



JABALA ACTION RESEARCH ORGANISATION

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ANNUAL REPORT



April'2023- March'2024

Photos and Names published in the report are with consent and no legal cases are pending



Glossary of Terms...

AGG	Adolescent Girls' Group
ANM	Auxiliary Nurse Midwife
ASHA	Accredited Social Health Activist
AWW	Anganwadi Worker
BDO	Block Development Officer
CBO	Community Based Organization
CDPO	Child Development Project Officer
CWC	Child Welfare Committee
DCPO	District Child Protection Officer
DM	District Magistrate (Collector)
DC	Deputy Commissioner
DSWO	District Social Welfare Officer
ICDS	Integrated Child Development Scheme
IEC	Information, Education, Communication
JJ Act	Juvenile Justice Act
MLA	Member of Legislative Assembly
NFHS	National Family Health Survey
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NREGS	National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
SHG	Self-Help Group
SI	Sub-Inspector
VLCPC	Village Level Child Protection Committee
WBSCPCR	West Bengal State Commission for Protection of Child Rights
WCD	Women and Child Development



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From the Desk of the Secretary:



“The True Character of a Society is revealed in how it treats its Children” - Nelson Mandela

Dear All Friends, Patrons, Supporters & Well Wishers, it's a matter of great privilege to present the Annual Report 2023-24 in 30th year of our commitment towards protection of rights of underprivileged children, youth and survivors of violence. It's a pleasure to share that after all these long years Jabala finally constructing its own permanent Shelter Home to be ready by December 2024 at Baharampur, Murshidabad. West Bengal.

Protecting rights of children and ensuring their welfare is the responsibility of any individual who is involved with children and young people. Violating rights of the children is a normalized practice in all settings-whether in schools, families or other institutions. All settings which work with children directly should have both a moral and legal responsibility to protect children within their direct contact and care. Failure to protect children from issues such as violence, child labour, harmful traditional practices, child marriage, child abuse, the absence of parental care and commercial sexual exploitation amongst others, means failure in fulfilling both the Constitutional and international commitments towards children

At Jabala we feel that our intervention and efforts are empowering individual and community to urge for change. Protection of Rights of children is a priority for us and thus empowerment of Adolescent in 09 districts of West Bengal and 01 district of Jharkhand is one of the initiatives that we are focusing. Jabala's is stressing activities to prevent gender-based violence, increase health and hygiene and Safe migration initiatives. Using sports (Football for freedom) and culture to build confidence among girls and promote gender equity is gaining grounds every year. This year we rescued 49 trafficking victim and intervened to prevent 395 cases of Child marriage. 05 Girls and 02 Boys of Jabala was awarded 'Biranagana' and Birpurish for stopping child marriages by West Bengal State Commission for Protection of Child Rights. The young Community reporters are actively working to bring out the news missed by mainstream medias are now connected with them through WhatsApp Group Finally, I take the opportunity to express my gratitude to all my colleagues, friends, patrons, supporters, associates, vendors for their support and faith in us. Whatever little Jabala has achieved so far would not have been possible without you all, so a Big Thank You!!



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An ISO 9001:2015 Certified Organisation

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Twitter: https://www.twitter.com/@jabala_baitali

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/jabala-action-research-9120237a>

Legal Status:

Society Act Registration Number	S/79239-1994-95
FCRA (Foreign Contribution Regulation Act) Number	147120593 valid till 31.12.2026
NGO Darpan ID	WB/2014/0072168
PAN (Permanent Account Number)	AAATJ2003L
12A	S-51/97-98
80G	AAATJ2003LF2021401
TAN (Tax Deduction and Collection Account Number)	CAL103842G
Professional Tax Registration Number	RCS0003757
Provident Fund Establishment ID	ID WBPRB187336300
CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) Registration	CSR00014005

Bank Details

Headings	FCRA Account	National Account
Account Name	Jabala Action Research Organisation	Jabala Action Research Organisation
Account Number	40088161399	0153101013248
Bank	State Bank of India	Canara
Branch and Address	New Delhi Main Branch, FCRA Division, 11 Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001	Lower Circular Road 09, Lala Lajpat Rai Sarani, Kolkata-700020
IFSC	SBIN0000691	CNRB0000153
SWIFT	SBININBB104	



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JABALA established in 1992 works with vulnerable children, and youth whose lives are marginalized through the multiple axes of poverty, religion and region leading to lack of educational entitlements, violence, child marriage and trafficking, towards a future that is safe, joyous and full of hope and promise. Work to create social infrastructure, to build synergies between various stakeholders, government and civil society and enhance people's capacities to claim, innovate and protest. The overall objective of Jabala is to ensure protection of rights of underprivileged children, youth and survivors/victims of violence.

