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Disaster Response

About BJS

Established in the year 1985 under the leadership of Mr. Shantilal Muttha, Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana (BJS) has been in the forefront of addressing national concerns in the areas of Educational Initiatives, Social Development and Disaster Response. Over the years of its existence, BJS has practised and attempted to perfect its approach and work processes

BJS works in progressional steps by identifying National Issues; researching the needs of the affected population; creating practical solutions based on experiences and then converting them into workable modules. After analyzing the process, sustainable solutions and meaningful impact are the driving forces behind or the guiding principles of BJS.

national concern

focusing on selected domains that contribute to nation-building

Established with the vision of contributing towards nation building, Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana (BJS) takes up issues that are of national concern. Over the many years of its work some of the national concerns that BJS has addressed and will continue to address are:

- Increasing Divorce Rate
- **Declining Sex Ratio**
- Educational Rehabilitation of **Disaster Affected Students**
- Lack of Quality in Education
- **Decline in Values**

social sensitivity

researching in-depth issues to address needs across the society

To identify issues of national concern and to understand the magnitude of the issue and its stranglehold on the masses requires a high level of social sensitivity reinforced with thorough research. BJS always envisages the larger picture behind its solutions and takes it on its agenda has to align with the work of all of nation building.

developmental innovation

strategizing novel ideas to align development within established frameworks

BJS believes that path breaking ideas in themselves do not ensure successful implementations, especially in areas that are of national concern. The solution has to be complementary to the already taken government initiatives and other agencies that are already working on it. This innovation in converting "ideas into actions" ensures that BJS always preempts the various "road-blocks" in the path towards development and successfully implements its pragmatic innovations.



BJS has built a strong country wide network of human resources and state-of-the-art infrastructure that has enabled it to reach out to millions in its quest for nation building. It has a rich and multi dimensional experience of working at the grassroots, as well as contributing to the policy level thought process and decision making. BJS has worked actively with governments both State and Central, NGOs across the country as well as communities in the implementation of many of its projects.

BJS's achievements through the years have been recognized and felicitated by many national and international agencies. The World Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (WANGO) an apex body has recognized and rewarded BJS with the **WANGO Award** as the world's best NGO for 2005. BJS is now an empanelled agency of CBSE for assessment and accreditation of CBSE affiliated schools. This is indeed recognition of the work that BJS has carried out till date and an encouragement for it to perform even better in the days to come.

participatory process

enthusing all stakeholders for involved implementations

BJS excels in designing and implementing processes that are simple, facilitating and ones that instill a sense of ownership amongst all the participants. A special emphasis is maintained on the capacity building of resources at the implementation level and on developing local leadership. The mission undertaken thus becomes a collective quest for all involved with success being a foregone conclusion.

sustainable solutions

implementing workable, scalable and replicable models

Rising above all the physical limitations, BJS delivers models that are workable and replicable in the field. After the success of the pilot implementation, the model with its inherent scalability can be plugged into existing systems, either governmental or socioeconomic to facilitate the pannational "roll-out". BJS also ensures that the solutions it offers are flexible and adaptable enough to incorporate any local or regional variations required in the implementation. All this ensures that all the solutions that BJS implements are truly sustainable.

meaningful impact

touching millions through our work!!!

The culmination of all that BJS envisions, strives to do and does, is the impact that its work has on a sizeable population of the country. The corrections in the skewed gender ratio, the promise of imbibing values in the children right from the formative years and the path breaking work that BJS undertakes as solutions to family issues: all this will definitely have a lasting impact on the generations to come. BJS through its dedicated work since its inception has reached out to the millions and in a small yet definitive way touched their lives! And will continue to do so....



Educational Initiatives

The nation building process demands that we look beyond the universalization of education and accord due importance to the quality of education in general. This aspect of ensuring educational equity through quality in the entire spectrum of schools and in education from preprimary to higher education is slowly being acknowledged and efforts are being channelized in this direction.

BJS has always had a strong focus on education having realized its importance as a tool for Social Transformation. This has led BJS to creating a set of programs aimed at the holistic development of students through improved educational delivery and increased contributions from all stakeholders. This set of programs includes various Assessment, Empowerment and Training modules, making it a comprehensive and holistic basket.

