

Prayatna 'School of Excellence'

Redefining Indian Education..

All India Registered Society

"ANNUAL REPORT 2014"

Website: www.prayatnasoe.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/prayatnasoe
Twitter: www.twitter.com/prayatnasoe

Operational areas:

- Near Govt. School of Molahera, Sector 22B, Gurgaon 122015
- "Old Balmiki Chaupaal", Village Jharsa, Near Sector 32, Gurgaon 122015

Contact @ 0124-4228862, 9999314245, 9460022394 or write us @ info@prayatnasoe.org

President's Note

Dear Friends.

Season's greetings!!

The Annual Report of year 2014 is in your hands. I warmly welcome the new year to all of you.



A new year marks a new beginning, an opportunity for renewal, change, refocus, re-energising and rejuvenation.

I take pride in congratulating the team of Prayatna for their wonderful commitments and achievements in year 2014. Ever since we started PRAYATNA in **January** 2009, we have studied the processes and engagements of the organization- it is important to be well versed with the organization one heads.

The year 2014 has seen PRAYATNA focus strongly on catering to the needs of the senior students of the government schools and enrollments of little angels into nearest govt. schools as well. Friends, I consider this to be the most crucial area of work and soon we will be assessing the works and achievements of PRAYATNA as a team.

This year will always be a benchmark in the history of Prayatna as we have completed five glorious years of promoting reforms in education and we have reached over 500 children in 4 other urban rural areas of Gurgaon i.e. village Sarhaul, Jharsa, Chakarpur and Nathupur. We also touched student's base of colleges in Gurgaon and Jaipur, Rajasthan.

In terms of resources, PRAYATNA has been supported by a variety of corporates, colleges and groups. We appreciate and highly value the constant support demonstrated by our Esteemed Partners- Impulse India Pvt. Ltd., Maruti Suzuki, Management Development Institute, Icfai Business School, Alcatel Lucent foundation and Sr. Citizen Council of Gurgaon. It is largely because of such support that as an organization we have been able to produce such results in our Projects. This outreach and work needs further strengthening so that the challenges of development can be shared by larger number of development stakeholders-both government and private.

I invite suggestions and critique for our work so as to further strengthen our mission and vision.

Praneet Sushil President IT Professional, Gurgaon "It is a great pleasure to extend my best wishes to all team members for their outstanding contributions in last one year. It is a wonderful experience to share and work with dynamic professionals, cheerful students and committed teachers of our all 'School of Excellence' centres. Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is progress, and working together is a success.

Keep up the Prayatna!!"

Dr Sonali Saxena Vice President Lecturer, Govt. Girls College, Gurgaon

"I congratulate the team on taking up the challenge of mentoring and leading the neediest of the society. Sharing is precious! You share your time, energy and skills with the children who are less privilege than you, is tremendous. God bless you all.

I take this opportunity to reassure you of my support, guidance and cooperation for achieving the common goal of redefining the Indian education of our country"



Ms Shammi Alhawat Chairperson

"I feel proud to be a member of team Prayatna, more I hear the good news of activities and new engagements more I find happiness inner of my soul. I always try best of my capabilities in contributing in all possible ways to mentor and guide my younger brothers and sisters. This is said 'Service to mankind is service to god' and I am fortunate to doing it by Prayatna!"

Mohit Gupta General Secretary IT Professional, Gurgaon



Members:

Ashutosh Tiwari, Treasurer
Anuj Dubey, Coordinator
Himanshu Makkar, Joint Secretary

Preeji Niar, Coordinator, Impulse India Pvt. Ltd Priyanka Maharana, Volunteer, Impulse India Pvt. Ltd Robin Kuttan, Volunteer, S/w Professional

Arvind Saxena, Volunteer

Ms Chander Hasija, Renu Dahiya and Monika Kumari, Teachers

About Prayatna:

"Prayatna School of Excellence" is an organization which aims to deliver Excellence in the Education and lay the foundation for the citizens of tomorrow. Prayatna consists of a group of individuals who could see beyond themselves. The Passion to do something for the society and the zeal to overcome all odds and bring about a much needed change in the quality of education provided at the primary level in the rural areas. The core team consists of a group of highly qualified and working professionals who spare their time to change the lives of those who are the future of our Mother Nation. We have the desire to revolutionize the Quality of education at the primary level by the introduction of innovative ways of teaching and learning. The necessity is to develop not just an educated citizen, but to produce a learned individual who can distinguish between what is right and what is wrong.

