

***IPER***  
**INSTITUTE OF PSYCHOLOGICAL AND  
EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH**



**Annual Report**  
**2022-23**



**IPER**  
**P-39/1 Prince Anwar Shah Road,**  
**CIT Scheme 114-A, Kolkata-700045**  
**India**

## Annual Report 2022-23

**Institute of Psychological & Educational Research [IPER]** is a voluntary organisation registered as a society [SO010944 of 1971-72] with the Government of West Bengal and working for more than 50 years, with the deprived and disadvantaged population especially children and women with a special emphasis on girl children. Founded by **Late Dr. Arun Ghosh**, a noted author and educationist and a **National Awardee on Child Welfare** of the Government of India, IPER felt the need to bring the two disciplines education and psychology closer to serve the society. IPER being a rights based organisation and operates with a focus on making rights for underprivileged children and women a reality. It is wedded to the principles of **Convention on Child Rights**, and works keeping in mind the Principle of the **Best Interest of the Child** in all child related interventions.

**A registered Society IPER is also registered under the FCRA with the Home Ministry and CSR1 and enjoys exemption under section 80G (5) (vi) of IT Act.** IPER has a Child Protection Policy, Gender Policy, Human Resource Policy which is shared with all the members of the staff. Our accounts are audited regularly.

IPER is also working with the **Sustainable Development Goals [SDGs]** especially the Goal #4 on quality education for all and Goal #5 on Gender Equality. To this end it works on education, capacity building, empowerment and protection of the beneficiaries through best practices IPER believes in a community centric model of sustainable development. This is carried out by creating quality and equitable opportunities for children, women and communities to learn and grow with a view to long term sustainable change.

### Vision

**An equitable and just environment where children can develop to their full potential without any discrimination.**

### Mission

**Ensure all-round development of the underprivileged, especially children with a special focus on the girl child and women through education, protection capacity building and empowerment.**

### **OBJECTIVES:**

- to initiate, organise & promote all activities of human development with a special focus on children and women
- to evolve innovative programme & methodology conducive to development
- to execute research programmes for the development of children
- to develop appropriate materials for assessment of progress, learning materials, publish books, brochures, bulletins
- to undertake advocacy & training programmes for different stakeholders

The major focus of the work is children between the age group 4 to 18 years with a special attention on girls. Since child's life is influenced and developed in a family with maximum impact of the women in the family IPER is also concentration on the improvement of the women and the family of the children. This has necessitated us to work with the community and different stakeholders. The major areas of all our Programme are education, protection and capacity building. The **Sustainable Development Goals** are taken as the primary principles based on which all the programmes are carried out.

## THE AREAS OF WORK ARE:

### 1. Educational development

- Non-formal education with a focus on high-risk children
- Mainstreaming, retaining children in school
- Early childhood development
- Teachers' Training to ensure quality education in schools

### 2. Protection from Violence and abuse

- Awareness on Rights of children and women
- Formation of children's groups for their protection
- Running Open Shelter for vulnerable girls
- Working with the 24x7 helpline for children-in-crisis CHILDLINE1098 for children at risk

### 3. Capacity building

- Ensuring livelihood through skill development and functional education for women
- Regular training on Right of the Child with children as well as community people.
- Training and awareness on Child Protection issues are also carried out with children and community
- Interaction of children with different Corporate, formal School students, and other organisations
- Training on Dance Movement Therapy



## PROJECTS

### EDUCATION

Education serves as a fundamental pillar of development by empowering individuals, reducing poverty, fostering social cohesion and promoting economic growth to create sustainable and equitable societies.

IPER is working extensively on **SDG #4** - Quality Education for all. It believes that Education is the most powerful tool for all development and strength and it is the cross cutting theme in all of IPER's projects. In its aim to take education to the doorsteps of all, the Community Learning Centres work inside the slums so that each and every child can access the same without travelling far.