BJS has also conceptualized a new subject to imbibe universal values and morals and build the character of a child in the formative years. The focus of this subject is on imbibing values in children rather than on just familiarizing them with or making them understand values.



BJS - EDUQIP (Educational Quality Improvement Program) is an integrated program that assists schools in establishing quality standards in the education they impart. It consists of different modules that have been designed and developed by BJS. The following programs are suited for schools in rural or urban areas under government administration or with private management:

Trustee Empowerment Program Management Development Program Student Assessment Program Empowerment of Principals

Teachers Training Program Career Guidance Program

Some Implementations of EDUQIP

- 328 Schools of Federation of Jain Educational Institutes
- 400 schools of Andaman & Nicobar Islands
- 1,790 schools of Goa
- 563 schools of Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS)





Peace, Moral and Value Education

Mulyavardhan is a comprehensive and holistic peace, moral and value education program conceived, designed and implemented by BJS for school children from standards 1st to 10th (currently being implemented for standards 1st to 4th).

In the pilot phase of the program, it is being implemented in more than 1,200 villages in around 500 schools under the district administration. 275 specially trained value educators have imparted Mulyavardhan to around 35,000 school children in the two year period.

Its impact assessment carried out by Cambridge University Technical Services (CUTS) indicates that the program has helped in improving the interpersonal relationships between students as well as reducing the disciplinary issues among them.



BJS School Assessment & Accreditation

Ensuring Quality Education

Based on its understanding of current educational issues, international trends and national policies, and backed by extensive field experience, BJS has evolved an assessment and accreditation system - BJS-SAA (BJS -School Assessment and Accreditation). This system assesses schools for a level of performance, integrity, and quality that earns the confidence of all stakeholders government, the management, the school head, the teaching and non-teaching staff, and more importantly of students, parents, and the community as a whole. Since BJS targets a large canvas of schools it has ensured that the BJS accreditation system is practical, realistic and versatile, applicable to all profiles of schools ranging from one-room schools in the remotest rural areas to even the most elite schools of the country.

Teacher Training

In the journey to improve the quality of school education, teachers are the vehicles that will bring the destination closer. BJS realizes that any quality intervention is incomplete without appropriate teacher training.

In keeping with the working philosophy of BJS, of undertaking interventions that are complementary to the efforts of the government rather than at variance with them, BJS Teacher training programmes serve to address the gap between pre-service education and in-service training of teachers. The Teacher Induction Training Progamme is a comprehensive 60-day training that equips newly recruited teachers with the attitude, skills and competencies required in making a positive impact on their students' learning outcomes right from the beginning of their careers.

Social Development

The family has been the primary social institution; especially in the Indian context. BJS has acknowledged this fact ever since it was first formed and has worked ceaselessly to ensure that the family is at the nucleus of all its efforts to bring about social change.

What began as an emotional crusade against the various social ills plaguing the society more than 25 years ago, has now evolved into a fine tuned system to bring about holistic development within the society. BJS works with individuals, families and communities and identifies the root causes of various social problems. Issues at all socioeconomic levels of the society are carefully analyzed and specific intervention programs are developed to resolve these.

Apart from the focus on family related issues, BJS has also been working actively on other related social issues like the skewed female gender ratio in India. Its volunteer force has been creating awareness within various communities across the country in a systematic manner with a definite impact.



BJS championed the "Mass Marriages" movement in its early years to fight against the then prevalent social evils of dowry and excessive spending during marriages. What started off as sporadic events slowly gained momentum, culminating into a nation-wide practice, thanks to the effective demonstration to the entire community by BJS.



सुखी परिवार प्रगती का आधार

Parichay Sammelan

A platform to handle the complex and sensitive requirements in the search for matrimonial alliances. This is being organized for the last 25 years and about 25,000 candidates have participated in this program

Empowerment of Girls

A capacity building program for girls between the age of 16 and 25 years to prepare them to face the challenges that are posed by the changing social environment. Around 115 programs have been conducted since 2008 empowering around 4,447 participants. 50 master trainers from across the country are approved to conduct these programs.

Empowerment of Boys

An empowerment program for boys between the age of 15 to 25 years to equip them with sufficient skills and changes in their mindset so that they can handle the demands of these crucial years. A pilot program for 45 participants has been conducted.

