghese

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR
FMR INDIA



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FMR India members eagerly anticipate Diwali, a festive time marked by unity and joy. Across the nation, Asha Niketans joined hands on December 3, 2023, to celebrate World Disability Day, emphasizing the importance of inclusivity. These events showcase unique abilities, fostering understanding and combating discrimination. Explore the pages to witness the vibrant celebrations and meaningful initiatives, reflecting the spirit of Diwali and the commitment to creating a welcoming environment for all. Happy reading!

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Dr Premanand M E

**NATIONAL PRESIDENT
FMR INDIA**



From the Desk of the President, FMR INDIA

BY DR PREMANAND M E

For FMR India members, Diwali—the Festival of Lights—is a time of great excitement and energy. The core members and caregivers gather together in a spirit of unity and joy to commemorate this joyous milestone. FMR India communities all around the country stepped up to host their own Diwali celebrations. In addition to providing an opportunity for enjoyment, these gatherings helped spread messages of acceptance and unity. Cultural programmes and items were showcased during this period. The spirit of Diwali—a festival honouring the victory of virtue over evil—was reflected in the upbeat and celebratory mood.

On December 3, 2023, Asha Niketans joined the rest of India in celebrating World Disability Day. Giving to those in need is a powerful message that should never be forgotten. The significance of educating the public about impairments and creating welcoming spaces for people of all abilities is a priority for FMR India.

All Asha Niketans across India gathered together on this significant day to honour the variety and strength of people with disabilities. A number of events were planned to bring attention to the citizens' abilities, highlighting their special skills and the positive impact they have had on the community. In addition to providing an outlet for individual expression, these programmes fight prejudice and discrimination against people with disabilities.

As you flip through the pages, witness the events unfold.

Happy reading.

Warm regards



Dr Premanand M E
National President
FMR India.



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Commemorating World Disability Day on December 3rd, our FMR Asha Niketan communities across Kolkata, Bangalore, Asansol, Nandibazar, and Chennai unite in joy and inclusivity. Gratitude to community leaders, members, donors, and well-wishers for spreading the message of unity and diversity, embodying the true essence of inclusion.

With a heavy heart, I extend my condolences on the passing of Gokul- a member of Asha Niketan Bangalore and Mr. Saibal K. Purkayastha. You will continue to live in our memories !!!

”

Bharathi Gopalakrishnan

NATIONAL LEADER,
FMR INDIA





It is with deep sorrow and a heavy heart that we extend our sincere condolences on the passing of Mr. Saibal K. Purkayastha. He leaves behind a legacy of exceptional leadership and a thriving organization. His enduring contributions have not only elevated the status of FMR India but have also significantly improved the lives of its members. The values he instilled and the initiatives he championed continue to shape the organization's trajectory, ensuring a prosperous future for all who are part of its community. As a testament to his extraordinary leadership, Mr. Purkayastha will be remembered as a president who not only led with vision but also genuinely cared for the welfare and success of every member of FMR India.



Gokul was a vibrant and lively presence in the community. He took great joy in participating in community activities, particularly in the workshop where he enthusiastically crafted doormats. Sharing meals with friends and dancing brought him immense happiness, and his cheerful demeanor never failed to bring smiles to many faces. Gokul, you will be sincerely missed!!

FMR Asha Niketan Communities Came Together to Commemorate World Disability Day on the 3rd December, 2023! On this special day, I am proud to witness the spirit of joy and inclusivity reverberate across our communities in Kolkata, Bangalore, Asansol, Nandibazar, and Chennai. Each city has embraced the values of unity and diversity in its own distinct manner, crafting unforgettable moments that capture the true essence of inclusion. I express my gratitude to the community leaders, community members, family, friends, donors, and well-wishers whose collective efforts have made it possible to disseminate this message to society.



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Asha Niketan radiates warmth and unity during Diwali, where core members, parents, assistants, and friends joyfully celebrate the Festival of Lights. The festivities not only embody seasonal joy but also exemplify the community's enduring happiness and sense of belonging. Mr. Amitava Dawn, a special educator, has joined to shape our skill development program. Pre-Diwali, we spotlighted members' skills through handicraft exhibitions, garnering monetary support. Bhai Phota, a Hindu festival celebrating sibling bonds, was recently observed. Asha Niketan Asansol marked World Disability Day, participating in the 'Together: With and Without Disabilities' campaign. Christmas was a magical time, emphasizing love, compassion, and unity within the Asha Niketan family, creating a spirit of togetherness.

