



# INSTITUTE OF PSYCHOLOGICAL AND EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH



## Annual Report

2024-25

### IPER KOLKATA



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West Bengal 700045

**IPER**  
**Institute of Psychological & Educational Research**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**2024-25**

**Director's Report**

Dear Members,

Greetings from IPER as we step into the fifty fifth year of our formation!

I heartily welcome the members to the Annual General Meeting of 2024-25. It is a pleasure to inform you that the projects with under-privileged children and the Open Shelter for girls is running effectively. Beside educational activities the children are receiving different supports like health care, nutritional care and training in performing arts like dance, music, debating, drawing and so on.

The classes on with Taek-WonDo for the children especially girls are being taken by one of the past students of IPER. The children are also taught Yoga along with meditation. Additionally, IPER is running the vocational unit on tailoring and embroidery for ladies as well as Open Shelter girls. The women's group we work with intensively twice a week, has formalised them into a group Titled 'Aparajita'.

The Open Shelter is functioning as usual during day as well as night, especially for those who do not have a safe place to sleep at night. During the year 2024-25 the Home Management Committee of IPER Open Shelter meeting was held twice. There was one visit from DCPU. The educational Project under Mission Education of Smile Foundation is continuing as before with 120+ under-privileged children who attend classes for 5 days a week at IPER and took afternoon meal.

The meeting of Ward Level Child Protection Committee for KMC Ward 93 organised by IPER, was held once with the Councilor as the Chairperson and members from CWC, JJB, DCPU, School Teachers, Anganwadi workers, CDPO and doctor, child representatives along with the staff members of IPER were members.

A group of Italian interns visited IPER under a cultural exchange activity with the children. In collaboration with Team CISCO, IPER organised an event called 'Happy Feet'. Shoes were distributed and painted by the children. A free Health Camp was organised with eminent specialist doctors. Certificate courses on Physiotherapy Assistant were started

A grand Annual Cultural Programme was held at Birla Academy of Science and Culture which included various dance performances like bhangra as well as songs by the children of IPER.

As every year IPER received support and cooperation the Directorate of Child Rights & Trafficking, Government of West Bengal and Government of India for extending their support in implementing and monitoring the projects run under them. We offer our thanks to Soroptimist International of South Kolkata, Inner Wheel Club and Rotary Club of South City, GeoSatisTrust, Kolkata Sanved for extending their support and help. I extend my thanks to all the members of the Governing Body.

I also offer my sincere thanks to all the members of the staff who made the dream of IPER and friends of IPER to reach out to those in need. And last but not the least, special thanks go to the communities, families and the children who make the dream of IPER a reality.

17<sup>th</sup> November 2025

Dr. Bijli Mallik  
Director



# PREFACE

## *A Celebration of People, Perseverance and Progress*

This report aims to be a window into the live realities of children and women who, despite having the odds stacked against them, choose every day to learn, grow, and reclaim their futures.

In India today, nearly 4 in every 10 girls drop out of school before reaching puberty and only 75% of women are literate that too can just sign their names, compared to over 85% of literate men. Millions of children from underprivileged backgrounds remain enrolled in name, yet are absent in classrooms, missing out on essential learning. Many girls are taken out of school, sent back to their villages, and married off before they've even had a chance to complete their childhood. This report captures how IPER — a community-rooted voluntary organisation — is working to rewrite this narrative.

In the pages that follow, you will not only find numbers, programme, and structures — but stories. Real people. Real voices. Real change.

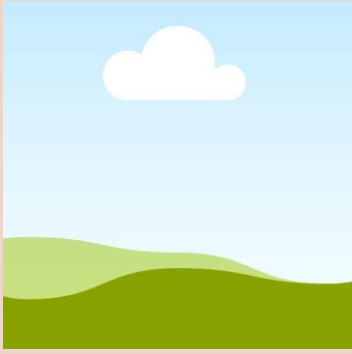
We hope this report inspires you to walk alongside us — to celebrate every milestone, understand every challenge, and imagine a world where every child studies, every woman earns, and no one is left behind.

# IPER

## The journey...



# HOW IPER CAME ABOUT



Visionary Founder

**Dr. Arun Ghosh**

*PhD from Calcutta University  
Winner of National Award for  
Child Welfare 2001*



Core Idea

*Merge principles of  
psychology and  
education to uplift  
communities*



Dr Ghosh's PhD research  
focused on marginalised  
communities



Registered in 1971

Our First Step



- ◆ School established in Park Circus
- ◆ Focus: Education of the specially-abled children – the mentally challenged
- ◆ Early initiatives included vocational training

A New Home

- ◆ Land purchased where IPER is located now
- ◆ Due to political disruptions, IPER at this location saw a temporarily shutdown



Shift to Child Labour Advocacy



- ◆ Began teaching child labours across Kolkata
- ◆ Classes held on weekends, in the class rooms of multiple schools

IPER (As we know it today)

- ◆ Re-established to focus on education; Community development & rights; Reinforcement of Mission Vatsalya Scheme
- ◆ Partnered with diverse organisations to help fund its projects on marginalised communities.



