

# BJS

A Photo Journey

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Dedicated to

# Preface



Forward

## **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. Of the many issues that are of national concern BJS identifies those that require a long term intervention and after a well etched out thought process takes up these on its agenda. Over the many years of its work some of the national concerns that BJS has addressed and will continue to address are:

- Dowry
- Declining Sex Ratio
- Increasing Divorce Rates
- 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. The process starts with a detailed study of all that is involved in the issue undertaken. Not only are the needs of the affected cross section identified; the ramifications on the extended population are also taken into account before an innovative solution is attempted. The initial manifestation of the concern could be a specific trend in a particular region or a community; BJS always envisages the larger picture behind it on the national canvas and takes it on its agenda of nation building. It is this social sensitivity that sets BJS apart from others and is one of the cornerstones of all the achievements since its inception.

## **developmental innovation**

**strategizing novel ideas  
to align development within  
established frameworks**

BJS firmly believes that path breaking ideas in themselves do not ensure successful implementations, especially in areas that are of national concern. The strategy of designing the program to nurture the idea is equally important and the implementation has to be "in sync" with the existing socio-economic and governmental frameworks. The solution has to be complementary to the already taken initiatives and has to align with the work of all other agencies that are already working on it. This innovation in converting "ideas into actions" ensures that BJS always pre-empts the various "road-blocks" in the path towards development and successfully implements its pragmatic innovations.



## sustainable solutions

implementing workable, scalable and replicable models

The BJS methodology of implementing solutions is the benchmark of its "results-orientation" approach towards development. Solutions for issues that are of national concern can definitely not be implemented by a single entity. 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 socio-economic to facilitate the pan-national "roll-out". BJS has mechanisms already built into the solutions it offers that make them amenable to acceptance by the subsequent implementing agency, be it the governmental or non-governmental agencies or communities, thereby making them seamlessly scalable. 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. Be it the thousands of families that have benefited from the mass marriage movement; be it the thousands of disaster affected students that have been rehabilitated or be it the millions of children who can now look forward to quality education as a stepping stone to their future lives; the work that BJS carries out has had a meaningful impact on all their lives. The corrections in the skewed gender ratio, the promise of imbining values in the children right from the formative years and the path breaking work that BJS undertakes as solutions to family issue; 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....

## participatory process

enthusing all stakeholders for involved implementations

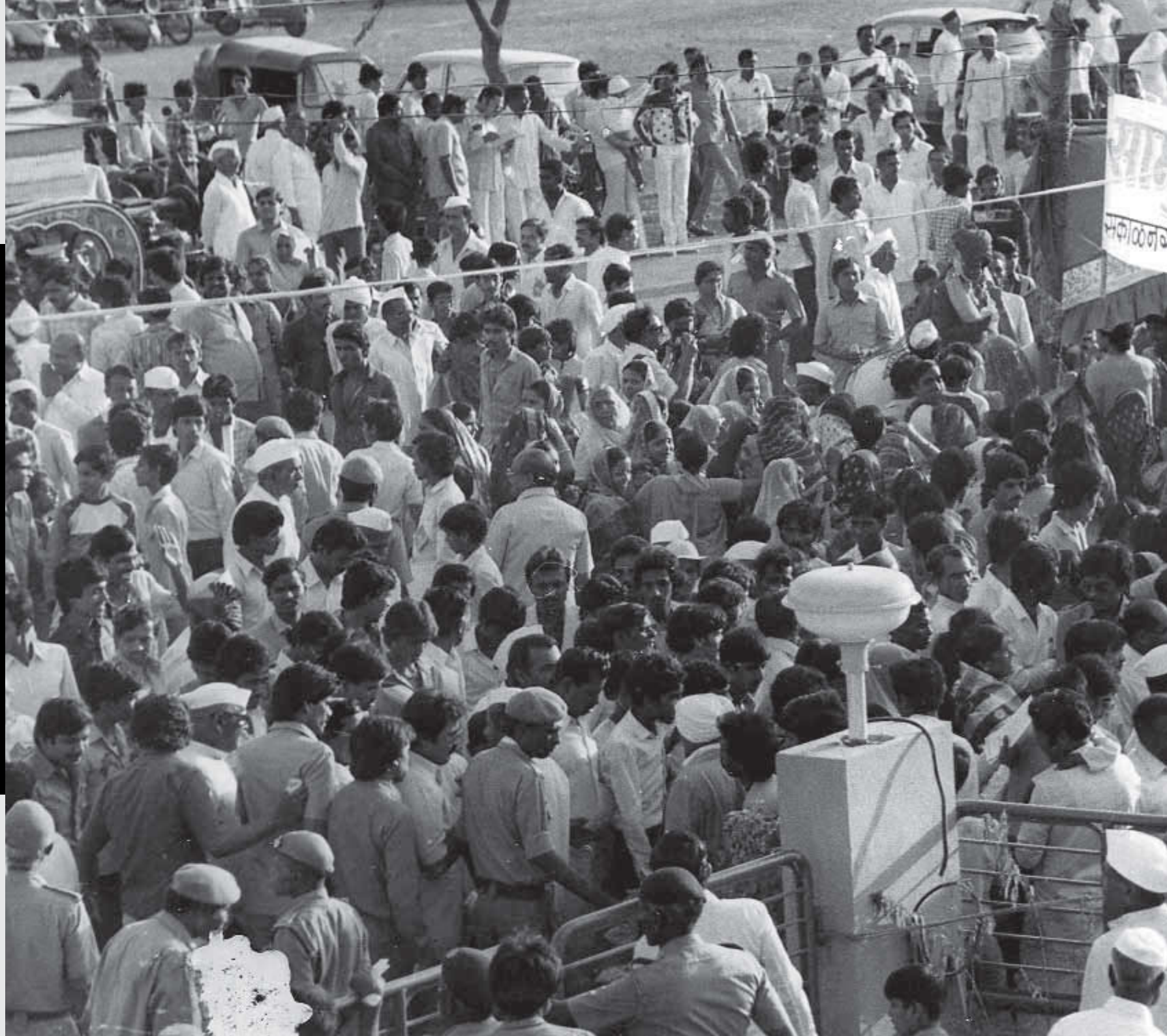
Solutions, no matter how powerful or innovative, are not of any consequence unless the implementation process ensures the participation of all the stakeholders involved; especially that of the beneficiaries. BJS excels in designing and implementing processes that are simple, facilitating and that instill a sense of ownership amongst all the participants. A special emphasis is maintained on the capacity building of resources at the implementation level and to develop local leadership. It is people who are at the centre-stage of all development and BJS leaves no stone unturned to include their opinions and expectations in its developmental strategy. The mission undertaken thus becomes a collective quest for all involved with success a foregone conclusion.



कार्यकर्ता entrepreneurship rehabilitation  
peace universal values Beed sex-ratio  
floods Bihar earthquake community training  
careerguidance students NVS  
Gujarat education empowerment  
principals Ashti family tribal J&K  
EDUQIP disaster A Photo Journey FJEI tsunami  
school trustee plastic surgery mass-marriages  
पदाधिकारी quality Andaman teachers assessment संघटना  
Jalgaon WERC action research EOG Patoda girl child  
accreditation counselling Melghat मूल्यवर्धन



*The idea of mass marriage and meets of prospective brides and grooms was easy to discuss difficult to implement. A lot of hard work went into convincing people to accept the thought. Proper planning and effective communication helped generating good response for the first mass marriage ceremony held at Sakal Nagar in Pune where Shantilal Muttha also got his niece married. Thus setting an example...*



“ Weddings with a difference...”

Maharashtra, with a population of about eight crore, was spending a whopping Rs 12 crore on wedding ceremonies every year. Enormous expenditure and increasing demands for dowry had become a serious issue that plagued the country in the 80s. Curbing waste by cutting the unnecessary expenditure was the only answer.

BJS came up with the pioneering idea of mass marriages. After facing great difficulties in convincing the masses and bring about a change in the existing system without hurting people's religious sentiments, the BJS succeeded in converting the idea into a revolution.

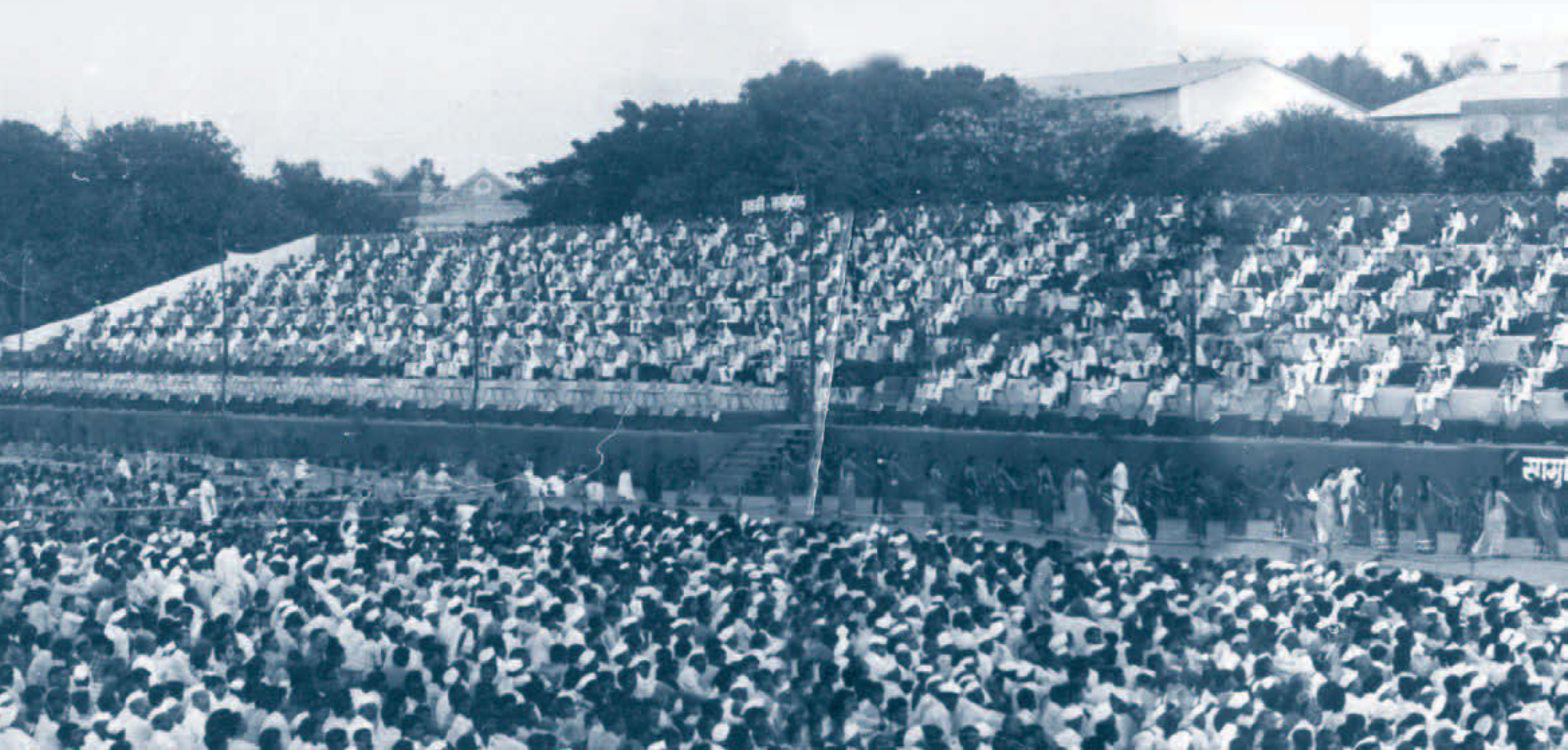
The first such meet held at Tilak Smarak Mandir in 1986 was followed by three similar events in the following three months leading to 51 marriages. Today, after 25 years, this revolution has spread across the country, covering people belonging to different religions, classes and communities...

# Mass Marriage



*The trend of exorbitant expenditure and display of wealth during wedding ceremonies prompted BJS to create awareness amongst the masses to curb this kind of wastage. This gave birth to the unique concept of padyatra in the 80's. A highly effective concept used for mass movement by none other than the father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi, padayatras have been successful in bringing about revolutionary changes all the over the world. Reformist spreading a message on foot have succeeded in changing the world over. Padayatra served as an effective tool to convince the Indian population towards accepting the trend setting concept of mass marriages.*

*Adding another feather to the BJS cap an overwhelming participation of 625 couples in the mass marriage ceremony held at the SP college ground took the concept all the over the country. A massive platform was erected to sit 625 couples making it biggest such ceremony in Indian history.*

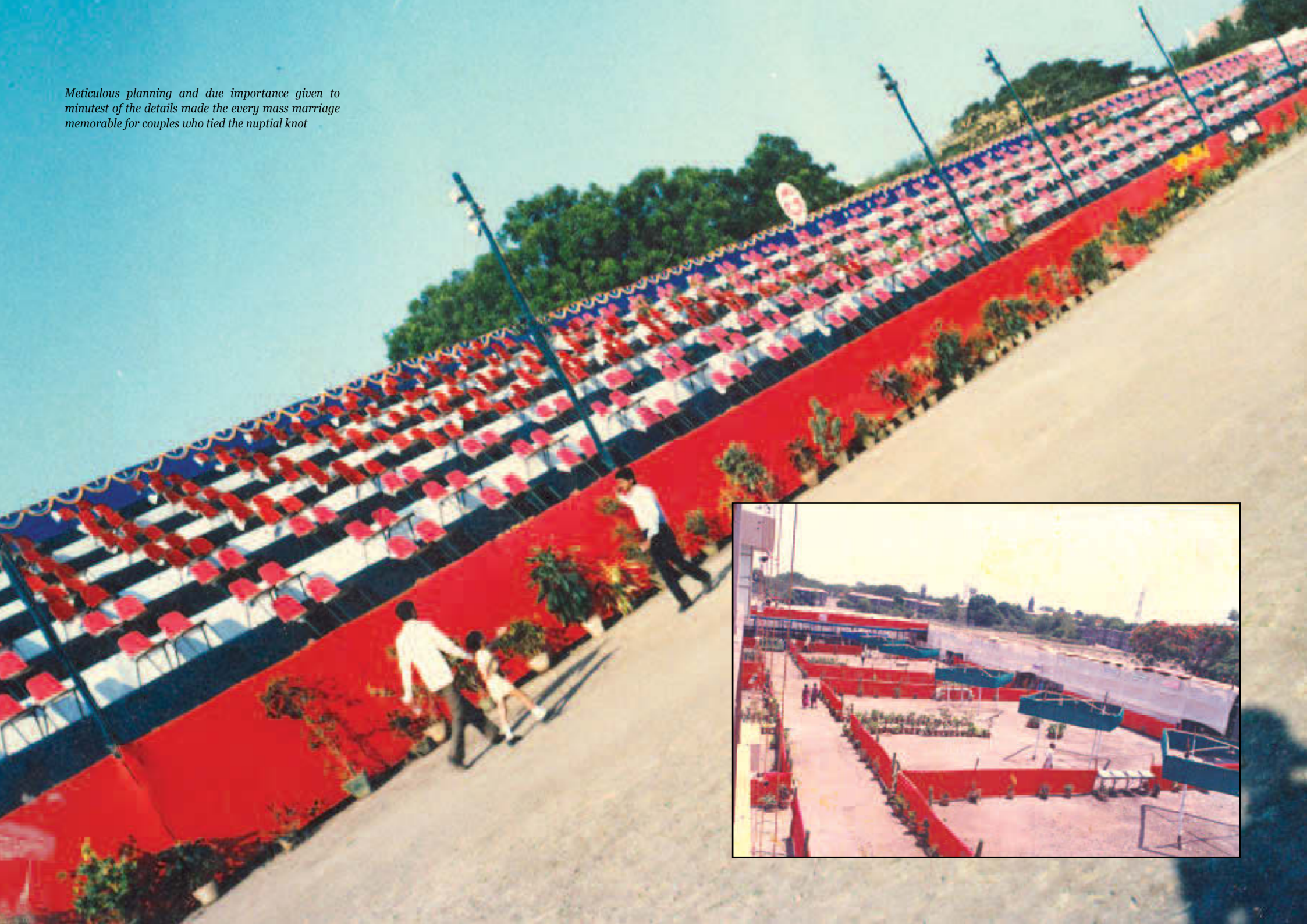








*Meticulous planning and due importance given to minutest of the details made the every mass marriage memorable for couples who tied the nuptial knot*





*History was created when a mammoth crowd turned out to witness the mass marriage ceremony. Besides the relatives and family members of the couples the ceremony had many "guests" who came uninvited to be a part of this trend setting exercise.*





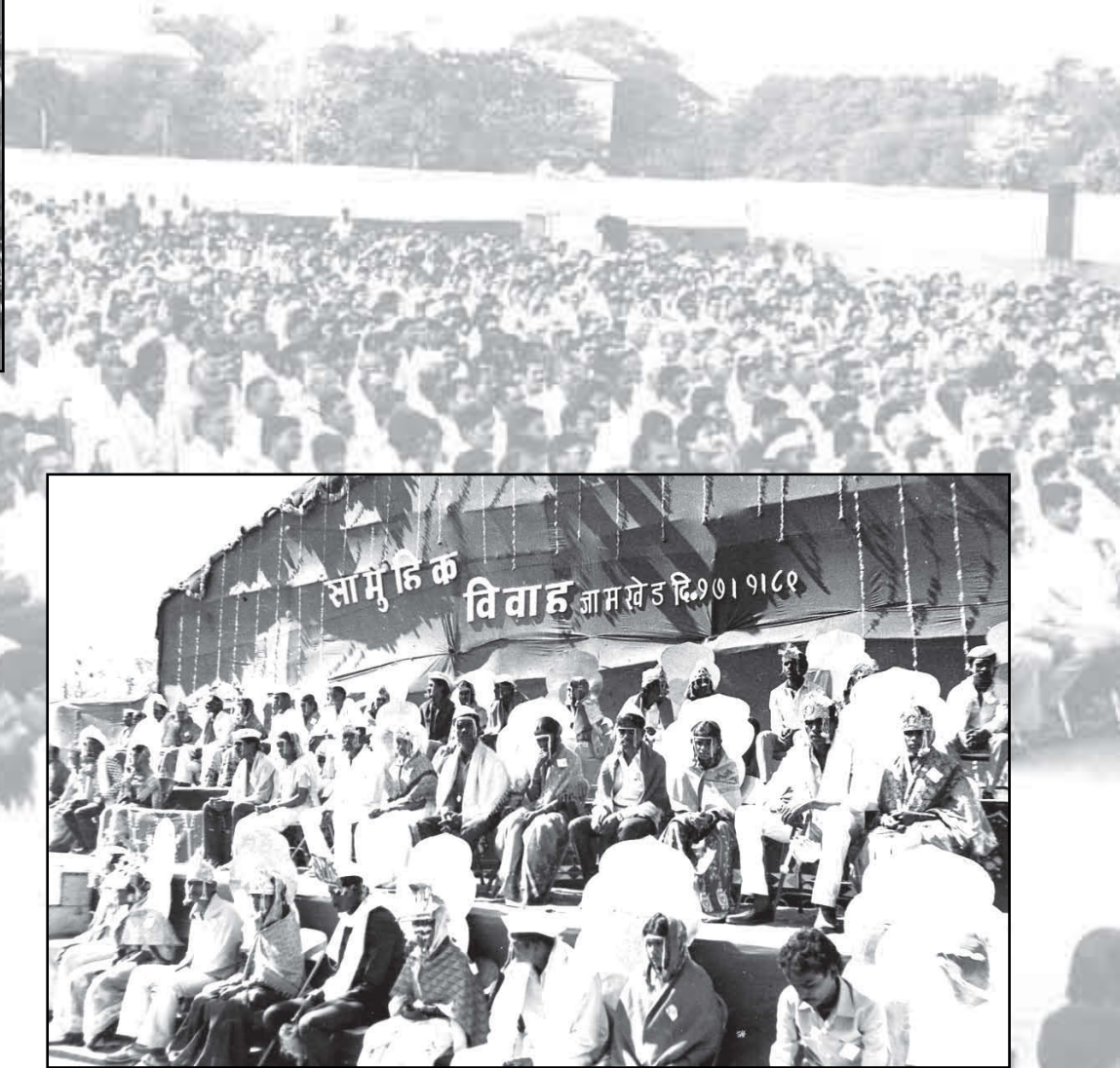
*Measuring ..... the platform erected for the mass marriage ceremony accommodated 625 brides, 625 grooms and an equal number of escorts as the invitees who came in thousands showered blessing on the newly married couples*





