

स्वप्नः



EDITION 2023



Director's Note

It is a great honour for me to be a part of AASRA. I am delighted to express my pleasure for the connect of our students and staff to AASRA. Everyone at AASRA is eager to lend a helping hand. Despite their packed coursework and schedules, most students are motivated to help individuals in need. The AASRA youngsters have demonstrated that everyone can make a difference through their unconditional deeds of kindness and willingness to provide help. I take this opportunity to thank each one of you and wish you all the success in all your endeavours. India is growing fast in economy as well as in population and there are wide gaps in primary education among the poor due to shortages of teachers and other basic amenities, this includes public funding. These problems contribute to the high dropout rate among underprivileged and impoverished people who need assistance for primary education. For the poor, education is costly and has a negative impact on younger generation. AASRA's objective is to reduce this education gap in underprivileged children of our society by providing free education. To elevate India to a global standard, every child must receive proper education for all. That is the sentiment that everyone of us should carry in our minds if we desire a happy life for all. Thank you.

- Prof. K. Umamaheshwar Rao



It is my privilege to be associated with AASRA NIT Rourkela since 2010 as a faculty advisor. Truly I am glad to share my thoughts about each and every one who has been involved with AASRA. Mostly students are extremely enthusiastic to contribute something for the needy inspite of their busy schedule in course and project work. It's my sincere thanks and good wishes to everyone. Now coming to the challenges in India due to rapidly growing size of population, there is always shortages of teachers, books, basic facilities, and insufficient public funds to cover education costs. This is where needy children are facing the basic challenges. They are not getting proper care and guidance in the field of education. That's the reason the rate of school dropouts amongst students is very high. For the underprivileged people, education is like a high-priced luxury, which creates negative impact with every new generation. That's the vision of AASRA to help the society and the needy for their growth through proper education system. In order to build India as a global standard, it is necessary for every child reaps the benefits of quality education. That's the feelings everyone should have in-order to enjoy a quality life equally. Thank you.

Dr. Santos Kumar Das,

Dept of EC, Faculty Advisor, AASRA NIT Rourkela



Greetings and wishing you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year 2023.

Service of mankind is service to God and if the mankind is given a gift of education, then nothing like it. Among all clubs, AASRA- Because They Need Us is a social service club of NIT Rourkela which started its novel journey with a motive to provide education and assistance to the weaker section in and around Rourkela. I am happy that this club is run by the student volunteers (which has now grown to 150+ in number) and enthusiastic group of alumni. Initially, the club started helping the unreached and underprivileged society in and around Rourkela by providing education and other basic amenities. Gradually, the club now focus on the development of the society both in terms of social and economic grounds. It has been helping many families to become an Adequate Ahead of the game Self-reliant Robust Acknowledged society rather than an underprivileged society.

It has different workplaces at sector-2, sector-5, sector-6, sector-21, Khalsa, OSAP and Jagda in Rourkela where the kids are regularly visited by the members. They are given proper education, guidance to get into educational institutes and crack various competitive examinations. They are also given financial support if needed, by the members of AASRA. The club helps the society by taking projects and carrying out different campaigns for creating awareness like the Diya Project, Little's Science Yard, First-Aid Awareness, Cleanliness Campaign, Library Setup and Skill Development. Among these, the Diya project was a huge success and considered as the biggest achievement of AASRA. The enthusiastic and energetic members have brought many accomplishments to the club.

In 2013, this club was appreciated as one of the best clubs in NIT Rourkela by the Director.

I have learned that two students out of a group of children being mentored by the members of AASRA for the selection exam of Odisha Adarsh Vidyalaya (OAV) got selected for admission and received scholarship as well. The students were also assured to get a free education throughout. Another significant achievement was from a girl named Sanjana from the Sector-5 workplace, cleared the JEE Mains examination in 2020 with a percentile of 68.26 and now she is a Chemistry Hons. student in Ispat Government College. She was regularly guided by the club members and was financially aided for professional coaching by the alumni. Another student named Arikhit was tutored during his ITI and finally was recruited by Royal Enfield, Chennai. In January 2020, the club in collaboration with another club NIT IMUN, took the Green India Challenge in which they planted many saplings to spread the awareness of greener and safer India and the essence of planting trees. Amidst lockdown in 2020 due to COVID-19, when many people dependent on daily wages and small businesses lost their income, AASRA came with a helping hand. They took an active role in a crowd funding initiative namely SHIRKAT-The-Next Big Thing. In March 2020 AASRA along with two other social service groups of NIT Rourkela (LEO and ROTARACT) in collaborations with Youth For Sustainability (YFS) raised an ample fund to help the families of daily wagers, rickshaw pullers, drivers, food stall owners in Odisha by providing masks, sanitizers and ration. This club is constantly trying its level best to help the needy people and is growing day by day. Last but the least, the fore runners for this club are the active student volunteers whom place my sincere appreciation. I wish AASRA club all success in their future endeavour.

- A Thirugnanam



Dear Readers

Eighteenth anniversary of AASRA (The social service family of NITRKL) on 26th January 2023 is both an occasion for thanksgiving to the former supporters and welcoming the newcomers to

AASRA family on joining hands for the noble cause. Though the current prevailing pandemic scenario doesn't permit the field level outreach activities, the spirit of social service on the AASRA family members were not halted, rather everyone of us were tried our level best to contribute at their level to sustain this noble cause. This again highlighted the lessons learned from the passion of AASRA club that achieved through the untired support and determination of thousands of dedicated volunteers 'over the last sixteen years. The AASRA family members have spent remarkable time and generous effort on various social outreach activities for the benefits of underprivileged community in various sector workplaces of Rourkela to realize the real impact of education on their life.

