

# THE SIRRI SAQTI FOUNDATION

## SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

JULY 2012 – JUNE 2013

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*‘Better to light a candle than to curse the darkness’*

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2, Rajmohan Street, Kolkata 700073

Phone: +91-33-22350008

Email: [tssf@saqti.org](mailto:tssf@saqti.org)

[www.saqti.org](http://www.saqti.org)



## THE FOUNDATION

**The Sirri Saqti Foundation is a registered Public Charitable Trust formed on 1 June 2012. The Trust is named after the Great Sufi Saint Hazrat Sirri Saqti.**

One of Hazrat Sirri Saqti's saying which inspires us:

*"Be like the sun which sheds its light on all;  
Be like the earth which sustains the burdens of all;  
Be like the water which enlivens hearts of all".*

**The Trust is a humble attempt to carry out social development activities for our fellow citizens irrespective of religion, caste, colour and creed.**

## BROAD AREAS OF WORK

### **RAAHAT :**

Serving the needy through food distribution, medical assistance and other welfare activities.

### **REHBAR :**

Helping poor families come out of poverty through guidance, (interest free) loans and regular support for small entrepreneurship initiatives.

### **ROSHNI :**

Working with schools and children to encourage education, skill development and capacity development of the youth.

## TRUSTEES

### **1. Dr. Mahmood Yacoob:**

A medical doctor and social welfare worker, he is the bedrock of the giving spirit and the guiding direction for the Foundation

### **2. CA Abdul Rahim:**

A Chartered Accountant and Management Consultant working with the government and International Development agencies for public sector reforms and social development projects, he is the inspiration for TSSF.

### **3. Mr. Zulfikar Ali Niyazi**

A graduate with diverse work experience, he is the passion and energy fuelling various initiatives of the Foundation.



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## SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

July 2012 – June 2013

### Weekly Breakfast Distribution

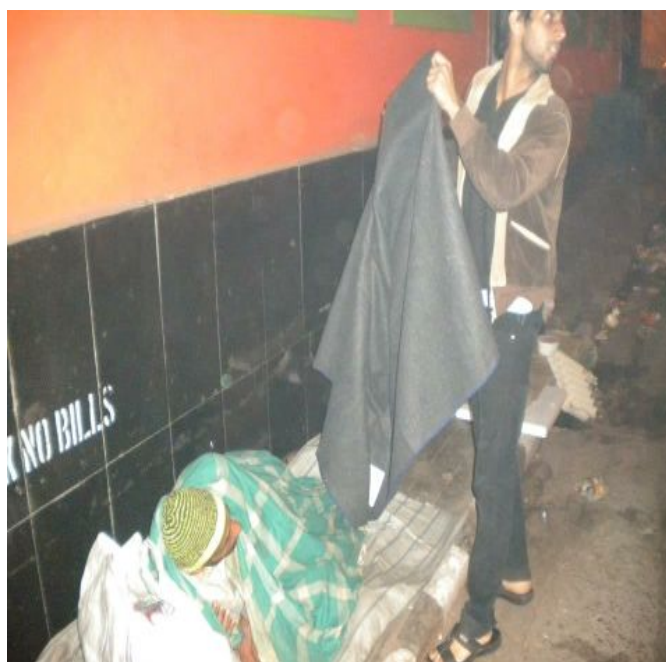
Every Sunday, even before the sun rises, The Sirri Saqti Foundation (TSSF) starts preparing for the weekly distribution of breakfast that reaches out to the poor and needy people. TSSF distributes basic items i.e. Bread, Banana, Biscuit to the people living in footpath and slums of Kolkata. The areas covered are Raja Bazaar, Shyambazar and slums of Howrah and C.I.T Road where children are seen eagerly waiting for TSSF volunteers to arrive with their breakfast. TSSF tries to bring smile on the face of the few with this effort.





## Blanket Distribution in Winter

In the chilly December of 2012, temperatures dropped to 11 degrees in Kolkata. When the unbearable cold and gusty winds made life difficult for those staying on footpaths, TSSF along with the volunteers distributed blankets to people sleeping on sidewalks and footpaths. The junior members of the trust took active part and on an average 400 blankets were distributed. The distribution was made within the city as well as in areas of Basirhat, outskirts of West Bengal where it was believed that the temperatures touched 6 degrees. With this initiative of TSSF relief was provided to many people from the shivering cold.



