



# Towards inclusive Society

# About Us - Details of organizations



Oisho Bani Society (OBS) is a charitable organization registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860, in the year 2000 with registration number 3613 at Ambassa, Dhalai, Tripura. OBS is working for the integral development of the most marginalized and vulnerable communities in the North East India, particularly in Tripura. We are working to realize and uplift their human worth and dignity through delivery of basic services in the fields of education, health, livelihood, income generation and care of creation as well as networking and community mobilization. We firmly believe in People Led Development (PLD) approach.



CBM works for an inclusive society where people with disabilities achieve their full potential. CBM is committed to improving the quality of lives of persons with disabilities and other disadvantaged communities without any discrimination. We promote inclusive, sustainable development to break the vicious cycle of poverty and disability. We promote enabling environments for the empowerment of persons with disabilities as vibrant, contributing members of society.

## About the programme

The project aims at improving support for individuals with disabilities and strengthening community infrastructure. Result 01 indicates enhanced healthcare and rehabilitation services for children with disabilities, with a noteworthy enrolment of 400 persons in community-based inclusive development (CBID) programs. Complementary interventions, such as 150 surgeries and multiple therapy sessions, will fortify the health services.

Result 02 highlights the advancement in creating sustainable livelihood opportunities, particularly for parents of children with disabilities. This will be achieved by forming 50 peer support groups, providing vocational training to 250 individuals, and helping another 50 to secure employment. Additionally, 200 people will have access to financial services, indicating economic empowerment for the vulnerable sectors.

In terms of advocacy and rights, Result 03 focuses on the improvement of inclusive environments for children with disabilities. This will be achieved by training 250 community government participants and enrolling a significant number of children across various educational stages in inclusive schools, along with individualized support for 350 pupils.

## Achievements

### Households



- **Total Households - 400**
- **Households of children with disabilities - 350**
- **Households of children without disabilities - 50**

### Surgeries



- **13 surgeries carried out**

### Capacity Building



- **ASHA workers training: 8 groups consisting of more than 60 participants.**
- **Anganwadi workers training: 6 groups consisting of more than 70 participants.**
- **Training of 10 School Management Committees**
- **Training of 08 Community Leaders**

### Inclusive Parent's Group



- **Formation of 36 Inclusive Parents Groups.**
- **06 IPG strengthening program**

### Therapies



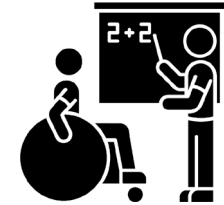
- **461 therapy sessions carried out**

### Capacity Building - Livelihood



- **Mushroom: 7 batches**
- **Tailoring: 9 batches**
- **Garland Making: 2 batches**
- **Ornament Making: 1 batch**
- **Beautician: 1 batch**
- **Dry Food Training: 1 batch**

### Inclusive Education



**Mainstreamed in Education: 350 children with disabilities.**

### Inclusive Sports



**12 Inclusive Sports and Recreation Program**

Master Pritam Bhowmik is a 12-year-old boy who faces the challenge of Intellectual Disability with a severity of 90%. He is the son of Mr. Suman Bhowmik, a carpenter by profession, and his mother is a housewife. They reside in Chowmuhani Bazar, Tripura (W).

In November 2022, Master Pritam Bhowmik was enrolled in the project aimed at community based inclusive development. The CBID trainers noticed that the child did not possess a disability certificate, a crucial document for accessing various benefits and opportunities. The trainers submitted the necessary documents to the District Disability Rehabilitation Centre (DDRC) to obtain a new certificate.

Thanks to consistent follow-up and intervention, Master Pritam Bhowmik received his disability certificate from DDRC in December 2022. The certificate allowed him to access specific educational and social support. He was enrolled in Hatileta S.B School and provided with nutritional support, including Horlicks, milk, and Dalia.