*The response was so overwhelming that even the grooms had to line up in a queue to be escorted on to the dais*





The first such experiment very soon became a mass movement fast spreading all over the country with couples from different communities, casts, creeds including the rich and the poor took pride in being a part of the trend



*After the successful conduct of the first few mass marriage ceremonies, it was necessary to spread the message and involve as many people as possible. Consequently a padayatra took off on January 7, 1989 covering as many areas as possible and reaching out to the masses.*

*The declining gender ratio and the need to simplify the search for the perfect match, were the features that got added through discussions and interactions with people as the padayatra moved on*







सिद्धि

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*From villages to villages, localities to localities, Shantilal Muttha went on a padyatra accompanied by prominent personalities from the society and thousands of volunteers*



Starting from Pune, the rally went past Taelgaon Dhamdhere, Shirur, Supa, Ahmednagar, Jamkhed, Patoda, Beed, Gevrai, Jalna, Aurangabad, Sillod, Jalgaon, Devalgaon Raja, Nuldhana, Dhule, Khamgaon, Manmad, Kopergaon, Shirdi, Rahata, Babbhleshwar, Loni, Sangamner, Narayangaon, Junnar, Manchar, Khed and Chakan returning finally to Pune







The padayatra was the third largest such event in the country after independence. The other two included the one taken out by Sunil Dutt in Punjab and eh another Chandrashekhar. Covering an average of 32 kilometres on foot every day, the padayatra comprised three to four meetings and long speeches addressing members of different communities enroute

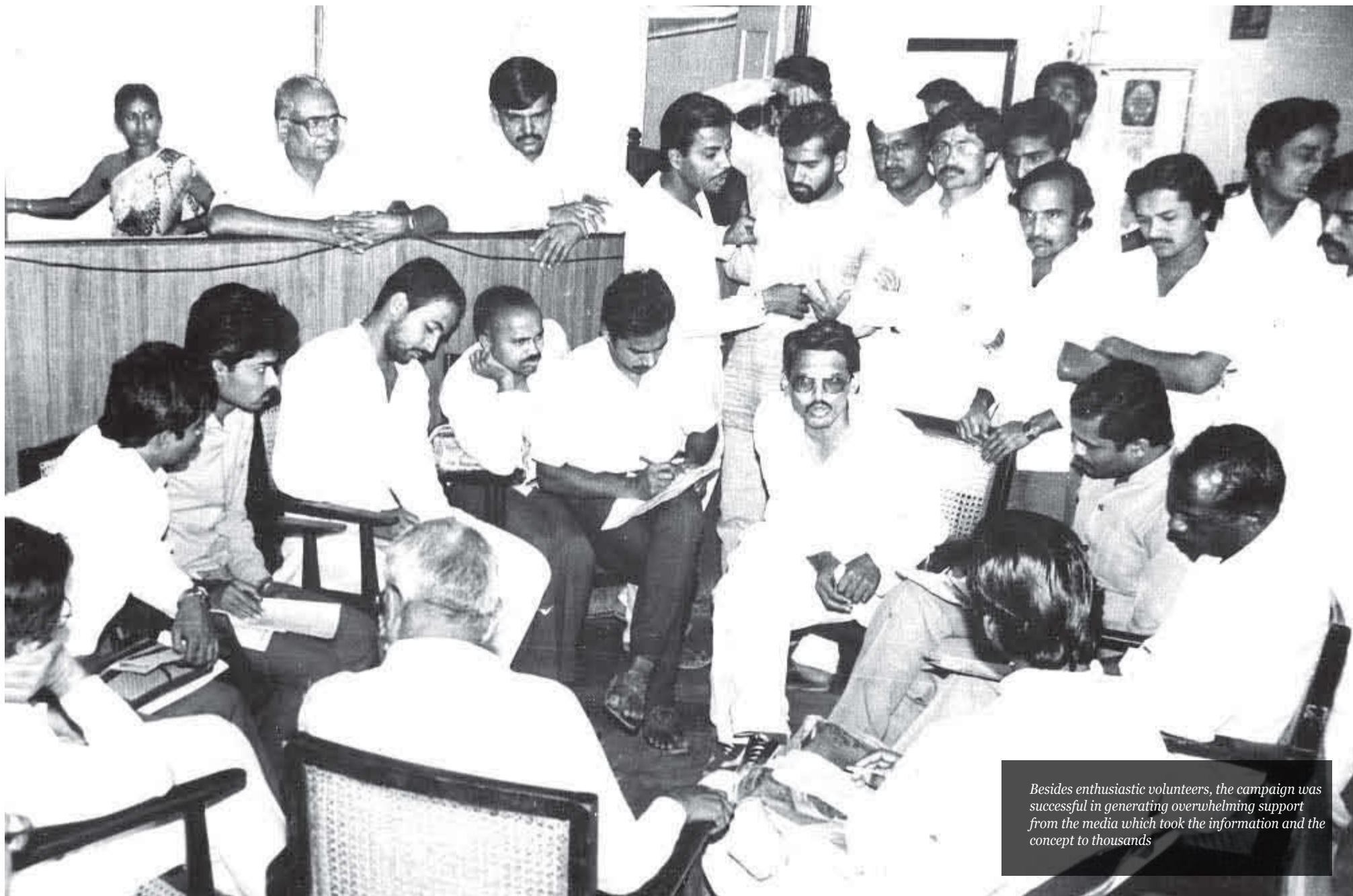
● चढतं रहेंगे कदम.  
सुबहसे शामतक  
पहुँचायेगे समुह विवादका संदेश.  
गाहरसे गाँवतक  
● समाजमे लाओ नवजागरण.  
स्वीकार करो पदयात्राका आमंत्रण।

पदयात्रा ठळक वैशिष्ट्ये  
प्रदानाप्रदोती १ जिरदान्त मायकमण  
दोत हजार किनोमोंटरचा मार्ग अहदना दिवसान  
पदयात्रेच्या प्रसंगी विविध ठिकाणी सर्वधर्मसन्निध्या  
साप्ताहिक विवादाचे वधक बेटाव्यांचे व अपंग  
आणि विधवांच्या विवाहाचे सोहळे.  
पदयात्रा काळान १०१ ठिकाणी जाहीर सभेचे  
व अनेक ठिकाणी चर्चासत्रांचे आयोजन.

• पदयात्री व्हा!





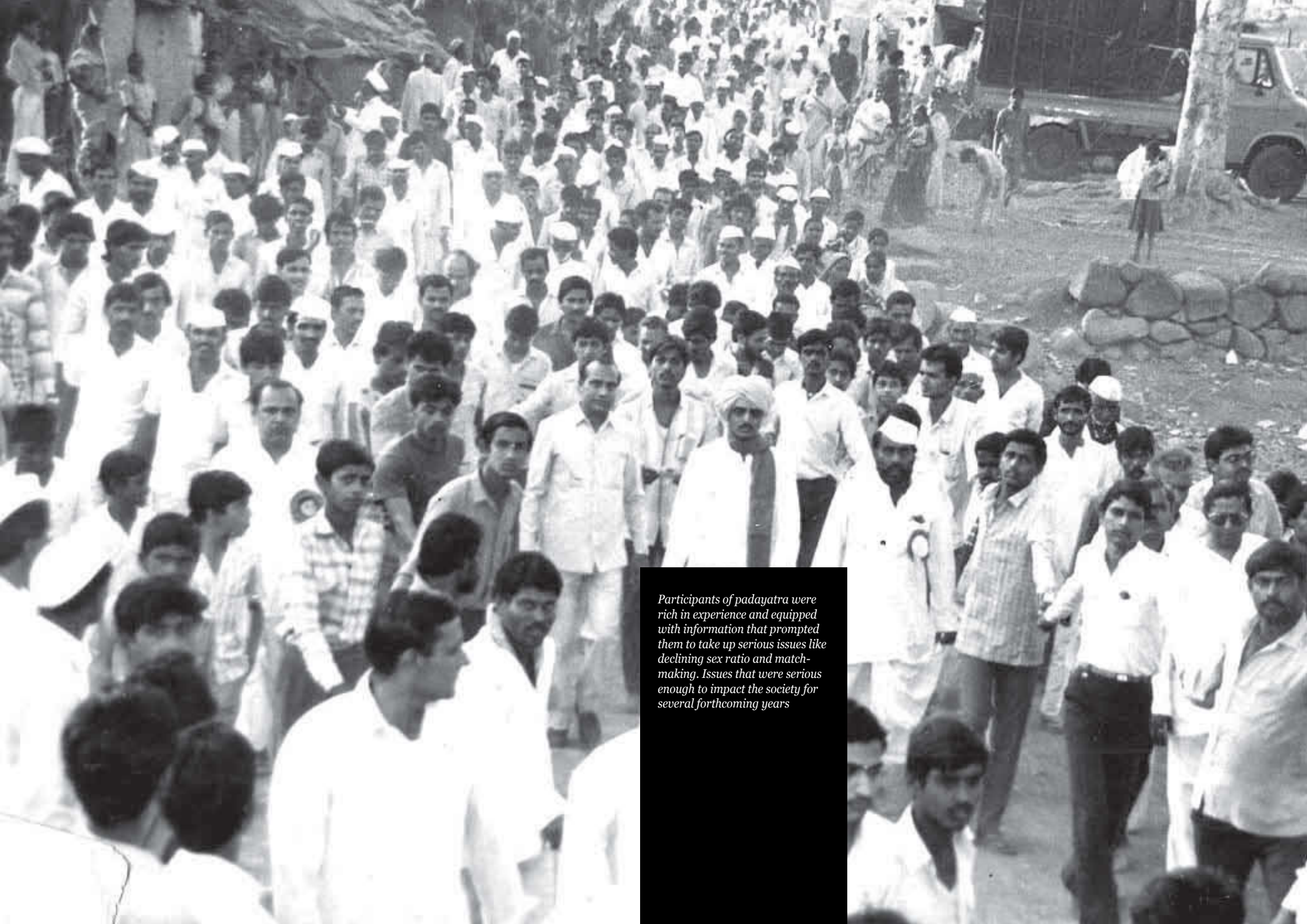


*Besides enthusiastic volunteers, the campaign was successful in generating overwhelming support from the media which took the information and the concept to thousands*









*Participants of padayatra were rich in experience and equipped with information that prompted them to take up serious issues like declining sex ratio and match-making. Issues that were serious enough to impact the society for several forthcoming years*



*In olden days, elders of the family used to search suitable matches for their children.. They had sufficient time to serve the society. In the modern scenario, even parents do not have time enough for their children. Declining sex ratio, girls being more educated as compared to boys and girls preferring boys settled in cities happen to be factors creating an unbalanced. Higher education and changing lifestyle have changes attitude also. Despite of increased means of communication, decision-making is not easy, on the contrary increased expectation and choices have made the task more difficult.*





Choosing the right life partner is thus become difficult. Selection of a suitable and appropriate marriage partner becomes one of the important decisions of adult life. To facilitate parents and younger generation in finding their dream match, Yuvak Yuvati Parichay Sammelans were organised by BJS.





*Blends in traditional advantages like authenticity and trust, larger community help line and a comprehensive, cross-checked and authenticated database, such sammelans provided a ready-made platform for prospective brides and grooms. Separate sammelans were also organised for widows, handicapped individuals and divorcees*



The idea has caught up on a large scale and such sammelans are now being organised all over the country, across religions, communities and classes





*Shantiyatra, as the name suggests, was organised from Pune to Nagpur to bring about peace and harmony after the communal riots which broke out in the country following demolition of the Babri masjid*

*2 The peace march was organised when a nation-wide curfew was imposed to ensure peace in the country*







**“Marching towards peace and harmony...”**

BJS happens to be the only social organisation of the country to be able to bring together leaders of the Hindu, Muslim and Jain communities along with, high court justice and various social workers on a common dais, thus bringing changing the thought process of the masses, presenting an independent way to face dangers in adverse conditions...

Demolition of the Babri Masjid in 1992 led to communal riots followed by a curfew imposed all over the country. While tensions prevailed throughout the nation, BJS decided to spread the messages of non-violence preached by lord Mahaveera. After a lot of convincing of the police for permission, a group of volunteers set out on a rally from Pune to Nagpur, conducted to spread peace and harmony within the society. The peace march was led by prominent personalities from different religions like Jain Acharya Sushil Muni, Hindu Swami Chidanandji, Muslim Maulana Vahiduddin Khan, Justice Chandrashekhar Dharmadhikari, social reformer Anna Hazare,, Padmabhushan Govindbhai Shroff and Nirmalaben Gandhi of Wardha, went along route calling on people to maintain peace and harmony. All this was planned with proper training of participants on what to say and what not to say during the rally.

# Shanti Yatra



*Understanding the urge to convey the message and convince the society about peace and harmony, even school children stepped out to participate in the rally*





*BJS was the first organisation in the country which managed to bring together leaders of different religions and prominent social reformers on a common dais to appeal for maintenance of peace. The rally covered a distance of 1000 kilometres spreading the message of non-violence and communal harmony*





The activity was covered by the media on a large scale, thus taking the message to the masses







*Evoking enthusiastic responses from the masses, the rally had a large number of participants joining in as it passed through various parts of the state*

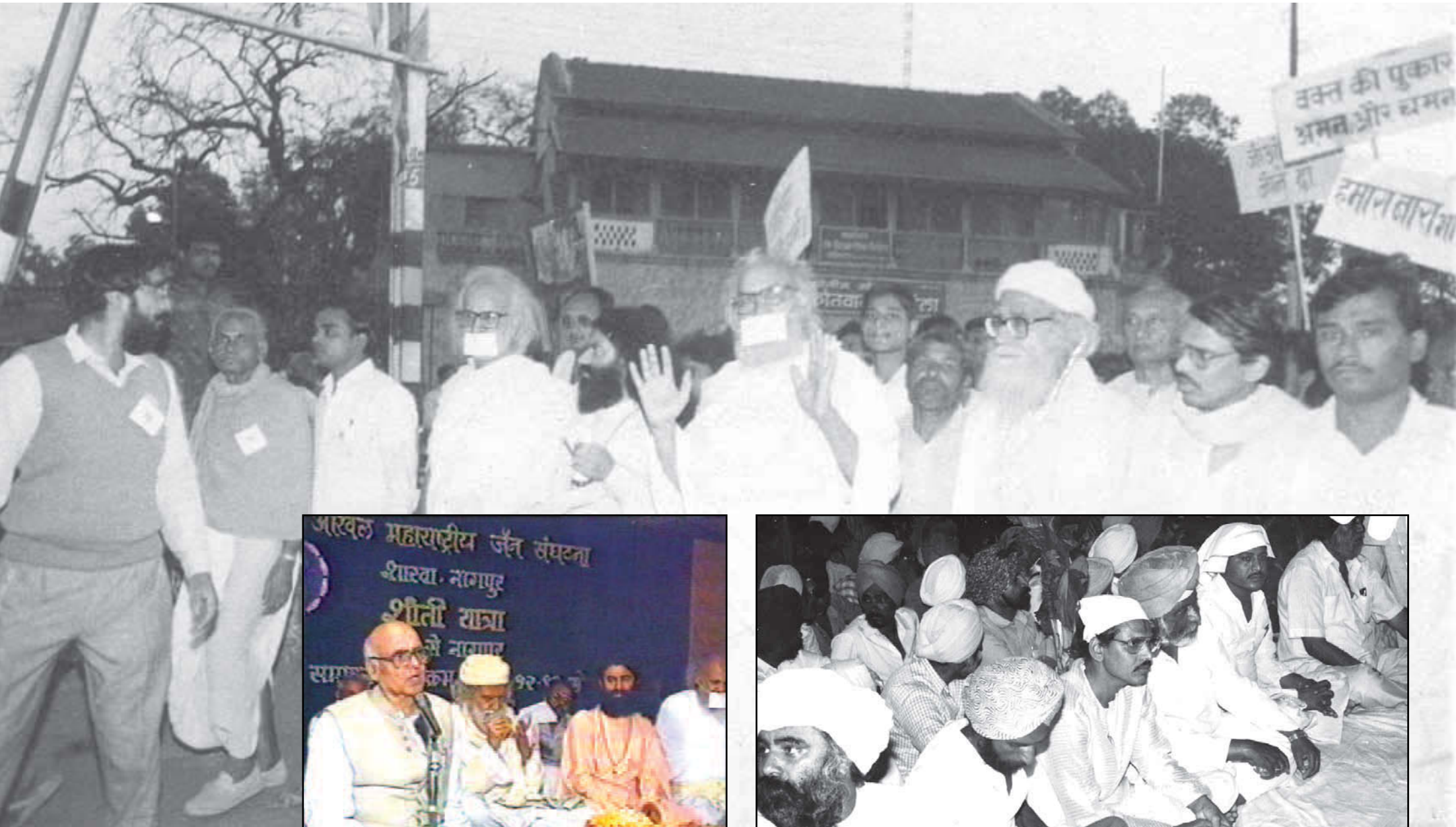


*As a part of the campaign, meetings were organised enroute to address the gathering and convince them towards avoiding participation in riots and other destructive activities. The rally inspired the local leaders to create a culture of peace and harmony in the society even as the rally moved on*









xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

On the way to Nagpur, the rally and its participants also stopped at temples, shrines, durgahs, gurudwaras to pay respect. This helped strike the right chord as professed by Shantilal Muttha who continued to serve the society irrespective of communal barriers

*The conclusion of the rally at Nagpur after ....days was not an end of yet another social activity by BJS. It actually was a new beginning which aimed at bringing all communities together. The tradition of BJS chipping in at the right place at the right time continued as usual*





Infants born in India with facial deformities like cleft lips, cleft palate, squint eyes and ugly scars. Had nowhere to go. Plastic surgery which was the only answer to such problems was out of reach for the Indian population. Firstly because plastic surgeons were not available in the rural settings and those in the urban hospitals are would charge exorbitantly. BJS extended a helping hand. By taking cosmetic surgery to rural India. Free surgery camps started being organised at places which had not even heard of such treatment.







“Changing the ‘face’ of hardships...”

Absence of plastic surgeons and the prohibitive costs of such surgeries were forcing a large number of children to face hardships in the country. Facial deformities like cleft lip and scars were depriving some newly born children from breast-feeding.

With the help of a socially conscious American plastic surgeon like Dr Sharadkumar Diksheets, the BJS conducted free plastic surgery camps all over the country. Dr Diksheets along with a team of experts used to spend more than six months in India every year, performing surgeries for poor patients.

