



## From the President's Desk

Dear Friends,

We are at the threshold of 2015 and what an eventful year it had been – at all levels. National election, change in government, formation of new states, elections in few of the major states, international presence of Indian leadership, national awakening campaigns on the long awaited fundamental concerns, all these have given a revived hope for national development while boosting the individual aspirations. Personally, I feel like it was just yesterday when Shri. Shantilalji Muttha passed on the BJS baton to me and I could witness the society at large and community in specific from the grass roots from across 20 states in this phase of transition.

As the National President, I undertook the Parivartan Yatra and for the first time, I had an opportunity to take the work of BJS to the community across India in a comprehensive way. The enthusiasm of volunteers and community people was very encouraging and the purpose of reaching out to the masses has given everyone immense satisfaction. There was astonishment among people to know about BJS as a social organisation of such a scale with the willingness to reach the furthest community sections, for critical concern areas and that too with a single person's vision and resources. It is an exhilarating moment to represent this great persona – my mentor, Founder of BJS, Shri. Shantilalji Muttha while it's also a daunting moment to execute his vision in field while mobilizing the real strength of this organization – which is our volunteers' base.

The Parivartan Yatra gave us a sense of mobilization and I got an opportunity to establish connect with the community as a whole, even in remote locations across the 20 states. It drew representation of people from far flung areas such as the north - eastern part of the country in the National Council and created new channels of community development for us. With this connectivity the real challenge now is in taking BJS programs to the last beneficiary of the far flung areas and this could be achieved with vertical and horizontal connectivity through our committed volunteers and proper use of social media and technology. With the institutional tie-ups that EoG and the SAP programs aim at, we

will be able to reach a larger number of beneficiaries.

The National Convention 2014 further re-strengthened the new and existing networks by bringing people from regions across India on to a common platform. Many major issues faced by the society were discussed and suitable solutions were presented in the convention. The participation of community members and representatives from different locations opened up ways of outreach of these solutions provided by eminent thinkers and speakers to the end members of society.

Being the pioneer of mass marriages and matrimonial meets, BJS Founder Shri Shantilalji Muttha appealed the community for a revolutionary but most required idea of this age for giving an ownership of initial match finding process to the young boys and girls. His poise and assertion effectively communicated the problems faced by young girls, boys and families in marriage fixing process and in ensuring happy and stable marriages. His proposal of handing over the ownership to youth was accepted by community through SMS voting where around 97% people present in the convention agreed with the idea.

Together with addressing the family and marriage related problems of youth, this year is also marked by a number of programs, workshops, seminars and camps organized to cater to their educational, professional and entrepreneurial requirements. The Business Development Programs, regular seminars by experts on Business related topics; all of these received huge participation and overwhelming response from the youth. BJS identified awareness about the Minority status and its benefits as one of the focus areas of the year.

Identifying the community issues and focus areas with the changing time has been Shri. Muttha's forte. His decision to change the leadership was an outcome of his years of experience, observation and foresightedness. He knew that the 30 year old legacy of social service can be carried forward in its true sense only by strong commitments by youth to BJS vision.

A man of his stature who led the organization for three decades, putting his faith in me was an honor for me. It is my endeavour now to

connect with the community youth and bring them in the organizational fold so that they have a sustainable role to play in the development of the community.



Friends, I feel this is the right time to thank all the volunteers and office bearers for adopting BJS mission and vision as an integral part of their lives. They are the strong links in the network and contribute to continual expansion of social contribution. The expectation of people has increased manifold and there is a huge responsibility on BJS office bearers to take forward the work. As I said in the National Convention recently, 100% commitment from the volunteers and office bearers always plays a significant role in fulfilling the mission of the organization.

We now have well-defined roles and responsibilities for all the office bearers; with a target and accountability based model that will work as the mobilizing factor.

While touring the country, I found there is a huge gap in appropriate vision and thought leadership in the community development areas. Community as a whole is largely engaged in individual pursuits lacking a collective foresightedness for a long term agenda to address community's development and futuristic concerns. This opens up an opportunity to provide the leadership while taking care of the challenges as well. We are looking forward to tie-ups with other social organizations to expand the area of social welfare to a magnitude that encompasses every single member of society. A whole new year is waiting for us with open arms.



