



Shantilal Muttha,
Founder, BJS

eBULLETIN

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Dear Friends,

At the outset, I wish you all a happy, successful & prosperous new year! Friends, let's strengthen our motive to stand with the theme "**Time for Change-Change for Time**" in this beginning of this New Year. We have to stand on achieving our targets decided on the National Convention in Chennai (5th & 6th Dec, 2016). I solicit everyone's cooperation and dedication for accomplishing all these targets on time.

The 2016 was a year full of important happenings from all around the world starting from Brexit to the election of new US president Mr. Donald Trump. India was also in the race with sensational incidents starting from Surgical Strikes to Demonetization.

This issue of ebulletin reflects a journey of the nation from 'computerization to digitalization'. It is crucial to create awareness about these so called buzzwords among common people. Computerization is the 'Child stage' of the big step called digitalization. Creating digital infrastructure for dissemination of information by facilitating Information and Communication Technology (ICT) framework in every remote village of India is essential to implement big scale digitalization projects.

Research says that 100% villages in India have not electrified yet. Only 20% people in India has access to internet. On this background, implementing complete digitalization policy successfully in every nook & corner of the country is critical. The history of digitalization can be traced backed to 2006, when govt. scheme like 'E-Governance' was initiated in order to bring transparency at the grass-root administration system. This scheme is critically reviewed for successful as well as unsuccessful stories.

The ground researches say that creating digital literacy would be an appropriate step for a digital economy. Sole motto of this issue is to create consciousness about digital literacy & digitalization by every step that can be taken for the journey ahead.

The personality of the month is Nivalkar Gajanan is one such simple person who has taken such critical step in an individual's capacity. He has transformed the lives of 160 farmers including women & children by spreading digital literacy. As a result, every household has become digitally literate and Akoli of Telangana was declared as the third 100% digitally literate village of the state.

Prafulla Parakh,
National President, BJS



From the desk of National President

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A Journey: From Computerization to Digitalization

There have been extra-ordinary & prevalent changes in everywhere of the world due to technological advancements. Changes are mandatory and unimaginable; these have made the world a completely different place to live in. Actually, invention of 'computer' before three decades ago has created avant-garde approach in every field starting from mass culture to the pop culture. These changes compel us to track the journey from computerization to digitalization to have a clear cut perspective on the 'changing agents'.

But the real face is not satisfactory for the unavailability of the digital infrastructure in India. According to the census of 2011, 68.84% of Indians (around 833.1 million people) live in 640,867 different villages. The total number of un-electrified villages in India is 19,706 on 2015. These villages still experience dark evenings due to absence of electricity connections. Digital literacy or digitalization is still far away dreams in such villages.

Another term called 'digital divide' is crucial to mention here to understand the anatomy of the journey from computerization to digitalization. It refers to economic & social inequality regarding the accessibility to information and communication technologies (ICT). This gap is huge and curtails all opportunities that the digital age offers to a large population.

Initiated in 2006, E-governance by the government of India also has not become a successful model to clean up the corruption in the grass-root level by making everything transparent & digital. Only few schemes in several states have become successful.

Feasible solutions are there to solve such serious problems in India. Creating awareness on digital literacy is crucial before taking such high ambitious projects to the grass-root level. Digital literacy cannot be started with the present infrastructure of India. A study says that only 20% Indians have access to the internet at an occasional basis.

We have to increase this percentage to at least 80% to enjoy the sweet fruits of digitalization.

Each one of us can play a role in digitalization process. India in spite of its poor and illiterate marginalized sections have actually shown wonders in mobile phone literacy. On this background, digital literacy can be easier compared to computer literacy. Payments and receivables through mobile accessibility is going to be as easy as making phone calls and sending what's app messages. Aadhar card and UID for every individual is going to make the banking through mobile extremely safe. It's a mental block and resistance to go online for money transactions that we need to come over. In long term, making computer or digital literacy compulsory in every school will give the desired results of digitalization in all sense. By transforming the traditional education system with new & myriad concepts of digital classrooms, creating an environment for teaching children about the digitalized world would be easy to make them understand about the fast changing digital world. Starting from the conventional blackboards to the age-old academic environment, each & every sub section should undergo drastic changes to strengthen the foundation of Digital India at the grass root level.



Information on programs

BJS Matrimonial Get Together (MGT)

Compatibility' is the crux for a successful marriage. BJS Matrimonial Get Together (MGT) is an educative program to guide the young people to choose life partners on the basis of compatibility. For the purpose, we assure an open & free environment to the candidates for interactions, choices and decision making. A well-designed booklet on 'Biodata' is provided to each of the candidates. People can check information to search compatible partners in bjsmm.bjsaaps.com

A Matrimonial Get Together was organized in the hotel 'O' Koregaon Park, Pune on 24th December, 2016. This is the 4th MGT of its kind which is based on the new concept "initiation of decision making by the candidates themselves".