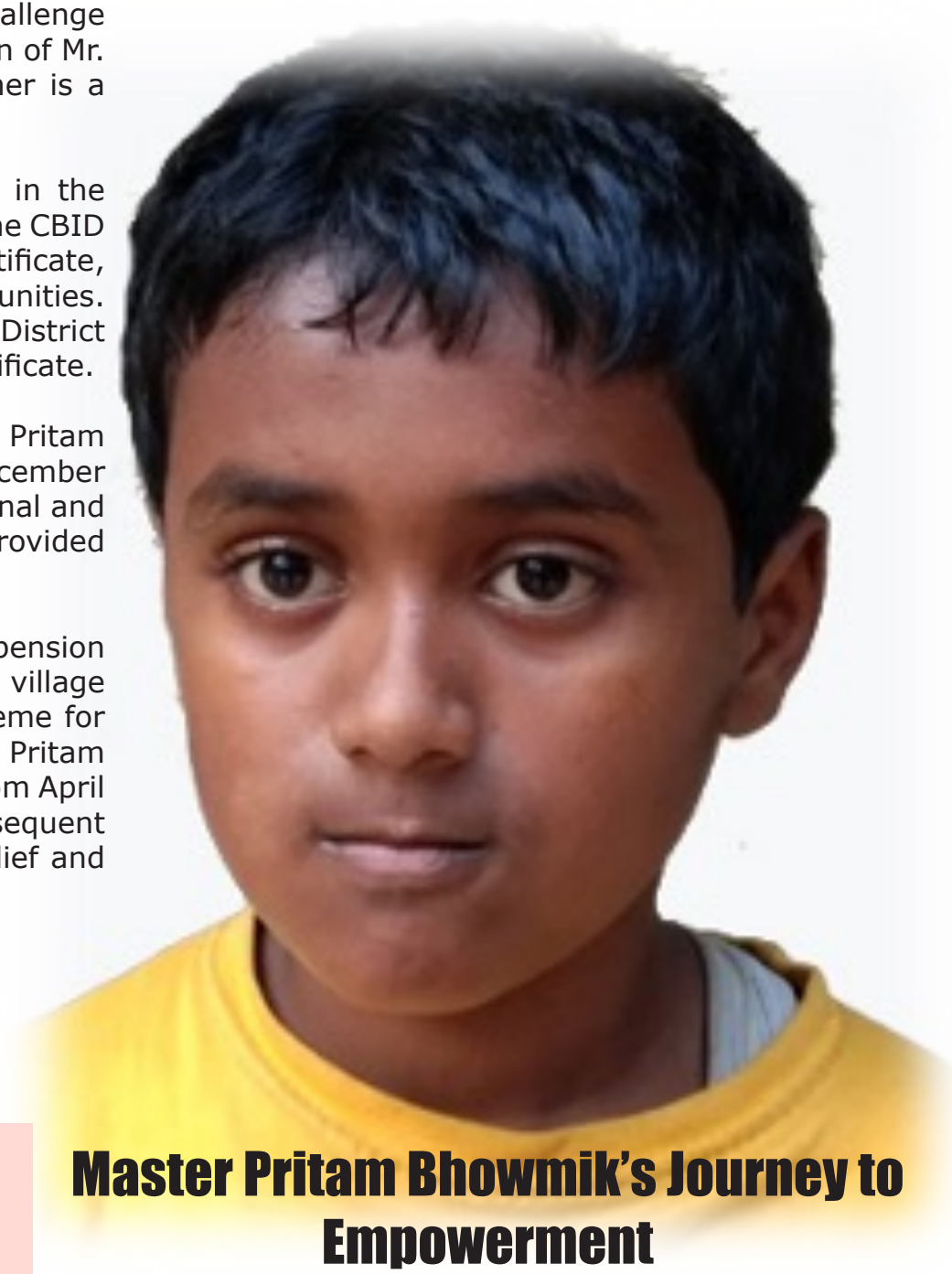
Upon discovering that Master Pritam Bhowmik was eligible for pension schemes, the CBID trainers advised his parents to approach village panchayat to discuss about initiating disability pension scheme for Master Pritam Bhowmik. Following their suggestion, Master Pritam started receiving a monthly disability pension of INR 2000 from April 2023. The successful acquisition of the certificate and subsequent pension support provided the household with a sense of relief and appreciation for Oisho Bani Society's assistance.

**Beneficiary Name: Master Pritam Bhowmik**

**Disability: Intellectual Disability**

**Father's Name: Mr. Suman Bhowmik**

**Training & Support: RPwD Act, Disability certificate, pension & enrolment in school**



**Master Pritam Bhowmik's Journey to Empowerment**



**SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT  
EDUCATION INTERVENTION**

With the support received, Pritam's parents became actively involved in his care. They actively participated in awareness programs and Inclusive Parent's Group meetings organized by the Oisho Bani Society, under the programme. Consequently, the child is now experiencing improved care, leading to increased happiness and well-being.

The CBID trainers continue to provide regular follow-ups and support to Master Pritam Bhowmik. They assist to develop the capacity through the use of Teaching-Learning Materials (TLM) kits and various activities of daily living. Additionally, the trainers ensure that the parents remain motivated and aware of their child's rights under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPWD) Act 2016.

Master Pritam Bhowmik's family expresses immense gratitude to Oisho Bani Society for facilitating their child's access to various facilities and opportunities. The society's support has significantly improved their child's quality of life and overall well-being.

Master Pritam Bhowmik's journey showcases the positive impact of disability-inclusive development and the importance of awareness, support, and empowerment for individuals with disabilities and their families. Through collaboration and access to essential services, children like Pritam can unlock their true potential and lead fulfilling lives.



