## Good Shepherd Children's Home Annual Report January 2015-December 2016

India Evangelistic Association has been rationally addressing few concerns and challenges and growing needs of the home for larger interest of the children. India Evangelistic Association has been implementing the project activities and everything has been abided, in carrying it out, strictly in line with the project prime goal.

The Home children have celebrated Christmas-2016 & 2015 and New Year-2017 & 2016 with joy and merriment.

This is the pride time for children to remember all good things they have come across in the recent past and getting possessed of those things for their daily benefits and enjoyments. Now, children in the home have been getting more accustomed with social etiquettes and ethical values to get it reflected, while transacting with others in our day to day life.





The children are enjoying the basic comforts of home in a loving Christian atmosphere. Most importantly, they are learning about the Lord Jesus Christ. This will imprint a positive influence on their families, helping them stay and grow in the faith. The children will be witnesses in their community as they hear about the

life saving message of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Progress and performance of every child is assessed regularly throughout the year.

During the period April-2016, children shifted to a new building in line with the government guidelines. This place has been found to be a very soothing one. Initially children were staying under an AC Sheet roofed house, seems traditional to them. But now they are staying in a well-



furnished concreted roofed building which is new to them and they really enjoy reside in it. The number of rooms built on 2,000 sq.ft. (2,000 X 2 storeys= 4,000 sq ft. provides sufficient sleeping and study space, having enough bath rooms and inter-dining rooms.













































In nutshell new building for the children is quite befitting for them to dwell in with adequate number of double storey beds for children. Children are enjoying the new home, presently they dwell in. This building gives children an added space for their free accommodation, study rooms, regular tutoring, recreational space, devotional area and living room. In such well-furnished building, children are now comparatively in a healthier condition and seems least affected by the water and sanitary borne diseases and their individual health is found sound and healthy.

At the present period January-2017, there are 66 nos. of sponsored children, 62 girls and 4 boys enrolled in the Children's list of the Residential Child Care Program.

<u>Successful Departure</u>: - 5 girls by name Jyotismita Digal, Madhusmita Digal, Rupanti Naha Majhi, Saphira Lad Majhi and Manaka Majhi have successfully passed out with High School Certificate at the end of Academic year March-2016.

Resettlement:- 4 girls by name Priya Majhiasini, Age- 9 years, Studying in 3<sup>rd</sup> Standard, Blessy Digal, Age- 9 years, Studying in 3<sup>rd</sup> Standard, Nibedita Nayak, Age- 16 years, Studying in 9<sup>th</sup> Standard and Subhashri Digal, Age- 16 years, Studying in 9<sup>th</sup> Standard and 1 boy by name David Malbas- Age- 8 years, Studying in 2<sup>nd</sup> Standard have been resettled with their parents as per advice of Government.

There has been Entry of 4 New Girls by name Sobhagini Digal, Age- 16 years, studying in Standard 10<sup>th</sup>, Govt. Girls High School, Unit-9, Bhubaneswar, Sandhyarani Digal, Age- 12 years, studying in Standard 8<sup>th</sup>, Kalinga Bidyapitha Shyampur, Bhubaneswar, Mita Nayak, Age- 12 years, studying in Standard 7<sup>th</sup>, Madhusudan Upper Primary School, Shyampur, Bhubaneswar and Miki Nayak, Age- 14 years, studying in Standard 9<sup>th</sup>, Kalinga Bidyapitha Shyampur, Bhubaneswar to the Home who were resettled by the Child District Protection Unit, Khordha at GSCH, Bhubaneswar due to closure of a Christian Home where they were earlier enrolled. Child District Protection Unit, Khordha found the infrastructure and basic amenities up to the mark as a result the 4 new Christian Minorities children were guided to Good Shepherd Children's Home, Kalinganagar for their protected stay and education. We welcome their joining with pride and utmost respect.

As children grow and experience staying in this new place, the noble financial resources meant for them also help to fulfil all their academic and personal needs, such as text books, note books, school dress and other fundamental living requirements without any mental worry.

# Physical Development-Food, Hygiene and Sanitation:-

Food and Nutrition is a key factor in eliminating the issue of malnutrition amongst the women and children in India.

