



SUNBIRD TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24

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FROM THE FOUNDER'S DESK

COL. CHRISTOPHER REGO (RETD.)

In 2004, when I was on delegation from the Indian Army to the Assam Rifles, Myrna and I and our two children had the good fortune of being based at beautiful Aizawl, the capital of Mizoram. During our three years there, we were privileged to travel the length and breadth of this beautiful part of our country and enjoy the warm hospitality of our Mizo friends. Yet, two decades after the signing of the Mizo Peace Accord in 1986 in this insurgency-affected state, there appeared to be residual resentment and distrust by many towards the rest of the country. Besides the perceived lack of development, another major reason for this bitterness was apparent: The lack of access to education, both physical and financial, meant that many from a generation of youth were not empowered with employability. It was here the germ of

the idea of Sunbird Trust was sown when Myrna and I conceived of uniting and working to sustainable peace through the concept of Peace through Education. A decade later, my tenure with the Border Roads Organization in turbulent Manipur and my extensive travels through that state helped further hone the idea. A mention here of the lifelong example set by my late father Air Commodore Melville Rego and my mother Jean Rego to serve the lesser privileged and “be the change”. The idea of Peace through Education led to the founding of Sunbird Trust in December 2014 under the sage mentorship of Trustees Ryan Lobo and Dr. Dayaprasad Kulkarni. A special word of thanks to my classmate Luis Miranda and his wife Fiona Miranda, who helped strategize the vision and put up the initial “seed capital”. They continue to be a huge part of Sunbird Trust and our work till today. Upon my retirement from the Army in 2016, it was only natural that I immediately took over as CEO of the Trust to steer the journey forward.

Looking back, what a roller-coaster journey it has been! The challenges were manifold and all pervasive; but delightfully stepping stones to much success. Few could have imagined our almost exponential growth: The reasons are most evident. For a start, it has been the host of

young and tenacious Sunbirders, past and present, that have helped raise the organization to what it is today. Adjusting to a whole different cultural, social and educational landscape and abjuring the comforts of city life, most have lived in some of the remotest conflict-affected areas with uncertain or no electricity and connectivity and limited access to bare essentials. COVID or conflict (as today in beautiful Manipur), only helped the team reinforce the maxim “when the going gets tough, the tough get going”. Next, if Sunbird is able to do the work we do, huge credit goes to our donors and mentors who stood with us through thick and thin.

While Sunbird as an organization is largely a facilitator, at the cutting edge is our partner organizations and staff, forever beset with challenges and expectations. We are grateful to them for their contribution to our children, their hospitality and partnership. Through our meandering path, our Trustees and Board of Advisors have stood rock solid, guiding and curating our growth while opening doors with donor organizations.

Passionate and committed team members and stakeholders have embedded structure and systems in our organization deeply rooted in our values.

A culture of trust and autonomy with accountability has meant that every team member is adding value, ever improving our structure and systems. With this, our organization has long since reached a phase of organic growth and strength where no one person is indispensable. It is at this time in our trajectory, along with reasons of my health that convinced me that I should transition from my role of CEO and running the day-to-day operations. Understandably, this has not been an easy decision, yet, I am most convinced that it is the right one for Sunbird and stepped down as the CEO with effect from 31st Dec 2024. As the founder, I now look to supporting our team strategize our growth and assisting with fundraising besides mentoring our children.

At this time, it is only natural that the mantle of the CEO post fall to the broad shoulders of Aliasgar Janjali, an old and loyal hand who joined us at remote Ijeirong in July 2018. A former senior banking and finance executive, Ali found a deeper meaning in dedicating his life to education, especially for marginalized children. With this, he swapped the corporate sector to become a Teach for India Fellow. Along with our former COO (now Trustee) Dr Sonal Sethia and our earliest team members, he

played a major role in setting up our fledgling organization. Three months into my new role, I look back with deep satisfaction at the smoothest transition: The new leadership team of Ali, Michelle and Ravi, all old Sunbird war horses, backed up by our senior team members, lead the charge forward. This Financial Year, we commence our District School Transformation project in Shi Yomi District in Arunachal Pradesh, The project necessitates increasing the size of the team from 30 to 55 members, a truly momentous expansion, certainly the most in any year since our founding. This, therefore, promises to be a watershed year of growth and learning for Sunbird.

A decade after the founding of Sunbird Trust, Myrna and I are enveloped in the love, affection and support of our team members and co travellers on this momentous journey. We revel in seeing so many of our youngsters who we have mentored since their early school years now graduate or post graduate.

It is truly delightful that so many of them have come back to Sunbird as either interns or full-fledged team members. Both of us now re-dedicate ourselves to mentoring our team and young Sunbirders.

At this time, we express our deepest gratitude to our Trustees, members of our Board of Advisors, generous donors, partner organizations, staff at our schools and our dear alumni and children for their support.

With warmest regards,

Chris Rego





FROM THE CEO'S DESK

ALIASGAR HUSEINI JANJALI

It is with great pride and privilege that I write my first note for the annual report for FY 23-24 as the CEO of Sunbird Trust. As I look back from the time I first joined Sunbird Trust in July of 2018 as the School Leader at our flagship partner school, Paangkriang Friendship Academy, the organisation has grown in its footprint and the impact its work has created in the most remote and conflict affected areas of North East India.

I am indeed thankful to both our founders Col Christopher Rego (Retd.) and Mrs Myrna Rego and to our board of trustees for having reposed the trust and belief in me and entrusted me with the responsibility of leading Sunbird Trust as we enter our 10th year of operations and more importantly the next phase of our growth.

Taking over as the Chief Operating Officer in July 2021, just after the COVID19 pandemic was receding, I believe the organisation has taken big strides over these past 3 years in terms of setting strong internal processes, procedures and frameworks which in turn has become the bedrock of our success over the years.

The year 2023-24 has indeed been a mixed bag of emotions. On one hand the organisation built on the success of the past year and achieved even greater heights in terms of its reach and impact, while on the other hand the beautiful state of Manipur has witnessed the breakout of the ethnic conflict which to an extent impacted our operations, especially in the Churachandpur district.

In spite of the impact, it is in these trying times that Sunbird Trust has shown its tenacity and ability to be on the forefront, bringing relief for the communities it has been serving over the years. While our regular programme activities continued unhindered in most parts of NE India, we had to rearrange our priorities in the conflict affected areas of Imphal and Churachandpur district. As the organisation grew in its reach & impact, we spent substantial time in redesigning our work into specific programs

so that each work area now has a well-defined goal and monitoring framework. This not only helps us to approach our vision and mission in a more structured way but also helps potential donors to align to our work through various programmes.

As we approach 2025 – our first target date to achieve the mission we embarked upon in 2014, the organisation, after discussions with multiple stakeholders has decided to redraw its Vision and Mission Statement to reflect the changed reality and the increase in the extent of our work.

Our new Vision & Mission Statements are:

Vision

“Building Peace Through Education and empowerment of children, youth and communities in the remote and conflict affected areas of north eastern India”

Mission

“To provide 1,00,000 Annual Scholarships to underserved children from the remote and conflict affected areas of north eastern India by 2030”

“To raise 50 schools / hostels in the remote and conflict affected areas of north eastern India by 2030.”



“To positively impact 5,00,000 people from the remote and conflict affected areas of north eastern India through community development projects to improve their social, emotional and financial wellbeing by 2030.”

The coming year should see us embark upon the prestigious Government School Transformation Programme under the MOU with the Education Department of Arunachal Pradesh apart from implementing our long-cherished dream of starting a Teacher Training Academy for teachers from the remote parts of NE India. With the increase in our programme activities, we envisage a considerable increase to our team size in the coming year to ensure smooth operations of old and new projects. We also expect to continue our relief effort work and increase our reach to cover as many internally displaced people (IDPs) as possible.

“It takes a village to raise a child,” can’t be truer than in our case and we are most thankful to the dedication of our entire team without whom these stupendous results are not possible.

With Gratitude

Aliasgar Janjali

Chief Executive Officer





TRUSTEES' REPORT

At the end of another Financial Year, we look back at yet another successive period of growth, discovery and enrichment of our concept of Peace through Education.

At the outset, we thank Col Chris Rego, our co-founder for his services rendered as CEO. Taking over as CEO in February 2016 and ably partnered by our co-founder Mrs Myrna Rego, he piloted the amazing growth of the organization to what it is today. He did this with the help of a passionate and committed team that he assiduously helped put together and nurtured. From a handful of sponsored children in 2006, we are now privileged to currently sponsor nearly 10,000 young students while having granted more than 39,000 annual scholarships!

In barely the past 8 years, Sunbird Trust has helped raise 13 schools and support the building of 21 hostels.

Stepping down from the CEO position and day to day operations due to personal reasons, especially his health on 31 Dec 2023, Col Chris will continue to work with all the team much as before to help chart our strategy and the journey forward. Going forward, he and Mrs Myrna Rego will also be devoting much of their time to mentorship of our ever-increasing number of sponsored students especially those in under graduation and post-graduation. On behalf of all stakeholders of Sunbird Trust, we express our deepest gratitude to Col Chris for his immeasurable contribution to Sunbird Trust during his tenure as CEO.

It is with much satisfaction that we note the smooth transition of the CEO role to our COO Aliasgar Janjali who has been a pillar of strength for us from the time he joined Sunbird Trust in July 2018. We could not have hoped for a better succession given Ali's deep immersion for years together in all aspects of the functioning of Sunbird Trust. At a time of great expansion and many challenges, we wish him all strength and success in his new role.

It is with delight that we welcome Dr Sonal Sethia, our former COO, back to the organization as a Trustee. With this, she

completes her remarkable journey from Intern through assistant school leader, school leader, COO, and now, Trustee. Further empowered with a recent Masters in Public Policy and Governance from Azim Premji University, Bangalore, we could not have hoped for a better choice than Sonal to strengthen our Board of Trustees. Sadly, it has been a bad year for Manipur with the breaking out of the ethnic conflict there in May 2023. Yes, indeed, we were significantly impacted with some of our team members having to move to relief camps and a few having to leave the organization altogether. Yet, as with every crisis such as the COVID pandemic, such happenings only strengthen our resolve to justify the reason for our very existence, viz fostering peace and harmony amongst conflict-affected communities.