# Weaving Success Through Threads of Empowerment: The Tailoring Triumph!

In the heart of Tripura, there's a tale of quiet determination and spirited transformation that thrives within the walls of a humble dwelling - this is the story of Ayush Deb, an inspiring young boy with speech and hearing impairment, and his mother, Tapashi Deb, a beacon of hope and change for their family. Surrounded by the love of her husband, Sajal Deb, the owner of a local sweet shop whose earnest efforts earned a modest sum, the Deb family knew the challenges of a singular income. It was a life of simplicity, where necessities often shadowed desires, and dreams were tucked away like cherished secrets.

Before the winds of change swept through their lives, Tapashi, a devoted mother, and wife, found her days filled with the tender care of her child. Formal training or the pursuit of a personal vocation seemed a distant reality. Then came the fateful encounter with the project staff from Oisho Bani Society, whose insightful survey in November 2021, paved the way for Tapashi to embrace a future she had not yet imagined. During her interactions, Tapashi's latent interest in tailoring, a skill she held in basic measure, blossomed into an enthusiastic desire to master the craft. Thus, she was guided to join a community of like-minded learners under inclusive Parent's Group Rudra at Charipara.

**Beneficiary Name:** Master Ayush Deb

**Disability:** Speech & Hearing Impairment

**Mother's Name:** Mrs. Tapashi Das.

**Father's Name:** Mr. Sajal Deb

**Training & Livelihood Support:** Tailoring.



Economic  
Empowerment



**Household Income Before  
Project Intervention: INR  
8,000 to INR 10,000**



**Household Income After Project  
Intervention: INR 14,000**

Tapashi, along with ten other trainees, embarked on a three-month journey of transformation, they delved into the intricacies of tailoring - from the elegant 'churidar' (name of dress) to the humble 'petticoat' (name of dress), their skills grew as did their confidence. During the training, Tapashi had not only learned a trade but had embraced a new vision of self-reliance. With her hands, now skilled, she purchased a sewing machine and began procuring cloth; her determination sowing the seeds for a home-based venture.

The support from Oisho Bani Society, initially extended to her now flowed towards her burgeoning business. Motivated by her perseverance, they provided her with cloth to fuel her entrepreneurial spirit. This investment in her capability bore fruit, for soon, Tapashi was both provider and creator, selling her crafted garments within the community.

From dependence came empowerment. Where once her husband's income barely sufficed, Tapashi's craft now contributed Rs. 4000/- monthly, a testament to her newfound independence. Her business, once a seedling of an idea, now flourished, nourished by the orders from neighbours, enriched by the wholesale trade of her creations. But the threads of success wove deeper than financial gain. Tapashi Deb, once confined to the realms of care, now stood as a pillar of inspiration, an embodiment of courage to the women around her. Her voice, firm in group meetings, echoed the strength and solidarity she offered to others.

For the Deb family, life had turned a promising leaf. Ayush's future shone brighter, and Tapashi, once nurturing dreams in the quiet, now celebrated them in the daylight!

Miss Puja Roy, a young girl with physical impairment, faced numerous challenges in her life. Her parents, Mrs. Archana Roy work and Mr. Srimanta Roy, work tirelessly as a housemaid and rickshaw puller, respectively, however despite their combined efforts they struggled to make ends meet. Living in a small bamboo hut with limited resources, they dreamed of finding a way to create a better life for themselves.

In the midst of their struggles, CBID trainer Mrs. Papiya Choudhury discovered the Roy family during her search for households of children with disabilities. Recognizing the need for support, she registered Miss Puja Roy as a right holder of Oisho Bani Society under the programme on 12th November 2021.

The journey towards empowerment began as Mrs. Papiya Choudhury (CBID trainer), Mr. Sushanta Singha (livelihood trainer), and Miss Manasi Ghosh (physiotherapist) provided unwavering support and assistance to the Roy family. Mrs. Archana Roy, driven by her determination to improve their circumstances, embraced the opportunities offered to her.

**Beneficiary Name:** Ms. Puja Roy  
**Disability:** Physical Impairment  
**Mother's Name:** Mrs. Archana Roy.  
**Father's Name:** Mr. Srimanta Roy  
**Training & Livelihood Support:** Backyard Duck rearing



## Miss Puja Roy's Journey to Success and Empowerment



With limited resources available, animal husbandry emerged as the most viable livelihood option. Although lacking land for rearing larger animals, Mrs. Archana Roy utilized a small 3 by 5 feet space in their backyard to start rearing ducks. In the month of November 2022, Oisho Bani Society provided her with ten ducks, through the programme support, and her husband constructed a modest yet functional duck shelter using bamboo and metal sheets. Despite their busy schedules, the couple diligently cared for the ducks, allowing them to roam freely during the day and sheltering them in the duck house at night.

