



Novi Survat Charitable Organisation

(New Beginnings – for the destitute of Goa)

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Newsletter 076 September 2022.

In Devon, as with so much of the country, we have been enjoying a long very hot spell of weather with virtually no rain since early June. For some it has been too hot. This has been excellent for the many holidaymakers who flock to the West Country but has caused many problems for the gardeners and farmers. Drought conditions have been declared and hosepipe bans coming into force – maybe that will be a signal for to the weather to change!

Spare a thought for all those living in Pakistan which is experiencing some of the worst floods ever recorded making hundreds of thousands homeless, a high loss of life and crops decimated.

Day Care Centre.

Plans are under way to extend the working of the Day Care Centre to include a Recreational Therapist, a Social Worker, a Special Needs Educator, an Occupational Therapist (already engaged) and a speech therapist. The additional cost of these projects will be in the region of £1200.00 per month which we will fund for a minimum of two years following which it is hoped local funding can be arranged. The aim is to prepare the children for employment or to equip them to live on their own or with assisted living in later life.

Following the Covid pandemic the number of patients currently receiving treatment is 27.

Congratulations to Dr. Megha for successfully completing a programme of Palliative Care for Physiotherapists in June – well done.

I am often asked what ailments befall the children we offer help to but having very limited medical knowledge I am unable to give meaningful answers so I thought I would list some of the diagnoses for those of you who have a greater understanding: Spastic Diplegic Cerebral Palsy, Autism, Down's Syndrome, GDD Microcephaly, Arthrogryposis, Dyskinetic Cerebral Palsy, Spastic Quadriplegic, West Syndrome & Spinal Muscular Atrophy.

Educational Sponsorship.

The effects of the Covid pandemic are still being felt. Goa is dependent on the tourist trade especially foreign tourists without which there is a shortage of employment. No work means no money to support the unemployed which has resulted in the families of eight sponsored students leaving Goa and returning to their native villages in other states where they will have the 'protection' of other family members. We hope that some, if not all, will return once the tourist season restarts. I will write to the affected sponsors in the near future.

We now have 1 student who has completed their Masters degree and is in the process of applying for assistant professor posts, 3 students studying for their Masters degrees, 7 studying for other degrees, 6 taking 'A' levels and a further 30 at various stages of their education.

Congratulations to Pralhad who has been awarded an internship with the Hilton Hotel in Sangolda who have taken responsibility for all costs associated with his progress.

Registered Charity Number: 1100768 (U.K.)

Starting Point School.

This year the school celebrates its 20th year and re-opened on June 13th following the Covid closure with 26 children in regular attendance.

During the summer break the school was rewired at a cost of £1050.00 and will hopefully be repainted after the monsoons have finished.

Because of stagnant puddles during the monsoon season Dengue & Malaria (spread by mosquitoes) increases so the children are given vitamin C tablets and provided with wet weather gear.

Outreach work.

Due to the continuing problems associated with the Covid pandemic we are still maintaining monthly food supplies to between 40 & 50 families costing in excess of £1100.00 per month. It is hoped that this will decrease once the overseas tourist season commences in late autumn and people will once again be able to find work opportunities. However, we will still continue with supplying those who are unable to work due to physical disabilities.

Sponsors & supporters.

A big 'thank you' to Michelle in the Exmouth Indoor Market who, since I 'retired' from the market, has kindly offered to be a collection point for those of you who have regularly brought me bags of 'pennies'. Please continue to keep them coming!

Economically times are hard for most of us but not anywhere near as difficult as those living in the slums, many who at this time have no food, no job and coping with the monsoons so we really do depend entirely on your continued support and donations.

Here is a message to you all from the children of Starting Point School.



And a big thank you from all at Novi Survat, without your support we could not continue to help those who are in desperate need of assistance.