



Shantilal Muttha,
Founder, BJS

eBULLETIN

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*"Leave
this world
better than
you found it."*

Vision of
Late Shri. Bhavarlal Jain,
Founder
Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd.

Dear Friends,

Warm Greetings from BJS! With the increasing number of natural disasters all over the world, it's crucial to discuss about the possible role that each one of us can play and the collective responsibility that we can share to face the challenges.

We are all witnessing the worsening effects of global warming with the passage of time every year. We are also facing the consequences of pollutions, de-forestation and un-planned urbanization. Natural disasters like flood and draught, for all possible reasons, are the consequence of our mistakes and carelessness. In spite of warnings from the ecologists we don't realize that each one of us needs to change our casual attitude towards Mother Nature.

My heartfelt appeal to all our friends is to start giving a second thought to all our habits and life style choices as well as decisions and business plans to ensure that they are not damaging the environment and in fact contributing to the sustainable developmental ways to save the earth.

We at BJS have been offering possible helps in the time of natural disasters since our formation with the support of our committed volunteer's network. The collective awareness and help is fundamental in any kind of disaster response related work. Through we have been responding to the natural disasters in the best possible manners, we have to reach each possible location at faster pace in case of any such emergency. We can create a district cell in every district to offer quick help in the remote areas. We can create a pool of hundreds of committed volunteers only for disaster response who can travel to any location with the shortest notice and can offer their physical time and presence at the disaster site. We also welcome your ideas and suggestions for the efficient and effective disaster response mechanisms. Please feel free to share your views with us.

With a great pleasure, let me share you the news that this month onwards our BJS Samachar – Hindi Print Bulletin is reaching 20,000 Jain Households with the aim to share our thought process in the nook and corner of India.

We come across common individuals who raise to the occasion instinctively and wonderfully contribute to help the disaster victims with their benevolent mind. We are proud to introduce you one such personality that we all came across in recent Chennai floods - Mohammad Yunus who saved 2100 lives.

Prafulla Parakh,
National President, BJS

From the desk of National President



Book your dates & Plan your travel

5-6
Nov.
2016

**BJS National Convention 2016
@ Chennai**

- ▶ National & International Speakers
- ▶ Jain leaders from various countries
- ▶ Keynote addresses by subject experts

Disaster Response: BJS Efforts

According to global data, an event is identified as a natural disaster if it kills 10 or more people or leaves at least 100 people injured. Also any country can declare an event as natural disaster. These calamities can never be predicted for the right time & with the right measurement. So, naturally, the ruin is vast and in-repairable created by any big natural disaster like flood, tornado, tsunami or earthquake. The after effects of any natural disaster are also regarded as the most dangerous and epidemic for infectious disease, food & water scarcity, lack of shelter and most importantly the trauma suffered by the people due to loss of their families & homes. Basically natural disasters lead to large scale impacts on life, property, infrastructure and social & cultural relationships.

BJS being an NGO with a difference, not only provides reliefs like others but also think, plan and execute every possible dimension with a sustainable rehabilitation approach for the future of next generation. We do every attempt to not let the new generation die & suffer only for ill-luck natural disasters. Rather, we bring them, nourish & guide them to become good citizen of the country. Additionally, BJS make sure that the team works in such projects with alacrity.

BJS has a systematic approach to face the challenges of disasters and execute the sustainable rehabilitation projects. BJS works with three strong pillars – (i) leadership who is exemplary in taking speedy decisions for large scale projects, (ii) the volunteers network spread across the country who can reach the affected sites at the shortest notice and for the required time, and (iii) the trained staff of Wagholi Educational Rehabilitation Center who in a military fashion form the cadres to systematically own up all difficult tasks. BJS is also known for sharing the responsibilities with the government machinery by facilitating for the work that needs attention but the government systems have to be mandatorily engaged in the other pressing priorities.

Education is such a sector which is also largely affected by disaster to a greater level where students lose important years of their lives. Additionally building shelter, providing food & medication becomes more important in any disaster affected area rather than re-creating educational setups as these are primary needs of any human being. BJS focuses on educational rehabilitation.

Since our inception, we have been rehabilitating the children from disaster affected areas for free education up to graduation. Education rehabilitation is done by us in two directions; one is done by building schools on the affected area and another is by bringing the children to our Wagholi Education Rehabilitation Center (WERC).