"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands in times of challenges and controversy". Despite this pandemic scenario, our AASRA warriors were able to coordinate the events online and tried to reach out the neglected ones during the pressing times.

Hats-off to your endless effort and untired commitment to advance the impoverished community in the city, as well as the financial and moral support from alma mater are worth commending. I salute each one of the AASRA family members who dedicated their spare time from this vibrant campus to outreach on empowering the underprivileged children's education and their family benefits. The purpose of this AASRA's souvenir is to set out this improvement journey in providing services to people that promote their well-being and support them to achieve their personal outcomes; yet it's an opportunity for us to annually benchmark the performances against our improvement priorities, which Cheers and regards," shall inspire the emerging AASRA volunteers.

I certainly hope that the deliberations in the souvenir will draw central attentions from the NITRKLians for this noble cause and renew commitment among more dedicated volunteers to face the new challenges ahead of us. I wish the souvenir and AASRA family all great success.

Let's join hands together to bring smiles on the impoverished community too. Happy new year 2023 and may this year bring more smiles on everyone's face inspite of the pandemic situation around the world.

Dr. P. Balasubramanian
Assistant Professor
BM Dept, NITRKL

President's Note

It is a matter of pride to pen down the message for the magazine of AASRA. My heart fills with immense pleasure as I perceive the progress being made at AASRA. I joined AASRA during my 1st Semester itself. After being in AASRA for about 4 long years I know how much time and energy goes into the smooth functioning of the club. AASRA is a social service club mainly run by campus members with the help of our beloved alumni and beloved faculty advisors. Our main goal is to share our knowledge and provide education to the children who live in the slum areas of Rourkela. The entire purpose of education is not to restrict itself to imparting bookish knowledge but also in holistic education of the workplace kids , encompassing-academics, co-curricular activities, sports and life skills learning. . We, at AASRA, create opportunities for students to improve their skills in various fields. We Conduct Little's Science Yard that gives an opportunity to the kids of different workplace to bring forth their talents in the scientific field. Foundation day also gives them the opportunity to showcase their extracurricular talents. Diya Project is yet another successful Projects which AASRA conducts every year to provide a seasonal employment to the underprivileged women of various sectors. Apart from these we also organize awareness programs that help the society in various aspects. But we are not limited to only these activities. We enjoy all the festivals with the children and join them in all their celebrations much to their joy and guide them when they face any problems, especially academically. We worked tirelessly to find a way to ensure opportunity for every workplace Kids.

Whilst turning the leaves of my memory, it dawned on me that we have completed 18 long years in the journey that began with the dream of Serving the Society. However, with the passage of my tenure , I learnt that though sometimes dark clouds will hover and cover the eternal sky, but after every dark phase comes a silver lining. Our silver lining was the undying efforts and hope we placed in our dream, which helped us to take every challenge in good stride.

What we are today is the outcome of the good and bad experiences, from which we learnt how to deal with difficult situations and stay calm during turbulent times. We faced many challenges. The transition from Online to Offline was tough. We all had an enormous task ahead of us and we all were responsible for keeping the club in line during this year. But we were able to rise to this challenge and exceeded the goal. And we did it with compassion, grace and teamwork. Today, AASRA has completed 18 glorious years and it's no less than a feat for us. A new year has rolled in and now it's time to recollect our memories of the year bygone.

Remember one thing we are in AASRA not just for serving the society but also to enhance our personality and grow as a better person. We need to make sure the time we invest is worth for each one of us. I hope Maybe after a Year when we look back at this year we have a year full of laughter, memories and making better friendships within our club while continuing along our main goal of getting good placements/getting good colleges for higher studies. I would like to sincerely thank all the club members who has worked hard over the past twelve months to make the year a success.

But now, a new year is dawning It is my hope that in the very near future, we will be able to gather either in person or by zoom. But no matter how we come together we will continue to be members of a club where "service comes before self" always supporting each other and our local communities.

At the end copying a text which I read somewhere which is quite relatable right now

"A few 20-odd year olds set off for familiar destinations, some via auto and some on cycles. Waiting on the other side are little cheerful kids with books to read and many stories to share. They meet and a smile blossoms on everyone's faces And AARSA brings two worlds together each week and thus forms a family both unique and absolutely beautiful.

JOIN KIA THA CLUB KUCH DOST BANANE ,EK PARIVAAR SAATH LEKE JAA RAHA HUN

Editorial

First and foremost, thank you to everyone who submitted work for this magazine. It felt great going through them and witnessing their ingenuity in every article. Appreciation is due to the members of the editing team and design team led by Adigarla Surya Jayasree for their outstanding work.

We have attempted to maintain the writings' originality and to convey the stories and insights in their entirety. By doing so, we can bring readers closer to the writer's intention and message. Articles written by children that express their genuine emotions through words have received particular attention. We had a great time compiling and presenting the magazine to you, and we hope you enjoy reading it. We hope readers can relate to these young writers' stories and appreciate their distinct viewpoints.