Year 2014 was an eventful year for Bharatiya Jain Sangathan (BJS). The succession planning that took place at BJS is exemplary and offers a lesson to everyone. After nurturing and heading the organisation for three decades since 1985, Shri. Shantilalji Muttha decided to create leadership opportunity and provide independent power and positions to younger people, when he could have well continued to lead BJS. For 20 years, Shri. Prafulla Parakh has been Shri. Muttha's close confidant, rising through the ranks of BJS, and then playing a pivotal role in Maharashtra network development. In fact, Shri. Parakh's appointment is actually a continuity of a thought process and Shri. Shantilalji Muttha has enabled a new generation to step forward and take charge with the tagline "Nayi Peddhi, Nayi Soch" saying it all.

It's a step in a whole new direction. With the Parivartan Yatra, BJS made surprising gains in regions where the organisation has lesser presence and those now have to be consolidated. As young minds and ideas increasingly come to the forefront, Shri. Parakh will have to keep a fine balance to continue the thread of history and legacy while charting out a newer leadership blueprint.

The Parivartan Yatra was a mission that Shri Prafulla Parakh undertook with an aim to take the BJS solutions to the maximum number of community persons. Shri Parakh addressed 162 meetings, covering 19,283 Kms on road (excluding air travel distance) across 17 states; connecting with more than 40,700 people from the community. The five months of Parivartan Yatra enthused thousands of youngsters and seniors alike and was a medium for exchange of views and identification of problems and also gave the organization the much needed insight into the actual social conditions that the end member of community is dealing with. Establishing country-wide connectivity with the people from the community has set off.

The expansion of work area from seven major states namely Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra to 17 states altogether, the positive feedback from the gathering in every city and the opportunity to understand and serve the community in a better way were the glorious outcomes of the Yatra. These outcomes of Parivartan Yatra have now become the guiding lights for further community welfare.

The BJS National Convention-2014, held in Pune recently, was attended by 2000 community members from across the nation. The Convention was formally inaugurated by Honorable Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Shri. Nitinji Gadkari. Coming from him, the words of appreciation for the BJS initiatives for rehabilitation and welfare of tribal children were indeed very encouraging.

BJS National President Shri. Prafulla Parakh clearly stated the BJS goals and focus areas for coming years. The swearing in of the new National Executive Council and State Presidents under the leadership of Shri. Parakh signaled the commencement of a new journey towards community building.

BJS National President addressing the session - Issues and Concerns of Young Girls: A Social Responsibility – elaborated on the dire need for empowerment of every girl in the country. Families need to provide progressive and supporting environment to the young daughters at home for their changing needs with time.

In his enriching session on Youth Connectivity: Enrichment through Social Participation, Dr. Ved Prakash Mishra said that the modern market economy has impacted the family set-up. Material prosperity has become implicitly related to the extent of individual freedom. Dr. Mishra emphasised that as parents we should take the responsibility of setting ethical and moral examples for our children to follow.

Shri. Chakor Gandhi, in another session – Changing of Baton: For Huge Opportunities in Business Development – emphasized that the youth must be encouraged to gain proper training and education and also some job experience before joining the family business. Early introduction of youth to business even when the older generation is still into it, works in favor of business.

In a fast-transforming world, the youth are increasingly facing fresh challenges, making their survival in jobs and businesses tougher. The keynote speaker, Dr. Chenraj Jain, on - Essential Focus for GenNext: Education, career and business enhancement - mentioned about the advancements in technology and rise of e-commerce that have opened up umpteen opportunities for the Generation Next.

Shri P A Inamdar said with attaining the minority status, Jains have now access to various benefits, specially in the field of education. Minority Status: A Boon for the Community focused on the object of establishing an institution with the aim to provide technical or professional education to the deserving candidates from the minority community that has to be actively propagated amongst its members.

All the attendees felt inspired by a single person i.e. BJS Founder Shri Shantilal Mutta as presented his research-based solution to problems arising in matchmaking and also failing marriages. Revolutionary Change in Fixing up of Marriages: A need of the time, Shri Muttha's proposal for role interchange in marriage fixing was passed with historic 97% votes from community members. With the take-away from National Convention and its proper implementation each one could contribute substantially to social service and community development.

