

Encouraging the children of women weavers with distribution of toys and books in the AWCs at Haripur and Kasikiari

On the 8th July 2023, Dr Sanjay Kumar Panda, President and Shri Surendra Kumar Patra, Vice President of SHRADDHA visited Haripur and Kasikiari villages of Maniabandh handloom cluster, *Badamba* block; where *SHRADDHA* is implementing a project sanctioned by NABARD working for empowering the handloom weavers and increasing their earning substantially.

As a part of its efforts for all-round development of the weaver families, the team visited the Anganwadi Centers (AWC) located in these two villages and interacted with the children below 6 years and their mothers (who were trained in dyeing under the project). Toys taken were given to the children enrolled in the AWC at Haripur, which got very enthusiastic response from the children.



**Distribution of toys and books to the children in the Anganwadi Centers(AWC)
at Haripur village of Maniabandh handloom cluster on the 8th July 2023**

In course of discussion in the AWC at Kasikiari, some of the mothers requested for slates, chalks and illustrated books for facilitating learning of the children. Accordingly, Shri Surendra Kumar Patra took immediate steps to purchase these items, which have been provided to the children on the 10th June, as a token of our affection and concern for the handloom weavers. This support got enthusiastic response from the children as well as from their mothers.



Distribution of slate and illustrated books to the children in the Anganwadi Centers(AWC) at Kasikiari village of Maniabandh handloom cluster on the 10th July 2023

These are only some very **small steps** taken for helping the weavers, like the squirrels of the Ramayana.

An appeal was made to all esteemed members to donate toys and illustrated books for children, which may be lying unused in their house as well as new ones to be purchased to the extent possible. These may be sent either to Shri Surendra Kumar Patra at Bhubaneswar or to the registered office at Cuttack, which will be sent to the project area as and when any vehicle goes.