

# Asha for Education™

## Site Visit Questionnaire

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www.ashanet.org

Dear Volunteer

Thanks for conducting this site visit.

The following set of questions is only a suggested guideline. Some of the following questions may not be relevant or applicable to the particular project you are visiting, but please do try to answer as many of them as possible. Please note that Part sB & C necessitate that the information be gathered through conversations with the children and their parents, and not simply the group's teachers and staff.

Please feel free to attach any documents/photos you feel are pertinent to the project.

Thanks.

- Asha for Education

**Date: Nov. 30, 07**

**Name of the Project: Right Based approach towards child labour in Kolkata & Bankura**

**Name of the Organisation Running the Project (if different): Trinita Society for Social and Health Research**

Was your site visit announced? Yes, it was planned  No, it was a surprise visit

|          | <b>Project Contact</b>       | <b>You Name<br/>(Asha volunteer conducting the visit)</b> |
|----------|------------------------------|---|
| Name     | Padmanava Sen                | Padmanava Sen   |
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**PART A: Particulars about the organization and its environment**

**1. What are the different focus areas of the organization? (give a rough estimate of the % of their total effort/funding)**

Community development 20%      Education 60%    Health 20%  
 Other \_\_\_% (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**2. What is the administrative structure of the group (e.g. Board of Directors/Grassroots-based)?**

Grassroots-based

**3. Are there any other organizations working in the area providing any one or all of the services provided by the visited organization? (Briefly mention their names and their objectives)**

| Organization | Objectives of the organization |
|--------------|--------------------------------|
|              |                                |
|              |                                |
|              |                                |

**PART B: The organization and the community it serves**

*(Information to be gathered from parents and children)*

**1. Approximately how many families live in the area? 500-1000**

**2. What do the parents do for a living? (Agricultural worker, Daily wage laborer etc.)**

Daily-wage laborer

**3. At the time of enrolment, does the school ask for the names of both parents?**

Yes       No, just the father's name       No, just the mother's name

**4. How often do the teachers meet the parents?**

On a regular basis

**5. How do the parents participate in the organization's activities? (e.g. by contributing their time, money or labor in the school's activities etc.)**

contributing their time in some cases

**6. Are there any Government Schools in the area?** Yes  No

**7. If yes, how far are the Government Schools from the community?**

**8. Why did the parents choose this school over the Government School?**

They can not bear the expenses of regular school and in most cases, the birth certificates are not available. The children in our child labour school are not attending formal school because they engaged in work for around 12 hrs.a day ( during day time)

**9. When you visited, how many children were present in the class?** around 30 & 60 for two different sites

**What is the regular class strength?**

**Comments:**

**10. Do the children seem to enjoy coming to school?**

Yes. The atmosphere looks very friendly to them

### **PART C: Project particulars**

*(Information to be gathered from students and staff)*

**1. What is the mode of teaching in the school? (Check the appropriate choices)**

- A. Formal (State Board, Central Board etc.)  **till what class?**  
 B. Non-Formal Education (NFE)  **do the students also attend formal school?**  
 C. Vocational   
 D. Other . Please specify \_\_\_\_\_

**2. If A (Formal), up to what grade(LKG, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> etc.) does the school conduct classes?**

\_\_\_\_\_

**3. If B (Non-Formal Education) how many of the children also attend formal schools in the area?**

\_\_\_\_\_

**If none do, does the project plan this for the future?**

4. *If Non-Formal Education, does the organization create its own study material (books, games)?*

5. *If C (Vocational), what do the children do after they finish training?*

6. *How many staff or volunteers are recruited from the community?*

*How many of the staff are women? Most of them*

7. *How many teachers have left the school in the past one year, and why?*

8. *How many new teachers have joined in the past year?*

9. *Does the organization train the teachers?*

Yes

No

*If yes, how do they provide the training?*

10. *How much is the staff paid?*

*Is it on par with the salary paid to the staff in the Government schools?*

Yes

No

#### **PART D: Financial resources of the organization**

*(Feedback from the person conducting the site visit)*

1. *Do you think the proposed amounts in the budget are reasonable?* Yes  No  Maybe

2. *Are all items covered in the budget?* Yes  No  Maybe

Comments:

3. *Is there anything you think should be added or removed from the budget?*

Yes  No

*If you recommend any changes to the budget, please explain your reasons for this.*

*4. Did you discuss the proposed changes with the project? If so, please describe their response.*

**PART E: Comments**

*(Feel free to attach documents if necessary)*

Padmanava Sen (Asha Atlanta chapter) did the site visit for Trinita Project in November 2007. He discussed with Ms. Shampa Roy (secretary, Trinita Society for social education and health research) regarding the aim of this project, the funding status as well as the future plans. He visited the sites, observed the conditions of the local area, and talked to the local people regarding the impact of Trinita. His version of the site visit is presented below:

“ I met Ms Sampa Roy near Tangra in Kolkata. We walked through the slums near Tangra. The condition of the locality is really poor and they have serious problems to avail clean water supply. The local people are mostly migrant workers or daily laborers. Most of the kids help their parents with the job of collecting and then breaking used batteries to obtain the metal from within. Some of them work 8-15 hrs daily and these families earn a meager amount of 500 Rupees (12 USD) a month. Due to the nature of the job and their exposure to hazardous materials these kids and the parents are very likely to develop many infectious diseases. I have met the parents of one kid who is suffering from TB due to the work environment and the nature of the job. Trinita is actively providing health care to the kids along with alternative education in their centers. It also drives towards raising the level of awareness among the parents about the job conditions and the possible hazards of these working kids.

The local people are supportive towards them. I talked to some of the parents. They understand the need of education but cannot provide proper education to their kids for financial constraints. The Trinita volunteers try to provide a viable atmosphere to the kids by teaching them how to sing and dance apart from attempting to provide non-formal education. Though the children looked happy and sang few songs in Tangra branch, Mrs Roy and another teacher explained to me the hardships that these kids face on an every day basis and how difficult life is for every household in that area.

Trinita attempts to provide some relief to these kids by exposing them to a better possible life by creating an atmosphere where learning happens along with some joyful activities – the only respite from a hard days work!

Then I went to the branch near Topsia. The surrounding areas match the description and photos given in the Jan2007 site visit report. The locality is very poor and every household comprises of 8-10 children. It has two centers - one for children of age group 5-12 and the other for adolescent girls. They performed dances and showed their drawings.

Trinita has an efficient set up in both the centers where the parents and children alike the importance of education but in order to meet their daily bread they are forced to work. Mrs Roy and other center volunteers are highly respected by the locals there and this makes solid ground for them to expand their centers and reach out to more kids in that area. Trinita is also trying to set-up a kitchen in Topsia center in order to provide nutritious meals to the kids.

Trinita is asking Asha–Atlanta chapter for education kits, uniform, tiffin and health benefits for 100 kids. After visiting these two areas my take as an asha volunteer is that we should make arrangements to provide the kids, who work like slaves in these difficult conditions, with food nutrients and medicine. They desperately need all the help that we can provide them with. I am attaching the pictures of the children in two sites I visited.”

---Dr. Padmanava Sen (Asha Atlanta Volunteer)



Children in Tangra centre



Children in Tangra centre





Children in Topsis center



Adolescent girls' school in Topsis center



**Children and teachers in Topsia center**



**Children and teachers with Ms Roy (Trinita Secretary)  
and Padmanava in Topsia center**