## Daily Food Distribution

TSSF undertakes distribution of dinner packets on a daily basis to the poor and hungry people. Even a hectic days work cannot put down the zeal and enthusiasm of the TSSF volunteers from serving the society. Every night TSSF volunteers are found distributing dinner packets to the needy.





## Medical Care Initiative - SHIFA

The Sirri Saqti Foundation has taken up the responsibility of Shamsad Alam, a young boy of 8 years in Champdani, Hooghly who is suffering from Nephrotic Syndrome. This is a rare disease with no cure and which needs expensive medicines to manage. TSSF came across his need from an appeal for help in a newspaper. The volunteers visited his home and found that he is living with his aged grandparents with no source of regular income. Hence, the Foundation adopted his case with monthly visits, provision of prescribed medicines and doctor visits. We have taken him for specialist advice to Rotary Club Nephrology Centre in Salt Lake as well as to a renowned Homoeopathic Doctor for alternative medical advice. With TSSF's support, his grandparents are also relieved and Shamsad's health is also improving.



## World Environment Day – Cleanliness Drive

A Cleanliness Drive was undertaken on World Environment Day, 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2013 by TSSF to clean subway of Howrah Station in collaboration with JCI Kolkata and KMDA. TSSF Volunteers and JCI Kolkata Members with the help of few professionally trained staff took the task of washing off the grime and dust off the walls and floor of the subway. First time in the memory of the hawkers that such a cleanliness drive was being undertaken - more than 30 years of neglect broken with the effort of a few. Its a small effort - a drop in the ocean - but it shows a big possibility of cleanliness, of taking responsibility, of making things happen, of Active Citizenship, and of the Power of Us.





## Assistance in Relief Camps - Alipurduar

In July 2012, TSSF sent a small team to assist in the welfare of refugees from Assam in Alipurduar (West Bengal). Our team spent 3 days giving them support and solace in their moment of trouble. During this period, we arranged for their fooding as well as provided basic clothes for their use.





## Building Public Speaking Skills in Students - Speech Camp 2013

TSSF undertook a 6-week training initiative 'SPEECH CAMP' in collaboration with Educational Support Council (ESC). The aim was to provide public speaking and leadership training to a group of 24 graduating students from weak backgrounds but with high potential. The camp was held in English. The training was held for 6 Sundays from 26th May 2013). Over the 6 weeks 20 students were trained in various skills on public speaking such as structure, choice of words, delivery including voice modulation, gestures and eye contact. They were trained in skills such as prepared speaking, impromptu speaking as well as giving constructive feedback.

The Camp culminated in a large workshop on 30 June 2013 at Haj House, Kolkata in which the trained students participated in 2 Speech Contests – Impromptu and Prepared Speech, in front of an audience of almost 300. The topic for the 1-2 minute Impromptu contest was 'Success follows Failure' in which 8 students participated.

In the Prepared Speech Contest, there were 15 contestants speaking on diverse topics such as 'Faith in Almighty', 'The Disabled', 'Taj Mahal' and 'Charity' and 'Teachers - our best guides', 'Technology's Impact', 'Dowry' and 'Humanity'. The winners were awarded trophies and certificates by eminent personalities present at the event.

The students have reported at least a doubling of their confidence and skills through this programme and believe that it will help them tremendously in their life and career in future.





**SPEECH  
CAMP  
CONTEST**



**KOLKATA  
30 JUNE  
2013**





## Self Improvement Forum (SIF) & Orientation of New Members

TSSF also conducts regular Self Development Programmes its Volunteers and associates. Under the programme insights into service, charity and positive attitude are given. Sessions such as 'Managing Anger and Stress', 'Maintaining a Positive Attitude', 'Finding yourself by Serving Others' were held. Regular sessions are conducted for new Volunteers to share with them the value, vision and mission of the Trust. Members take active part in such events.



**THANK YOU!!**