

# **THE CATALYST**

MAKING IT HAPPEN

*A not-for-profit society registered under the  
West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961*

*Registration Number: S/2L/13991 of 2013-14*



THE CATALYST

Registered Office:

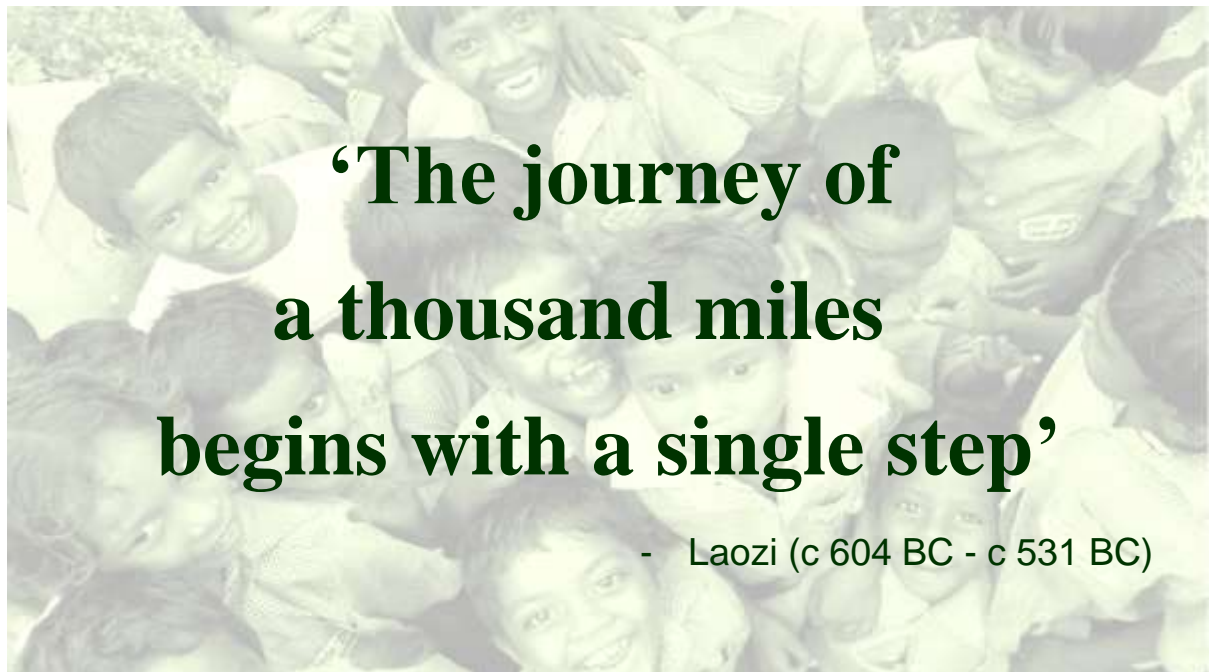
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✉ amlasole@gmail.com

Financial Year 2013-14:

THE CATALYST is formed  
and registered as a Society





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## Formation of the Society

THE CATALYST was formed as a society under the West Bengal Act XXVI of 1961. It was registered at Kolkata, INDIA, on January 03, 2014 with the Registrar of Firms, Societies and Non-Trading Corporations. Its society registration number is **S/2L/13991 of 2013-14**, dated Jan 03, 2014, and income tax permanent account number (PAN) is **AADAT7092F**.

The governing body of the society formally adopted its logo and the bye-line:



- *The by-line captures the meaning behind the name 'THE CATALYST'.*
- *The arrow head symbolizes a heroic heritage of readiness, active pursuance of a living, and the resolve to conquer hunger. It also represents protection and defence.*
- *As an equilateral triangle, the arrow-head stands for equality and balance.*
- *Directed optimally, the arrow persuades us to go the extra mile.*

The Society has taken **amlasole@gmail.com** as its e-mail address; it has acquired the web-site addresses (domain names) **amlsole.com**, **amlasole.in**, **amlasole.net**, **amlasole.info**, **amlasole.org**. However, its website will be created and developed some time in future only, after adequate background work.

## Its objectives in brief

The society will work in the following areas:

- ✓ imparting non-conventional primary education, especially to first-generation learners,
- ✓ facilitating continuance of education of children through the formal education set up,
- ✓ facilitating training in and providing support to preventive health care, livelihood generating activities, and sustainable rural development activities,
- ✓ rendering scholarships to deserving students,
- ✓ running schools,
- ✓ creating linkages with government departments, international agencies,
- ✓ formulating and executing projects to further the society's objectives,
- ✓ instilling values of
  - i) empathy for marginalized persons in society; especially children in need,
  - ii) respect for different cultures, and
  - ii) giving and engaging in activities for betterment of society;



The Society will at all times function as a not-for-profit body.

