

**Ghosaldanga Adibasi Seva Sangha**

Registration No. S/56375 of 1987-88

Vill. Ghosaldanga, P.O. Sattore 731 236, Dist. Birbhum, W.B., India

Phone no: 9434633477

E-mail [s.joharmurmu@rediffmail.com](mailto:s.joharmurmu@rediffmail.com)**Bishnubati Adibasi Marshal Sangha**

Registration No. S/88087 of 1997-98

Vill. Bishnubati, P.O. Sattore 731 236, Dist. Birbhum, W.B., India

Phone no: 8670244810/9232049399

E-mail [mardi.ramjit@yahoo.co.in](mailto:mardi.ramjit@yahoo.co.in)**Annual Report**1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017**1. Introduction**

The Ghosaldanga Adibasi Seva Sangha (GASS) works in two Santal villages, viz. Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati, situated about 10 km away from the town Bolpur and the University of Santiniketan. Bishnubati founded the registered society Bishnubati Adibasi Marshal Sangha (BAMS) in 1998. Hence, the activities at Bishnubati assume their separate identity. However, the two villages continue to cooperate closely. The funding continues to be routed through GASS. In 1996, the Rolf Schoembs Vidyashram (RSV) was founded, a non-formal Santal day school, situated between Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati. From these three centres the work has spread into about a dozen other Santal villages.

The aim of the Sanghas and of the school is the all-round development of the tribal population in these two villages and in many neighbouring villages. Its main thrust, however, has been education. The last page presents an overview of the results GASS has achieved in the last 30 years. Other areas of work have been: medical aid, family health and hygiene, fishery, vocational training, maintaining a Museum of Santal Culture, bio-farming and, last but not least, the maintenance and dissemination of Santal culture.

GASS has been enlisted under Section 80 G of the Income Tax Act. 1961, by which anybody donating an amount to the organisation, can receive exemption from income tax in India.

In 2002, the Ghosaldanga Bishnubati Adibasi Trust (GBAT) has been founded at Kolkata. The primary intention of the Trust is to provide continuity to the work and security to the employees of GASS and BAMS, and also to give occasional assistance to various Non-Governmental Organizations working with the needy, poor, destitute, downtrodden people, primarily of rural India (for details see Deed of the Trust). The Trust members are the senior members of GASS and BAMS and some prominent and like-minded personalities from Kolkata. The Trust continues to support these two tribal organizations financially.

**2. Managing Committees of Ghosaldanga Adibasi Seva Sangha**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Profession</b>
1. Mohan Hembrom	President	Farmer
2. Dudu Murmu	Vice-President	Farmer
3. Sona Murmu	Secretary	Social Worker
4. Nilu Murmu	Assistant Secretary	Farmer
5. Lakshmiram Tudu	Treasurer	Social Worker
6. Bijoy Tudu	Member	Farmer

7. Dhona Hansda	Member	Farmer
8. Dasarath Murmu	Member	Teacher
9. Balui Murmu	Member	Tailor

The Managing Committee meets whenever the need arises to take decisions.

### **The Managing Committee** of Bishnubati Adibasi Marshal Sangha

<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Profession</b>
1. Boro Baski	President	Social worker
2. Dhona Soren	Vice-President	Farmer
3. Ramjit Mardi	Secretary	Govt. Employee
4. Gobinda Baski	Assistant Secretary	Student
5. Bimol Baski	Treasurer	Social Worker
6. Suno Mardi	Member	Farmer
7. Mongla Mardi	Member	Farmer
8. Jithu Baski	Member	Farmer
9. Sanyasi Lohar	Member	Artist and Teacher

### **3. The Sangha Council**

The Managing Committees are supported by the Sangha Council which meets approximately once a month and to discuss all vital development problems and future projects of GASS, BAMS and RSV. It consists of the educated members of the Sangha who assume leadership in the process of decision-making and the execution of these decisions.

