

JUBAYER MASUD EDUCATIONAL AND CHARITABLE TRUST



Annual Report

2023-2024



BUILD CHILD BUILD NATION

Vill. Sontoshpur Pt.II , P.O. Sontoshpur , Dist. Bongaigaon , Assam

Email: jalilahmed7@yahoo.co.in

Message from Managing Trustee

As we gather to reflect on the achievements and challenges of the past year, I am proud to share with you the remarkable journey we have undertaken together. Despite facing adversity, we have emerged stronger and more resilient, fueled by our unwavering commitment to our mission.

One significant challenge we encountered this year was the devastating impact of the erosion caused by the AIE River, which resulted in the complete destruction of our office space. However, in the face of this adversity, we rose to the occasion, demonstrating our agility and determination to overcome obstacles.

I am pleased to report that we have successfully navigated this setback by acquiring a new piece of land in the village and relocating our office to a safer area. This relocation not only ensures the continuity of our operations but also signifies our commitment to serving the community despite the challenges posed by natural disasters.

Amidst these challenges, we have continued to make significant strides in advancing our mission. We have welcomed new members to our team, expanded our partnerships, and extended our reach to new communities and issues. Our dedication to professional development and organizational excellence remains unwavering, as evidenced by the successful implementation of initiatives such as the Organizational Development Programme.

Furthermore, I am thrilled to share that our donor network has continued to grow, with the generous support of esteemed organizations. Their partnership has been instrumental in fueling our efforts and driving positive change in the communities we serve.

As we look to the future, our resolve remains stronger than ever. We are committed to building a sustainable and resilient organization that is capable of weathering any storm. Our vision is bold, our goals ambitious, but with your continued support and dedication, I am confident that we will continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve.

I extend my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you for your unwavering support, dedication, and commitment to our cause. Together, we have proven that in the face of adversity, our collective strength knows no bounds.

Best wishes

Abdul Jalil Ahmed

Managing Trustee

Summery

Throughout its journey, the Jubayer Masud Educational & Charitable Trust (JMECT) has remained steadfast in its mission to uplift marginalized communities in rural areas. By implementing the Supplementary Educational Programme across three Development Blocks and five G.P.s in Bongaigaon and Barpeta Districts, JMECT has not only provided educational support but also extended livelihood opportunities to 75 parents of school-going children. The success of these initiatives has garnered increased support from impressed supporters, leading to a growth in the number of contributors.

In addition to its educational endeavors, JMECT has embarked on contemporary projects such as "Ensuring Educational Security of Children from Poor Families in Riverine Areas of Assam Pt-2," supported by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, "Education for All Kids," supported by the Global Fund for Children, and "AVAHAN," supported by The Ant and APF. These projects support relief and rehabilitation services for flood-affected people during the region's common and natural calamities, typically occurring in the months of July, August, and September. These initiatives underscore JMECT's dedication to addressing diverse needs within the community.

Furthermore, JMECT has demonstrated its humanitarian commitment by offering relief and rehabilitation services to flood-affected individuals during the rainy season, a common occurrence in the region. These efforts are supported by the Ashray Hastha Trust, highlighting JMECT's holistic approach to improving the lives of those it serves.

In addition to these targeted initiatives, JMECT has also focused on organizational development programs aimed at strengthening the capacity and effectiveness of its operations. These programs include staff training, development workshops, and strategic planning sessions designed to enhance the skills of JMECT's team and ensure the sustainability of its projects.

Overall, the assessment of the past year's programs has proven fruitful, reinforcing JMECT's reputation as a catalyst for positive change in rural areas.

Education Program

JMECT has been dedicatedly serving the region of Sontoshpur II in Bongaigaon, Assam, which grapples with one of the lowest literacy rates among districts. This challenging scenario is compounded by factors such as widespread illiteracy, economic hardships, recurrent flooding, and a pervasive lack of awareness and motivation.