A large number of aspirant candidates inspired us to move on with this new concept with their active participation. This MGT is a grand success with the participation of hundreds of female & male candidates from various states.

Smart Girl

Smart Girl is solely designed for empowerment of adolescent girls. The Govt. of Maharashtra has accepted this program for all its schools "in principle". The Ahmednagar district is selected to implement the pilot project for the program "Smart Girl". The education department has identified 72 government teachers to be the master trainers. BJS has imparted four days training including orientation, training, and feedback sessions. These trained master trainers organized 146 workshops only within 10 days and empowered 6,272 girls. After getting hands on experience by training more than six thousand girls successfully, these master trainers have

achieved complete self-belief & confidence to create another batch of trainers. This positive impact of the project implementation inspired the education department of the gov. to provide 1,009 school teachers as trainers from 903 schools. Training has been provided to this enthusiastic batch of 1,009 school teachers in 41 locations and by the end of February month, empowerment of 1,03,000 Smart Girls will be completed with fast pace & quality training sessions. As per decisions in the National Convention of BJS held in Chennai on 5th & 6th November, 2016, BJS have started our mission towards empowering 2 lac girls in next 3 years.

FJEI

Federation of Jain Education Institute shortly known as FJEI was established in 2003 with the leadership of BJS founder, Shri. Shantilal Muttha. The sole aim of FJEI is to unite thousands of Jain educational institutions under one umbrella for collective strength, with the vision to collectively contribute to Nation Building and with the objective to collectively strive for transforming these charity institutions to quality institutions.

With the mission to strengthen & restructure

FJEI, the first state convention of Maharashtra held on 8th January, 2017 in Chandwad (Nashik) and around 300 representatives of Jain Institution from Maharashtra participated in the day-long proceedings. The convention was hosted by Shri. Ajit Surana, State President, FJEI-Maharashtra and Shri Neminath Jain Brahmacharyashram (SNJB). BJS founder, Shri Shantilal Muttha facilitated them to develop the agenda of future FJEI work. This convention was a turning point for the development of FJEI institutions, said Shri. Vallabhji Bhanshali, National President, FJEI.

Plastic Surgery

Cleft lip and other body deformities are very common in people everywhere in the world. These deformities completely challenge in living a normal life. Right from basic education to settling down in life, people with such problems need to prove their abilities in every field. Economically efficient people anyhow make their life normal by doing plastic surgeries in their own cost. But, marginalized people with such problems stay stagnant with pain, frustration, failure and mental agony! For last 25 years, BJS has been

constantly trying to spread smiles on such faces by organizing international standard & free plastic surgery camps across various cities in India. Plastic Surgery operations are done every year free of cost with the collaboration of a world-class team of doctors for the needy people. Like every year, this year also, Free Plastic Surgery operations are done in 14 different cities of the country. We are happy to share the fact that total 1,681 free plastic surgeries are done for the year 2016-2017.

Personality of the Month

The Person behind '100% Digitally Literate Village.'

Nivalkar Gajanan has transformed the lives of 160 farmers including women & children by spreading digital literacy. A story worth telling ...

Digital literacy is crucial in the remote areas of India when the country comprises more than 600,000 villages. It is also seen that before initiating any digitalization policy, spreading literacy on the same can be more effective. Taking a step further, some people initiate all these ground-breaking works silently to the next level by making a better "Rural India".

Gajanan is one of such Indians who are playing a prominent role in transforming a sleepy hamlet called Akoli, digitally. He is from Gimma village of Telangana. When he first discovered the versatile scope of digital platform, he was awestruck by the beauty of technology.

In 2010, he committed himself to introduce computer in his native place by setting up a Common Service Centre (CSC) as the part of e-governance program of the government. The village level entrepreneurs started helping people by giving them opportunity to apply for various schemes for a minimum fee.

Also inspired by the National Digital Literacy Mission by the government, Nivalkar Gajanan started to train the government health & education workers about

how to use a Personal Computer (PC). After seeing the positive impact, he initiated to spread digital literacy among the students of government schools. Started with such little steps, Mr. Gajanan, promised himself to educate the entire village digitally. From this very day, he never looked back.

With the support of Gram Panchayat, he started enrolling one member from each of the 160 households in the village in a small room by setting up his own PCs, two Wi-Fi hotspots and one LED screen.

Nivalkar Gajanan single handedly started teaching villagers from morning 7 am to 12 pm by creating batches like 'housewives', 'children' and 'farm-laborers'. Interactive teaching methods & fun learning started attracting the villagers and help them in quick adoption of technology.

As a result many villagers become digitally literate and Akoli was declared as the third 100% digitally literate village of the state.

Nivalkar Gajanan not only transformed his life by learning how to use a PC, but has also shared his digital knowledge to improve the livelihood of 160 farmers, women and children living in a remote village!

BJS salute such honest & dedicated efforts by a simple individual!

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

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