- > Sona Murmu, Ghosaldanga, Secretary GASS, in charge of all activities at Ghosaldanga, overall in charge of the RSV Bio-Orchard.
- > Boro Baski, Bishnubati, President BAMS and In-charge of correspondence; he is employed at the Department of Panchayet and Rural Development, Govt. of West Bengal.
- > Gokul Hansda, Dhanyasara, Co-founder of RSV and in charge of Santal cultural programmes and excursions; he is employed as a teacher in a government school.
- > Monotosh Das, Bolpur, full-time worker of the RSV Bio-Orchard and marketing.
- > Snehadri Sekhar Chakravarti, Asst. Engineer, Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan; in charge of construction and repair work as well as of the financial management of GASS, BAMS and RSV.
- > Sanyasi Lohar, Bishnubati, artist and in charge of RSV school.
- > Bimol Baski, Bishnubati, kindergarten teacher, Treasurer of BAMS and guide of Santal Cultural Museum, Bishnubati.
- > Pintu Ghosh, Bishnubati, teacher of the Secondary Coaching Centre at RSV and in charge of the Bio-technology project funded by Bose Institute, Kolkata.
- > LakhiramTudu, treasurer of GASS and teacher of the evening school (Primary section).
- > Ramjit Mardi, Secretary of BAMS; he is employed by the West-Bengal government with posting in Bolpur.
- > Parbati Murmu, health worker in Ghosaldanga.
- > Martin Kämpchen, Santiniketan, advisor to GASS, BAMS and RSV; link-person to the "Friends of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati" (Germany). He is a scholar, writer and translator.

#### 4. Education

Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati each run a Primary Coaching Centre (for students of class I to IV) and a Secondary Coaching Centre (for students of class V to X) in their respective villages. Before the government-run early education centres Anganwadi Centres and Sishu Siksha Kendra (SSK) were established in these two villages GASS and BAMS have been operating a Noon-Meal Feeding Centre for more than two decades. Now, the programmes of both the villages have merged with the Anganwadi Centres. To overcome problems with the medium of instruction in these Centres, the Sanghas have placed a Santal teacher at Bishnubati to support the government teachers who do not speak Santali, the native language of the children. In Ghosaldanga the amalgamation of teachers has stopped since last three years due to some technical problems. However, since the last four years at Ghosaldanga a special nutritious food programme is provided for the most malnourished children and pregnant mothers by Dr. Monika Golembiewski thrice a week in the afternoon. The Coaching Centres work in the early mornings and in the evenings. Lunch was given to the children in all the centres for six days a week.

From 2013, three more Evening Coaching Centres for primary school students have been opened in the three Santal villages Bautijol, Panchabanpur and Bandlodanga.

In addition, the Sanghas run a day school, i.e. a non-formal Santal school called the Rolf SchoembsVidyashram (RSV).

Type of School	Ghosaldanga	Bishnubati
Noon-Meal Feeding Centre/SSK	52 (M-29, F-23 )	21 (M-9, F-12)
Primary coaching centre	23( M-10, F-13 )	40 (M-11, F-29)
Secondary coaching centre	23 (M-11, F-12)	30 (M-15, F-15)

#### Students of Class XI-XII and B.A-M.A

Villages	Class-XI-XII	B.A & B.Sc –M.A
Ghosaldanga	2 ( M-2, F-0 )	9(M-3,F-6)
Bishnubati	12 ( M-2, F-10 )	14(M-9,F-5)
<b>Total</b>		

\* The above students' number is of the current year. The students who have passed class X and above and have left studies or have been absorbed in various jobs have not been included here. Their figure has been given at the end of this report in The Overview.

#### Employees of Ghosaldanga, Bishnubati and RSV at a glance

Sl.No	Department	No. of employee	Name of employees
1	Noon-Meal Feeding Centre/Kindergarten	2	Bimol Baski, Parboti Murmu
2	Primary Coaching Centres	4	LakhiramTudu, Saraswati Mardi Narayan Murmu, Parboti Murmu (also health worker)
3	RSV (KG – class IV)	5	Sanyasi Lohar (since August 2015), Dasarath Murmu, Gobinda Baski, Padma Murmu (also Warden of the Girls' Hostel), Ranjit Khan (also Warden of the Boys' Hostel)

4	Secondary Coaching Centre (Class V – VIII)	5	Mono Murmu, Somnath Murmu, Bimol Patra, Uttam Baski, Ramjit Mardi, Swapan Ghosh
5	Coaching Centre (Class- V – VIII) at RSV	2	Kousik Karmakar (Mathematics), Samir Kr. Das (English),
6	Hostel(RSV) Class V–X	2	Pintu Ghosh
7	Health Workers	3	Satyanarayan Roy, Rani Baski, Parbati Murmu (also cooks nutritious food at Ghosaldanga)
7	Cooks	2	Dhona Hansda, Suno Mardi
8	Garden/Bio-orchard	2	Monotosh Das, Mongal Tudu, Gupin Kisku (Bio-tech project)
9	Night Guards	2	Rupai Hembrom, Nobin Baski
10	Administrator	1	Sona Murmu

\* Most of the teachers are part-timers. The full-time teachers perform administrative duties besides teaching. For example, Bimol Baski, who teaches at the SSK in the morning, also looks after the accounts of BAMS at Bishnubati in the evening. Ramjit Mardi, Lakhiram Tudu, Ranjit Khan, Pada Murmu and Parboti Murmu too, perform other duties besides teaching.