DR SONAL APPOINTED AS TRUSTEE

Sonal Sethia transitioned from a PhD scholar to a mentor, impacting children in Northeast India through Teach for India and Sunbird Trust. She progressed from intern to Chief Operating Officer, then Chief Mentor, shaping strategies & community ties. Recently, she became a Trustee.



We are indeed blessed that our resolutely humanistic and inclusive agenda has permitted us to work across such disturbed areas without any impediment and bringing relief to thousands of internally displaced people (IDP).

It is our pleasure to bring on the record some of the large body of work executed by Team Sunbird during the past year covered in this Annual Report. Some highlights of the year include: -

- With the ongoing ethnic conflict in Manipur, Sunbird Trust on behalf of our partner organizations Axis Bank, Goonj, National Council of Women & many others has distributed relief materials including clothes, rations, toiletries, sanitary pads, diapers etc benefiting over 22250 internally displaced persons.
- Our Sponsor A Child Scheme benefited 9,242 lesser resourced children from Manipur, Nagaland, Assam, Meghalaya, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.
- A host of infrastructure construction related activities across five North East Indian states was facilitated by Sunbird Trust. These include setting up

hostels, toilet blocks, water tanks and a Children's Centre.

- This year, we've expanded our base schools to nine under our School Transformation Programme. All our base schools have team members posted at the locations.
- In 2023-24, a pilot M&E (Monitoring and Evaluation) Framework was initiated in five Sunbird base schools. The exercise greatly helped in capacity building of these institutions. With this experience, it is planned to extend M&E to all our base schools.
- A contextualized in-house training programme has been developed and being followed in our schools. Special programmes were run for school leaders and teachers in our partner schools.
- Our Friendship and Peace Curriculum has been deepened and is being implemented in many of our partner schools
- During the year, thanks to the partnership with reputed organizations like Schneider Electric and the Hoshang Patel Tech Centre, we have been able to distribute solar lamps and street lights to some of the most underserved and remote villages in

Nagaland & Manipur. We are grateful to Goonj in sending us critically needed relief supplies for affected persons in relief camps in Manipur.

- Our pilot SALT (Sloping Agricultural Land Technique) project at Puichi (Oktan) village in Manipur is gaining much traction with many more farmers giving up the traditional and environmentally destructive jhum cultivation and adopting the new technology. We remain immensely grateful to Mr. David Gandhi for steering this project.
- As with previous years, we are much indebted to Indian Army and Assam Rifles for their partnership and support to engage with communities in the remotest areas. During the current year, they have provided us with logistical support for distribution of solar lamps and street lights as well as distribution of relief materials for IDP (Internally Displaced Personnel) in Manipur
- In March 2024, we signed an MOU with the Department of Education of the Govt of Arunachal Pradesh to build capacity in 10 more Government Schools in Shi Yomi District of the state. This follows the success of our

running of the Govt Residential School at Papikrung Village in the same District

- It is with much pride that we are certified as a Great Place to Work organization by Great Place to Work © after an exhaustive audit by them. It is a true reflection of what our team thinks of our workplace.
- We revel in a new phase of our journey with the fruit of our endeavours since inception now fully evident: With every passing month, we have new sponsored Sunbirders graduate or post graduate and cross the threshold to self-sufficiency and even supporting their own families. It is with pride that we note that as many as 22 of them have returned to the fold to intern or become full-fledged team members.

We express our deepest gratitude to our donors and partner organizations that have stood by us through the most difficult times. If, since inception, we are continuously growing and able to serve more and more people, much of the credit goes to our generous contributors. We are most grateful to our Board of Advisors for their sage advice and mentorship.

As we approach our tenth anniversary and continue to expand our activities, we thank you for your belief in our mission of Peace through Education and solicit your continuing support at this critical stage of our growth,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees,

Ryan Lobo,
Founder Trustee.



PEACE THROUGH EDUCATION

OUR APPROACH



SPONSOR

Our **sponsorships** to students in partner schools and various college students aims to provide financial access to education to as many students from remote conflicted areas of NE as possible. The students can avail a variety of scholarships viz Tuition & hostel fees, Skill Development, vocational training etc

COMMUNITY

Our **community** focussed projects aim to provide solutions which help improve the socio-economic wellbeing of the communities that we serve. Projects undertaken range from livelihood improvement to provision of solar electrification to technical and financial assistance in adopting alternative farming practices. Apart from the above Sunbird works for relief support as and when called upon.

EDUCATION

We believe in a **multi-pronged approach to education**. In our partner schools, we invest in providing teaching learning materials, textbooks and other relevant stationery. In our 9 base schools spread across the northeast, we have dedicated education specialists placed at each location working with the students on a day-to-day basis; from working on student leadership, cognitive skills, socio-emotional learning and sports, students at these base schools are given exposure to a multitude of activities.



EMPOWER

Our work with schools involves building the capacity of the teachers and school leaders towards improving school functioning and governance. By conducting teacher training and school leader training workshops, we hope to **empower** stakeholders towards running self-sustaining schools of excellence!

We also provide physical access to education to students by **building** essential infrastructure for schools and educational institutions; we ensure the schools we support have toilets, handwashing and drinking water facilities and once set up, we support the school by building academic infrastructure like classrooms, hostels, multipurpose halls, playground, etc.

BUILD



SPONSOR

COMMUNITY

BUILD

EDUCATE

EMPOWER



Since 2014

39,061

ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIPS
PROVIDED

over

100

INFRASTRUCTURE
PROJECTS EXECUTED

2,76,672

LIVES POSITIVELY IMPACTED THROUGH
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



THIS YEAR'S ACHIEVEMENTS



9242

Annual scholarships provided



15

infrastructure projects executed



48,135

community interventions beneficiaries

This year, we amplified our community intervention efforts. The Kuki-Meitei conflict in Manipur has ravaged the state since May 2023 displacing the lives of more than 60,000 people and claiming the lives of more than 200. With the generous contribution and support of our donors, we were able to support **22,297 people** across **98 relief camps**. This year, we also focused on distributing solar lamps and street lights to the remotest of villages in the northeast, lighting the lives of **25,838 people**.

Through our sponsorship program, we were able to provide **9242 scholarships**, resulting in financial access to the most deserving students of the northeast; to support tuition fee, nutrition fee, college education, skill building classes and more.

This year, we reached a milestone of **100 partner institutions** supported through scholarships and capacity building. Nine of these are base schools where our team members stay on campus and work on empowering school stakeholders and strengthening school governance.





Sunbird Trust has been certified as a **Great Place to Work** in the category of Non-profit and Charity Organizations (Under 50 Employees). This certification has a rich history of over 30 years and is globally respected for recognizing workplaces with high trust and a healthy culture.



Majuli Gurukul Academy in Majuli and **Dew Drops Academy** in Meghalaya have been added to the list of base schools this year and will be part of the STP program.

SUNBIRD FRIENDSHIP & PEACE CURRICULUM PILOTED IN 5 SCHOOLS

EDUCATE

To add strength and meaning to our Motto of **Peace Through Education**, we curated and piloted a Friendship & Peace Curriculum at 5 of our partner schools. The curriculum, catering to students of grades 8 to 10, aims to equip students with the knowledge and skills to understand nuances of Friendship, conflict, violence, acceptance of diversity etc through various interactive sessions. We aim to deliver this curriculum at all our partner schools over the next 3-5 years.



SCHOOL TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM UNVEILED

Thanks to our Monitoring & Evaluation team, we have developed frameworks to establish Sunbird Trust's education interventions in base schools as a discrete program; As part of the **School Transformation Program (STP)**, this year, we have added two more schools, bringing the total to 9 STP schools.



MOU SIGNED TO ADOPT 11 GOVT. SCHOOLS IN SHI-YOMI, AP

Based on the successful intervention in the border school in Papikrung village of Arunachal Pradesh, in March 2024 we signed a comprehensive MOU with the Department of Education, Government of Arunachal Pradesh to bring an additional 10 schools under our STP.

CONTEXTUALISED IN-HOUSE TEACHER TRAINING CURRICULUM UNVEILED

EMPOWER

Our belief in strengthening school systems through teacher capacity building inspired us to curate an in-house teacher training curriculum, led by two ex-Sunbirders, Vidhi and Saurabh.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



Recce visit of GRS Papikrung by Rhea & Michelle from Sunbird



Post Sunbird's adoption, enrolment increases to 32. Baseline tests conducted to gauge students' levels



Library books & dedicated reading hour begins for all classes. Foundational Math & Literacy classes taken to improve learning levels



Staff quarters-turned hostel for 40, constructed by the Indian Army! Enrolment increases to 95.



School systems and structures put in place to ensure proper functioning.

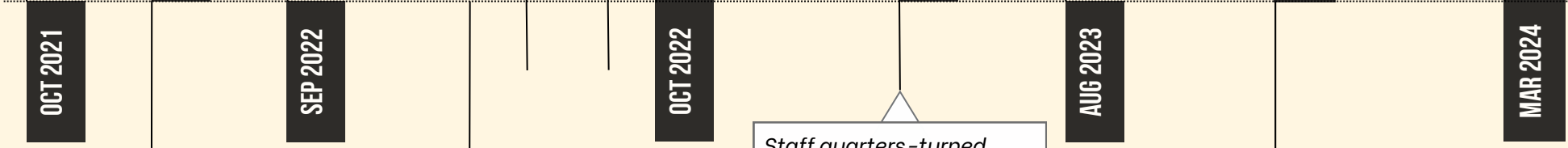


Under Speaker of Legislative Assembly, GoAP PD Sona's request, team of 6 undertake needs analysis of 11 schools



MoU signing with the Dept. of Education, GoAP to adopt 11 schools in Shi-Yomi district

Axis Bank representatives visit AP, visit a few proposed schools for adoption next year and meet with Hon'ble Speaker P D Sona



MoU signed to adopt GRS Papikrung and station two team members



Next year, we will be running programmatic interventions in 11 govt schools in Shi-Yomi district, AP

2023-24 IMPACT



MEGHALAYA

1 partner institution
(1 base school)

SIKKIM

1 partner institution

ASSAM

15 partner institutions
(2 base schools)

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

3 partner institutions
(1 base school)

NAGALAND

9 partner institutions

MANIPUR

71 partner institutions
(5 base schools)

9,242

SCHOLARSHIPS ISSUED

100

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

In our partner institutions, our intervention is installing essential infrastructure and providing scholarships with a few needs-based capacity building sessions. In our base schools, team members work closely with the founder towards effective functioning of the school and improved school performance.