Today, the practice continues even after the sad demise of Dr Diksheets after bringing smiles to the faces of more than 1.75 lakh deprived patients.

# Plastic Surgery

## Plastic Surgery

*A fairly common occurrence in India, facial deformities had to be corrected in the childhood. If left untreated they did not only leave the entire family of the patient in a depressed state of life but also resulted in overall health impairment and other day to day problems leading to quality life.*







*Girls were the worst sufferers because a cleft lip would mean a major problem in getting her married*



19 Associating with eminent doctors like Dr. Sancheti and Dr. Dicksheet along with social leaders like Mohan Dharia, Shantilal Muttha reached out to patients with facial deformities in remote rural areas to provide the facility out to poorest of the poor patients. BJS organized more than 20 camps per year for the last 20 years benefitting more than 2,86,000 patients





*An introduction to the internationally acclaimed plastic surgeon resulted into a long lasting relationship between Dr. Dicksheet and Shantilal Muttha*



*The solution came in the form of free plastic surgery camps organised by BJS in association with Dr. Sharadkumar Dicksheet USA based Indian surgeon and Padmabhushan Dr. K H Sancheti*







*These camps also attended to patients with squint eyes. Another major health and social issue which remained unanswered for a long time*





Every camp evoked an overwhelming response as patients lined up in large numbers for the treatment. Every surgery was well planned and followed by repeated surgeries if required, thus testing the patience of both, the patient and the organisers







महाराष्ट्र  
जिल्हा रुग्णालय, अहमदनगर



भारतीय जैन संघटना

श्री. चांदमल धुनोत (नकाशा) सार्वजनिक ट्रस्ट

ज. शिवाजी जलसंधारणीय प्रकल्प

अ. दकुम

ज. शिवाजी जलसंधारणीय प्रकल्प

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*Making optimum use of the medical facilities and services offered by the surgeons, the BJS camps would perform as many surgeries as possible within a specified period. However, the patients continued to receive post-operative care in and after the team moved to another location*







*even after the sad demise of Dr. Dicksheet in 2011  
the BJS continues to provide this humanitarian  
service*

# नहीं छोड़ा संस्कारों का

कार्यालय संवाददाता @ चेन्नई

राजस्थान पत्रिका और भारतीय जैन संगठना द्वारा आयोजित तीन दिवसीय युवती सक्षमीकरण कार्यशाला का उद्देश्य भले ही समाज की बेटियों के उन सवालों के जवाब खोजना रहा हो, जिनका सामना सामान्यतः हर बेटि को करना होता है, लेकिन कार्यशाला में दूसरे दिन अपने मन की बात कहने वाली बेटियों को देखकर लगा कि हर युवती का जीवन अलग-अलग रंगों से घुला-मिला है।

किसी को अपने अभिभावकों से यह शिकायत थी कि वे उसे बाहर जाकर काम करने नहीं देते तो किसी ने अपने अभिभावकों की खुशी के लिए लाखों रुपए की नौकरी को ठोकर मार दी।

अपने साथ बदलते जमाने की सोच को लेकर दुनिया को बदलने का मादा रखने वाली इन बेटियों ने अपने संस्कारों का दामन भी नहीं छोड़ा है।

जीवन की हर चुनौती का सामना करने की बात हो या फिर अपनों के लिए ही अपने सपनों और खुशियों के साथ समझौता करने की चुनौती, बेटियों ने अपनी जिम्मेदारी को पूरी ईमानदारी से निभाने की मन में ठान ली हो तो फिर शायद ही कोई उन्हें उनके मार्ग से विचलित करने की हिम्मत दिखा सके।

खुद अपने साथ अपने कई साथियों के लिए आदर्श बनने वाली इन बेटियों में से कुछ के साथ राजस्थान पत्रिका ने उनके जीवन, कार्यशाला और आने वाली चुनौतियों के बारे में बात की।

## अपनों की खुशी जरूरी

एमबीए पढ़ने के बाद केपीएमजी में कुछ महिनो का परिवीक्षाकाल बिताने वाली नेहा गुगलिया ने अपनी लाखों रुपए की नौकरी को सिर्फ अपने माता-पिता की खुशी के लिए छोड़ दिया। नेता के अनुसार परिवीक्षाकाल के दौरान देर रात घर आने पर अभिभावकों ने भले ही आपत्ति न जताई हो लेकिन जाहिर है कि उन्हें इससे असुविधा होती थी। वर्तमान में अपनी पढ़ाई का सद्पयोग अपने ही घर से बेकरी चलाकर करने वाली नेहा को अपने नौकरी ठुकराने के फैसले पर कोई पछतावा नहीं है क्योंकि यदि वे ऐसा नहीं करती तो अपना व्यवसाय शुरू करने की प्रेरणा वे कभी हासिल नहीं कर पातीं। कार्यशाला में अपने अनुभव के बारे में नेहा बताती हैं कि अपने जीवन मूल्यों को पहचानने और उनका महत्व जानने में वे यहां आकर अधिक सक्षम हुई हैं। जीवन में किसी भी कीमत पर अपने सिद्धांतों के साथ समझौता न करने की सीख शायद उन्हें कहीं और नहीं मिल पाती।



## फिर लौटा आत्मविश्वास

कार्यशाला की सबसे छोटी सदस्यों का प्रतिनिधित्व करने वाली ग्यारह वर्षीय गीतांजलि बजाज का मानना है कि इस कार्यशाला ने जीवन और उसूलों के प्रति उनकी सोच ही बदल दी है। कक्षा की सबसे होनहार छात्राओं में शुमार गीतांजलि मानती हैं कि शिक्षण काल के

दौरान कई बार ऐसा हुआ है कि किसी और की वजह से अथवा अपनी खुद की गलतियों की वजह से उन्हें अपना आत्मविश्वास कमजोर होता हुआ प्रतीत हुआ।



लेकिन कार्यशाला में आत्मविश्वास बरकरार रखने के लिए सिखाए गए गुरों को वे अपने जीवन में अवश्य उतारेंगी। खुद से प्यार करना उन्होंने यहां आकर सीखा है।

## सीख लिया समझौता करना

कभी-कभी अपनों की खुशी के लिए अपने सपनों के साथ समझौता करना भी जीवन की वो खुशी दे जाता है जो सपनों और इच्छाओं के पूरा होने पर भी नहीं मिलती। कुछ इन्हीं शब्दों में तेरापंथ कन्या मंडल की संयोजिका नीतू कटारिया ने उन बातों का उल्लेख किया जो उन्होंने कार्यशाला में सीखी।



नीतू के मुताबिक अपने पैरेंट्स की खुशी के लिए समझौता करने में कहीं न कहीं अपना भी भला होता है और यह बात वे अब समझ चुकी हैं।

## सुलझी कई सवाल

विशेष रूप से इस कार्यशाला में हिस्सा लेने के लिए गुजरात से आई भावना कोठारी ने कार्यशाला के माध्यम से अपने मन में बैठे कई सवालों का समाधान प्राप्त किया है। वे मानती हैं

# युवती सक्षमीकरण कार्यशाला का सम

अभिभावक भी होंगे

शामिल

कार्यालय संवाददाता @ चेन्नई

राजस्थान पत्रिका एवं भारतीय जैन संगठना

तमिलनाडु के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में यहां वेपेरी स्थित जयवाटिका मरलेचा गार्डन चल रही तीन दिवसीय युवती सक्षमीकरण कार्यशाला का समापन रविवार को होगा।

सायं 5.30 बजे आयोजित समापन समारोह की मुख्य अतिथि वरिष्ठ अधिवक्ता एवं समाजसेवी

श्रीमती मीरा गुप्ता होंगी। गौरतलब है कि तीन दिवसीय कार्यशाला शुक्रवार से शुरू हुई थी। कार्यशाला में 16 से 24 वर्ष की अविवाहित युवतियां भाग ले रही हैं।

सोमवार को कार्यशाला के तीसरे दिन दोपहर 12.30 बजे से युवतियों के अभिभावक भी



# दामन

कि यहां पर आने के बाद उनका संवाद कौशल और आत्मविश्वास काफी हद तक सुधरा है। अभिभावकों से अपनी बात मनवाने की कला को कार्यशाला का सबसे खूबसूरत पक्ष मानते हुए वे कहती हैं कि वे अब अधिक विश्वास के साथ अपने अभिभावकों के सामने अपनी बात रख सकेंगी। उनका कहना है कि ऐसी कार्यशाला गुजरात में भी आयोजित होनी चाहिए।



## याद रहेंगे ये तीन दिन

कार्यशाला में अपना आना सार्थक मानते हुए नीलम चौहान कहती हैं कि वे इन तीन दिनों को हमेशा याद रखेंगी। वे मानती हैं जो भी कार्यशाला में सिखाया गया है वे उनके साथ कई अन्य युवतियों के लिए नया नहीं है। कार्यशाला में उनसे पहले हिस्सा लेने वाले कई लोगों ने इसके बारे में उन्हें बताया है लेकिन फिर भी जिस तरह से यहां पर जीवन के अहम मुद्दों पर प्रकाश डाला गया है, वह प्रशंसनीय है। इन पहलुओं को समझाने के लिए राजेंद्र लुंकड़ की प्रशंसा करते हुए नीलम कहती हैं कि कई बातें समझाने वाले भी निर्भर करती हैं कि वे समझाने वाले तक किस हद तक पहुंचती हैं। यहां जो कुछ भी बताया गया वह यदि कोई और समझाता तो शायद हमारे दिल तक नहीं पहुंच पाता।



## आज

शामिल होंगे। कार्यशाला में भाग ले रही युवतियां प्रतिदिन की तरह की सुबह 9 बजे से कार्यशाला में शामिल होंगी और पूरे दिन कार्यशाला चलेगी। इस अवसर पर भारतीय जैन संगठन के राष्ट्रीय महासचिव प्रफुल्ल पारीक विशेष रूप से उपस्थित रहेंगे।

## “Strengthening the girl-child”

On one side, the country is advancing with changing significance of education and growing communication facilities. On the other, a large section of the population is suffering from the harmful effects of these changes.

Polluted college atmosphere; bad influence of television and the media; rising immorality and crime, the list is unending. In order to protect them from all this, girls cannot be stopped from going to college or banned from making friends. That was not the solution. Meanwhile, it was also important for parents to interact with their daughters in the right possible manner.

How do we equip young girls to face and overcome problems and save them from ill-effects of such undesirable aspects?

After detailed study and deep research, the BJS came up with a 32-hour certification course for unmarried girls. The course was titled, ‘Empowerment of Girls to face the Social Challenges of the 21st century’.

Over the years, the course has succeeded in bringing about enormous changes in the lives and living patterns of innumerable girls.

# Empowerment







The trend of exorbitant expenditure and display of wealth during wedding ceremonies prompted BJS to create awareness amongst the masses to curb this kind of wastage. This gave birth to the unique concept of padyatra in the 80's. A highly effective concept used for mass movement by none other than the father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi, padayatras have been successful in bringing about revolutionary changes all the over the world. Reformist spreading a message on foot have succeeded in changing the world over. Padayatra served as an effective tool to convince the Indian population towards accepting the trend setting concept of mass marriages.

Adding another feather to the BJS cap an overwhelming participation of 625 couples in the mass marriage ceremony held at the SP college ground took the concept

*The response was so overwhelming that even the grooms had to line up in a queue to be escorted on to the dais*









## BJS organises Career Guidance Programme



**Bhilai, Jan 28:** Bhartiya Jain Sangathan (BJS), Bhilai with support of Sri Sankara Vidyalaya, Bhilai organised a Career Planning and Career Guidance Programme on January 28, 2011 at the premises of Sri Sankara Vidyalaya, Sector-10, Bhilai. The event was organised for the students of Classes VIII to XII from different schools of Durg-Bhilai.

Prof Adv Jayprakash B Somani from Pune, a well known educationist of the country was the main speaker in the event. Over 600 students from 25-30 different schools of Durg-Bhilai, their parents and teachers participated and got benefited from the program.

MC Jain informed that this career guidance program has helped the students to identify their strengths and needs to build a plan based on their personal profiles. It gave these students an access to information and empowered them to achieve their potential for harnessing success and gratification from whatever subject they choose.

Detailing about the programme benefits, Jain informed that the students learnt a career planning process that involves decision-making skills that can be used throughout their lifetime. It helped the students to achieve an improved preparation and participation in post secondary education. The stu-

dents will become focused as they see the connection between what they are learning and their future education / work goals. It helped these students to be motivated and generated confidence in them for adaptability to the present competitive environment to be gainfully employed in the future.

Anand Jain (President, Jain Mahila Club), Sita Bajaj (Vice President - Bhilai Mahila Samaj), Dr BC Karnawat (President, BJS, Chhattisgarh), MC Jain (President, BJS, Bhilai), RT Ramchandran (President, Sri Sankara Vidyalaya Education Society), Manju Surana (President - BJS, Bhilai Ladies Wing), KK Singhal

(President, Bharat Vikash Parishad, Bhilai), Goutam Parakh (Vice Chairman - JITO, CG), Mahavir Surana, Shobha Nair, Paras Tatia, Shanta Golchha, Seema Oswal, Dattatreya (from Pune) were among the Special guests and eminent personalities who graced the occasion.

Over 20 enthusiastic students and teachers who asked very informative and knowledgeable questions during the query session were also rewarded with attractive gifts by the organizers. Santosh Oswal (Gen. Secretary - BJS, Bhilai) conducted the proceedings and Paras Tatia - (Vice President - BJS, CG State) proposed the vote of thanks.

*The first such experiment very soon became a mass movement fast spreading all over the country with couples from different communities, casts, creeds including the rich and the poor took pride in being a part of the trend*











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*While success stories of rescue and rehabilitation after natural disasters generally talk about provision of food, clothes, medicines, utensils, shelter and short term psychological support, the BJS story of rescue and rehabilitation for Latur earthquake 1993 tells a different story altogether.*

*It is a story of a promising future. Future of the young generation. Young generation which meant the future of the society.*

*It is a story which took a different turn midway. Turning towards a bright future. A bright future for those who were heading towards darkness.*







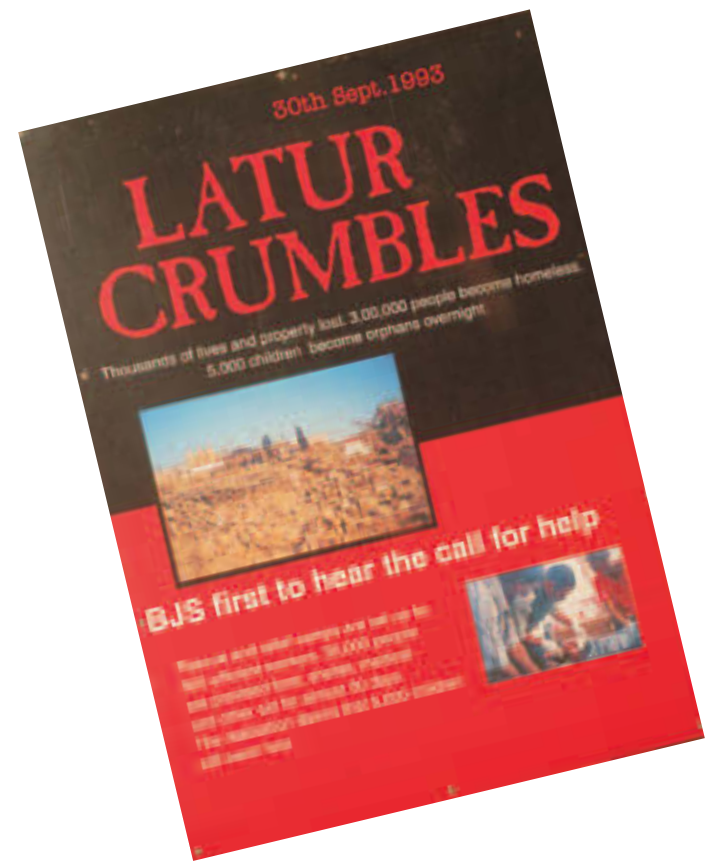
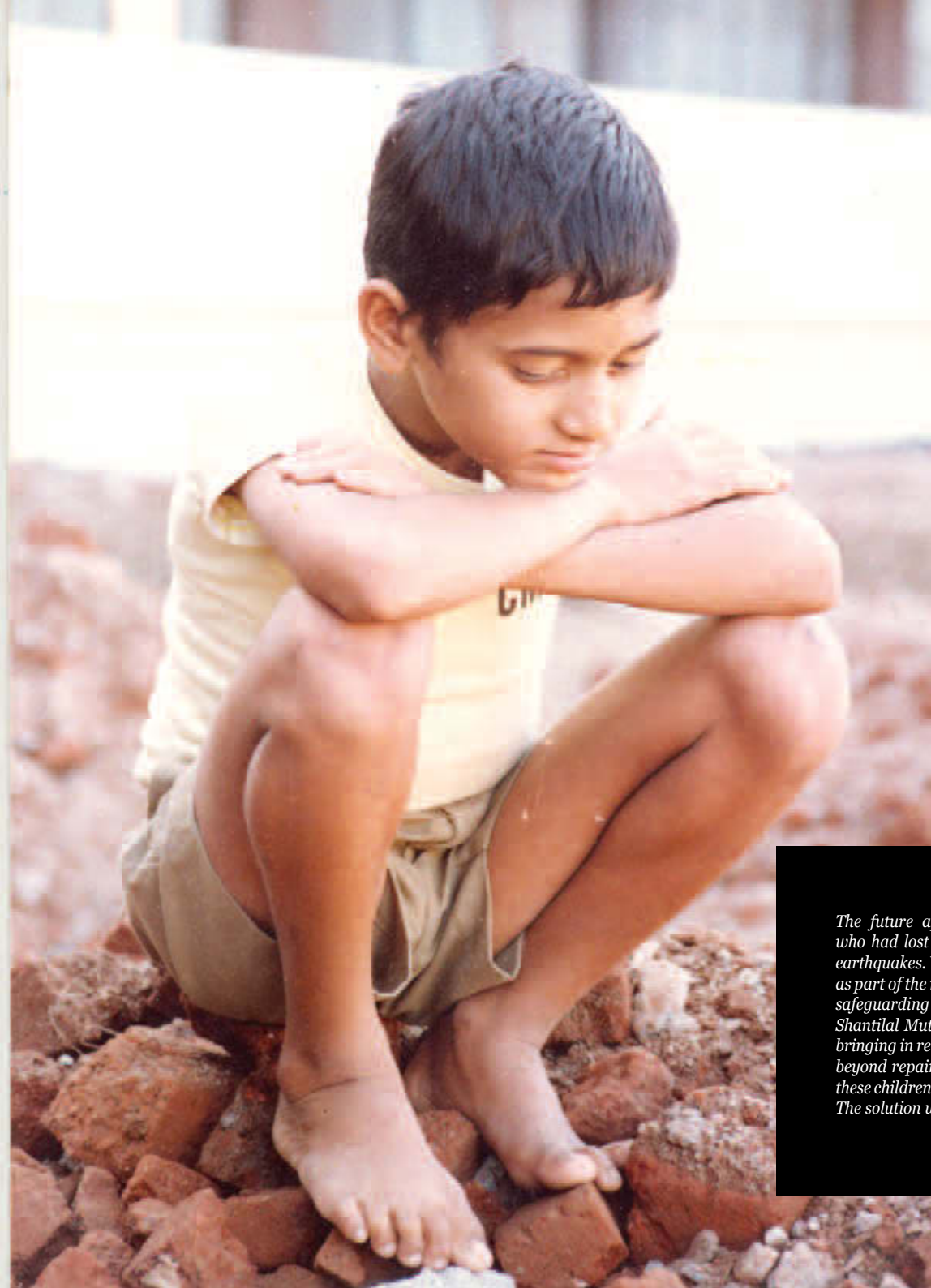
## “Shaping ‘shaken’ lives...”