Prior to receiving support from Oisho Bani Society, the Roy family felt isolated and unsupported. Their hardships were met with little assistance from the government. However, everything changed after the project intervention. Mrs. Archana Roy's long-held dream of starting a business began to materialize. Through their newfound resources, they were finally able to execute their plans.

The decision to rear ducks proved to be an excellent choice for the household. Over the course of time, the initial ten ducks multiplied in number, providing her with a growing source of income. She sold ducks and duck eggs, earning extra money that she invested in her children's education and paving the way for a more secure future.

The programme staff, continued to provide regular follow-ups. Their guidance ensured the family's continued progress and success.

The transformation brought about immense joy in the family, who are indebted to the programme.





## Rehabilitation

**Beneficiary Name:** Master Prabir Sarkar

**Disability:** Physical Impairment

**Mother's Name:** Mrs. Bina Sarkar

**Father's Name:** Mr. Pradip Sarkar

**Support:** Rehabilitation



In the lush green outskirts of Kathaltali, Tripura West, lived young Prabir Sarkar with his parents, Bina and Pradip Sarkar. Prabir's parents toiled as daily laborers, their hands embroidering the earth, nurturing hope for a better tomorrow. Little did they know that hope would manifest not just in the fruits of their labor, but in the steps their son would one day take, despite the odds stacked against him.

Born into the caressing winds of November, specifically on the 4th in 2017, Prabir was a bundle of joy swaddled in a challenge—physical impairment due to CTEV, commonly known as club-foot. His world was a little more twisted, his steps a little more uncertain. Every movement for him held a mirror to his limitations; his leg, accompanied by swelling and an enduring pain, was a ballad of silent whispers of what could have been—his hip joint imprisoned in restricted movement.

His condition was not just a medical term—CTEV—it was a daily reality that his family faced with harrowing resignation. By age three, attempts to correct his foot with plaster of Paris casts were intermittent—first due to the impassable barrier of financial strain and then the lockdown's isolating embrace. The local doctor's pronouncement was a verdict they feared: the condition was incurable; the future bleak!

But the winds changed when the program staff from the local organization, armed with information from the Kathaltali Anganwari Centre, set foot in Prabir's home. They talked not just about problems, but about potential; not just about a child's condition, but about a community's responsibility. The support unfurled in layers—medical, nutritional, enabling aids like modified shoes, and even livelihood support to bolster the family against the tides of uncertainty.

**Steps to Hope: Young Prabir's Journey Overcoming Clubfoot**

The transformation was not immediate, it was a journey. A pilgrimage that Prabir embarked upon with his steadfast parents and the community's unwavering support. The family's shame dissolved, giving way to embracing the child they had once paused to bring along.

Dr. Pulak Saha's hands, which once suggested a mosaic of plasters, eventually sculpted Prabir's path to recovery through surgery. The Ponseti method, a meticulous dance of casting and manipulation, was performed on November 28th, 2022. For 21 days, Prabir's bed in Agartala G.B.P Hospital was his vehicle to vistas of pain and healing.

Slowly, the Pirani Score, once a numerical embodiment of his deformation, became a relic of his past. The foot that pointed outwards, like a compass, now pointed to a future with possibility. The Oisho Bani Society, through regular follow-ups and physiotherapy, ensured that Prabir's journey was not walked alone.

As he sits in his classroom today, surrounded by the cacophony of peers and the symphony of play, Prabir's story resonates as a testament to communal strength and a child's resilience. He does not just walk; he runs, he plays, and he dreams, unfettered by the specter of his 'club-foot.' The child who was once tethered by deformity now leaps towards his aspirations, his family's eyes no longer pooled in despair but sparkling with pride, their gratitude towards the society resonating in their uplifted lives.

Prabir's narrative is more than a case study; it's a painted canvas of struggle, compassion, and triumph—a portrait of a child who once had wings but has now found the sky under his feet.





**Beneficiary Name:** Master Master Sayantan Sutradhar  
**Disability:** Intellectual Disability  
**Mother's Name:** Mrs. Mitali Sutradhar  
**Father's Name:** Mr. Shantanu Sutradhar  
**Support:** Rehabilitation

**A New Horizon for Sayantan: An  
Odyssey from despair to Hope**

In the modest locality of Pratapgarh lay the humble abode of Master Sayantan Sutradhar, a place where silence had been a response to the despair of a child's silent world. Born to Mr. Shantanu, an earnest driver with a heart of perseverance, and Mrs. Mitali, a mother whose strength unknowingly awaited awakening, Sayantan's life was a testament to unnoticed potential.

At age seven, Sayantan, shadowed by the cloud of a significant intellectual disability, was left unshielded in a world that sped by his unspoken needs. His reality was one of silence, not due to the absence of love, but from the void of understanding and resources that weighed heavily on household income of INR 6000 a month.