Even in the presence of dignitaries like Minister for Transport Shri. Nitin Gadkari, MLAs and MPs from Pune and Maharashtra and the eminent speakers from various fields; complete attention was given to the opinions and feelings of each and every attendee and this made the convention a memorable event.

Empowerment of Girls went online this year. EOG online is an interactive platform for girls to openly express their views, share their experiences and discuss solutions on the problems arising in various relationships and tough situations in their life. It offers opportunity for girls to manage their course and daily chores with ease.

SAP4 also was made available online this year. For EoG and SAP4, institutional tie ups also widened the reach substantially. Many of the educational institutions across country has given a positive response and signed up MoU with BJS for these two programs.

With the Minority status accorded to the Jains at the national level, BJS in its ever re-inventing zeal took upon itself to spread the benefits of the status to the community.

In a bid to promote awareness of the minority status, BJS published a set of six books and has started a

Minority Helpdesk. BJS has already conducted several Minority training programs. Another remarkable event was the meeting held with Dr Najma Heptullah, Minister of Minority Affairs at Pune. She highly appreciated the efforts of BJS in forging ahead with such work in the minority field that entails benefits not only to the Jain community but extends to other five minority communities as well. Further, the organisation conducted a selection process program in early October to create a pool of trained resource persons for generating awareness of the minority subject and ensure that real benefits of minority status reaches to the community.

This year, BJS has explored many possibilities of using technology to increase outreach while retaining quality of programs and deliveries. The coming year will see an enhanced mode to reach out to maximum beneficiaries because of the technology solutions being discussed this year.

**Shri .  
Prafulla Parakh's rise as  
National President, BJS is actually a  
continuity of a thought process and Shri.  
Shantilalji Muttha has enabled a new generation to  
step forward and take charge with the tagline "Nayi  
Peddhi, Nayi Soch" saying it all.**

- With Parivartan Yatra, BJS made surprising gains in regions where the organisation has lesser presence and now have to be consolidated.
- Establishing country-wide connectivity with the people from the community has set off.
- The BJS National Convention-2014 states BJS goals and focus areas for coming years
- BJS Founder Shri Shantilalji Mutta presented his revolutionary thought on the changing roles in fixing up marriages in the Jain community
  - Empowerment of Girls and SAP4 went online this year.
  - Minority status accorded to the Jains at the national level.

## The Path Ahead



We are living in an increasingly interconnected world that is changing faster than ever before. The environment that is marked by continuous and dramatic change requires us to reinvent ourselves and thrive. To put together, with the Parivartan Yatra, National Convention 2014 and the meeting of the new National Executive Committee, the foundation of a new path leading to social welfare has already been laid down by BJS's National President Shri Prafulla Parakh.

Marching on the development mantra, there are new plans to tie-up with institutes to take Empowerment of Girls to greater heights connecting with larger number of beneficiaries and with the revised version of the program coming up, BJS network will work towards taking this program in a renewed way to all the girls in and outside the community. The Empowerment of Couples Program will also be taken to newer work areas along with the existing regions.

With an efficient and dedicated team for Student Assessment Program the focus will be on tie-ups with at least five schools from each district to ensure quality education and proper infrastructure to support holistic development for young scholars.

The target for Matrimonial Meets has also been given to all the state presidents, district presidents and NEC members. As many as 16 matrimonial meets will be organized in Maharashtra state and 3 meets in MP & CG in the year 2015. BJS has well developed modules for matrimonial meets under different categories such as remarriage, highly educated, specially challenged and many more.

With a deep understanding of the community and its history, BJS aims at reviving the role of community members as employment generators. The BJS goal is to streamline their inherent business traits to make them successful entrepreneurs in tune with the demands of globalization. With this goal the organization will organize one Business Development session by experts and Business Development Workshops in each district along with one each career guidance program in all the districts. BJS is also in the process of coming out with educational funding schemes for the needy students to avail the much required higher education.

It has been almost a year since Jain community was accorded the Minority status. The true sense of this status will be fulfilled only when the needy persons from the community will be able to take the benefits of being a minority; be it in education, business, NGO or for women. The district wise committees will work towards educating the community members about the specific laws and the proper procedure to gain access to related benefits.