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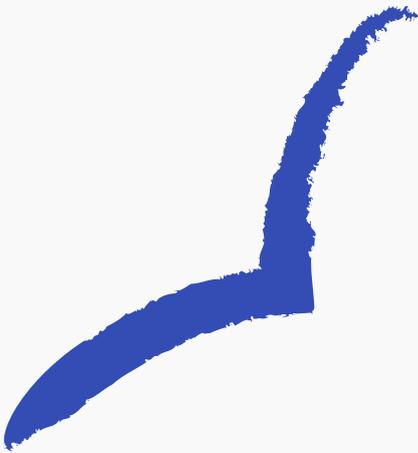
Sibhasish Mondal

COMMUNITY LEADER,
ASHA NIKETAN ASANSOL





Asha Niketan buzzes with warmth and unity during Diwali. Core members, parents, assistants, and friends celebrate the Festival of Lights, embodying joy and belief in brighter days. The festivities showcase the power of community, fostering lasting happiness and belonging beyond the season.



We welcomed Mr. Amitava Dawn, a special educator (MR & HI). He will be instrumental in designing our skill development program after due assessments and support in setting of goals.



Before Diwali, we showcased our members' skills through crafted handicraft exhibitions at schools, spotlighting talent and Asha Niketan's mission. This year, successful initiatives in multiple schools garnered generous monetary support.

In our community, we recently observed Bhai Phota, a unique Hindu festival that signifies the deep connection between sisters and brothers. On this occasion, sisters observe a fast and convey their heartfelt wishes for the longevity and prosperity of their brothers.



The family of Asha Niketan Asansol marked World Disability Day by participating in the 'Together: With and Without Disabilities' campaign.



Christmas, on December 21st, was more than a magical time at Asha Niketan. It embraced love, compassion, and unity, fostering an inclusive spirit. The celebration highlighted the remarkable warmth and solidarity within the Asha Niketan family, creating joy and togetherness.



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Diwali, a festive celebration, brings joy and unity to people through diverse customs and traditions. Lighting candles and fireworks create lasting memories. Our visit and conversations with the National Leader provided learning opportunities, allowing expression of everyday gifts and challenges. The Disability Department organized events leading to World Disability Day, engaging members in artistic activities and product selling. St. Joseph's College students brought joy with a dance performance. People to People Foundation's Mr. Sneader's visit and generous contribution enhanced our Christmas celebration, featuring a play and the visit from the Rainbow Playschool children.

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Charles

COMMUNITY LEADER,
ASHA NIKETAN BANGALORE



Diwali is a festive and lively celebration that fosters a sense of joy and unity among people. Whether commemorated with family, friends, or the community, the diverse customs and traditions linked to Diwali undoubtedly contribute to creating lasting memories. Lighting candles and placing them around the community, along with engaging in fireworks, are common practices during this joyous occasion.



The visit of the National Leader enabled us to learn through formation and at various conversations with her. It also gave us an opportunity to express the gifts and challenges we share everyday...

The department dedicated to disabilities orchestrated a sequence of events leading up to World Disability Day, with active participation from numerous organizations. Our attendees were deeply engaged in artistic activities, finding immense enjoyment in both drawing and dancing on the stage.





On International Day of Persons with Disabilities, our community set up a stall, and members joyfully sold products, proudly showcasing their contributions to the creation process.



The Disability Department organized a Disability Day program at Shree Chowdeshari Community Hall on December 3rd.

St. Joseph's College students visited, engaging our community in painting and activities. They presented a memorable dance performance, creating an eventful day. We appreciate their generous in-kind donation.



People to People Foundation's Mr. Sneeder visited, warmly greeting our community. All members express gratitude for his presence and generous contribution to our Christmas celebration.

Our joyful Christmas celebration included a play portraying Jesus' birth, gift exchanges, and the delightful presence of Rainbow Playschool children, adding an extra layer of joy to this special occasion.



