



Shishu Sarothi

An Organizational Profile

1. **The name:** The registered name of the organization is Shishu Sarothi Centre for Rehabilitation & Training for Multiple Disability.
2. **Registration Number:** It is registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1860 .All donations to Shishu Sarothi fall under section 80 G.
3. **Contact person:** Arman Ali, Executive Director, Shishu Sarothi
4. **Registered address:** Off Ramakrishna Mission Road,
Birubari, Guwahati - 7810 16,
Assam, India
5. **Website:** www.shishusarothi.org
6. **Communication:**
 - Phone— +91 9207049810
 - E-mail—shishusarothi@gmail.com
7. **Inception:** With a very humble and modest beginning in 1987, the founding team of Shishu Sarothi was mainly led by five committed individuals. Today, the organization has grown manifold and comprises of a highly dedicated team offering a range of services for children with physical and developmental disabilities.
8. **Nature:** Shishu Sarothi is a rights-based, not-for-profit, non-government, and non-partisan development organization, working towards an inclusive society, focusing on the social development and economic empowerment of people, especially children with disabilities.
9. **Background:** People with disabilities (PwDs) face several challenges, including infrastructural barriers, and stigma and discrimination in all parts of the world. In the North-east of India, the problems are further compounded. Home to 733,450 PwDs living in eight states as per the 2011 national census (with unofficial figures being much higher as only eight categories of disabilities were used as identifiers in the national census), challenges are intensified due to the geographical terrain making mobility difficult, lack of awareness, and difficulty in the accessibility of qualified rehabilitation professionals and assistive devices. There are also hardly any Government schemes/ services available for PwDs.

10. Vision: An inclusive world where children and persons with disabilities have equal opportunities, and are empowered to participate freely and live fully with dignity and respect.

11. Mission: To uphold and advocate for rights of children and persons with disabilities, ensure equal opportunities and promote their inclusion and active participation in a non discriminating barrier free environment.

12. Objectives:

- Enable access to appropriate and innovative therapies and interventions that facilitate inclusion and full participation of children and persons with disabilities
- Create a cadre of trained human resources and undertake research studies to build knowledge on disability in general and Cerebral Palsy and developmental disabilities in particular.
- Sensitize all stakeholders, ensure implementation of legislation, facilitate redressal of grievances thereof and influence policy change
- Habilitate/ rehabilitate children and persons with disabilities to help them achieve their full potential in a barrier free environment.

13. Thematic Focus

Education: At Shishu Sarothi, we prioritize equity, accessibility and quality in education for all. We provide inclusive education to children focussed on quality, accessibility, and rights-based education, and comprehensive computer aided training programmes to children with disabilities. We have also initiated a scholarship programme in the eight North-Eastern states of India.

Livelihood: To reduce vulnerability and promote economic empowerment among people with disabilities, we enable their access to employment opportunities in the private and public sector, and enhance their skills to further livelihood prospects.

Advocacy: To uphold a barrier-free environment, we provide legal aid to persons with disabilities. We work intensively to influence policy changes through advocacy. In a unique initiative, we have created a cadre of trained professionals, with certification from Rehabilitation Council of India, to strengthen services for persons with disabilities.

Health: Early detection and management is crucial in promoting health and well-being of children with disabilities. Children are assessed for delays in developmental aspects, and supported through counselling, individual and group therapy, play methods and home-based programs. Outreach-programs, in partnership with local organizations, completing Government services, catalyse sustainable development.

14. Geographical Focus: The geographical area of our work is most districts in Assam. Being a leader in the field of disabilities, we lead disability projects and promote best practices in all eight states in the North-East.

15. Governance: The Board of Shishu Sarothi comprises of ten individuals who have relevant expertise and sense of social conscientiousness. The Board members are not related by blood or marriage. No remuneration, sitting fees or any other form of compensation is paid to any of the Board members. They are the guiding pillars behind our work.

16. Management: Shishu Sarothi is led by its Executive Director who is the formal head of the organization, and is responsible for the overall management of the organization. The Executive Director is supported by a team of dedicated and experienced individuals. We believe in equal opportunity and community based participation and encourage women and persons with disabilities to be part of our work environment.

17. Memberships: Affiliated to the Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy, Kolkata for staff training and technical knowledge needs at the Centre for Special Education and its Outdoor Services. Shishu Sarothi was a Zonal Coordination Committee (ZCC) member for the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), and is a State Nodal Agency Centre for the National Trust. Shishu Sarothi is also an active member of the Disability Rights Group and other national level advocacy bodies.

18. Partners:



Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

Accessible India - Empowered India

19. Policies & Systems: Shishu Sarothi practices policies like the Child Protection Policy, Prevention of Sexual Harassment , HR and Finance Policy.

20. Accreditations:



** Shishu Sarothi works with persons with disability for an enabling barrier-free environment, rooted in equity, accessibility and non-discrimination*