Initially, JMECT commenced its noble mission with just 13 students in a single village at Sontoshpur II, fueled by grants received from various philanthropic organizations. Since those humble beginnings, JMECT's efforts have expanded significantly, now encompassing 28 villages and reaching out to a staggering 18,500 children across the region.

The organization's primary objective remains steadfast: to enhance the quality of education, teaching methodologies, and the overall schooling experience within the framework of the government curriculum. Through strategic interventions, JMECT aspires to instigate positive changes and ensure that every child receives access to a superior standard of education.

Various education-related programs initiated by JMECT include:

Early childhood Education

Early childhood education (ECE), defined as the crucial period from birth to eight years old, represents a pivotal stage in a child's development, marked by significant cognitive, socio-emotional, physical, and language growth. Unfortunately, in our region, there is a glaring absence of ECE provisions in lower primary schools, leaving a substantial gap in early childhood development opportunities.

Recognizing this pressing need, JMECT has taken proactive measures to address this gap by deploying 28 education volunteers across 28 government schools, where reach out **799 children**. These volunteers serve as dedicated facilitators, implementing ECE programs aimed at fostering holistic development and facilitating learning in supported pre-primary learning centers. Central to JMECT's ECE initiative are clearly outlined learning outcomes designed to nurture children's cognitive abilities, social skills, emotional intelligence, and linguistic competencies. Through engaging activities and tailored interventions, JMECT endeavors to provide a nurturing environment conducive to optimal early childhood development.

To support the implementation of the ECE program, JMECT has secured the generous backing of three esteemed philanthropic partners: the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, the Global Fund for Children, and the Shamdasani Foundation. With their support, JMECT has been able to extend ECE services to 799 children, laying the foundation for their future academic success and overall well-being.

By bridging the gap in early childhood education and leveraging the support of philanthropic partners, JMECT is committed to ensuring that every child in our region has access to quality ECE opportunities, setting them on a trajectory towards lifelong learning and success.



Remedial Education

Due to various challenges, a significant number of children in our locality are struggling to achieve grade-appropriate learning competency. This issue is not isolated to our area but is pervasive across the country, impacting countless children who lack basic literacy and numeracy skills, hindering their ability to keep up with their grade level.

In response to this critical need, JMECT has undertaken the ambitious project titled "Ensuring Educational Security of Children from Poor Families in Riverine Areas of Assam-2," with support from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, and "Education for All Kids," supported by the Global Fund for Children. Through these initiatives, JMECT has established 28 centers within government schools, specifically targeting children from disadvantaged backgrounds.

These centers serve as focal points for remedial education, offering support to children who are struggling academically. The aim is to bridge the gap in learning and provide children with the necessary skills to participate fully at their grade level. In total **841** children have been enrolled in these remedial education programs, receiving personalized attention and support tailored to their individual needs. Out of such children **329** .nos children mainstreaming to their own class .

At these centers, JMECT employs innovative and engaging teaching methodologies, creating a learning environment that is both enjoyable and effective. By incorporating interactive and fun activities into the curriculum, children are motivated to learn and are more likely to stay engaged in their education.

One of the key benefits of these remedial education centers is the significant reduction in dropout rates from formal schools. By addressing learning challenges early on and providing children with the support they need, JMECT helps prevent academic disengagement and dropout, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to fulfill their potential.

Furthermore, these centers operate in accordance with the Flexible Learning and Nurturing (FLN) guidelines, which emphasize a student-centered approach and sensitivity to community issues. This ensures that children not only receive academic support but also develop a deeper understanding of their community and its challenges.

Through these initiatives, JMECT is committed to ensuring that every child, regardless of their socio-economic background, has access to quality education and the opportunity to succeed in life.



Transit Learning Education

JMECT has identified a pressing need to address the educational challenges faced by children in migrant families within our project area. Seasonal migration is a prevalent issue, particularly affecting families residing near brick quarries in Sonitpur district. Due to economic hardships, many families migrate to various brick factories in search of employment, resulting in their children being deprived of their right to education.