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In this edition, we recount a vibrant month at our community, filled with craftsmanship, celebrations, and heartfelt connections. From showcasing core members' talents at PRS Academy of Archery to celebrating Deepavali with gratitude for distant blessings, the month encapsulates unity and warmth. Notable visit from FMR India team, birthday festivities, traditional celebrations, and a farewell and welcome underscore the spirit of togetherness. Join us in reliving these moments of joy, resilience, and inclusivity in our December newsletter.

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Lozilo Kikon

COMMUNITY LEADER,
ASHA NIKETAN CHENNAI





From the 9th to the 11th, we highlighted the craftsmanship of our core members at PRS Academy of Archery, showcasing their handmade creations over the course of three days.

On the 10th, our community joyously marked Deepavali in the company of core members, parents, and well-wishers. We extend sincere gratitude to Mr. Babu Venkataraghavan for generously blessing us with gifts from a distance.



Ms Bharathi, National Leader, and Mr. Shakeeb, the national fundraiser of FMR India, graciously visited our community. They were warmly welcomed, and they spent a few days with us to share their vision for positive change.



Our community welcomed Mrs. Sangeeta, GC member, to celebrate her daughter's birthday on the 18th. Our core members enjoyed a lot in the birthday celebration.



On the 26th, we captured the essence of Karthikai Deepam, where lights convey more than words. Embracing the traditional warmth, we celebrated the festival of Karthikai Deepam.

On 27th Master of Social Work department at Patrician college of Arts and Science students to have an interactive session which created many smiles and memories that will be cherished by all.





Bid farewell to Mr. Elangova M.D on December 1st, expressing gratitude for his valuable contributions to our community. We extend our best wishes for success on his new journey.



We welcomed our newest team member, Mrs. Durga, as our helper on December 1st.



Facing flood challenges with bravery and solidarity, our community unites against the tide on December 4th.



Embracing Abilities, Fostering Unity: Celebrating 40 Years of Inclusivity at the National Day for Intellectually Disabled Persons.

We are Grateful for Mr. John's visit from England on 12th, dedicating weeks to volunteer in our community. A big thank you for your contributions.





Each day brought new festive vibes. From heartfelt services to joyful carol singing, each day brought its unique magic. Fun-filled games, dance and delicious snacks made these gatherings truly special.

Satya Nilayam Jesuit Community on 20th



Champs academy Global Pre-School on 22nd



Vincent de paul society on 23rd



Community Christmas Celebration on 24th



New year Eve celebration on 31st



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In this edition, we radiate the joy of Diwali, where the Festival of Lights illuminated our community with triumph over darkness. Discover the significance of our members' candle-making endeavors for the Diwali Exhibition, symbolizing dignity and self-worth. The festive period leads us into the heartwarming traditions of Bhaiphota and Puja celebrations, fostering love and inclusion. Join us in reflecting on our spirited observance of World Disability Day and the inclusive festive cheer that defines our Christmas celebrations.

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Smritikana Mondal

COMMUNITY LEADER,
ASHA NIKETAN KOLKATA





Happy Diwali!

Diwali, the festival of lights, was celebrated with such joy!! It's a special time symbolizing good triumphing over evil and light shining brighter than darkness.

Our members are busy making and packing candles FOR DIWALI EXHIBITION - Bringing out the gifts of Dignity & Self Worth



The period before Diwali and Kali Puja presents a favorable opportunity for selling our products., ensuring self-sustainability.



Puja outing, Pandal Hopping & invitations at members house: reaching out with LOVE
Creating INCLUSION.



Rekindle the bond of brotherhood through the cultural traditions of Bhaiphota

Receiving gifts from friends before Puja fills the heart with immense joy and gratitude. The thoughtful gestures create a sense of warmth and anticipation, enhancing the festive spirit as cherished connections are celebrated.



World Disability Day on December 3rd promotes awareness and acceptance of disabilities. At Asha Niketan Kolkata, events like rallies, social gatherings, and games celebrated the achievements of the disabled community, emphasizing their rights and well-being.



Our Christmas celebrations prioritize inclusivity with adaptive activities, ensuring everyone, regardless of abilities, can join. Special lunch, games, and a shared festive spirit create a welcoming environment, emphasizing unity and diversity.



