- **<u>TITLE OF EVENT/ PROGRAMME:</u>** ***GOONJ DAAN-UTSAV PROGRAMME*** **(*Workshop Based On Knowing About the Activities of the NGO GOONJ And to Donate Clothes for the GOONJ DAAN UTSAV 2023.)***

- **<u>THEME OF THE EVENT/ PROGRAMME:</u>** ***For students to know about the operationalization of GOONJ and how they help the people of the underdeveloped areas of India***

- **<u>ACADEMIC SESSION</u>:** ***2023-24***

- **<u>DATE:</u>** ***13th October, 2023***

- **<u>VENUE:</u>** ***Head Office of GOONJ , Topsia***

- **<u>OBJECTIVE/ PURPOSE:</u>** ***The purpose of this programme was to make students aware of how social work is done and help GOONJ to achieve their aim to build an equitable relationship of strength, sustenance, and dignity between the cities and villages, using under-utilized material as a tool to trigger development with dignity and also to help the GOONJ organisation by giving them clothes to donate the needy***

persons .

- **SPEAKER/S / RESOURCE PERSON/S:** ***Suren Singh***

- **TARGET AUDIENCE/ PARTICIPANTS:**
- ***Professors***
  1. Dr. Parthasarathi Bera
  2. Dr. Antika krishna Roy
  3. Dr. Pampiya chakraborty

- **Students:**

  1. Rupsha Chakraborty
  (English dept, 3rd year)

  2. Rohit Nath
  (Maths dept, 1st year)

  3. Tamanna Biswas
  (Comunmunicative English Dept,
  1st year)

  4. Sampriti Samanta
  (Communicative English Dept, 1st year)

  5. Sukanya Ghosh (Communicative English Dept, 1st year)

  6. Pritha Roy (Communicative English Dept, 1st year)

  7. Sanjay Modak (Communicative English Dept, 1st year)

  8. Ibrahim Raza Khan (Communicative English Dept, 1st year)

  9. Alisha (Communicative English Dept, 1st year)

  10. Soumyajit Banerjee (Statistics Dept, 2nd year)

  11. Bishal Podder (Statistics Dept, 2nd year)

  12. Arnab Das (Statistics Dept, 2nd year)

  13. Anitban Roy (Statistics Dept, 2nd year)

  14. Aishik Mukherjee (Statistics Dept, 2nd year)

  15. Sohom Halder (Statistics Dept, 2nd year)

16. Sankalpa Roy (Statistics Dept, 2nd year)

- **BRIEF REPORT ABOUT THE EVENT/ PROGRAMME:**

Asutosh College organised a seminar on 29th September, 2023 for making students aware of the activities and aspects of the NGO called GOONJ. Over the course of the next week, the students and staff donated second hand clothes and other useful items in the "Jholas", provided by GOONJ. Then, on the 13th of October, a group of NSS Volunteers and professors went to the main West Bengal branch of GOONJ in Topsia, Kolkata with the donated items. They were received warmly by the main person incharge of the factory, Mr. Suren Singh, who then proceeded to engage everyone in a descriptive lecture about how the second hand materials are used and distributed by GOONJ to the people of the underdeveloped areas.

Firstly, the workers examine every unit of cloth very carefully to sort it into various categories like wearable, un-wearable, repairable, age, gender etc. Other donated items like utensils, shoes, bags, etc. are also examined and sorted, repaired if necessary. Torn or loose fabrics are also used to make ropes, sujni, aasan, etc. The goal is to ensure that the materials match as closely as possible to the receiver's needs and dignity.

All the items, thus produced, are categorized and carefully designed under more than 10 different kinds of kits/packs, containing items of daily needs of people, keeping in mind the needs of specific stakeholders like Family kits, School kits, Rahat disaster relief kits, Aaganwari kits, Marriage kits, Labourer's kits, Menstrual hygiene kits etc. For example, a Family kit contains basic family items like clothes, woolen garments for winter, ropes, aasan or mattress, bags, utensils, soaps, toys, etc. On the other hand, a School kit contains useful items for school students like books, notebooks, stationary items, lunch boxes, water bottles, etc. A disaster relief kit also contains water and other packaged food items, necessary for the victims of the disaster.

One unique aspect of GOONJ is that they follow the motto of letting people earn their stuff. For this, the volunteers of GOONJ visit the underdeveloped areas all over India and examine the problems faced by the people there, such as the problem of transportation facility in the Sundarban areas, or the excessive amount of silt present in the Mithi River near the Dharavi Slum in Mumbai. The volunteers then employ the people of those areas to work on eradicating their own problems, like making a wooden bridge for the easy access over rivers for school students in the Sundarban belt. The payment of these people is given in the form of the kits made by GOONJ. In the village schools also, GOONJ employs students to clean their school building, attend classes regularly, water plants, etc. and give them the School Kits as payment. This ensures that the poor people, especially kids, do not get accustomed to receiving a free supply of their needs and know how to work and earn for the betterment of their own problems.

GOONJ also educates women living in underdeveloped areas about the importance of personal and menstrual hygiene. Talking about the menstrual cycle is still considered to be a taboo in most backward places of India. Using safe and clean protection from leakage is also,

out of the option for them. As a result, the women often face septic injuries which result in death. GOONJ ensures that women know the severity of these situations. Under the "Creating MY Pad" process of GOONJ, clean cloth from surplus urban cotton fibre is used to manufacture eco friendly cloth pads and distributed among women in rural and slum India.

- ***"Green By GOONJ" is yet another programme of the NGO where they use second hand materials like cassette rolls, denim fabric, etc. and sell them in urban areas for establishing an income for the women making these products.***
- ***Vapsi" is GOONJ's tried and tested idea of creating a large scale livelihood, enabling people to be self dependent and financially independent. Many women are also working under GOONJ to make the mission successful.***

At the end of the event the students of Asutosh College were given eco friendly small bags which were made from the unnecessary parts of clothes and dressess by the Goonj .