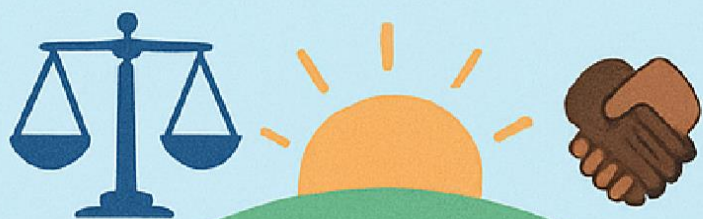
Community outreach and further expansion

- ◆ COVID 19: Distributed ration and essentials with funds from multiple donors
- ◆ Partnered with SMILE Foundation (partial donor) to provide underprivileged children of the locality with quality learning.
- ◆ Hosted interns from Finland to bring in global perspectives and establish IPER's sponsorship programme abroad



# VISION

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



EQUITY

DIGNITY

ACCESS

CHANGE

# MISSION

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



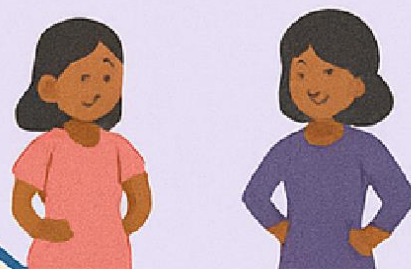
EDUCATION



PROTECTION



CAPACITY BUILDING



EMPOWERMENT



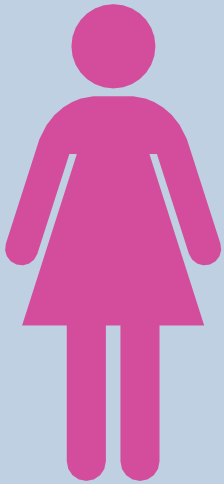
## VULNERABLE CHILDREN

Child labours

Children in need of care and protection

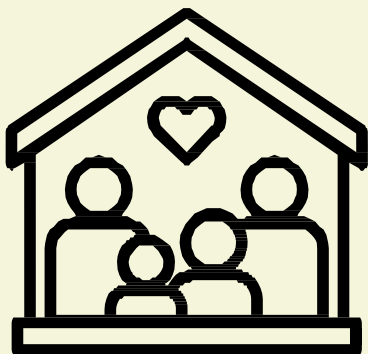
Children who are victims of abuse and violence

Children living on & off the streets



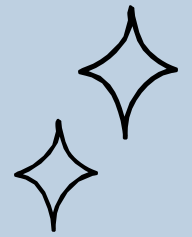
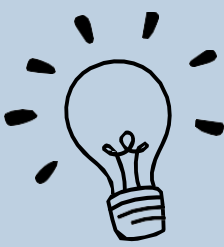
## WOMEN

Women living in slums seeking to improve their quality of life



## FAMILIES

Families living below the subsistence level



**MARGINALISED  
WOMEN**

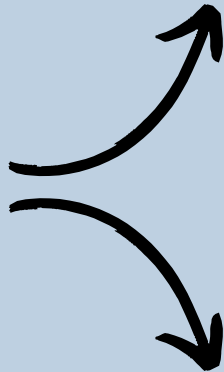
**COMMUN-  
ITIES**

**DISADVANTAGED  
CHILDREN**

**FAMILIES BELOW  
POVERTY LINE**



**STAKE-  
HOLDERS**



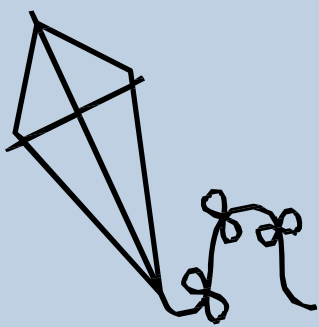
**STATE &  
CENTRAL  
GOVERNMENT**

**PARTNER NGOs  
& CBOs  
COLLABORATING  
AGENCIES**



**IPER  
MEMBERS  
OF STAFF**

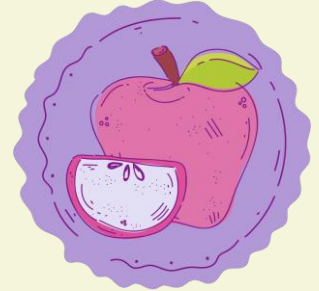
**DONORS**



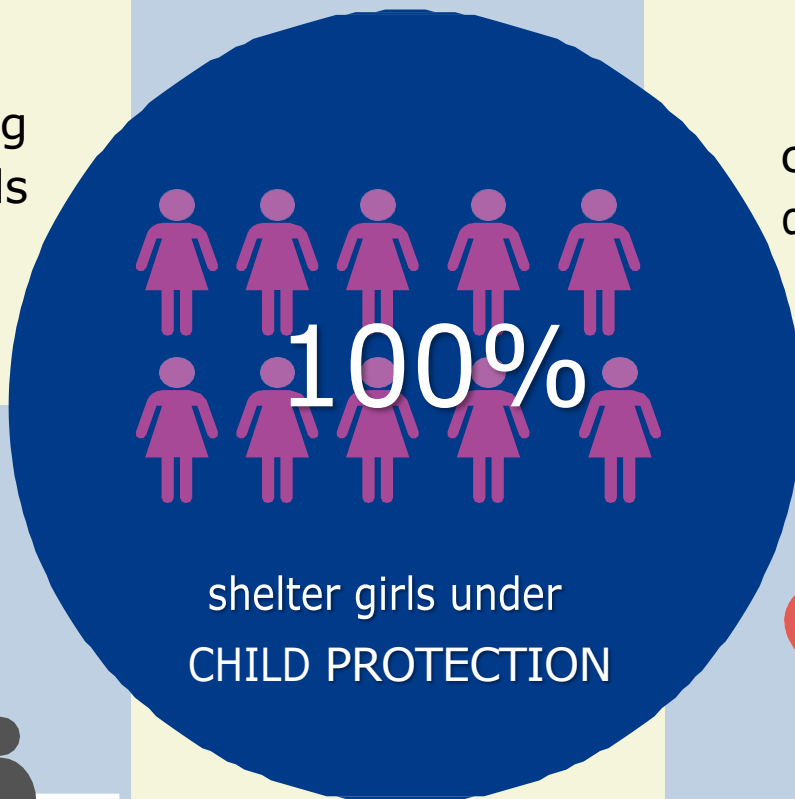
# OUR YEAR BY THE NUMBERS



**120+**  
girls attending  
formal schools



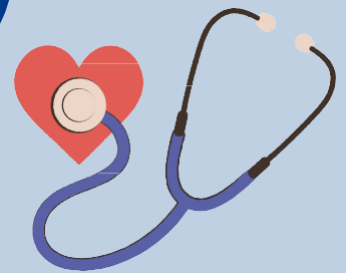
**200+**  
children given  
daily nutritious  
meals



shelter girls under  
**CHILD PROTECTION**



**3**  
contact points active  
in slums to protect  
girls at risk of abuse



**200+**  
IPER children  
supported with  
healthcare

# Highlights of the Services offered @ IPER

## Education

Children attend to age-appropriate classes in formal schools and receive remedial classes at IPER – during the year 120+ children are attending who are from grades Pre-primary, 1 to 10.