Jabala's work over the years shifted from direct service delivery to Right based approaches to prevent Trafficking, Child marriage, Unsafe Migration of adolescent girls and young women. Started focusing on children in a holistic way – as Actors in our society, as Citizens of Today and seeks to recognize, protect and promote all rights for all children in an integrated manner, especially who are disadvantaged on account of their gender, caste, class, ethnicity, ability and location in active collaboration with community and government



Our Mission...

- To empower children and youth through training and capacity building enabling them to recognize their potential and demand their rights.
- To create a conducive eco-system for the wellbeing and development of children and youth through advocacy and sensitization of community groups and Government functionaries.

Our Vision...

Self-Reliant and confident children and youth, especially girls claiming their own rights





Core Values...

Respect

Honouring the equality and dignity of all human beings we serve & around us and have faith in their potential

Discipline

Setting up highest standards for self and Organisational commitment towards duties & responsibilities and fulfil it with all due diligence

Integrity

Adherence to all social and ethical norms and practices set by Organisation's Code of conduct and ethics

Perseverance

Determination & Courage to take the difficult path and work towards fulfilment of organisation's goal in the face of opposition, failures or problems

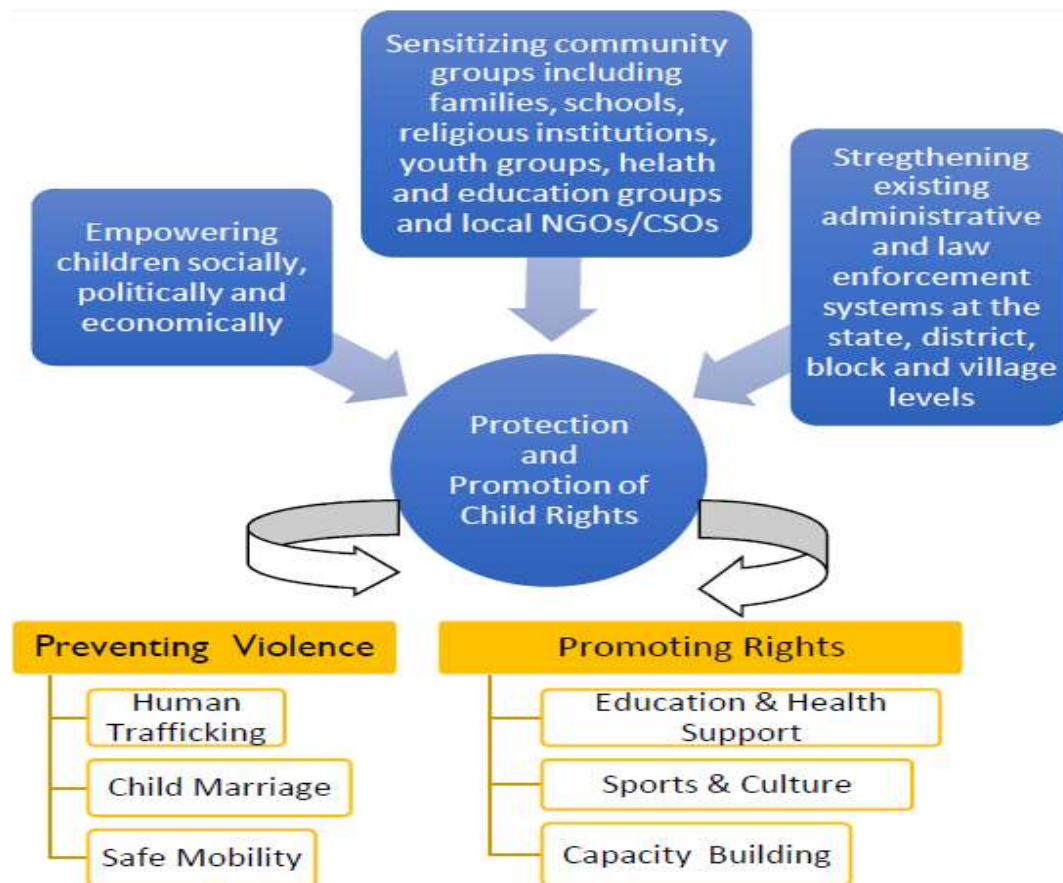
Accountability

Excel in service delivery and performance standards by setting highest benchmarks and take responsibility of own actions



Theory of Change...

Protection and promotion of child rights is a holistic process of creating an aware, active and vigilant community comprising the children themselves, administration and police and other community stakeholders such as teachers, health workers and religious functionaries. Be it access to education and play, or prevention of child marriage and human trafficking, we believe that sustainable social change can be brought about only through the collective power of the community and state. Our role is to build this powerful network and nurture it through continuous capacity building and advocacy.