Huge amount of social work and related activities between 1985 and 1993 has helped build a strong network of volunteers and resources in all parts of the country. The thought of channelising this network and resources towards further betterment of the society came to Shantilal Muttha's mind when the earth shook, devastating Latur and Osmanabad in 1993.

Jumping into disaster management for the first time, the BJS did some revolutionary work providing relief in the form of food and medicine to the quake-affected.

The calamity also marked the beginning of new chapter in the field of disaster management in India. The unique programme of adopting disaster-affected children for educational rehabilitation, was born out of the need felt while working for them in Latur. The landmark project emerged as a big facilitating factor for every disaster that occurred in the country thereafter.

# Latur



*The future appeared to be in darkness for thousands of children who had lost their houses and parents in the Latur and Osmanabad earthquakes. While food, clothes, medicine and utensils were distributed as part of the relief operations, the BJS decided to focus on securing and safeguarding the future of the young generation. This thought came to Shantilal Muttha's mind when he saw children running after vehicles bringing in rescue material and devastated school buildings which were beyond repair. In absence of schools which could keep them occupied, these children were heading towards another disaster. A disaster of life! The solution was difficult but there was no alternative.*





*Selected by the BJS for the unique and ambitious rehabilitation programme children eagerly awaited the arrival of a bus to Pune leaving behind memories of their devastated homes. These children were selected from nine villages adopted by BJS. Although 300 girls were ready to join, BJS reluctantly decided otherwise*

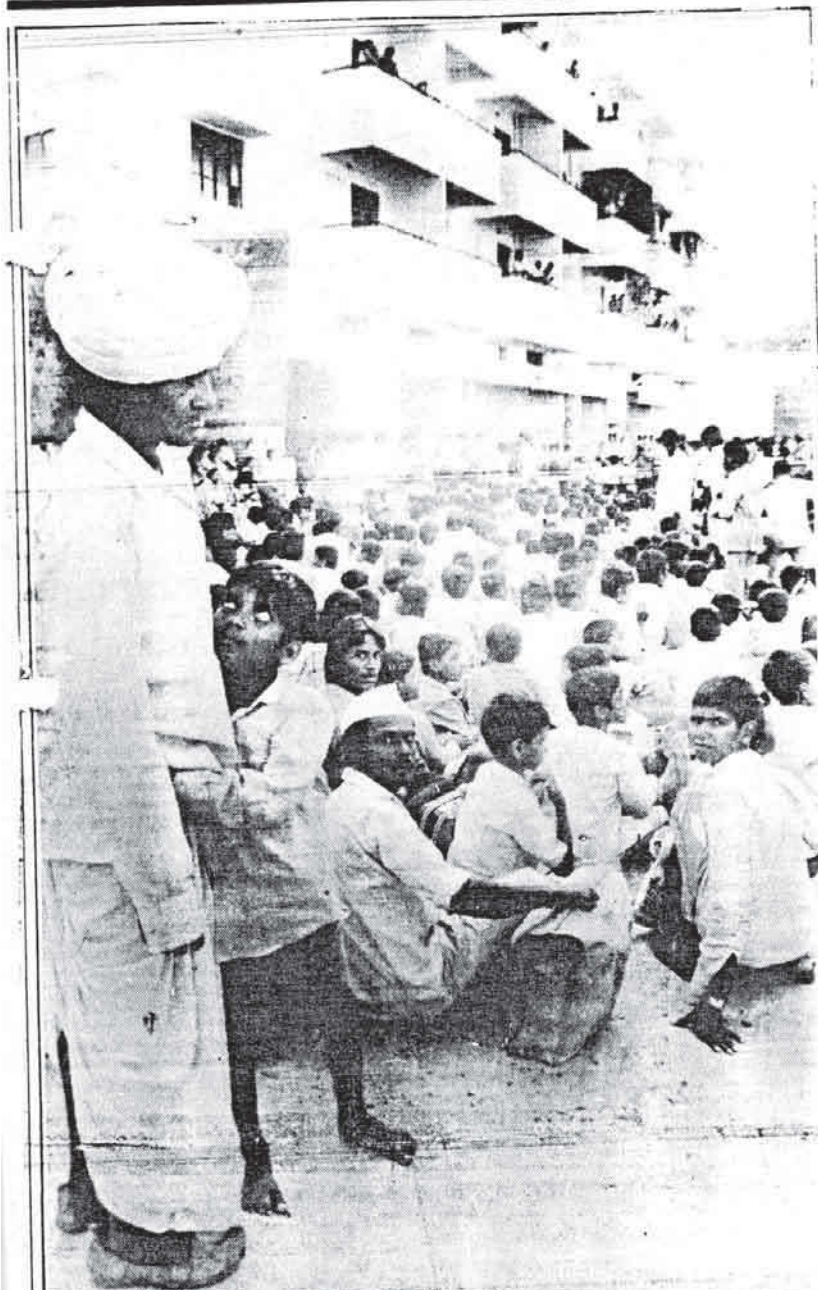


*Buses full of children left the earthquake struck villages marking the beginning of a new journey. A journey towards educational rehabilitation*



*Parents came in large numbers to bid a goodbye to their children before they boarded buses on their way to Pune. A fleet of 25 buses left Latur on the auspicious day of Dasera after being flagged off by none other than the then chief minister of Maharashtra Sharad Pawar and governor P C Alexander*





Children from quake-hit areas of Marathwada queuing up in front of the camp set up by the Akhil Maharashtra Jain Sanghatana at Pimpri on their arrival from their villages on Monday afternoon.

## Shaken but determined to fight back

### 1421 quake-hit children take city as their new home

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

PUNE - Scars of the cruel blow inflicted by mother earth on the fateful dawn of September 30 were still evident on their faces but so was the determination to start a new life as they arrived in Pimpri on Monday.

For the 1,421 children whose lives were ruined by the devastating earthquake, the twin-township of Pimpri-Chinchwad will be home for the next decade.

A warm welcome from members of the Akhil Maharashtra Jain Sanghatana and residents of Atmanagar awaited them in Pimpri, as they arrived at 2.30 p.m., nearly two hours behind schedule.

It took considerable time for the convoy of 28 State Transport buses to cover the distance between Gultekdi Market Yard and Atmanagar in Pimpri as members of the local Jain community thronged the streets to receive the children.

ceremony in Atmanagar where the children will be lodged and educated.

The children were accompanied by elders from the villages who came to reach them. "We have no words to express our gratitude towards the Jain Sanghatana. But we assure you, our children are talented and will certainly make you proud with their achievements. At least one of these unfortunate children will manage to find a place in the SSC merit list," asserted an emotional Bhikaji Jadhav while addressing the gathering.

"My mother is alive but she said we must go to Pune and study. Education will restore everything we lost in the earthquake," said Layak, a sixth standard student and the youngest of three Silekh brothers, while speaking to Indian Express.

The Jain Sanghatana members have made elaborate arrangements for the children at Atmanagar. A team of 25 volunteers will work during day hours and five others during night.

A special team of psychologists headed by Mohan Agashe will begin work on Tuesday to help the children come out of the trauma they have undergone.

The State Government has already sanctioned primary and secondary schools and a junior college. Classes are scheduled to start within a month.

The adopted children include students from standard fifth to tenth. The tiny ones were left behind following an advice from psychologists, Mutha said.

Out of the total 1,421 children, at least 70 per cent were orphaned while most of the others had lost one of their parents in the earthquake.

The Jain Sanghatana has planned several programmes to help the children gather the threads of their lives. With



# MAHARASHTRA HERALD

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PUNE, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1993

## Quake orphans arrive in city

By our staff reporter

In an unprecedented and moving sight, which brought tears to the eyes of many, a large gathering of school children in Pimpri-Chinchwad welcomed with flowers and bouquets, some 1,421 boys orphaned by last month's earthquake, on Monday.

The hapless orphans, were brought to this industrial city by 25 ST buses, from a total of 19 worst-affected villages in Latur and Osmanabad districts, thanks to the yeoman job done by the Pune-based Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana (BJS).

The melancholy faces broke into smiles when they were assured by the children of a school in Phugewadi, on the Bombay-Pune highway that "you are safe in our hands". Shouts of "Ham sab ek hain" rent the air.

The buses were flagged off by the Governor, Mr. P.C. Alexander, at the Salegaon village in Osmanabad district on Sunday morning.

The children were brought to the "Atmanagar" housing complex in Kharalwadi, where they were treated to grand reception given by the Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC) Mayor Vilas

Lande, BJS president, Mr. Shantilal Mutha, Mr. Dnyaneshwar Landge, Mr. Madan Bafna (both MLAs), the PCMC Commissioner Shrinivas Patil, Mr. Suresh Sonavane and a dozen PCMC corporators.

This was claimed to be the first-ever batch of orphaned children coming out of the earthquake-affected areas of Maharashtra, for rehabilitation by a charity organisation of the Jain Samaj.

After about a dozen speeches, Mr. Shantilal Mutha, led them to a grand luncheon on the grounds of the Atmanagar housing complex.

Mr. Mutha told newspapermen later that the children were drawn from Sasur, Rajgaon, Chincholi-Rebe, Ekondi, Holi, Peth Sangvi, Tawshigad, Udatpur, Katchincholi, Kawatha, Salgaon, Ekurga, Murshadapur, Kondhagad, Samudral, Kauldora, Nandurga, Haregaon and Vatala. About seventy of them, he said, have lost both parents. The largest number is from Sasur (200), followed by Ekurga (185) and Holi (100).

He said that all of them would continue their studies from the fifth to 12th standard in a school and junior college housed in the

complex itself. About 40 teachers are proposed to be appointed to run the classes and the State government has promised a cent per cent grant.

An estimated Rs. 60 lakh expenditure is expected to be incurred annually on their lodging, boarding, education and clothing. Schemes have been drawn for off-setting the expenditure, through adoption on payment of fixed sum for two years, and through collection of munificent donations from all over the country.

A total of 150 flats and 40 ground floor shops have been earmarked for their lodging. Mr. Mutha said that a comprehensive survey has been made by the BJS of the quake-affected children and a track of their living conditions and educational progress will be kept meticulously by the Sanghatana.

He said that a three-member team of doctors led by Dr. Mohan Agashe, film actor and psychiatrist, will arrive in the complex to examine the mental condition of the affected children who might have been subjected to psychological traumas caused by the earthquake and, therefore, require medical care.



Peering into the future, leaving behind scarred memories of a none-too-distant past... quake-hit children on an ST bus headed for their new abode in Pimpri. Pic by Rishikesh Tapshalkar. (Report on P. 8)

## THE TIMES OF INDIA PunePlus

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1993



NEW PATH: This quake-hit boy, holding tightly some of his books and little belongings, symbolises hope with which 1400 children from earthquake affected areas in Maharashtra arrived at Pimpri on Monday.

The children were received in Pune with great appreciation as they took a step ahead. Pune, the Oxford of the east, was beginning a new chapter in the field of education



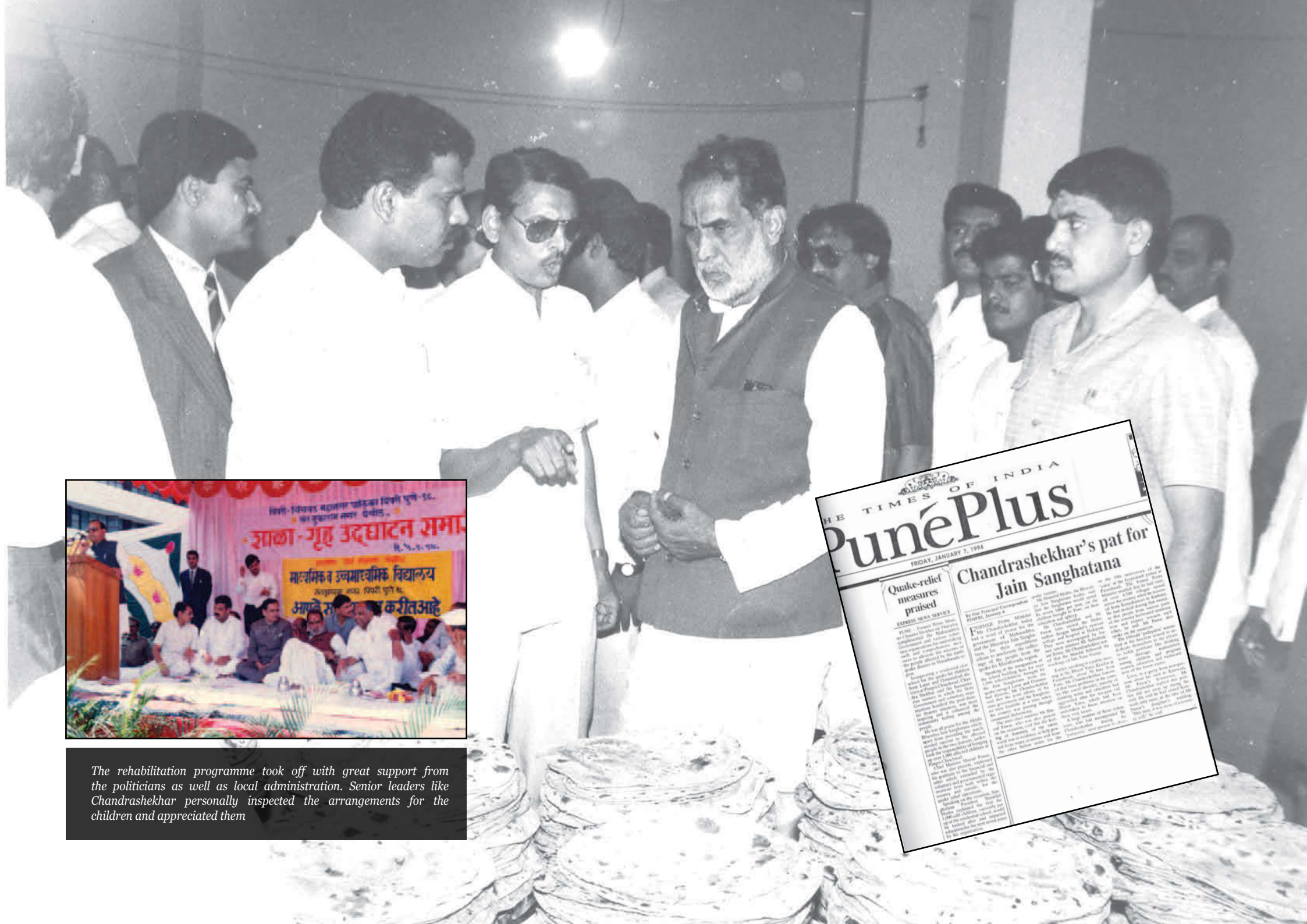


पिंपरी चिंचवड महानगरपालिका-शालागृह

A school building provided by the Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation served as a home for the quake-affected children before they could move to a permanent rehabilitation centre

भारतीय जैन संघटना संस्थान  
प्राथमिक माध्यमिक उच्च माध्यमिक विद्यालय  
जैन धर्मालय, जैन मंदिर, जैन भवन



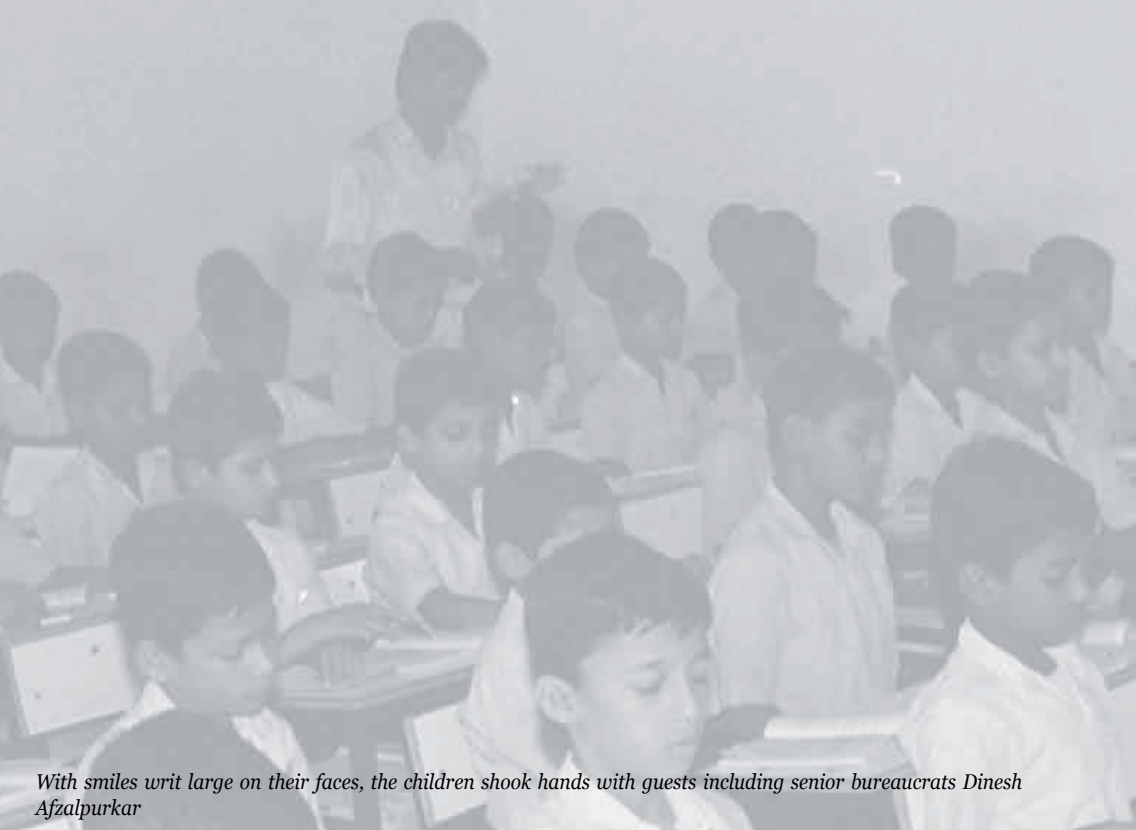


The rehabilitation programme took off with great support from the politicians as well as local administration. Senior leaders like Chandrashekar personally inspected the arrangements for the children and appreciated them





*On the inaugural day, the students at the school had an opportunity to interact with veterans like Shivraj Patil*



*With smiles writ large on their faces, the children shook hands with guests including senior bureaucrats Dinesh Afzalpurkar*





Visits by role models like former chief election commissioner T N Sheshan inspired the quake affected children as he appreciated them for their academic achievements

Introducing a unique concept for rational distribution of food grains and other relief material, BJS distributed ration cards to the flood affected families, thus reaching out to a large number of victims

Eager to know more about the unique programme academicians from the city frequented the rescue and rehabilitation project

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1994. THE TIMES OF INDIA, BOMBAY 11

## Latur kids thrive in Pune

By ANAND AGASHE  
The Times of India News Service

PUNE, Feb 2

**B**ELLYING fears of maladjustment to an entirely new environment, 1,001 schoolchildren brought from the earthquake-torn region of Marathwada in October last have decided to make Pune their permanent abode.

Having overcome teething troubles, the Bharatiya Jain Sanghiana (BJS) conducted school, for boys ranging from standard 5 to 12, completes 100 days on today. For the children, hailing from 114 schools spread across 30 villages in Osmanabad and Latur districts, the earthquake of September 30, 1993 is now a fading memory.