As usual, quality of daily food for children is kept preserved for them. IEA commits sincerely and has been providing required amount of Grocery, Veg and Non-Veg (Egg, Chicken, Milk, Fruits etc.) to cater the daily food need of the victim children. Grocery and required rations are supplied regularly. Green

vegetables and various other healthy items are added to the food menu. This nature of food has catered the daily nutrition and vitamins requirements of the children.



Nutritional balance food, containing morning breakfast, lunch, light snacks and dinner for every children staying in GSCH is facilitated. The home prepared food as per day wise menu is being served to the children in order to keep sustaining their growing health.







































In the process of day to day health care intervention for the inmates, staying in the Good Shepherd Children's Home, they receive balanced food, health care habits and nutritional care under the program provision, meant for them. It is further observed that, due to habit of nutritional food intake, now the children maintain their physical

condition strong and sound. The provision of feeding them with balance food has boosted their health condition and deteriorating physical symptoms is no more with them now excepting symptoms of minor health hazards appears sporadically among the children, which is seasonal like cold, fever etc. Now, all most children are in sound state and they enjoy their day to day sportive life with much gaiety and spirit. In this connection, it would be right to mention that, the degree of vulnerability of their physical condition is disappeared and new working zeal is gripped to their mind set, while they play game, attend in the class room teaching and other extra-curricular activities.

## **Hygiene and Sanitation:-**

IEA fulfils its utmost duty to provide the required Personal, Domestic and Institutional Hygiene and Sanitation supplies to leverage the Sanitation Level amongst the inmates staying in the Home. The children in Good Shepherd Home enjoyed staying in the current reporting period. The room sanitation has been neatly maintained to ensure zero infection and protect children's health from infectious diseases. The overall domestic sanitation in the home has been healthier and highly hygienic.







The food, being prepared and served to the children in the home has been hygienically maintained. Fresh food stuff with pure drinking water provision for the children has been given during the period to raise their immunity power and remain healthier, as the transit environment from one season to next seem combating for children all over in the state.

## Water Purifier Machine:-

Children are easily prone to water borne diseases and come across minor physical illnesses which can be avoided to large extent. While taking care of the children's health aspects in the Good Shepherd Children's home, it has been observed that, habit of drinking pure and more water by the children keeps their health healthier and properly rehydrated. Considering this aspect, as one of the basic needs of



for the children, organization has set up a Water Purifier Machine (Kent Water Reverse Osmosis Water Purifier) in the Good Shepherd Children's Home. The children in the home are now using pure drinking water without water scarcity and this aqua guard machine is capable to deliver service 24X7. The children are enjoying this pure water with smile and satisfaction, where they witness that the water quality of this machine is the best.



Sufficient treated and filtered drinking water is provided. Clean containers for storing drinking water are used. Sufficient water for bathing and washing clothes, maintenance & cleanliness of the premises is being adhered. Presence of proper drainage system and arrangement for disposal of garbage and availability of covered dustbins is in place. Special

attention is sought for protection from mosquitoes by fixing mosquito nets stitched on the windows pane. There is sufficient number of well-ventilated bathrooms (at least one bathroom for ten children) in the Children's Home. There is also space for washing clothes/utensils.





This sort of intense practice is found helpful in maintain their health in a good state. In respect to the overall hygiene and sanitation, made available to the children, incidence of minor water born disease/illness is negligibly recorded. Our children are educated well, thereby they are maintaining individual physical neatness and care takers are keeping the living environment to a level of satisfaction.

<u>Clothing and Slippers</u>: - The children are happy to receive new pair of formal dress, which has been stitched inside the Home during January 2016. They have also received one pair of slippers each.



#### **Education:-**

The children are growing well in academics during their stay in the Children's Home. It is a matter of fact to realize that Literacy percentage of Kandhamal district covers **64.13** against **72.9** of the state.

The literacy levels in the district have remained below the State average. The Male literacy rate is at **76.93** and female literacy is just few points higher than **50%** and covers **51.94**.

Though the situation of Education has begun to improve in recent years yet the district shows high gender and social disparities in literacy levels. Female Literacy is always lower than the Male Literacy rate. The Overall Scheduled Tribe Literacy rate is at **58.34** with Male Literacy at **72.12** and Female Literacy dropping quite below **50%** at **45.58**. The overall Scheduled Caste Literacy rate is at **66.12** with Male Literacy at **78.88** and Female Literacy coming just above **50%** at **53.90**. In all cases we find that the Female literacy rate describes vulnerable education situation of girls in Kandhamal, Tribals occupy the most precarious position.