### Learning Wonders – A Quality Pre-Primary & Primary Learning Centre

Learning Wonders', an English medium co-educational, experiential learning initiative for children was set up in 2011 in line with IPER's commitment for quality education for under-privileged children. Children are admitted from the age of 2+ till 10 years. The Centre runs for five days a week for 4 hours each day. During the year the centre had an average of 40 children. During the year 18 children left and took admission in some other schools and there were 43 new admissions. Good academic progress and attendance was seen. In the annual assessment 52% children got scores between 30 to 59, 26% children scored between 60 to 80 and the rest 22% got scores above 80.

### SMILE Foundation Mission Education Project

The Project on **Education of the Underprivileged children** which started a decade ago is continuing in the year 2022-23 with 100 children. Most of the children come from slums of Kolkata in KMC Wards 93 and 94. The project is partly supported by Smile Foundation the rest of the part is generated by IPER through '**Action-For-Children**' efforts.

The project aims at bridging the learning gap that exists between actual level and expected age/class-appropriate level of learning competencies. Classes are held at IPER on language and arithmetic and environmental sciences. The students range from class pre-primary to Class VI. A mid-day meal is arranged for all children.

Activities included are :

- remedial education
- learning through STEM Education
- mothers' meetings

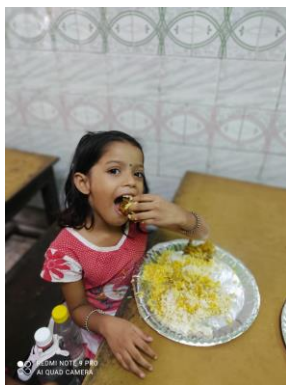
Smile Foundation organized a webinar on Learning Loss and Educational Recovery of its beneficiaries. In addition to an earlier survey, a Learning Assessment Survey of the children from Class-I to VIII was done to gauge the learning gaps due to Covid-19 pandemic and explore ways for recovering the learning loss.

### **The Community Radio Programme- SAHOJ PATH**

The initiative between SPCPR, Jadavpur Community Radio, and IPER, along with two other NGOs, stepped into its third year in September 2022. In the programme teachers of IPER are continuing preparing audio lessons for students of Classes I – V in subjects like English, Bengali and on issues like child protection, child rights and other matters like how to cross the road, what food is good for health, and so on. Stories too were read out too in the Audio lessons through Sahoj Path.

### **CHILD PROTECTION**

IPER is running the **Open Shelter** for girls since April 2011 under Mission Vatsalya, Department of Women & Child Development and Social Welfare, Government of West Bengal with the support from Ministry of Women & Child Development. The Open Shelter named '*SWAPNANEER*' [Dream Home] by the girls catered to 25/30 girls who are lacking protection and care. The number varied from day to day.



Three Contact Centres in three communities are run to identify the vulnerable children and plan interventions. Along with a Day Care Centre at IPER premises. These three Contact Centre and the Day Care Centre cater to 110+ children who are at risk of being victims of abuse and violence. Education, health care, nutrition, counselling, training & capacity building, Training on self-defence through TaekWon-Do, Kick-boxing Muay Thai, life skill and DMT, pre-vocational training in stitching and handicrafts, yoga and meditation are the services offered. Regular Survey on identifying vulnerable children is carried out by the Contact Centre facilitators. During 2022-23 they identified 938 children in the areas the Contact Centre are set up.

During the year April 2022 to March 2023 minimum number of girls who attended the shelter varied from 32 to 39 girls. These girls availed the facilities of the Shelter like food, clothes, toiletries, bathing facility, laundry, etc. The primary services being safety and security of the girls ensuring their Right to protection. A collaborative Project with Kolkata Sanved was held with the girls of Shelter for 6 months from July to December 2022.

### **CHILDLINE - A HELPLINE FOR CHILDREN IN-CRISIS**

IPER is running another programme on Child Protection which is **CHILDLINE 1098** a toll-free phone service for children in crisis. It is a crucial link between children in need of care and protection and the available facilities. It is a 24x7 help-line 1098 for children and aims to respond not only to emergency needs but also to link children to various services established for long-term care and rehabilitation.