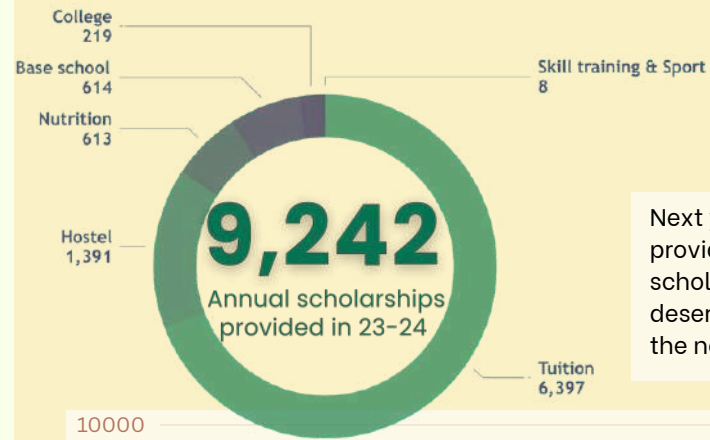
Assamese 'Mising' community dance performance at Sunbird's 9th Foundation Day celebrations in Bengaluru.



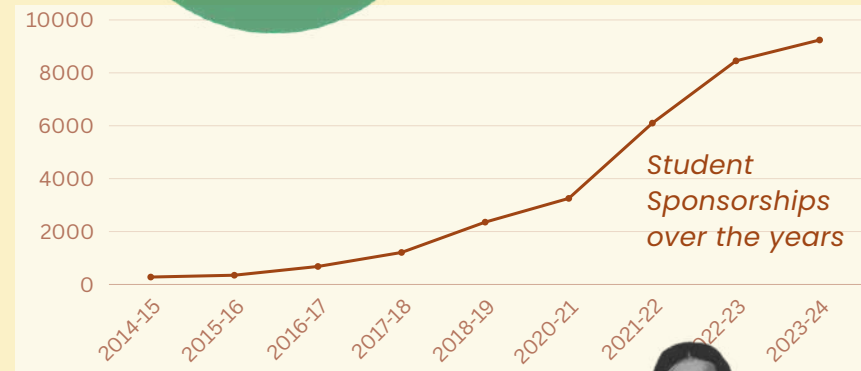
Peace-Building through

Sponsorships

Sunbird Trust aims to provide financial access to students from the most underserved communities of the northeast by providing annual scholarships; for school, college, undergraduate, and postgraduate education. Apart from this, Sunbird Trust has also been actively involved in identifying and sponsoring students who have outperformed in various fields but lack the financial resources to pursue multiple opportunities; in the fields of medicine to sports to mixed martial arts.



Next year, we aim to provide 12,000 scholarships to the most deserving students in the northeast.



Student Sponsorships over the years



9 sponsored students are currently interning with us



49 sponsored students have graduated this year



Through Sunbird's sponsorship program, **Chamrinba Bariam** was supported for his high school and college education. He recently graduated from Don Bosco College (Autonomous), Maram, with a B.Com degree.

Chamrinba Bariam
Sponsored student from Kabuikhullen, Manipur



I got admission into Loreto College, Kolkata, and shifted to a whole new different city outside of the northeast on my own with the sole hope that Sunbird Trust would take care of my requirements. I admire Sunbird's work in the northeast and would like to give something back as well. That's why I would love to be a part of the family and do a fellowship with Sunbird and hopefully will be able to become a financial supporter as well in the future.



Motom Rajiya Debbarma
Motom is a sponsored student from Tripura, currently pursuing BA (Hons) at Loreto College Kolkata



OUR SPONSORED STUDENTS GOING PLACES



**Lammameilu
(Thoibi) Gangmei**

Hope Children Home along with Sunbird Trust worked hand in hand in my sports journey. I enrolled in the Mary Kom Boxing Academy, Imphal in April 2023. Sunbird Trust has been supplying all my needs i.e. Sports shoes, bags, track suits, sports bags, etc, and all her day-to-day needs. Recently, in the 1st Governor's Cup Boxing Championship 2023-24, held in Feb 2024, I won a gold medal in the Junior Boys and Girls category. It is because of the love I received from Hope Children Home and Sunbird Trust. Thank you for giving me hope and standing by me.

ZEPHTER BAGS **GOLD** AT NMA CHAMPIONSHIP 2023

We're thrilled to announce that in March 2023, **Zepther Bariamtak** bagged a gold medal at the National MMA Championship held at Kolkata in the LSFN (Last-man Standing Fight Night). Sunbird Trust sponsored his Mixed Martial Arts training and continues to support him as he gears up for his upcoming fight in April at the MFN (Matrix Fight Night) selections in Guwahati, the biggest Mixed Martial Arts platform in India. We wish him all the very best!



Watch Zepther in action!





Our first batch of 5th graders from Papikrung after their board exams.

SUNBIRD ALUMNI SOARING HIGH



From full-time Sunbirders to amplifying our reach by working with other development organisations to lawyers to engineers to nurses to agriculture specialists, Sunbird sponsored students are high flyers when they go out of our nests!



Catherine Sesa

completed her B.A from St Joseph's College Autonomous Bangalore and M.A (English) from Jyoti Nivas College Bangalore.



Stephen P

Stephen has completed a 1-year LLM from Chandigarh University, Punjab and is currently pursuing a course specializing in criminal law.



Talurang R

Post his Bachelors in Social Work, Talu joined Sunbird as an intern at our base school in Kachai. Next year, he will be pursuing a Masters in Education from Azim Premji University.

Co-founders Chris and Myrna Rego interacting with sponsored students at Bengaluru



My journey with Sunbird Trust has been nothing short of transformative. Sunbird Trust has been instrumental in shaping my educational and professional trajectory, and I am immensely grateful for the support and guidance I have received. I am from a remote Village in Manipur. It was a dream to get to study at a prestigious college in Bangalore City. After my 12th grade, Sunbird Trust provided me with the opportunity to pursue my graduation. Sunbird Trust not only supported me financially but also provided me with the mental strength and encouragement I needed to excel. Following my graduation, I embarked on a 7-month internship where I gained invaluable experience and honed my skills. Sunbird also helped me pursue my master's degree too, a feat that I had never imagined possible. I am forever grateful to Sunbird Trust for making it happen. I owe my success to the unwavering support and opportunities provided by Sunbird Trust.



549

sponsored
students are part of
our alumni

Baruisalu Onrwan

*Sunbird Sponsored student,
now Junior sponsorship Associate*

227

sponsored through
college this year

3

alumni are full-time
employees with us



HEAR FROM SOME OF OUR ALUMNI

After completing his BBA in Strategic Finance from St Joseph's University, Bangalore in 2022, **Bhawarlal Suthar** joined Geojit, a leading investment services provider as a junior equity dealer, but by dint of sheer hard work, was soon promoted as a Financial Consultant where he analyses and reviews portfolios of HNI (High Networth Individuals). His responsibilities include rendering advice on investments, studying and staying updated on market trends, and offering financial planning and risk mitigation solutions. Due to his excellent performance, Geojit recognized him as a star performer and has rewarded him with a trip to Indonesia and Vietnam. Bhawar's plans to concentrate on wealth management as his forte and soon intends to pursue an MBA.



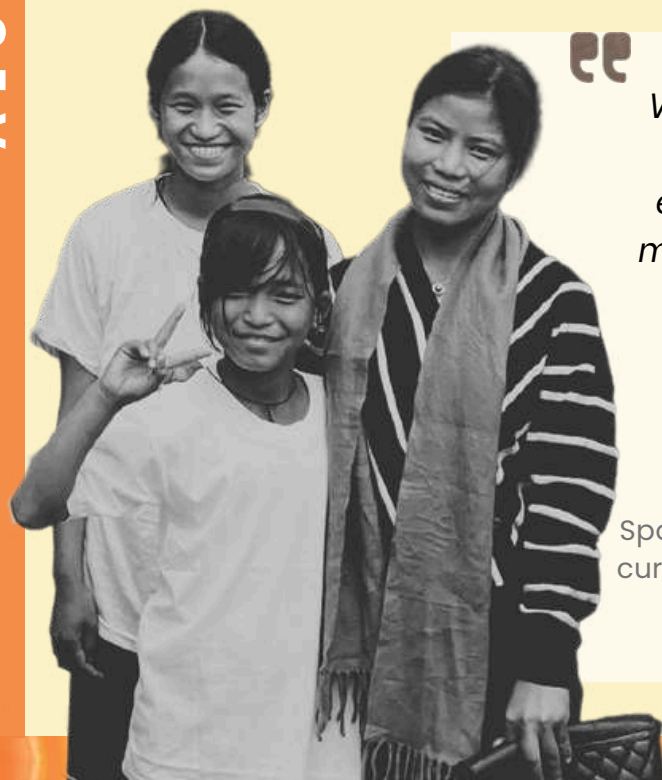
Working in the remote school in Papikrung was an alien experience to me. But, I gained more knowledge; taking up more responsibilities helped me understand myself and other cultures and their lifestyles!

Irish Bariamtak

Sponsored student from Ijeirong village, currently interning with us at Papikrung.

Hailing from Dimapur, Nagaland, **Lindsay Thonger** graduated in 2022 with an LLB from St. Joseph's College of Law, Bengaluru. With a keen interest in creative works, she chose to work in the field of Intellectual Property Rights.