The schemes like NPEGEL, KGBV and 100-seated ST/SC girls hostels have been put in place to address the challenge of low tribal female literacy and to improve their enrolments, retention and learning achievements in schools.

Access to schools has improved significantly over the years. Even though access has improved significantly, primary schools at remote habitations need to have good infrastructure to attract and retain students. The availability of teachers needed to be rationalised across all schools in different regions of the district. The district has limited opportunities for higher education and vocational training with only 16 colleges and one Industrial Training Institute.

Overall, the district showed improved access to elementary education, increased enrolment and reduced dropout rates for children, but quality of education and retention at higher classes continue to be a serious concern.

When we carefully look at the feeble position of Kandhamal Districts' Female Literacy rate, it is to be well acknowledged that the girls in the Good Shepherd Children's home at Bhubaneswar grow in a safe, secure and positive environment and sustained to aspire for better education.

As all children in the Good Shepherd Children's Home learn that education is the only way to escape the poverty passed down from generations, they have invested a lot of their efforts in their study. Since early morning, our children get up to rehearse their lessons before school starts. They are busy

all day long and this routine continues from Monday to Saturday. We appreciate the effort made by every child in every area of her learning and encourage self-confidence.

## Remedial Coaching "Tuitions":-

Owing to the competitive world, children understand that being industrious is equally important; therefore caring guidance of subject wise tuition teachers is necessary for cognitive growth of children. Looking at this specific need, IEA has been influenced by the children's ability and provided special coaching to all Odia Medium Children staying in the home.

Significantly, the home tutors are taking care of children's educational need on daily basis on all subjects, where children are in need of receiving tuition or personal care from tutors as and when required. These classes are being implemented through daily "In-House" Tuition Classes taught by the subject experts.





homework performances and achievements.

In receipt of an individual care from the home tutors, children are maintaining positive mentality for their home work in bringing solution to their academic needs on daily basis. The quality of standard of each student has been recorded satisfactory and our children are doing exceedingly well both in the class room and











# **Text Books**:-



Corresponding to the school guidelines, the school going children need to possess all text books on time. So, the organization has provided required Teaching Materials and Aids like Academic Text Books and Copies, Note Pads and all necessary study materials to every child in the Home to supplement their fundamental educational needs. It has been seen

that, all children are very happy by availing new books and study materials, where they exchange pleasure with smile each other.













## 5 Girls complete High School (Matriculation):-

In the meantime, 5 girl children by name Jyotismita Digal, Madhusmita Digal, Rupanti Naha Majhi, Saphira Lad Majhi and Manaka Majhi have grown into mature youths and completed their high school studies in this academic year March-2016. They have successfully passed out with High School Certificate at the end of Academic year March-2016. IEA and GSCH bid farewell to these girls through greetings



and warm wishes as they continue their academic journey ahead.



An honorarium of Rs. 1,500/- was given to each girl to meet their immediate needs. As per the advice of government, these children have been resettled with their immediate legal guardians in their native villages/native district and receiving government stipend for their further study.









They are now continuing their education in Intermediate Studies while staying in their natives. These youths are positive role models for our younger children, and they show great potential to reintegrate successfully into the community and break the cycle of poverty. Formal Education is very important that makes a person able to live and earn independently. At least IEA has cared to raise them and bring up to the Matriculation (10<sup>th</sup> Studies). It is our heartfelt desire to see the children overcome the challenges in their lives and achieve reality through transformation into fully grown responsible Christian adults and citizens of India.

Children at home are growing with a positive attitude with self-respect. They are posed to a challenge to come out with competitive knowledge and to become hard working for their academic studies.

# Annual Exams- March-April 2017:-

Please pray for children's sound physical health and mental health as they pursue hard to memorize lessons/teachings and to appear in the upcoming annual exam during March-2017. 5 Girls by name **Lijanti Majhi, Rasmita Pradhan, Sonali Digal, Lovely Digal and Soubhagini Digal** will appear in the High School- Matriculation exams March-2017.



Lijanti Majhi



**Lovely Digal** 



**Rashmita Pradhan** 



**Sonali Digal** 



Soubhagini Digal

<u>Healthcare Activity</u>: - In the eve of World Oral Health Day on 20<sup>th</sup> March-2016, a program for Oral Health Checkup has been conducted for all children of Good Shepherd Children's Home. The doctor, attended in the program taught to our home children, about how children need to maintain their own oral hygiene to add general health benefits for them in doing so.