Some of our disaster related works are mentioned below:

- **1993: Latur Earthquake, Maharashtra**
Educational Rehabilitation of 1200 boys (Std V to graduation)
- **1997: Melghat Malnutrition Project**
Educational Rehabilitation of 350 boys for 10 years
- **1997: Jabalpur Earthquake**
Educational Rehabilitation of 50 boys
- **2001: Gujarat Earthquake**
Re- constructed 368 schools in 90 days and handed over to the government
- **2002: Akola floods**
Temporary shelters provided to 15,000 victims
- **2004: Tsunami**
 - ◆ Rescue and relief operations through 6 camps in Tamil Nadu
 - ◆ Constructed 11 schools and 34 primary health centres in 1 year in Andaman & Nicobar islands
- **2005: Jammu & Kashmir Earthquake**
870 pre-fabricated shelters despatched for giving refuge to 15,000 affected people
- **2005-06: Maharashtra floods**
5000 household kits distributed to victims
- **2008: Bihar floods**
Medical aid to 1,50,000 victims in 181 days
- **2013: Maharashtra Drought**
Desilting of 115 water bodies in drought-prone district of Beed within a period of one month as a long-term mitigation measure. Establishment and management of 28 cattle camps in 7 drought ridden districts for 10,000 animals.
- **2015: Nepal Earthquake**
Household kits and food grains to affected families, medical camps at multiple locations, and rescue support in the after-shocks.
- **2015-16: Empowering Next Generation**
BJS rehabilitated 277 boys and girls from families affected by farmers' suicides from all districts of Marathwada and Yawatmal. At WERC, these children will complete their education with fully equipped facilities for their holistic development. They have joined 312 tribal children who are already settled and excelling in scholastic & co-scholastic areas. For 2016-17, children from entire Maharashtra are being adopted from suicide affected farmers families.
- **2016 Marathwada drought**
From three worst affected districts from Marathwada region of Maharashtra – Beed, Latur and Osmanabad requests poured in for BJS to help villages deficient of drinking water for more than months. BJS not only took it upon itself to make arrangements for providing 4,45,000 liter drinking water per day at various locations in these 3 districts but it also took the work of restoring river and nullah beds at 10 locations in anticipation of better monsoon and aiming to increase water retention and storage.

For quick disaster response, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) invited BJS to sign an MoU in 2005. BJS was the first organization to enter this MoU. In fact, BJS's work was also got mentioned in the Lok Sabha. BJS also received the ICHL award in 2013 instituted by IIM Raipur and NDMA for its noteworthy contribution in humanitarian causes especially in the area of disaster response. Any fine day come and visit our WERC – the "Manav Mandir" & bless the rehabilitated students who are enjoying their educational pursuits leaving the trauma behind.

Natural Disasters, Global Warming & Our Role



When 175 countries signed the Paris Climate Agreement together on April 22nd, 2016, it partially proved that 89% countries out of total 196 have readily joined the movement to decrease emission of carbon that is increasing the global temperature. The countries didn't sign are given a time-frame of 1 year to complete the formalities. Looking at the critical situation of atmosphere having 403.28 ppm (parts per million) according to recent data till march, 2016 provided by NASA, if human don't wake up now, in no time we will not have sufficient oxygen to breath.

Let's see the increasing rate of global temperature since 2001 to measure the quantity of human-created torture on the Mother Nature till now. The global temperature was 0.54 °C in 2001 and horrifyingly it is 0.87 °C in 2015. It frightens the heart when we see these continuously increasing bad numbers.

The readers must be thinking about the relationship of these global data and natural disaster. Well, there are man-made reasons that spark the rate of natural disasters happening across the world be it floods, storms, tsunamis or draughts. According to scientists there is stiff rise in so-called hydro-meteorological disasters due to global warming & man-made faults. Another research at EM-DAT reveals that the total natural disaster reported each year has been steadily increasing in recent decades, from 78 in 1970 to 348 in 2004.

Sheer carelessness of fellow humans is not only adding to the global temperature and related risks to human life but on a daily basis it is risking the natural habitat for all living beings on this earth. Let's have a glimpse of how this global scenario is influencing in the lives of every living creature. Some real life examples will be important to understand the depth of global warming.