Let me also share my past AASRA experience. In my first year, I joined this family with the intention of assisting children. AASRA gave me the opportunity to do something worthwhile and interact with children from diverse backgrounds. Every time I visit my workplace, I am struck by the overwhelming excitement on each child's face. It swiftly dawns on me that unhappy me has significantly fewer difficulties than them, despite the fact that they are the ones smiling.

The life lessons, the stories, and the hard work behind them are what I hope I will take away from my time with this family. It is truly inspiring to witness these children and their positive outlook, despite their difficult living situations. AASRA will continue to flourish; with it, many poor youngsters with tremendous goals will shine.

-Ritika Behera

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 01 सपनों की उड़ान
- 02 SUCCESS
- 03 TEACHER
- 04 दो पल की जिंदगी है
- 05 MY EXPERIENCE AT AASRA
- 06 HOPE
- 07 घर की यादें
- 08 DEAF CAN'T HEAR
- 09 परिंदो को उड़ने दो
- 10 दोस्ती
- 11 DEAR MAA
- 12 NOTIFICATION
- 13 DON'T GIVE UP
- 14 NATURE
- 15 DRAWING
- 16 ABOUT DIYA PROJECT
- 17 ABOUT LSY
- 18 ALUMNI SPEAKS

सपनों की उड़ान

तू कुछ कर अलग, तू कुछ बन अलग,
तभी तो नाम कमाएगा!!

सपनों का है यहाँ ऊंचा आसमान,
तू कुछ सोच अलग इस दुनिया से,
भरना है तुझको लंबी उड़ान,
तभी तू ऊंचा बन पाएगा।

माना राहों पे आयेंगी मुटिकिलें हजार,
तू संग्रष कर, तू आगे बाढ़,
तभी तो सपना साकार कर पाएगा।

तू कुछ कर अलग, तू कुछ बन अलग
तभी तो नाम कमाएगा!!

पंख होंगे तेरे भी मजबूत,
जब tu सपनों में साहस भर पाएगा,
तू गिर, तू हजार बार गिर, फिरसे उठ खड़ा हो,
तभी तो सपनों में उड़ान भर पाएगा।

तू संग्रष कर, तू आगे बाढ़,
तभी तो नाम कमाएगा!!

तू कुछ कर अलग, तू कुछ बन अलग,
तभी तो नाम कमाएगा।
जीवन में सफलता मिलेगी तुझे भी,
तभी तो सपना साकार कर पाएगा।



Success

Success if following your "Passion" with work, ethics, and determination with a positive attitude. Passion doesn't mean to follow something you like but it means to suffer for a worthwhile cause for the legendary freedom fighters would have never liked to fight for the country but they knew its worthful suffering for this cause despite all odds.

The first step is to think of something really big that you prove to be smaller than your dream and you must have the courage to lose everything for that dream. The second step is to start today with whatever resources you have and act upon the idea. The third step is to follow the words in the definition of success like the words of God. Let us understand the meaning of each word in the definition.

Work:- Acting upon the dream that you have taken for thinking without work the poorest person dreaming to earn one trillion rupees and the path between you, and your success can only be covered by this tool.

Ethics:- Be honest with yourself in whateveyouou do you because you can never expect to get IIT by playing PUBG for 5 to 7 hours a day and you need to keep questioning yourself in a way so that intelligence distinguishes between the right and the wrong.

Determination:- To follow the dream, no matter what or who comes between the two with a "never give up" spirit in a way that you don't lose hope.

Positive Attitude:- An attitude to think good about everything because if you think you can't do it then you can never do it and if you think and make up your mind to do it then it stands that you may achieve the same.

So, be successful and happy in your life I believe.

"Success is an easy thing but not a magnet whereas failure is hard but is a magnet."

-Sacha Dubois

TEACHER

From learning to speak to learning to write,
I met a teacher at every step of my life.

'Guru is Brahma, Guru is Vishnu'
This is what the scriptures taught.

Guru is Brahma, who builds your mind,
They are the torchbearers around whom scholars get twined.

As patient as a saint, as focused as a falcon,
It is a teacher who is a beacon.

The catalyst that shapes a student's character,
It is a teacher, the director, in this open theatre.

The priests in the temple of knowledge,
Preach ethics and morals that we acknowledge.

Let's consecrate this poem to the great warriors,
Who tirelessly fought against all social barriers.

And have emerged Victorious! Victorious! Victorious!

– Prathamesh Sahoo



दो पल की जिंदगी है

दो पल की जिंदगी है
 आज बचपन, कल जवानी
 परसो बुढ़ापा, फिर खत्म कहानी है।

चलो हसकर जिए चलो खुलकर जिए,
 फिर न आना वाली यह रात सुहानी
 फिर न आने वाला यह दिन सुहाना।

कल जो बीत गया सो बीत गया,
 क्यों करते हो आने वाले कल की चिंता
 आज और अभी जिओ दूसरा पल होना हो।

आओ जीवन की कहानी प्यार से लिखते चले
 कुछ बोल मीठे बोलते चले,
 कुछ रिश्ते नए बनाते चले।

क्या लाए थे क्या ले जायेंगे
 आओ कुछ लुटाते चले

आओ सब के साथ चलते चले
 जिंदगी का सफर यूं ही काटते चले।



- सव्यसाची बेहेठा

My Experience at AASRA

My journey in the AASRA family began with its membership. Thanks to the AASRA club for including me in its family; I am overwhelmed with joy and gratitude. Workplace visits after classes are a recreational activity for me. Accomplishing something without the desire for anything in return brings a deep sense of satisfaction. In addition to being a club, AASRA is a way of thinking. Education being the most effective tool for reducing inequality in society, AASRA serves many unprivileged children through education.

