



**Mankind in Action for Rural Growth
(MARG)**

Dear sponsors, well-wishers and friends,

I take this opportunity to thank you all once again for your continuous support since the inception of Mankind in Action for Rural Growth (MARG) on 8th September 2006.

As I look back to the past five years, I feel happy that MARG has been able to bring back lost smiles of many individuals in simple and effective ways. As of now, we are slow with our projects, but we are confident that we are getting stronger day by day and we will go a long way in the future. Even though MARG has lived up to its motto of IGNITING SMILES of a few, we have yet to reach OUT to many.

Our sponsors, well-wishers and friends have played a vital role in keeping the flag of MARG flying high. Every new day is a challenge for us as we prepare to do more and reach out to many. In this endeavor I seek for your continuous support, encouragement, and blessings without which we are most likely to be unsuccessful. Our children are no less than others as, every year, they have been passing with flying colors.

Hence, I request you all to join hands with MARG during all the trying circumstances we will face in our endeavor to make this world a better place.

General Secretary

24th July 2010 MEETING WITH GUARDIANS AND CHILDREN



Children of Mankind in Action for Rural Growth (MARG) along with their parents and guardians gathered on 24th July 2010 at Divya Vani, Pastoral Centre, Darjeeling. The meeting started with a welcome note by the General Secretary Mr. Nirnay John Chettri, who informed the children of the new policies and their responsibilities.

MARG, with a view to encourage its students, distributed gifts to four of its children for outstanding performance in their studies. MARG face of the year 2009 was Miss Kusum Chettri of Municipal Girls High School Darjeeling and Miss Phurba Doma Sherpa of Ghoom Girls' Higher Secondary School Darjeeling.

Miss Soma Subba and Miss Sapna Thapa both from Ghoom Girls Higher Secondary School Darjeeling made school and MARG proud by passing their class X board exams with flying colors.

Mankind in Action for Rural Growth (MARG) has been working towards IGNITING SMILES since 2006. It has been focusing on basic education of the underprivileged children and today it has succeeded in reviving smiles of around 40 such children from various parts of North Bengal by sponsoring their education and reaching out to the society in times of need.

MARG always tries to think a step ahead for the betterment of their children and from the year 2010 MARG decided to teach their children the benefit of saving some amount of their pocket money for future. MARG believes that children who learn to save at an early age have a great advantage in future life. Children usually want to spend money they receive immediately. But once they know the benefit of saving and using their money thriftily they can become responsible individuals. MARG announced today that they would be opening a saving account for all the MARG children at Head Post Office Darjeeling. MARG also thanked its sponsors Mr. Rajesh Garg and Mr. Digambar Narzary for sponsoring this project.

MARG also announced to sponsor six months tailoring training for MARG parents/guardians after which they would be working with MARG making various products. Eight parents/guardians who were present during the meeting decided to undergo the training which is going to commence shortly.

4th Anniversary Celebration 8th September 2010



Mr. Navang Tahering (Buddhist), Fr. Alexander Gurung (Catholic Priest), Mr. Purna Prasad Sharma (Rajya) praying for MARG and its children on 8th September 2010 at Divya Vani, Darjeeling

at Divya Vani.

As I woke up and came out to the veranda on the morning of 8th September 2010 I was greeted by a pleasant sight. The clouds had vanished and Mount Kanchenjunga stood bright and tall. It was after a long time Darjeeling had witnessed this sight since it had been raining every day here in the hills. I headed towards church as I had offered a special mass and wanted to thank the one above for showering his blessings on MARG and its children. It was on this very day on 8th September 2006 MARG was registered and we were celebrating its 4th anniversary.