The winds of change began to stir as CBID Trainer, a beacon of hope, stepped into their lives. Identified through the collaborative effort of local governance and community-focused programs, Sayantan was more than a case—he was a child of the community waiting to be uplifted.

Initial assessments unveiled not a lack but a plethora of possibilities. Sayantan, with no education, without an Aadhar Card and Disability Certificate to affirm his existence in society's eyes, was about to embark on a transformative journey, orchestrated by compassion and communal effort.

The laborious yet soulful journey commenced with procuring Sayantan's basic entitlements—a task that seemed daunting but was achieved with relentless advocacy. The breakthrough came with his admission into Pratapgarh English Medium High School, a milestone marked not just by a change in routine, but by an environment bespeaking 'inclusion'.

Occupational therapy introduced rhythms and routines into Sayantan's life, painting his world with hues unseen. Simultaneously, his mother, Mrs. Mitali, found empowerment in the shape of tailor scissors and mushroom spores—skills that promised a future not just for her, but for her family.

As the family embraced their novel path, the nurturing seeds of awareness bloomed into participative engagement. Master Sayantan's newfound vitality in therapy and school programs, coupled with improved parental support, spoke of a balance restored. The inclusive endeavours transformed Mrs. Mitali Sutradhar, who now stood as a pillar within the "Shyam Sundar" Inclusive Parent's group—her tale interwoven with success in tailoring and agriculture. Nutritional support fortified the change, strengthening Sayantan's physical capabilities to match his indomitable spirit.

Regular visits, awareness dialogues, and continuous support maintained the family's trajectory towards self-sufficiency and societal integration. The Inclusive Parent's group meetings and social event participations became life's new rhythm, as the family discovered the inherent rights bestowed upon them and their son—a soul no longer silent.



**Rehabilitation**



Against the backdrop of Nath para in Chandrapur, West Tripura, the story of Master Purab Chowdhury unfolds, a touching narrative of a young boy's relentless spirit to overcome his physical limitations. Born into a modest family of an auto driver and a private worker, Purab's adolescence was marked by relentless challenges as he confronted the tribulations of physical impairment.

The odyssey of transformation began with Purab's discovery by the vigilant eyes of field staff, whose comprehensive surveys, supported by local stakeholders and school authorities, recognized his pressing needs. In their hands, Purab was not just a statistic but a young life brimming with unrealized possibilities. The project staff, alongside a devoted livelihood coordinator and therapist, meticulously joined together Purab's life puzzle through numerous visits and conversations, laying the groundwork for a tailor-made blueprint of healing and growth.

Purab's impairment advanced as he was ushered through the corridors of medical establishments by the CBID trainer and therapist, whose dedication illuminated his path.

## **Stepping Forward: Master Purab's Journey to Independence**



The diagnosis was clear and so was the beacon of hope; an Ankle Foot Orthosis (AFO) device was the key to his unchained posture and recovery. With the generous patronage of Oisho Bani Society, Purab acquired his AFO on the 4th of October, 2023. This milestone marked a new chapter not only in his medical records but in the narrative of his life.

Much like the steady support of the AFO clasping his feet, educational aid provided through the programme, furnished Purab with the platform necessary to climb the ladder of knowledge. Each step he took in his device echoed throughout the halls of his school, a testament to his self-reliance. The days of hindered mobility dissolved into a past overshadowed by his newfound ability to walk with pride.

Amid the relentless efforts and physiotherapy sessions, a ripple effect coursed through the lives of Purab and his family. His parents - pillars of his world - adopted the mantle of his therapists in their own right, guided by the professionals to reinforce the tides of progress within the walls of their home.

The unremitting support established by the CBID trainer, carried out through monthly house visits and diligent updates, ensured that Purab's expedition was neither solitary nor stationary. The therapist, in collaboration with the livelihood coordinator, became a regular fixture in the architecture of Purab's daily life - imparting knowledge, skill, and fortifying belief within his parents.

Purab, once overshadowed by his disability, now blossoms as a beacon of joy and eager participation in his school community. His involvement in school activities, no longer impeded by his physical condition, inspires awe and respect. The profound gratitude expressed by his parents towards OBS for the irreplaceable support kindles hope for sustained assistance.

In an existence that once felt confined within the bounds of four walls unable to stride, Master Purab Chowdhury rose. With every step lifted by the AFO device and every dream fueled by relentless family and societal support, Purab's life narrative transcends from a quiet tale of struggle to a vibrant chronicle of triumph.



**Rehabilitation**



Nestled in the quiet lane of Nabin Palli AMC, Agartala, the humble residence of the Dey family stands as a testament to a remarkable transformation, one that resonates with hope and relentless perseverance. Divakar Dey, a spirited 16-year-old lad, is the hero of this emotive tale. Born into a household steady through each day, the harshness of poverty was not the only challenge that poised Divakar's life; his congenital battle with 'spastic diplegia' marked his days with struggle to simply move.