Empowerment of Couples

A capacity building program that builds trust and faith through effective communication thus bringing happiness in the life of newly married couples and the entire family. 70 couples have undergone this facilitation over 3 pilots.

Basic Family & Marriage Counseling

An intervention by BJS to educate and counsel people to face the realities and create cohesiveness among families. A supporting program to train counselors is also designed and implemented by BJS.

Plastic Surgery Camps

BJS has been conducting these camps since 1991 that offer free surgical corrections of facial deformities like cleft lip, cleft palate and squints to children from the economically weak sections of the society. As a result of these surgeries conducted by the US based noted surgeon Dr. Sharadkumar Dicksheet more than 400,000 children have been given a hope of a more confident and bright future.

Relief Operations

In all the major disasters that have unfortunately affected the country since the Latur Earthquake of 1993, BJS has always been in the forefront of the relief and rescue efforts.BJS stands apart from other humanitarian agencies in its approach towards relief and rescue. The strength of BJS is its ability to mobilize a strong team of volunteers at a moment's notice and have it report to any part of the country within a few hours of a disaster. The task force is extremely sensitized and takes utmost efforts to ensure that the dignity of the affected is respected.

Communal Riots, 1992

Peace March from Pune to Nagpur with religious heads from Jain, Hindu and Muslim community

Latur Earthquake, 1993

Adopted 9 villages for relief. Around 50,000 sweaters, 10,000 blankets distributed besides utensil kits, bed sheets and lamps Educational rehabilitation of 1200 boys. Entire support from Std. 5 to graduation provided

Melghat Malnutrition Poject, 1997

Educational rehabilitation of 350 boys for 10 years

Jabalpur Earthquake, 1997

Educational rehabilitation of 50 boys

Gujarat Earthquake, 2001

Constructed 368 schools and handed over to the government in 90 days

Akola Floods, 2002

Temporary shelters provided to 15,000 victims

Tsunami, 2004

Rescue and Relief work through 6 camps in Tamil Nadu

Constructed 11 schools and 34 primary health centres in 1 year

Stampede at Mandhardevi Temple, 2005

Timely relief and rescue operations for devotees by providing temporary shelters and medical assistance

Jammu & Kashmir Earthquake, 2005

870 pre-fabricated shelters despatched to provide shelters to 15,000 people

Bihar Floods, 2008

Medical aid to 1,50,000 victims in 181 days



Educational Rehabilitation

Right from its first participation in the Latur earthquake relief efforts, BJS realized the detrimental impact any disaster has on the surviving children. All humanitarian agencies involved in relief operations distribute free food, clothing and medical supplies. The government administration concentrates on restoring infrastructure and essential services in the affected areas. As such very little attention and effort is spared for resuming normal educational activities for children. The lack of any activity both physical and mental can make these children relive the tragedy over and over again, finally translating into irreparable psychological damage. BJS recognized these symptoms as an added dimension to any disaster and promptly set to work out the action plan to ensure the educational rehabilitation of the disaster affected children.

Today it has its own infrastructure at the Wagholi Education and Rehabilitation Centre, Pune that offers residential educational facilities to the disaster affected children as well as children from the marginalized sections of the society.



Wagholi Educational Rehabilitation Centre (WERC), Pune

On recommendation from the Government of Maharashtra, the World Bank granted funds for the building. A large state-of-the art building along with all facilities like hostels, laboratories, classrooms, library, of 3 lac sq. feet was built by the World Bank and handed over to BJS in 1994.

The main objectives of WERC are:

- Rehabilitation of orphans and destitute children affected by earthquake
- Provision of food, shelter, clothing, education, medical and health support for a period of ten years
- Provision of good quality education and vocational training so that they can, if they so desire, return to their village and earn their livelihood and support local economy
- To provide emotional support to counter trauma
- Help in making these boys responsible citizens by instilling in them a sense of responsibility
- Training these children to enable them to extend help to others in similar disasters in the future

Our Strengths



Trust Board 10

Implementation

Back Office Support

Team of 45 (6 in HR & Admin, 3 in Accounts, 5 in Printing & Publications and 31 in other support activities)

Project Assistants (298)

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participatory process

enthusing all stakeholders for involved implementations

sustainable solutions

implementing workable, scalable and replicable models

meaningful impact

touching millions through our work!!!

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