She now works as an associate lawyer with an IP firm in Bangalore and is actively involved in dealing with current cases.



SPONSORED STUDENTS' EXPOSURE VISIT TO MANGALORE AND MEGHALAYA

What better way to connect with our sponsored students and instil in them a spirit of camaraderie and connection with Sunbird than over trips to unique places and bonding over experiences, laughter and good food?

Ten sponsored students from colleges across Bangalore and Mangalore joined us for an exposure visit to Mangalore in the second week of June, 2023. The students explored St. Aloysius Church, St. Aloysius Museum, Kudroli Temple, Pillikula Biological Park, Swami Vivekananda Planetarium; enjoyed boating at Chitrapura Beach; and relaxed at Tanir Bhavi, each experience providing educational and recreational value.

25 of our sponsored students from Don Bosco College Maram along with our team members went on a 7-day study tour to Meghalaya in May 2023. Most of these students had never moved out of their state; this exposure visit was a very enriching experience for them. They visited Elephant Falls, Cherrapunjee Waterfalls, Mawsmi Cave, Wards Lake, Golf Link ground, Don Bosco Museum and also visited the War Cemetery and the Cathedral in Kohima. This study tour was organized by Sunbird Trust in collaboration with the Assam Rifles.

MEGHALAYA





Diwali celebrations at Alpha Friendship School, Kachai.



The Kuki-Meitei conflict in Manipur has displaced more than 60,000 people. Team Sunbird hopes for communal harmony and peace amongst the various communities we live amidst.

DISTRIBUTION OF RELIEF MATERIAL TO MANIPUR'S DISPLACED

Sunbird Trust has always been at the forefront at the time of crisis be it during the Covid season in 2020-21 or now during the ongoing conflict in Manipur between the Kuki and the Meitei community. Since the beginning of the conflict in May 2023 hundreds of innocent lives have been lost while more than 60000 people have been displaced from their homes and are now residing in the numerous relief camps that have been established across Imphal and Churachandpur districts. Recognizing the immediate need of the Internally Displaced People (IDPs), Sunbird's team conducted an in-depth assessment across many relief camps to understand their pressing requirements of various relief material. Based on this assessment, Sunbird provided material spread over 7 relief distribution efforts, which included distributing medicines, clothing, bedding material, hygiene and sanitary products, winter clothes and items such as play material, stationery, baby food, shoes, diapers etc for children at the camps.

4
districts

98
relief camps



Peace-Building through Community Interventions



22297
RELIEF MATERIAL
beneficiaries

This year, the Meitei-Kuki conflict displaced the lives of more than 60,000 people, forcing them out of their homes to relief camps. With the **timely support of Goonj Foundation** and several other donors, we were able to provide them with the necessary essentials such as grocery, stationery, health and sanitation facilities.

*With the gracious support of **Schneider Foundation, Mrs. Almitra Patel, Axis Bank Ltd., Goonj Foundation,** and several other supporters, we were able to **positively impact the lives of 48,135 people.***



16702
SOLAR LAMP
beneficiaries

Thanks to Schneider Electric Foundation India and Hoshang Patel Tech Center, the homes of **39 villages** are lit up with solar lamps and street lights, positively impacting the lives of **more than 25,000 beneficiaries**. We travelled to the most remote of villages in Assam, Nagaland and Meghalaya with some of the most unforgiving roads to ensure the lights reach those who need it the most.



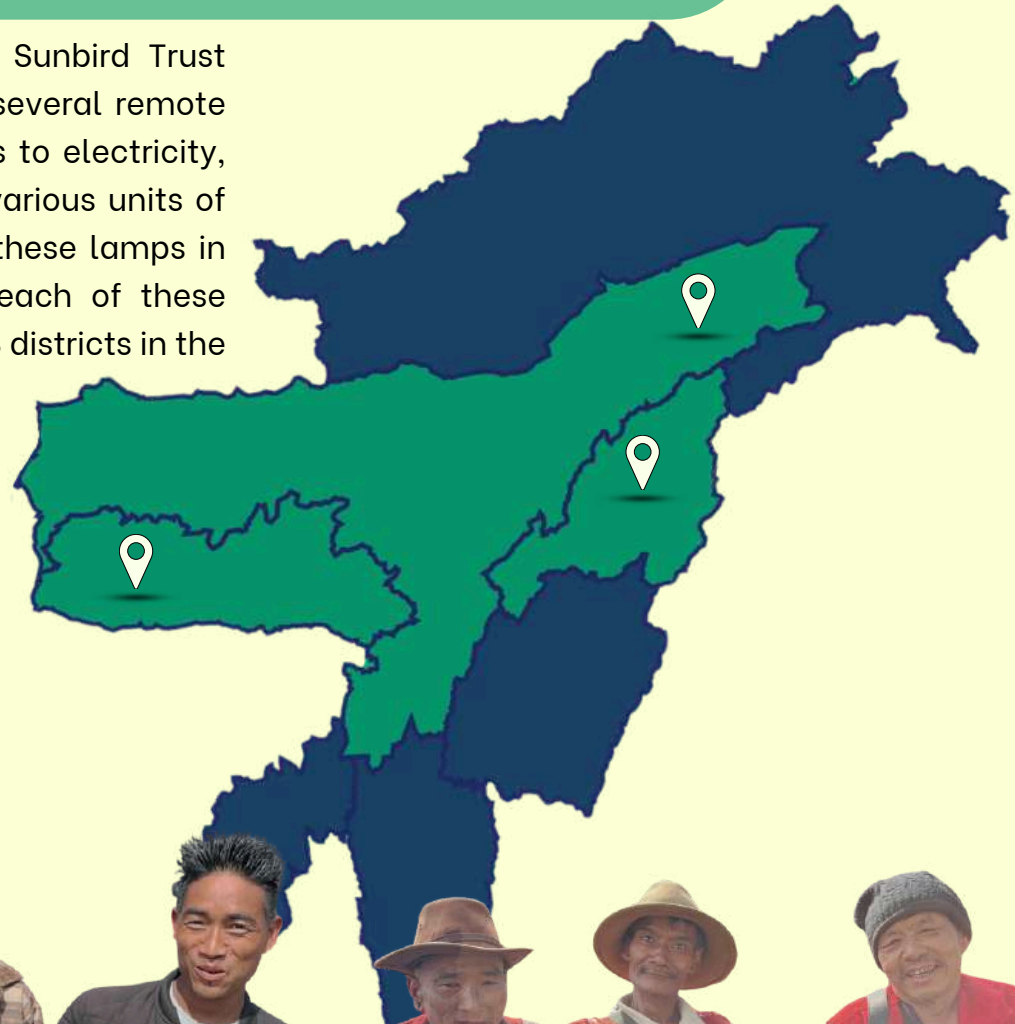
9136
SOLAR STREET LIGHT
beneficiaries





Schneider Foundation-sponsored Solar Lamp Distribution across 27 villages in Assam, Meghalaya and Nagaland

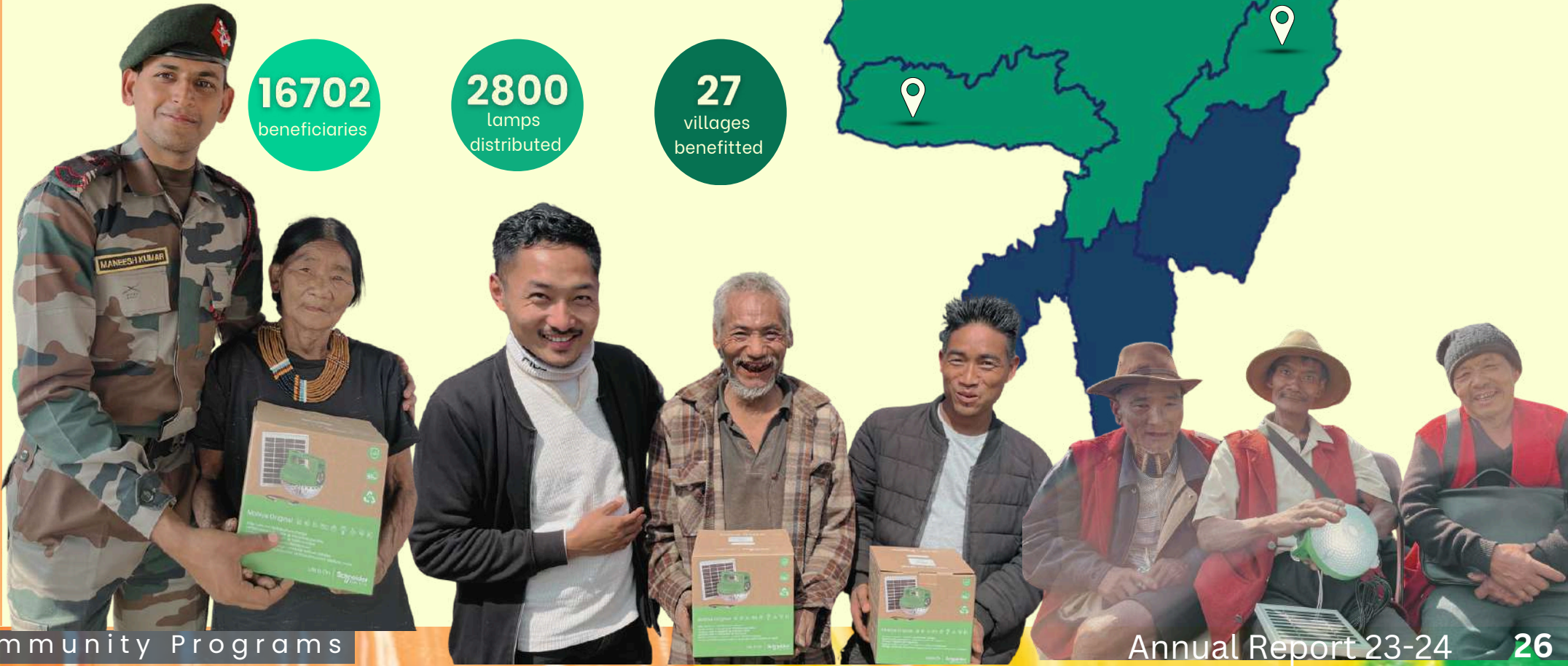
Thanks to the generous support of Schneider Electric Foundation, Sunbird Trust distributed portable solar lamps to 2800 households spread across several remote districts in Assam, Nagaland and Manipur. With limited or no access to electricity, these lamps were well-received by the villagers! Special thanks to various units of Assam Rifles for their smooth coordination during transportation of these lamps in remote villages and also for organising the lamp distribution in each of these villages. Previous year too Sunbird had distributed 1200 lamps across 8 districts in the state of Manipur and Assam benefiting more than 5804 individuals.