Jabala tries to address the identified problems and needs in three layers:

- i. Individual
- ii. Family
- iii. Community/ Systems

Although Jabala understands & recognizes the basic needs & services to be met for the most vulnerable /underprivileged but believes that the individual capacity building must be in sync and balance with development of the families & communities through training, democratic processes, services and community building. This will create a strong sustainable & equipped community to



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safe guard themselves and protect their family's interest. Communities will be further empowered to extend the reach to those rounds them and thus the circle of change for others can be sustained.

Target Group...

- Resource poor Marginalized Adolescent Girls (10-19 years)
- Violence Victims/Survivors
- Disadvantaged Young Women (20-27 years)
- Women and Child Migrants
- Vulnerable Families
- Men & Boys
- Community Groups and Local Influencers/ Stakeholders
- Government Stakeholders and Panchayats

Areas of Intervention...

Urban:

State	Kolkata/24Parganas Nort & South	
West Bengal	Red Light Areas	Bowbazar; Kalighat; Barrackpore; Ghutiary Shariff
	Slums	Pearabagan; Kalabagan

Rurban & Rural:

State	Districts	Blocks	Number of Panchayats
West Bengal	Alipurduar	Birpara-Madarihat; Kalchini; Alipurduar-I&II	19
	Jalpaiguri	Dhupguri; Mal	08
	Murshidabad	Hariharpara; Beldanga-I&II; Murshidabad-Jiagunj; Jalangi; Baharampur, Kandi	82
	Birbhum	Rampurhat-I& II; Mohammadbazar, Labpur, Nanoor, Bolpur	34
	24Parganas-North	Swarupnagar, Bashirhat-I, Baduria, Barrackpore-I	32
	24Parganas-South	Canning-I	04
Jharkhand	Dumka	Ranishwar	03



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Key Focus Areas of Work...

- Institutional Care and Support for violence victims and Case Management Services that includes Shelter, Food, Medical Legal Aid, vocational training and facilitating Rescue; Restoration, Repatriation & Economic & Social Rehabilitation
- Empowerment of underprivileged & marginalized girls through education, capacity building, health, sports & cultural therapy support
- Campaign, Intervention & Networking on the issues of Trafficking Child Marriage, other Gender & Social Violence & Migration



-Using Sports & Culture as medium for confidence building; empowerment and promoting gender equity of survivors and adolescent girls

-Safe Migration Initiatives

-Data based Networking and advocacy with stakeholders



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Notable Progresses:

BIRANGANAS (Brave Girls) & BIRPURUSH (Brave Boys) of Jabala

05 Girls received the Birangana Award and 02 Boys Birpurush from Govt. of West Bengal on International Child Rights Day celebrated on 30.11.2023 for their courage to stop child marriage; raising voices against violence etc. Hon'ble Minister of Social Welfare Department; Chairperson of WBSCPCR (West Bengal State Commission for Protection of Child Rights), Advisor to WBSCPCR and other and other dignitaries graced the occasion and handed over the awards to the girls.



চা বলয়ের ৪ সুপারহিরোকে স্বীকৃতি রাজ্যের

অভিযান্ত্রিক

অভিযান্ত্রিক, ২৮ বছর বয়সী একটি মেয়েকে চা বলয়ের ৪ সুপারহিরোকে স্বীকৃতি রাজ্যের। এই মেয়েকে চা বলয়ের ৪ সুপারহিরোকে স্বীকৃতি রাজ্যের। এই মেয়েকে চা বলয়ের ৪ সুপারহিরোকে স্বীকৃতি রাজ্যের।

কিন্তু এই মেয়েকে চা বলয়ের ৪ সুপারহিরোকে স্বীকৃতি রাজ্যের। এই মেয়েকে চা বলয়ের ৪ সুপারহিরোকে স্বীকৃতি রাজ্যের। এই মেয়েকে চা বলয়ের ৪ সুপারহিরোকে স্বীকৃতি রাজ্যের।

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এই চার জনকে চা বলয়ের ৪ সুপারহিরোকে স্বীকৃতি রাজ্যের।





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Empowered Girls are the Strongest:

A campaign started at Tea Gardens of Alipurduar with the girls targeting 500 houses at the initial phase where the girls will declare their homes are either free or against Child Marriage and write the same in a prominent place at their homes with parental consent.



Construction of Shelter Home (Shakti Sadan):

Jabala is constructing its own Shelter home for violence survivors, vulnerable women and girls in Murshidabad. The shelter home will be of 16600 Sqft with capacity for 75 residents.



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Formation of Mother's Club:

Family intervention is a priority of Jabala as it is believed unless the families are strengthened the individual cannot be empowered. To capacitate mothers and make them a partner to the process of violence prevention Jabala initiated the formation of Mother's Club.