## Care & Protection

To protect the children from abuse, violence and neglect, security guard, CCTV monitoring. Care is given to make them learn how to protect them-selves. They are given training on self-protection through TaekWonDo, Kick boxing, on Good Touch & Bad Touch, Child Rights.

## Health Care

Regular health check-up and treatment are carried out with the help of government as well as private facilities. Special cases are referred and attended to with follow-up. During the year 84+... children received treatment.

## Nutrition

An afternoon meal is served for five days a week in a planned meal chart for every class-days. Sometime special treats are arranged on occasions like Birthdays, events, and so on.

## Yoga & Dance Movement Therapy (DMT)

During the year 46 sessions of Yoga and 32 DMT classes were held.

## Capacity Building

Newer skills are built through pre-vocational work on craft, embroidery, computer, dance and musical performances. Self-defense as Sports for Peace is carried out through TaekWonDo, Kick boxing, Muay Thai classes, 62 such sessions were carried out.

## Counselling

Group, peer, and individual counselling sessions – during the year 290 sessions were held with the children.

## Sports

An all-girls football team has been formed under a trained coach and they regularly play in tournaments and are receiving accolades.

## Guardians' Meetings

A monthly meeting with the guardians is held where issues like health, protection, educational progress, behavioural and other social issues are discussed. Special cases are dealt with and behavioural modification programme.

## Cultural & Sports Programme

Children regularly are trained and they perform in cultural events, like dance, music, recitation. A all-girls Football Team has been formed and they play with other teams and received accolade for the same.

## Sponsorship of Children

Deserving students are sponsored for the cost of their education, one meal a day and emergency health Care. During the year 50+ children and young persons were sponsored. Many of he sponsored young persons are continuing their career in Law, professional courses like automobile repairing, teachers' training, accountancy, so on.

## Internship Programme

IPER provides internship facilities for students from different schools, colleges and Universities. The programme extends from 10 days to even for months. They take up specific assignments as per their skills and interacts with the children, teachers and other members of the staff and submits a report to IPER on their work. A certificate based on their work is given to them at the end of their internship.

## Volunteers

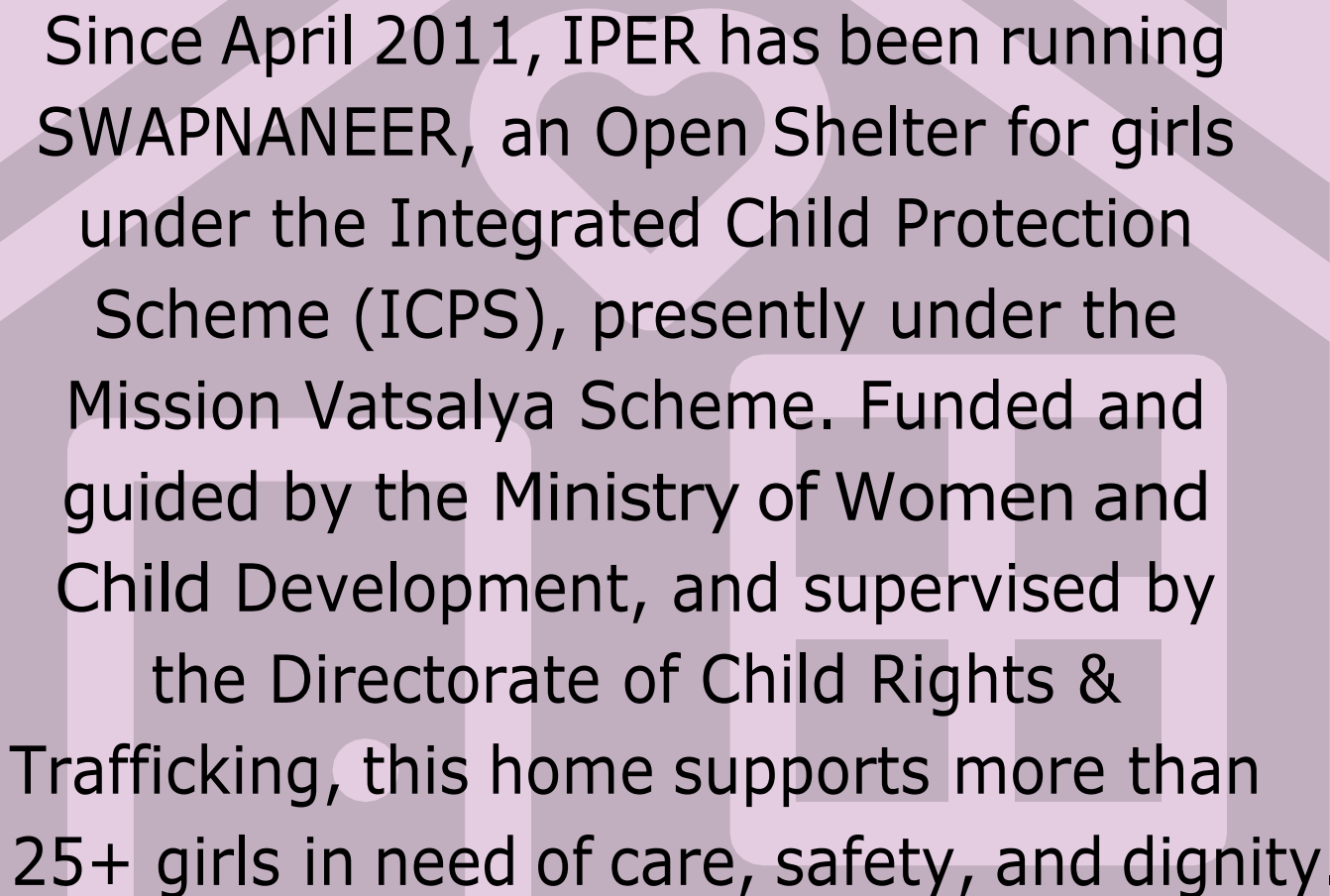
IPER encourages young persons as well as persons who are retired and skilled but interested to continue to render their services for the marginalized population to join IPER. Many of them teach, some help in cultural performances, some help in grooming and so on.