We are registered for Tax Exemption for all donations under section 80G of Income Tax Act 1961.

Mission

To promote education among various sections of the society and to take every step in furtherance of the same including setting up of formal schemes, development centers and all such activities essential to promote educational levels.

Prayatna primary objective is to promote "Inclusive Education" by connecting Corporate, Social change makers, Teachers, Students, Residents and other sections of the community in efforts to ensure "Inclusive Development" for the society.

Where imparting education is 'service', where 'quality of service' is delivered by passionate, committed 'devotees' and where 'service to mankind' is considered as 'service to god', it has to be Prayatna School of Excellence.

"Value Education" - Core Objective of "School of Excellence"

"Value Education" - Part of "Core Curriculum" of Program "School of Excellence" - Since Primary Education is Vital for Personality Development

SOE, an Initiative of Prayatna - An Excellency Model of teaching values is to create healthier and stronger character in next generations.

Values are inculcated by engaging children into glorious history and culture of our country with mythological stories telling and book reading sessions, dramatics and holding lectures and classes by special invitees.

Great Culture Connect and Pride in Children is the aim of "School of Excellence" Project!



(Sisters from BharamKumari's taking session on value based education among children and its impact on childhood and society)

Prayatna offers services to Delhi State Government for "SCHOOL SWARAAJ"

Date – 5th February 2014 at Delhi Secretariat

In order to improve the present conditions of government schools of Delhi state including 100% regulation of **School Management Committees** and regulation of private aided and unaided schools, formation of various guidelines and rules for admissions and training for teachers and also in support of formation of policies for new proposed schools in all areas of Delhi Prayatna Management met Delhi State Education Minister Manish Sisodia on Saturday at Delhi Secretariat and given a proposal of providing services in planning and effective implementation of all policies as per prescribed rules of **Right to Education Act 2009**.

Prayatna would also like to create a conducive plan and a special task force for effective implementation of "Mission Admission" and "Regulation of SMCs" across the state schools.

Education Minister Mr. Sisodia has shown his eagerness on participation by Prayatna and urged to join similar new forces in all implementation matters as they seek good help form common citizens. Both parties discussed on the possibilities and solutions in this regard.

Prayatna is planning to have few more Face to Face sessions with Government representatives to a mutually agreed program on effective implementation of RTE Act provisions.

With the formation of new govt. in Haryana it would be easier to make a tie-up in new educational programs of government.

A presentation on 'Promoting Education Reforms' by Prayatna at Gyan Vihar University, Jaipur

Date - 2nd March 2014

Engineering Students gets inspired by presentation delivered by Prayatna President Praneet Sushil on Wednesday in Gyan Vihar University, Jaipur and formed a team to initiate the works on Right to Education Act, creating awareness on education reforms and for mission-admission 2014 in govt. schools across the Jaipur City of Rajasthan.

Program facilitated by Coordinator of Rajasthan chapter Himanshu Makkar, lecturer of Electronics Engineering Department of Gyan Vihar University.

Praneet and Himanshu have presented the idea of giving access of education to every child of country through RTE Act and how technology and conviction can make a difference in present scenario of education.



(Praneet Sushil taking the session to Engineering Students of Gyan Vihar Univ. Jaipur)

Career Counselling and Mentoring Workshop

Date - 5th March 2014 at SOE-Molahera

"Prayatna" demands a full time dedicated counselor for all schools and one stop solution for Career Mentoring by a "Career Doctor". A much needed reform in present education system.

Praneet Sushil, chief mentor of program 'disha' gave a holistic approach of possible work, solution and challenges in counselling of students who are crossing the age group of 14, 16 and 18th. Presented Solutions are:

- 1) High time to introduce a full time "Career Counselor" for all the students of standard 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th
- 2) Introduce "Vocational Courses" at school level (especially for govt. schools where children are not from privileged section)
- 3) Children who are not willing to pursue or not able to opt higher education must engaged into some vocational training/courses to become self-dependent in earlier stage of life
- 4) Introduce technological advancements and private consortium partnerships to uplift the schooling system for better results

Points are discussed in a workshop conducted on "Career Counseling and Mentoring", Professionals, associates and social workers of Samarth Swaraj group asked these questions because they are willing to work on these topics.