First Flight:

40 selected Jabala Girls under scholarship program hailing from districts of Alipurduar, Murshidabad, 24 Parganas North and Kolkata of West Bengal and Dumka of Jharkhand flew from Kolkata to Lucknow to attend a Conclave.

Many are coming to Kolkata for the first time and All are FIRST TIME FLIERS. Happy Flying Let this be the Beginning



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Connecting Girls & Families to Social Security and Government Welfare Schemes

3230 Girls connected to Kanyashree Prakalpa (Scheme) -Conditional Cash Transfer to Socially-disadvantageous families to continue education for the girls to prevent Child

1845 girls connected to Swastha Sathi (Health Scheme) where individuals can claim health benefits up to INR 5,00,000.00

960 Girls and 730 families were linked to 100 days work MGNREGS (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme)

Digital Ration Cards for 460 Families; Widow stipend for 18 individuals

Kanyashree Prakalpa

Form with a photo of a girl, a stamp, and handwritten details. The text includes 'Kanyashree Prakalpa', 'Name: Susmita Sultana Khan', 'Address: Bishnupur, Panchajanya', and 'Date: 12/01/2020'. There is also a section for 'Signature of the girl' and 'Signature of the guardian'.

Form with a photo of a girl, a stamp, and handwritten details. The text includes 'Kanyashree Prakalpa', 'Name: Susmita Sultana Khan', 'Address: Bishnupur, Panchajanya', and 'Date: 12/01/2020'. There is also a section for 'Signature of the girl' and 'Signature of the guardian'.

Sasthya Sathi (Health Cards)





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Reach: 2023-2024...

3650 Adolescent Girls under Advancing Girls Rights Program; 02 Girls club formed

15000+ Girls under SAG-Kanyashree Prakalpa Convergence Program (Sabla)

49 Trafficking victims rescued and 178 violence survivors socially restored

385 Child marriage cases Stopped/Prevented/Delayed

192 Victims received Shelter home support and 34 victims Economically Rehabilitated

160 HIR (Home investigation Report); 294 Medical Aid and 38 Legal Aid to victims

1200+ Men & Boys trained sensitized on VAWG & 05 HRDS (Human Rights Defense System) formed

28 VLCPC (Village Level Child Protection Committee) formed and 175+ trainings

250+ Community groups (Youth Clubs; Religious leaders; Self Help Groups etc.); NGOs & CBOs sensitized on VAWG

390+ Panchayat members and 185+ Government Stakeholders reached

500000+ community members reached through campaign and awareness programs



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Reflection of Activities...

Education:

Resource poor and marginalised girls between 10-18 years are extended education support through

a. **Community Education Centre/ Community Class Rooms-** to extend coaching support catering to all major subjects such as 'English, Maths; Science. Trained teachers, Books and stationaries and computers will made available for enhanced learning experience.



b. **Mobile Education Van-** for girls spread across a large village and in remote areas who cannot travel to education centers and for other girls interested in studies in a two/three/four-wheeler vehicle with a public speaking system; pre-loaded laptops; smartphones and overhead projectors. Provisions for lending books and resource materials, film shows; quizzes etc. to make learning joyful and to keep interest alive among the girls and facilitate return to schools





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c. **Smart Phone Banks/Digital Booths-** in strategic locations in district equipped with laptops and smart phone to facilitate digital learning and who can lend phones to the girls to access online classes/sessions based on need and requisitions. Computer Learning camps are held to spread digital literacy



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d. **Scholarships & English Learning Support** - (covering admission fee; books; hostel fee (if any); nutrition and travel support; coaching & tuition fee and others - uniform, stationary, medical etc.), who will pass secondary examination and in need for higher education & English & Computer learning support for girls who will communicate between themselves online exchanging views, experience and the letters will be shared among other girls. The medium will be English so it will improve the girls' grasp on the language



-**Peer Education**- (Siksha Sahachari -who are in higher classes) will teach 5-7 younger girls in their locality 2-3 times a week



f. Enrolment and Dropout management

In this period Jabala managed to identify and facilitated reenrolment of 69 girls back to school





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Health Support:

Women and Girls including violence survivors were extended medical aid and support. District and Block Medical authorities extended their support.

Headings	Number of Beneficiaries
Health Camp	875
Blood Test to detect Blood Groups; Anaemia; Thalassemia; Sickle Cell Anaemia	294
Referrals	54
Menstrual Hygiene	1250



Thalassemia Screening Report Analysis (20th Jan - 22nd Jan, 2024) Health Camp - JABALA at Alipurduar

1	HBA2 mildly High	2
2	HB-Beta Thalassemia Trait	5
3	HB-E Disease	1
4	HBE Thalassemia Carrier	1
5	HBE Thalassemia Trait	1
6	HBS Thalassemia Carrier	1
7	HBS Thalassemia Trait	13

In the 2day health camp at Kalchini and Alipurduar I block, Jabala took total 294 girls for Thalassemia test out of which the above 24 girls found to have Thalassemia traits of various type.