## 5. Educational, Recreational and Cultural Programmes

### **(a) VILLAGE EVENTS**

\* On 9<sup>th</sup> April 2016, like every year the Annual Children Fair was organized at Bishnubati. Four musical groups of men and women performed Santali traditional songs and music in the campus of the museum. The children and the villagers of Bishnubati, Ghosaldanga and the students of RSV hostel participated. The women of the Self Help Group sold food items like ghogni, chops, puffed rice, cucumber, brinjal fry, and lemon juice.

\* On 5<sup>th</sup> September, like every year Teacher's Day was celebrated at Ghosaldanga. Students from Ghosaldanga, Bishnubati, RSV and of the three Evening Coaching Centres prepared their cultural programme. At the end all, the teachers and senior students had dinner together.

\* From 12 - 14 October, five members from Gram Bikas Kendra, Dinajpur Bangladesh visited the organization for an exposure programme. The group was headed by Lucky Marandi.

\* During the whole of November, the 1<sup>st</sup> Phase of a new **Teachers' Training Programme** was organised by Gokul Hansda, assisted by Sanyasi Lohar. This is a part of the initiatives to educate and update teachers with the modern system of education and methods of teaching. All the senior students and all teachers of the organization participated. Several experienced guest lecturers from Kolkata, Bolpur and Santiniketan took the sessions. Among them were Dr. Sujata Das, Kolkata; Prof. Sushanta Dattagupta, Santiniketan/Kolkata; and Fr. D. Solomon, Dumka.

\* On 8 and 9 December **Museum's Day** was celebrated as in previous years. On 8 December, a one-day National Seminar was organized at RSV on 'The Importance of a Community

Museum'. The Anthropological Survey of India, Kolkata, funded the programme. Due to a death in Bishnubati, the programme prepared for 9 December had to be cancelled. In the evening, the birthday of Martin Kämpchen (Martin-da) was celebrated at Santiniketan in a small get-together. Senior teachers and junior leaders were present.

\* On 14 January 2017, Boro Baski and Bimol Baski were interviewed at RSV for a documentary film, 'Eternal Bond', on Santal marriage ceremonies. It is produced by the Anthropological Survey of India, Kolkata.

\* From 26 January to 2 February, four members of our German support organisation, 'Friends of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati' visited us. During their eight-day-stay they interacted with many members of GASS, BAMS and RSV. Many discussions were held on the village work. The German team members were Hedwig Oser, Dr Ulrich Oser, Debu Pal Chowdhury and Marianne Pal Chowdhury.

\* On 9 March, the Twenty-eighth Annual **Adibasi Baha Parab** (Santal Spring Festival) was celebrated at Ghosaldanga. Hundreds of people from different parts of Birbhum District participated. 32 Santal folk groups with their traditional dress and musical instruments took part. The festival started at noon and continued until 6 o' clock in the next day.

This year, the 'Baha Parab Award' was conferred on a well-known Santal medicine man (Ojha) Ram Hembrom, of Ramnagar village, District Birbhum. He also calls himself an Ayurvedic doctor. He has a farm which grows more than four hundred varieties of medicinal plants. He has no formal schooling, but he treats patients since forty years. One of his sisters is in the same profession for the same number of years. Dr. Kalachand Mahele, Department of Chemistry, Kalyani University was the Chief Guest of the programme. The Officer-in-charge of Panrui Police Station and the Circle Inspector of Bolpur were the special guests of the programme.

#### **(b) EXCURSIONS – EVENTS – TRAINING outside the villages**

\* From 23 to 29 June 2016, four farmers from different villages of Bolpur Sub-division took a training course on Bio-technology organized by the Bose Institute at Falta, District 24 Parganas. After the training the farmers are able to start income-generation-schemes like vermicomposting, mushroom cultivation, fishery, rain-water-harvesting in their respective villages under the supervision of Ghosaldanga Adibasi Seva Sangha.

