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April 2014

Vol: 16

PARIVARTAN YATRA

परिवर्तन यात्रा
नई पीढ़ी-नई सोच



From the President's desk

I was officially granted the reigns of BJS on March 30th 2014 in Nagpur. Following the tradition at BJS, my stint as the National President, starts with setting out on a five month National Tour from 31st March 2014 to 7th September 2014. The theme of the National Tour is **Parivartan Yatra – Nayi Peedhi Nayi Soch**.

Times are changing rapidly and so is the way of living. The concepts of family life, marriage, women empowerment, career, business are all evolving and have taken a new meaning. The trend of nuclear families is on the rise and is leading to new family dynamics. The woman of the twenty first century is no longer defined by her role at home but she has gone beyond and proven herself at the professional space as well. The youth today is not inclined towards following the family business but is willing to experiment and opt for newer opportunities

The aforementioned certainly come with their own set of hiccups. Our traditional values are fading away in the nuclear family set up. The safety of women is definitely a pressing issue of the hour. There is a growing communication gap between parents and children because of difference in opinion with regards to career and marriage.

BJS understands the significance of a smooth family and social life and has worked ceaselessly to ensure that family is always at the nucleus of all its efforts to bring about social change. We have been designing various flagship programs to educate and empower the masses in context of the same.

With this Parivartan Yatra, BJS aims to take all these programs to masses across all sections of the society and make them available to everyone in and out of the Jain community. A total of 225 Community and Educational meetings will be held across 20 states and 125 locations. More than anything else, one of our prime

objectives is to interact with people at the grass root level to be able to understand their problems more closely to eventually come up with better implementable solutions. We look at building our connectivity with people from the Jain community and outside the community. One cannot design better programs by sitting within four walls of an office and we believe that this Parivartan Yatra will be instrumental in helping us address modern day issues in an effective manner.

Bringing about change is a collective process and we sincerely look forward to your participation and involvement in this change building process at your hometown.

“Founded in the year 1985, Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana has always been at the forefront of addressing national concerns.”

Hello Friends,

Founded in the year 1985, Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana has always been at the forefront of addressing national concerns. Under the able guidance of Shri Shantilalji Muttha, BJS has managed to touch the lives of millions across the nation through its educational, disaster response and social development initiatives.

Earlier this year, Shri Muttha decided to step down from the post of the National President of BJS and decided to handover the baton to me.

Education

Empowerment of Girls to go online and tie up with educational institutions



Modernization and westernization have had their own positive and negative influences on the society at large. The dynamics of the current society have put forth many modern day challenges in front of the young woman of today.

The woman of today steps out of the house and has a flourishing career to cater to. This leaves her with the challenge of maintaining the right work home balance. She needs to protect herself from the societal evils along with the ill effects of technology. Marriage has always been the most important decision of a woman's life and it has become even more complicated with love marriages being in vogue.

The Empowerment of Girls course was thus formulated with the intention of helping young women cope up with the challenges of the twenty first century. The EoG course helps young women identify themselves as unique individuals and to nurture their self esteem. It enhances their way of life by helping them understand the difference between right and wrong and also helping them in establishing effective communication for healthy relationships with family, friends and peers.

Besides, it also throws light on subjects like judicious use of media and technology, importance of self defense, post marriage adjustments and so on.

Other than shaping the lives of girls, the EoG course helps parents recognize their daughter's needs and helps them tackle their vulnerabilities in the right manner. It thus helps them harness their own parenting skills and create a healthy environment at home for their daughter's growth.

With the objective to reach out to every girl across the nation, the EoG course was launched online on March 8th 2014. In the previous years, BJS has already tied up with various institutions for the EoG course. The course has been well received and has been recognized as a much needed value added course for girls. Through the Parivartan Yatra, we are looking forward to tie up with Educational Institutions from across the country to make this course available to all girls between the ages of 14 and 24.

With the EoG course, we aim at becoming prime facilitators of the empowerment of girls across the nation.