(Professionals, social workers from 'Smarth Swaraj' Team attending the session on Career Counseling through project 'Disha')

Expressions @ Management Development Institute, Gurgaon

Extra Curricular Event by PRAYATANA kids

Compiled by MDI Samaritans Team

Samaritans has been in association with Prayatna from many years and it is always a delightful experience to be around those kids. A small team from Samaritans visited "SOE-Molahera" with an aim of teaching them few cultural activities including dancing and singing. The thought of

learning dancing and singing really energised all the students. They were excited and very enthusiastic to learn and show case their talent. To everyone surprise, few of them were really champs, they are well adept in singing, picking up notes of songs and steps of dance really well and after few practice rounds, they were performing their best. This really boasted their confidence. More than forty students prepared their performance and participated in the cultural event organised for them at MDI campus the very next day.

In next morning, kids were welcomed at campus, and after lunch, they were all set to perform in front of judges and audience. Loads of cheering, clapping, and encouragement set the stage for everyone, they were enthusiastic, excited and innocently waiting for their performance to come. Some performed alone, some in duos and many in groups. It was a treat to eyes, listening "Mera mulk mera desh" song from little **Danish**, his poise and soulful singing was awe-inspiring. Patriotic songs, Bollywood numbers, love numbers, hip hop, rapp songs, prayers, everything was covered by these bunch of kids. Such a talented lot, really inspiring and also a learning experience for we grownups that how to find happiness in every small little things of life. At the end, winners were announced and everyone was given chocolates.





(Prayatna Molahera and Carterpuri Students at MDI College Gurgaon)

They also played in the garden with the Samaritans team and made our day memorable.

Experience of one of the team member of MDI "Sometimes little acts of kindness can make you speechless. Today, we had organized a cultural competition for the kids from Prayatna, and towards the end we distributed chocolates to them. I was so touched when one of the kids I had just met today insisted that I share his chocolate since I did not have any. No matter how much I refused, he wouldn't take no for an answer. And the smile that spread across his face when I finally accepted, left me at a loss for words. Amazing experiences"

Vocational Scholarships Program

Compiled by Praneet Sushil

This year Prayatna has expanded its educational activities to provide vocational studies for students who are crossing age group of 16 years and excellent in their academics with good behavioral skills so that they can be made employable for their families and also pursue their higher studies. **Sr. Citizen Council** of Gurgaon has extended their support for those students and came forward to support them financially in order to pursue vocational courses of their choice. Sr. Citizen Council is a group of retired citizens from diverse fields of life; mostly reside in DLF Phase I, II and III.

Mr. Bimal Mohanty and **Dr. A. N. Bhat** have extended their support to needy and brilliant students of Prayatna. At the very first stage they have chosen three students from the existing batch of "School of Excellence" Molahera. They are Arvind Saxena (a B.Com. student), Rakesh Kumar (an 11th class student) and Rohit Kumar (a 10th class student) for three different vocational courses.

Prayatna has a tie-up with **SNS** foundation (CSR wing of Anand group of industries) for all the vocational courses. They offer many courses relevant to present industrial needs like Stitching, Tailoring, Computer Software and Hardware, Electrician, Two or four wheeler auto mechanic and many more. SNS foundation also assures for proper placements of students.

Sr. Citizen Council reassures that they shall provide more scholarships for needy students in coming future and provide mentoring to students. Prayatna has submitted a plan to council for 10 to 20 students to get enrolled in vocaitonal studies and provide monthly financial help for 10 to 20 students who are very good in academics and need support.