PROTECTION  
&  
CARE

# “SWAPNANEER”

*Open Shelter*

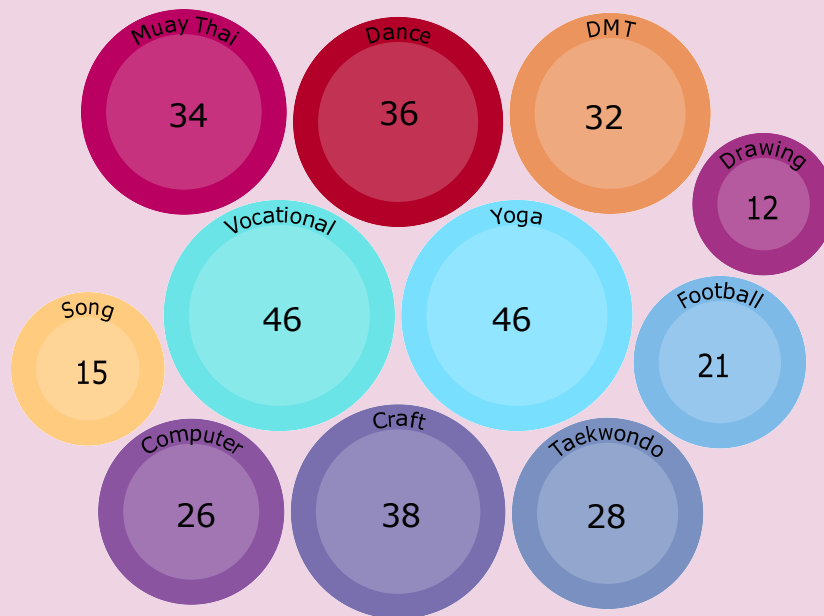
*A dream home for girls at risk*



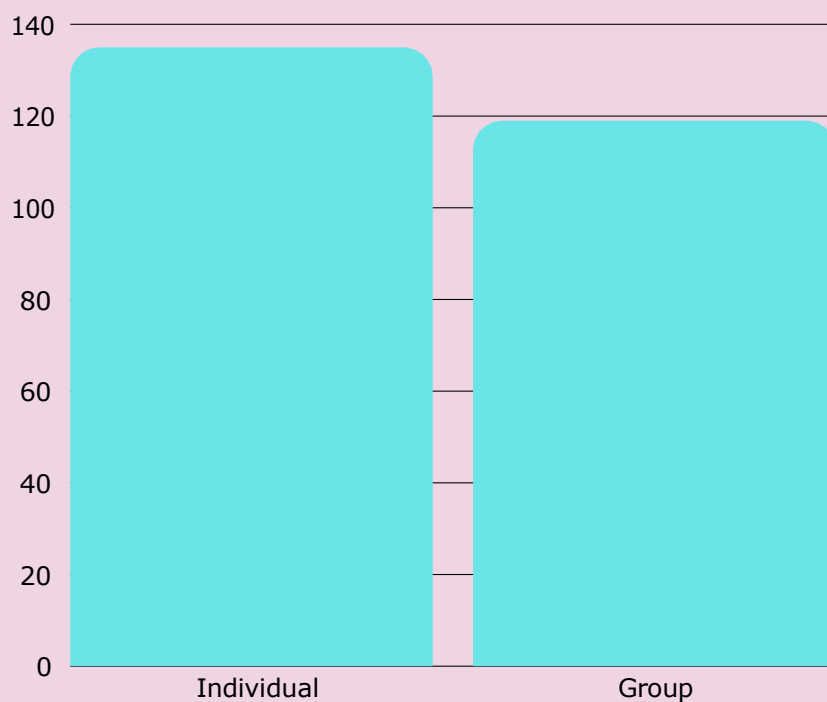
Since April 2011, IPER has been running SWAPNANEER, an Open Shelter for girls under the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS), presently under the Mission Vatsalya Scheme. Funded and guided by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, and supervised by the Directorate of Child Rights & Trafficking, this home supports more than 25+ girls in need of care, safety, and dignity.

# Yearly Data

## Services of Open Shelter 2024-2025 (No. of Sessions)



## Counselling sessions in the Open Shelter



# Outreach Efforts



At IPER, empowerment begins where the need is greatest, in the heart of under-resourced communities. We have established 3 Community Contact Centres and a daycare unit as we extend the vision and support of SWAPNANEER beyond the shelter walls, reaching girls who face daily risks of neglect, abuse, and marginalization.

Established as a vital part of the Open Shelter Programme under the Mission Vatsalya Scheme of the government, these centres serve as safe access points for children living in vulnerable conditions. Located strategically across three key urban settlements, the centres act as lifelines — offering care, learning, play, protection, and connection. Facilitators of the centres provide assignments like drawing, storytelling, and puzzles, emotional check-ins and mental health support and surveys to identify urgent family needs related to food, health, or safety.

Zero Balance account was opened for the 30 shelter girls. Apart from that an Account opening camp was held by SBI where people from the community also participated.