The children at my workplace always greet me with happiness and hope, and they get together to study whenever I visit. Despite the language barrier, they always welcomed me into their family. Children are highly coordinative to us in talking in a language other than Odia. Children get so attached to us that they express concern about members who do not regularly visit the workplace. A joyous moment for me was when they held my hand and guided me through the entire workplace, introducing me to every one among them. It is like they are holding my hands like they are my siblings.

I once guided a student on an LSY project who was so excited to complete the project that they worked late at night. They usually sleep before 11 Seeing their dedication to complete the project, and I was surprised that these kinds of activities help get children out of their comfort zone.

During the festive season, when I can't go home, celebrating festivals with them makes me feel at home. The Diya project is an initiative to employ unemployed workers in sectors. The distribution of profits among workers who make Diyas is a very emotional moment.

We can touch many more lives in days to come and help uplift them.

—Sourav Kumar Gupta

Hope Alive

Maybe it's not the year you wished for.

No, not even in your wildest dreams.

The world is now in silent chaos,

The world is over, as it seems.

When air hugs seem to be the only solace,

In times like these.

It feels like God stopped listening,

So, you get up from your knees.

But through all the uncertainty,

Underneath all the face masks and gloves.

We see ourselves more for what we are,

Humans, with our need for love.

So, if isolation has left you lonely,

Or if you are struggling to survive.

Remember that there is always hope,

When we keep hope alive.



– Ayushi Kumari

घर की यादें

नयी-नयी आंखें हों तो हर मंज़र अच्छा लगता है

कुछ दिन शहर में घूमे लेकिन अब घर अच्छा लगता है

मिलने -जुलनेवालों में तो सारे अपने जैसे हैं जिससे अब तक मिले

नहीं वो अक्सर अच्छा लगता है

मेरे आंगन में आये या तेरे सर पर चोट लगे सन्नाटों में बोलनेवाला पत्थर अच्छा
लगता है

चाहत हो या पूजा सबके अपने-अपने सांचे हैं जो मूरत में ढल जाये वो पैकर अच्छा
लगता है

हमने भी सोकर देखा है क्यों-पुराने शहरों में जैसा भी है अपने घर का बिस्तर अच्छा
लगता है

-Rajnikant

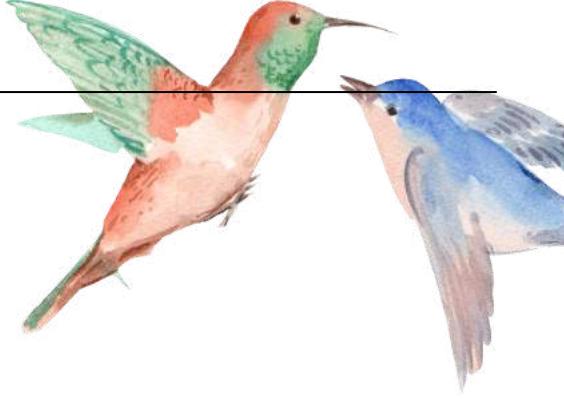
DEAF CAN'T HEAR

Hear me once or twice
 Hear me again and again
 Think about all my blessings
 Think about me at least once
 The mornings are born with heavenly blessings
 The sun's rays fall through the misty clouds
 Its feel touches every creation as my love
 And illuminates their heart and brightens their soul
 They had forgotten everything
 Even their origin and end are in me
 When the houses collapse
 When people drown
 They even point at me
 That I am the reason
 In fact, it's not the truth
 Those are the miracles
 Instead of your deeds
 Think once about you
 Think once about your deed
 Man, you are selfish
 But I am undoubtedly furious
 I am pointing to you
 No, no, don't interfere with me
 All can hear my words
 But the "DEAF CAN'T HEAR."

-Madhuri Suren



परिंदो को उड़ने दो



उनको उड़ने दो,
खुले आसमान में पँख फैलाए,
रात के घने अँधेरे में,
सितारों के तरह ठिमटिमाने दो।

मत लगाओ पावन्दी उनपे,
ना डालो पैरों में बेड़ियाँ,
ना टोको उन नन्हें हाथों को,
छूने दो कामयाबी की ऊँचाइयाँ।

देखो कितने निराले हैं वो,
कितने मासूमियतसे हैं भरे,
कितने अनोखे हैं ये नन्हें तितलियाँ,
कैसे झुलाते हैं रंग बिखराए।

ना है कोई चिंता कल की,
ना है परवाह ज़िन्दगी की,
बस आज में जीना चाहते वो,
बस, होठों पे ला दो मुस्कान प्यारीसी।

तुम बस हाथ थाम लो,
रास्ते पे खुद वो चल जायेंगे,
तुम बस सहारा बनो,
मंज़िल वो खुद ढूँढ लेंगे।