\* On 24 July, Dr. Sharmishtha Dattagupta conducted a one-day 'Mind-Mapping'-workshop with the junior leaders and teachers of our organization at her parents' residence at Santiniketan. 19 teachers from various educational centres, e.g. from Ghosaldanga, Bishnubati, RSV and other villages, participated. On 7 August, Sharmishtha conducted a follow-up-seminar at the same venue with the senior leaders of our organization.

\*From 20 to 28 October 2016, a group of 10 junior leaders of the organization went to Bangladesh for an educational tour. The group visited Rajshahi, Selaidaha (Kobi kuthir) and number of Santal social organizations. They also performed cultural programmes in the Santal villages. The group was led by Ramjit Mardi.

\*On 22 November, RSV was awarded 'The Telegraph-Excellence Award 2016' by The Telegraph, the leading English daily newspaper of Eastern India, in Kolkata. Sanyasi Lohar, the teacher-in charge of RSV, Snehadri Sekhar Chakraborty, Upoma Ghosh and senior students and teachers went to receive the award at the Science City auditorium in Kolkata. This is the second time that RSV was given this award.

\*From 27 March to 5 April 2017, Sanyasi Lohar, the teacher-in-charge of RSV,<sup>1</sup> attended a National Art Workshop at Sanchi University of Buddhist and Indic Studies at Barla, Madhya Pradesh. During the ten-day-workshop he produced several works of art and one of his paintings was selected as one of the best art work of the workshop.

\*From 23 to 26 March, a group of six Santal men and women went to take part in the Baha Parab celebrations at Dinajpur, Bangladesh. They were invited by Gram Bikash Kendra, an NGO working for the development of the Santals in Bangladesh. The group was led by Rathin Kisku.

## **6. The Rolf Schoembs Vidyashram (RSV)**

The Rolf Schoembs Vidyashram (phone: 03463-235 258) is a non-formal Santal School situated half a kilometre from Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati. The school was founded by Boro Baski and Gokul Hansda in 1996. Gokul Hansda was its full-time teacher until June 2010, Thereafter, Boro Baski remained its teacher-in-charge till July, 2015. Sanyasi Lohar is the teacher in-charge of the school since 1<sup>st</sup> August 2015. He is an ex-student of Kala Bhavan, Visva-Bharati, and is a resident of Bishnubati (Ashadullapur). Sanyasi has been the art teacher of RSV since many years. Other teachers are Ranjit Khan, Pada Murmu who are also the Wardens of the Boys' and Girls' Hostels respectively. Gobinda Baski and Dasarath Murmu teach in the morning and in the evening they also teach the High School students in their own village, Bishnubati and Ghosaldanga respectively. The music teacher is Sabyasachi Mukherjee. Dhona Hansda and Suno Mardi are the cooks of the school children.

The school organises several regular programmes throughout the year. They include the celebration of Teachers' Day (on 5 September), of Rabindranath Tagore's Birthday (in the beginning of May), and of Independence Day which is also the Foundation Day of RSV (on 15 August). Other programmes are organised whenever an occasion arises. This year RSV had 83 students (M-39, F-44).

In July 2010, a special Coaching Centre for classes IX to X has been started at the RSV campus. The idea behind this Centre is to provide quality teaching and guidance to the students who prepare themselves for their final examinations (class X). Another reason is to reduce the pressure of the teachers in the village Evening Coaching Centres at Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati who already suffer from a shortage of experienced teachers. This year there were 15 (M-6, F-9) students and four teachers in the Coaching Centre. Mr. Supriyo Sadhu, the headmaster of Bolpur High School, came to teach twice a week. From 2013, RSV has started three more Evening Coaching Centres in the neighbouring villages (Panchabanpur, Bautijol, Bandlodanga) as the RSV Education Extension programme.

Some of the activities of RSV were:

\* On 7 August 2016, Briksha Rupon (Tree Planting Ceremony) was organized at RSV. The school children presented a cultural programme that was followed by planting of trees on the school campus. Mr. Samar Bagchi, former Director of Birla Technological Museum, Kolkata was Chief Guest of the programme and Prof. Sushanta Dattagupta, former Vice-Chancellor, Visva-Bharati, was the Guest of Honour.

On 15 August, the Independence Day of India and the Foundation Day of RSV, was celebrated with various cultural programmes. Students and parents of RSV, Ghosaldanga, Bishnubati and neighbouring villages took part.

\* On 31 March 2017, the students and teachers of Heritage School, Kolkata, visited RSV, as part of their educational tour. The students shared their experiences of learning in their respective schools and spent the day with songs, music and games.