"We are not going to go back, at least till we complete our graduation," comes the chorus of the moment anyone of them is asked about his future plans.

The formation in the school at the Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipality's huge building here doubts

convincing them that it was a rumour. Homesickness, coupled with raging memories of the devastation had made the boys vulnerable.

But a month-long stay at home during the Diwali vacation brought about a sea-change in the boys' attitude. The aftermath of the quake was as horrific as the quake itself. The boys found their homes in ruins, their family members shattered. To make it worse, the entire region continued to experience minor tremors, sustaining the gloom.

Returning to Pune after the vacation, the boys now found it highly comforting for various reasons. Under a trained staff of 26 teachers, they could see more of the Pune school was much more rewarding.

Of the 1,001 students in the school, 161 are in the fifth and another 204 are in the sixth standard. These boys will thus stand right to 10 years to their graduation. However, the question is, Can this massive re-education be carried out voluntarily by the voluntary

boarding of the students comes to about Rs 350 per head. It works out to Rs 42 lakh per year for 1,000 students. Clothing and schooling are expected to cost another Rs 28 lakh per year. Thus, at the rate of Rs 70 lakh per year, the estimated running costs over the next ten years would be to the tune of Rs 7 crore.

While the chief minister, Mr Sharad Pawar, has promised to give about seven acres of land free of cost to the school to construct its own building, government grant for the school is also expected to come through. But that still may not be enough.

The BJS has received donations worth about Rs 30 lakh for the school so far. The initial public sympathy for the quake victims is now wearing off fast, and so is the response for donations.

A close look at the school inmates' record reveals that while nearly 30 per cent of the students belong to the scheduled castes, another 250-odd are such who have lost their parents or close relatives in the earthquake. Even within the existing framework of government rules, the government can offer hostel grants to inmates in these two categories.





*Equipped with all requisite facilities, the Wagholi Educational Rescue Centre, which was designed to meet the needs of the quake affected children, thereafter served as a permanent facility for similar projects*



*The Wagholi Educational Research Centre came as fast as possible. It was built by the world bank on 10 acres of land owned by BJS*



## Latur Earthquake

With Manohar Joshi, the then chief minister of Maharashtra as the chief guest, the inaugural ceremony of the WERC on November 29, 1998, marked the beginning of a new era in the field of rehabilitation of disaster-affected children

Stalwarts like Narayan Rane, Manohar Joshi and Sureshdada Jain commended the efforts of the BJS in ensuring better future for the beneficiaries of WERC



Strong supporters of BJS like Deepchand Gardi, Mafatlal Mehta and Sukhlalji Bora graced the inaugural ceremony of WERC





*Moving into a new premise was a matter of great joy for the quake-affected children. This place was going to serve as their home and school till they graduated*

*All requisite educational facilities along with those for sports and recreation ensure overall development of the children residing at WERC*













Good Thought is the best teacher, who teaches you how to improve your living place of students.



Actor Sanjay Dutt was one of the many who came down to the WERC to boost the morale





# THE TIMES OF INDIA

Mumbai: Wednesday, July 30, 1997

## Jain Sanghatana to adopt 300 Melghat children

Staff Reporter

THE Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana, known for organising mass marriages and for its work towards the rehabilitation of the earthquake-affected, has embarked upon yet another project, that of adopting about 650 children, including 300 from the starvation hit areas of Melghat in Amravati district.

Speaking to the reporters, the president of the Sanghatana, Shantilal Mutha, said that the Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana had decided to adopt 300 economically backward orphans and children of single parents from the villages of Maharashtra, and 50 earthquake-affected children from Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh.

It may be recalled that the Sanghatana has undertaken the responsibility of educating about 1,000 boys from the quake-hit ar-

ing them.

Similarly these children too would stay in Pune and would receive education, food, medical attention, clothes and learning aids from the Sanghatana for as long as they would like to pursue their studies, Mutha said.

The children from Melghat are mostly standard V and VI students, who would be shifted to Pune within a couple of weeks. The Sanghatana has already obtained permission from their parents and has also made temporary arrangements for their schooling in the village itself.

"We have taken care to ensure that not more than three or four children were selected from each village and preference was given to those children who had to walk a long distance every day to attend school," Mutha informed.

and findings of the Sanghatana had revealed that lack of elementary education was the main cause of the apathy that prevailed in the area. "We believe that merely providing material and monetary help will do no way mitigate the pain and suffering. Making sure that some amount of learning takes place is the only way of bringing an attitudinal change," he said.

About the 50 children from the recently earthquake hit area of Jabalpur, Mutha said that on the recommendations made by the senior officials of the Sanghatana, it was decided that the children would be educated in a Hindi medium school here, that is the S. M. Joshi Vidyalaya. Besides, 300 children, who did not have either one or both the parents, from all over the state would also be adopted, taking the total number of children under the

## MELGHAT, THE PERPETUALLY FAMINE AFFECTED AREA

Can the adivasis of Melghat see a life without death, disease and malnutrition.



**BJS unravels the truth.**

BJS's assessment at a ground-level reveals that the problems are compounded by:

- Illiteracy • Ignorance • A blind belief in rituals
- Practice of child marriage • Indifference to medical & other aid provided • Superstition
- Addiction to liquor and drugs
- Total absence of family planning



Realising that literacy is the only key to bring about the necessary change, BJS took the long term perspective and adopted 350 students. These students will act as the catalyst to bring social change.





WERC today:

Modern educational facilities provided at the WERC included those for education in information technology

Teachers and staff at the WERC also encouraged extra-curricular activities like dance and music

Well-equipped laboratories ensured complete facilitation for academic excellence

Modern scientific equipment available in the laboratories made learning easy and enjoyable for the students

Beneficiaries become benefactors. During their stay at WERC students affected in various disasters assist in the work being undertaken for provision of relief to other disaster victims. Besides helping prepare food packets for disaster victims in the vicinity, they also traveled as far as Gujarat to rebuild the schools there



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## LATUR VICTIMS TO THE AID OF GUJARAT

By V Radhika  
PUNE: AS Kamlakar Panchal, Munna Sheikh, Pandurang Bharti and 147 other students were packing their bags to leave for Gujarat, memories of 1993 came flooding back.

The killer earthquake that had ravaged their lives in Maharashtra's Latur district eight years ago had struck again, this time in neighboring Gujarat. And who would know the importance of the healing touch better than the Latur victims?

So three days after the January 26 earthquake, armed with relief material, around 150 youngsters set out for the Bhachau area of Gujarat's Bhuj district under the aegis of the Bharatiya Jain Sangathan (BJS). These 150 students were among 1,000 children BJS had brought from Latur in 1993 for rehabilitation in Pune. Eight years have passed by, but the painful memories are fresh.

"The moment we heard of the earthquake and the destruction in its wake, we knew exactly what people would be going through. The sense of shock, numbness and then a big question mark over the future," Vyankat Chikite told India Abroad News Service. His

But these youngsters were not going to spend their time reliving their nightmare past. The moment Shantilal Mutha, president of the Pune-based BJS, announced that relief had to be sent to Gujarat, the first batch of 150 students was ready and left on January 29.

Armed with clothes, blankets and food, the students set out to help the Gujarat victims. But the most important relief tool they carried was emotional and psychological support required after the immediate physical needs are met.

"We all have gone through the same experience and we feel our presence in itself would provide some relief for the victims, by sending the message that life can still be rebuilt," Kamlesh Panchal told IANS.

The students have been divided into batches of 10 each and work almost round the clock, Mutha said. They have been joined in their efforts by nearly 400 volunteers of the BJS from across Maharashtra. The team includes doctors, nurses, cooks and electricians.

While Mutha returned to Pune on February 7, the team will stay on for at least 10 days more and then the next team would take over.

The idea is not to provide temporary relief alone.

effort is to bring them back to the classrooms. "In the first stage - which is 10 to 12 days or a fortnight relief and temporary rehabilitation is of top most priority. Everyone's focus is limited only to this. After this is over, we plan to start schools for children so that they can get back to studies," said Mutha.

That is no easy task. For a family that has lost everything in an earthquake, a classroom would be the last thing on their minds.

Hence, Mutha and the students from Wagholi Rehabilitation Center have been conducting meetings with parents, teachers and the children themselves to stress the importance of returning to school.

But why accord schooling so much importance when the wounds are still fresh? "Every day all these children are seeing collapsed houses, dead bodies and grief all around. We want to bring them out of this atmosphere and divert their attention. We felt that this need was all the more important because parents are, sending their children everyday to collect relief material and we found that children are getting into the habit of 'collecting' things and felt this has to stop," Mutha said.

now, 70 percent students will drop out. And routine work has to start. We will have to bring back normalcy," he said.

The first makeshift school of steel and tin built by the BJS was inaugurated on February 7. There were 1,197 students from Class 1-10. "The mourning period for Hindus is 12 days and when we started the school on the 13th day we said your mourning period is over, now start your new life," Mutha said.

The cost of a school is pegged between Rs 300,000 and 600,000 and the BJS has appealed to individuals and organizations for help. "We will take the responsibility of running the school. But we want help to set up a school. We can erect the structure in eight days and those who give contributions for the school can come for its inauguration and then we will run it," said Mutha.

The BJS has also tied up with Jains - a network of the Jain religious community in the US and is appealing to Indians in America to contribute for the schools.

The BJS also plans to conduct an education survey, which would investigate the number of schools that were functional in the affected areas and compare the student and teacher strength before and after the quake.





*Enjoying every passing day at the WERC the quake affected children from Latur inched towards rehabilitation which was full of knowledge and enjoyment. Today majority of them have resettled in life after graduating from WERC. For many of them the experience was not just of rehabilitation. It was like rebirth.*

*Besides life skills, education, vocational training and ability to face difficulties, they added one more important aspect to their lives. A strong support, a guiding spirit and an inspiring personality in the form of Shantilal Muttha who was 'Bhau' (elder brother) for them and many others.*









**“Preventing academic loss...”**

The most devastating disaster in India's history of natural calamities was witnessed in Gujarat leading to a loss amounting to almost ten times than that of Maharashtra. Going in for immediate reconstruction and restoration of school buildings, the BJS brought in a unique novelty of pre-fabricated structures that could be erected fast and could be re-used if required in forthcoming disasters.

More importantly, the constructive work done in Gujarat had the quake-affected children from Latur working as volunteers. Victims became rescuers as 368 schools were constructed to house 1.20 lakh students, thus ensuring a bright future for them.

# Gujarat Earthquake



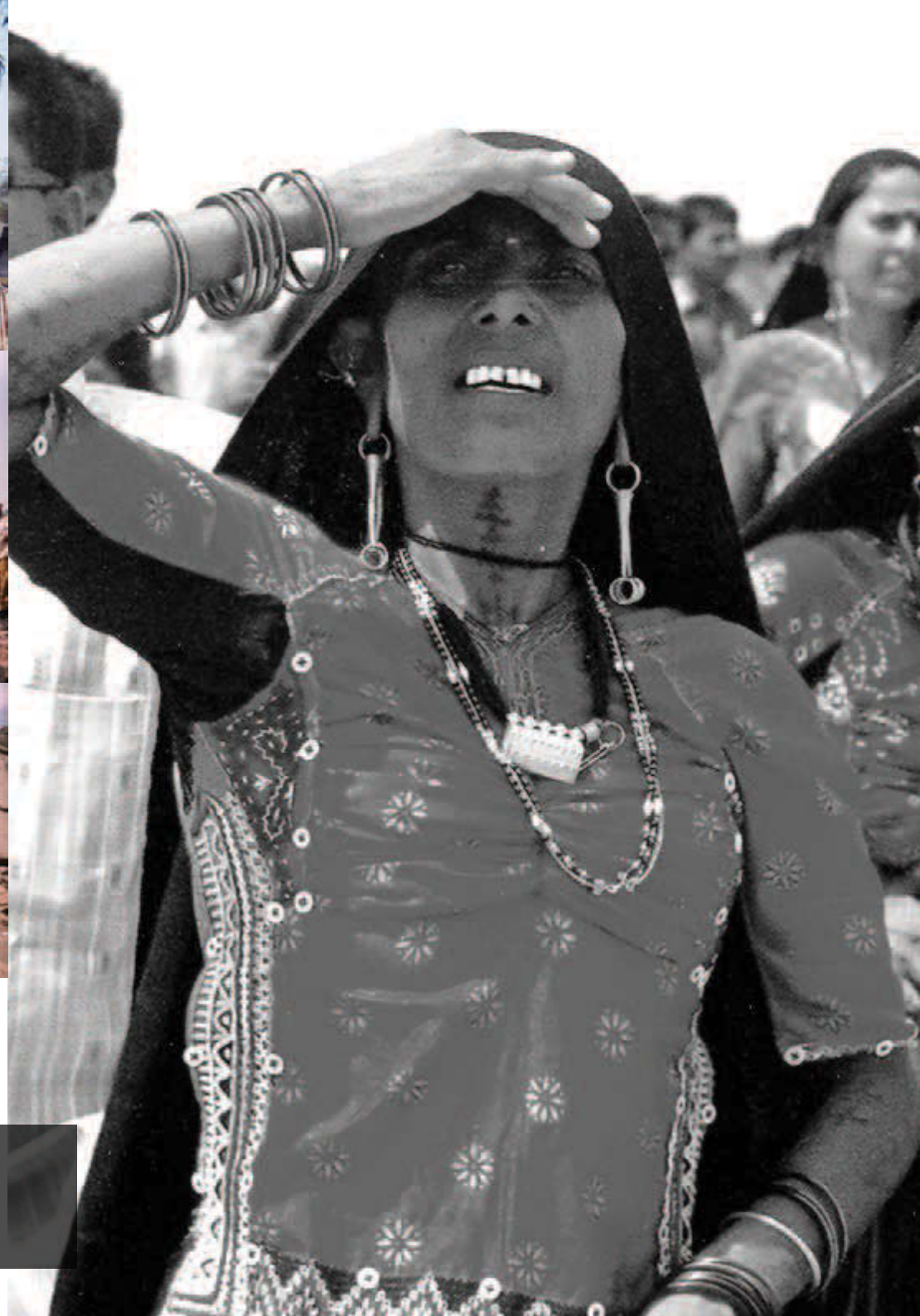
*India's Republic Day will long be remembered as a day of sorrow, as the country reverberated to the worst earthquake in its history measuring 7.6 in the Richter scale.*





*Businesses were ruined; infrastructure torn apart and basic services were rendered non-existent. The physical damage was apparent but the human cost unimaginable with tens of thousands of people killed and injured. About 7633 villages in 21 districts of Gujarat bore the impact of the earthquake affecting major parts of Kuchchh, Surendranagar, Jamnagar, Rajkot, Patan and Ahmedabad*

*The northern province of Gujarat was a scene of devastation as the city of Bhuj turned into rubble with hardly a building left standing and thousands rendered homeless*







*The devastation was so high that a whopping 2,33,660 houses were raised to ground while 9,71,538 were partially damaged*



*The quake destroyed 75 percent of Kutch damaging houses, offices, school and even temples*





*For the first 15 days BJS volunteers cooked and distributed food to the disaster victims through this camp*



*BJS sent a group of medical practitioners, general surgeons, orthopedic surgeons, etc to Vaswad from Pune*



*The devastation was so high that a whopping 2,33,660 houses were raised to ground while 9,71,538 were partially damaged*

*Donations in the form of truckloads of food, water, clothing, milk powder and even footwear reached the BJS camp which was set up at Bachchau on the 3rd day of the disaster*





*Medical assistance was being provided through the two functional hospitals in Vaswad, a village near Rajkot*



*Treatment did not stop for want of modern medical facilities or equipped hospitals. All kind of medical aid was made available at the site of destruction*



*Armed with equipment and medicines these doctors started work with great zeal*

*While teams of doctors continued providing medical aid, they also reassured the patients. Meanwhile, BJS organized blood donation camps in Pune in order to provide the requisite amount of blood to expedite surgical treatments*





*Besides providing food, clothes and medical aid, volunteers of the BJS also helped the local residents in conducting funerals of those who had lost their lives in the disaster. In absence of firewood, they used wooden parts of the collapsed structures*



*Shantilal Muttha personally camped at the site of disaster for six months to guide and supervise the rescue and relief operations in Gujarat*



*Vehicles carrying relief material were sent from Pune to Gujarat with all requisite material that would be required at BJS camp. Donations in the form of food grain, clothes and different kinds of relief material came in from all parts of the country*



*Besides residential structures and office buildings, school buildings in Andaman & Nicobar were completely destroyed following Tsunami hitting the islands*





IAS officer, Praveen Pardeshi who had personally seen the BJS operations at Latur was among the government officials who visited the earthquake hit areas of Gujarat to check out the relief



At the very forefront of the relief activity were the students who had suffered from the impact of an earthquake in Latur and Osmanabad. A team of students that was being rehabilitated at the WERC in Pune actively participated in the relief operations





*Sunil Dutt, Union Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs and a long time friend of Shantilal Muttha visited the BJS camp. Being taken around by Shantilal Muttha, Sunil Dutt personally inspected the rescue and relief operations and boosted the morale of the volunteers. Quake victims gathered in large numbers as the actor joined to distribute food and other relief material at on of the BJS camps*





*Senior leaders like Vilasrao Deshmukh took personal interest in the rescue and rehabilitation activities*



*Sharad Pawar, Dr Mohan Agashe and Sureshdada Jain were among the prominent personalities who came down to BJS camp to understand the relief and rehabilitation approach*



*Officers of the Indian Army, who were summoned to assist in the relief operations, also visited the BJS camp and appreciated the job being done*



*After providing cooked food for 15 initial days, the BJS started distributing food grains after issuing ration cards to the quake victims in order to maintain proper record and to ensure equal and justified distribution*





*Sharad Pawar, vice chairman of natural disaster committee of Govt. of India, visited the BJS camp to take a look at the rescue and relief operations*



*Ministers like Sharad Pawar and Sureshdada Jain did not only inspect the rescue operations but also savoured the taste of food being provided to the quake victims*



*At the BJS camp, Sharad Pawar went into details of the entire relief operations and made valuable suggestions and assured help from the government*





*Relief camps set up in the earthquake affected areas of Gujarat had visitors like industrialist Madhur Bajaj. He discussed in detail the plans for ensuring proper rehabilitation of the disaster affected*





Plans and proposals for assistance being provided to the disaster affected residents of Gujarat also had veteran social reformers like Anna Hazare making valuable suggestions





*Vijay Darda CMD, Lokmat Newspapers Group, visited the rehabilitation camp to take a look at the work being done by BJS*



*Veteran journalist Rajeev Sabade from the Sakal Media Group gathered information about the rescue and relief operations at Gujarat*



*Experts from international organizations like UNICEF, World Bank, WHO, Red Cross, Oxfam were curious about the relief work at BJS camp*





*A survey was conducted by the BJS volunteers to measure the amount of destruction to residential structures and to assess the requirements of the affected*



*Generation of informative data helped in proper planning of the rescue and relief operations*



*Meetings were held with the local population and authorities for an overall assumption of losses sustained by the villagers*







*Generation of informative data helped in proper planning of the rescue and relief operations*



*School buildings in Gujarat were destroyed to such an extent that they would not have restarted imparting education for more than a year, if it was not for the BJS to intervene*



*Not being on the list of priority, school buildings would have taken a long to reconstruct thus resulting into a long gap in the academic career of the students*

*Most of the schools were damaged beyond repair*





*Though some school structure were still standing, the tremours had rendered them completely unsafe for the students to occupy for education*