दे कर देखो इन्हे मुट्ठी भर आज़ादी,
दे दो एक पोटली खुशी की,
खिलखिलाने दो इन परिंदो को,
बनाने दो घोंसला अपने पसंद की।

जीने भी दो उनको खुशियों के पल,
करने दो मनमानी अपने खुद की,
गर्व से तुम भी उनसे गले मिलोगे,
अब तो करने दो उनको तरक्की।

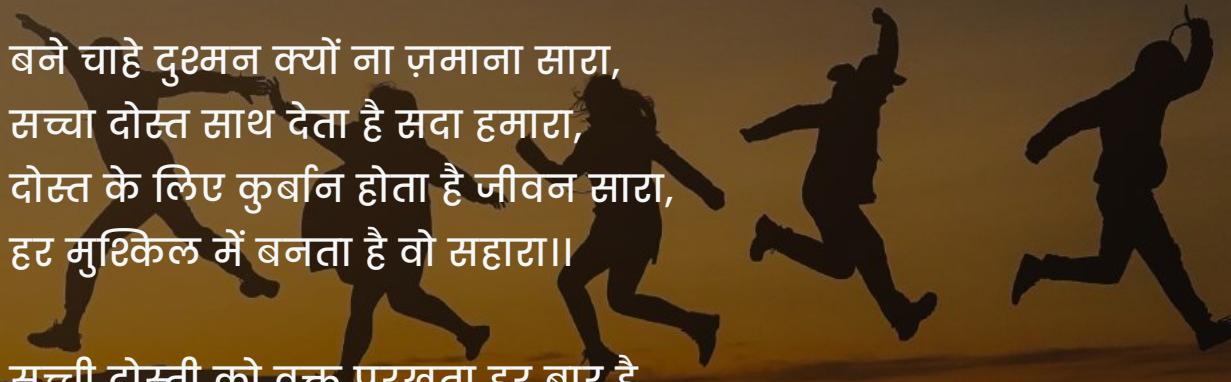
Bhaswoti Sahoo

दोस्ती

दोस्ती है अनमोल रतन,
 नहीं तोल सकता जिसे कोई धन,
 सच्ची दोस्ती जिसके पास है,
 उसके पास दौलत की भरमार है,
 नहीं जीत ना ही कोई हार है,
 दोस्त के दिल में तो बस प्यार ही प्यार है॥

भटके जब भी, दोस्त संसार के मोहजाल में,
 खींच लाता है सच्चा दोस्त उसे अचाई के प्रकाश में,
 छोड़ देता है जग सारा जब मुश्किल बनी राह में,
 सच्चा दोस्त साथ देता है तब जिंदगी की राह में॥

बने चाहे दुर्मन क्यों ना जमाना सारा,
 सच्चा दोस्त साथ देता है सदा हमारा,
 दोस्त के लिए कुबनि होता है जीवन सारा,
 हर मुश्किल में बनता है वो सहारा॥



सच्ची दोस्ती को वक्त परखता हर बार है,
 वक्त की हर परीक्षा की हंसते हुए पास करना ही दोस्ती की पहचान है,
 दुनियां की किसी शोहरत की न जिसे ज़हरत है,
 सच्चा दोस्त रखने वाला संसार में सबसे धनवान है॥

- सब्यसाची बेटेरा

Dear Maa

When darkness slowly tiptoes into my room on lonely nights, I close my eyes and remember you. Your words ring in my ears, reminding me to look at the presence of things more than engulfing the absence of anything because if we give our eyes the freedom to look at things without letting our minds interfere, the world would be so much more beautiful, isn't it?

I remember you always putting on my life lessons and virtues because you believed I would understand more than anyone.

But maa, you know how bad I am at expressing things, be it happy or sad or terrible; I choose to stay silent in all. So if you find me on my own, don't assume anything. I am just myself. If you see me sad or tense, let me figure it out myself because it is all I want. I want to learn, fail, grow and glow on my own. I want to make everything on my own, from worldly things to scattered, drowning pieces of my soul. I would make everything on my own. Don't push me into something, and it only scares me more. Needless to say, this is because that's what you always have taught me, to choose my own life by myself without letting anyone else decide what I need to strive for.

Maa, don't worry if you find me sometimes lost because there's a volcano running across my head, bouncing with thoughts and metaphors, and no matter what happens, I'd always make it through it. And I've always wanted to live in a land where ideas flow incessantly my mind is such a place to be.

You always ask me to open up, but I fear opening up might completely drain all the thoughts out of me, and I'd be as accessible as those floating clouds wandering across the sky. And I fear it might empty my headspace from where I get all these ideas to pen stories. Most importantly, I fear I might not hold onto the tears I've been keeping in the corner of my eyes, ready to burst out anytime soon.

So, maa, even if I don't tell you or show you in person, I want you to know that I love you, and I'd try to be the best son in the world. And you wouldn't have to be worried about me talking too less. Instead, you'd proudly say, "I'm your proud mother!!"

– Saswat Kumar Behera

Notification

1. May 4: Offline Farewell

Aasra bid farewell to the seniors of batch 2022 in its typical way as before the pandemic.

2. June: Execution of Online Orientation and Induction

Aasra successfully conducted its online orientation and induction processes. Our Aasra family expanded by 33 new members.

3. July: Teaching through virtual modes

Aasra's main objective is to emancipate society through education. We continued providing students with online education despite the constraints.