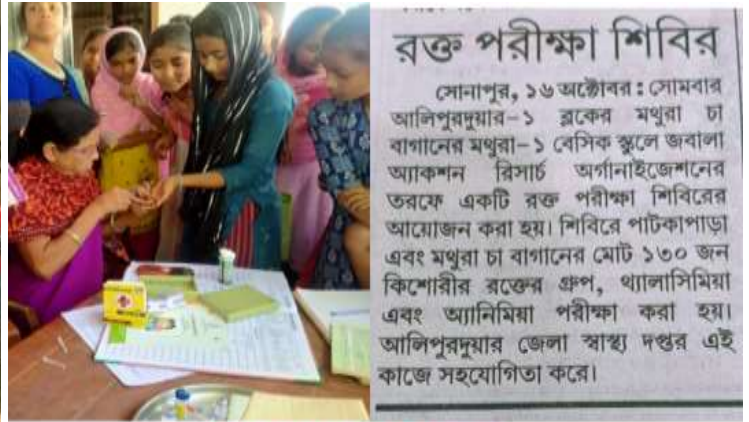
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Rest of the girls found to have a normal report as per the office of CMOH (Chief Medical Officer Health).



Blood Test Camps

Advancing Girls Rights Programs: Disadvantaged and marginalised girls between the age group of 10-18 years were capacitated through different activities.

- Capacity Building Workshops
- Leadership Training
- Menstrual Hygiene Sessions
- Vocational Trainings
- Exposure



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‘Right to be a Girl’ campaign with targeted messages for community members on Girls’ education and VAWG

- Rallies
- Day Observation
- Street Performances
- Bill Boards
- IEC Distribution
- School Campaigns
- Wall paintings





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Sports & Cultural Inputs

Jabala regularly uses sports and cultural inputs to build confidence among girls and promote Gender equity

- Football for Freedom
- Dance; Theatre; Art Therapy



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Institutional Care and Support and Case Management:

- Shakti Sadan -01
- Crisis Intervention Centres-05
- Case Management HIR (Home Investigation Report; Rescue; Restoration; Rehabilitation & Repatriation and Follow Ups
- Counselling; Medical and Legal Aid

Details of Selected Survivors supported:

Name of the Survivor (Name Changed)	District/State	Police Station	FIR (First Information Report) with Police; Date &No.	Perpetartor Details	Rescue Date	Place of Rescue	Present Status (Supported By Jabala and Loreal)
Bipasha Mondal (15Yrs)	Nadia/ West Bengal	Palassypara	30.11.23; 376/23	Arup Mondal	07.12.23	Kolkata	Restored back to family, enrolled back to school; receiving Nutrition and other support
Moumita Sarkar (16Yrs)	Do	Taherpur	01.12.23; 594/23	Dipak Biswas	04.12.23	Joypur,Kamgachi	Do
Rimi Das(14Yrs)	Do	Hanskhali	04.12.13; 961/23	Bidhan Das	04.12.23	Kantakhali	Do
Sanchita Saha(15Yrs)	Do	Kotwali	06.02.24; 118/24	Rakesh Roy	07.02.24	Dhuboliya,Nadia, West Bengal	Do
Rokaiya Khatun (14Yrs)	North 24 Parganas/West Bengal	Duttapukur	02.09.2023; 903/23	Ketabul Hossain	04.09.23	Bhangar,South 24 Parganas,West Bengal	Do
Disha Mondal (16Yrs)	Do	Swarupnagar	21.12.23; 757/23	Palash Roy	22.12.23	Siliguri	Currently at Jabala's Shelter Home and receiving all supports
Sumana Datta (17Yrs)	Do	Duttapukur	30.12.23; 1284/23	Sudip Biswas	28.02.24	Ramnagar, Hanskhali	Do
Rozian Khatun (17 Yrs)	Do	Hariharpara	18-09-2023;416/2023	Selim Sk,	25.11.2023	Hariharpara, Murshidabad	Do
Samima Khatun (16Yrs)	Murshidabad/West Bengal	Beldanga	20-09-2023; 716/23	Ajarul Sk,	07.12.2023	Beldanga, Murshidabad	Do

Jabala runs a support program for Victims/ Survivors of gender violence to facilitate community rehabilitation. Victims of Child Marriage who are again enrolled back to school were given text books, educational materials, hygiene kits and dry ration etc.