- Two Sperm Whales are found dead on 29th Jan, 2016 due to eating plastic debris and car parts on the shores of the North Sea. Likewise there are death records of many other animals like cows, elephants, birds as well extinction fauna for consuming plastics and non-bio-degradable material that we dispose on road as debris. Even the recycling of plastic affects the environment adversely as per researches. It is our duty to cut down on plastic usage and inspire others to use eco-friendly materials like clothes or paper. This should be the way of life and basic ethical practice in our lines of businesses and offices.
- Everyone apart from some parts of the country has seen the scenario caused by the water scarcity and rainfall shortage. Low rainfall is causing severe draught in many states in India. Researches reveal that we could not take climate change seriously to combat all these problems. Due to horrible draught scenario, farmers' suicide has been a major economic as well as social crisis in India. On one side of the country there is always a problem of flood and another is suffering from draught. This ecological imbalance is the

ILLEGAL MINING
 INDUSTRIAL WASTE
 PESTICIDES
 USE OF PLASTIC
 ENERGY GUZZLING
 CONCRETE JUNGLES
 DIGITAL DEBRIS
 VEHICULAR TRAFFIC



result of our so called development that is not sustainable. Problem occurs when we mask the word “sustainable development” as buzzword. One government, one ruling party cannot bring the wave of sustainable development at a single stroke. As an individual we have to take every responsibility at personal level and in our professional, business and trade related decisions. Right from water to electricity, if we strive to save it in each household and every office, it can make a difference in holding back the speedily deteriorating scenario.

- Cities are required for development but till the limit they are strategically planned with the approach of true sustainable development. Urbanization is unavoidable and cities are growing but we cannot afford it at the cost of deforestation, encroachment on hills, and forced reclamations on water reservoirs. The unplanned growth of cities, un-thoughtful road and infrastructure planning and horrendous increasing on-road vehicles is increasing the carbon foot print irreversibly.

It's in our hands individually to take a right step every time so that we all can enjoy the first rain of monsoon on time every year. So that farmers can cultivate on time and we can have food on our dinner table.

We celebrate many days starting from earth day to environment day every year to realize about the climate changing and to take some initiative to protect the earth from destroying. But till a level we act like hypocrites when we celebrate Earth Day inside an AC office or doing nothing apart from posting somewhere. We allow these days to be sheer marketing gimmicks and be ourselves the victims of consumerism that is worsening the situation through each of one us. We have created ourselves a situation to increase the global temperature and now instead of taking initiatives to decrease it, we are finding relief in the pseudo celebrations of few days!

It's a shameful situation for the human species of 21st century - the most civilized and intelligent of all living beings. It's imperative now for all of us to fight these adversities to nature with a change in our own approach, behavior and of course being honest with our true responsibilities & duties towards nature and life on this earth.



Sustainable Development



Personality of the Month

The savior of 2100 affected people

Mohammad Yunus, an individual who stood tall among many heroes for rendering spontaneous services to save 2100 lives during the devastating flood in Chennai, 2015, December. A scene of a poor mother nourishing her children on the open street has changed him and inspired him to provide helping hands to the affected people by letting them to take shelter in his 2 apartments. Although it was the first stage of his volunteered mission which was started with only three friends and eventually joined by more people. He made utmost utilization of social media by spreading his initiative and phone number. In a day he used to receive more than 6000 calls for help. Among all the affected people he saved one pregnant woman who later christened her new born baby daughter as "Yunus".

During this time, he has realized the pleasure of helping affected people and joy of giving. According to report, Mr. Yunus rescued nearly 1,500 people during the November 17th floods and accommodated them in nearly 300 houses. On December 2, he rescued nearly 600 people when the city went underwater.

Professionally he is the co-founder of PROPO which is an e-commerce company. Businessman Mohammad Yunus is a completely changed human being now after the Chennai flood disaster. He wants to develop an app stressing on entrepreneurship, reforms and politics to empower the youth.

The state government of Tamil Nadu honored him 'Anna Medal for Gallantry' for his 'selfless, noble and brave act' at the celebration of 67th Republic day.



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We would appreciate your feedback and comments

Please write to us on info@bjsindia.org for your feedback

Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana (BJS)

Level 4, Muttha Towers, Loop Road, Near Don Bosco Church, Yerawada, Pune 411006
Tel.: 020 4120 0600, 4128 0012, 4128 0013