During the Holy Mass I thanked the Lord, prayed for our children, sponsors and well-wishers for making what MARG is today. As the day passed by around 3:00pm it started raining heavily. I was worried but at the same time I was looking forward to our program in the evening

This was a unique program as we started with a thanks giving prayer by representatives of three different faiths namely, a Hindu priest, a Buddhist monk and a Christian father. They offered prayers and blessings to the children and MARG. 4 candles were placed on the cake denoting its 4th anniversary. Along with our guests and children we all sang Happy Birthday. Youngest child amongst us Mr. Aditya Thapa from Ghoom Boys Higher Secondary School Darjeeling cut the cake. As a birthday gift MARG distributed bank pass books to all the children. A saving account for all MARG children has been opened at General Post Office Darjeeling with an initial deposit of Rs 200/- (Sponsors Mr. Rajesh Garg and Mr. Digambar Narzary) Some of the guests who had come to share this special moment with us were Mr. Rajesh Garg, Mr. Raju Pradhan, Bikash from Rink Mall and Ms. Sherpa.



Admiring the new Pass Book

After tea, Mr. Siddarth Pradhan, one of the founder member of MARG, thanked all for sparing their valuable time to be with MARG children. Though the program was short and simple, the happy faces of our children and guests made it worthwhile.

An afternoon of dance and music 30th October 2010

October the 31st, 1:15 pm, I'm on a flight on my way back to Delhi having left my beloved hometown Darjeeling early this morning. Reminiscing with my wife about the event we were involved in yesterday, the 30th of Oct 2010. "An afternoon of



MARG welcomes members of Fiddlers on the Thatch

dance and music" featuring 'Fiddlers on the Thatch' and 'Prakriti Giri' organized by Mankind in Action for Rural Growth (MARG). My wife and me being supporters of



Miss Prakriti Giri sings for MARG and Gandhi Ashram children

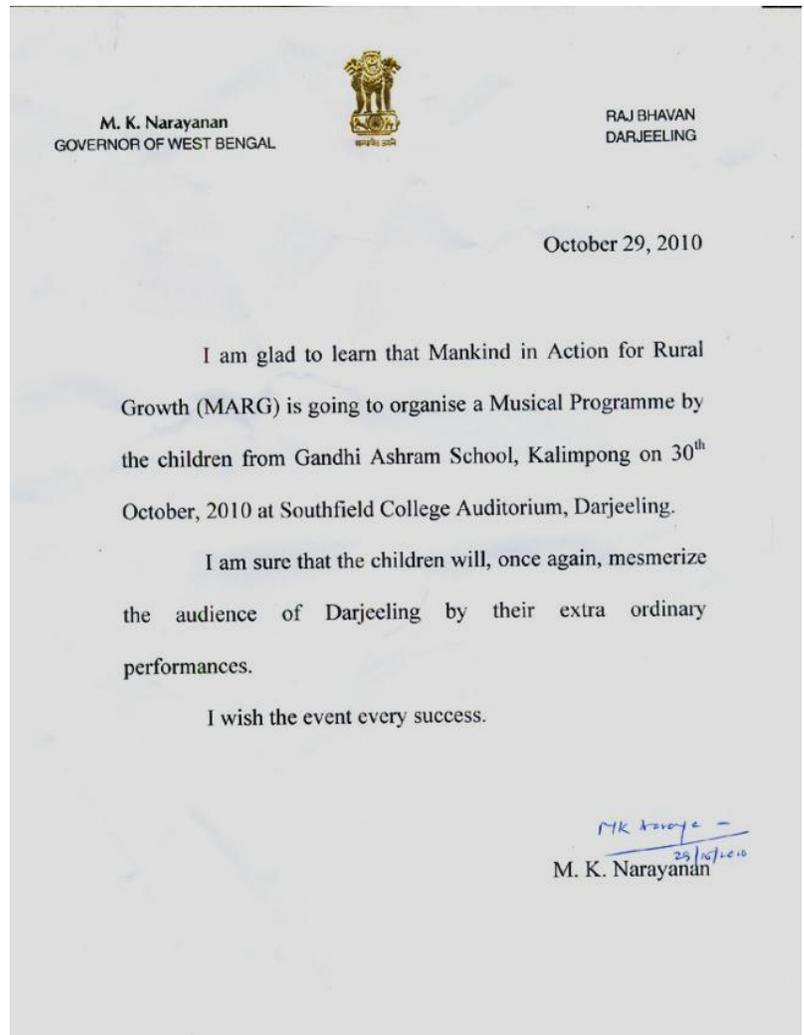
MARG and since we both were in Darjeeling, we volunteered for the fund raising event.