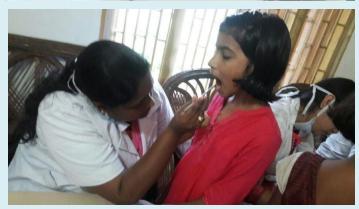
































Incidence of minor disease/illness of children is being taken care through medical advice and check-up and administration of medicines as per doctor's prescription.

One child Manisha Digal, Age- 12 years studying in 8<sup>th</sup> standard was operated of Appendicitis at Sum Hospital, Kalinganagar, Bhubaneswar and all expenses were borne by India Evangelistic Association. She is recovering slowly and staying with her mother for extra care.





### **Extracurricular Activities:-**

In the meantime, children having innate budding talents and showing interest to grow in their possessed quality have been carefully identified and given exposure to them through professional guidance and service. Furthermore, looking at their growing aptitude, couple of music and dancing classes in the centre for children is being conducted in order to plug it with the budding talents of children, who are highly motivated on music and dancing activities and show their individual talents in this area. This extracurricular activity will help them attune with their innate qualities and let they cultivate it, as time passes. This attempt is continuing.

As a result, the selected children in the home have come out with colourful performance and achievement in the field of dancing, singing, playing musical instruments and drawing.



Inmates of GSCH participated at Rainbow District Level Cultural Programme of Child Care Institutions, Khordha District and bagged few accolades. Such type of exposure of children broadens their perception while they associate and compete with their age group peers. They gleefully participated in various events.





Children's Day, 14th November 2016 is noted as an important day for Children commemorated in memory of the birth anniversary of the first Prime Minister of India, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru. The demographics of the country marks the day an important one. All the children attended Children's Day organized by the Child Welfare Committee,



Khordha District. The event was celebrated by the hundreds of children from many other children's organizations in the district. The day was filled with performances of all kinds from games and play activities, traditional dancing to funny skits and modern dance. The children had a great time together.





























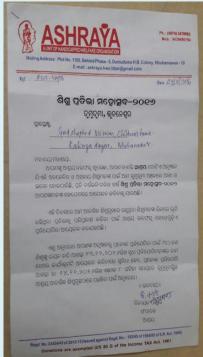


























Likewise, the great human lover Mr. Madhusudan Das death anniversary was observed as day of love for distress and helpless. In this event, children were taught, how they need to imbibe these human values and cultivate those in their day to day life.

Similarly, during this period National Girl Child Day-16 has been observed on 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 by the home children, where they were vividly oriented and sensitized about the protection and promotion of girl children in all aspects of their lives, in support of gender development. This took place at the District Collectorate Office premises, Khordha.









Television:- Of the different alternative leaning instruments and sources, Television as the modern technology at the present context, play an vital role and which is more important for growing children, who can best use of it, by selecting value added channels and program in their routine walk of life. Inclining to these aspects in mind, the organization has set up a

Television machine for children of Good Shepherd Children's Home. Now they are watching selected channels and programs, which are correcting their wrong ideas and adding new sense and understanding in their mindset, about they must know as growing children, at par with their school class grades. Now, their knowledge horizon is getting broadened day by day in almost all subjects they are attending in the class room, in line with their course curriculum. Interestingly, now children are watching both regional and national news, which is boosting up their curiosity in adding their current national affairs and general knowledge in particular.





### **Spiritual Activity:-**

In the process, children are being taught about the spiritual life commitment which is comprehensively experienced in the traits of their God fearing life. In the process, the children participate whole heartedly in every Sunday school teaching in the home.





This sort of teaching is focused basically, on how they must know God personally and love Him with their whole heart, mind and soul and imbibe it in their strength, which must be experienced by others in their day to day lives.

The attempt has been made to help children loving to memorize scripture more and more and understand the divine sense in it and at the same time how to use these meanings into their lives for sake of God's glory. Such skill has endowed them with Godly wisdom and knowledge to recorrect and reshape their interim wrong doings and responses with full sense and submission.



Such sort of habits having been leading them to put these imbibed knowledge into practice, in different levels/platforms of their stature. This has helped them gain confidence in sharing spiritual action in different events in a spirit-filled manner.