***In the Year 2024-2025, IPER held 36 community meetings in the Community Contact Centres i.e. 3 meetings per month.***

# Workshops in 2024-2025



## Self-awareness

In this workshop, through interactive activities, the girls explored their strengths, emotions, and personal identities, helping them build confidence and self-understanding.



## "Gratitude"

A gentle workshop on expressing thankfulness and appreciation – to themselves, to others, and for small joys in life.



## How colours work on our emotions

This creative session taught how colours influence moods and feelings, encouraging self-expression and awareness through art.



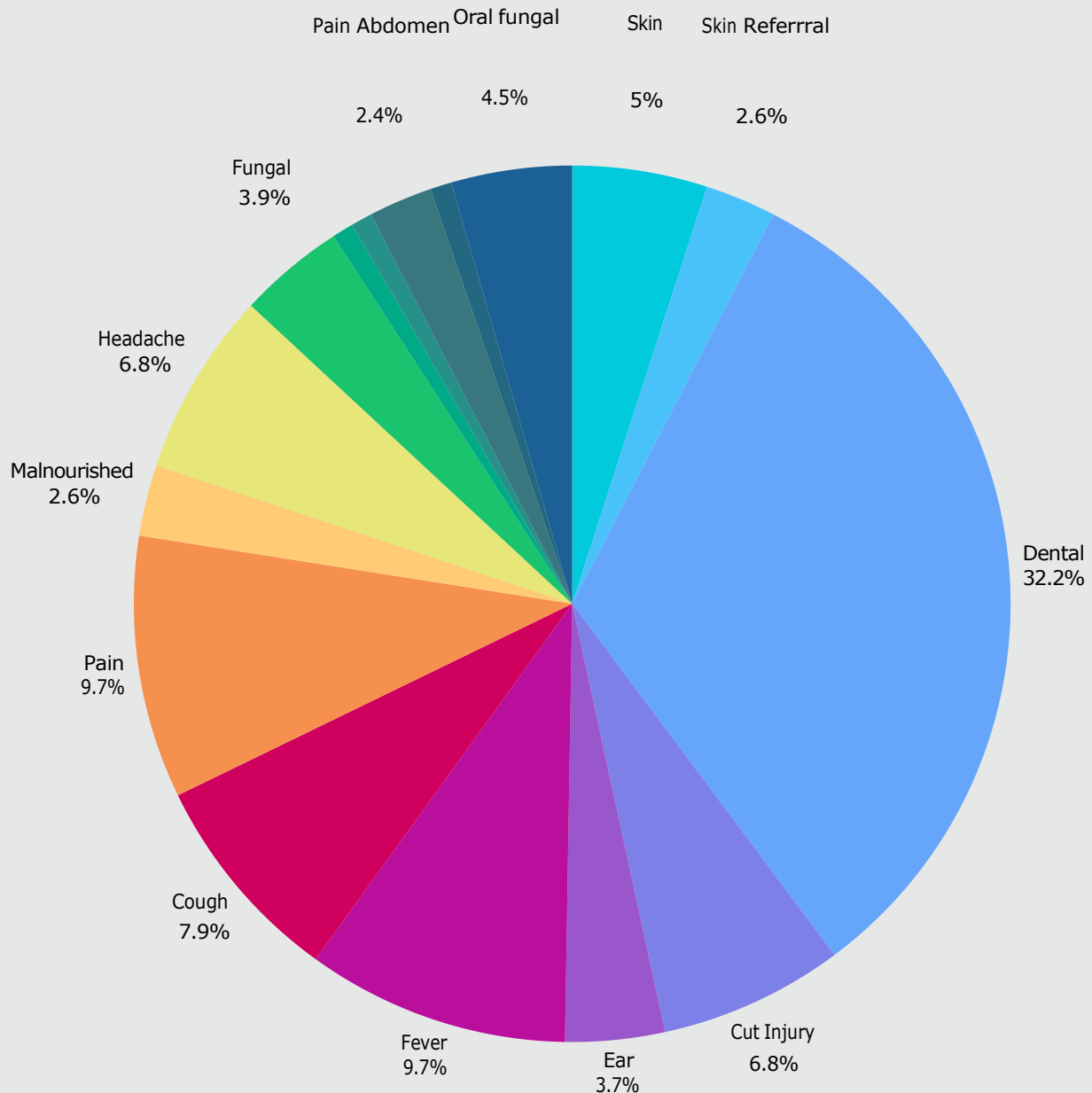
## Know your body

An empowering session where girls learned about their bodies, boundaries, and health, promoting confidence and safety.

# HEALTHCARE

IPER Health Checkup Report Apr 2024-Mar 2025

Special health camp with Community Contact #1



**At IPER, healthcare is woven into every initiative it undertakes. Aligned with UN SDG #3 (Good Health and Well-being), IPER's health programme ensures that children, especially those from vulnerable and underserved backgrounds, have access to timely and quality medical care.**

**It includes medical check-ups on a regular basis, providing treatment for different ailments and referrals when required. Health checkups were carried out during the year from April 2024 to March 2025 from doctor of RKBSK.**

**EDUCATION**

# MISSION EDUCATION

## In Partnership with SMILE Foundation

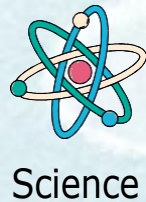
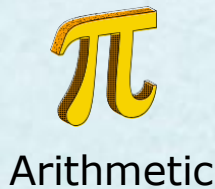


### Project Focus

To bridge the gap between actual learning levels and age/class- appropriate competencies through special remedial classes. It follows a Multigrade Multilevel teaching methodology.