Rakhi and Cards Making Event at "School of Excellence" Jharsa

Compiled by Priyanka Maharana, Volunteer, Impulse





(Students made wonderful Rakhis and Greeting Cards under the able guidance of SOE Teachers and Priyanka Maharana and Preeji Niar the Volunteers from Impulse)

15th August Celebrations

"Awareness Rally on Independence Movement"

Place - Govt. School of Village Sarhaul

Compiled by Praneet Sushil

"Prayatna" has celebrated 15th August with a different mood and changed the trends of celebration this time. First of all, team of Students and Prayatna volunteers visited Govt. school of Sarhaul village, Near Sector 18, Gurgaon and performed Plays there on "Pre-Independence movement" and interacted students about their views of Independence and Future course of Actions. Students and staff of govt. school were thrilled with the performance of School Students of Molahera.

Prayatna team extended the celebrations by joining the Self-Awareness Rally organized by Sarhaul social workers and residents. Prayatna student's team performed "Street Play" at different corners of streets, rally had been carried out. They thrilled the public of Sarhaul by exciting scenes of Pre-Independence Freedom Movement. They also conveyed the message of People's power and the need of Women Empowerment - need of the hour by speeches on the streets. Check out the exciting snaps of Street Play of Sarhaul's Awareness Rally.





(Prayatna Team with Students have performed Street Play at Sarhaul Govt. School and Streets of Sarhaul Village – Facilitated by Ekta Foundation)

Place - "School of Excellence" Molahera and Jharsa

Compiled by Soumyajyoti Bhowmik, Rohit and Madhurya, MDI Gurgaon

"It was the 15th of August, a bright sunny afternoon. Prayatna School of Excellence was the destination. The school was gearing up to celebrate the 68th Independence day.

Patriotism was in the air and children greeted us with a pleasant Vande Mataram. The enthusiasm among the kids made us feel 10 years younger and we were one among than no time.

Team started off by setting up the stage for their performance. With banners of inspiring freedom fighters and Bharat Mata as the back drop the stage was ready for those talented little kids. Now it was time to get the children dressed in their respective costumes for various events like dancing, singing, drama. The enthusiastic performances of the kids were captured in videos and photographs and they were much appreciated for their efforts.

Mr. Tanwar Retd. DIG, Mrs. Shammi Ahlawat, Mr. Krishan Lal Wadhwa Retd. Principal, Col. Mahender Singh were a few among the distinguished people present there.

Chief Guest **Retd. DIG Mr. Tanwar** hoisted the flag and aptly pointed the role of every citizen in contributing towards strengthening India by buying Indian made products rather than going for imported goods be it toothpaste or a car and prefer products of Indian companies like Godrej, Dabur and Tata."





(Dignitaries hoisted the Flag on Independence Day Celebrations at Molahera centre – Students performed the play on brave maratha warrior "Chatrapati Shivaji")



(Students from SOE-Jharsa organizing a patriotic song on Independence day celebrations)

International Literacy Day on 8th September

Date - 8th September 2014

Compiled by Priyanka Maharana, Volunteer, Impulse

Participants - Robin Kuttan, Volunteer, Cognizant Corp., Priyanka Maharana, Coordinator, Impulse Corp., MDI Team and school staff





Priyanka organized the "Book Reading and Story Telling" session at SOE-Jharsa, MDI team at SOE-Molahera and Robin at Mayur Vihar Phase II, New Delhi in some slum colonies.

Organizing team shared their wonderful stories with pictures about their volunteering!!

"The evening started off with giving the kids a brief introduction on "Literacy Day" and the importance of education. This was followed by the teachers reading out Pratham books to the kids and conveying them the hidden moral in each story.

Monica, the teacher of SOE-Jharsa started with the book "TAKLOO". Takloo narrated the story of a boy named "Takloo" from a small village. He, through his intelligence and smartness made use of the excess salt getting wasted in their house and earned money to help his poor family.

LESSON LEARNT:

- Even kids are capable of performing tasks like grown-ups do. All that is needed is passion and will power.
- Money never determines happiness neither money can buy happiness.
- In spite of facing a hard time to make both ends meet, Takloo's was an always happy and smiling family.

Renu, another teacher of SOE-Jharsa took the baton forward with the book "MUJHE SCHOOL NAI JANA". The story was of a kid who always found reasons to avoid going to school and how their mother made them realise the importance of going to school.

LESSON LEARNT:

- School plays a pivotal role in our lives.
- It isn't only limited to our academics, it also teaches us ethics and makes us a better social animal.