16702
beneficiaries

2800
lamps
distributed

27
villages
benefitted



LIGHTING UP REMOTE VILLAGES

From January to March, 2024, our team travelled to **12 of the most remote agri-based villages in Manipur and Nagaland** which had no access to electricity, and installed **200 street lights** here. These villages, nestled in remote hill areas, have long been deprived of basic infrastructure, such as street lighting. We were able to realize this initiative with the generous support of Mrs Almitra Patel; our shared vision to bring peace to conflict-affected areas of the northeast brought us together, impacting more than **9136 beneficiaries**. **Hoshang Patel Tech Centre** and the **Assam Rifles** played a crucial role in facilitating the entire project; from installation to material transportation from Dimapur to various destinations in Manipur and Nagaland to selecting the villages which needed the support the most.



9136
beneficiaries

200
street lights

12
villages

S.A.L.T FARM REAPS BOUNTIFUL HARVEST

40

FARMERS
BENEFITTED

10

KG HARVEST OF
SOYABEAN &
BROADBEAN

3

GOATS DELIVERED IN
DEMO FARM

The **Sloping Agriculture Land Technology (SALT)** Demonstration Farm of Sunbird Trust, located in Puichi, Noney district of Manipur, was initiated nearly 3 years ago. This endeavour has fruitfully resulted in a bountiful harvest of seasonal crops. This season delivered a diverse variety of crops such as carrots, beans, soybeans, gourds, maize, ginger, and turmeric, all cultivated amidst the contour hedgerows of nitrogen-fixing plants. Additionally, more than **150 saplings of various fruit trees** are thriving within this lush vegetation, promising long-term contributions to both production and protective canopy. The SALT Demonstration Farm and Training Centre is adeptly **managed by Kholi Anthony Lp** of Sunbird Trust, with the support of the SALT Committee in Puichi. This initiative is made possible through the **generous support of ANAHA Public Charitable Trust and Caring Friends**, Mumbai. We extend a **special thanks to David Gandhi** for his constant guidance & support in making SALT farming a success story. All this would not have been possible without his meticulous mentorship. SALT is a sustainable agroforestry system tailored to the unique agro-climatic conditions of the hilly regions in Northeast India. It is being expanded as a sustainable and **eco-friendly alternative to traditional Jhum cultivation** and monoculture plantations, which have been contributing to significant land degradation in the region.





MEDICAL HEALTH CAMP AT KANGPOKPI DISTRICT, MANIPUR



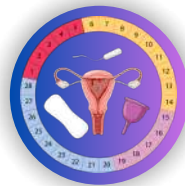
Sunbird Trust is delighted to share our recent mission in Leikop Village, Kangpokpi district, Manipur. We had the privilege of collaborating with the Kangpokpi district medical team to organize a significant health camp, which turned out to be one of our most impactful endeavors to date, reaching out to **120 families**. Our dedicated team provided essential medicines to **400 patients** and took care of the well-being of the village girls and mothers by distributing sanitary material and a Menstrupedia comic book to each. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the **We the Change** NGO from Delhi for their generous donation of sanitary pads.



400
PATIENTS



120
FAMILIES



MENSTRUPEDIA
comic book given
to each one



Shad Suk Mynsiem is celebrated in Meghalaya; the Khasi way of offering their thanks to the creator for all the blessings and bountiful harvests received – characterized by many symbolic rituals, dances and the best of traditional apparel. Shad Suk Mynsiem, ‘the dance of peaceful hearts’ is held during the month of April and is known for its visual delight of dances and the accompanying music.



PEACE BUILDING THROUGH
Infrastructural Development

15

INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS
UNDERTAKEN IN 2023-24

Vafiimail Friendship Hostel, Laii village, Manipur

ESSENTIAL AMENITIES ERECTED AT HOPE CHILDREN HOME, MANIPUR

On the 1st of February, 2024, we inaugurated essential new facilities at Hope Children Home in Khumji Village, Noney District, Manipur. A **kitchen**, a **toilet block**, and a **water system** was built for the students. Sunbird Trust has been a pillar of support for the children’s home since 2019, providing regular financial assistance each month. Under the stewardship of Mr. Gangaimei, the home offers a haven for orphan and semi-orphan children.



TOILET BLOCKS AT MAJULI PARTNER SCHOOLS

Between May and July 2023, we inaugurated a total of **6 toilet blocks** (27 units) at 4 of our Partner Schools in Majuli. In most of these schools, especially the ones with hostel facilities, students face dire challenges with unavailability of clean and hygienic toilets in the school. These newly constructed toilet blocks are a significant step towards improving the sanitary conditions for the students, ensuring they have access to clean and safe facilities. The positive feedback from the students and staff has been overwhelming. They have expressed gratitude and shared stories of how these facilities have already begun to transform their daily school experience. This initiative is a testament to what can be achieved when communities come together with a shared vision of progress and well-being.



Majuli Gurukul Academy



Karchang Public School



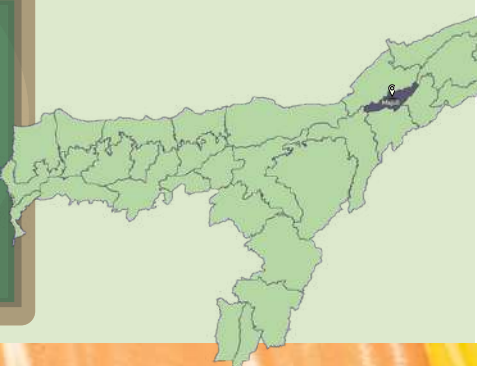
Vivekananda Vidyalaya



Arda Public School

Inauguration Dates

- Vivekananda Vidyalaya - 15 May '23
- Karchang Public School - 16 May '23
- Majuli Gurukul Academy - 31 May '23
- Arda Public School - 6 July '23

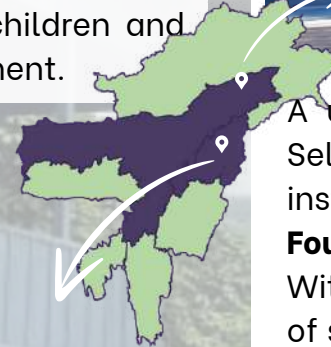




SETTING UP SOLAR GRID AT COMMUNITY SCHOOL IN ASSAM RUN BY EX-PHYSICIST, CERN

INAUGURATION OF CHILDREN'S CENTER AT NOKLAK, NAGALAND

Under the aegis of Sunbird Trust and in association with Miraculum Society, the **Creative Friendship Centre for Children** Noklak, Nagaland was inaugurated on 8th July 2023 by Sunbird Trust founders, Col. Chris & Mrs. Myrna Rego. The Centre, meant to be a library, tuition/coaching centre and space to instil creative skills in the local children is the brainchild of Vikuonu Sachu, a former Miss Nagaland, who has just completed her graduation. Sunbird Trust looks forward to this epoch-making, transformative and path-breaking collaborative venture with the Miraculum Society in changing the lives of children and youths through education and community involvement.



A unique community school in a tea estate in Assam, the Selenghat Valley School, gets its first-ever solar panel installed! Under Sunbird's request, **Chirag Rural Development Foundation** funded a 3KW solar hybrid system in the school. With this solar panel in place, a total of **80 persons** consisting of students and teachers of the school, **will be benefited**. As it was the first solar panel installation in the rural areas of Selenghat, Envo Renewable Energy Services Pvt. Limited, the company in charge of the installation, also educated the community about the value of solar power and how best to utilize it. Through this off-grid solar system, the children will learn about energy conservation, and enhance the feasibility of affordable quality education to the community, amid some much-needed respite from the scorching summer heat. We are grateful to Chirag Rural Development Foundation for uplifting children's education in an area where electricity was a distant dream.



50,000-LTR WATER TANK INAUGURATED AT IJEIRONG



HDFC - SUNBIRD TRUST FRIENDSHIP WATER TANK
Ijeirong Village, Noney District, Manipur

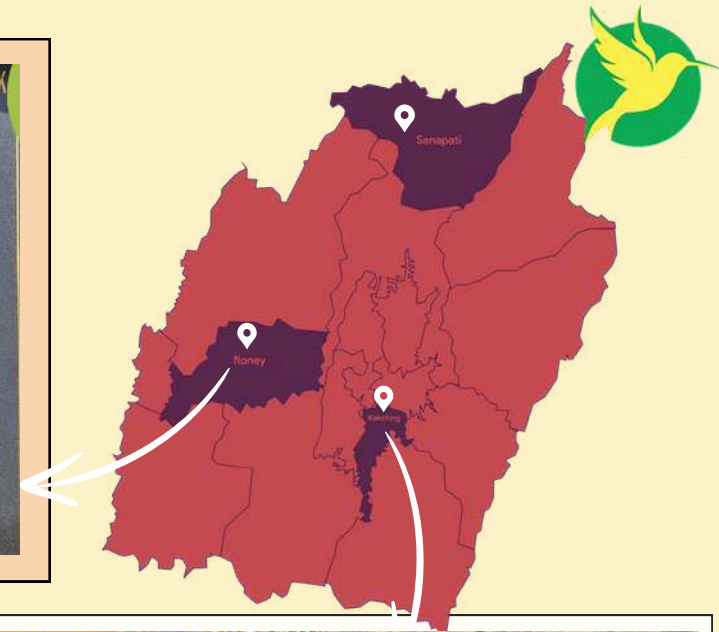
Sponsored by
HT Parekh Foundation

Through the aegis of
Sunbird Trust

Inaugurated by
Col. Christopher Rego (Retd.)
Founder & CEO of Sunbird Trust

In the presence of
Sirei Bariamtak, Chairman
&
NK Zenithan, Secretary
Ijeirong Village Authority

Inaugurated on 11th April 2023



Sunbird Trust inaugurated **Vafiimai Friendship Hostel**, in Laii village of Senapati district—in April 2023. The hostel was funded through the efforts of Sunbird Trust and the Learn for Life Foundation.