For years, Divakar's world was confined to the margins of his home, the joys of childhood tethered by the immobility that accompanied his physical impairment. His father, a Group-D worker, and his mother, a homemaker caringly surrounded in concerns for her son's future, found themselves helpless in the face of Divakar's growing needs.

The turning point arrived with the gentle knock of a Community-Based Inclusive Development (CBID) trainer in September 2022. With eyes trained to discern need from despair, the trainer's consistent visits revealed Divakar's requirements. It soon became evident that professional intervention was paramount. United in their mission, the programme staff and Occupational Therapist ventured to grasp the severity of Divakar's condition, laying the groundwork for his path to empowerment.

They recommended an assistive device that would soon become Divakar's chariot to freedom—a tricycle. Materializing through the collaborative efforts of the compassionate souls at Oisho Bani Society and the Composite Regional Centre (CRC), the tricycle was not merely a device; it was the vessel that would ferry Divakar to the realms of education, community, and self-reliance.

## **Wheels of Change: Divakar's Journey to Independence**





Each turn of the tricycle's wheels marked an ascent towards improvement and newfound autonomy. Divakar began to traverse the journey to school, an odyssey that was once a distant dream. His life, once static, was now bustling with the vibrancy of societal interaction.

In this newfound freedom, Divakar flourished. The tricycle was his companion in exploration, a beacon that illuminated his path to knowledge and social engagement. His happiness became profound, visible in the eager anticipation of each school day and in the joyful independence as he knited through his community.

Divakar's story does not conclude with the tricycle; it is merely the prologue to his growth. The continued support from the CBID trainer and the watchful guidance of the Occupational Therapist ensure that each day unfolds into a better chapter for Divakar. Gratitude flows from his parents, their son's transformation a living testimony to the collective efforts of the Oisho Bani Society.

As Divakar pedals towards the future, his confidence skyrockets, tailwinds propelling him forward. His parents, now pillars of the group programs, revel in their son's progress, their actions sowing the seeds for a promising future. In this emotive chronicle of challenge, intervention, and triumph, Divakar Dey emerges not as a boy tethered by circumstances, but as a beacon of unyielding resolve and the embodiment of how disability can be transformed into a different kind of ability—the ability to inspire.





## Rehabilitation



In the far-reaching lanes of Agartala, where the dawn spills hope with its first light, lives a young girl named Trisha Banik, whose journey is a profound narrative of resilience and the human spirit. Born into the loving yet financially constrained family of Mr. Sankar Banik and Mrs. Swapna Saha Banik, Trisha was introduced to life's adversities prematurely.

Her entry into the world was haloed by urgent medical interventions as her mother, labouring prematurely under the threat of uncontrolled hypertension, delivered her at the Government I.G.M Hospital. The silence following Trisha's birth was a prelude to a series of struggles, her tiny form whisked away to NICU, marking the onset of her battle with Spastic Diplegia.

The usual achievements that other children reach – such as sitting up, standing, and walking – seemed very far away for Trisha. They were like goals she hadn't been able to meet. Every time she fell or had difficulty moving, it showed how much her condition, which bent her knees at a sharp angle, made it hard for her to move and kept her from being as happy as she wanted to be.

As Trisha got older, the seriousness of her situation became more apparent. Her mother expressed her sorrow over many unsuccessful trips to the hospital and the suggestion of physiotherapy or surgery. It felt like hope was slipping away from them. Because of their financial difficulties, they had very limited options for helping Trisha get better.

It was then that the tendrils of hope sprouted anew with the initiation of the program that promised to be the bridge over their despair. The efforts of Oisho Bani Society shone through like a beacon. With a Rolator provided by DDRC and knee gaiters alongside AFOs from Oisho Bani Society, the tools for Trisha's liberation were assembled piece by piece.

**Trisha's Triumph: A Little Girl's Stride Towards Self-Sufficiency**

The metamorphosis was gradual yet miraculous. Trisha, the child who once found insurmountable barriers within the confines of her home, began to chart the peripheries of her small world with parental support. Her knees, which once bore the brunt of her condition, started to feel less of the tormenting pain. The deformity that once seemed everlasting began to diminish under the vigilance of regular physiotherapy.

Trisha, who once watched other children from afar, began to blend into the shape of school crowd. Her ability to stand during the school prayer, a time-honored routine among her classmates, began to improve. No longer was she solely a spectator; she was becoming a participant.

As teachers observed Trisha's flourishing progress, their hearts swelled with pride. The girl who could not stand unaided was now a testament to the power of collective effort and belief.



