



Empowering Today Enriching Tomorrow

Celebrating the rise of the Phoenix: Latur - 1993

From the desk of the CEO

**Shri. Prafulla Parakh**

Dear Friends,

30th September - the last day of this month - is a day that brings back the horrifying memories of the 1993 earthquake of Latur in the Marathwada region of Maharashtra. It had claimed heavy loss of life and property, devastating over 1,27,000 families of nearly 50 villages in the area.

For children the experience was traumatic, especially of those who were orphaned and lost their home. In response, not only did Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana (BJS) undertake large scale rescue and relief operations, but also shifted nearly 1200 such children to Pune promising them education and rehabilitation.

This was exactly 20 years ago. They lived and studied at "Wagholi Educational Rehabilitation Centre" (WERC) that it constructed specially for these children. Most children completed their schooling and some stayed on to pursue graduation at the BJS College in the same campus. Many of them are in touch with us and we are proud to state that wading through rough waters, they are performing exceedingly well not only in their professions but also contributing valuably to social welfare/ development. Currently WERC is catering to 350 tribal and orphaned children from Maharashtra.

This was BJS' the first major intervention in response to disaster, following which it integrated 'Disaster Management' within its core mandate. As of date it has intervened in 15 such disasters including the Gujarat earthquake (2001), the tsunami of Andaman & Nicobar (2004), J&K earthquake (2005), etc. and the Maharashtra drought this year.

Through experience, BJS learnt that a lot needs to be done for disaster management both by the government and voluntarily by people. To address this concern; and in memory of the 20 years of the Latur tragedy, and its work in disaster management and educational rehabilitation of children, BJS is all set to conduct a series of events on 29th and 30th September 2013:

- National Conference in collaboration with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), New Delhi; to discuss measures for enhancing disaster preparedness,

creating more awareness, promoting effective policies, and better relief operations and rehabilitation.

- Exhibition of BJS' entire work undertaken in response to 15 disasters that occurred across the nation in the past twenty years
- Exhibition by NDMA on equipments used during disasters for rescue and relief
- Live demonstrations on rescue and relief operations during earthquakes and fires through use of a mock model of an 8-storey building will be given by the National Disaster Management Force and the Fire Department. The role of Armed Forces and the Police during such calamities will also be presented
- Reunion and Convention of ex-students and inmates of the WERC on Sept 30,2012, whose major agenda is formation of an Alumni Association. Alumni members of colleges such as the COEP (Pune), BMCC (Pune), the IIM (Ahmedabad) would share their experiences. Inspirational sessions addressed by several experts on the 'Power of Youth' have also been organized.
- Achievement Awards Ceremony for ex-WERC students. Awards granted through the decision of a five-member jury in the categories of 'Professional Excellence', 'Disaster Response' and 'Social Development' would be presented. The purpose is to appreciate efforts of these very children who were once deprived of their homes due to natural disasters/ calamities, in being able to help similar others. They would serve as role models for current students and ex-students of the WERC to follow.

Eminent dignitaries such as Shri Sharad Pawar, Union Agriculture Minister; Shri Sushilkumar Shinde, Union Minister for Home Affairs, Shri D.Y Patil, Governor Bihar; Shri Shrinivas Patil, Governor Sikkim; Shri Shivraj Patil, Governor Punjab; Shri Shashidhar Reddy, Vice-Chairman NDMA; Shri K.M. Singh and Prof. Harsh Gupta, members of NDMA; and several other experts have been invited to address and participate in the conference and other events of the two days.

We welcome you to join us for the events of 29th and 30th September, appreciate the achievers and whole-heartedly encourage our children to succeed in their endeavours. Please do contact us and/ or visit our website for further details.



The 1200 Children Departing from Latur to Pune for their Educational Rehabilitation, 1993

Education

School Quality: Modeling a Cluster Resource Center

In the school education sector's administrative hierarchy, the unit of Cluster Resource Center (CRC) was introduced through a centrally initiated programme - District Primary Education Programme (DPEP). Its role was later evolved through Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. Since then it has been increasingly under the scanner for its function - more so after the Right to Education (RTE) Act.

Right from its inception, the CRC was expected to play some role in academic workflow from state to school apart from the other data collection and administrative functions. With the SSA, the academic workflow was more structured with District and Block level resource centers. Certain quality monitoring tools and system like Advancement of Educational Performance through Teacher Support (ADEPTS) were handed over to CRC Coordinators (CRCCs) or Cluster Resource Persons (CRPs) which were expected to help in academic guidance to school. It is believed that CRCCs or CRPs can play an important functional role in academic coordination, community connection, supervision of schools, administrative data collection / information dissemination, and enhancing teaching-learning process by mentoring and guiding. Various functional review studies and recommendations have prompted efforts towards enhancing

these cluster centers and creating effective models across all states in India.