A newly-built **toilet block, sponsored by Prestige Group**, was inaugurated at **Yapaal Friendship Hostel** in Kakching, Manipur, by Col. Christopher Rego, Founder of Sunbird Trust. The new toilet block consists of 4 toilets and 2 bathrooms.

Peace building

COLLABORATIONS WITH ASSAM RIFLES AND THE ARMED FORCES



HELPING LIGHT UP THE LIVES OF MORE THAN 30 VILLAGES

With the generous support of two of our donors, Schneider Electric Foundation and Haoshang Patel Tech Foundation, we procured **3000 solar lamps and solar street lights** for **39 of the most remote villages in Assam, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Manipur**. These lamps will positively impact the lives of **more than 25000 people**. This was made possible only because of the support of the Assam Rifles, who aided us in selecting the most remote villages with no access to electricity and in transportation and distribution of the lamps to the beneficiaries.



STRENGTHENING BORDER VILLAGE SCHOOLS

Last year, we adopted a government school in one of the most remote villages of Shi-Yomi district in Arunachal Pradesh, close to the Indo-China border. The Indian Army has been instrumental in strengthening and shaping this school into one of the most sought-after schools in the Monigong circle of Shi-Yomi. Govt. Residential School Papikrung, which had only 19 children enrolled in 2022 before Sunbird Trust adopted the school has now grown to 95 strong, almost hitting its maximum capacity of 100. The 11 Engineers, under the aegis of the 5 Mtn Brigade headquartered in Aalo, have graciously **helped construct a shelter which now serves as a hostel for 40 children**. Apart from that, they have also **donated colourful bunk beds, mattresses, a projector and screen, stationery, sweaters** and lots more goodies for the tiny tots at Papikrung.





The Nul-Ding Kut festival, a Biate tradition on January 11, marks the renewal of life and forgiveness. Ancestors saw it as the start of a new year.



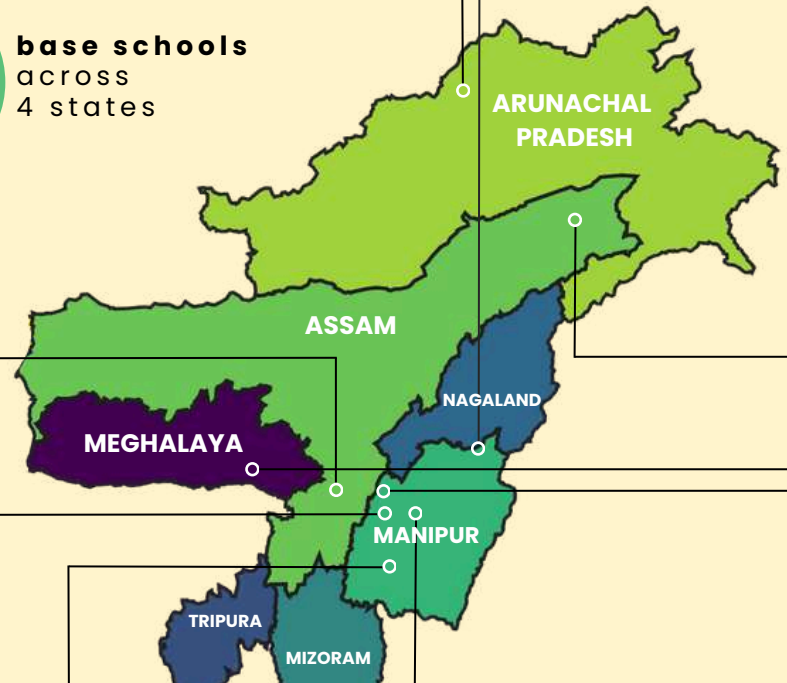
PEACE BUILDING THROUGH EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES



Team members are placed at each of our base schools and work full-time on building the capacity of the founders, staff and the local communities!

9

base schools
across
4 states



GOVT. RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL, PAPIKRUNG



ALPHA FRIENDSHIP SCHOOL, KACHAI



HAITE MEMORIAL FRIENDSHIP SCHOOL MUALDAM



MAJULI GURUKUL ACADEMY, MAJULI



PAANGKRIANG FRIENDSHIP SCHOOL IJEIRONG



LYZON FRIENDSHIP SCHOOL SINGNGAT



HOPE FRIENDSHIP ACADEMY KABUIKHULLEN



SUNGCHAM FRIENDSHIP SCHOOL PUICHI



DEW DROPS ACADEMY NONGSHKEN



2024

One more baseline study done and reports for the 5 STP schools prepared and shared; Action planning done and milestones set for each school along with program team and founder/principal.

2020

Base school count grows to 7. Assistant School Leaders / Lead Teachers placed in the schools.



2022

Building theory of change for the School Transformation Program. Baseline Pilot for program done in 7 base schools by M&E team.



2023

Finalised program structure for the STP. Baseline study done in 4 base schools.



whole school focus.

SCHOOL AS A UNIT OF CHANGE

2016

Team member placed at PFS to build capacity of school.



2018

Sunbird grows to 5 base schools.



2014

Inception of Sunbird Trust. Partnership with Paangkriang Friendship School (PFS), Ijeirong begins.

SCHOOL TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM

SCHOOL TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM

A PROGRAMMATIC APPROACH TO SCHOOL INTERVENTION



STUDENT GROWTH

Education is not just limited to fulfilling academic objectives. It goes beyond to encompass a child's overall well-being including social emotional education and value education. The School Transformation Program focuses on student growth beyond the textbook; to incorporate values and mindsets and ability to articulate about oneself and the world.

PROGRAM GOAL

To transform under-resourced affordable private schools in conflict-affected or underserved regions in North-east India into **schools of excellence** and **ambassadors of peace**.

It is crucial to upgrade teachers with innovative pedagogical practices. The trainings must be designed to cultivate a heightened awareness of modern educational and leadership practices; it will have a positive impact on the quality of school leadership and pedagogy in the medium term and enhanced student learning outcomes in the long term.

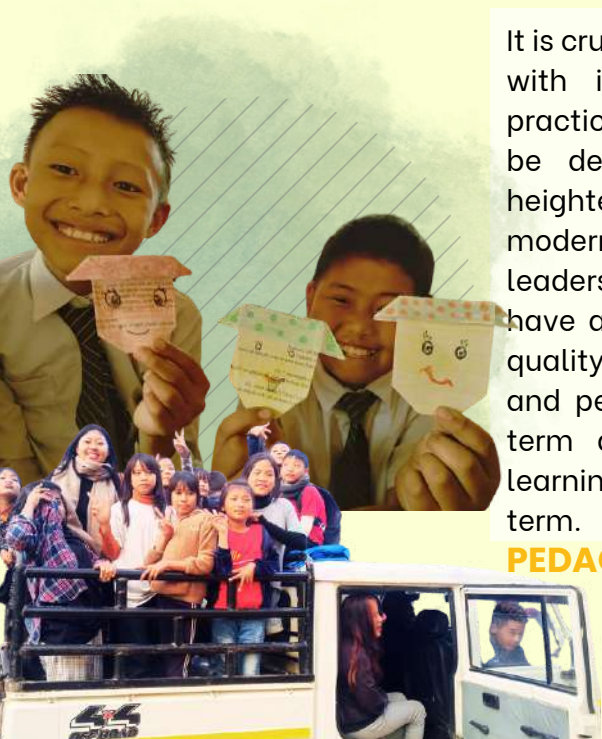
PEDAGOGICAL PROFICIENCY

Students, when empowered to assume leadership roles, can play a pivotal role in driving the success of a school that is genuinely committed to a student-centric model of education. Student leadership not only fosters a sense of ownership but also encourages students to actively share responsibilities with teachers, parents, and school leaders in their educational journey and personal growth. Student leaders serve as exemplary role models for their fellow learners, thus creating a continuous cycle of responsible and engaged students.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

To achieve long-term success in under-resourced affordable private schools it becomes imperative to enhance the skills and knowledge of school leaders to ensure that schools align their strategies with modern requirements in areas such as curriculum development, administration, stakeholder engagement, pedagogical approaches, and student development.



SPONSOR

COMMUNITY

BUILD

EDUCATE

EMPOWER

FIRST ORIGINAL MUSIC VIDEO OUT!



Join us in celebrating the amazing journey of the Friendship band from Paangkriang Friendship Academy. Our students have come together to create their first original music video, **Never Give Up**, under the guidance of Siam Paite, the Music and Sports Incharge at the school with the unwavering support of Sunbird Trust and Furtados Music, who contributed over 80 musical instruments. The Music Academy has flourished since 2019 and the students now have the tools they need to shine. Today, we proudly present the result of dedication, talent, and collaboration, a musical journey that showcases the incredible potential of these young minds.



STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS HELD IN 3 BASE SCHOOLS

Student leadership is a major component of Sunbird Trust's **School Transformation Program**. The program aims at building leadership qualities and decision making skills in students. In 3 of our base schools; Alpha Friendship School (AFS), Lyzon Friendship School (LFS) and Majuli Gurukul Academy (MGA), student council elections were held. In the coming year, the schools will be focusing on strengthening the role of the student council in school activities without teacher intervention.