The children are often encouraged to face the crowd and speak out their mouths and praise God through prayers openly for the overall benefits they have been receiving it daily and are convinced that God has already blessed them and saved them of dangers or evil events encountered in their journey of life. Also,

children are motivated to pray for each other daily for the wonderful provision and how they will know Jesus as their personal saviour and experience the joy of salvation.

The children in the center are leaning their concentration more and more on Jesus love and His ultimate wish on them. So, children are being taught, how to hold God's command in their heart with mind, spirit and strength. Now, the children are seeking the voice of God through every day scripture reading and exploring the Biblical truth each day. In the meantime, children are very quiet, obedient and God fearing and they repent and pray to God daily for their right action and direction.

Regular Bible teachings and attending devotional classes has enriched the mindset of the children with spiritual burden.





The home children are now leading morning and evening devotional prayers and worship program in the home. The children are growing with love of God day by day and seeking lord in scripture devotion.

The children have learned to pray for others. They are well aware of the spiritual fact that, when God is with them, his ultimate love will safeguard and nothing in the world can hinder them in any manner. So, they pray for others and good of nation and world on priority basis.





In the way of their learning and obeying the word of God, the children have felt being burdened to share gospel to their neighbours. In this early age, they have been able to share gospel to their class mates and fellow friends in the school and outside. Praying for neighbours, sick and needy, sponsors and care givers in the group, as per prayer points.

They also distribute tracks and Bibles in the schools. This has helped children to be more inclined to Godly presence and Christ-driven.

In nutshell, children are found God fearing and God loving in their inter-personal life both in the home and private life.

As the children grow in the Good Shepherd Home, they cultivate the sense of God fearing attitude. Now, children are memorizing scripture on daily basis and witnessing it before friends and in Home -driven special programs.



#### **Case Studies:-**

#### Case Study-1:-



My Name is Sobhagini Digal, Age- 16 years, studying in Standard 10<sup>th</sup>, Govt. Girls High School, Unit-9, Bhubaneswar. My Father's Name is Subarna Digal, Mother's Name is Manu Kumar Digal, At-Bilabada, PO-Uparakhol, Police Station –Tikabali, Dist-Kandhamal.

I belong to a victim family of Kandhamal Communal Riots. We lost our house, properties and took shelter in Bhubaneswar. My Studies got disrupted meanwhile until I came to know about Good Shepherd

Children's Home sponsored by India Evangelistic Association, Cuttack, Odisha. My father is struggling to earn bread and butter for our family and could not afford our studies in the worst case scenario.

Though I got admitted in Government High School, Bhubaneswar yet I was unable to attend classes due to the transportation costs. So, my studies started deteriorating and apparently the Tuitions were costlier. I am thankful that at least I am able to avail the facility of Tuitions for my Matriculation studies. I am grateful for the stay, food and healthy environment for my academic growth. We have an Auto Rickshaw at the Children's Home that is entirely used for the transportation of Children to School as Schools in cities like Bhubaneswar is far and jammed traffic. I feel this has helped me a lot. Though it takes a lot of time and effort of carrying so many children to Schools yet we could make to School in time. Now, I attend classes regularly and coping with the academic excellence. I recollect the situation of the Violence period when our entire family was under threat and we had to spend days in the jungle without food, shelter and clothing. Now we dwell in a safe and secure environment of the Children's Home which is spacious and adequate. Please continue to pray for me and my family and also the Children of Good Shepherd Children's Home who come from poor background and carry similar stories and heart. We all hope to aspire a better future and career.

Thanking You,

Sobhagini Digal

#### Case Study 2:-

My Name is Mita Nayak, Age- 12 years, studying in Standard 7<sup>th</sup>, Madhusudan Upper Primary School, Shyampur, Bhubaneswar. My Father's Name is Late- Antenasi Nayak, Mother's Name is Sushanti Nayak, At-Thudikhal, PO-Birikot, Police Station –Adaba, Dist- Gajapati.