Recognizing the urgency of this issue, JMECT took decisive action by establishing **Eight Transit Learning Centers in strategic locations:** New sabnam Brick Klin , GRG Brick klin ,ABF Brick Klin ,SBF Brick klin ,SBF Kachubill Brick Klin , SSI Brick Klin ,MRF Brick Klin and ABD Brick Klin in Sonitpur district. These centers serve as educational lifelines for children from migrant families, offering them access to learning opportunities despite their transient lifestyles.

In November 2023, JMECT launched eight Transit Learning Centers based on thorough surveys conducted in the region. These surveys pinpointed the locations with the highest concentration of migrant students, leading to the establishment of centers where they are most needed. In total, 174 children are benefiting from these Transit Learning Centers, receiving essential education and support.

The Transit Learning Centers provide a structured learning environment where children can continue their education even amidst the challenges of migration. Through tailored educational programs and dedicated instructors, JMECT ensures that these children have access to quality education, preventing them from becoming victims of the cycle of poverty and educational deprivation.

By establishing Transit Learning Centers in migrant-heavy areas, JMECT aims to break the cycle of school dropout rates and empower children from marginalized backgrounds to pursue a brighter future. These centers represent a crucial step towards ensuring that every child, regardless of their circumstances, has the opportunity to receive a quality education and realize their full potential.



Orphan Support Program

JMECT has launched an Orphan Support Program in 2021, dedicated to providing essential educational support to disadvantaged children. This initiative encompasses provisions such as bags, water bottles, reading tables, clothing, and scholarship assistance. Specifically catering to semi-orphans and orphans, the program extends stationary supplies and monthly scholarships. The core aim is to alleviate the educational barriers faced by economically vulnerable and neglected children. Recognizing the challenges inherent in being orphaned or raised by single parents, JMECT endeavors to ease their educational journey by offering tangible support. With a total outreach to 178 children, this initiative seeks to empower them with the tools they need to pursue education unhindered. JMECT firmly believes in the transformative power of education and remains committed to fostering opportunities for these deserving individuals.



SMC Activation

During the years 2023-2024, JMECT actively facilitated 43 School Management Committee (SMC) meetings as part of its ongoing efforts to activate and empower SMCs for enhanced functionality. These meetings served as a platform for detailed discussions on the roles and responsibilities of SMC members. Emphasis was placed on their pivotal role in overseeing both the academic progress of students and the overall development of the school. The meetings aimed to ensure that SMC members were well-versed in their duties and equipped to take an active role in the governance and improvement of their schools.

To further enhance the capabilities of SMC members, JMECT organized three exposure visits to schools recognized for their exemplary SMC performance. These visits provided SMC members with valuable insights and practical examples of effective practices in school management and community involvement. By observing and interacting with high-performing SMCs, members gained a deeper understanding of the strategies and initiatives that contribute to successful school management, which they could then implement in their own contexts.

In addition to the meetings and exposure visits, JMECT conducted a comprehensive SMC training workshop. This workshop covered various essential aspects of SMC operations, including governance, financial management, community engagement, and academic oversight. The training was designed to be interactive, with sessions that encouraged open discussions and knowledge sharing among participants. This approach aimed to equip SMC members with new skills, foster collaborative efforts, and facilitate the exchange of best practices. The overall goal was to create a supportive network of SMCs capable of driving improvements in the educational environment within their respective schools.