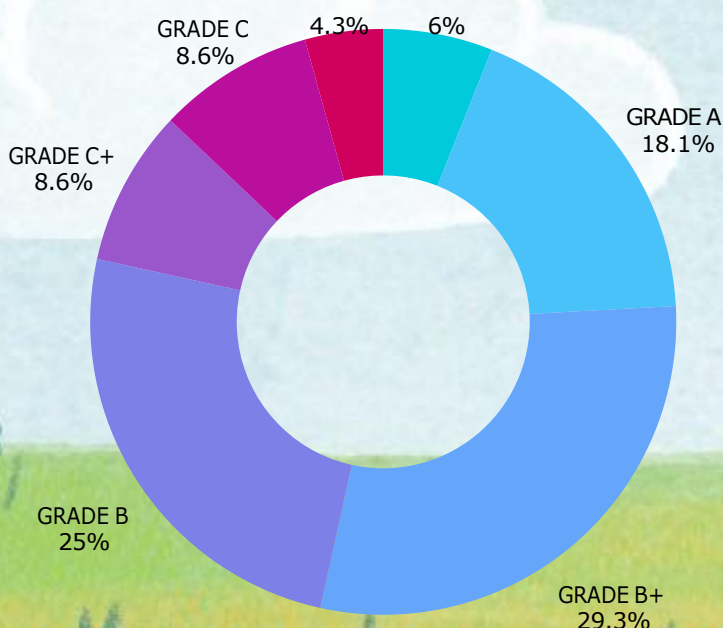
### Subjects covered:



Quality of learning improved through audio-visual lessons and a Community Radio Programme **"Sohoj Path"** in collaboration with Jadavpur University and WBSCPCR

### Assessment Results

Consisting of students from Pre-Primary, Classes I, II..till X  
GRADE D GRADE A+



### LEGEND:

- GRADE A+ 6% (91-100)
- GRADE A 18% (81-90)
- GRADE B+ 29.3% (71-80)
- GRADE B 25% (61-70)
- GRADE C+ 9% (51-60)
- GRADE C 8.6% (41-40)
- GRADE D 4.1% (Below 40)

# Key Highlights from 2024-2025

*A year of learning, creativity, health, and holistic growth*



Teachers' orientation and training are held regularly.

Counselling sessions started in March 2025.

Yoga classes have been introduced since the beginning of the session.

Parent Teacher meetings were held once in every quarter.

Internship from both national and international educational organizations are allowed in IPER. During the year 20 Interns attended IPER.

Volunteers are also motivated to teach and during the year IPER had three teachers volunteering their time with children.

Sessions on Good and Bad Touch, Road safety, Good Habits, Life Skills, Save Energy, Child Rights, Anti Child Labour, etc. were held in the classroom.

Children enjoyed afternoon meal on all the working days. Sometime special treats were organized with chicken curry, cakes and sweets.

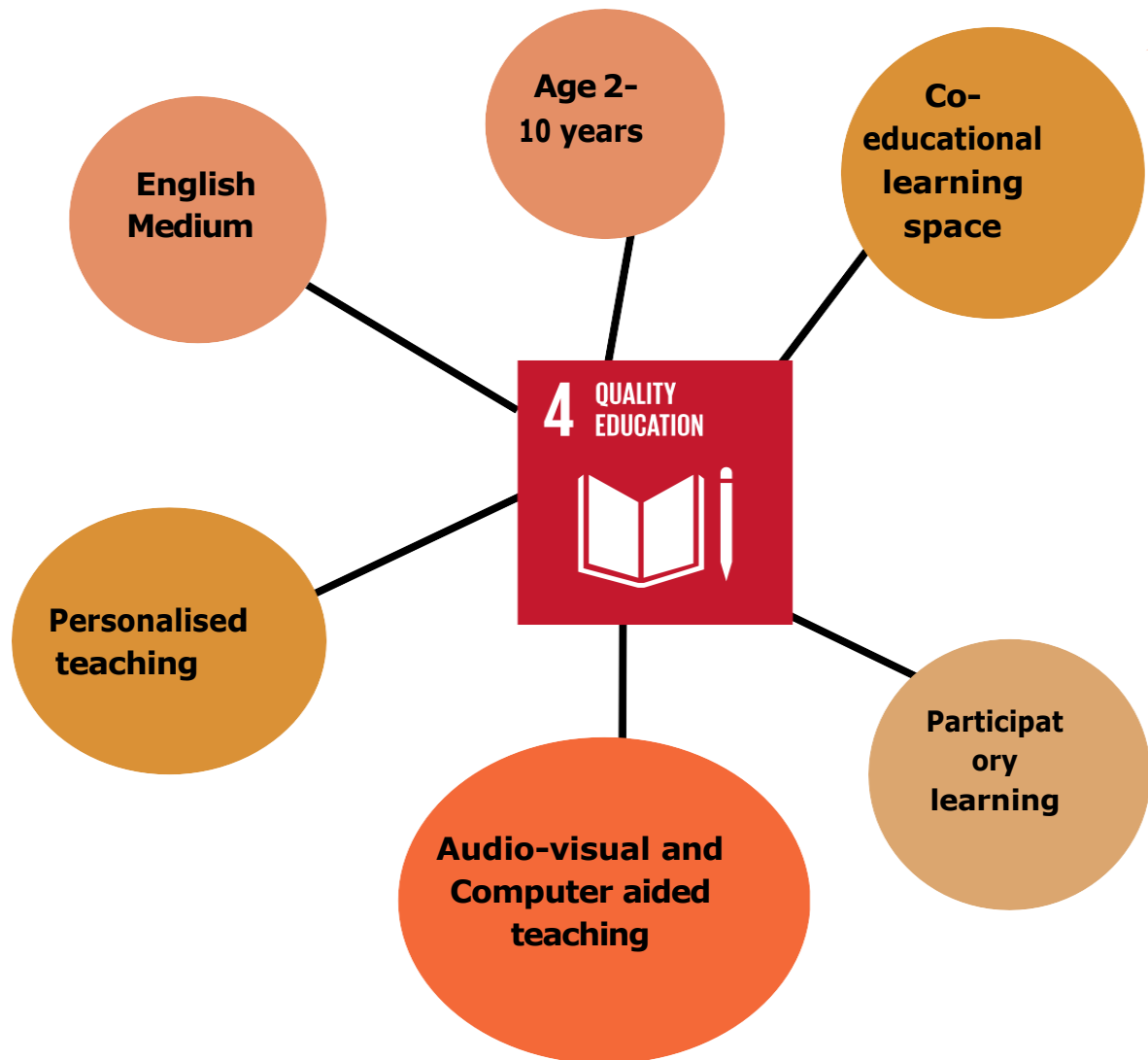
Regular Health Check Ups were conducted by RKBSK Doctors and required treatment was given to ailing children.