4.July: Continuation of offline visits to various workplaces

Offline workplace visits began in July with offline teaching, interactions, and festival celebrations (Independence day, Ganesh Chaturthi, Diwali, etc.)

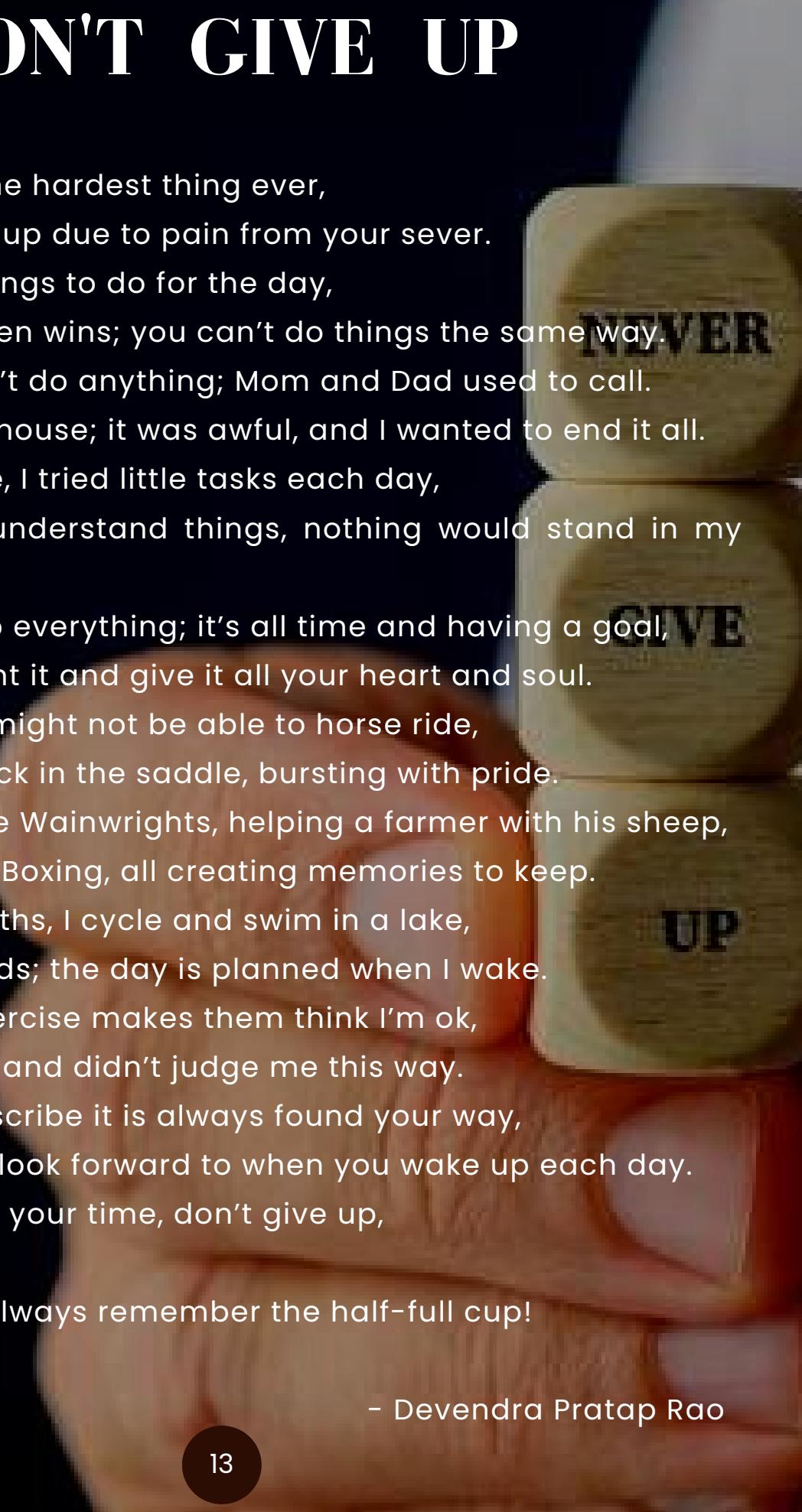
5. October: Diya Project

This year we successfully conducted Diya Project in a hybrid mode, i.e., orders were taken online and offline. Our club generated a profit of 1.32 lakhs on total sales of 2.11 lakhs, and the profit was distributed among the women of different workplaces (OSAP, Sector 6, and sector 21).

6.November: Little Science Yard

Aasra organized the Little Science Yard (LSY) to encourage a scientific mindset in young minds in November as a part of the pre-Innovision Event. Through their unique ideas, students from various workplaces were given a platform to showcase their talent through incredible projects and models.

DON'T GIVE UP



Trying to mend is the hardest thing ever,
Each day you wake up due to pain from your sever.
You try and plan things to do for the day,
Disappointment often wins; you can't do things the same way.
Some days I couldn't do anything; Mom and Dad used to call.
I had to stay in the house; it was awful, and I wanted to end it all.
After getting advice, I tried little tasks each day,
Once I started to understand things, nothing would stand in my way.
I found it hard to do everything; it's all time and having a goal,
You really must want it and give it all your heart and soul.
At first, I was told I might not be able to horse ride,
Look at me now, back in the saddle, bursting with pride.
I am conquering the Wainwrights, helping a farmer with his sheep,
I even tried Mind fit Boxing, all creating memories to keep.
In the summer months, I cycle and swim in a lake,
The weather depends; the day is planned when I wake.
To some, all this exercise makes them think I'm ok,
I wish they all knew and didn't judge me this way.
The best way to describe it is always found your way,
Have something to look forward to when you wake up each day.
It will all be ok; take your time, don't give up,

Stay positive, and always remember the half-full cup!