BJS has been organizing free Plastic Surgery Camps with support of Late Dr. Sharad Kumar Diksheet and now his team led by Dr Raj Lala for more than 20 years. In 2015, the aim will be to take this chain of humanity to even bigger number of beneficiaries and patients.

National President Shri Prafulla Parakh strongly believe that every office bearer or volunteer must be well-trained to take the BJS programs to the right people at the right time and in the proper manner to provide maximum benefits to the community members. Therefore, the Big Plans for 2015 also include the Office Bearers Training Programs, Tracking and Monitoring system for performance analysis and use of technology for taking the BJS initiatives to the farthest community member.

BJS is in the process of creating a sound and robust technology platform in pursuit of reaching maximum beneficiaries crossing the geographical boundaries and reaching far flung areas.

The year 2015 will witness the State Conventions in respective states and from now on the state presidents and district presidents will also tour their respective work regions for better connectivity and identification of social problems.

With the remarkable shift in the thought process to select a suitable life partner with parental guidance, Shri. Shantilal Muttha has been able to communicate his idea to a wider audience in the National Convention. For the first time, the organisation used its community people's force to actively participate in a poll campaign. The Jain community has, thereby, taken the leadership in spreading this progressive idea that will certainly benefit others from outside the community.

The year 2015 will witness the State Conventions in respective states and from now on the state presidents and district presidents will also tour their respective work regions for better connectivity and identification of social problems. BJS membership will be introduced to connect the community members to the organisation for providing uninterrupted benefits to the end members.

# Matrimonial Meets- the need of the hour



The changes that the globalized societies have undergone in recent times have directly impacted marriage fixing scenarios across the community. Parents and families have to deal with hardships when it comes to fixing the marriages of highly educated boys and girls.

This is the era of education and information. The youth have become individualists, have independent thoughts and express their choices freely. The professional youth today are upfront about their preferences regarding urban dwelling, upscale living and financial independence. The highly educated girls have become much more articulate in expressing their views on marriage and their desired life partner. At times it becomes difficult for the parents to get a suitable proposal from within the community that could match up to the girls' qualifications. Apart from this, number of meetings with the families of suitable boys' create embarrassing situation for the girls and they personally find it humiliating.

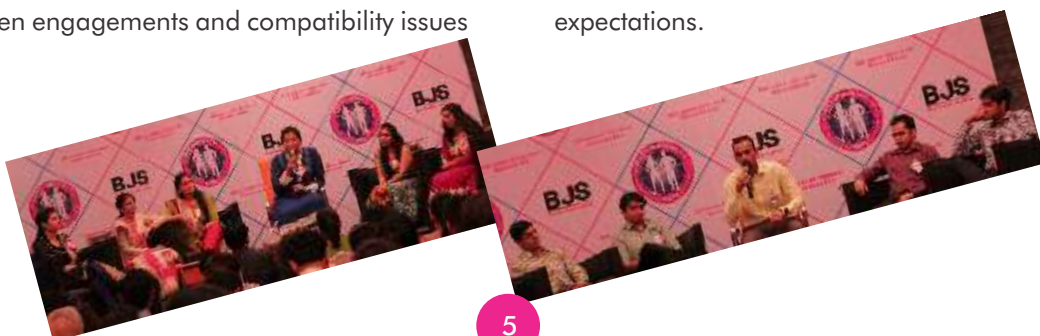
The other factor is rise in marriageable age that has made matchmaking even tougher. Relatives, friends and extended family members also avoid suggesting matches for boys and girls because of the rising ratio of failed marriages, broken engagements and compatibility issues among couples.

With his in-depth study of family and marriages, Bharatiya Jain Sangathan's Founder Shri Shantilalji Muttha had devised Matrimonial Meets as a solution to these problems three decades ago. At that time it was one of the methods for finding suitable matches. But, today it seems to be the only apt solution that could fulfill the rapidly transforming aspirations of the youth when it comes to selecting the right life partner. These Matrimonial Meets offer authentic community platform offering the best of the options on single platform where two sides can come together to explore possible choices. BJS has always come up with different modules of matrimonial meets to create ease in finding suitable matches.