IPER is working as a Support Centre of Kolkata Child Line since 1999 to assist children who are in need of care and protection. It is covering southern parts of Kolkata as well as a part of South 24 Pgn. It is supported by the Ministry of Women & Child Development. The total number of children attended through different services was 111. Total number of awareness sessions with stakeholders on ChildLine and child protection was 197 covering 799 people and 1821 children. Number of people covered through different programmes like school teachers, ICDS, women's meetings, street awareness was 1552.



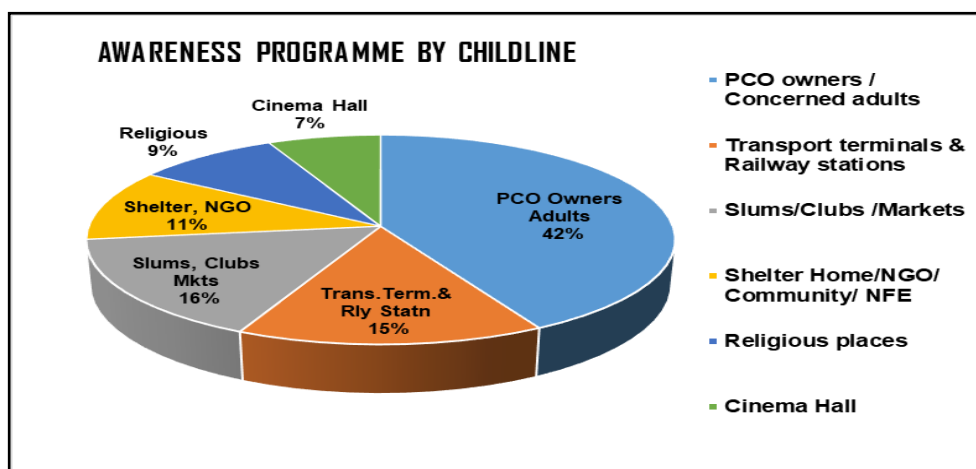
IPER has started another Bengal CHILDLINE Project from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021 in Esplanade Bus Station as a Collaborative organisation. Since no office accommodation was available in Esplanade area the ChildLine team operated from the roads and Bus terminus, Tram terminus. Awareness was created amongst the Shop owners, hawkers, passengers, as well as in the schools. Markets, Police Stations, in and around the KMC Wards 45, 46, and adjoining areas. The Team also travelled in the Tram that started from the Esplanade

Terminus and created awareness on ChildLine and child protection amongst the passengers travelling in the Tram. The number of awareness sessions during the year was 294 and persons contacted are 8410. Total number of cases attended during the year was 23. A Programme on CHILDLINE Se Dosti was Celebrated from 14<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> of November 2022.

IPER participated in a Project on 'Engagement with Ward-level stakeholders and adolescents towards street connected child-responsive programming under Kolkata Municipal Corporation, West Bengal' a collaborative programme with CIF and UNICEF. Under this Project several Programmes with adolescents, different stakeholders and KMC Officials were held during May to December 2022.

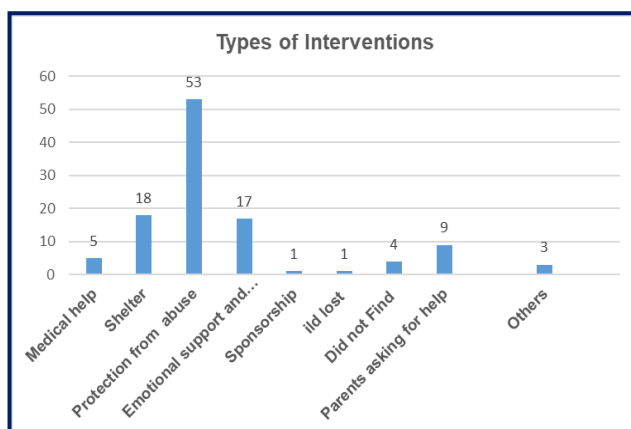
| Target Group                           | Reached out to | %   |
|--|----------------|-----|
| PCO owners / Concerned adults          | 3247           | 42  |
| Transport terminals & Railway stations | 1151           | 15  |
| Slums/Clubs /Markets                   | 1224           | 16  |
| Shelter Home/NGO/ Community/ NFE       | 839            | 11  |
| Religious places                       | 658            | 9   |
| Cinema Hall                            | 534            | 7   |
| Total                                  | 7653           | 100 |