 Kids should always listen to their parents as they are never wrong and always tend to strive towards our betterment.

The third book, "BANSURI KA JADOO" was narrated by Shivangi, teacher of secondary students at SOE-Jharsa. It was the Hindi interpretation of Robert Browning's famous story "the Pied Piper of Hamelin".

LESSON LEARNT:

- We should always value and respect people who help us.
- Promises once made, should never be broken. Otherwise they might lead to disastrous consequences.

The third story marked an end to the book reading session.

Robin Kuttan also facilitated the "Book Reading" session to the children of Mayur Vihar Phase I and II in New Delhi. He usually does volunteering for the children of slum areas of Mayur Vihar and conducts weekly classes for weaker sections. He also extended his services for "SOE-Molahera" students and gives weekly English and Music classes.

Robin has also shown his leadership qualities while taking initiative in admissions through 'Mission Admission' campaign of Prayatna. He has done few admissions of drop out children in govt. school of Mayur Vihar, Delhi.

Hoping to witness many such inspiring events in the coming times!!

Cleanliness Drive by Prayatna Students

Date - 2nd November 2014

Compiled by Anand Agarwal, Volunteer, Business Analyst

"Cleanliness is next to godliness" M. K. Gandhi

On Sunday entire Prayatna Team joined the Haryana govt. Initiative "Clean Haryana - Clean India" along with school students of Molahera village.

There is hardly anyone of us who hasn't heard this dictum at school. Given by the father of our great nation, and perhaps due to the numerous re-iteration it has deserved, today it finds itself being served by many lips but few hands.

I am not a big follower of politics, but cleanliness mission started by the present government, has been long overdue. It was my great privilege last week to see it being actioned as a full-fledged initiative in the state of Haryana, where the government launched "Clean Haryana – Clean India" drive across the state.



(Students participating in the Cleanliness Drive in Sector 22B and village Molahera)

Typically at these events one would imagine stars, big hot-shots coming forward and cleaning the neighbourhood in an effort inspire others to come ahead (Remember: Clean Yamuna or Clean Juhu Chowpatty). Gurgaon however, had quite a different spectacle for us, where students from government schools participated and were instrumental in executing the drive at **Sector 22B and Molahera** locality.

These students are a part of Prayatna, working tirelessly towards their upliftment by taking them from just literacy to holistic education. Few realise how massive a difference there is between the two. The students' enthusiasm enthralled the government officials as much as it inspired the common folk of these localities to come together for a cleaner Haryana. Students made their way in tractor trailers with equipment provided by the government and got their hands dirty for a cleaner society. I remember my dad telling every time he asked me to clean my room, "it builds character". Many students present weren't even associated with Prayatna but answered its appeal for contribution towards driving this noble initiative.

I would have gone forward and said that these localities are now spotless, but that would be a lie. But those who will judge the success of this drive by current cleanliness in these localities' would be far too myopic. This initiative instilled hope and inspired many to achieve what the "practical" having calling impossible for longer than I can remember, a clean India. It wasn't an event that has concluded, in their eyes one could see; it's a step towards a great vision.

Prayatna requested MCG for proper Dustbins and Posters that need to be placed at different identified locations of Sector and village and also in Sector 22B Market.

"Expression of Gratitude" Event

Prayatna Five Years Celebrations 2009-14

Compiled by Dr Sonali Saxena

<u>Prayatna acknowledges its associates, partners and outstanding</u>

performers in a colourful cultural evening

In a special cultural evening Prayatna Society had given Mementos to all major contributors in five years journey of promoting reforms in education.

"Expression of Gratitude" given to following distinguished guests

Ram Avatar Sharma, Sr. Advocate Supreme Court, President of National Welfare Human Rights Foundation, Vice-chairman, Nagrik Suraksha Samiti, Delhi Police

Col. R. C. Chaddha, President, Global Cultural Foundation

Nikhil Suri, Director Impulse Corporation (SOE-Jharsa Partner)

Dr A. N. Bhatt, Retd. Professor, Sr. Citizen Council, DLF Gurgaon,

Shri Bimal Mohanty, President Ahwaan Spiritual Organization www.ahwan.org

Dr Sushil Khurana, Chairperson Kalyani hospital and Owner Rotary Public School

Raj Chauhan, Actor and Producer (Haryanvi films)