**Process of healing**



## Ducks to Garlands - A Journey of Empowerment



Sumit Debnath, a young boy with Intellectual Disability, and his family were struggling to make ends meet before the intervention of OISHO BANI SOCIETY (OBS). His mother, Archana Debnath, had a desire to start a business and contribute to the household but lacked the resources and knowledge.

Archana Debnath, along with her husband Sajal Debnath and their son Sumit, lived in a joint family with minimal assets. Sajal worked as a daily wage labourer, earning a meagre income of Rs. 6000 per month. The family faced financial challenges, especially to meet the special needs of Sumit. Archana had previously reared ducks and poultry, selling them during the pandemic to sustain their livelihood. Recognizing her skills and desire to continue this business, Oisho Bani Society decided to provide support through training on garland making and duck rearing.

After a comprehensive assessment, through the programme Archana was provided with 10 ducks (7 female and 3 male). The aim was to eventually scale up the production of eggs for commercial purposes, as there was a good market demand. Additionally, Archana expressed interest in learning Garland making, which had a lucrative market in their locality. A market study was conducted and a plan was formulated; a two-stage plan specific to Archana's needs.

Since receiving the support from the project, Archana's life has taken a positive turn. Previously, she was a simple housewife, primarily focused on household chores and caring for her son. With the income from selling eggs, Archana started earning a steady monthly income of Rs. 1200-1500. This newfound financial independence boosted her confidence and motivated her to expand her business.

Furthermore, after receiving training in garland making, Archana successfully started her trade. She received several orders worth Rs. 10,000 from vendors, thereby creating a source of income not only for herself but also for other group members who were trained alongside her. Archana's success has made her a role model within her community, inspiring others to put in effort and hard work to improve their lives.

Archana actively participates in all project activities related to livelihood and empowerment. She is a member of the parents group created under the programme and contributes her ideas to the group's problem-solving mechanism. Through her active involvement, Archana has built strong connections with OBS and continues to participate in various programs and group meetings.

Archana Debnath's is a testament to the transformative power of inclusive development and empowerment. Archana has not only improved her family's financial situation but also become a source of inspiration and hope for others in similar circumstances. Her success story showcases the potential for households of individuals with disabilities to thrive when provided with the right opportunities, support, and training.





## **Trijit's Triumph: Overcoming Challenges, Embracing Opportunities**

Trijit Sutradhar, a 7-year-old boy with physical impairment, resides in Khayerpur, Village-Dalora, Old Agartala, Tripura West, with his hardworking father, Suman Sutradhar, who works as an auto driver to support their family.

Trijit's inspiring journey began when a Community Based Inclusive Development (CBID) trainer identified him during a field survey in November 2021 and initiated regular interventions. Recognizing the need for additional support, the trainer collaborated with an Occupational therapist, who assessed Trijit's condition and commenced appropriate therapy.

Following his surgery, Trijit received comprehensive care, including nutritional support, medication, and assistance in obtaining a disability certificate. Moreover, his mother was empowered through a tailoring training program, equipping her with the skills to generate income for the family. These combined efforts led to significant improvements in Trijit's overall condition. He is now able to walk independently and has gained control over his bowel movements, which were challenging for him prior to his surgery.

Furthermore, Trijit's education has been prioritized, with his successful admission to school. His mother's newfound tailoring skills enable her to contribute financially to support his educational pursuits. Trijit's integration into the community has flourished, thanks to the support he received. He now joyfully socializes, attends school regularly, and relishes his newfound independence.

Over the past year, CBID trainers and physiotherapists have diligently visited Trijit's home 3 to 4 times a month, providing consistent physiotherapy and rehabilitation interventions. Their devoted efforts have enabled Trijit to stand unassisted and effectively control his movements.

The transformation Trijit has undergone fills his parents with immense gratitude. His mother's participation in the tailoring training program, alongside her engagement in group programs and activities, symbolizes the family's active involvement in their child's future. Trijit is now a happy, confident child, brimming with enthusiasm for learning, playing, and embracing the opportunities that lie ahead. Together, this family's perseverance and community support have paved the way for Trijit's bright and promising future.



**Economic Empowerment**



**Rehabilitation**



**Stepping Toward Hope: The Journey of Aritrik Paul**



**Rehabilitation**



In the modest neighborhood of Dhaleshwar, Kalyani, where the rhythm of daily life hums with simplicity and diligence, lived young Aritrik Paul. At twelve years old, he faced a challenge unlike those of his peers—physical impairment had bound him within visible constraints, outlining a world that seemed deprived of the freedom that comes with unrestricted movement. Master Aritrik Paul's left foot told the tale of this invisible boundary, a resistant equinovarus deformity that caused his toes to point not towards his dreams but towards their opposing counterparts. The weight of this reality fell heavily upon his parents' shoulders, his father dedicating hours beyond the day's light to provide for the family while harbouring silent prayers for his son's future. Fate's design began to shift when a CBID Trainer discovered Aritrik through a meticulous field survey in December 2022. From the outset, it became evident that beyond the trainer's expertise, the young boy was in dire need of specialized intervention which the physiotherapist provided after making an in-depth assessment.