The IPER Health and Wellness Clinic facilities were extended to the children and Physiotherapy sessions were taken up with few children.

Quarterly assessments were carried out to measure academic progress of the children.

# Learning Wonders

A Quality Pre-Primary & Primary Learning Centre



Set up in 2011, Learning Wonders reflects IPER's commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goal 4: Quality Education.

The centre provides underprivileged children aged 2+ to 10 years with a nurturing, co-educational space where English is the medium of instruction. Through participatory and individualised methods, supported by audio-visual and computer-aided learning, children gain strong foundations in academics and life skills.

## **Average Percentage of Achievement of Students of Learning Wonders**

**A Grade - 38%**  
**B Grade - 37%**  
**C Grade - 16%**  
**D Grade - 09%**

**CAPACITY BUILDING  
VOCATIONAL**

# APARAJITA

"*Aparajita*" meaning 'the undefeated one ~ the invincible'

*Aparajita* is more than just a group. It is a safe space where women, many of whom grew up without access to education, come together to learn, share, and grow.

Here, literacy begins with the basics — counting to fifty, writing one's name, telling time — but what it really unlocks is confidence. Through creative vocational activities and open conversations about health, safety, and rights, *Aparajita* gives women the tools to navigate their lives with greater independence and purpose.

This is a story of women who rise — together — undefeated.

# Education

1 2 3

Counting confidently  
from 1 to 50



Telling time



Identifying bus  
numbers and  
navigating streets  
independently



Writing vital personal  
information e.g.

অ A

name, address, city, etc.  
Reading and writing basic  
Bengali and English

We've started to rediscover ourselves in a new way.

I can now read small letters on the streets and signboards.  
I no longer need to ask anyone — I can read names, the  
time, and even bus numbers on my own and understand  
them.

One of the Aparajita Participants said  
(Translated from Bengali)

# Vocational & Co-curricular Activities



Handmade cards, egg tray making, eco-friendly posters, decorative objects

Yoga and meditation



Zumba and songs

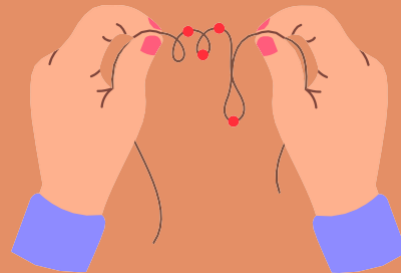
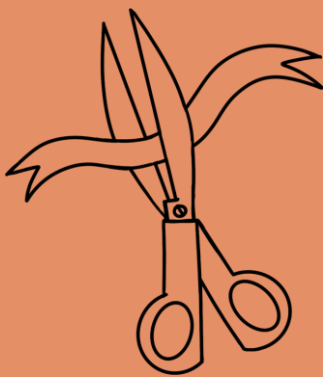


Here, we've found the joy we had left behind in our childhood — singing, dancing, reciting. We've been able to fulfil long-lost wishes. We've taken part in various activities and events, and we feel less afraid now.

-Aparajita Participant (Translated from Bengali)

# IPER SWADHINA

Focused on empowering women from marginalized communities, **Swadhina** provides hands-on training in income-generating skills, helping them claim dignity, confidence, and economic independence. Women participate in structured courses such as: Cutting and tailoring, Embroidery and stitching, Beautician training, etc.



Through these sessions, participants learn both craftsmanship and entrepreneurship, gradually turning skills into livelihood. What begins as a class often transforms into a purpose — one that inspires resilience and financial autonomy.



# IPER's Projects in Alignment with Policy Goals

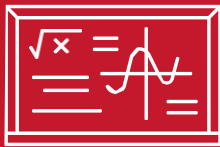
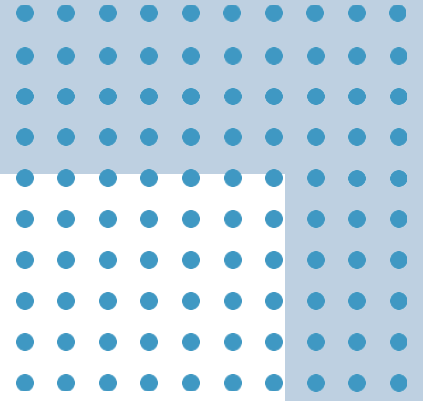
IPER's actions are rooted in national and global policy frameworks.

Each programme is designed and executed with a conscious understanding of the systemic challenges faced by underprivileged children and women in India. By aligning with key frameworks such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Right to Education Act (RTE), the Mission Vatsalya Scheme (ICPS), and the National Education Policy (NEP 2020), IPER ensures its work is both locally and globally relevant.