#### Awareness of CHILDLINE during 2022-23



| Type of calls | Calls attended | % |
|---------------|----------------|---|
|               |                |   |

|                                |            |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Medical help                   | 5          | 4          |
| Shelter                        | 18         | 16.        |
| Protection from abuse          | 53         | 48         |
| Emotional support and Guidance | 17         | 15         |
| Sponsorship                    | 1          | 1          |
| Id lost                        | 1          | 1          |
| Did not Find                   | 4          | 4          |
| Parents asking for help        | 9          | 8          |
| Others                         | 3          | 3          |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>111</b> | <b>100</b> |



## HEALTH CARE

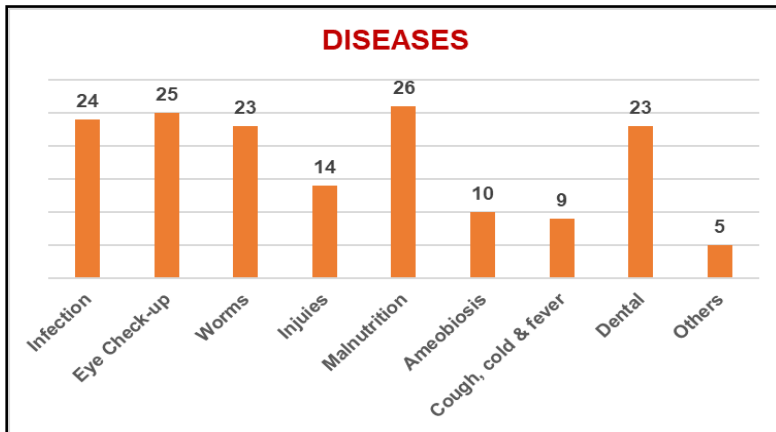
Health check-up and required interventions in terms of investigation and supply of medicines are part of all the projects that are run at IPER. Health care is one of the basic rights and in line with UN SDG 3. During the year 2022-23 two awareness sessions and 20 Medical check-ups were carried out by the Doctors of RBSK, a project under Govt. of India's Health Dept. General ailments like diarrhoea, fever, cough and cold, skin infections, worm infestation were treated. Observations and finding of the check-ups are recorded in the medical check -up forms for the respective child. Records of check-ups, investigations including height and weight measurements and medicines supplied are maintained. Referral services are also provided and attended by IPER social workers. Currently Health Check up is being done carried on bimonthly by the Doctors.

An Eye Camp was held by SUSRUT in October 2022. Covid Vaccines was given to 30 children and Reblava vaccine to 16 children.

| Sl. | Illnesses            | No. of cases | Sl. | Illnesses        | No. of cases |
|-----|----------------------|--------------|-----|------------------|--------------|
| 1.  | Cough, cold, & fever | 09           | 10. | Fungal Infection | 01           |
| 2.  | Skin infection       | 14           | 11. | Eye Check-up     | 25           |
| 3.  | Amoebiasis           | 07           | 12. | Worms            | 23           |
| 4.  | Dental               | 23           | 13. | Injury & pain    | 08           |
| 5.  | Malnutrition         | 06           | 14. | Headache         | 01           |
| 6.  | Ear infection        | 09           | 15. | Dysentery        | 03           |
| 7.  | Burn Injury          | 01           | 16. | Cut Injury       | 05           |
| 8.  | General weakness     | 20           | 17. | Anxiety          | 01           |
| 9.  | Abscess              | 02           | 18. | Speech Problem   | 01           |
|     |                      |              |     |                  | <b>159</b>   |