Experiencing inclusive spirituality at our Christmas midnight mass, we embraced universal love, fostering unity and a sense of belonging for our community members.

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Celebrate the moments that paint our world with hues of joy and connection! This edition is brimming with heartwarming stories, from birthday cheers for Lijina and Mano to the vibrant arrival of Noémie and Maud, our French volunteers. Witness the artistic triumphs of our core members at Sahani Hospital, the generous contributions from the Kerala Taxi Drivers Organization, and the touching reunions that warm our hearts. Join us in reliving the festivities, sports events, and the spirit of giving that defined our December at Asha Niketan Nandi Bazar

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Lilly Rose

COMMUNITY LEADER,
ASHA NIKETAN NANDIBAZAR





Happy Birthday, Lijina and Mano! 🎉 May your day be filled with joy, laughter, and wonderful moments. Wishing you a year ahead filled with success, good health, and all the happiness in the world. Enjoy your special day to the fullest! 🍰 🎈



Noémie and Maud, 23-year-old French volunteers and lifelong friends, found a welcoming haven at Asha Niketan a month ago. Amidst vibrant songs, dances, and universal smiles, they cherish the enriching experience of contributing to the well-being of disabled individuals before embarking on their professional journeys.



Sahani Hospital hosted a drawing competition, where our core members not only participated but also clinched prizes, spotlighting their exceptional talents. Special recognition to Vismaya, whose artwork now graces the hospital notice board. Congratulations to our accomplished team!



The president of the Kerala Taxi Drivers Organization, accompanied by the team, has arrived to contribute meal sponsorships and assist in the cleaning of our campus.



"Senior Engineer Forum's Heartwarming Visit: Meal Sponsorship and Game Materials Donation at Asha Niketan Nandi Bazar". Thanks to our Chariman Mr.O.K.Premanandan.



Students from Sacred Heart School in Payyoli, accompanied by Sister Gracy, have visited Asha Niketan to present gifts for our core members.



Mrs. Fousiya, the agricultural officer, and Mr. Hareesh, the secretary of Harithakarmasena, visited Asha Niketan to share their expertise. Under their guidance, we've launched a vegetable garden, commencing with the cultivation of 50 grow bags. The inauguration ceremony was officiated by Mr. Chandran, attended by our GC members and all our staffs.



On December 8th, 2023, we held a sports event, and our core members thoroughly enjoyed the festivities. They actively participated in activities such as running race and various other games.



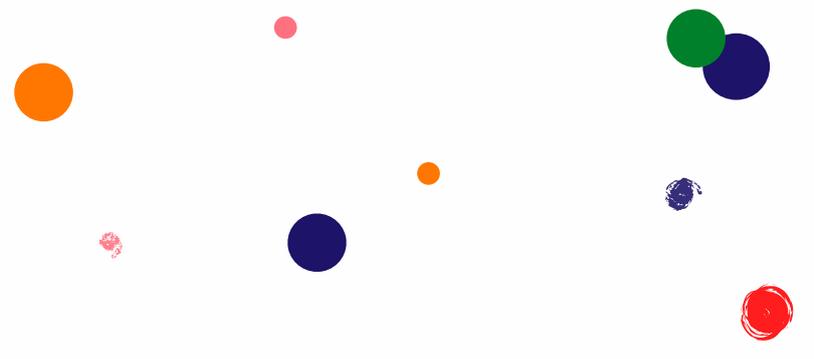
For the World Disability day, 3rd December, we organized a "Walkathon" starting from Asha Niketan, going to Nandi, and returning. We set up a stall in Nandi Town and LISSAH College students performed a lively flash mob. After returning, we had lunch and hosted a dance program.

After numerous attempts, we were able to locate Lancyettan's sister, she was thrilled to hear from us. Cousins visited him, and the joyous reunion was heartwarming. His niece hadn't seen him in 33 years but is now overjoyed to reconnect.



Christmas was celebrated at the premises of Asha Niketan, bringing together our family and friends in joyous festivities.





Thank you!

As we bid farewell to this edition, brace yourselves for an array of thrilling updates in the coming months. Wishing you all a fantastic new year filled with joy, growth, and meaningful connections. Until next time!



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