



Novi Survat Charitable Organisation

(New Beginnings – for the destitute of Goa)

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Newsletter 077 December 2022.

I hope this newsletter finds you all fit and well and enjoying life despite the doom and gloom prevailing due to the economic climate we find ourselves in. Fortunately, the temperatures have remained reasonably high for the time of year and many will not have found it necessary to put their central heating on.

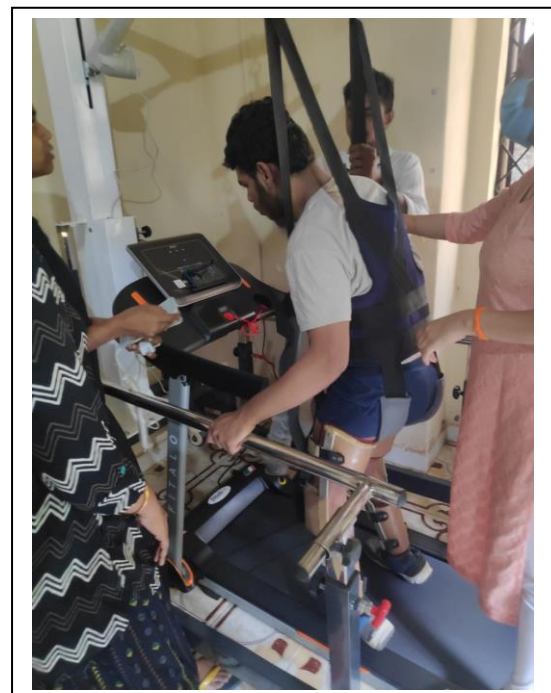
I was due to fly to Goa on November 2nd but due to the problems people are experiencing obtaining visas to visit India many have cancelled their travel plans which resulted in my flight being cancelled by the airline. I am now scheduled to go to Goa on 12th January and I am looking forward to meeting the children and staff who I have not seen for three years.

Normally Goa would receive about 6 – 8 charter flights per week from around the world commencing in October but this year due to visa and economic problems they have only had one flight consisting of 180 persons from Kazakhstan on 1st November and one from the UK on 6th with 220 tourists. Usually there would be at least four flights per week from the UK alone. This is a serious problem for Goa that depends heavily on foreign tourists which keep the hotels, restaurants and shops in business and provides much needed work for a large part of the population.

Day Care Centre.

This continues to flourish with a total of 29 patients in regular attendance.

In October the centre took delivery of a treadmill that will be a tremendous asset in helping those patients who are learning to walk. These pictures show the treadmill and one of the older patients, Prinston, using it for the first time. The cost was £1520.00.



Registered Charity Number: 1100768 (U.K.)

Educational Sponsorship.

Updates on some of the children to graduate from Starting Point.

Biyama has recently obtained her Bachelor of Arts & Bachelor of Education degrees with distinction and is now going on to study for her Master's degree through the Indira Gandhi National University. She wants to be a professor in English.

Sana is taking a 2-year master's degree Arts course in English at Goa University. She also wants to be a professor in English.

Rubina is taking a 2-year course in Business Management through the University of Delhi.

Deepa has completed her Science Master's degree specialising in Microbiology through Goa University with an 88% pass rate! She is taking the NET/SET exam to qualify as a college professor and in the meantime is working temporarily in a pathology laboratory as well as studying.

As I will not be going to Goa until January, Jane will hopefully take and send me photos of all the students in time for me to post to the sponsors for Christmas.

Starting Point School.

One of the students Pralhad who attended Starting Point pre-school in 2006 progressed to St. Teresa's High School in 2008. He then went on to take his Bachelor of Arts degree and succeeded in gaining an intern position with the Hilton Hotel Resort in Saligao. In October this year Pralhad was included in a team from the Hilton who came to organise a Diwali party for the children. His presence was a complete surprise to Jane, the headmistress who received a hug from Pralhad 'like a long-lost son'.

There are currently 28 children registered at the school and most are in regular attendance.

Plans are in hand for the outside of the school to be painted hopefully in December 2022.

Outreach work.

Due to the lack of tourists arriving in Goa, the employment of many low wage earners is still very limited, which means that, until the position improves, we are still finding it necessary to feed up to 50 families which include 18 families who are unable to work due to physical disabilities.

This is costing in excess of £1100.00 per month so we are hoping that the situation improves in the near future.

Sponsors & supporters.

A big thank you to Gabby who continues to organise regular clairvoyance evenings bringing in much need funds.

A special thank you to all of you who continue to support us financially despite the pressures we all find ourselves in. Without your continued support we would not be able to maintain our commitment to the students who are doing so well, ensure those who are destitute have basic food and offer a future to the disabled children whose parents could not afford medical fees.

If any of you will be in Goa between 13th and 26th January, please let me know as I would love to be able meet you and to take you visit the school and Day Care Centre.

From all at Novi Survat we wish you a very Happy Christmas and our best wishes for 2023.