- **EXPECTED OUTCOME:**

- ***By touring the facilities and projects of GOONJ, the students gained knowledge about the increased awareness of social issues and the importance of volunteer work, especially the importance of menstrual hygiene among the masses.***
- ***They also gained insights into potential career paths, or pursuing internships abd fellowships under GOONJ as a content writer, social media influencer, etc.***
- ***Additionally, the process of donating to GOONJ will continue in Asutosh college.***

- **GO-TAGGED PHOTOGRAPHS:**

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ASUTOSH COLLEGE
92, S.P.MUKHERJEE ROAD, KOLKATA - 26
GOONJ IT..
Collection Drive for Daan Utsav
Organised By
NSS Unit, Asutosh College
in association with
IQAC, Asutosh College
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Patuapara, Bhowanipore, Kolkata, West Bengal 700025, India
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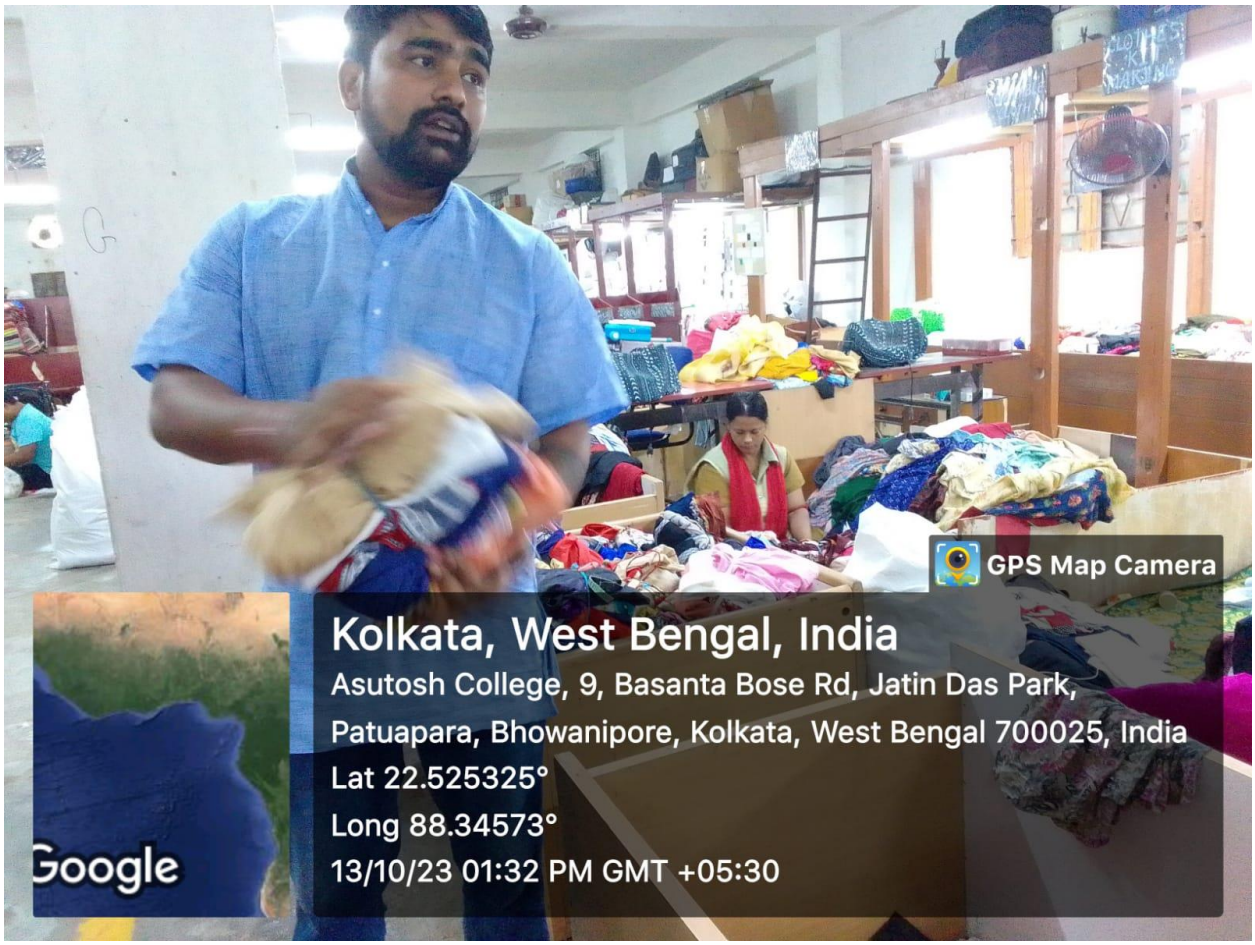
- 
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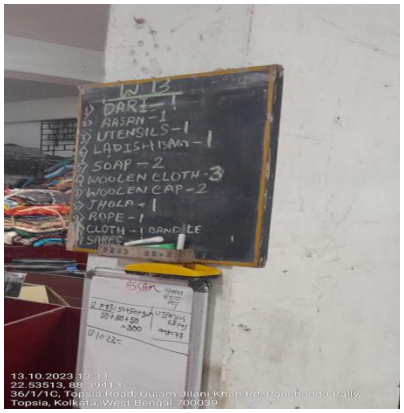
- 
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SOAP-2
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WOOLEN CAP-2
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SCHOOL BAG
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WATER BOTTLES
COFFEE MAKER
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FAMILY KIT
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Employment Generation
Menstrual Hygiene Management
Education

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