BJS is working in this area with a bottom-up approach. BJS has created and tested an operational framework for schools with an assessment system for quality improvement. This system offers a cluster-level picture to the CRCCs along with cluster priority areas and individual school priority areas for improvement. CRCCs can use these insights to hand-hold individual schools for areas of concerns. They can draw examples from the schools within the same cluster that could have performed better in particular areas. CRCCs can also act upon cluster-level priorities during their monthly meetings with all school teachers.

BJS has initiated a project to demonstrate this bottom-up approach in Pune district's Baur cluster after discussions with Pune Zilla Parishad CEO, District Education Officers, Maval Block Development and Education Officers. Recently, a workshop for head masters' and cluster officer was conducted. Mr. Prasad Vanarase, expert practitioner and academician in performing arts demonstrated a process of capturing and listening to school heads' voices through creative ways. Ms. Ujwala Gaikwad, Head Mistress of MES Primary school, and the Best Teacher Award winner at national level, provided guidance by citing examples of the activities initiated in her school.



School Heads as Learners : Challenging Mindsets



Leading by Example

BJS Trains Teachers from the United States!!

A workshop for teachers from the US was organized and conducted by the Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana in collaboration with the International School for Jain Studies (ISJS) on 6-8 August 2013 at the BJS Head Office in Pune. Fourteen teachers participated in this workshop with a high level of enthusiasm and interest.

These teachers arrived from the US on 15th July and participated in a series of programmes organized exclusively for them by the ISJS at different locations namely, New Delhi, Agra, Jalgaon and Pune to help familiarize them with educational approaches based on the Indian ethos of ahimsa and peace.

BJS was happy to organize this workshop for the US-based teachers and share with them its rich experience and insights gained over several decades through active involvement in the fields of education and teacher training.

The in-house faculty of BJS conducted sessions on themes such as Conflict Resolution, Violence in School and at Home, Critical Thinking, and Human Reality, and shared with them practical and highly effective approaches for

dealing with young students in a humane and productive manner. The insights and ideas shared with the participants were intimately based on the approaches that BJS has been implementing in ongoing educational activities, notably Mulyavardhan, its school-based programme for value education currently underway in some 500 rural schools, involving nearly 35,000 primary school students. Ideas related to the cooperative learning classroom management approaches and techniques adopted by teachers in Mulyavardhan sessions were received with particular enthusiasm and interest.

The rich experience of BJS in the field of teacher training came to the fore as the US-based participants expressed their happiness on the quality of the sessions and the learning insights that they gained from them. As conveyed by Mr. Shugan Jain,

President of the ISJS, "All the participants in writing have expressed more than 100% satisfaction and went through a transformational experience and enhanced self confidence. They are already yearning to come back again next year along with their colleagues".



The Participants and Their Teachers !

Social Development

A Key to Eternal Marital Bond The Empowerment of Couples Program!

In every relationship including marriage, trust, love and respect for each other is very essential. Almost in all relationships particularly in marriage partners, gradually, start taking each other for granted consequently eroding individual space and freedom. This actually creates the problem in the relationship. Qualities such as patience, tolerance, value systems, and respect for others are rapidly being replaced by materialism and egoism, financial independence, etc. Unfortunately the youth in this changing and fast moving world are more self-centered, losing the belief in marriage as an institution. To restore these values, the young married couple of today need to be made aware of the changed obligations towards each other and the family as a whole. This would eventually help reduce the marital discord. The EOC course has been conceptualized to revive the value systems necessary

for strengthening the marital relationship that ultimately leads to a happy home and happy family.

EOC workshop program is unique in its content and implementation. The course is interactive, participatory and thought provoking which in turn leads to introspection and self evaluation.



A Time for Reflection

The Tarun Kranti Puruskar :: An Appreciation!!!



The Citation...

BJS National President, Shri Shantilal Mutha was honoured with the Tarun Kranti Puraskar, an award constituted with the auspicious blessing of Parampujya Krantikari Rashtrasant Muni Shri Tarun Sagarji Maharaj,

at Jaipur on August 25, 2013. The award was presented by the Parampujya Muniji himself. The award was in appreciation of our work in nation building, family culture propagation and spreading of Jain values across the world. Our heartiest congratulations to all at BJS!



and The Award...