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Networking with Stake Holders and Community Influencers:

State Level

District Level

Block Level

Panchayat

BLCPC (Block Level Child Protection Committee) Meetings)

VLCPC (Village Level Child Protection Committee) Meetings)

Religious Leaders & Community Leaders and other community groups

NGOs and CBOs

Interfaces with Right Holders (Beneficiaries)

State Level Meeting:



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A District Level Network Meeting:



Meeting with Panchayats:



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BLCPC (Block Level Child Protection Committee) meeting:



VLCPC (Village Level Child Protection Committee) meeting:



Community Meeting:



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Other Facets:

Family Support Programs:

Selected Women headed families were supported during the tenure of the program Nutrition; Medical aid etc. supports were extended. Panchayats and District officials were involved in the process. Different activities for the families were organised to involve them in the process.



Meeting with Men and Boys:

Meeting with different youth clubs, Men and boy's group were held.





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Legal Awareness:

Legal camps were held in association with District legal Cell and a Legal Service Day celebration.



Safe Migration Initiatives:

Safe Migration cards are distributed through Panchayats in different district focusing potential women and child migrants

SAFE MIGRATION CARD	
IN CASE OF EMERGENCY PLEASE EXTEND ALL POSSIBLE HELP TO THE CARD HOLDER	
Name of the Gram Panchayat (In Capital Letter):	SI No (अवधि)
Address of the Card Holder:	PASSPORT SIZE PHOTO OF THE CARD HOLDER (Attested by Gram Panchayat Pradhan)
Village - गाँव Post Office - डाकघर Police Station - पोलीस Pin Code - पिन कोड District - जिला West Bengal पश्चिम बंगाल	Name - नाम Age - उम्र Years साल Male पुरुष Female महिला (Tick the appropriate box)
Card issued By	See Overleaf for Important Telephone Numbers मुख्यपुर्ण दूरभाष नम्बर के लिए दूसरे पन्ने देखिए
(Signature of the Gram Panchayat Pradhan with Seal) (गोहर सहित ग्राम पंचायत प्रधान के हस्ताक्षर)	

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Contact Numbers	सम्पर्क नं०
Police Helpline No. : 100 Alipurduar Dist. Police Control Room : 03564-255005 Child Line No. : 1098 Women Helpline : 1091 Panchayat :	पुलिस हेल्पलाइन नं० : १०० आलिपुरदुआर जिला पुलिस कन्ट्रोल रूम : ०३५६४-२५५००५ चाइल्ड लाइन नं० : १०९८ महिला हेल्पलाइन नं० : १०९१ पंचायत :
Block : Madarihath-Birpara Dist. : Alipurduar State : West Bengal	ब्लॉक : मादरिहाट-बिरपाड़ा जिला : आलिपुरदुआर राज्य : पश्चिम बंगाल
Jabala Helpline : (033) 2460 2229 (10A.M. to 6P.M.)	जबाला हेल्पलाइन (०३३) २४६० २२२९ (सुबह १० से शाम ६ तक)

Major Events and Participation:

A 3-day Staff Capacity Building training was held at Vishakhapatnam in March 2024

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-Dr. Durba Bandyopadhyay -Program Manager was a Guest speaker at 'Indigenous Knowledge Sharing Lecture Series: Experiences Sharing from India.' at Curtin University, Perth Australia on 7th September 2023.

-MUKTI South Asia and Planning Meeting on August 1, 2023, in Kathmandu, Nepal.



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-Advanced Capacity Building Training on the protection of Child Sex Trafficking Victims and improving victim-centered services on March 27-28 in Goa, India



Publication of Newsletter by Girls:

Girls after completion of training started publishing a News Letter 'Najare Khabar' on quarterly basis on issues affecting their lives which normally not published in mainstream media.



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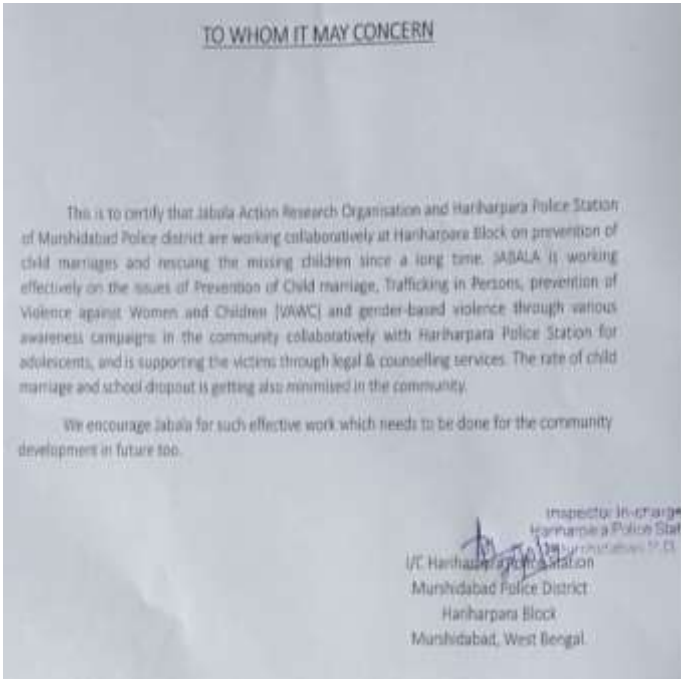


