

Kolkata Press Club, November 14, 2015 – 4PM: Today JSSC announced the release of the Bengali and English versions of a book.

Snakes, Snakebites and Treatments
An extensive & painstaking survey of South 24 Parganas: 2008-2012

The books are in a complete 4 colour format and with hard covers, with over 200 pages.



From the left: Dr Dayalbandhu Majumder, Dr Dilip K. Som, Dr. K. S. Mankar, IFS, Deputy Director, Sundarban Tiger Reserve, Canning Dr Subrata Moitra, Chairman, High power Committee of Health, WB Govt. Shri Pradip K. Mitra (ex-director, Akashbani, Kolkata), (behind Sahajahan Siraj)

Press Release (next page)

Amalendu Mondal

President
Juktibadi Sanaskritik Sanstha, Canning (JSSC)
Canning Town, Canning
South 24 Parganas

For immediate release

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Snakes, Snakebites and Treatments**An extensive & painstaking survey of South 24 Parganas: 2008-2012**

In this book you will find an extensive survey of snakes and snakebites in South 24 Parganas during 2008 and 2012. Hundreds of tables, charts, graphics and pictures of different snakes and snakebite victims are encapsulated in this book and will surely make our dream *No more deaths from snakebites* will come true in the very near future.

Our work has been recognized by many people including Prof. David A Warrell, Hans Sloane Fellow of Royal College of Physicians, London and also WHO consultant for Snakebites. Over Twenty five years of relentless work in teaching the villagers to identify venomous (~30%) snakes from the non-venomous (~70%) ones. JSSC has managed to convince them over the years not to go to faith healers, instead go to the hospitals for proper treatment. That has resulted in a substantial reduction of deaths due to snakebites in our area.

There are eleven case histories of successful treatments of snakebite victims at the Canning Sub Division Hospital written by Dr. Samarendra Nath Roy who handled the cases himself.

About JSSC: JSSC was formed by a few young enthusiasts in their twenties in 1986 in Canning, WB. It has been constantly adopting new approaches to reach the local people over these years - to educate them about snakes, snakebites, common diseases and superstitions etc.

JSSC have been reaching out to many people in local areas through exhibitions of living snakes, survey, awareness programmes, bi-cycle tours around West Bengal along with the *Snakebites Telephone Helpline*. Documentary films on snakes, snake maps and charts, books and booklets, workshops, training programmes, road shows, rhymes, and songs with uncommon posters have also been utilized in our campaigns.

Some highlights of JSSC's achievements:

- published 3 snake maps of 24-Paraganas, Bengal and India
- published a number of books on snakes, superstitions, common disease etc.
- published a video on the snakes of Sundarban
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PpPJMYepRqc>)
- started a snakebite Phone Helpline to advise snakebite victims even during the middle of the night
- survey of snakes and snakebite victims in South 24-parganas which has resulted in these two books

For more details of all activities of JSSC, please visit www.jss-canning.org