New Venture by BJS for School Quality Assessment: Athena Advanced Learning Solutions

BJS is proud to announce its new venture, offering school quality assessment system for private and government schools. This new BJS venture is named as Athena Advanced Learning Solutions Pvt. Ltd. Athena is founded by two prominent personalities in the field of quality education. It is an offshoot of a decade-long experience in the quality of school education through work by BJS, a not-for-profit organization working in the areas of disaster response, educational initiatives, and social development programs since 1985. Mr. Shantilal Muttha, social entrepreneur and founder of BJS, has invested the last three decades of his time, resources and personal energy in conceptualizing, designing and implementing large-scales solutions for improvement in the quality of school education and other community development programs. This legacy of BJS is further fortified by Dr. Arun Nigavekar, the father of the quality movement in higher education in India as proclaimed by the Former President of India, Honorable Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. Continuing with his life-long contribution to higher education, Dr. Nigavekar has envisaged Athena to build a quality foundation for higher education through improvements in school education.

After years of camaraderie and individual achievements in their respective fields, Dr. Nigavekar and Mr. Muttha have come together formally to establish Athena Advanced Learning Solutions with the dream of creating a nation-wide footprint in the area of quality in school education. What drives Athena is their strong shared conviction about school education serving as a strong foundation for creating citizenry with an awareness of social concerns, and equipping children to play a role in development and growth of society.

Athena is the goddess of wisdom, courage, inspiration, civilization, law and justice, just warfare, mathematics, strength, strategy, arts, crafts, and skill. Athena Advanced Learning Solutions aims to facilitate educational processes that it can enthuse young children to maximize their individual potential by pursuing all that the Goddess Athena personifies.

Watch out this space for details on Athena – GPA, our grading and processes assessment system for private schools. For inquiries, write to

inquiry.aals@gmail.com

जैन समाज को अल्पसंख्यक दर्जा प्राप्त



२७ जनवरी २०१४ को भारत सरकार ने जैन समाज को राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर अल्पसंख्यक का दर्जा प्रदान किया। भारतीय संविधान में अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय की सुरक्षा, शिक्षा, स्वरोजगार एवं सक्षमीकरण के कई विशेष प्रावधान हैं। इसे क्रियान्वित करने के उद्देश्य से भारत सरकार ने अल्पसंख्यक विभाग एवं अल्पसंख्यक आयोग का गठन किया है। जनवरी २०१४ तक मुस्लिम, बौद्ध, क्रिश्चियन, सिख एवं पारसी धर्मों को अल्पसंख्यक दर्जा प्राप्त था। अब जैन धर्म को भी यह अधिकार प्राप्त है। जैन समाज को अल्पसंख्यक दर्जा मिलना चाहिए या नहीं इस पर मतभिन्नता है। कुछ लोगों को ऐसा लगता है कि, जैन समाज को अल्पसंख्यक का दर्जा प्राप्त होने से जैन समाज मुख्य प्रवाह से दूर हो जायेगा। कुछ लोगों को लगता है कि, इस घोषणा से जैन समाज को आरक्षण का दर्जा मिलेगा जो कि निम्न जाति के लाभ के लिए है। यह मतभिन्नता संपूर्ण जानकारी के अभाव की वजह से है। अल्पसंख्यक का दर्जा मिलने की वजह से, जैन समाज इस देश के मुख्य प्रवाह से दूर हो जायेगा, ऐसा संभव ही नहीं है। ना ही अल्पसंख्यक मतलब आरक्षण है। इसके विपरीत अल्पसंख्यक दर्जा मिलने से जैन समाज के सभी धर्मस्थल, धार्मिक संस्थाएँ, संस्कृति, भाषा व लिपी सुरक्षित रहेंगी। जैन समाज अपनी रूचि के अनुसार शैक्षणिक संस्थाओं की स्थापना कर सकेगा और उसका प्रशासन भी कर सकेगा। जैन समाज आर्थिक दृष्टि से सुसंपन्न समाज है, ऐसी धारणा है, यह अंशतः सत्य भी है। तथापि इस समाज में बहुत बड़ा मध्यम वर्ग है व अल्प आय प्राप्त करने वाला वर्ग भी है। जिन्हें दैनंदिन जीवन जीने के लिए अत्यधिक कठिनाई का सामना करना पड़ता है। भारत सरकार द्वारा अल्पसंख्यक समाज के उत्थान की अनेक योजनाओं के लिए प्रति वर्ष करोड़ों रुपये का प्रावधान बजट में किया जाता है। अल्पसंख्यक दर्जा मिलने की वजह से अब जैन समाज को भी इन सारी योजनाओं में हिस्सा लेने का एवं विविध योजनाओं को क्रियान्वित करने का अधिकार प्राप्त होगा। यह जैन समाज के उत्थान के लिए बड़ी बात है। देश में आंध्रप्रदेश, छत्तीसगढ़, दिल्ली, हरियाणा, झारखंड, कर्नाटक, मध्यप्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र, पंजाब, उत्तरप्रदेश, उत्तरांचल, आसाम, पश्चिम बंगाल, त्रिपुरा इन राज्यों में जैन समाज को पहले से ही राज्यस्तर पर अल्पसंख्यक दर्जा प्राप्त था। इन सभी राज्यों में राज्यस्तर के अल्पसंख्यक योजनाओं का लाभ उन उन राज्यों के जैन समाज के लोगों को मिल रहा है। राष्ट्रीय व राज्य स्तर पर अल्पसंख्यक की योजनाओं में काफी भिन्नता है। अल्पसंख्यक समाज के उत्थान के लिए राज्य स्तर की योजनाओं से काफी ज्यादा योजनाएँ राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर उपलब्ध हैं। जैन समाज के विद्यार्थियों कि शिक्षा एवं छात्रवृत्ति कि विविध योजनाएँ, शैक्षणिक संस्थाओं कि स्थापना एवं प्रशासन की विविध योजनाएँ, युवतियों एवं महिलाओं के सक्षमीकरण की योजनाएँ, व्यवसाय के विकास की विभिन्न योजनाएँ, धर्मस्थान की सुरक्षा की विभिन्न योजनाएँ एवं स्वयंसेवी संस्थाओं के माध्यम से समाज उत्थान की विविध योजनाएँ उपलब्ध हैं।