Awareness Program

Throughout the course of intervention, it became evident that awareness programs yield significant impact within the community. Consequently, JMECT is committed to conducting a range of awareness programs in project areas. Home visits are a crucial component of the project, enabling direct engagement with parents. Educational facilitators conduct bi-monthly visits with the aim of enhancing student attendance and motivating parents to play an active role in their children's education. In addition to educational matters, discussions also encompass topics related to health and hygiene. To ensure that parents are informed about their crucial role in their children's education and to enlighten them about the provisions of the "Right to Education Act-2009," the organization diligently organized parent meetings at the supported center. These gatherings served as platforms to underscore the significance of education in the holistic development of children. Furthermore, they urged parents to actively comply with the Act's guidelines, thereby fostering an environment conducive to increased school enrollment. By advocating for parental involvement, the organization aimed to address prevalent challenges such as student dropouts, early marriages, and child labor within the community. Throughout the years 2023 and 2024, the organization consistently conducted a total of 29 parent meetings, reaffirming its commitment to promoting educational awareness and fostering a supportive environment for children's development. JMECT spearheaded an impactful awareness campaign on February 15, 2024, at Bharalipara Colony LPS School, drawing participation from over 200 parents and community members. This campaign, spanning across the six clusters of our supported centers, aimed to underscore the paramount importance of education and advocate for children's educational rights.

The central objective was to enlighten and involve parents and community members in discussions concerning the transformative role of education in shaping futures and empowering communities. Distinguished government officials and esteemed professors were invited as resource persons to impart knowledge to parents and community members on various education-related issues. Their invaluable insights shed light on education and child rights while highlighting the repercussions of neglecting them, thus contributing significantly to raising awareness. On May 30, 2023, JMECT collaborated with Rajiv Gandhi Memorial College, Lengtisinga, to organize a national seminar at the IQAC & Research Cell. The seminar focused on the inhabitants of the riverine areas of Assam and was attended by management staff, as well as the president and trustee members of JMECT. Alongside invited resource persons from USTM and Gauhati University, participants from various colleges presented their topics and engaged in discussions on pertinent issues. JMECT contributed by presenting valuable insights into its organizational impact and the diverse scope of its work. JMECT also utilizes banner hosting as a potent strategy to heighten community awareness. Positioned strategically in high-traffic areas, these banners serve as impactful visual cues, drawing the attention of passersby. Furthermore, our outreach extends to all 28 neighboring areas adjacent to our supported centers, ensuring widespread coverage. This comprehensive approach guarantees the effective dissemination of crucial messages and information, resulting in heightened engagement and participation throughout the community.



Children Association

JMECT has taken proactive measures to revitalize Children Associations within schools, recognizing their potential for holistic child development. By fostering an environment conducive to social skill development, creativity, self-esteem, and leadership qualities, JMECT empowers children to actively participate in events and meetings, assuming responsibility for program execution. Distribution of sports materials and jerseys across 18 centers further enhances children's engagement, preparing them for tournaments and competitions while instilling a sense of pride in representing their centers. Organizing games and tournaments across three clusters, with six centers each, including activities like kabaddi, races, and quiz competitions, not only cultivates sportsmanship but also fosters camaraderie and community spirit among participating students. The success of these initiatives underscores JMECT's commitment to nurturing well-rounded individuals within the educational ecosystem.



Youth Development

JMECT has taken proactive steps in forming eighteen youth groups across all supported centers of PHF, recognizing the pivotal role of youth as torchbearers in the community. Addressing prevalent issues such as excessive mobile phone usage, substance abuse, high dropout rates, and the practice of child marriage leading to domestic violence, the youth groups aim to harness the potential of young individuals for community betterment. By entrusting them with responsibilities and tapping into their youthful energy and capabilities, JMECT seeks to instill a sense of purpose and direction among the youth, thereby contributing to the smooth functioning of both the community and society at large. Additionally, JMECT facilitates awareness camps, motivational sessions, and distributes sports materials like volleyballs, badminton sets, and shuttlecocks, encouraging constructive use of leisure time. Volleyball tournaments organized across the eighteen supported centers further promote teamwork, sportsmanship, and community cohesion among youth participants, highlighting JMECT's holistic approach to youth empowerment and community development.

JMECT also observes Special Days in every school under the project-supported area annually. These include Republic Day, Children's Day, Women's Day, and Lachit Divas. Through these special days, various joyful activities are conducted for the children, including different games and competitions, fostering a sense of celebration and camaraderie among the school students.