### **7. RSV Education Extension Programme: Evening Coaching Centres (ECC)**

Education Extension Programme was started in 2013 in three neighbouring villages with the intention to support the students of RSV who live in those villages, in their studies. Further, the Centres are meant to create a linkage between the parents and the school to assess the problems students face in the school as well as in the families. In every village there are two teachers who live in the same village, running the Evening Coaching Centre. The Centres begin at 6 pm and continue until 8 pm every day, except on Sundays. Apart from teaching, the teachers also advise the parents about the education of their wards. Regular attendance of the students is monitored at the Centre. If a child discontinues the parents are informed immediately. There are also regular Parents Meetings and health checkups for the children and parents. Uttam Baski (Bishnubati) is the Supervisor of the Centres since June 2015. Earlier Mono Murmu was supervising the schools. The three new Centres are Panchabanpur, Bautijal and Bandhlodanga. Some statistics of the Centres is given below.

#### **Short description of Evening Coaching Centres.**

<b>Village</b>	<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>Total no. of students</b>	<b>Teachers</b>
Panchabanpur Started 1 Jan.2013	4	6	10	Kalidasi Mardi & Somnath Murmu
Bautijal Started 21 March 2013	13	12	25	Parbati Kisku & Kalichoron Murmu
Bandhlodanga Started 1 March 2013	16	11	27	Mridula Tudu & Gopal Mardi

### **8. Hihiri Pipiri (Students' Home)**

Hihiri Pipiri is the Students' Home situated inside the RSV campus. The home started as a Day Care Centre in 2006 and was transformed into a full-fledged hostel for the students in 2007. This year, 30 students (15 boys and 15 girls) were staying in the two hostel buildings. The students are mostly former RSV students and hail from economically weak and/or disturbed family backgrounds. Students of Class IV to X stay in the hostel; they study at various government High Schools within a ten-km-radius. Besides studying under the guidance of our teachers, they play, sing, paint, perform theatre sketches and work in the garden of the school. This year, too, the students performed a number of dances and a drama in different programmes in our villages and outside.

### **9. Junior Leaders**

In the last three to four years, the second generation of leadership in Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati has organized itself and formed a group of young men who are College students or have meanwhile completed their studies and have either been absorbed in the work of the Sanghas as teachers and social workers or begun salaried work elsewhere. This group of six to ten persons is lead by Ramjit Mardi and has been guided for the last few years by Martin

Kämpchen. He has regular meetings with them in Santiniketan. The Junior Leaders have begun to execute regular village programmes on their own (i.e. without the monitoring of the Seniors) as for example the Santal Spring Festival (Baha Parab). This year they also conducted the educational tour to Bangladesh on their own. Since 2015 they receive a small sum of money from 'Friends of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati e.V.' (Frankfurt) which is mainly used to attend Spoken English classes.

With the support of the seniors this group has made good progress and gained in confidence to take up work on their own and develop a vision for the future.

### **10. Volunteers**

Since 2003, students from Europe, especially from Germany, have started coming to us regularly. Earlier, the visitors were mostly individual friends of Martin-da who used to come to visit India and on their way back home had been staying for some days to experience village life. But since about a decade German visitors have come as student volunteers who stay in order to teach and interact with the young pupils of our schools. They engage in teaching English, music, sports, art and crafts. They also learn from us, like Santali and Bengali music, dance and most importantly by staying with us they experience our way of life.

This year we had only one student volunteer, Lilli Knodt from Germany. She stayed with us for two months (November to December 2016). During her stay she taught English, games and music to the students of Ghosaldanga, Bishnubati and RSV school. She stayed at Prantik house in the village.

### **11. Bio-orchard (on RSV Campus)**

Biological farming (farming without pesticides and chemical fertiliser) is a great need in our country. To set an example to the farmers in our area and to have a source of income in harmony with nature and village life, this orchard was started in 2001 under the guidance of Srikanta Mondal (of Manab Jamin). Hundreds of fruit trees grow on the RSV campus. Monotosh Das, a full-time worker, looks after the entire orchard and sells its produce regularly: fruits, vegetables and by-products like jam and jelly at local markets in Bolpur and Santiniketan. The bio-orchard is still growing and developing. So far it has not yet given us sufficient profit in return for our investment.