हाल ही में राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर जैन समाज को अल्पसंख्यक दर्जा प्राप्त होने की वजह से इन सभी योजनाओं की जानकारी जैन समाज के घर घर तक पहुँचाना आवश्यक है। भारतीय जैन संगठन सन १९८५ से देशभर में सामाजिक उत्थान एवं शैक्षणिक विकास का कार्य कर रहा है। देश में जैन समाज के विभिन्न संस्थाओं द्वारा २५०० शैक्षणिक संस्थाओं का निर्माण सौ डेढ़सौ वर्ष पूर्व किया गया। इन शैक्षणिक संस्थाओं के माध्यम से, सभी जाति-धर्म के जरूरतमंद विद्यार्थियों को शिक्षा, सेवा के रूप में प्रदान की जाती है। भारतीय जैन संगठन द्वारा सन २००२ में फेडरेशन ऑफ जैन एज्युकेशन इन्स्टिट्यूट की स्थापना की गई। जैन समाज की १७०० शैक्षणिक संस्थाएँ इस फेडरेशन का हिस्सा हैं। राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर जैन समाज को अल्पसंख्यक दर्जा प्राप्त होने की वजह से इन शैक्षणिक संस्थाओं को विकास के अनेक अवसर प्राप्त होंगे।

केंद्र सरकार का अल्पसंख्यक कानून, अल्पसंख्यक विभाग, अल्पसंख्यक आयोग, प्रधानमंत्री १५ सूत्री कार्यक्रम एवं संबंधित अन्य विभाग तथा वेबसाइट का अध्ययन कर, भारतीय जैन संगठन द्वारा ६ पुस्तकों का सकलन किया गया है। आशा है कि, निम्नलिखित पुस्तकों के माध्यम से अल्पसंख्यक योजनाओं व लाभ की जानकारी जैन समाज के सभी वर्गों को आसानी से उपलब्ध हो सकेगी। अल्पसंख्यक योजनाओं का जैन विद्यार्थियों को लाभ

१. अल्पसंख्यक योजनाओं का जैन समाज की शिक्षण संस्थाओं को लाभ
२. अल्पसंख्यक योजनाओं का जैन समाज की धार्मिक संस्थाओं को लाभ
३. अल्पसंख्यक योजनाओं का जैन महिलाओं को लाभ
४. अल्पसंख्यक योजनाओं का जैन व्यवसायियों को लाभ
५. अल्पसंख्यक योजनाओं का जैन सामाजिक संस्थाओं को लाभ

आप यह पुस्तकों को भारतीय जैन संगठन के मुख्य कार्यालय से प्राप्त कर सकते हैं अथवा www.bjsindia.org वेबसाइट से भी डाउनलोड कर सकते हैं। यह पुस्तकों का सेट अल्पसंख्यक विषय की पूर्ण रूप से जानने एवं समझने के लिए अत्यंत आवश्यक है।

भारतीय जैन संगठन

मुग्धा टॉवर, डॉन बॉस्को रोड, गोल्फ कोर्स के पास, खेरवडा, पुणे - ४११ ००६.
दुरध्वनि : ०२० - ४१२००६००

Pooling in youth for a better tomorrow

According to recent studies, two-third of the population of India is under the age of 25. Furthermore, estimates of experts say that by 2025 this demographic dividend is likely to increase manifold in the age group of 15-40. In a country that has such prominent youth presence it will be absolutely foolish to implement conventional methods to solve contemporary issues.