The venue was Southfield College (formerly Loreto College) auditorium. We reached by 10 am and began to set up the auditorium for the event. By midday, the preparations were almost over and the children of the Gandhi Ashram School (Fiddlers on the Thatch) had arrived. They were accompanied by Fr Patel, their teachers and orchestra conductors. We took them to the college canteen for refreshments followed by lunch. After they finished, the MARG children were served lunch. At the same time, in the auditorium, last minute touch ups and sound checks were being done.

By 1:40 pm, the guests and patrons began to arrive. They were escorted to their seats by the volunteers. Notable amongst the guests were Fr G Van Wellegham, North Point, Dr. Ojha, Principal South Field College, Mr Shankar Mani Rai of the Shankar Foundation, Mr Rajesh Garg a well known entrepreneur of Darjeeling, Mr B.K. Pradhan former Municipality Chairman of Darjeeling, Ms. Geeta Dewan of Cedar Inn and Miss. Prakriti Giri special guest artist a young celebrity from Darjeeling.

The host for the event was Mr Lee Pradhan, of Camelia School. Mr Pradhan had been very kind to take a day off his busy schedule and had volunteered to host the event. At precisely 2:15 pm, after most of the guests and patrons had arrived, the event began with an opening address and a brief about MARG by Mr Lee Pradhan and a short video on MARG and it's activities till date. Mr Pradhan also introduced Mr Nirnay John Chettri , General Secretary of MARG, who has been instrumental in the progress of MARG .

The Honorable Governor of West Bengal , Shri M.K. Narayanan, who is currently in Darjeeling, had shown a keen interest in attending the event but was unable to do so as he had prior engagements. However, he had sent a message expressing his disappointment at being unable to attend the function and wishing MARG luck for the event. This was read out to the audience by Mr Pradhan and was simultaneously shown on the screen.



M. K. Narayanan
GOVERNOR OF WEST BENGAL



RAJ BHAVAN
DARJEELING

October 29, 2010

I am glad to learn that Mankind in Action for Rural Growth (MARG) is going to organise a Musical Programme by the children from Gandhi Ashram School, Kalimpong on 30th October, 2010 at Southfield College Auditorium, Darjeeling.

I am sure that the children will, once again, mesmerize the audience of Darjeeling by their extra ordinary performances.

I wish the event every success.

M. K. Narayanan
29/10/10
M. K. Narayanan

It was now time for the first of the performances and the Gandhi Ashram children performed an Indian classical dance. This was a surprise as the audience was not expecting an Indian classical dance by the fiddlers. There was a boisterous round of applause. This was followed by the lighting of the ceremonial lamp (dia) by Fr. Patel and some of the guests and the presenting of the traditional garland (khada) to the guests by the MARG children. Mr Nirnay John Chettri then presented the 'khada' to the orchestra conductors Mr Rudra Mani Bishwakarma and Mr. Gurung. A very touching video on how Fr. Edward McGuire, founder of the Gandhi Ashram School, discovered the fiddling talent on the children, was shown. It made an immediate impact on the audience as the next program was the performance of the Fiddlers on the Thatch Orchestra. They performed a mix of Nepali, Western Classical and Hindi numbers and held the audience at rapt attention. Each piece was followed by a tumultuous applause and thus the little kids of the Gandhi Ashram School enthralled the audience.

Fr Patel then addressed the audience and talked a little about his life at the Gandhi Ashram school. It was then the turn of the MARG children to show off their talent. Four boys from Turnbull High School, Darjeeling sang a very melodious Nepali song. This was followed by another surprise by the Fiddlers on the Thatch. This time they performed a Michael Jackson dance on the very popular song of the 80's " Thriller". This was then followed by a Nepali Folk Dance by MARG children and then a Western Classical Dance by the fiddlers.

After this Mr Pradhan handed over the dias to Mr Chettri for his vote of thanks. Mr Chettri delivered a heartfelt thanks to all who had contributed towards MARG in general and for the event in particular. After Mr Chettri's speech Mr Pradhan announced the final act. Special Guest Artist Ms Prakriti Giri, the local celebrity. She sang one Nepali and two Hindi songs and her performance had the audience clapping and stamping their feet and singing along with her. The event finally came to a close with the closing address by Mr Pradhan. Till that time not a single guest or patron had left. Afterwards snack packets were distributed to all the children and special gifts organized by MARG was given to each of the 45 Fiddlers on the Thatch.