I belong to a Christian Minority Block of Gajapati District. The socioeconomic development scenario is very scarce and remote. After my



Father's death at the age of 6, Date- 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2006. My family only source of Income got ceased to higher extent. Then, in the neighboring district Kandhamal where the violence was fiercer, this had spill-over reaction in the fear of which we left our villages and went to Bhubaneswar to seek help and shelter. The Schools in our belt have no adequate facility, absence of teachers, no toilets for girls, sparse communication and unsafe area. Though the Government has Provisions for Religious Minorities in Minority Concentrated Blocks yet the resources do not reach the innocent and poor Christians and we have to suffer for discrimination on religious grounds. I learnt about the Good

Shepherd Children's Home in Bhubaneswar and the homely environment and I find a lot of girls there staying quite a long time. I am happy and Blessed for the wonderful provisions and experience while I remain in the Home. Pure Drinking Water, Neat and Clean Toilets, Separate Beds for Girls, Television, Health Check Up, Television, New Paper Reading, Tuitions, Transportation to Schools, Indoor Games and Sports, Jolly Gossips and Nonetheless Good Food. All these by the Grace of God and your well wishes and financial support. I reach out to you through this Story for your prayer, Love and Support for which we will be ever grateful to you.

Thanking You,

Mita Nayak

# Case Study-3:-



My Name is Sandhya Rani Digal, Age- 12 years, studying in Standard 8<sup>th</sup>, Kalinga Bidyapitha Shyampur, Bhubaneswar. My Father's Name is Subarna Digal, Mother's Name is Manu Kumar Digal, At-Bilabada, PO-Uparakhol, Police Station –Tikabali, Dist-Kandhamal.

The Communal riots in the year 2008 completely savaged the social and economic life of the victims who fled here and there to save their lives.

Children like me and others had to discontinue their studies. My parents lost hope to revive my education along with my sister. We lost our house, properties and took shelter in Bhubaneswar. My parents are struggling to earn bread and butter for my family. During the most severe times we had to weep and kneel down and pray for help. My parents prayed for our rescue as it was becoming difficult to afford our education and dream for better education. It was until I came to know about Good Shepherd Children's Home sponsored by India Evangelistic Association, Cuttack, Odisha.

The to and fro costs to school also hit heavily on our family as my parents could not afford additional costs to bear it and the earning was hand to mouth. Sometimes we had to skip school and deliberately became truants. Studies used to get affected and simultaneously tuitions and remedial coaching were costlier. Nowadays we cannot score good marks without subject teachers and expert.

I am grateful that this compelling need was fulfilled while I joined the Children's Home and could avail the Tuition facility for my studies. The tuition teacher attends regularly and we sit in groups which enhances our subject clarity. This group action also brings more confidence and attention to our studies. I enjoy the homely environment with my inmates who too are also caring and loving. The rich environment stimulates good learning atmosphere and satisfactory.

We have an Auto Rickshaw at the Children's Home that is entirely used for the transportation of Children to School as Schools in cities like Bhubaneswar is far and jammed traffic. I feel great and privileged to be able to avail such rare provisions and become an integral part of the Children's development. I am able to attend classes regularly and without any fear. It is time consuming for the entire transportation as children study in different schools as per age. I would say it is all worth the effort and we could reach our schools in time.

The yesteryear years of violence bears shock to us. But the kind of rehabilitation we receive at the Home could reduce the trauma and experience we underwent during the hard times of our life. The days spent without food, shelter and clothing in the jungle reminds the gracious Lord who continue to protect us in his care and love. The Children's Home is spacious and hygienic. We feel safe and sound staying in the Children's Home. We also study bibles and pray about this gracious provision and ever grateful for your esteem help. Thank you for your support and love. Please uphold us in your prayers and continue to pray for the other girls who share similar stories and heart. We all aspire for a precious and fruitful future.

Thanking You,

Sandhyarani Digal

## Case Study 4:-

My Name is Miki Nayak, Age- 14 years, studying in Standard 9<sup>th</sup>, Kalinga Bidyapitha Shyampur, Bhubaneswar. My Father's Name is Late- Antenasi Nayak, Mother's Name is Sushanti Nayak, At-Thudikhal, PO-Birikot, Police Station –Adaba, Dist- Gajapati.

I come from a Christian Minority Block of Gajapati District. The socioeconomic development is very under developed and remote. The literacy rate



of girls is 50% which is below the average literacy rate of the District. Girls do not attend school regularly due to lack of basic facilities like classrooms, water and sanitation facilities, no toilets and no drinking water. Many of the families refrain from sending their children to school due to poor economic condition and remoteness of the villages.

My Father's death at the age of 6, Date- 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2006 shook the Income base of our family. My family only source of Income got ceased.