### REFERRALS to SSKM HOSPITAL

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Skin  | <u>6</u> |
| Dental                                      | <u>5</u> |
| Slow Learner Referred to Special School - 3 |          |



## Nutrition

IAPER children enjoy a meal in the afternoon during the class days. A daily routine is followed and accordingly children get soya bean, egg, lentil & vegetables, along with rice sometimes fish and chicken were served to the children. The meals were crucial during the Covid pandemic days when children suffered the most in terms of food scarcity

and hunger. A planned meal is also given to take care of their nourishment as most of the children suffer from mild to moderate forms of malnourishment. The meal they take at IAPER is often the only full meal in the day. Often special meals are also arranged for the children. During the year on an average 75 to 80 children were served with a nutritious lunch every working day of the week.

It has been found that most children come to the classes on an empty stomach. So, children are served with a cup of Horlicks before the start of the class for their nutritional supplement as well, because many of them are malnourished. One of our very good friend Ms. Veena Lakhumalani is supporting the cost of the Horlicks for the children.

## SPONSORSHIP

IAPER Sponsorship Programme stepped into its twenty second year in 2022-23. During the year 65 children were sponsored both by Indian and foreign sponsors. Sponsors come from such countries as Finland, UK, US and Czechoslovakia.

Sponsorship Programme consists of the following components:

- Educational support like school fees, books, school uniforms, shoes, fees tuition, etc.
- Emergency health care and treatment
- One meal a day

During the year 2 sponsored children passed their Madhyamik (Class X) Examination, 1 student passed the Higher Secondary Examination while 4 students completed their Graduation degree course successfully.

## INCOME GENERATION/SKILL TRAINING PROGRAMME

### IAPER Swadhina

A programme for empowering women and is working more intensely with the downtrodden and deprived section of the women population in the area. Cutting and Tailoring, Jute Craft, Handicraft etc. were taught to young girls with trainers. Income generation skills are given through courses like beautician, courses on cutting and tailoring, stitching, embroidery, handmade paper bags, greeting cards, craft work with handmade papers and jute materials.

**The products that are made through these trainings are:**

- Embroidered cloth for blouses, dress, stoles, scarves
- Decorative silk clutch-bags, hand bags & jute bags
- Hand-made paper files, photo frames, note pads, diaries, greeting cards and book-marks.

## CAPACITY BUILDING

Advocacy and capacity building programmes for teachers, children and young women form a core objective of the activities that IPER does. IPER regularly organises different types of trainings and capacity building programme on child rights, project management, child development, gender issues, communication and so on for teachers, children as well as the members of the community. During the year 13 on life skill, Communication skills, JJ Act 2015, Leadership, Good & Bad Touch, child protection and so on.



## Covid Relief

IPER has been giving rations in collaboration with SMILE Foundation, DALSA for the children from the time the country was under lockdown due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Consequently, IPER took the decision to not only open the kitchen and provide afternoon meals to the attending children, but to also give monthly rations to support the families.

## MAJOR EVENTS

**Crimson Menstrual Hygiene project** --Tangent India, an association of 41 Clubs of India present Crimson Menstrual Hygiene project organized an awareness programme on 'Menstrual Hygiene' on 17<sup>th</sup> May. They told the mothers and young girls how to maintain themselves during the time they have their periods.

### Menstrual Health & Hygiene (Menstrupedia)

A meeting cum workshop on Menstrual Health & Hygiene was organized by a Delhi based NGO '**We the Change**' for adolescents and adult women. All aspects regarding the menstrual cycle along with the reproductive health was explained clearly. Later printed comic books explaining menstrual hygiene along with a menstrual kit were distributed.

**Girls' Football match.** To encourage the girls in outdoor games, Subir Sinha of Cross Star Football Association took the initiative to form a Girls' Football team and started preparing them for '**Kanyasree Football Match**'. The team consisting of 18 members played football with **Cross Star Football** team at Rabindra Sarobar (Lake) on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022. One girl from IPER got the Best Player Award.