Relief and Rehabilitation

JMECT has maintained an unwavering commitment to offering aid during natural disasters since its inception. Operating in riverine areas prone to severe flooding, our team remains proactive in responding to crises. This year, in response to devastating floods, we swiftly mobilized relief efforts, extending assistance to affected communities not only within our project area but also in other regions of Bongaigaon. We distributed essential ration kits to 405 families in Dumerguri, Kacharipety part2,part3, Bharalipara and Sontoshpur areas, providing vital support to those grappling with the aftermath of natural calamities. Through our concerted relief and rehabilitation endeavors, JMECT reaffirms its dedication to serving vulnerable populations in times of need, standing as a beacon of hope amidst adversity



Gender Equality

The AVAHAN (Against Violence at Home Act Now) initiative stands as a beacon challenging the culture of silence surrounding domestic violence, aiming to cultivate a society free from such atrocities. Through direct support to domestic violence survivors and extensive awareness campaigns within targeted communities, JMECT endeavors to foster a violence-free environment. Six villages have been supported, with sixty survivors receiving assistance including counseling, legal aid, and livelihood support. Key activities include VO training sessions covering topics like the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, gender inequality, and child marriage issues, benefiting over 101 members. The formation of Response Groups and school sessions further amplifies community mobilization and awareness. Additionally, survivor support efforts encompass medical aid, provision of essentials, and livelihood support, with 48 survivors receiving assistance and 23 provided with goats for sustainable income. Legal aid camps, held monthly, facilitate survivors in accessing free legal services, contributing to the registration of numerous cases. Furthermore, a comprehensive program to stop domestic violence has been initiated, focusing on community mobilization, awareness campaigns, and advocacy efforts to address the root causes of violence and promote gender equality and respect within households. Through these multifaceted interventions, AVAHAN strives to empower survivors, educate communities, and eradicate the scourge of domestic violence.



Livelihood support

JMECT has initiated a Goat Rearing program as part of its livelihood support initiatives, commencing in June 2022 with funding from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation. Over the course of six separate meetings, a total of 184 goats were distributed to 184 families. During these sessions, parents received guidance on goat rearing practices and were educated on maintaining the animals' health. Notably, 84 goat kids were born as a result of this program. The primary objective of distributing these goats is to provide parents with a sustainable source of income to support their children's education. In line with this goal, parents are encouraged to open bank accounts for their children and allocate a significant portion of the income generated from goat rearing towards their educational expenses. Through this initiative, JMECT aims to empower families economically and ensure access to quality education for children in the supported communities.



Staff Capacity Building

JMECT has undertaken a multifaceted approach to staff capacity building, encompassing diverse training activities. These include comprehensive Teacher's Training Programmes, emphasizing quality education delivery at the primary level, facilitated by experienced resource persons. Additionally, TLM Workshops empower staff in crafting effective Teaching and Learning Materials, complemented by discussions on pre-primary education and FLN. Exposure visits, like the one to Shilong, provide invaluable insights into innovative community development approaches, particularly in child development and safety programs. Monthly Staff Review Meetings serve as pivotal platforms for collaboration, focusing on activity planning, lesson plan development, and performance evaluation. Moreover, JMECT has initiated an Organization Development Programme, aiming to enhance management skills and overall organizational capacity. With the guidance of a seasoned resource person, this program targets leadership, employee engagement, process refinement, and performance management, promising not only improved organizational performance but also a more conducive work environment. Through collaborative efforts, JMECT is poised for comprehensive growth and impact.



