





Overview: of April and May

"My watchword is construction, not destruction. There is infinite power of development in everything; that is my belief."

–Swami Vivekananda

Many exciting developments took place at Nayantara during the months of April and May. The flagship program of NMCT, the **Supportive Education Program** that we have been running since 2008, received a massive boost in the last few months.

The supportive education program of NMCT first started to receive funds by the Jamshedji Tata Trust Sponsorship from December 2010. This is when we started providing educational support, 5 days a week, in the tribal villages situated in the *Chaupahari* forest in Illambazar. Subsequently, with the financial support from GRABUU, we extended it to our current program which runs 6 days a week. Till 2016, we were very grateful to receive financial funding from the respected sponsorships. After which, we continued to provide this program, with the help of multiple donors, both individual and organizational. By now, we had expanded this program quite a bit. Starting from covering 8 villages from 2 village study centres, we currently cover 12 villages through 8 running village study centres, with a total strength of 450 students.

The new exciting development in this area is that, we have recently received assured funding for the further expansion of the Supportive Education Program to 3 new centres as well as verbal assurance of sponsorship for 3 more, boosting the number of our study centres, from 8 to 14. This is a huge positive development for our flagship program, promising exponential growth, not only in the number of students but also geographical area coverage. 6 – 8 more villages are already listed to be covered in the first phase of expansion. On top of which, with the help of more possible sponsors, we are planning to largely expand the program beyond the *Chaupahari* jungle, eventually gearing up to increase the number of study centres from 8 to over 20, in the near future. This large-scale expansion of the Supportive Education Program is scheduled to start as soon as the lockdown restrictions are

lifted.

"All the power in the universe is already ours. It is we who have put our hands before our eyes and cry that it is dark." other idea alone. This is the way to success."



In other news, Nayantara has registered itself for receiving CSR funds. Any NGO registered under this government program is eligible to receive CSR funds. We, as a trust, having passed all formal requirements, are eligible for receiving this, which will provide us with more support in the near future. All of these developments that are currently taking place are big steps forward for our NGO, and we will see a substantial growth in the number of activities that are carried by NMCT in the sectors of education, health and livelihood.

Along with such big developments, some activities have been going on at Nayantara, keeping with the lockdown restrictions and precautions in the area. We celebrated "Noboborsho" i.e Bengali New Years on the 17th of April with 298 students and 42 of our teachers and staff. This event was obviously before the lockdown commenced in the latter half of the month. We also conducted small lunch for 14 of our students of classes VIII, IX, X, XI and XII, on the next day. Rabindra Jayanti was observed on 9th May with the help of 5 of our teachers and staff members. Students were absent due to heavy lockdown safety restrictions.

The last important activity that was carried out took place on the 13th of May. This event was under our program "Nivedita Matri Prokolpo" where we provide supplementary food to pregnant women and lactating mothers for a total of 15 months of support. At this event, we provided 35 beneficiaries with Horlicks. This particular program is being sponsored by the Sri Sri Konok mataji Trust. The Sri Sri Konok mataji Trust has been a huge source of support for us since 2012. They have made significant contributions for NMCT, making large donations, conducting activities and funding various programs. It is because of long-standing donors such as them, that we can continue to carry out our activities at Nayantara, the way that we do. This month, we are extending our earnest gratitude to all our donors and sponsors. We are thankful for all the support that we receive.







Humans of Nayantara:

The individuals we are introducing this month are Prahlad Singh and Jeetendra Singh. Both of these individuals have a similar story. They come from scarce backgrounds that unabled them to study after passing 12th. They were both fortunate enough to come under the guidance of Mr. Sanjeev Garg and receive sponsorships and financial support under NMCT's Merit Scholarship Program to study further. And they both earned a stable future through their personal journeys.

Jeetendra Singh came from a family of poor financial conditions. He was unable to figure out further options for studies after completing his schooling education. But, after coming under the guidance of Sangeev Garg, he was provided with full sponsorship and was sent to Kota for AIEEE preparation. He soon got selected for a well-paid job as an engineer. He is currently working as a full-stack software developer in Noida U.P.

The entirety of Prahlad's childhood education, till 10th grade, took place in an orphanage. He chose to study science for his 11th and 12th in the same place but coming from a scarce background, he, unfortunately, did not have the means to continue his further studies. This was the worry in his mind, when, one day, Sanjeev Garg visited his hostel in Jeevan Nirman Santhan Orphanage.

Sanjeev Garg discovered this boy and decided to help him continue his further studies so that he can have a brighter future. Sanjeev Garg reached out to NMCT and NMCT was able to sponsor Prahlad's education from 2013 to 2017 under its Merit Scholarship Program. Prahlad Singh went to Kota, Rajasthan for AIEEE preparation and received admission to a good engineering college. From there onwards, his hard work set him on the path to a stable and secure future. Today, Prahlad Singh is working as a Software Developer in Inventia Technology Consultants Pvt Ltd for four years. Throughout his journey, Sanjeev Garg was the one who provided him not only support, but also with guidance, motivation, and strength. He made sure to call Prahlad every week to ask him about his education and guide him if necessary. NMCT is very grateful to Sanjeev Garg for not only identifying but also counseling and mentoring them besides raising funds for this scholarship program. It is because of him and his family and friends, we have been able to support many more Prahlads over the years, under this program. It is because of people like him, we are able to reach many more Prahlads and become a part of these powerful stories.

On 22ND MARCH 2021 SRI NARAYAN
CHANDRA DHARA (DHARA DA OR DHARA
JETHU TO EVERYONE IN NMCT) LEFT FOR
HIS HEAVENLY ABODE. ON 15TH MAY
2021, OUR DEAR AMITABHA DA (SIR TO
MANY), A FRIEND AND A PHILOSOPHER
SUCCUMBED TO COVID.
THESE TWO LOSSES ARE DEEPLY
MOURNED BY THE NAYANTARA FAMILY.
WE OFFER OUR DEEPEST PRAYERS TO THE

DEPARTED SOULS.





Story of Nayantara.

"Let us help the poor. Pregnant women who might have complications, ones who need proper medical facilities but do not have the economic background to avail them, let us lend them our help".

So, the concept of Nayantara Memorial Charitable Trust has extremely personal origins. It stemmed only, out of the desire to help. It was born out of love and compassion. The cousins did not have a concrete plan at the time. How are they going to move forward with this? They are just a group of youngsters who walk very different paths in their respective lives. No, they did not have a plan. But they were tied together very closely with sentiments and emotions that became the driving force behind NMCT. Naturally, NMCT itself means a lot to everybody associated with it.

All the cousins in that room in 2001 decided that they will spend the sum of four thousand rupees to start the organisation. And they looked towards one of their elder cousin brothers, Bappa da, to take on this responsibility. You know him as:

Sudip Majumdar.

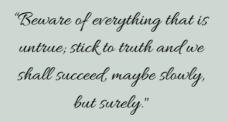
This was how Nayantara Memorial Charitable Trust came into being. There was a very clear and definite objective for NMCT - "To stand by the poor and the needy, following the ideals of Swami Vivekananda".

Swami Vivekananda's ideals and principles became the key guiding element that propelled NMCT into becoming a concrete reality because sentiments die down over a course of time. The thought might have been conceived out of emotions but if the entirety of the work is solely based on a nucleus of sentiments, then it finds a natural death in due course. This is why principles become integral if one wishes to do anything meaningful in life.

For Nayantara, the principles and teachings of Swami Vivekananda stood as a guiding star in the journey forward.







-SWAMI VIVEKANANDA



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