On 24<sup>th</sup> January 2023 IPER observed **Girl Child Day** with an introduction by Dr. Bijli Mallik Director, IPER who highlighted the activities of IPER in the areas of protection and education of the girl child and nutrition. IPER also works for the empowerment of women. A special event this year was the declaration of the "Arun Ghosh Memorial Award on Education", to be given annually, of Rs. 5000/-. The Award was given to three girls chosen from local schools who secured more than 75% marks in the annual examination of Class VIII. All three girls spoke about their life and their aspirations in life. A very resourceful speech on the status of women in India was given by Ms. Sulagna Roy, and a powerful presentation by Dance Movement Therapy (DMT) presentation by KOLKATA SANVED. Girls who got training on DMT received Certificates jointly from KOLKATA SANVED & IPER. Mr. Samir Baptist CEO of the BIHAAN an organization working with trafficked victims, spoke of his experiences with them.

On 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023 IPER organized '**International Women's day**' with a programme in collaboration with IWD-Noble Work. All the mothers were invited. The event began with a dance by the girls of IPER. Next IWD-Noble Work narrated the history of 'International Women's Day.' A quiz was played with the mothers. A role play on early marriage was performed by the mothers and young girls. A short film 'Forced Marriage' was also shown.

## EVENTS FOR THE YEAR 2022-23

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>2022</b>                |  |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> April 2022 | <b>International Health Day</b> Children were told about the meaning of remaining healthy and fit. They were requested to avoid street and junk foods and fries, Maggi, chips and instead eat nutritious foods like vegetables, fruits, dairy products, eggs, fish and meat.   |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> April     | <b>World Earth Day</b> -- Students gathered in the classroom and through discussions learnt the value of, and how to save the environment. They did a craft on Earth Day.  |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> May        | <b>Rabindra Jayanti</b> , the birth anniversary of Guru Rabindranath Tagore was celebrated through songs, dances and drama from Tagore's creations by the children and teachers.   |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> June       | <b>V force, an initiative of UN Volunteers</b> organised a workshop - <b>Best out of Waste</b> , where children made a vertical garden shaping plastic bottles as pots and planting saplings in them. These were then hung on the walls creating a kaleidoscope of colours.  |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> August    | <b>Celebrating 75<sup>th</sup> Independence Day</b><br>The aim was to make the children aware about the meaning of Independence and celebrate the day when India became an independent country. Amidst flag hoisting the children and adults sang the National Anthem as well as other patriotic songs. One of the older students of IPER, Suktara Khatun, performed a dance on empowerment and Independence.  |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> September  | IPER children observed <b>Teacher's Day</b> on 5 <sup>th</sup> September. The teacher told the students about the life of this great teacher Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan whose birthday was named 'Teacher's Day'. After that a 'Greetings' Card' making workshop was conducted in the class. Students made a lot of varieties of cards for their teachers. The day ended with a cultural programme.  |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> September  | <b>World Literacy Day</b> -- In the classroom at IPER the meaning of the word "Literacy" had been explained. Stories on the work on literacy by some of our great persons had been discussed. Students were given worksheets to solve, various letter/word games which they enjoyed.   |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> September | <b>World Ozone Day.</b> Today climate change and global warming are major challenges affecting everyone. - Children were explained that the ozone layer is a fragile shield of gas made of 3 molecules of oxygen, protects the Earth from the harmful portion of the rays of the sun, thus helping preserve life on the planet. The children then made drawings of how the Ozone layer protects our planet from the ultra-violet rays of the Sun. They also played a game on Ozone protection. |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> September | <b>AGAMANI celebrating the advent of Durga Puja</b> --A splendid rendition of plentiful of AGAMANI songs, recitation and dances by the girls won the heart of everyone present. Distribution of snacks to the children was done.   |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> October   | <b>International Day of the Girl Child</b> was observed with the message <b>Stop Violence against Girl Child</b> . The children were told the values and importance of women. They made posters on the significance of girl child in the society.  |