Three decades back, the concept of mass marriages was unknown to the communities. As a young social entrepreneur, Shri Shantilal Mutha spearheaded the organization with mass marriages as one of the first initiatives, knowing that it was the need of the hour. But people took time to accept it. The young and dynamic Muthaji had the vision to implement a new solution back then to tackle issues of national concern. Similarly to solve the concerns of today, it has become imperative for the youth to step up and introduce and implement new methodologies to tackle the concerns of today.

The theme of the Parivartan Yatra is Nayi Peedhi Nayi Soch. In simple words, it implies that we as BJS need to get over with conventional thinking and induce a new way of thinking to be able to solve concerns. We need to tackle the issues of the young generation in a manner suitable to them. With this Parivartan Yatra, our prime motive thus is to connect with the youth at the grass root level, understand their perspective closely and pool them in to become a part of the change making organization that we have been.

History has been witness to the fact that the youth has the power to bring about a revolution. BJS has always been driven by innovative ideas and has been at the forefront of developing new methodologies to tackle issues of national concern by a deep sense of empathy. With our empowerment, career guidance and other educational programs and initiatives, we have been at the forefront of solving concerns. With more contribution from the youth, we are looking forward to come up with path breaking solutions so that we are able to solve their issues in a manner most suitable to them. The youth can be an active part of Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana and contribute by driving the strategizing and decision making and eventually the implementation of all the programs and solutions for the betterment of the society.

We thus appeal to all the youth to come forward to become a part of BJS. With our experience and your ideas clubbed together, we are confident that we will be able to come up with path breaking programs to address our concerns. We look forward to collaborating with youth from across the nation and make them an indispensable part of the organisation. To bring about change, you first need to be the change and that can only happen when BJS will get the supporting hand of the youth. Every cause has a driving force and from now on, we are looking forward to making the youth the driving force of our organization.

MINORITIES

Minority Update

A full day training program on the subject of Jain Minority was organized by BJS on 15th April 2014 at the Pune head office. Entrepreneurs, CAs, Advocates and professionals from across five states attended the insightful session. Shri P. A Inamdar who is the Authority in Minority spoke to the audience on the subject and answered their queries. Shri Shantilalji Muttha addressed the audience and updated them about the future role of BJS for the Minority subject. The training was given by Shri Prafulla Parakh. The next one day training session will be held on Saturday- May 31st 2014 at the BJS Pune Head Office.

UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Parichay Sammelan

Highly Educated Parichay Sammelan- Indore – 27th April 2014

Contact- Shri. Virendra Nahar, 9981776882

MOC- Shti. Prafulla Parakh, Pune

2. Tour by National President, BJS

Madhya Pradesh-17th -26th April 2014

(Educational & Community Meetings)Indore, Dhar, Jhabua, Khachrod, Mandsaur, Neemach,Ujjain,Ashta, Bhopal,Vidisha, Ganj Basoda, Sagar, Damoh, Jabalpur, Narsinghapur, Chindwara, Betul, Itarsi, Khandwa, Sanawad

3. Empowerment of Girls

MH- Sangli, 18-20 April 2014

Contact- Shri. Abhinandan Khot, 9011552777

Trainer- Shri. Ratnakar Mahajan & Shri. Sanjay Kshirsagar

MP- Dewas, 18-20 April 2014

Contact- Smt. Sunita Khabiya 9826719986

Trainer- Smt. Rajshree Chowdhari, Sagar

4. Trainers Training Program

EOG – Chennai – 25-28 April 2014

Contact – Shri. Rajendra Dugar, 9444040679

Trainer- Shri. Sanjay Singhi, Raipur & Smt. Amita Jain, Ujjain

EOC – Chennai – 26 – 28 April 2014

Contact – Shri. Mahaveer Parmar, 9381000182

Trainer- Shri. Rajendra Lunker, Erode

5. Transferring State Responsibilities

to New State Presidents,1st April 2014

Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh

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