Some of MARG's guests on 30th October 2010

Finally after everyone had left, we stayed behind to wrap up. After that we too left.

Yes it was a resounding success... simple program.. with the usual technical hitches but nothing major and the program went off as smoothly as it could.. Without a dull moment...

Sit and Draw Competition 18th December 2010



Juniors at the contest

Mankind in Action for Rural Growth (MARG) organised a Sit and Draw Competition for the children of Darjeeling. We chose this time of the year as most of the schools are closed for winters and the privileged children and families move to warmer places.

This contest was to highlight the hidden talents of children who have to stay back in the hills and do not have an opportunity to move to warmer places. It was MARG's small initiative to keep them engaged during their winter holidays. Around 120 children had registered for the contest and 68 turned up on that day from 13 schools of Darjeeling with their parents and guardians. It was for the first time that the renowned artists of Darjeeling, namely, Mr. Hemu Rai, Mr. Narendra Lama, Mr. Chendup Lepcha, Mr. Phenjo Sherpa, Mr. Kumar Chettri, Ms. Anamica Subba, Mr. Ashok Moktan, and Mr. Mahendra Thami,

were seen attending a contest as Judges.

The children were divided into two groups, Junior (from classes 3 to 6) and Senior (from classes 7 to 10). Topic for the junior group was I LOVE MY DARJEELING and for the senior it was PLACES OF INTEREST OF DARJEELING. At the end of the contest every child had a story to tell in their paintings.

In the junior section the first prize was bagged by Miss Ujjayani Chettri of Loreto Convent School. Second prize went to Miss Sikha Rai of Municipal Girls' High School Darjeeling and the third prize went to Miss Akriti Gupta of Nepali Girls High School Darjeeling. Seven consolation prizes were given to Mr. Jeetendra Sharma, Abhilash Sharma, Chogyal Sherpa, Riya Mukhia, Nishant Kumar Prashad, Ankit Pandey and Neha Gupta.

In the senior section the first prize was bagged by Mr. Akash Mukhia of St Joseph's School Darjeeling, second prize by Mr. Mihir Rai of St. Robert's School Darjeeling and third prize by Mr. Suman Sarki of Turnbull High Secondary School Darjeeling. Here too seven consolation prizes were given to the senior children. General Secretary of MARG Mr. Nirnay John Chettri



Honorable Judges
Mr. Hemu Rai, Mr. Mahendra Thami, Mr. Ashok Moktan, Ms. Anamica Subba, Mr. Kumar Chettri, Mr. Phenjo Sherpa, Mr. Narendra Lama, Mr. Chendup Lepcha,

informed the gathering that an auction of the paintings would be held in the month of March or April and a certain amount of the proceeds would be given to the painter. He also stressed that MARG would be printing greeting cards from the paintings and the cards would be on sale in various hotels of Darjeeling.

He informed the gathering that after selling the greeting cards certain amount would definitely go to the children. He also promised that MARG would do its best to bring out hidden talents from the hill children and would organize the Sit and Draw competition annually. Finally the General Secretary of MARG, Mr. Nirnay, thanked all the children, Judges and people at Gymkhana Club and especially Glenary's, Hotel Mohit, Hotel Sunflower and Mahakal Bakery and Confectioners Darjeeling for sponsoring the Sit and Draw Competition.



Making Mothers Self-reliant

Four of our MARG mothers underwent 7 months of tailoring training at the Nishkalanka Mahila Udyog Kendra, Darjeeling, where they were taught from the basic hand sewing of clothes to stitching of blouses, shirts, frocks, dresses etc.

Mr. Sonam Wazilingpa, with some of his friends who are students of SP Jain of Management, Singapore, and Ms. Annie Parashar, New Delhi donated sewing machines to MARG. These machines will be shortly placed at MARG project office Darjeeling where the trained mothers would be using them.