Mrs. Ratna Guha and Mrs. Aruna Vajpayee, Media Centre for R&D, Gurgaon

Mrs. Pushpa Dhankar, Administrator, DPS School, Sec-28, Gurgaon

Samaritans Team, Management Development Institute

J K Puri, Rotarian and Ex-President Qutub Enclave

The memento giving ceremony to Impulse team can be viewed @

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HSF7RhCg8Bo&feature=youtu.be





(Prayatna Management gives mementos to Patron Shri Bimal Mohanty, Dr A. N. Bhat and Col. R. C. Chadha, president of Global Cultural foundation)





(The cultural performances - Girls Rajasthani Group Dance and Plays - Siksha Kyon Jaroori Hai.! and "Chatrapati Shivaji")

Program Highlights

The most sizzling performance was the play based on Education Awareness <u>"Shiksha Kyon Jaroori hai?"</u> "It shows why education is important as it plays vital role not only for our professional upliftment but also in public affairs"

A Historical Play based on the story of great Maratha Emperor Shivaji Maharaj "ChatraPati Shivaji"

"It shows the bravery and clever strategic planning of Chattrapati Shivaji Maharaj. He was ultimately able to inflict a crushing defeat on afzal khan and his 80000 strong adil sahi army with his only a 5500 small Marathi forces"

Soft links of Programs:

Play - "Siksha Kyon Jaroori Hai..!" by Prayatna Students (Part I & Part II)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ZtEcBAb5ZI

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dFNPr3Z4qGg

Group Dance Performance by Prayatna Students

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0G26EP Rtys

Rajasthani Folk Dance by Prayatna Students

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1utTo58vurw



Around **40** students from Village Molahera, Jharsa and Carterpuri with extra-ordinary performances in different areas of studies and extra-curricular activities were facilitated.

The outstanding performers (in overall development) are:

Sandeep (class 10th), Himtaz (class 9th), Priya (class 8th), Gulshan (class 8th), Shweta (class 7th), Sonu (class 6th), Maya (class 6th), Jyoti (class 6th), Aman (class 4th) and Bhumika (class 3rd)

Testimonials:

"It is indeed my great pleasure to have met Praneet and his wife and then to have got associated with your excellent and dedicated initiative with "Prayatna School of Excellence'. During my 3 months association so far, I have seen your solid commitment and passion for the cause of children's education and your strong belief that you can make a quality difference at the grass root level. I am truly impressed!

I am even more convinced now after 3 months as I got to meet and interact with the children of Prayatna SOE - the discipline, the values, the energy and the confidence I see in them clearly reflects your 5 years of hard work. After every visit and interaction with those kids, I return happy and feel energized myself and I feel more committed in joining you to take this initiative forward.

Let us remain committed, the success will follow."

Ram Krishna Mudholkar, Director, Dupont Corp. Gurgaon

"I like to thank you and other members of the organising committee of Prayatna for letting us participate in the most enjoyable function. We hope to keep supporting you as much as we can"

Dr A. N. Bhat, Senior Citizens Council, DLF Gurgaon

"Congratulations team Prayatna for this first milestone! For next five years Impulse-Prayatna association gets stronger. We are committed to upgrading the facility and teaching positions at SOE-Jharsa"

Nikhil Suri, Director Impulse Corp., Gurgaon

"Plays were brilliantly acted by students, I am surprised by the amazing performance of migrant children. If the chance is given to them they can make an impact at large. I would encourage the acting aspirants to go through our breaktocinema initiative"

Raj Chauhan, Haryanvi Actor and Producer

"It has always been a great experience to see the performance of prayatna students; I appreciate the hard work being put by the prayatna team. Keep it up and we will catch you in our school programs"

Pushpa Dhankar, Administrator, Delhi Public School, Sector 28, Gurgaon

"A wonderful experience to get engaged with prayatna team, each time I meet to children, teachers and team members I discover I am exploring more about myself and at the end of day when I leave 'school of excellence' centre I feel a great sense of satisfaction and happiness."

Col. (Retd.) R. C. Chaddha, Patron, President - Global Cultural Foundation