These Matrimonial Meets offer authentic community platform offering the best of the options on single platform where two sides can come together to explore possible choices. BJS has always come up with different modules of matrimonial meets to create ease in finding suitable matches.

In this series, a Multinational Professionals' Matrimonial Meet was organized at the O Hotel in Pune on December 21st. Highly educated professional boys and girls from the community in India and abroad participated in this matrimonial meet.

Hundreds of boys and girls of marriageable age coming together at one platform is a really great achievement as it aids in fixing of marriages that are based on interaction and mutual understanding. It will be a boon for all the highly educated youth seeking for life partners as per their expectations.



# News makers of 2014

In this year-end-look-back, we bring to you the Newsmakers - from the Minority Status granted to the Jain Community to the National Convention 2014 - that made an impact in the community and beyond!



The Jain community celebrates the minority status accorded by the Union government on 27th January, 2014.



Bharatiya Jain Sangathan and its Minority experts had the privilege to interact with Union Minister of Minority Affairs Dr. Najma Heptulla at Pune.



Shri. Prafulla Parakh officially announced the National President of BJS on March 30th 2014 at Nagpur, MH and starts on a five month long National Tour – Parivartan Yatra 'Nayi Peedhi, Nayi Soch' – from 31st March 2014.



Shri. Rakesh Jain, a prominent speaker and also BJS's Madhya Pradesh State President, shares his expertise on business initiatives in the 'Business Development Expert Session' and guides the entrepreneurs to leverage their in running businesses.



The three-day B2B workshop at Ooty, conducted by Dr M Parivallal, imparted thoughts and inspiring ideas positively affecting the participants who want to know about getting business right.



A record gathering of over 3000 people at Hyderabad listening in rapt attention to Shri. Parakh's address at the Parivartan Yatra - Nayi Peedhi, Nayi Soch - Phase III!



Inauguration of the National Convention by Shri Nitinji Gakari, Honorable Minister of Road Transport and Highways.



A gathering of over 2000 people from the Jain community in the BJS National Convention at Pune.



Shri. Shantilalji Muttha communicating his thought at the National Convention on the revolutionary shift in fixing marriages in the community.



The newly selected National Council Members at the National Convention.

# December 2014

December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Program	Date	City	State	Trainer/ Resource Person/MoC/Doctors performing surgery	Organiser
EOG	1st - 3rd Dec	Singoli	MP	Mrs. Rajshree Choudhary	Saraswati Shishu Mandir
	5th - 7th Dec	Khandwa	MP	Mrs. Manisha Bhansali and Mr. Abhishek Oswal	Mr. Kamlesh Humar
	9th - 11th Dec	Raipur	CG	Ms. Shilpa Nahar and Mr. Sanjay Singhi	Dr. Pushpa Tiwari
	12th -14th Dec	Kolhapur	MH	Mrs. Bharti Chagedia, Mr. Sanjay Kshirsagar, Mr. Ratnakar Mahajan	Mr. Abhinandan Khot
	9th, 10th - 13th Dec	Gondia	MH	Mr. Dilip Jain & Mr. Mahesh Kothari	Mr. Dilip Jain
	12th - 14th Dec	Chennai	TN	Mr. Vikas Golecha	BJS in association with RAJAT
	25th - 27th Dec	Vani	MH	Ms. Bharti Chagedia and Mr. Kushal Baldota	Ms. Saroj Bhandari
	25th - 27th Dec	Balaghat	MP	Mr. Ritesh Jain	Mr. Sushil Jain, Mr. Basant Kankariya
	26th - 28th Dec	Raipur	CG	Ms. Sapna Lodha	BJS Raipur and JCI Vama capital branch
	26th - 28th Dec	Jaipur	RJ	Ms. Manisha Bhansali	Ms. Surakanta Mehta Ms. Sampatbhai Shrishrimal
	26th - 28th Dec	Delhi	Delhi	Mr. Rajendra Lunker	Mr. Rajesh Khivansara Mr. Pradeep Sancheti
	26th - 28th Dec	Nagpur	MH	Mr. Amar Gandhi	Mr. Rajneesh Jain
	26th - 28th Dec	Mandleshwar	MP	Mr. Ashish Sethia	Mr. Kamlesh Joshi
	26th - 28th Dec	Arsikere	KA	Mr. Ratnakar Mahajan	Mr. Rakesh Mehta and Mr. Jitendra Rathod
EOC	20th - 21st Dec	Kareli	MP	Ms. Neetu Jain	Mr. Pramod Jain
Parichay Sammelan	13th Dec	Bangalore	KA	Mr. Prafulla Parakh	Mr. Suresh Dhoka and Mr. Vinod Porwal
	21st Dec	Pune	MH	Mr. Prafulla Parakh	Mr. Shashi Munot
Benefits of Minority Status Awareness Lecture	14th Dec	Atul	GJ	Mr. Suresh Shah	Shree Ghoghari Visha Shree Mali Jain Sangh
Seven day Residential Program for youth	21st - 27th Dec	Nashik	MH	Mr. Nirmal Bhatnagar, Mr. N. Raghuraman	Dreams Achievers in association with BJS
Plastic Surgery	3rd - 4th Dec	Mumbai	MH	Dr. Raj Lala	Ajanta Pharma
	7th - 8th Dec	Ahmednagar	MH	Dr. Raj Lala	BJS
	9th - 10th Dec	Nashik	MH	Dr. Raj Lala	BJS
	10th - 12th Dec	Nanded	MH	Dr. Vijay Moradiya	Lions
	11th - 12th Dec	Dhule	MH	Dr. Raj Lala	BJS
	13th - 17th Dec	Aurangabad	MH	Dr. Raj Lala and Dr. Vijay Moradiya	Lions
	3rd - 4th Jan 2015	Hubli	KA	Dr. Larry Weinstian	BJS
	5th - 6th Jan 2015	Kolhapur	MH	Dr. Larry Weinstian	BJS
	7th - 10th Jan 2015	Pune	MH	Dr. Larry Weinstian	BJS