Student Council Elections at AFS



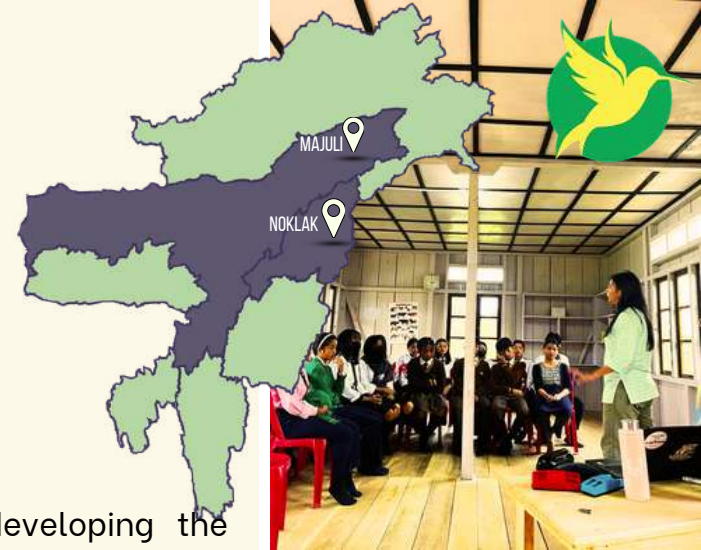
Student Council Elections at LFS



Student Council at MGA



IN-HOUSE FRIENDSHIP AND PEACE CURRICULUM PILOTTED IN 5 SCHOOLS



At Sunbird we focus on developing the socio-emotional skills of students. The Sunbird Friendship and Peace curriculum aims to foster healthy relationships and problem solving skills in children. The pilot curriculum was facilitated by Lead Teachers Amghali Achumi and Kezia Serto at Miraculum Society, Noklak and Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Majuli across 5 schools, impacting more than 60 students from Grades 8 to 10.

The curriculum comprises of six sessions conducted in the following order, each addressing a different topic; Stakeholders in Peace building, Diversity in culture - local, Non-violence, Gender Sensitization, Diversity in culture - National, and Environmental Responsibility.



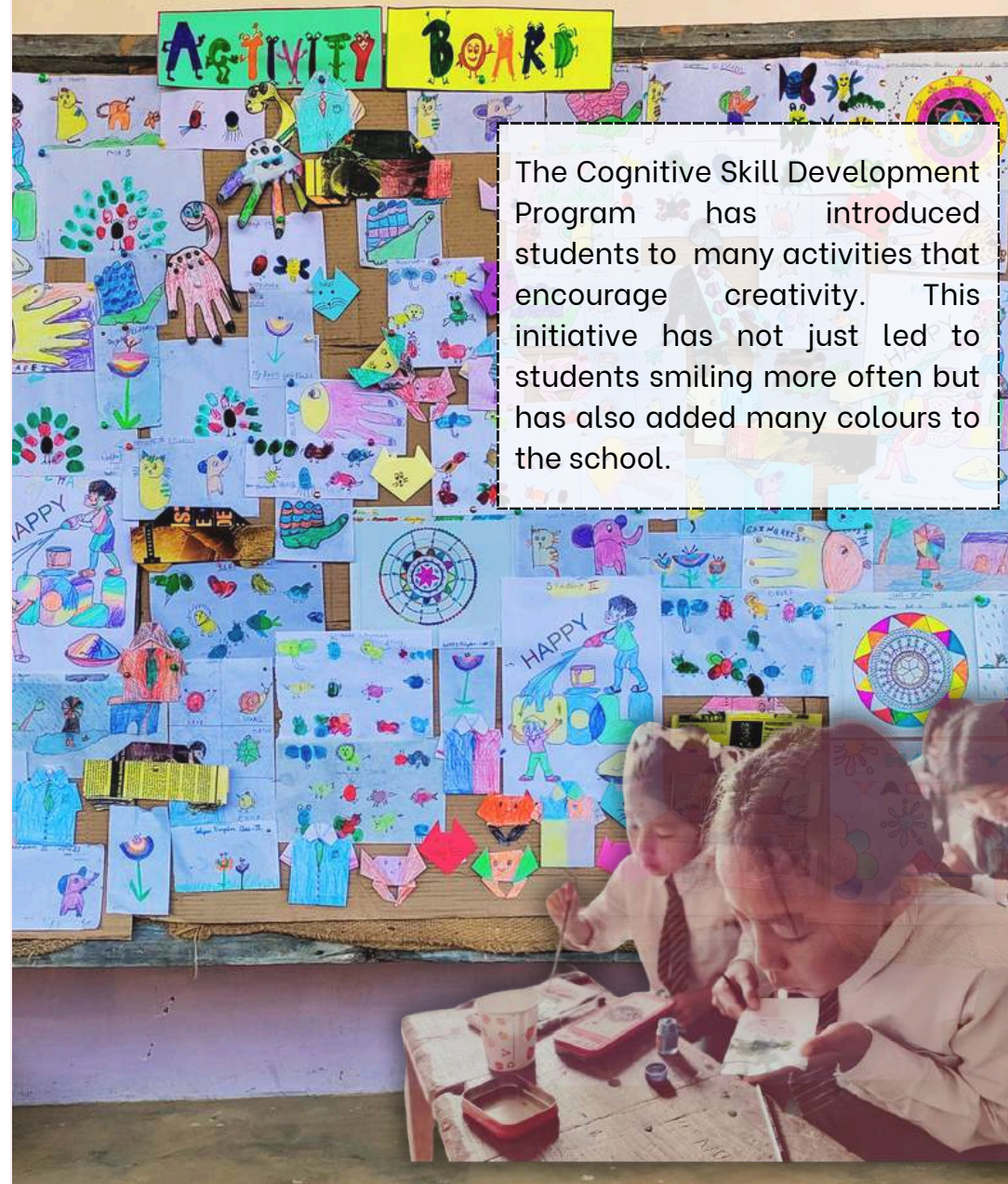


PLASTIC POLICE MAKING ROUNDS AT HMFS, MUALDAM

Two campus initiatives, the Plastic Police and Toilet Police, encourage student involvement in promoting sustainability and cleanliness. The Plastic Police aim to reduce plastic usage, while the Toilet Police focus on toilet maintenance. These efforts teach students about environmental stewardship and community responsibility, resulting in improved campus cleanliness.



Cognitive skill development program at AFS, Kachai



The Cognitive Skill Development Program has introduced students to many activities that encourage creativity. This initiative has not just led to students smiling more often but has also added many colours to the school.

IN THIS BORDER VILLAGE SCHOOL, CHILDREN LEARN BY DOING

When children see the practical application of concepts they learn in school, they are apt to remember them better and what's more? These exciting activities instil in children a joy to learn and a curious bend of mind. In Government Residential School, Papikrung, the team introduced experiential learning modules this year. From Gardening to Making handicraft and fences to Working in the kitchen and learning new recipes, children have a ball of a time! Educating the heart, mind and the body was never so much fun. Children are super glad to realise the interdependence of their activities as the ingredients for their meal is contributed by the kitchen gardens they have planted.

With the help of community members, the school has also constructed a compost pit and dustbins for waste segregation. Equipped with a new awareness of cleanliness and waste management, they even undertook a waste rally on Gandhi Jayanthi in the village.





21ST CENTURY SKILL BUILDING THROUGH AUDIO VISUAL CLASSES

In collaboration with The Apprentice Project, Sunbird has organised skill building classes in 2 of our base schools on STEM education, Dance and Financial Literacy classes, taught through audio and visual and media!

Sunbird Trust has collaborated with The Apprentice Project to introduce 21st-century skills to schools. The Apprentice Project, operated by the MentorMe Foundation, seeks to empower disadvantaged students by providing them with crucial 21st-century skills through the utilization of TAP Buddy, an AI-driven WhatsApp chatbot. TAP aims to equip students with the necessary resources to thrive in our rapidly changing global environment.

Haite Memorial Friendship School collaborated with The Apprentice Project (TAP) to improve student learning by offering dance and coding sessions for students in grades 4 to 8. Led by 2 teachers, this partnership combined artistic expression with technical skills, providing students with a unique and enriching learning experience to foster creativity and develop essential skills for the future.

At **Majuli Gurukul Academy**, TAP classes commenced on February 10, 2024, as part of the 'In school' program. Within this program, teachers receive personalized guidance videos from TAP Buddy and conduct weekly sessions for students in the school. Presently, the school has enrolled in three distinct TAP Buddy classes for grades 4 to 8, totaling 49 students. These classes encompass STEM lab sessions for Science, Dance and Financial literacy classes. Each class is complemented by engaging activities that students participate in, under the supervision of teachers.



53 STUDENTS FROM MAJULI PARTICIPATE IN ROHAN BOPANNA TENNIS ACADEMY TRIALS

Upon selection, the students will get trained at the Academy in Bengaluru

Rohan Bopanna Tennis Academy launched the Bhoomi program which targets underprivileged children in Maharashtra and the North-eastern regions. Upon selection, the students will get trained in the prestigious academy along with a scholarship to pursue their high school education in a private school in Bengaluru. 53 students along with 13 adults traveled to Guwahati for the screening under the leadership of world champion tennis icon Mr. Rohan Bopanna.



**SPORTS
EVENTS
AT OUR
SCHOOLS**



AFS MAKES WAVES AT UKHRUL DISTRICT INTER SCHOOL SPORTS ASSOCIATION (UDISSA)

AFS students clinched top positions in three disciplines in UDISSA held at Ngainga Village; Our students excelled in sports, music, and dance.

This achievement was a collective effort, made possible by the community and parents, and Assam Rifles for their generous donation of sports materials.



AFS girls' volleyball team after clinching first place at UDISSA



BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF OUR TEACHERS



EMPOWER: TEACHER TRAINING



Teacher Orientation and multiple teacher training sessions done through the year on goal setting, lesson planning, bloom's taxonomy, assessments creation and more, at our base school AFS, Kachai.

HMFS, MUALDAM



Sunbird Trust, in collaboration with Gender Lab and Bodhana NGO, conducted a workshop on 'How We Raise Our Boys' for two batches of our partner school teachers. The sessions focused on masculinities, gender, and sexuality.