The violence in the adjoining district Kandhamal had reactions in our area and it became more difficult for children to reach schools safely. The situation turned hostile and accruing monetary needs started crippling our family. Seeing this we left our village and came to Bhubaneswar to seek income and education.

The Schools in our belt have no adequate facility, absence of teachers, no toilets for girls, sparse communication and unsafe area. Though the Government has Provisions for Religious Minorities in Minority Concentrated Blocks yet the resources do not reach the innocent and poor Christians and we have to suffer for discrimination on religious grounds. I learnt about the Good Shepherd Children's Home in Bhubaneswar and the homely environment and I find a lot of girls there staying quite a long time. I am happy and Blessed for the wonderful provisions and experience while I remain in the Home. Pure Drinking Water, Neat and Clean Toilets, Separate Beds for Girls, Television, Health Check Up, Television, New Paper Reading, Tuitions, Transportation to Schools, Indoor Games and Sports, Jolly Gossips and Nonetheless Good Food. All these by the Grace of God and your well wishes and financial support. I reach out to you through this Story for your prayer, Love and Support for which we will be ever grateful to you.

Thanking You,

Miki Nayak

<u>Conclusion</u>: - When we remember the genesis of the program, children soon became dropouts and poverty gripped these victim children and families soon after the Communal Violence 2008. Nonetheless, the average girls' literacy rate of the state of Odisha is well below the State average literacy rate making girls more vulnerable and prone to child labor and trafficking.

As the children are nurtured with care and love we pray that these innocent children also forget the horrifying glimpse of persecution in each passing day moving forward to lead a dignified life of hope, growth and opportunities.

### **Challenges and Needs:-**

It has been a sincere effort of IEA to take responsibility and care for the holistic development of these needy victim children. Additionally, fostering child care under strict Government rules and guidelines has always been a matter of challenge for us. By the grace of God we have been able to carry this burden so far. Good Shepherded Children's Home is a licensed Child Care Institution under the section 34(3) of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of children) Act 2000 and its amendment in 2006, an obligation in adherence to the government guidelines.

Ideally, IEA is committed to take any challenge in implementing this project. Specific events during the implementation of the project have been found out that stand as a challenge in the days ahead.

### Challenge 1:-

Students spend a lot of time on the way by travelling by Auto-Rickshaw due to multiple trip in the absence of a spacious and long Jeep or Van, which could have accommodated and transported all students at one time/instance or hardly in two trips without wasting time and resource of the project. Simultaneously, students could have availed enough time for other constructive purposed in the Home, if they leave Home on time and arrive school exactly just before school timing.

The School authorities' and the District Administration advice to parents not to send their children to schools through auto Rickshaw, which is not that safe to carry small children in it, in full congested places or crowed roads in the city.

We strongly believe for integrated and timely development of children. As they grow, they sincerely need to be taken care by the subject experts and counsellors. But this issue seems hard to address it by the organization at present context with the available budget provision of the project to purchase a New School Bus.

So, here we propose to buy a new School Bus for our children, which is much bigger in size and space and will cost us around **Rs. 15,00,000 (USD. 23,077.00)**. This van can accommodate 36 children at a time in single trip. Hence, increasing stress on timing and resource management will be drastically reduced for the program, if we access the intended van for transportation to schools and simultaneously children will also get relaxed to reach school bit early and return home on time. This will save their time and able to spend more valuable time on home works comfortably.

### Challenge 2:-

Required resource provision, approved in the sanctioned budget to tackle the total requirement for children is also challenging for us.

7 numbers of students, belongs to Kandhamal riot-hit families were studying in one of the mission schools in Kerala State for last 1 year in English medium. But due to stringent application of law in the state, not to permit any children of other states, the school authority did not agree to these students to study therein any more. In receipt of the grievance from the legal guardians of these children, IEA considered the students piteous issue sympathetically and relieved them of the problem and now these 7 students are studying in one of the English medium schools in Bhubaneswar staying in the Good Shepherd Children's Home with free fooding and dwelling place. Legal guardian are struggling to provide any sort of resource needed for these students to fulfil their academic challenges like, school and tuition fees, school dress, shoes and educational needs.

In this juncture, IEA needs to share this key concern before the donor agency in favour of these children to kindly pray over this matter, so that, these innocent Christian victim children can continue studying ahead for their better future.

Thanking You,

Ashish Kumar Parichha
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