The management and control of the affairs of the Society shall remain entrusted to its governing body.

## Founder members

[In FY 2013-14, they were also the only members of the Society and members of the Society's Governing Body]

<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation in the Governing Body</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Experience</b>
1	Arup Roy	President	F/6, Ideal Association, C.I.T. Scheme No.VIIM, V.I.P. Road, Kolkata – 700 054	Teacher, retired from college service	35 years' experience in teaching physics in colleges and universities.
2	Sujit Choudhury	Vice President	Anurag Apartment., 22C, Lake East 3rd Road, Santoshpur, Kolkata-700 075	Working Professional	A professional in applied geology, ecology and environment, with 25 years' experience in watershed management, natural resource management and Geographic Information System.
3	Amit Kumar Biswas	Secretary	CF-359, Salt Lake City, Kolkata – 700 064	Retired from service	37 years' experience in public and private sector organizations in finance and general management.
4	Jayeeta Chowdhury	Assistant Secretary	72/1, Bagbazar Street, Block 'C', 3rd Floor, Kolkata-700003	College Teacher	Ten years' experience as a researcher and college teacher in physics.
5	Shaswata Mukherjee	Treasurer	132, Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, Kolkata – 700 006	Retired from service	20 years' experience in energy sector, 20 years' in construction materials business.
6	Sanjib Kumar Bose	Governing Body Member	555/2, House No. 308, Ward No. 6, Jhargram Municipality, Jhargram, District: West Medinipur, Pin – 721507	Retired from service	40 years' experience in the Indian Railways.
7	Bibhuti Bhushan Manki	Governing Body Member	Vill. Amlasole, P.O. Kankrajhor, P.S. Belpahari, Block. Binpur II, Dist. West Medinipur, Pin – 721501	Teacher in a non-conventional school for children	Treasurer of Amlasole Birsa Munda Gram Unnayan Committee; a teacher in the Primary School since beginning; first hand experience in agriculture, rural trading, and community work.
8	Laxmi Kanta Mura	Governing Body Member	Vill. Amlasole, P.O. Kankrajhor, P.S. Belpahari, Block. Binpur II, Dist. West Medinipur, Pin – 721501	Teacher in a non-conventional school for children	Secretary of Amlasole Birsa Munda Gram Unnayan Committee; a teacher in the Primary School since beginning; first hand experience in agriculture, community work and liaison with the formal administrative system.
9	Ranjit Kumar Sing	Governing Body Member	Vill. Amjharna, P.O. Kankrajhor, P.S. Belpahari, Block. Binpur II, Dist. West Medinipur, Pin – 721501	Teacher in a non-conventional school for children	President of Amlasole Birsa Munda Gram Unnayan Committee; a teacher in the Primary School since 2009; first hand experience in agriculture and community work; a tribal instrumental musician.

## Our Values

Each member of the Society will hold on to the following set of values:

- ✓ Making a positive contribution to nation building
- ✓ Giving the best to the society
- ✓ Protecting Nature
- ✓ Building on our heritage a heritage for our progeny
- ✓ Having and showing a positive respect for others
- ✓ Always upholding human dignity
- ✓ Offering equal and non-discriminative opportunity
- ✓ Keeping the trust of all stakeholders at all times
- ✓ Setting high performance standards
- ✓ Creating the environment to deliver
- ✓ Constantly pursuing newer and better ways of functioning
- ✓ Holding on to the highest level of integrity
- ✓ Holding on to impeccable ethical as well as moral values
- ✓ Projecting a positive personal image and a positive image of the Society

All members of the Governing Body shall:

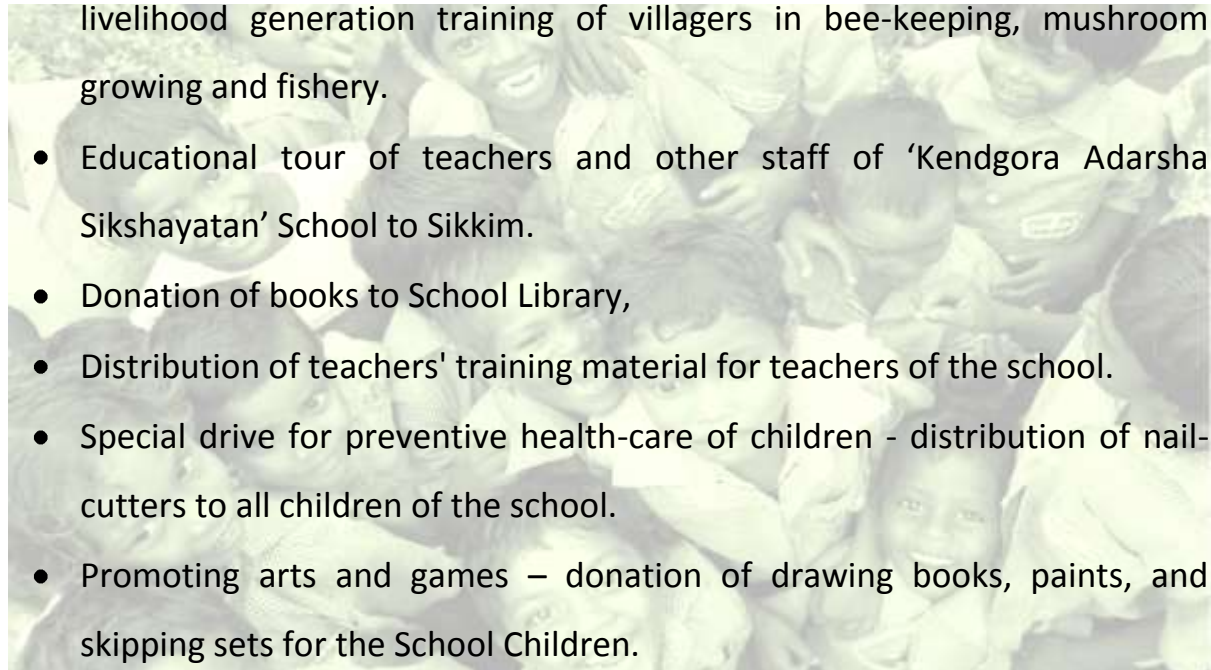
- ✓ know and support the mission of the Society, attend meetings regularly, prepare for meetings in advance,
- ✓ maintain confidentiality,
- ✓ offer informed and impartial guidance,
- ✓ avoid agendas of personal/special interest and conflicts of interest,
- ✓ participate in committees and special events,
- ✓ provide unstinted support to the president/other office bearers,
- ✓ take part in resource development,
- ✓ promote the organization in the community in particular and also to others.

These have been incorporated in the regulations of the Society.

## Activities in the first year

In the first year of its operation, viz. FY 2013-14, the Society took up the following developmental activities:

- Award of monthly scholarship of Rs. 1,500/- to Ms Laxmipriya Mura (daughter of Shri Satish Mura), a tribal girl student of Amlasole for pursuing B Sc Nursing studies in Midnapore. As of now this scholarship will continue till March 2015.
- Distribution of training materials based on inputs from Bose Institute, for livelihood generation training of villagers in bee-keeping, mushroom growing and fishery.
- Educational tour of teachers and other staff of 'Kendgora Adarsha Sikshayatan' School to Sikkim.
- Donation of books to School Library,
- Distribution of teachers' training material for teachers of the school.
- Special drive for preventive health-care of children - distribution of nail-cutters to all children of the school.
- Promoting arts and games – donation of drawing books, paints, and skipping sets for the School Children.





## Plan for the future

The Governing Body of the Society drew out the following long-term plan of action (next three years) for developmental work in Amlasole and adjoining villages.