- Devendra Pratap Rao

Nature

I went to the mountains, on the peak,
 There's a desire they want to seek.
 They want to grow, up higher,
 If they had wings, they could fly.

I went to the sea, through the beach,
 There's an endless path they want to reach.
 They spread their arms in all possible ways, watery waves
 having fun with droplet sprays.

I went to the plateaus, then to the plains,
 Traveling through them, there's no pain.
 Gentle ups and gentle down, soften and golden crown,
 Walking on a pleasant lawn won't let one go, all in a
 frown.

I saw nature, its love, its beauty,
 It's clean and aesthetic when done our duty.
 It's the home to fellow creatures,
 Fulfilling all their basic needs is its main feature.

But it's regretful when talking about disasters,
 It takes millions of years to build, but ruining is much
 faster.
 Corruption is the cause, done by us, the dumb mankind,
 And so, destroy lives, uproot trees and houses of all kinds.

-Akash Kumar Panda



DIYA PROJECT

The Diya Project is one of the most successful projects that AASRA conducts annually. This project intends to provide seasonal income to the unemployed, especially women, in various workplaces.

AASRA provides raw materials to diverse sectors, which they embellish, culminating in the creation and return to AASRA of gorgeous diyas. After that, in the presence of NIT Rourkela representatives, we sell those diyas on campus and give the proceeds to the unemployed.

This year, we carried it out in a hybrid fashion, which means we received and shipped orders for diyas both online and off. On a total of 2.11 lakhs in sales, we made a profit of 1.32 lakhs, and we shared that profit with the women at various workplaces. (OSAP, Sector 6, and sector 21).

LITTLE's SCIENCE YARD

LSY!



Little's science yard, a science exhibition organized during Innovision for underprivileged kids from different workplaces. Students from fifth grade and up exhibit their creativity and scientific outlook in groups of four to five.

This event aims to give these underprivileged children a platform to raise awareness and encourage them to pursue science, which will also help them develop their personalities. We successfully carried out LSY on November 13 of this year.





Shruti Priya (2018-2020)

Mathematics

I tell everyone that it was just because of Aasra that I was able to survive in NIT. One day I came to know about Aasra from one of my seniors. I don't know what was going in my mind that time I just randomly walked in the orientation program. Though not very much interested in the beginning I wrote whatever I felt like writing in the questionnaire, with little or no hope of getting selected. Then one day Adarsh Dangi called me and said you have been allotted sector 21 we will be visiting the sector today, please join us. I was not very excited to be honest while going to the sector 21. When I reached I saw little kids running towards us greeting good afternoon bhaiya and didi. It was really a very emotional moment for me. I was literally feeling as if I am in some different place. Teaching little kids, then playing kitna-kitna with them was so much fun. I really enjoyed my two hours in the sector the very first day that I didn't realise how fast the time has passed. While going back in the auto I was just thinking how simple this life is, how simple it is to find happiness in little things. We really don't need a lot of big things to be happy in our lives. It's just the small things that matter. Then onwards I was really excited for my visit. Teaching and playing with Avi, Navya, Honey and Dushyant literally made me feel so happy. I used to forget all my stress that used to bother me just by looking at their innocent faces. And what to say about the members of sector-21. I can go on writing about them and the entire magazine will be filled only by my write up. Sector -21 was my family away from family. Aasra has literally given a new dimension to my life. I miss my sector-21 kids and family each day and especially on the festivals. At the end I would say Thank you Aasra for giving me a reason to stay in NIT for 2 years.



Abhishek Kumar Gupta (2017-2019)