*With school buildings raised to ground, even Saraswati, the deity of education, eagerly awaited the return of the students. After assessing the damage Muttha decided that while other agencies carried out normal rescue and relief he would based on his Latur experience go in for the immediate reconstruction and restarting of 50 schools, so that the education of the children did not suffer*

*With the missing roof and collapsed walls, empty classrooms told a sad story of the disaster 54 Academic future of all the disaster struck districts of Gujarat was in danger and was on the verge of collapsing like the crumbling walls of the school buildings*





*While rescue and relief operations continued on a war-footing, temporary school started functioning in tents to avoid academic loss since the annual examinations were just round the corner. Formal education was imparted in informal set ups like these temporary sheds created in open grounds*





*More and more children were encouraged to come back to school though school buildings continued to remain in devastated stages. Keeping aside the sorrow of having lost their near and dear ones in the calamity, children returned to schools in large numbers*







*In a symbolic move the Samkhiyali School constructed by BJS volunteers was inaugurated on the 13th day after the earthquake. As per Hindu custom, a tragedy is generally followed by a ceremony on the 13th day, to mark the 'end of grief period' and signaling the restart of normal life. In the same manner the inauguration of the school on the 13th day was to convey the need for getting back with life and putting the tragic past behind*







*Well known Ahmedabad-based architect B V Joshi, Keshav Desai from Pune and Shirish Barve from Jalgaon were consulted on the specific design and use of material for the schools.*

*The school structures were designed in a manner that would make them earthquake resistant, light weight and fast to erect*

*The proposed design incorporated RCC plinth, aerocon sandwich panels for walls, pre-fabricated steel and polycarbonate corrugate sheets for the roof. Aerocon sandwich panels were made of two plain cement sheets on either sides of lightweight concrete core material with tongue-and-groove joining system. They were considered to be most ideal for internal and external applications, which are easy to erect, light in weight, strong and durable, water and termite proof and when used for external applications would last 25 to 30 years*

*Construction of the school was completed despite the fact that labourers were not available for the work since many of them had migrated or disabled and were living off the relief supplies offered by the government or NGOs. BJS had to send construction teams from Pune and Mumbai*

*A formula called 'formula 44' was worked out, under which a team of 44 experts including civil engineers, electricians, supervisors, masons, carpenters and other skilled personnel were sent to Gujarat with assistance from the Promoters and Builders Association of Pune.*

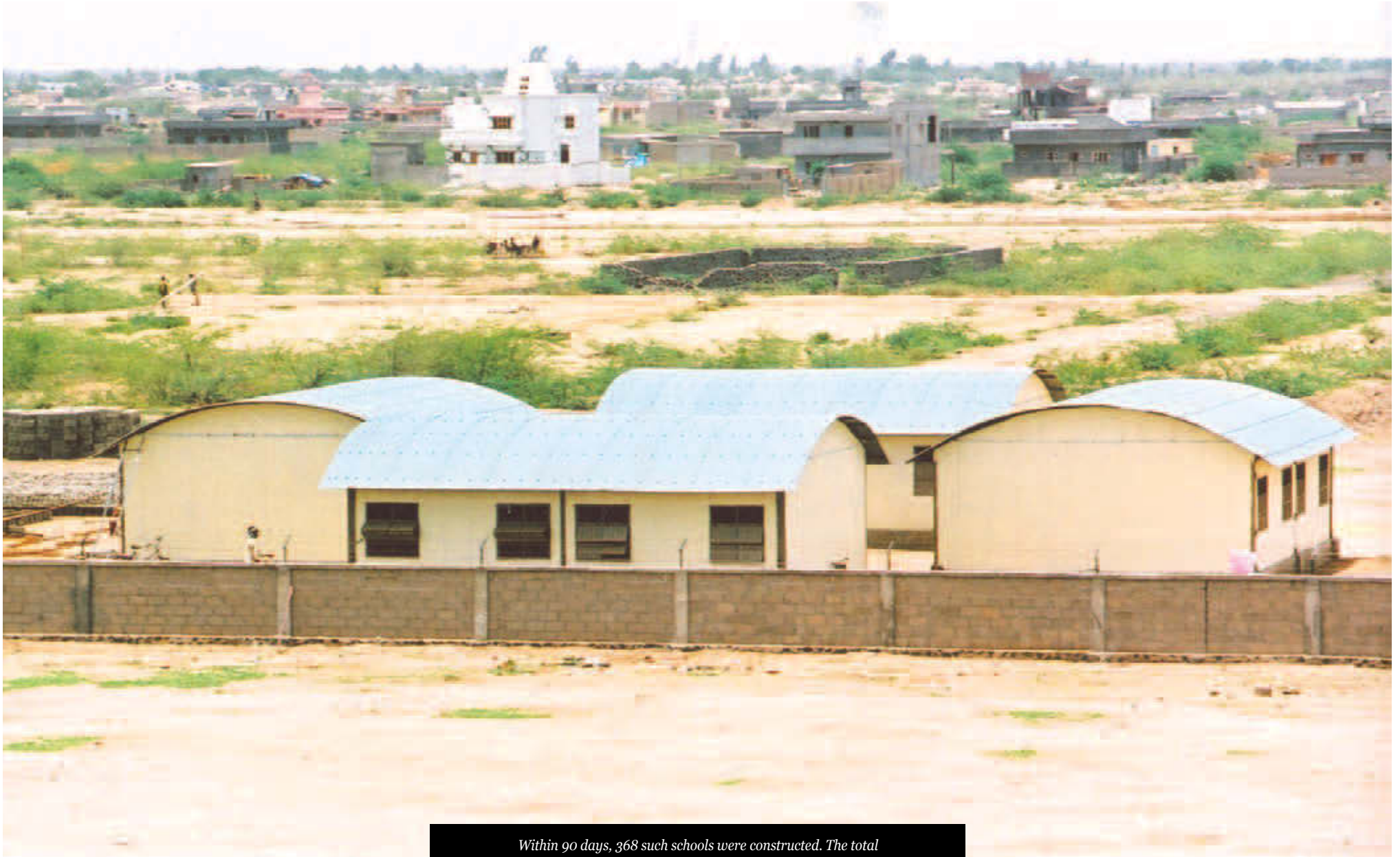












*Within 90 days, 368 such schools were constructed. The total number of schools that were rebuilt was 614, with a total of 1,468 rooms for 132339 students*





Anandiben Patel, Education minister Gujarat inaugurated the first few schools. Quality education was guaranteed to 125,000 students who came back to school.



Sharad Pawar, who was also the vice chair-person of the National committee on Natural Disasters, visited Bachchau and spent nearly four hours with the BJS volunteers going over the plans for the project. He was so impressed by the work done by BJS that he offered a donation of Rs 50 lakh for the education rehabilitation work





*Thousands of children, who otherwise would have been forced to drop out of school, return back on track when school reconstructed by BJS opened their doors for the future generation of the country.*

*The response was clearly visible in the form of encouraging attendance, on the very first day. Books and accessories were distributed in the school, which was constructed in such a way that it would last for five to 10 years. This school happened to be the first school to have been constructed and become operational in such a short period.*





Quake resistant structures for schools were completed in a very short time preventing academic loss for children and thus ensuring proper and fast rehabilitation of the future generation





# IGHATANA, PUNE EARTHQUAKE RELIEF







*For the students from Latur, who had gone through a successful rehabilitation programme at the WERC, working at the quake-struck villages of Gujarat brought memories back to their mind. Memories of a catastrophe in which, they had lost their near and dear ones along with the shelter that protected them*







*Almost a decade later, the reconstruct school structures, continue to serve as source of knowledge and information for the future generation of Gujarat*



*The waves destroyed almost everything that came in their way. Public and private property got extensively damaged. Most of the houses were destroyed beyond repairs while a large number of families were rendered homeless without any shelter and a lot of people died when a massive earthquake with its epicenter close to the Sumatra island of Indonesia, resulted in a the Tsunami disaster which struck states along the Indian Ocean December 26, 2004*





**“Reaching out to the unreachable”**

Adverse climatic conditions, difficult terrains and many such difficulties did not stop the BJS volunteers from building 11 schools along with 34 health centres and sub-centres when Tsunami hit the Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Not stopping at mere reconstruction of schools and hospital buildings, BJS assisted in completely overhauling the education system on the group of islands. Key-deliverables of the unique EDUQIP programme focused on important thrust area of the education system. The entire operations were a unique display of strategy, management, resources planning, execution and devotion.

# Tsunami





The disastrous Tsunami, which hit the east coast of India, brought about a huge amount of damage to life, property and environment. Extensive damage was caused in Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry



The Tsunami uprooted routine lives and left a trail of profound human tragedy. The disaster imposed a huge burden on the community, not only in physical terms but also in the psychological trauma experienced



The tsunami devastated coastal communities, killing thousands of people, the majority being fisher folk

Within hours the killer Tsunami waves thrashed into the shoreline of 12 countries including India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Andaman & Nicobar islands, Seychelles, Somalia, Tanzania and Kenya taking the life of more than 229,850 people



Everybody was taken by surprise, even before one could understand what was happening, the second and most devastating wave hit the coast





*Residential building, office premises, schools and other structures collapsed in the area along the coastal line devastating human life*



*Their world turned upside down in the great Indian Ocean tsunami. Years later, the fishing communities of southeast India are still struggling to rebuild their lives...*



*The waves destroyed houses, boats, fishing equipment, agricultural land and salt pans, thereby wiping out many thousands of livelihoods*

20/10/2005





*A team of volunteers from the Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana led by Shantilal Muttha rushed to the tsunami hit areas immediately after receiving information about the disaster*



*The devastating tsunami waves did not differentiate between the rich and the poor, the working or the business class. Having lost their houses and belongings in the spate, a large number of residents were forced to take shelter at relief camps*



*Residents abandoned houses moving out with belongings with a hope to find a safe shelter, food, clothes and medicine*



*A detailed inspection and survey of the disaster hit area helped decided and finalise the action plan as far as rescue and relief operations were concerned*



*Although this area had seen many cyclones but nobody had much idea about Tsunami waves. This was the largest tsunami so far – in the region that hardly experienced even minor tsunamis earlier*



*Everything that came into the ways of the giant waves got destroyed and demolished in Car Nicobar*





*Using the strong existing network of the Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana, members of the local Jain community were convened for a meeting before deciding the plan of action*



*All surveys were done in association with the local authorities and government officials in order to understand the situation better so that requisite relief could be organized*



*Discussion with the members of victim families, mainly women, helped volunteers assess the amount of destruction and understand the immediate*



*20 Without waiting for plans and proposals to be finalised Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana volunteers started reaching out the victims with distribution of basic things of utility and food for survival*

*Every part of the disaster hit area was covered in the primary survey living little chance for any village along the coastal living being deprived of assistance*





The focus of the Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana moved from Tamil Nadu to Andaman & Nicobar following denial of permission to set up an Educational Centre and an unexpected meeting with Sharad Pawar, the vice president of the National Disaster Management Authority



Details discussions were held in meetings with local authorities to identify and finalise areas for the Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana to contribute

The media was apprised about the role that the Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana proposed to play while assisting the government and their efforts towards rescue and rehabilitation





*Besides residential structures and office buildings, school buildings in Andaman & Nicobar were completely destroyed following Tsunami hitting the islands*

GOVT. SE





*The killer waves flattened over 10,000 homes, wiped out entire villages, swallowed more than 100,000 livestock, 6,000 hectares of plantation crops, destroyed jetties and devastated the Indian Air Force station on Car Nicobar Island*



*Over 3,500 lives were lost, largely in Nicobar Islands, which are barely 107 km from Sumatra, which was the epicentre of the earthquake that caused the tsunami*



*A new chapter began in the history of BJS and that of Andaman & Nicobar after an initial meeting and with Lieutenant Governor of Andaman & Nicobar, Prof Ram Kapse and a clearance to work in the devastated islands*



*Impressed by the work done by BJS, Prof Ram Kapse expressed the desire to visit the sites and inspect the project in person*



*Experts from various fields including Dr Anil Avachat were invited for consultation before finalizing the action plan for any project*





*In the office of the BJS Prof Ram Kapse gathered information and understood the work of the organization*







One of the existing buildings was used to accommodate volunteers working for the Tsunami affected areas of Andaman & Nicobar



Thanks to the generosity of ..... requisite furniture for the administrative office of the BJS was made readily available



Another building housed the local office of the BJS



Besides volunteers who had rushed to the group of islands to help the Tsunami affected people, some local volunteers also joined in to contribute







Actual work on re-construction of school buildings began with a government middle school at Chouldari in South Andaman



Transportation from one island to the other had become highly difficult with almost all jetties destroyed by the Tsunami waves



Small boats were the only mode of transportation for all kinds of material in Hutbay



*Local residents  
build such  
temporary bridges  
to cross the river  
in Prafulla nagar  
where the location  
identified for a  
school could be  
reached only after  
crossing the river  
at ten different  
locations*



*Crossing rivers on small, temporary bridges, volunteers had to carry with them everything that could be required while working at the site*



*Braving all kinds of difficulties and bad weather, volunteers walked upto the desired location to reach out to the hapless and the needy*



*After inspection of the site, BJS finalised the construction plans for the school and work began restoring hopes for the local children to return to school as early as possible*





*After laying the foundation, a major step was completion of the plinth with material transported on boats which were not plying regularly*



*Availability of staff for construction of school was a difficult task since the local population was reluctant on working at site since all kind of assistance and relief material was being made available to them without having to pay for it*



*Despite difficulties, work on the plinth was completed in time under the supervision of skilled and experienced volunteers*



*With great difficulties, BJS managed to inspire the workers to work at sites, sometimes, paying them much more than what they could have normally earned*



*Finally, the plinths were ready making way for the school buildings to come up at the site selected in consultation with the school authorities, the education department and the local residents*





*Prafulla Parakh who camped at Andaman & Nicobar throughout the rehabilitation project, personally visited each of the site and supervised the work on construction of schools at CFO Nalla*



*Prof Ram Kapse along with Shantilal Muttha, personally visited some of the construction site to check the progress in construction of schools*



*Much before other non-governmental organization and government authorities could plan and begin their work; many of the BJS projects were fast on their way towards completion*



*Permanent structures started coming up fast to house schools for the Tsunami affected children*





*The first of the 20 school undertaken for construction by the BJS was completed at Chouldari and was ready to be handed over to the local administration*



*The school building at Chouldari served as an example to show case the kind of work that was being undertaken by the BJS on various islands of Andaman & Nicobar*



*Properly designed structures of school buildings got completed in the prescribed period inviting local students to re-start their academic career*





*Many dignitaries including the then President of India, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam expressed satisfaction about the commendable work bring done by BJS in the Andaman & Nicobar islands*





*Prafulla Parakh appraised Sushama Swaraj about the work undertaken by the BJS for Tsunami victims in the group of islands*





Besides local authorities and prominent invitees, the handing over ceremonies were also attended by local students the beneficiaries of the project



Most happy were the students who could not wait to return to the school after the completion of the building construction



A formal ceremony of handing over the school buildings to the local authorities was held in presence of Prof Ram Kapse and other prominent invitees









*Impressed by the work for construction of schools, the health department of the Andaman & Nicobar islands, approached the BJS asking if they could extend help in re-construction of primary health centres and sub-centre in the Tsunami hit islands. The proposal was discussed in detail between Director of Health.....and Shantilal Muttha*

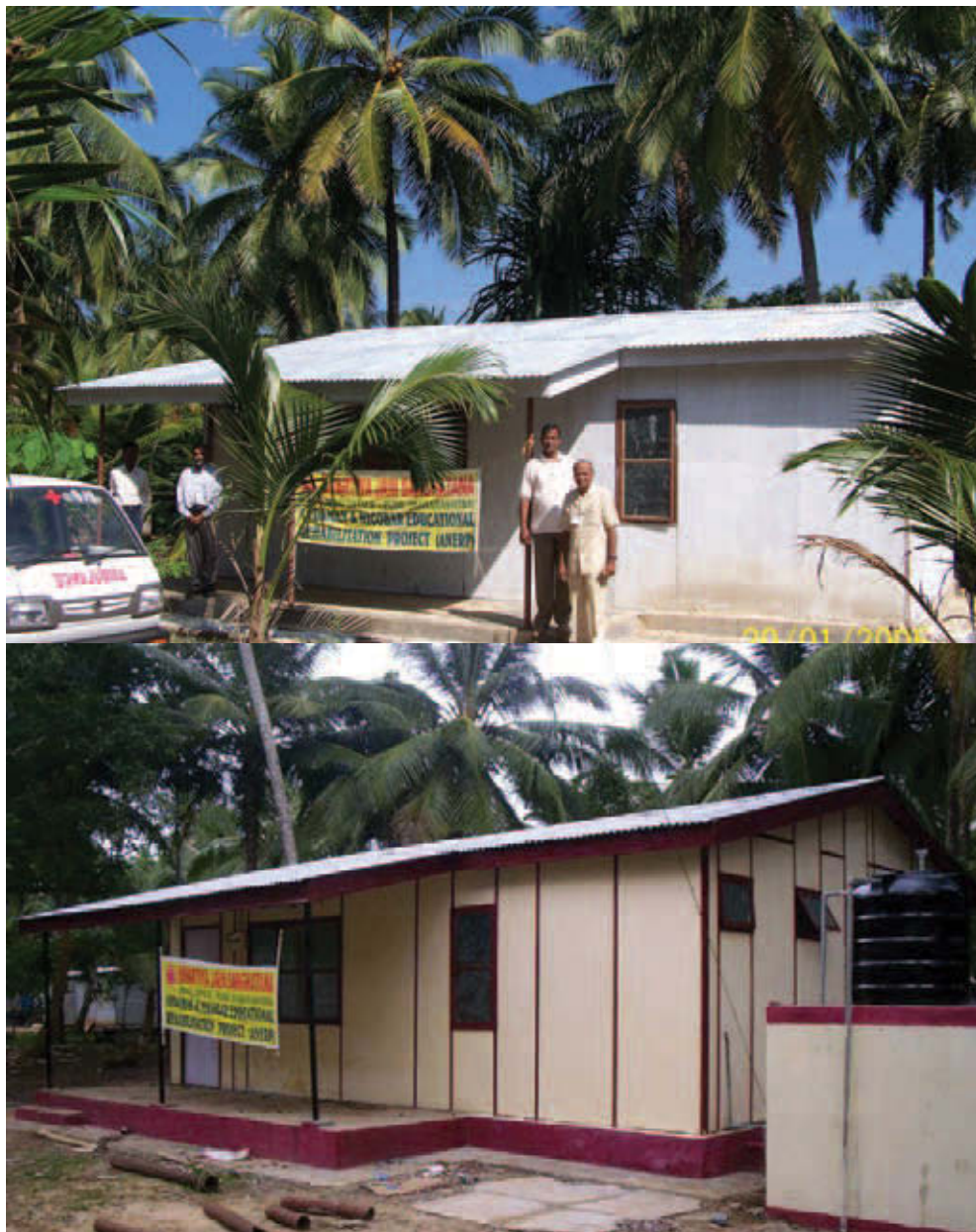


*Accordingly, DRI came forth with a helping hand to provide medicines, medical equipment and ambulances for restoration of health facilities*



*The BJS sought help from the Direct Relief International and a presentation was made to Ann Maxwell, who readily agreed to provide every possible help*





Ready to serve the local population, the health centres were designed in manner not only to suite the needs of the local population, but also to stand strong during similar natural disasters in the future. Each of these structures were ceremoniously handed over to the local health authorities



Inaugural ceremonies of the health centre marked a new beginning and journey towards healthy life for the population of Andaman & Nicobar islands. Officials from the DRI were also invited to attend the ceremonies which marked moments that were highly precious for the Tsunami-affected families.