### 1. Hostel

1.1 Set up the hostel, for which external brickwork is complete

1.1.1 Create residential facility for 20 children from poor families

1.1.2 Create a 24/7 learning environment

1.2 Create a training centre for income generating skills

1.2.1 Set up equipment and facility for income generating skills training - specially for women

1.2.2 Train 200 individuals every year and ensure sustainable income by 40 tribal families

1.3 Increase hostel capacity, in 3 years, from 20 to 50.

### 2. School

2.1 Upgrade school infrastructure to minimum standards

2.1.1 Increase school intake to 200 in 3 years

2.1.2 Provide class rooms of standard minimum size

2.1.3 Provide projectors in class rooms

2.1.4 Set up a school library

2.1.5 Set up a computer room

2.1.6 Set up facilities for sports and games, music, dance, etc.

2.2 Improve teaching standards

2.2.1 Create residential facility and better salary structure for getting qualified teachers from outside

2.3 Facilitate continuation of education of children through the formal educational set-up elsewhere.

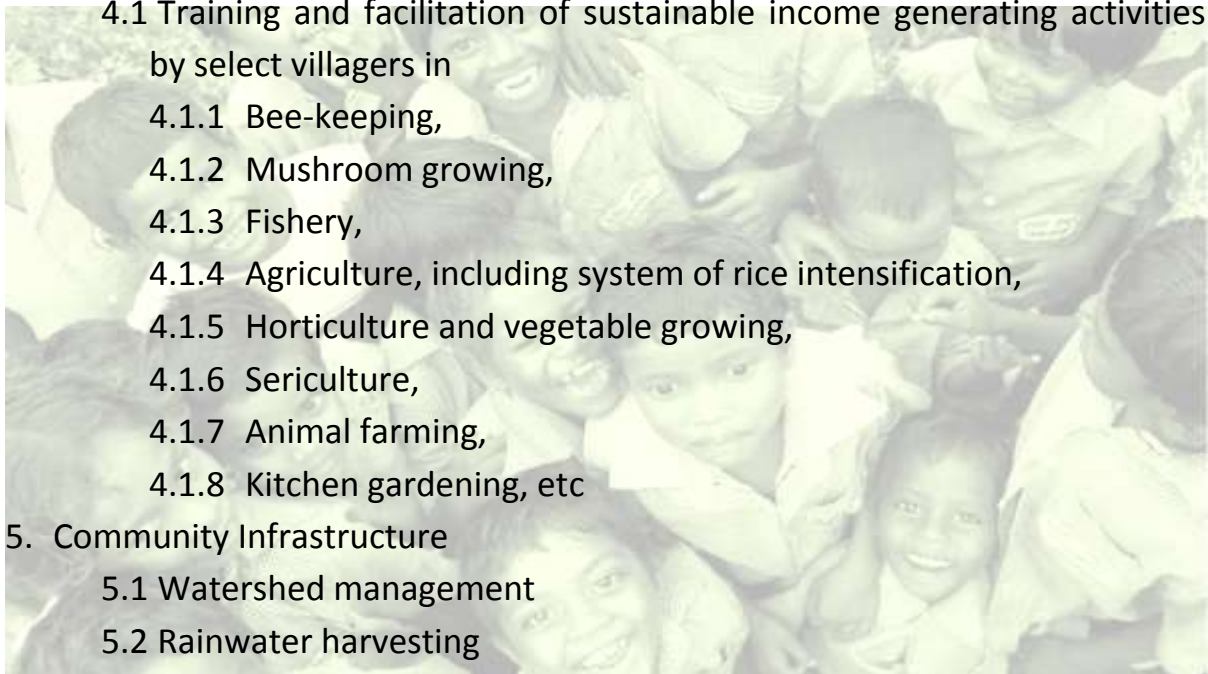
### 3. Women's Self-Help Group (SHG)

3.1 Provide equipment to women for income generation facilities in order to to earn by providing the community with much demanded services in

3.1.1 Extraction of oil from mustard and other seeds

3.1.2 Wheat-grinding, and

- 3.1.3 Photo-copying
- 3.2 Enable adequate income generation by the SHG, for subsidizing sanitary napkins sale to all women of the community
- 3.3 Create awareness and habits in Menstrual Health Management (MHM)
  - 3.3.1 SHG to provide sanitary napkins free-of-cost for one year to develop habits
  - 3.3.2 SHG to manufacture and sell sanitary napkins at a rate subsidized from SHG income, for improving women's health through sustainable MHM covering 100% of the women
- 4. Capacity Building among the Villagers
  - 4.1 Training and facilitation of sustainable income generating activities by select villagers in
    - 4.1.1 Bee-keeping,
    - 4.1.2 Mushroom growing,
    - 4.1.3 Fishery,
    - 4.1.4 Agriculture, including system of rice intensification,
    - 4.1.5 Horticulture and vegetable growing,
    - 4.1.6 Sericulture,
    - 4.1.7 Animal farming,
    - 4.1.8 Kitchen gardening, etc
- 5. Community Infrastructure
  - 5.1 Watershed management
  - 5.2 Rainwater harvesting



The short-term plan of action (first quarter of FY 2014-15) was drawn out as follows:

- The hostel will be set up for fifteen residents;
- Continuation of education of four girl children through the formal educational set-up at Parivaar Education Society, near Kolkata, will be facilitated;
- Liaison will be done with Bose Institute to enable capacity building training and facilitation among villagers, with cost-sharing by participants, in

- Bee-keeping – about 20 participants (work to start in Apr-May with about 10 participants),
- Mushroom growing – about 30 participants (preparatory work now; actual work to start in Sep-Oct), and
- Fishery – about 23 participants (work to start in Apr-May with select participants).
- It would be explored whether Bose Institute can provide one machine to villagers for oil extraction from mustard and other seeds;
- A comprehensive plan would be drawn out in the line of discussion already initiated with NABARD.

It was further decided that the background work would be completed for seeking a prospective charity funding from abroad with necessary FCRA approval, and efforts for fund-raising through personal connections would continue.