## Parichay Sammelan to go online

In this ever-changing world, people desire better things. The importance of education is paramount now. There is also an increasing access to higher education. The highly educated youths are equally expressing their thoughts on marriage and a suitable life partner. Bharatiya Jain Sangathan with its huge experience and in-depth study of family and marriages spanning over 30 years, has devised varied Matrimonial Meets as a solution to these problems. The organisation goes a step ahead and will present a new initiative in selecting suitable matches.

The Multi-national Professionals' Matrimonial Meet organized at Pune will be broadcasted online across 20 prime cities on 25th January 2015. It is our appeal to the community members to gather together at the venue in your cities with the boys and girls of marriageable age, who must take advantage of this online facility.



## Minority Update

As the world celebrated Minority Rights Day on 18th December, Bharatiya Jain Sangathan in its year long effort to consolidate the Minority Status accorded to the Jain community has selected 30 Expert Resource Persons for Minority Awareness Sessions to disseminate the benefits to the farthest member of the community, has come up with six books to educate every family about the benefits of Minority Status, developed a helpdesk to address the queries and confusions of people and has designed training programs to spread awareness on the subject.

With so much activity going on in the organisation and as the countdown to the new year begins, BJS definitely plans to revamp programs, design and develop new concepts that are increasingly more relevant to the community. In January, BJS will be organising another two-day Selection of Speakers on Minority at Pune on 16th and 17th January 2015. In the upcoming year 162 lecture sessions have been planned across states.



## Connect with us

Watch out for all the excitement, news, views, bytes, virals on Facebook, & You Tube.

Please connect with us on : Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/BJSIIndia>

& SHARE with your friends

We would appreciate your feedback and comments on the E- Bulletin.

Please write in to [bjspune@gmail.com](mailto:bjspune@gmail.com) for your feedback



**Bharatiya Jain Sangathan**

Ground Floor, Muttha Towers, Loop Road, Near Don Bosco Church, Yerawada, Pune 411006

Tel.: 020 4120 0600, 4128 0012, 4128 0013

Website : [www.bjsindia.org](http://www.bjsindia.org) E mail : [info@bjsindia.org](mailto:info@bjsindia.org) Facebook : [www.facebook.com/BJSIIndia](https://www.facebook.com/BJSIIndia)