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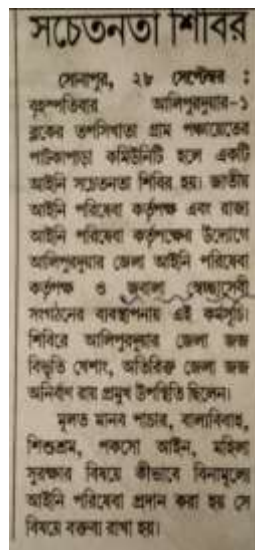
Recognition:

Jabala's work has been recognised by different stakeholders and Institutions:



Strengthened Stakeholders and Media Support:

Stakeholders of all layers extended their support and media played a supportive role



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Hoarding in association with District Authority, Dumka, Jharkhand- Highlighting Girls' Education; The Beneficiaries were part of this awareness



বাল বিবাহ রোধের জন্য জিলা স্তরীয় বৈঠক আয়োজিত
তলোঁকে বীঘ ঘনন কর মথ হেনা খঁচি জলট্টে হৈ : ডঃ অরুণ কুমার





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Publication and Reports:

'Amader Aain Amader Aina' (Our laws are Our Mirrors) - a Children Book was launched at Kolkata International Book Fair 2024.



-Jabala's different publications were distributed from the little magazine stall



-An article on Tea gardens of Dooars written by Ms. Baitali Ganguly-Founder Director was published in the book 'Pandemic and Precarity'



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Case Studies:

Name- Lakhi Oraon

Father's name- Sukhar Oraon Mother's Name- Rajita Oraon
Ranishwar, Dumka; Jharkhand

Support Extended: Education; Nutrition and Health

Lakhi is a 12 years old girl a resident who stays with her family of 4 members which consists of Mother, Father and a younger brother. She belongs to a needy family where they are economically deprived from all the facilities. Her mother is the only source of income as she works as the daily labourer in the field.

Her father an alcohol addict and do not work regularly and unable to contribute to the family. In this adolescent age Lakhi has to look after the household chores and also take care of her younger brother. She is interested in education and is a regular student in school.

She doesn't get any option to cherish her childhood. She attends education centre classes for better understanding, but she carries her brother at the class as there is no one to look after him. She also a victim of Gender based violence as at this early age.

She is a member of the girls' group. The space she enjoys to break away from otherwise mundane life. Lakhi dreams to become a nurse one day and have not lost hope even after facing difficult situations. She has turned out to be champion and motivate others to continue their education to empower one self.



Name: Neha (Changed)

Age-15 Years

Father- Netai Mondal

Mother Late Nipa Mondal

Place: Hariharpara, Murshidabad

Support Extended: Shelter; Nutrition; Counselling; Education inputs

Neha is an active and regular member of Jabala's girls' group, a drop out but showed willingness to rejoin the school. An energetic football player of Jabala's football team and an enthusiast who always raises voice against social taboos and lobbied with parents of other girls to allow them to play football.





Background:

Hariharpara Block where more than 41% girls are getting married before the legal age of 18. Patriarchal control; gender inequality are the main drives for child marriage of this area. Various other factors are poverty due to lack of alternative livelihood opportunities, growing demands for dowry (girls looked as economic burden) are also present.

Incident:

Neha lost her mother early and lives with her father, brother and sister-in-law. The family also tried to marry her off in March'23 but getting the news Jabala's team members went to Neha's house and dissuaded her father. The things changed again in November'23 when, Neha's family secretly arranged her marriage on 28.11.2023 thinking that no one can interfere. **Neha was totally unwilling** to get married but was under pressure from family members. The community worker of Jabala got the news from other girls during her interaction and immediately alerted Jabala's local and head office over phone about the impending marriage.

Intervention:

Jabala team immediately informed BDO (Block Development Officer), Local Police Station and CDPO (Child Development Project Officer) over phone, SMS and mail. SP (Superintendent of Police) and District Social Welfare Officer were also informed through mail

Local Officer In-Charge along with other police personnel and local Jabala's team members visited Neha's house and dissuaded to family to postpone the marriage as it is illegal. CDPO visited family to make sure this marriage is not taking place. Police made the family to **sign a written undertaking** in presence of other villagers that Neha shall not be married off before the age of 18. The responses from all government officials were prompt and deserves appreciation.