Achievement

- The number of learning centers increased to 28 in 2023-2024, indicating acceptance of learning concepts within the community.
- Support for goat rearing enabled people to generate income, particularly benefiting parents of school-going children.
- Education programs facilitated instant follow-up meetings with teachers, leading to improved educational quality.
- Eight transit learning centers were opened in Sonitpur district to bridge the gap for students, reducing dropout rates during brick industry seasons.
- Direct conversations with religious groups aimed to educate villagers on the importance of education, education rights, and issues like domestic violence.
- Increased outreach over the years reflects growing acceptance of initiatives by the community, evident through appreciation and participation.
- Clear understanding of domestic violence among women and awareness among men about legal consequences fosters respect and equality between genders.
- Involvement of women in various organizational activities promotes women empowerment, inspiring others to overcome vulnerability.
- Despite lacking education, parents of supported students are actively involved in their children's growth and education.
- Meetings with school management committees have activated members, improving their involvement to some extent.
- Formation of 18 youth groups in supported centers engages young people in community responsibilities, supported by awareness and motivational camps and sports activities.
- Distribution and use of Teaching Learning Materials (TLM) in supported centers enhances student interest in attending school, as they can play and study simultaneously.

Challenges

- The greatest problem of our area is natural disasters like floods. We have to refrain from doing our duty during these times, and thus, our progress and activities are hampered. Due to a lack of motivation and illiteracy, it was a big challenge for us to attract and ensure regular attendance of students. Despite all these problems, we continued our journey, but we were not able to achieve a few targets as we planned.
- Our office has been damaged due to the erosion of River Aie last July 2023.
- Parents' lack of awareness about education is still a matter of concern for us. Due to illiteracy and lack of awareness about the importance of education, parents/guardians are not conscious enough to send their children to our centers and instead involve children in domestic activities. We are still fighting for students' regular presence at school. Migration is a common issue because of which we lose our target children from classes. Despite the challenges we have faced, we were able to open three transit learning centers.
- For women, there are some family restrictions on participating in meetings, and there were few people who didn't allow their wives to attend unless they asked for permission from their husbands. There were also few families who didn't allow their daughters or sisters to attend the program, as the male-dominated society sees it as a threat to them. We are not able to bring out all the women in the community for their active participation, but we are able to bring some of them who are being educated regarding their rights and empowered.
- Due to poverty and illiteracy, it was a big challenge for us to attract and ensure regular attendance of students. Despite all these problems, we continued our journey by overcoming all these difficulties.

Our gratefulness and heartfelt thanks to our supporter

We always offer our heartiest thanks to those who supported us and without which our achievement would not have been successful. There was enormous effort, cooperation and support from well-wisher organization, contributors, professional who made our dream came true. We extend our sincere gratitude to the donors and the project partners with JMECT your contribution enabled us to further work and make a differences in lives those we serve. We appreciate your trust and belief in our mission and look forward to continuing to collaborate towards our shared goals. we value their support has helped us make a positive impact in a community towards the brighter future.

We specially acknowledge to our Donors and project partners

Our Donors in 2023-2024

- ❖ The Ant
- ❖ Paul Hamlyn Foundation
- ❖ Ashray Hasta Trust
- ❖ Global fund for children
- ❖ The UK Online Giving Foundation
- ❖ The Online Giving Foundation
- ❖ Shamdasani Foundation

Contact details:

Jubayer Masud Educational & Charitable Trust

Vill- Sontoshpur Pt.II , PO- Sontoshur

Dist- Bongaigaon, Assam

PIN- 783384

Email: jalilahmed7@yahoo.co.in ,

Website: www.jmect.in

DONATION **NEEDED!**

BUILD CHILD BUILD NATION

Get an early start on helping and donating to Jubayer Masud Educational and Charitable Trust TODAY!

Our Trust is able to carry out all its activities only through the generous contribution of various Philanthropist Nation wide.

The donation that you make can be life changing towards the needy and abandoned people of our society .

Your donation is exempted under Sec 80 G of the Income Tax Act 1961.

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Address:

Vill Sontoshpur,
P.O. Sontoshpur,
Dist Bongaigaon
Assam

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for more info contact us on

JALILAHMED7@YAHOO.CO.IN

CALL +917399285594