The Bose Institute, Kolkata has been a great support this year in extending our income generation programmes to the neighbouring villages. In 2014, after taking training from the Institute we began with only four programmes like mushroom cultivation, duck rearing, pig rearing and rain water harvesting. This year we are working in 12 villages on six skills like bee keeping, vermicomposting, fishery, chicken rearing, goat and sheep rearing. 14 persons are involved in the project among them many have received training on these trades from Falta, the Training Centre of the Bose Institute. Pintu Ghosh, a teacher of our organisation, is in charge of the programmes in all villages.

\* In January-February 2017, Rolf Bucher and Anne Bucher, organic farmers from Stuttgart (Germany), visited us for the sixth time with the aim to plant Moringa trees and reap their leaves which have especially rich nutrient value. They pulverised the leaves and prepared "Moringa-biscuits" for the consumption in the hostels, in our RSV midday-meals and in the Nutrition Centres in the neighbouring villages, supported by Dr. Monika Golembiewski.

After Rolf and Anne Bucher left, Nilu Murmu from Ghosaldanga follows up the Moringa project. Nilu has planted over hundred Moringa saplings in RSV campus and in Ghosaldanga. He also bakes nutritious cakes and Moringa biscuits once a week for our Feeding Centres. He is also active in establishing kitchen gardens in over 12 villages providing seeds, know-how and some control.



Since several years, the parents of the sponsored children (i.e. the children who get financial support for their education) work in the Bio-orchard once a week in return for the support they receive for their children.

### **12. Vocational Training Centre (VTC)**

The Vocational Training Centre (VTC) was started at Bishnubati in 2001 with the financial support of the German NGO Agape, Heidelberg. On the ground-floor the coaching classes for standard V to XII are being conducted every morning and evening. And one room is reserved for Computer training. The Museum of Santal Culture is situated on the first floor of the building. The students maintain the garden and the pond. Uttam Baski is the teacher-in-charge of the VTC from February, 2015.

### **13. Health, Nutrition and Sanitation**

As in previous years, Dr. Monika Golembiewski treated patients of Ghosaldanga, Bishnubati, RSV and the neighbouring villages. After establishing the 'Mother and Child Care Centre' at Mokrapur, Bolpur (10 km away from Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati), four years ago, she gives more time treating patients there. The hospital has been useful for the villagers to get good health care services.

Satyaban Ray, Santiniketan, a trained homoeopath and a health-worker for GASS, BAMS and RSV, keeps direct and regular contact with the patients in the villages and the hospital. He is supported by three health workers: Parboti Murmu of Ghosaldanga, Rani Baski of Bishnubati and Pada Murmu at RSV. Dr. Sitaram Banerjee, a general physician of the Government Primary Health Centre, Sattore, has attended our Ghosaldanga Health Centre to treat village patients once a week. Emergency and serious medical cases are referred to the 'Mother and Child Care Centre' at Mokhrampur, Bolpur and to the hospitals of Bolpur.

The Nutrition Programme and Sanitation Programme continue at Rindanga, Pachabanpur and Ghosaldanga under Dr. Monika Golembiewski's guidance. The programme of Rindanga is run by Sanyasi Lohar of Bishnubati. He has founded a registered society which works closely with GASS and BAMS and with our donor agencies.

Some of the serious medical cases that have been treated during this year from the 'Mother and Child Care Centre' at Makhrampur (Bolpur):

\*Sundari Tudu (F-65) Bishnubati (Ashadullapur): She has tongue cancer and was admitted to Hope Hospital, Kolkata, where she stayed for more than six months. After the operation she is at her home and presently doing well.

\* Sigen Baski (M-55) Bishnubati: After a two year treatment from Nilratan Medical College Hospital, Kolkata, for cancer he is doing well at home now.

\* Mohon Hembrom (M-55) Ghosaldanga: After getting treated of bone TB for more than six months he is doing well at home and continuing his medicine.

\* Sibuh Hembrom (M-57) Ghosaldanga: He continues medicine for tuberculosis.

### **14. "Friends of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati e.V.", Germany**

The 'Friends of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati' obtained German government registration in Frankfurt in 2007. The organisation has an executive body under the leadership of Marianne Pal Chowdhury. The organisation disseminates information about our work and awareness about the Indian village situation in Germany. It takes the lead in collecting donations for the day-to-day expenses of our Sanghas and of RSV and for *capital expenditures to maintain and improve the educational institutions*.

Furthermore, in 2009 the organization also started a sponsorship to support the education of the girls and boys in the hostels. The sponsors give the money for all the expenses.

We are very grateful to them! Only with their help, we can continue to function.