DEW DROPS ACADEMY

Objectives	Action Verbs for constructing Questions
Knowledge (K)	Define, what, which, find, identify, label, list, locate, memorize, state, write, name, order, recall, record, repeat, reproduce, select, underline, tell, recognize, writes, state, etc.
Understanding (U)	Explain, why, how, compare, interpret, outline, discuss, predict, restate, translate, describe, express, infer, summarize, illustrate, differentiate, classify, etc.
Application (A)	Create, invent, develop, reason, design, solve, analyse, use, compose, construct, complete, examine, demonstrate, dramatize, apply, employ, formulate, prepare, produce, show, suggest, predict, judge, generalize, verify, estimate, etc.
Skill	Draw, sketch, measure, handle, calculate, read, etc.

Dr. Father Stephen, Principal of Don Bosco High School in CCpur, trained teachers on Classroom Management, the creation assessments focusing on knowledge, understanding, and skill application.

AFS, KACHAI

The teacher training sessions in this academic year were conducted on various topics like time management, behavioural management, leadership in teaching and innovative teaching methods.



MAJULI

Project Flight, a 2-month language teaching workshop, facilitated by The Hummingbird School, Majuli for our partner school language teachers.



Teacher training by Founder

LFS, SINGGAT

110 teachers

Partner/base school teachers training PARTICIPATED IN



BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF SCHOOL LEADERS



9 school leaders

Exposure visit, Computer training & School leader workshop. PARTICIPATED IN

- 9 school leaders across 13 of our partner schools in Majuli and Dhemaji districts
- Participated in an exposure visit to Selengat valley school (SVS), a community-run model school founded by Arjun Trivedi;
 - Underwent an 8-day computer training by Computer Shiksha; &
 - Participated in a 3-day school leader workshop organised by Sunbird Trust.

EMPOWER: SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

Computer Shiksha training



Sunbird Trust has partnered with Computer Shiksha to establish computer labs in all our partner schools. Post the training, these labs will be established, complete with laptops, desktops and magic boxes in selected schools. In the sessions, the teachers are trained to run these labs. As the labs take shape, we plan to send more of our partner institution representatives for such trainings.

20 laptops

14 desktops

6 magic boxes

Exposure visit to SVS



Nestled amidst the tea gardens of Teok Jorhat, SVS stands as a beacon of child-centric, holistic education. The principals learned about the schools' unique teaching methodologies and its impact on students' well-being. One of the teachers demonstrated the self-built Mathematical curriculum used in the classroom.

School Leader Workshop



Adapted from the Firki School Leadership Program, the 3-day workshop included sessions on vision setting and pedagogical leadership, apart from budgeting, documentation and reporting structures. All the participants either 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that the workshop sessions were useful and engaging. The NPS (net promoter score) for individual sessions averaged 78, the NPS for the overall workshop 100.

My heart rises in gratitude towards Sunbird and it's team. The week-long training has inspired me to train the children and a keen interest has been instilled into me for learning and teaching computer. Thank you Sunbird!

Bharjiniya Narzary Pathori, Vice-Principal, Little Flower Friendship School

It was so energetic and engaging. Feel so reassured to run my school. Received a complete guidance as a school leader. Had a deeper understanding and sharing of ups and downs with my principal friends during the free hours. Feeling of being attached and supported grew to a higher level.

STRENGTHENING RELATIONS WITH THE COMMUNITY

While it takes a village to raise a child, It surely takes a community to raise a school! From lending a helping hand in the school to being proactively involved in discussions regarding children and the school's holistic development to ensuring multiple voices in school decision-making, productive community participation plays a crucial role in school governance, and enhances accountability and transparency. We also conduct regular parent teacher meetings to stay in touch with parents and keep them abreast of their child's learning levels. Additionally, most of our schools have an elected School Management Committee (SMC) in place. In the coming year, all our base schools will have an SMC set up in their schools and they will be involved in creating a School Development Plan.

Sunbird team members joyously immerse themselves in the local practices, culture and food, as a way to bring them closer to the stakeholders on the ground!





Sunbird Trust's Majuli Team was warmly received at Kulamua Village on 14th February 2024 for the celebration of 'Ali-Aye-Ligang'. This spring festival, significant to the Mising or Mishing tribal communities of Assam and neighboring northeastern states, heralds the commencement of Ahu paddy sowing. Observed on the first Wednesday of the Phagun month (mid-February), 'Ali-Aye-Ligang' unites the community in a shared celebration of agricultural beginnings.



CELEBRATING A TRAILBLAZER

We are thrilled to announce that our founder, Col. Chris Rego, has been honored with the prestigious award for Best Alumni Entrepreneurship at Xavier’s Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship (XIME). Col. Rego’s dedication to social entrepreneurship and his service to humanity has been widely recognized and admired within the XIME community and beyond. His time at XIME, where he completed his Master’s in Management, has clearly made a significant impact. Receiving the highest number of votes in the Best Alumni in Entrepreneurship category, Col. Rego’s achievement is a clear indication of the respect and admiration he has garnered over the years.

OUR SOCIAL MEDIA AND BRANDING GOT A MAKEOVER

The North East
Is Evolving.
So Are We!





Presenting
A New
Visual Identity...




...With The
Same Values
At Heart!



More News

Sunbird Trust provides relief materials

Sunbird has reached out to displaced persons at relief camps in Bishnupur and Imphal districts.

By IFP Bureau UPDATED 3 SEPT 2023, 10:



Sunbird Trust, a Civil Society Organisation working with the motto of Peace through Education across Manipur state, has reached out to displaced persons in camps in Bishnupur and Imphal Districts with critically required relief materials.



Sunbird Trust NGO in relief material hawmkhia

Lamka, Sep-8: Sunbird Trust kichi NGO ten 'Peace through Education' chih thupi paiph in ran in Lamka a om relief centre 9 ah hawmkhia ubi. Sunbird Trust NGO ten mipa paimawh laiak a relief material a hawmkhia ziaon un mipa sik-le-tang in Dharun Xumar, DC Lamka in amung ah kipathu gen hi.

Sunbird Trust in relief material a piakna uh relief camp 9-te ECA Church, M.Songgel, Martin Luther Academy, New Zoveng, Don Bosco School, Chiengkon, St.Paul Institute, Gochinkhup Veng, Youth Hostel, Immanuel Community Hall, Evergreen School, Tongstara, Bijang Loubuk, Zoveng leh St. Joseph School, Singngat hi ohi. Relief centre paiph na piak a omah bel camp in-charge tungtawn a telhhiak a om ahobanah huaste ah blanket, mattress, mosquito net, emergency lamp, Paval, alla, soyabean, sachau (cooking oil), chani, milk powder, singpile (tea leaves) phusman, malix, Lactogen, Cerecax, Baby diaper, Adult diaper, sanitary pads, tooth brush, tooth paste, saboon (soap), surf, shampoos, first aid box, exercise books, pencils, crayons, carrom, football leh volleyball hi kigen hi.

Relief material hawmkhia hun in Mannuamching IAS Relief Nodal Officer, Lamka leh Lamunlal Simla, MCS, SDO, Lamka banah langchouhang Taithul Principal & Founder of Lyxzon Friendship School, Kum Paite, former team member of Sunbird Trust, ZYO, KOL leh YVA ten kithuapoh ubi.

Relief material hi bel Col (Retd) Christopher Rego, Founder and CEO of Sunbird Trust panlakna ziak a kshawmkhe thei ha'n kigen hi. Sunbird's major supporter and donor bel Axis Bank Ltd hi a, Axis Bank Ltd in-join-4 apaxa in North East India ah Sunbird tungtawn in paiph na tuammun hawmkhia ubi.

Manipur - Sunbird Trust Provides Relief Materials in Churachandpur

News, Manipur

Sunbird Trust Provides Relief Materials in Churachandpur

By DIO Churachandpur - September 8, 2023 221

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Sunbird Trust, an NGO working with the Motto 'Peace through Education' across the Northeast India provided critically required relief materials to the displaced people in violence-hit Churachandpur District, Manipur on Thursday the 7th September, 2023, in 9 relief centres spread across Churachandpur district.

The relief camps, that benefitted from this distribution were ECA Church at M.Songgel, Martin Luther Academy at New Zoveng, Don Bosco School at Chiengkon, St.Paul Institute at Gochinkhup Veng, Youth Hostel, Immanuel Community Hall, Evergreen School at Tongdam, Bijang Loubuk at Zoveng and St.Joseph School at Singngat.

The relief materials distributed were selected after conducting a need survey with the respective camps and in close consultation with the displaced persons and the camp in-charge. The distributed items included blankets, mattresses, mosquito nets, emergency lamp, dal, potato, soyabean, cooking oil, sugar, milk powder, tea leaves, onion, chilli, Lactogen, Cerecax, Baby diaper, Adult diaper, sanitary pads, tooth brush, tooth paste, soap, surf, shampoos, first aid boxed, exercise books, pencils, crayons, carroms, footballs and volleyballs.

Govt inks MoA with Sun Bird Trust to boost edn sector

March 9, 2024



ITANAGAR, 8 Mar: The state government signed a memorandum of agreement (MoA) with Bangalore-based non-profit organisation Sun Bird Trust on Friday.

On behalf of the education department, Education Secretary Pige Ligu signed the MoA, in the presence of Education Commissioner Amjad Tak.

The trust is now operating one residential school in Papi Kurung in Shi-Yomi district on the public-private partnership (PPP) mode.

The initiative, spearheaded by Assembly Speaker PD Sona, aims to enhance the educational infrastructure and quality of learning in the region.

Through this partnership, five government schools in Shi-Yomi district have been selected for adoption. These are Govt Secondary School, Monigong; Govt Upper Primary School, Yapik; Govt Residential School, Karo; Gov Residential School, Lungte; and Govt Residential School, Rapum.

Sona expressed gratitude to the Sun Bird Trust for its commitment to the cause of education.

Ligu reiterated the government's dedication to providing quality education to every child, and emphasised the importance of PPP in achieving this goal.

Tak affirmed the department's readiness to facilitate the implementation of the adoption programme.

He highlighted the significance of community participation in fostering a culture of learning and innovation in schools.

"The signing of the MoA marks the beginning of a transformative journey for the adopted schools and sets a precedent for future collaborations aimed at uplifting the education sector in the region," said an official release.

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