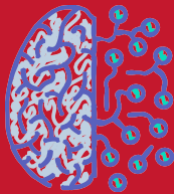




# 4 QUALITY EDUCATION



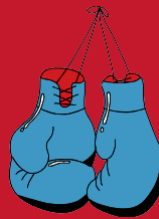
“Bridging the Gap” Classes in partnership with SMILE



Training Workshops

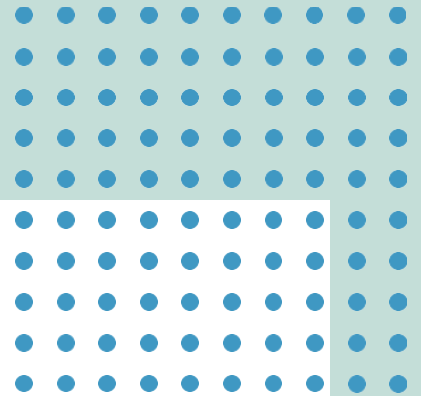


Co-curriculars





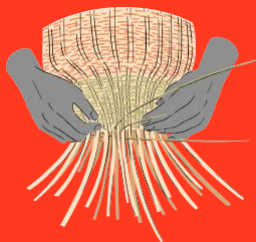
## 5 GENDER EQUALITY



“SWAPNANEER”  
SAFE shelter for girls at  
risk of abuse

Vocational training for  
women

- “APARAJITA”
- IPER Swadhina



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Female Leadership



Most of IPER's  
facilitators and  
leaders are women

## Special Events

### 2024-25

<b>2024</b>	
26 <sup>th</sup> April	IPER hosted 'Jal Sewa' where the children and staff distributed Glucon D water to passersby outside the gates of IPER so that they could quench their thirst.
9 <sup>th</sup> May	IPER celebrated Rabindra Jayanti, 133 <sup>rd</sup> Birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore. The programme started with the garlanding of the portrait of Tagore, with an opening song of Tagore.
10 <sup>th</sup> May	A free health camp was hosted at IPER where six dedicated doctors provided their services and care to children and adult members of the slums and communities. In total, about 110 persons received consultation and treatment. In some case medicines were distributed.
13 <sup>th</sup> May	On the occasion of Mother's Day, the children made handmade greetings card, drawings and wrote a few lines for their mothers and presented it to their mothers.
16 <sup>th</sup> May	Sri Supriyo Sarkar, the retired Joint Director of Child Rights and Trafficking visited IPER and interacted with the children in their classroom.
13 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> May	Ms. Asha Iyer, a social and development sector freelancer, visited IPER to prepare for the as she was assigned to make a Social Impact Study on IPER's work on the target group along with the different stakeholders. She interviewed the children, their parents and the staff of IPER for the purpose of her study.
20 <sup>th</sup> June	The children and members of IPER came together to celebrate the 54 <sup>th</sup> Foundation Day of IPER by cutting a cake. Everyone remembered Director Founder, Dr. Arun Ghosh for his unwavering spirit and passion to work for the underprivileged children and Dr. Bijli Mallik, present Director, for following his footsteps and bringing a change in the society with the support of IPER Team.
5 <sup>th</sup> July	A grand Annual Cultural Programme was held at Birla Academy of Science and Culture which included various dance performances like bhangra as well as songs by the children of IPER. Musical performances were given by the well-known singers Rohini Roychowdhury and Debasis Roychowdhury.
7 <sup>th</sup> July	The biker's team of Yamaha visited IPER to celebrated their Foundation Day with the children Yamaha representatives narrated their work and gave children were Yamaha T-shirts and stationery items.
26 <sup>th</sup> July	An Indian Oil representatives visited IPER and arranged an awareness camp on Gas Cylinder Safety and showed a live demonstration on proper storage, leak detection, safe handling and emergency preparedness.
1 <sup>st</sup> August	IPER inaugurated the Health and Wellness Centre, a charitable clinic dedicated to community well-being. Three esteemed experts shared their expertise on menstrual, mental and dietary health. The centre was then open to all.
15 <sup>th</sup> August	IPER celebrated 78 years of India's independence. The children put up dance and performances on patriotic songs to mark the occasion. Refreshments were distributed by Nair Society.
13 <sup>th</sup> September	A group of Italian interns visited IPER under a cultural exchange activity with the children.
30 <sup>th</sup> September	Rotary Club of Galaxy & Swarnym foundation distributed clothes to the children. Director and coordinators of IPER were facilitated for their contribution to social services they are rendering.
7 <sup>th</sup> October	On the occasion of Durga Puja new clothes were distributed amongst the children.
14 <sup>th</sup> November	On the occasion of Children's Day, a full day programme was organised for the kids. The event included a welcome song, poems and skits put up by the children and staff of IPER. One of IPER's well-wishers donated a Table Tennis Board for the children. The day concluded over a delicious lunch for the children.
13 <sup>th</sup> December	Children were invited to participate in the Annual Sports Day at Birla High School Mukandapur. They participated in the sports and won medals.

24 <sup>th</sup> December	IAPER celebrated Christmas with a programme with music and dance performances.
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2 <sup>nd</sup> January	Sri Biswanath Mahato Internal Auditor of Smile Foundation visited IAPER and met the children discussed the project schedule of Mission Education supported by Smile Foundation with the Director and Secretary of IAPER. Children greeted him with greeting cards and recited poems in Hindi and Bangla for him.
10 <sup>th</sup> January	World Hindi Day, the children recited famous Hindi rhymes and made drawings. Hindi alphabets were shown and the children wrote their names in Hindi.
18 <sup>th</sup> January	IAPER's children were invited to attend "Alaap: Back to Childhood" at the Indian Museum of Kolkata in collaboration with Educhange. The main theme of the programme was 'education for all'.
25 <sup>th</sup> February	Members of Kolkata Nibedita Sakti along with guest Ms Rita Bhattacharjee came to IAPER to celebrate the International Day of Women and Girls in Science. The event started with an invocation recited by one of the members and was followed by a discussion on science as a discipline with the children.
10 <sup>th</sup> March	International Women's' Day was observed at IAPER. All the teaching and non-teaching staff of IAPER were applauded and given Certificates of Appreciation for their years of service in IAPER along with a token gift.
26 <sup>th</sup> March	In collaboration with Team CISCO, IAPER organised an event called 'Happy Feet'. The team gave shoes to the children and painted them with the children. It was a fun activity for the kids.