They also receive substantial help from the Kindermissionswerk (The Pontifical Mission of Holy Childhood) / “Sternsinger”, Aachen (Germany). The Kindermissionswerk at present adds 20 % to the sum collected by the ‘Friends of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati’. We are grateful for this long-lasting cooperation!

The annual meeting of the registered society took place in May 2016 and was attended by Martin Kämpchen who reported on the progress of the work in the villages and on the plans for the future.

Parallel to the Junior Leaders in Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati, the German ‘Friends of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati’ have begun to organise a cell of Junior Leaders who have begun meeting in Germany. All the Juniors have been volunteers with us and wish to continue to support our work within the framework of the ‘Friends of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati’. Tim Weinert has been elected by the Junior Leaders as their spokesperson.

The internet website of the society is [www.dorfentwicklung-indien.de](http://www.dorfentwicklung-indien.de). Some of the text is translated in English.

### **15. Sponsorship**

Since many years, Dr. Monika Golembiewski supports some of the sick and physically weak children and mothers of our villages. Since the last five years, we have also started the sponsorship programme for needy students. After selecting the students and receiving their personal data, Dr. Monika Golembiewski and Marianne Pal Chowdhury collected a number of like-minded persons who are willing to help these students.

Families of the malnourished children have received support from Dr. Monika Golembiewski. The hostel students of RSV are sponsored by the Friends of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati, Germany. The sponsorship of the hostel students covers all the expenses like food, accommodation, tuition fee etc. As a policy, any one of the family members of a sponsored child should give one day of work per week in the campus of RSV. The work includes tilling the soil in the Bio-orchard, cleaning the garden or repairing thatched roofs etc.

### **16. Partnerships and Hospitality**

- The Kindermissionswerk in Aachen (Germany) has continued its cooperation with us. As mentioned in no. 14, it has added 20% to the sum collected by the ‘Friends of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati e.V.’ in donations.
- The Meditation Centre Sonnenhaus in Beuron (Germany) donates a substantial amount every year towards our regular expenses.
- “Shining Eyes e.V.” (Germany) continued their services in the fields of health, nutrition and sanitation.
- The Bose Institute, Kolkata, continues its support towards income generation programmes through their Rural Bio-technology programme. We have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Bose Institute in 2014.

Here is a list of some of the guests who we welcomed to our villages and RSV:

Rolf Bucher and Anne Bucher, Organic farmers, Germany; Prof. Sushanta Dattagupta, former Vice-chancellor, Visva-Bharati; Samar Bagchi, Kolkata; Prof. Sharmishtha Dattagupta, Göttingen, Germany; Prof. Samir Sikdar and Suban Roy Chowdhury, Bose Institute, Kolkata; Dr. Kalachand Mahele, Santiniketan; Dr. Binoy Kr. Soren, Department of Agriculture, Visva-Bharati. Dr. Monika Golembiewski. Lucky Marandi and her four colleagues from Dinajpur, Bangladesh; Lilli Knodt, a volunteer from Germany; Prof. Swapan Datta, Vice-chancellor, Visva-Bharati; Prof. Indrani Mukherjee, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

## 17. Births and Deaths

### Births: Bishnubati & Ashadullapur

Sl. No	Child's name	M/F	Parent's name	Date of Birth
	<b>Bishnubati</b>			
1	Supriya Soren	F	Sukumar and Sumi soren	28/4/2016
2	Ankita Murmu	F	Jansen and Chuko Murmu	13/4/2017
	<b>Ashadullapur</b>			
1	Shiramoni Besra	F	Bhagen and Sankali Besra	26/4/2016
2	Khoka Hembrom	M	Mongal and Mungli Hembrom	21/6/2017

### Deaths: Bishnubati & Ashadullapur

Sl.No	Deceased person's name	M/F	Date of Death	Close Kin's name
	<b>Bishnubati</b>			
1	Kalomoni Mumru	F	28/4/2016	Thakur's aunt
2	Saraswati Murmu	F	4/10/2016	Thakur's wife
3	Dulmoni Baski	F	8/12/2016	Bimol's mother
4	Sukodi Mumru	F	27/2/2017	Choto's wife
	<b>Ashadullapur</b>			
1	Phuli Baski	F	21/12/2016	Hopon's wife