*Motivated by Prafulla Parakh, the team of construction workers got inspired to face all difficulties while transporting material for construction of a school building at Prafulla Nagar*





Marking yet another milestone in the journey of the BJS, public health centres constructed in Tamil Nadu were handed over to the government authorities



# Bay of Bengal











*Appreciation came from all corners but the biggest one was in the smiles writ large on the faces of the local population*





*With great satisfaction in mind, the BJS team left the school buildings after handing them over to the local authorities*



# Quality education key to development: Jain leader

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Pune:** The founder-president of Bhartiya Jain Sanghata (BJS), Shantilal Muttha, on Tuesday stated that quality education was the key to India's socio-economic development and will be one of the main parameters.

He was speaking to TOI after returning from the first phase of the nation-wide tour to scout for issues and identify problems of the Jain community in various parts of the nation.

In the first phase of the tour, Muttha visited parts of Gujarat including Valsad, Surat, Bhavnagar, Rajkot, Bhuj and Jamnagar.

Muttha said, "This is our practice for the past 25 years. During such tours, we have been conducting research and finding out issues that are prevailing in the area. We have designed various educational programmes in various government-run schools according to the needs of the 21st

century and we have been implementing such programmes in 2,500 schools across the nation".

BJS has implemented its programmes in 12 states well within the current constraints of the education system. In the coming 10 years, the BJS will be encompassing all the schools across the country and implementing their designed programmes.

"We have taken the challenge of educational quality improvement project (EDUQIP) in all the

327 government and private schools in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands," he said.

Muttha also stressed that there was a need to create awareness among the Jain community about improving the low literacy rate. Since, people of this community are business-oriented they do not give too much im-

portance to education.

Muttha has also been addressing other social issues during his tour and during the Gujarat tour he observed that there was a substantial decline in the

sex ratio of in the 0-6 age group, especially among the Jain community. The population is only nine per cent in this age group in Gujarat as compared to the total population in the state. Muttha will now be moving to Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra

Pradesh, Karnataka, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu in the coming days and his tour will end by the end of May.

Besides education and disaster management, BJS will also study women's empowerment, position of Jain community in the 21st century, mass marriages and other social issues.



Shantilal Muttha

*Rebuilding schools and rehabilitating students after disasters after various places was not enough. The need was to also enhance the quality of education all over the country to bring about an overall development. The solution found by BJS after a countrywide study tour emerged as a key to India's socio-economic development*



## “Enhancing the quality of education”

Ninety per cent of the 1.3 million schools in India are run by government, 85 per cent of them are in rural area. This leaves only 15 per cent of India's schools for the urban area and only 10 per cent being run by private bodies. Despite this, the main focus seems to be on improvisation of schools in urban India, while we take pleasure in blaming the government for the backwardness of education in the rural part.. .

Bringing about a sea change in the education being imparted through schools, EDQUIP was a seed sown by BJS way back for government schools in Maharashtra. Schools run by the Zilla Parishads all over the state have benefitted from the programme from 2002 to 2012. A large number of Jain Schools, along with 400 schools in Andaman & Nicobar, 1700 in Goa and 500 of the NVS are implementing the programme for over the last 10 years and all this is happening without any of them having to pay for this. With a good tie up with the government schools and other stakeholders in the field, the concept is poised to take a giant leap in this direction.

# Educational Quality Improvement





*One of the project leaders guiding the participants on school safety aspects of disaster management, a part of EDUQIP basket*



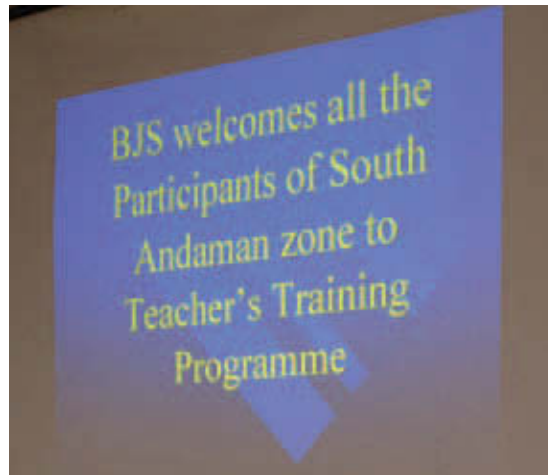


*Every new concept is launched after detailed discussion and consideration of every minute aspect. Ensuring success of EDUQIP, R S Tyagi, chief secretary of A&N gathered detailed information from Shantilal Muttha, Hemant Mishra, Director BJS A&N and Balu Prakash, assistant director*



*Introduced with the aim of enhancing education the ambitions programme titled EDUQIP also covers Goa where it was launched by Udipto Ray secretary education, Govt. of Goa. Ray had witnessed the success of this programme as when it was introduced for the first time after Tsunami struck Andaman & Nicobar where he was the education secretary*





*A major key to the success of EDUQIP is training the trainers. BJS achieved this through such training programs.*



*Before taking it to students, teachers get insights about EDUQIP from project leader Jayashri Thakkar*



*Targeting decision makers in the field of education, a management development programme was organised at Rangat which evoked an overwhelming response*





Enhancing educational also includes training in disaster management for teachers. Manavsen Sharma conducts disaster management training for teachers of A&N to guide them on how to act when disaster happens



Project leader Suman Dutta guides participants at the teachers' training programme





## बीजेएस का 10 लाख स्कूलों तक पहुंचने का सपना

## शिक्षा में गुणात्मक परिवर्तन लाने का बीड़ा

आपदा प्रबंधन व नैतिकता के क्षेत्र में भी परियोजनाएं

दिलीप चारी  
चेन्नई, 22 मई

भारत में जैन धर्म एवं संस्कृति के माध्यम से व्यापक सामाजिक एवं स्कूली शिक्षा में गुणात्मक परिवर्तन लाने के महती उद्देश्य से पुणे (महाराष्ट्र) का भारतीय जैन संगठन (बीजेएस) कार्यरत है।

बीजेएस के संस्थापक एवं राष्ट्रीय अध्यक्ष शांतिलाल मूढा ने यहां राजस्थान पत्रिका के साथ एक विशेष भेंट में कहा कि उनका संगठन जैन संप्रदाय के लोगों को सक्रिय-जागृत कर स्कूली शिक्षा, आपदा प्रबंधन एवं नैतिकता के क्षेत्र में विशेष परियोजनाओं के माध्यम से कार्य कर रहा है।

उनका कहना था कि आज भारत में राज सरकारों द्वारा चलाए जा रही स्कूलों की शिक्षा में गुणात्मक सुधार की अत्यधिक जरूरत है। इन स्कूलों में गरीब वर्ग के छात्रों की संख्या अत्यधिक है। संगठन ने विशेषज्ञों की मदद से बीजेएस शैक्षणिक गुणात्मक विकास कार्यक्रम विकसित किया है जिसे अंडमान निकोबार के पिछड़े इलाकों के अनेक स्कूलों में केन्द्र सरकार ने लागू कराया जिसके चमत्कारिक परिणाम सामने आए हैं। उसके पश्चात् गोवा की 1700 स्कूलों एवं समस्त भारत के 550 नवोदय विद्यालयों में इस कार्यक्रम को लागू किया गया है।

मूढा ने बताया कि यह पूरा कार्यक्रम निवृत्त उपलब्ध कक्षा गया है तथा भारत के 10 लाख स्कूलों में इसे लागू कराना उनका सपना है। उनका दावा था कि इस कार्यक्रम में भारत के नागरिकों की बौद्धिक शक्ति का अधिकतम उपयोग हो सकेगा तथा भविष्य के भारत की बौद्धिक संवर्धन के लिए निश्चित हुआ जा सकेगा। अपने संगठन की एक और विशिष्ट योजना का खुलासा करते हुए शांतिलाल मूढा ने कहा कि दिनों दिन प्रदूषित होते जा रहे सामाजिक



पूर्व राष्ट्रपति एपीजे अब्दुल कलाम के साथ शांतिलाल मूढा।

## संक्षिप्त परिचय

महाराष्ट्र के बीड जिले में एक हजार की आबादी वाले गांव डूंगरकिनी में जन्मे शांतिलाल जुलाबचंद मूढा के पुरखे राजस्थानी थे। सामाजिक-आर्थिक समस्याओं के अध्ययन के लिए उन्होंने वर्ष 1986-87 में तीब हजार किमी. लंबी पर यात्रा की। वर्ष 1989 में उन्होंने विवाह अवसर पर फिजूलखर्ची को रोकने के लिए 625 जोड़ों का पुणे में सामूहिक विवाह कराया। स्वयं के बच्चों को भी सामूहिक विवाह समारोह के जरिए दायित्व जीवन में प्रवेश कराया। मूढा को समय-समय पर अनेक पुरस्कारों से नवाजा गया है। पूर्व राष्ट्रपति एपीजे अब्दुल कलाम, पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी, तिव्वती दीक्षु धर्म गुरु दलाई लामा, फिल्म स्टार अमिताभ बच्चन जैसी हस्तियां शांतिलाल मूढा को सम्मानित कर चुकी हैं।

यातावरण में अतिवृद्धि युक्तियों के लिए 'युक्तियों का सहजीकरण एवं 21वीं सदी की सामाजिक सुवर्धन' नामक 32 पृष्ठ का सर्वोपयोगी कोर्स तैयार किया गया है।

यह कोर्स युक्तियों के लिए सर्वथा उपयोगी साबित होगा। एक प्रश्न के उत्तर में उन्होंने कहा कि आज भारत में स्कूली शिक्षा

(पहली से 12वीं कक्षा) पर ध्यान नहीं दिया जा रहा है। उच्च शिक्षा पर तो फिर भी कुछ ध्यान है लेकिन बच्चों की शैक्षणिक गुणवत्ता उपेक्षित है। अतः उन्होंने इसमें सुधार का बीड़ा उठाया है।

उनका कहना था कि उनके कार्यक्रम सभी समुदायों के लिए उपयोगी है तथा वे जैन समुदाय द्वारा बसाई जा रही शैक्षिक

संस्थाओं पर विशेष जोर दे रहे हैं। दस वर्ष के अंदर 10 लाख स्कूलों तक यह कार्यक्रम पहुंचाने का सपना देखा है। इसके तहत 8 राज्यों के पत्र उनके पास आए हैं तथा मुजरात इस मामले में काफी सक्रिय है। इस शैक्षिक कार्यक्रम के तहत बीजेएस वित्तीय मदद नहीं लेता लेकिन सेवा सभी सपोर्ट प्राप्त करता है तथा शिक्षकों को व्यापक स्तर पर प्रशिक्षण देता है।

मूढा ने कहा कि प्राकृतिक आपदाओं के समय पुनर्वास, राहत आदि के माध्यम से बीजेएस प्राकृतिक आपदा प्रबंधन के क्षेत्र में भी उल्लेखनीय कार्य कर रहा है। इन आपदाओं से अनाथ व बेघर हुए बच्चों को यह संगठन पुनर्वासित करता है जिसके लिए पुणे के कपोल्ल में शैक्षणिक एवं पुनर्वासन केन्द्र (डब्ल्यूआरसी) के नाम से छात्रावास व विद्यालय संचालित है। देश के भूकंप व सुनामी पीड़ित सभी क्षेत्रों में संगठन ने व्यापक पुनर्वास व राहत कार्य किए हैं।

वे कहते हैं कि देश में बुराईयां तेजी से बढ़ी हैं, औद्योगिक, शैक्षिक, तकनीकी, योजना के हालात बदले हैं। पिछले सौ सालों के हालात का संगठन ने शोध कर पया है कि वर्तमान में व्याप्त समस्याएं, कुरीतियां, बुराईयां भविष्य के लिए खतरा हैं।

इसे मनेजर रखते हुए वे नैतिक शिक्षा पर भी बल दे रहे हैं। इसके लिए देशभर में बिचरण करने वाले 14 हजार जैन साधु-साधवियों का भी सहारा लिया जा रहा है। जैन समुदाय के लोगों द्वारा देशभर में 2500 शिक्षा संस्थान संचालित की जा रही हैं, उन्हें भी प्रेरित किया जा रहा है। मूढा का दावा था कि गैर जैन समाजों से भी उनके कार्यक्रमों को सकारात्मक प्रतिक्रिया मिली है, वे भी समर्थन दे रहे हैं। भगवान महावीर के सिद्धांत सभी के लिए उपयोगी हैं। पुणे स्थित बीजेएस के प्रधान कार्यालय में 150 लोग कार्यरत हैं।



All teachers becomes an impressive medium of instruction as they impart education with EDUQIP





*Accreditation programme in process at a school in Andaman & Nicobar with Samuel Raju, manager BJS EDUQIP supervising the procedure*





*Students participate in an EDUQIP program not only as learners but also contribute with their ideas and observations to give a final shape to the entire program*



20/10/2005





*Excited about their future, students listen with rapt attention as they learn more about EDUQIP*



*Completed with great efforts the EQUQIP being handed over to the Andaman & Nicobar administration in a small function in a primary school at Prafullo Nagar in Andaman & Nicobar*





*Taking a giant step towards enhanced education Naval Kishor Sing, commissioner NVS signs a memorandum of understanding along with Shantilal Muttha*

*Prafulla Parakh explaining quality improvement programme to Rameshdada Jain, Mayor of Jalgaon, Maharashtra*





Port Blair, Friday, April 11, 2008

## BJS-Eduquip formally handed over to DOE



Port Blair, April 9  
The Educational Quality Improvement program conceptualized by the Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana (BJS) has been handed over to the Director of Education, A&N Administration for further implementation. The handing-over of BJS-EDUQIP to the Directorate of Education was inaugurated at function by Shri. S. N. Jha, Special Secretary-cum-Director (Education) as chief guest. Shri. Sunil Phadke, Executive Director, BJS was here from its Head Office, Pune, along with a 6-Member BJS-EDUQIP expert team to impart training for handing over of this project. In his keynote address, the chief guest, Shri Jha appreciated the efforts of the BJS including the reconstruction of 11 school buildings in the islands after the Tsunami. The full-fledged Education Quality

Improvement Program (EDUQIP) that the BJS has been successfully implementing in all the 396 schools of the A&N Islands since September 2005, has also been praiseworthy. Shri. Jha pointed out the high level of training being imparted by professionally accomplished specialists of the BJS to the teachers of the A&N Directorate. Such specialists more than being trained teachers were also highly competent professionals in their own fields. (Cont. on last page)

*The journey, though enjoyable, was not very easy. Implementation of EQUQUIP was successful only after crossing many hurdles and overcoming many difficulties*



*Heavy rains continuously lashed major parts of Maharashtra, claiming lives for four days and prompting authorities to shift over two lakh people to safer places*

*This was the highest rainfall recorded in the country in last 100 years. Suburban Mumbai and Thane experienced one of the worst floods in their history. The downpour was heavy in other parts of the state too, particularly in Nanded and Parbhani*







“ Devastating deluge, reassuring response ”

Equipped with experienced volunteers, experts to guide, readymade action plans and requisite resources, heavy rains that lashed major parts of Maharashtra gave BJS yet another chance to prove their strength and capacity. Besides systematic distribution of food, medical aid, blankets and household material, BJS also provided temporary shelters to the people of worst affected areas.

# Maharashtra Floods





*Poor families living in slums were the worst hit victims while the rains also did not spare the middle and upper class segments. Raigad and Ratnagiri districts of the Konkan region had large areas under submergence. Severely affected towns included Roha, Mahad, and Mangaon in Raigad district, along with Khed and Chiplun in Ratnagiri district*

*Water level rose rapidly within three four hours, submerging the roads and railway tracks. While traffic was completely at a stand still, all low-lying areas were heavily flooded*







*No sooner did the flooding recede in Konkan and Marathwada, the release of water from the Koyana and Ujani dams flooded Sangli, Kolhapur, and Solapur districts. For about a week later, unusually heavy rains lashed the coastal areas of Konkan and Western Ghats in Maharashtra, causing extensive flooding in Raigad and Ratnagiri districts, with many towns and villages under water*



*Freshly cooked food was distributed to the flood affected people*

*At every centre, people gathered in large number as BJS volunteers distributed food, essential items and survival kits to the flood affected*

*Police officials joined hands with Dalichand Jain and Kantilal Oswal in providing assistance to the flood affected families at Chopda*



*Utensils were distributed to thousands of families who had lost their homes in the spate*





*The response was so overwhelming that even the grooms had to line up in a queue to be escorted on to the dais*

*A large amount of food material was stored for distribution to the flood affected at Chopda in Jalgaon*

*Volunteers worked day and night preparing kits for distribution in the flood affected areas*

*Kits containing essential material were prepared with the help of Sakal Relief Fund*







A large number of flood affected families gathered at various distribution centres to collect kits of essential items



Temporary shelters, Sureshdada Jain nagar and Deepchand Gardi nagar at Akola were formally inaugurated by district guardian minister Satish Chaturvedi before being made available for the flood affected families. These structures were erected following a request from the district collector of Akola since the flood affected families had all sought shelter in a school thus making it difficult for the school to function





Doing away with all communal barriers, children from J & K were welcomed with open arms as they celebrated Id, their annual festival and offered prayers at a local Durgah. The cause of educational rehabilitation overshadowed the religious differences with a Jain organisation coming to the aid of children from Muslim community







**“Salvaging the present, safeguarding the future”**

Previous experience in handling all kinds of difficult situations during the disaster had made BJS fully equipped and ever ready to meet the demands of any such calamity. This time, the invitation was straight from the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). For the first time, BJS signed an agreement with a national body like the NDMA headed by none other than the prime minister himself.

The timely execution of the rehabilitation plan was appreciated in the Lok Sabha during one of its sessions. This was the result of systematic planning, consideration for minute details, proper execution of these plans and extra care taken at every step.