A Stepping Stone to a Nuptial Knot! BJS Parichay Sammelan

Globalization, advancement in communication, explosion of knowledge and availability of global opportunities: the world has come closer. It has provided more education opportunities to the youth and has raised their aspirations tremendously. In Jain community especially, the girls are more educated than boys. Therefore most of the girls and even their parent desire for well educated boys with promising career graph and settled in metros. Girls prefer to have the nuclear family and desire a career. On the other hand, in case of boys the preference is still for good looking brides who are able to adjust within the family, should be able to balance family life and work if desirous of a career of their own. A tall order! In such a scenario, the BJS Parichay Sammelan is exponentially more relevant and necessary in today's changing world.

Parichay sammelan gives a common platform where all the eligible boys and girls along with their parents come together and meet other people from their own community and economic status and have ample of choice for their sons and daughters. As personal interaction with the selected party is possible, this process has become more convenient as well as more open. Such sammelans provides a ready made platform for prospective brides and grooms to find their life partners and even their parents come across eligible match for their son or daughter. It even makes them realize about the unrealistic expectations they have about the match and also about the fact that in real scenario such individuals or families are very

rare. Above all these sammelans have proved to be helpful for making new alliances and expanding network in an economical way. Today the Jain society has spread far and wide, yet when it comes to settling down in life they still look back home for the selection of their partner and so the relevance of Parichay Sammelan becomes not only national but global. Visualizing this need BJS organizes a Parichay Sammelan for the NRIs.

Though Parichay Sammelan has become a movement in the country with all societies organizing it for their own communities, they are held as isolated and far between events. Communities have made little effort to consolidate this work. BJS has foreseen this requirement and is making deliberate efforts to ensure that the benefit of work is shared by the whole nation.



My Expectations from My Better Half...

Some Upcomming Events

Announcements for the month of September 2013

1. Empowerment of Girls Program (EOG)

- a. MH- Ratnagiri-
 Contact- Shri. Bharat Jain
 Trainer- Shri. Sanjay Singhji,
 Raipur
- 20-22 Sept.2013
 94238 17900

2. Empowerment of Couples Program (EOC)

- a. GJ- Valsad-
 Contact- Shri. Babubhai Mehta,
 Trainer- Shri. Dharmendra Chhajed,
 Bhilai
- 21-22 Sept. 2013
 98251 47701

- b. KA- Mysore-
 Contact- Shri. Ashok Salecha,
 Trainer- Shri. Rajendra Lunker,
 Master Trainer
- 28-29 Sept. 2013
 93411 15444

- c. MP- Ujjain-
 Contact- Shri. Manisha Ora,
 Trainer- Smt. Amita Jain, Ujjain
- 28-29 Sept. 2013
 94071 30091

3. Basic Family & Marriage Counseling

- a. (BFMC) Training Program- Bangalore, Karnataka
 23-26 September 2013 by Karnataka & Tamil Nadu State
 Contact- Smt. Santosh Surana, 9738361899
 Trainer- Ms. Ratna Gosavi, Pune.

4. Parichay Sammelan

- a. Highly Educated & Remarriage Parichay Sammelan -
 Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh
 Mahaveer Bhavan, Campu, Gwalior 2nd October 2013
 Contact -Shri. Nirmalkumar Kothari, 98272 21817
 MOC - Shri. Rajneesh Jain, Nagpur

- b. Highly Educated Parichay Sammelan -
 Pune, Maharashtra
 Mahaveer Pratishtan,
 Salisbury Park, Pune 6th October 2013
 Contact - Shri. Shripal Lalwani, 98239 77472
 MOC - Shri. Sunil Lodha, Pune

5. State Conference -Rajya Adhiveshan

State	Location	Date
a. Punjab	Ludhiana	20 October 2013
b. Uttar Pradesh	Agra	10 November 2013
c. Maharashtra	Nashik	30 November 2013
d. Chhattisgarh	Raipur	20 December 2013
e. Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	21 December 2013
f. Madhya Pradesh	Indore	05 January 2014
g. Karnataka	Hubli	12 January 2014
h. Tamil Nadu	Vaniambadi	16 January 2014

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<http://www.youtube.com/user/BJSIndiaChannel>

Jain Minority

September 2013

We have been receiving many queries and we welcome them. Keep writing .Give us your feedback on how our response to them helped resolve your issue.

In Maharashtra, unaided Minority schools are exempt from the 25% reservations category under the RTE Act.

Ref: Notification dated Mar 15, 2013, Sec 2(c): Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Rules 2011. Mah State Govt.

<http://www.rtemaharashtra.org/downloads/RTEnotification25.pdf>

The highlights of BJS processes

national concern

focusing on selected domains that contribute to nation-building

social sensitivity

researching in-depth issues to address needs across the society

developmental innovation

strategizing novel ideas to align development within established frameworks

participatory process

enthusing all stakeholders for involved implementations

sustainable solutions

implementing workable, scalable and replicable models

meaningful impact

touching millions through our work!!!