MARG, in the days to come, is all set to come out with MARG products i.e. cloth folders, traditional dresses, shirts etc. The fabric will be bought from Weaving Destination, a rehabilitation centre where traffic survivors, domestic help returnees and PLHIV are taught to weave and become self-reliant. This is an initiative of Nedan Foundation, Kokrajhar, Assam.

Need based survey completed in Maria Basti and Kagey

People of Maria Basti and Kagey breathed a sigh of relief when electricity reached their homes on October 2010. DTH disc



were seen in some of the roof tops. Families started listening to FM music in the morning and evening and smiles could be seen on their faces. Locals started to feel that Kagey and Maria have finally taken a step towards development.

MARG, on the other hand, thinks that the use of ICT for the development of this area keeping in mind the local customs and traditions, would be beneficial. Hence, in collaboration with telecentre.org, a global program managed by Telecentre.org Foundation, MARG has completed the basic first step i.e. need based survey of this area with forty houses.

Telecentre.org Foundation supports the establishment and sustainability of grassroots level telecentres. These telecentres are public places of access to the Internet and other digital technologies that help promote personal and social development and offers crucial services, skills and opportunities to people living in remote and rural

locations around the world.

Since its launch at the World Summit on the Information Society in Tunis in 2005, the telecentre.org programme has been instrumental in setting up telecentre networks in more than 40 countries. It has also facilitated the establishment of the Telecentre.org Academy, a knowledge-sharing and training programme for telecentre operators across the globe. Recently, it has also started a Certificate Course on Tele-centres, which has been approved by IGNOU.

MANKIND IN ACTION FOR RURAL GROWTH

**BALANCE SHEET
AS ON 31ST MARCH 2011**

31/03/2010 AMOUNT (RS)	LIABILITIES	31/03/2011 AMOUNT (RS)	31/03/2010 AMOUNT (RS)	ASSETS	31/03/2011 AMOUNT (RS)
	<u>CAPITAL FUND</u>			<u>FIXED ASSETS</u>	
32669.83	Opening Balance	38402.83	2623.00	Computer	2749.00
			4250.00	(+) Addition	11818.00
	Add:		4124.00	Less: Depreciation	8740.20
5733.00	Excess of income over Expenditure	0.00	2749.00		
38402.83		38402.83			5826.80
	Less:			Printer	1402.00
0.00	Excess of Expenditure over income	27920.90	1775.00	(+) Addition	0.00
38402.83		10481.93	773.00	Less: Depreciation	841.70
			1402.00		
	<u>UNSECURED LOAN</u>				560.30
10000.00	Mr. Rajan Takkar (Treasurer)	10000.00		CURRENT ASSETS, LOANS & ADVANCES LOANS & ADVANCES	
	<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>			Balances with schedule Bank	
11134.00	Expenses Payable	13892.00		Central Bank of India	60998.83
11022.00	Mr. Nirnay John Chettri Imprest A/C	33012.00	58448.83 7959.00	Cash in Hand	0.00
70558.83		67385.93	70558.83		67385.93

MANKIND IN ACTION FOR RURAL GROWTH

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED ON 31ST MARCH 2011**

31/03/2010 AMOUNT (RS)	PARTICULARS	31/03/2011 AMOUNT (RS)	31/03/ 2010 AMOUNT (RS)	PARTICULARS	31/03/2011 AMOUNT (RS)
44330.00	To Scholarship	63050.00	103915.00	By Donation Received	141481.00
584.00	To Bank Charges	550.00	0.00	By Excess of Exp. Over Income	27920.90
2984.00	To Travelling and Conveyance Expenses	5923.00			
3287.00	To Printing and stationary	6148.00			
8947.00	To Telephone and Internet Expenses	22164.00			
26840.00	To Programme implementation Expenses	45882.00			
0.00	To Grant to Students (Opening A/C with PO)	5800.00			
2125.00	To Repair & Maintenance Expenses	5350.00			
1430.00	To Misc. Expenses	2195.00			
2758.00	To Auditors Remuneration	2758.00			
4897.00	To Depreciation	9581.90			
5733.00	To Excess of Income over Expenditure	0.00			
103915.00		169401.90	103915.00		169401.90



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