

15<sup>th</sup> May 2014



# Durbar Bulletin -38

## 6<sup>th</sup> General Election of Komal Gandhar

On 26<sup>th</sup> April 2014, Komal Gandhar, a cultural wing of Durbar accomplished their 6<sup>th</sup> general election to choose new executive body members. 10 candidates submitted their nomination in 3 office bearers' posts including President, Secretary and Treasurer.

The whole election process was conducted in a democratic way where participation of community members was ensured. To carry out the election process, a presiding officer, 3 polling agent and 2 observers from different walks of life was constituted who oversee the election process.

Each member voted for 3 posts where Priya Ghose was elected as a Secretary, Anjali Mallick was elected as an Assistant Secretary, Abhijit Ghosh was elected as a President and Sunny Mukherjee was elected as a Treasurer based on the maximum number of votes polled in their favor. Also 2 candidates namely Abhijit Mazumdar and Mampi Roy were elected as a member.

## Durbar Bhawna Readers – Writers Meet 2014

In order to celebrate the 5th foundation day of “Durbar Vabona”, Durbar Prakashani, the publication wing of Committee Writers meet on Udayachal Tourist People from various writers-journalists Vabona were Mridul Shimani Mr. Bishwajit Nandi (Editor, Bhattacharya Study Centre), (Government (Government Employee), Prof Dr. Sujay Basu and Dr Smarajit Jana and Ms. Bharti Dey (Editor, Durbar Bhawna) among others were present in the event.



Durbar Mahila Samanwaya organized a Reader-26<sup>th</sup> Day of April at Lodge in Saltlake, Kolkata. walks of life including and patrons of Durbar present in this event. Mr. (Editor, Bani Sangskar), Banerjee (Journalist), Jiten Manthan), Debashish (Development Research Arnab Parijat Dey Employee), Aniruddha Ray

Reviving the habit of reading journals in this era of tablets and e-books, and increase the number of readers of “Durbar Bhawna” as well as importance of promoting as opposed to Democracy and autocratic trend observed in political environment became an important topic of discussion. The other issue what occupy the central stage of discussion was Global warming and environmental degradation in the Globe.

In response to the intent of the event participants shared their views and suggestions on strategies to increase the circulation of “Durbar Bhawna”. Along with this they also talked how to make best use of Durbar Bhawna to spread knowledge about various issues with special reference to marginalized community. Most of the participants shared their thought how to strengthen the journal what really helped them to know about the life style, beliefs and behavior of those marginalized communities.

### Awareness campaign organized by NTUI

NTUI (Binodini Sramik Union is affiliated with NTUI) believes that in order to build a discrimination free society and to uphold democratic rights and workers rights there is a need to carry out campaign. They feel that mainstream society and a large number of political parties in the country is least bothered about the rights and safety of the unorganized worker. They are only concerned about profit making of individuals and corporations what in turn has resulted deprivation of workers and violation of basic rights of workers engaged in unorganized labor sector. They feel that this upcoming election could be an effective platform to raise worker’s issues and demands with special focus to unorganized labor.

To make these issues visible in the eve of sixteenth Lok Sabha Election the New Trade Union Initiative (NTUI) and its West Bengal unit organized a campaign program on 5<sup>th</sup> Day of May 2014 in Kolkata.

The campaign covered certain specific areas of North Kolkata namely Manicktala, Rajabazar, College Street and Central Avenue. Representative members from the union, distributed leaflets and raised slogans in favor of the unorganized labor of West Bengal.



### Anandam celebrated 154<sup>th</sup> “Rabindra Jayanti” with a difference

On 9<sup>th</sup> of May 2014, Balaram Dey Street Anandam a network of LGBTHK community who are active in establishing their social identity and human rights organized a cultural program to commemorate the 154th Birthday of Rabindranath Tagore. The ceremony was inaugurated with a dance show created on the song of Tagore was performed by the team member of KOMOL GANDHAR. The meeting started with the speech of Sintu Bagui, Secretary of ANANDAM. The program moderated by

Avijit Majumder. The Dias was graced by Chief Advisor and Principal of Sonagachi Research and Training Institute, DMSC, Ms. Bharati Dey , Secretary DMSC, Ranjita Sinha, Seretary ATHB, Purnima Guru, Shekhar Basu Mallick among other dignitaries.

The objective of the program was to focus on the responsibility of ANANDAM as a community organization and to promote the separate identity of third gender and to increase the visibility of the organization. Presently an initiative is being taken to help community members to develop their Identity card and also to help them with family counseling.

The Board members took a decision to carry out the following activities in the coming months-

1. Case study to be documented for 30 community members regarding their life skill issues and how they fight against discrimination and other challenges.
  2. Meeting with senior members of different organizations with a view to develop platform and state level forums.
  3. Work on the area of HUMAN RIGHTS
  4. To develop a Drop –in- centre for members of Anandam
  5. Refer all members to Mamata Care and Treatment Centre for HIV testing including pre and post test counseling.
  6. To initiate a support services through providing out door facilities to treat STI in Abinash Kabiraj Street.
  7. To strengthen advocacy work with policy makers.
  8. Allotting photo identity membership card to all members of Anandam.
  9. Regular monthly meeting of board members.
  10. Procuring lubes and social marketing of lubes and condoms for LGBTHK.
  11. Orientation Program for the community members on the issue of IPC 377
- The meeting ended with vote of thanks by AP Sintu Bagui.

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