### Births: Ghosaldanga

Sl.No	Child's name	M/F	Parents' name	Date of Birth
1	Mandira Hembrom	F	Sunil and Lakhi Hembrom	19/5/2016
2	Shibdhan Murmu	M	Chubiram and Lakhi Hembrom	06/6/2016
3	Indranil Tudu	M	Debilal and Swapna Tudu	08/10/2016
4	Saurav Murmu	M	Som and Lakhi Murmu	08/10/2016
5	Bipasha Murmu	F	Shymal and Sohagini Murmu	05/12/2016
6	Sukhen Murmu	M	Milon and sukurmoni	10/2/2017

### Deaths: Ghosaldanga

Sl.No	Deceased person's name	M/F	Date of Death	Close Kin's name
1	Charan Hansda-65 Yrs	M	23/6/2016	Narayan's father (bosta)

2	Makhan Tudu-70 Yrs	M	14/12/2016	Gajat's mother in-law
3	Putul Murmu-95 Yrs	F	27/5/2017	Robi's mother

### **Educational Achievements at Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati An Overview**

The Ghosaldanga Adibasi Seva Sangha and Bishnubati Adibasi Marshal Sangha, two registered organisations, work in the two Santal villages Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati for the last 39 years. From their inception the Sangha's main focus has been education. When they began, each village had only one single student who had passed the Madhyamik Examination. They were Sona Murmu in Ghosaldanga and Boro Baski in Bishnubati. No other student attended High School then. Since Sona and Boro began to organize the educational activities in their respective village, the picture gradually changed. Each of the two villages now operates

- \* one kindergarten (with lunch),
- \* one coaching centre for Primary School pupils (evenings),
- \* one coaching centre for Secondary School students (mornings and evenings).

Since 1996 the Sangha runs the Rolf Schoembs Vidyashram (RSV), a non-formal Santal School situated between Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati. Children from these two villages attend classes during the day. The main aim of RSV is to develop an appropriate teaching method and syllabus suitable in a Santal village context. A hostel and a special coaching centre for class X and IX have been started in 2007 and 2009 respectively at the RSV campus.

The following statistics represent the combined total of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati.

Total population: 847 persons.

Ghosaldanga: male 176, female 143 = 319 persons

Bishnubati and Ashadullapur: male 273, female 255 = 528 persons

Nutrition Feeding/Kindergarten: male 38, female 35 = 73 pupils

Coaching Centres:

Primary Level: male 21, female 42 = 63 pupils

Secondary Level: male 26, female 27 = 53 pupils

Since the beginning of the Sangha's educational activities, the following number of students passed the following examinations and placed in various job and professions:

Madhyamik (after class 10) 53

Higher Secondary (after class 12) 39

B. A/ B. P.Ed/ B. S. W./ Post-Diploma in Fine Arts 22

#### **Rolf SchoembsVidyashram:**

Primary School (Class KG to IV): male 39, female 44 = 83 pupils

Hihiri Pipiri Adibasi Hostel (Class V to X): male 15, female 15 = 30 pupils

Special coaching centre (IX and X): male 7, female 8 = 15 pupils

The Ghosaldanga Adibasi Seva Sangha and Bishnuabti Adibasi Marshal Sangha have 12 full-time teachers and 18 part-time teachers. This excludes unpaid volunteers recruited from the senior students of both villages and from Germany.

Our advisory and funding agency is: Friends of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati e.V., Frankfurt (Germany).

Links to recent publications:

<http://www.dandc.eu/articles/220714/index.en.shtml>(English)

<http://www.dandc.eu/articles/220714/index.de.shtml>(German)

### **Publications**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (Santali Primer, Part-I)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ (Santali Primer, Part-II)
3. \_\_\_\_\_ (Santali Primer, Part-III)
4. \_\_\_\_\_ (Santali Primer, Part-IV)
5. \_\_\_\_\_ (Santali Drama)
6. \_\_\_\_\_ (Santali Songs)
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Celebrating Life: The Santal Experiment in Freedom
8. \_\_\_\_\_ (SoantalMuktadharaiprobesh)
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Our Village Ghosaldanga (Photo book)
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Our Village Bishnuabti (Photo book)
11. \_\_\_\_\_ Our School RSV (Photo book)
12. \_\_\_\_\_ A Journey of Ghosaldanga and BishnubatiSantal Village
13. \_\_\_\_\_ Activities and Achievements of Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati
14. Photos and Cards on Santal lives

**For further information about the organization and recent publications please log on to our website: [www.dorfentwicklung-indien.de](http://www.dorfentwicklung-indien.de) (in German; some of the texts are translated into English)**