The path to progress is often steep and paved with persistence. Even after delayed milestones, as Aritrik's inaugural steps were taken only after his second year, the combined force of unwavering support and therapy began to carve a throughway to improvement.

Medical wisdom deemed his condition stubborn, ungovernable by means of past interventions, and it advised a more definitive solution—surgery. With hearts girded by hope, Aritrik and his family journeyed to Vellore, where on the 25th of May 2023, his surgical procedure was undertaken, financed by the generous assistance of the project.

Post-surgery, life began to alter in form and function for Aritrik. Once bound by the tendrils of his physical confines, he started to experience the world on his own terms. Walking, once an arduous task, evolved into a symphony of steps he took with increasing assurance under the guidance of his devoted physiotherapist and the vigilant eye of the CBID Trainer.

By August 2023, the plaster that symbolized years of immobilization was removed. The simple act of standing without a crutch, the soft tread of balanced walking, echoed the triumphs of resilience and the programme. Aritrik's journey back to school was more than educational; it was his resolute march towards mainstreaming in the pursuit of knowledge and play.

Today, Aritrik is more than a boy who once sat on the side-lines. He is a participant in life's grand play, attending school functions and flourishing amidst his academic and social endeavours. Each step he takes resonates with the laughter and camaraderie of his peers, bringing joy not just to himself, but to his family, who now watch with grateful hearts.

His parents, once taut with worry, are demonstrative in their gratitude toward all hands that played a part in writing this victorious chapter of their son's life. Most of all, they are indebted to Oisho Bani Society, without whom this narrative of success could not have been authored.

Aritrik Paul's story is not only one of overcoming physical limitations but a testament to human solidarity and the indomitable spirit that resides within a community that chooses to lift each other towards the light of hope and healing.



**The Inspiring Tailor of Tripura: The Journey of the Debnath Family to Independence and Empowerment**

In the bustling community of Jogendranagar, the Debnath family grappled with uncertainty. The intermittent clinking of Biswajit's ironwork melded with the silence of quiet potential, as Rupa, a housewife with dreams of entrepreneurship, longed for a canvas to weave her aspirations into reality. Financial problems were a constant and unwanted part of their daily life.

Amidst this struggle buzzed young Master Bikas Debnath, whose zest for life hummed at a different frequency. Bikas's world was one of muted sounds and blurred sights, a symphony he experienced in unique ways due to his hearing impairment (HI) and low vision. In a home where affluence was scarce, his disabilities added layers to an already challenging existence.

Hope, however, dawned in the form of Smt. Tamasa Acharjee, a devoted CBID trainer. She discovered the family through her visit. Diving into the Debnaths' life, she not only registered the household under the CBID programme implemented by Oisho Bani Society (OBS) but also initiated a cascade of transformational steps.

The District Disability Rehabilitation Centre (DDRC) revealed the multifaceted nature of Bikas's disabilities—a revelation that marked the beginnings of change. Formation of an Inclusive Parents Group found an enthusiastic member in Rupa. And as an occupational therapist equipped Bikas with essential assistive devices, the inklings of empowerment began to crystallize.

With Tamasa's guidance, the new year brought a gift of tremendous value—the Disability Certificate for Bikas, a key to various supports. Concurrently, Rupa embarked on a tailoring journey, and eventually, the hum of her own tailoring machine—a token of independence through the programme.

The shadows that once clouded the Debnath household began to lift, revealing determination and resilience. Rupa, with newfound skills and a sewing machine, sought avenues to market her craft. Her tenacity bore fruit; a merchant's faith in her abilities blossomed into a thriving partnership. Nighties, once just garments, became emblems of hope stitched together by Rupa's hands.

Turned away by some, inspired by others, Rupa's business began to flourish within her community. The entwining of livelihoods as neighbors joined her venture painted a portrait of communal solidarity. Rupa's perseverance not only elevated her family but also sowed the seeds of economic growth around her.

Now, with Oisho Bani Societies' continued support, the Debnath family revels in a harmony of shared responsibilities and success. The business buzzes along, while Bikas's education blossoms. Savings grace the family's horizon—a promise of brighter tomorrows.

From the echoes of Biswajit's iron shop to the soft whirl of the tailoring machine, the Debnath family story is a testament to the power of community-based support and the strength of the human spirit to adapt, adopt, and aspire. Bikas, the young master of resilience, and Rupa, the aspiring entrepreneur, weave a tapestry of hope, a reminder that when opportunity knocks, with unity and support, any door can be opened.

# **Community Based Inclusive Development**



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