Electronics and Communication

कितना आसान होता है बिना कुछ कहे सब कुछ कह देना और कितना मुश्किल हो जाता है कुछ अनकहे, पुराने पलों को बयां कर पाना। जी हाँ, कुछ ऐसे ही उमड़ते से भावों में डूब कहीं दूर पहुँच जाता हूं जब भी यादों के गलियारे से गुजरता हूं। कुछ ऐसी ही है मेरी और आसरा की कहानी, जो कि शुरू होती है एक सुर्ख अंधियारी रात में एक मेल के पढ़ने से, जो न जाने कैसे मुझे खींच लाती है आसरा के इंडक्शन प्रोग्राम से सेक्टर-21 तक। मेरा पहला विजिट जहां ऑटो में सब लोग एक दूसरे से ऐसे घुल-मिल जाते हैं जैसे कई बिछड़े हुए दोस्त अचानक से मिल गए हो और फिर हमारा प्यारा-सा सेक्टर जहां हमें मिलते हैं भारत के वो उज्जवल भविष्य जिनकी आंखों की चमक हमें देखते ही जैसे दुगनी हो गई हो और होठों की मुस्कुराहट चौगुनी। कभी सोचा नहीं था घर से इतनी दूर मुझे एक और परिवार मिल जाएगा जहां कभी-कभी तो यह फर्क करना मुश्किल हो जाता था कि हम सब में पढ़ाने वाला कौन है और पढ़ने वाला कौन क्योंकि जितना हम उन्हें सीखा रहे थे उतना ही ज्यादा हम सीख रहे थे। लेकिन इसी किस्से का एक और पहलू भी है जो अभी भी दिल और दिमाग दोनों को यह सोचने पर मजबूर कर देता है कि सामाजिक बेबसी कैसे एक अदृश्य सी लकीर खींच, उसी हंसते खेलते समाज को कई वर्गों में बांट देती है। कैसा लगने लगता है जब समाज का हमारा अपना ही एक हिस्सा कहीं सिसकियाँ ले रहा होता है और हम अजनबी होने का अभिनय कर रहे होते हैं। मैंने 'बेटी पढ़ाओ, बेटी बचाओ' के दौर में समाज को एक बेटी से उसका हक छीनने की असफल कोशिश करते हुए भी देखा और मेरा हाथ तब भी कांप उठा जब मैंने सेक्टर के हीं एक बच्चे को कॉलेज के फंक्शन में हमें फूड सर्व करते हुए देखा। कितने ऐसे भाग्यशाली बच्चे होते होंगे जिन्हें कोई आसरा मिल जाता होगा? कहते हैं हर अंधियारी रात की एक सुबह होती है और मैं खुश हूं कि उजाले की उस लौ को हम सब का आसरा मिला है।



CHINMAYA BEHERA (2015-2019)

Mining Engineering

This is something that happened to me at NIT Rourkela. It was a great experience at AASRA by contributing towards social activity. In my 2nd year, i joined Aasra in sector 2. It is not a club, its a family by working with juniors and seniors as a team. Teaching to the kids gives inner satisfaction that we r contributing something to society while making our career. I still remember the day of Little science yard and Foundation day. My birthday is on 26th January, also the foundation day of Aasra that gives me a special gift on my birthday. I am missing those golden days. Please take the legacy of Aasra's future ahead. Happy foundation day to all the kids and members of AASRA.



Deepak kumar (2015 -19)

Ceramic Engineering

AASRA - Truly said it's a family not a club. Family that connects with every parts of society.

Life most persistent and urgent question is. 'What are you doing for others?'

I think above question is well answered by AASRA each and every time. Still remember those days when we were doing "DIYA PROJECT" one of my favourite the way every people of AASRA worked shows the unity strength what we have and this is what should be continued in future as well.

All the best for the future team and I am pretty sure that you guys will continue the legacy in future as well

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."



Jyoti Ranjan Mahakul (2012-2016)

Metallurgical and Materials Engineering

AASRA was in true means a second family to me. "We should not be proud that we are privileged in many means than others. Rather it has a greater purpose behind i.e God has made us privileged to be capable to take care of the underprivileged". Taking this is mind and heart, my everyday was dedicated to the betterment of the kids, lift them by every means possible and put a smile in their face. Taking different roles in my tenure- from a member ;to a brother & teacher of kids; to getting opportunity to serve as the Technical Head of AASRA, I must say that I have lived a life. The hardships, the planning, the implementation resulting into heart touching results and seeing the workplace grow with it, I will cherish these moments forever.



Bhaskar B Sarkar (2018-22)

Mechanical

This club has been a constant presence in my life for the last four years, and I am proud to say that I have grown and learned so much during my time here. As we all know, the purpose of this club is to serve our community and make a positive impact on the lives of those around us. Through the years, we have worked tirelessly to achieve this goal, and I am proud of the progress we have made. We have organized countless volunteer events and activities, providing members with the opportunity to give back to those in need. We have also worked to raise awareness about important social issues and advocate for change. It is because of the dedication and hard work of our members that we have been able to achieve so much. As we move forward and become alumni of this club, I encourage you to continue to make a difference in your communities. The skills and experiences you have gained through this club will serve you well in your future endeavors. I also want to take this opportunity to thank our AASRA seniors, faculty advisors, and all well wishers for their constant guidance and support. Without them, we would not have been able to accomplish all that we have. I would love to say that it has been an honor to lead this club and I am proud of all that we have achieved together. I look forward to seeing the impact that AASRA will have in the years to come.

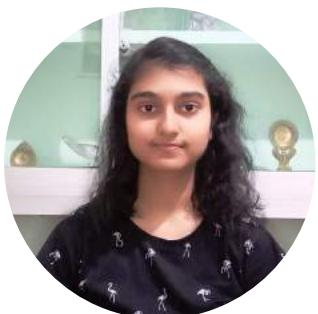
Meet The Team!



Shivam Kumar



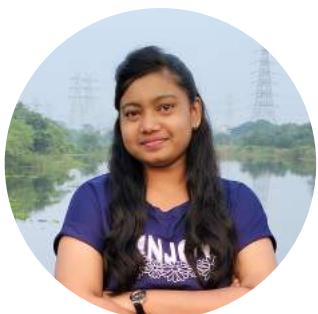
Vishal Kumar



Ritika Behera



Chirsmita Sundi



Ayushi Kumari



Saswat Kumar Behera



Premalata Patel



Bhaswoti Sahoo



Sourav Kumar Gupta



Jayshree



Devendra Pratap Rao



Sushrita Lima

*“It is a rough road
that leads to the
heights of greatness.”*

—Lucius Annaeus Seneca