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| 15 <sup>th</sup> October  | <b>Global Hand Washing Day</b> was observed on 15 October. Children observed hand washing day at IPER singing a chorus on hand washing. Demonstration was done of the way hands should be washed. Students were told that by washing hands properly respiratory and intestinal diseases can be reduced by 25–50%. All the children were given soaps to promote the habit of hand washing..   |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> November | <b>World Science Day</b> for Peace and Development was held to celebrate how science promotes global peace and development. This year's theme was Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development. The children at IPER observed this day by making many small scientific experiments in the classroom.   |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> November | <b>Children's Day</b> , the birthday of India's first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, is known as Bal Diwas in India. IPER celebrated the day with staff members of IPER and teachers presenting comedy skits and dramas. Few children staged dances. Many guests and patrons of IPER were present, including some from Ireland. Children had a fun-filled day which ended with snacks, chocolates and ice creams.  |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> November | <b>World Toilet Day</b> was observed to try and move towards the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6, which promises clean water and sanitation for all by 2030. IPER Children observed World Toilet Day and learnt that diseases like diarrhoea are caused by dirty water leading to many preventable deaths. They were also told how to use and maintain Sulabh Toilets and washrooms in their communities.   |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> November | IPER observed <b>Child Rights Day</b> through discussions on the inter relationship between 'rights' 'needs' and 'wants'. They also participated in an activity " <b>Rights Web</b> '  |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> December | <b>Human Rights Day</b> was celebrated on 10 December to protect the fundamental human rights of all people and their basic human freedom. There was a session in the classroom on what was meant by 'Human Rights'. The children were told in detail about all the Rights they enjoy and asked to say some of them. most children said "right to education and shelter."  |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> December |  |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> December | <b>National Energy Conservation Day</b> is being observed since 1999 by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), under the Ministry of Power, to raise awareness about the need for energy and its conservation in daily life. Children heard about the importance of saving energy in our daily lives. Information was given to the children on minimizing energy waste and how they can conserve resources. Later they drew pictures on "Save Energy, Save Life" mentioning ways of saving energy and power. |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> December | Children at IPER celebrated <b>Christmas</b> by decorating their classrooms and making Christmas cards Girls from Asoke Hall Girls' School came to IPER and distributed Hand Made Chocolates and cookies to all the children for Christmas. .  |
| <b>2023</b>               |  |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> January  | IPER observed the birthday of Swami Vivekananda known as 'National Youth Day' "with children who listened to the seven main preachings of Vivekananda. The teacher explained the meaning of these sayings to the children. A story on the life of Swamiji was narrated.  |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> January  | The birthday of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was observed at IPER with videos of his life being shown to the children.   |

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| 26 <sup>th</sup> January  | <b>Republic Day</b> was celebrated on January 26 as the day when the India was declared a Republic Children were told that 26 <sup>th</sup> January is the birthday of Indian Constitution as it came into effect on 26 <sup>th</sup> January 1950. Children participated in a drawing session on the Tiranga/National flag. Some of the children made national flags. The event ended with the singing of the National Anthem. |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> February | Students visited <b>Alipore Central Jail Museum</b> to learn about our freedom fighters and their contributions to free our country from the British Rule.  |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> February | IPER celebrated <b>International Mother Language Day, Bhasa Divas</b> , to understand and prove our commitment to the preservation of the diversity of culture & languages as our heritage. A rally was held on Prince Anwar Shah Road with children singing and dancing dressed in the apparel of different Indian states.   |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> February | <b>Childline's 24<sup>th</sup> Birthday</b> was celebrated with a visit of children to the Birla Industrial and Technological Museum where they visited all the galleries and were exposed to the Scientific and Technological Marvels there.   |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> March    | <b>World Water Day</b> was observed on 22 <sup>nd</sup> March globally to raise awareness about the importance of water and its conservation. The children learnt that human life is dependent on water and no one can survive without it. Therefore, the importance of water on earth and the crucial need to save it.   |