Present Situation:

Neha now a happy girl after spending about 15 days in Jabala's Crisis Intervention Centre where she was provided with Counselling and other necessary support. She expressed her willingness again to join school and enrolled back. Her peers are also happy and confident that together they can stop the child marriage.



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Voices from Ground:

It is certified that Jabala in association with its partners; Panchayat, Police and Block administration is working in different villages of Hariharpara on the issue of Child Marriage, education and other supports. The work is evident from the participation of community and decrease the rate of Child Marriage

On behalf of local religious group and the villagers we are appreciative of Jabala and LOreal for the work on prevention of child marriage which is a problem in our area. The nutrition support provided to families of poor girls helped them a lot to cope up with the situation. We recommend continuation of the program.

-Goalm Jakaria, Teacher and Religious Functionary

I would like to appreciate Jabala for running community class room and smart phone bank at Haripur Panchayat area as these are helping the girls including my girl to aspire for higher studies and request to continue the efforts-

Bandana Roy-Mother

मैं जबला संस्था की एक रीजिस्टर लीडर हूँ और मैं जबला के साथ लड़कियों के साथ-साथ उनके डेढ़ जबला के साथ जुड़कर मैं शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य, विद्या और स्वस्थता के बारे में सीखती हूँ।

नाम : पूजा कुमारी
ग्राम : जाड़ुगुवा
राज्य : पश्चिम बंगाल
मामा : रानिश्वर (बंगाल)
पिता : दमोदा (बंगाल)

I am a senior leader of Jabala's Girls Group and during my association I have learnt on Child Rights ;received support on education and Health.

Puja Kumari,
Pakuria, Ranishwar, Jharkhand

This is to state that the Adolescent Girls of Jabala are taking part in different community programs such as sports, fairs; awareness raising on violence prevention etc. These are having great impacts on other girls who are coming forward for participation and raising their voices against Child marriage and Rights.

I am a student of Class IX and regularly attend Loreal supported Digital Literacy Camp run by Jabala. I am happy to get such opportunity along with other girls of my locality. I am thankful to Loreal and Jabala for giving this support and hopeful of future continuance.

Ayesha Siddique
Kandi, Murshidabad
West Bengal

It is certified that Jabala in association with its partners; Panchayat, Police and Block administration is working in different villages of Hariharpara on the issue of Child Marriage, education and other supports. The work is evident from the participation of community and decrease the rate of Child Marriage



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Valued Partners:

1. Ministry of Women & Child Development- Government of India
2. West Bengal State Commission for Protection of Child Rights
3. Department of Women & Child Development & Social Welfare, Government of West Bengal
4. UNICEF
5. Kolkata Police, West Bengal
6. Give India Foundation
7. Azim Premji Foundation
8. Girls First Fund
9. Shadhika
10. Loreal Fund for Women
11. Mundo Cooperante
12. Nehru Yuva Kendra, Murshidabad
13. Corporate Donors
14. Individual Donors
15. District & Block Authorities & Panchayat Functionaries
15. Police personnel
16. Community members & Stakeholders
17. Right Holders





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Network Partners:

Jabala is the part of various networks. Network has got an immense meaning for Jabala and we believe to replicate resources network has no alternatives.

1. Founder and active member of Maître a Kolkata based platform for women organization and activists
2. State Secretariat for CACT (Campaign Against Child Trafficking) having 60 member NGOs and CBOs in different districts in West Bengal. This is line with International CACT network.
3. Girls Not Bride
4. Founder and active member of ATSEC (Against Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation of Children)
5. Member of WBEN (West Bengal Education Network)
6. Member of NACG (The National Action & Coordination Group) on Violence against Children
7. Jabala also networks with different Government bodies like, Education Department, Police, Judiciary, BSF, SCPS, and WBSCPCR etc.
8. Jabala also liaison with Bangladesh NGOs for exchange and help in repatriation process.

Unit Offices:

1. 119/2/A, A.C. Road, Indrapastha, Baharampur, Murshidabad
2. Malangapara, Swarupnagar, 24Parganas-North,, West Bengal
3. Mohammad Bazar, Birbhum, West Bengal
4. Annapurna House, Debigarh Colony, Birpara, Alipurduar, West Bengal
5. Arabinda Nagar, Ward No. 1 Alipurduar, West Bengal
6. Near Putka Middle School; Panchayat-Haripur, Ranishwar-814101, Dumka, Jharkhand



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Staff Strength:

Full Time			Part Time			Volunteers		
Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male
31	24	07	18	16	02	18	12	06

Financial Results (2023-2024): (In INR)

Total Income	Total Expenditure	Surplus
57,711,970.71	33,876,989.39	23,834,981.32

Photo Gallery:



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***“The question
isn’t who’s
going to let
me; it’s who is
going to stop
me.”***



THANK YOU

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