# Jammu & Kashmir Floods



*Disaster knows no boundaries When the earthquake struck, it did not bother about the borderline between India and Pakistan The rising sun arrived with widespread destruction on October 8, 2005 when a 7.6 Richter earthquake struck the Kashmir region of both the countries. Severe damage was caused to the lives and belongings of thousands of families on both sides of the Line of Control. The districts of Poonch, Baramulla, Jammu, Udhampur, Ramban Kathua, Srinagar, Budgam, Anantnag, Pulwama and Kupwara were the worst affected*

*Distributing relief supplies to the victims became especially urgent as the victims, living at high altitude and with the approaching winter, faced the risk of exposure to cold weather*



*Making matter worse, casualties were likely to increase considering that winter was about to set in*





*Despite the desire to address the needs of the communities devastated by the earthquake, the response of NGOs was extremely limited due to the climatic conditions and the devastation. The violence and conflict in this area permitted very few grassroots organisations operating there, and BJS was one of them*







*Provision of shelters to the victims was of prime importance. Gen N C Vij, vice chairman, of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Mr. NVC Menon and Mr. KM Singh personally sought help from BJS. Inability to do so would have resulted in increased number of casualties*



*In a meeting with NDMA officials and BJS representatives, the then home minister Shivraj Patil assured government support and appreciated the approach*



*Based on the technical feasibility of the report, a MOU was signed through which BJS agreed to provide temporary shelters for disaster survivors.*







*Gulamnabi Azad, the chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir, called upon Mr. Muttha and Mr. Prafulla Parakh at his residence at New Delhi and spent two hours discussing the implementation strategy*





*Later during media briefing Azad made a mention about the ambitious project undertaken by an NGO coming from as far as Maharashtra*





Converting words into action the BJS representatives started off on the project with a detailed discussion with J & K administration





*Senior officials from J & K along with BJS team surveyed the devastated area*

*Contributing its might for the J & K victims, the BJS agreed to erect temporary shelters, reusing the prefabricated structures which were erected in Gujarat for schools. In a meeting with J & K officials it was decided that a team of engineers will visit Gujarat before shifting the material to specific locations.*











*The material was coded, dismantled, transported from Gandhidham to Jammu and then further trucked to various locations. All the material reached Jammu in three trains*





*Re-erection of these structures in the affected areas of J&K was well appreciated and expected to bridge the immediate gap for rehabilitation and protecting the people from extreme weather conditions*









*It was decided to keep the schools, the books, the syllabi, the teachers and the medium of instruction unchanged. The only change was going to be the location, which was no-doubt far away from their home town, but was comparatively much safer and less traumatic*





*With annual examinations just round the corner, the schools which had collapsed spelt a doom for the children of the valley. With little possibility of the school reopening very soon, they were likely to lose an academic year and perhaps, thus endangering their future. Following instructions from chief minister, discussions were held with Dept. of Social Welfare, J & K about the feasibility of taking 500 children to BJS school in Wagholi, Pune for educational rehabilitation*



*With annual examinations just round the corner, the schools which had collapsed spelt a doom for the children of the valley. With little possibility of the school reopening very soon, they were likely to lose an academic year and perhaps, thus endangering their future. Following instructions from chief minister, discussions were held with Dept. of Social Welfare, J & K about the feasibility of taking 500 children to BJS school in Wagholi, Pune for educational rehabilitation*



*It was decided to keep the schools, the books, the syllabi, the teachers and the medium of instruction unchanged. The only change was going to be the location, which was no-doubt far away from their home town, but was comparatively much safer and less traumatic*





*Away from their homeland, into a city of Maharashtrian culture, the children from J & K did not have to compromise with the culture of their region and religion*

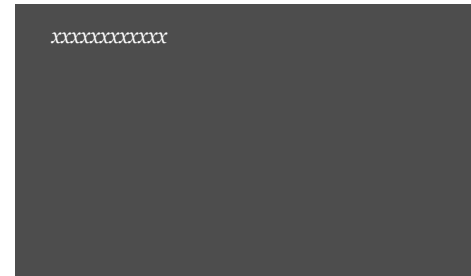






On December 10, 2005, a fleet of buses carrying 500 students was flagged off from Srinagar by Sonia Gandhi in the presence of Gulam Nabi Azad. Leaving behind a completely devastated homeplace, the children took a giant step towards a brighter and secured future. Interacting with the children Sonia Gandhi understood their plight and assured them of every possible help





*With high hopes in their mind 500 fortunate boys from J & K arrived at the BJS Wagholi Educational Research Centre to be received by other children studying there*





*Travelling out of their state for the first time the children took sometime adapting to the culture and people of a new place*





*With hopes reinstated and secured future, the students of J & K returned back to their homeland to appear for their annual examinations. However, a life-long connection with Pune was established and they continued calling back whenever memories of their stay at WERC returned to their minds.*

*The disaster thus proved to be an opportunity for the children to rise in life and emerge as successful human beings!*



*With water logging almost everywhere, the immediate need was to move families and children to safer areas, provide food, clean drinking water, medicines, shelter and psychological support*







## “Beyond rescue, relief and rehabilitation”

After leaving a mark of successful rescue and relief operations along the northern, the western and the southern borders of the country, floods in Bihar took BJS to the fourth border, thus covering the entire expanse of the country.

Facing many trials and tribulations everyday, the BJS team of volunteers provided relief to the needy. In addition, Multi-Utility Community Centres were planned with a focus on providing permanent solutions for the flood affected and flood prone areas of Bihar.

# Bihar





*Survivors were displaced, their land ravaged, their crops and livestock washed away. One of the more populous states of India, Bihar witnessed millions of people being distressed by raging water of Kosi River*





*A large number of people were forced to take refuge on embankments, highways, rooftops or any higher place to escape the floods*



*More than 20,000 villagers were relocated from Kusava village in Madhepur district and the surrounding area. With assurance from BJS chief Shantilal Muttha, the villagers were confident about their survival.*



*A team of volunteers led by Shantilal Muttha assisted about 25,000 people, stranded in 15 to 20 villages like Ranipur, Jamuha, Idrahi, Rauta, Kusalahi, Parihari, Sukharul, Pohbara and Haribola, moving them to the a safe location*





Responding instantly to the call of flood victims BJS volunteers reached the most difficult-to-reach areas as fast as possible





*Extending every possible help to NGOs like the BJS, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, in his conversation with Ashok Pawar, appreciated the efforts being taken by BJS in order to effectively reach out to the flood victims*





*Despite the ensuing chaos, BJS set up a kitchen in the camps to provide freshly cooked food to about 3000 persons per day*

*Provision of fresh food, food-grains, clothing and medicines has been a key factor of every rescue and relief operations undertaken by BJS*



*Freshly cooked food was distributed daily to villagers from Madhepura district*





*The picture was grim in Kusava village of Madhepura district. The intensity of the floods continued to rise and reaching out to inundated villages was possible only on boats*

*Every boat reaching the villages brought hope in the form of food and essentials*





*Families and children eagerly awaited the arrival of BJS volunteers who continued their work of providing food to the flood victims standing in knee-deep waters*







*Introducing a unique concept for rational distribution of food grains and other relief material, BJS distributed ration cards to the flood affected families, thus reaching out to a large number of victims*









Volunteers provided medical assistance to about 25,000 people, stranded in 15 to 20 villages like Ranipur, Jamuha, Idrahi, Rauta, Kusalahi, Parihari, Sukharul, Pohbara and Haribola, moving them to the a safe location in Kusava village. Not even a single Primary Health Center was functional in about 33 km of area around the PHC

“सकल” शेलीफ फंड पुता /सहायक  
चिकित्सा शिविर



By October, the need to distribute food and clothing had minimised and the focus shifted to providing medical care. Doctors, along with para-medical staff worked day and night at medical camps setup in Bellari by BJS





At the end of two months, shelter, food and clothing had been disbursed in sufficient quantities. Distribution channels were functioning smoothly. What was falling short was providing ambulatory medical care reaching out to villages. An ambulance was donated by the Keshargulab Munot Newaskar Trust to BJS for the purpose





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*Thank you was  
a too small a  
term for the flood  
affected to express  
gratitude for all  
that had been done  
for their survival*



*Adding value to education, the unique concept of Mulyavardha, conceived by the BJS*

*"Mulyavardhan" in Sanskrit means "Enhancement of Values" and it is precisely this enhancement that the program designed and developed by BJS brings about*





## “Imbibing values through education”

In early 1950 when principals of elementary school in United States were asked to list top five problems of their school students, they replied: talking out of turn, chewing gum, making noise in class, running in the hall and cutting in line. Replies to the same question asked to teachers in early 90s were different. They listed drugs and alcohol abuse, guns and knives in the school, pregnancy, suicide and rape as the major problems. This goes to show the direction which the younger generation seems to be headed towards.

Conditions in India is not very different. Increasing rate of children in crimes like kidnapping, murder, robbery, makes us worry about the future.

BJS has accepted this challenge and 35000 students through 500 schools are already in the process being education about peace, morals and value through a concept called Mulyavardhan over the last four years. Anticipating the dangers likely to be faced by the society in the future, BJS has done this kind of advance planning to prevent the future generation from landing into darkness.

None other than the Cambridge University had done impact assessment of this project which is on its way to soon become a flagship project on the nation.

# Mulyavardhan



*With valuable contributions from experts like Dr H D Rost the concept of Mulyavardhan is being implemented in 500 schools over the last four years*



*Today's young generation is the target of varied inputs from equally varied sources that is resulting in an overall decline in values and an alarming rise in the traits of arrogance, aggression, intolerance and violence. These traits if unchecked have the potential to severely jeopardize the existence of the very core values of the Indian culture and in turn the Indian society itself. To reverse this trend it is essential that the present young generation is made aware of the core values and is empowered to internalise these values in order to make choices, judgments and decisions more intelligently and meaningfully*







*With valuable contributions from experts like Dr H D Rost the concept of Mulyavardhan is being implemented in 500 schools over the last four years*



*With structured syllabus, well designed learning content, robust yet flexible delivery mechanism, Mulyavardhan is an appropriate vehicle to arrest the decline in values and morals*

*16 A comprehensive and holistic peace, moral and value education programme Mulyavardhan is conceived, designed and implemented by BJS for school children from standards 1st to 10th*



*Cultural activities like dance and drama are being used to impart Peace, Moral and Value education to about 35,000 students in 500 schools covering 1200 villages*



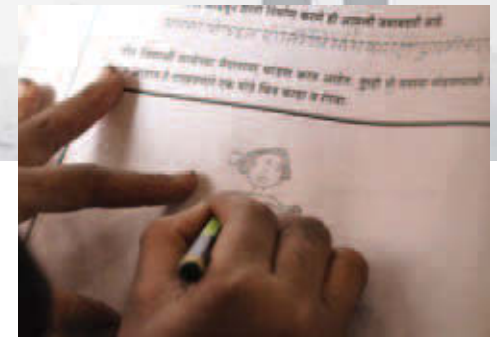
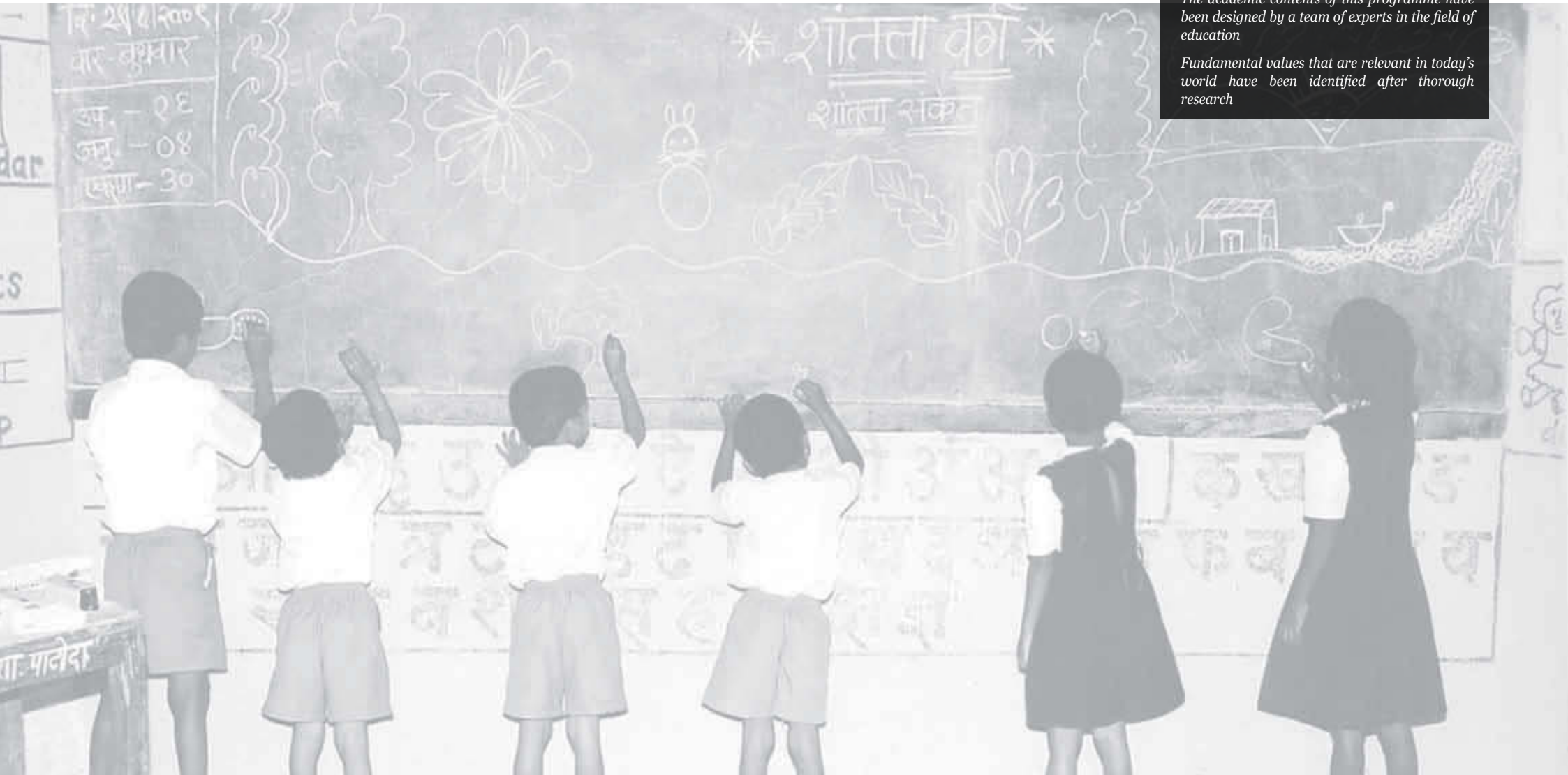






The academic contents of this programme have been designed by a team of experts in the field of education

Fundamental values that are relevant in today's world have been identified after thorough research







*Absorbing these values at an early and receptive age through education benefits the youth and definitely ensures enhancement of values in the society at large*





*Interacting with principals, Qualis Rost shares his thoughts of imparting Peace, Moral and value education*





*Fundamental values which are relevant in today's complex world, are developed through training programmes*



*TRAINING THE TRAINERS: Activities are used to help improve interpersonal relationships*





*Interacting with each other, teachers exchange ideas about enhancing core values and empower the children to make right choices, judgements and decisions*







*The guiding force behind Mulyavardhan:  
Shantilal Muttha interacting with trainee  
teachers and principals*





*Learning and imbibing these values enables each child to discover true self, increase self-esteem and help face the world confidently*

*BJS firmly believes that internalising these values right from the formative years will definitely arrest the decline in values observed in the society*



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*Sharing good thoughts and  
time with the children at  
the Wagholi Educational  
Rehabilitation Centre,  
Shantilal Muttha contributes  
to their overall development*







“Back to a new beginning”

Starting from Dongarkini, the story does a complete circle and comes back to mark the beginning of a new era. After a nation-wide voyage for the betterment of the society, life brings Shantilal Muttha back to Dongarkini to launch the highly ambitious programme aimed at shaping a bright future for the younger generation. The process has completed four years after being launched at Patoda and Ashti tehsils.

Ready to be offered to schools all over the country, this concept will mark the beginning of yet another journey taking off from Beed with a large number of well-wishers, supporters and contributors joining hands for a bright future for the country and the countrymen.

# Shantilal Muttha





*Great source of practical knowledge and motivation, Shantilal Muttha's father Gulabchandji Muttha with the former President of India Gyani ZailSing*



*The main inspiration and guiding force behind Bharatiya Jain Sanghata, late Sakkarbai Muttha, mother of Shantilal Muttha*





*Women in the family, three of the six aunts of Shantilal Muttha*



*Shantilal Muttha's father Gulabchandji Muttha with the former President of India Gyani Zail Singh*

*Helping elder brother Rajmal Muttha to set up a transport business in Pune*

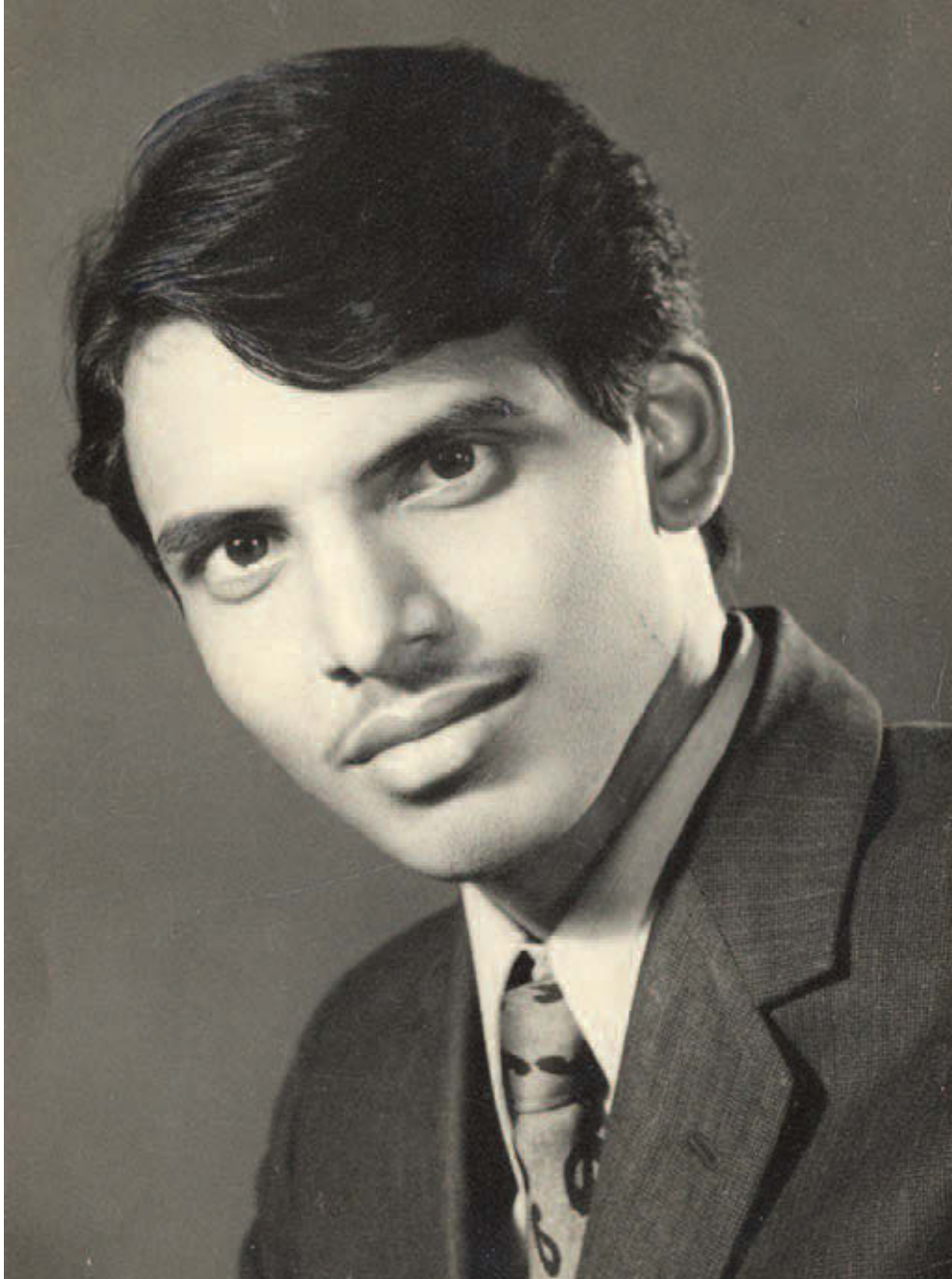


*Sarla Muttha with her mother, sisters and sisters-in-law*

*Rajmal Muttha and Shantilal Muttha with former President of India Gyani Zail Singh*







*Sharing a light moment with wife Sarla, son Sameer and daughter Sonali*



*Shantilal Mutha's father Gulabchandji Muttha and father-in-law Brijlal Kunkulol with the newly married couple*



*Sueshdada Jain, trustee of BJS who fondly calls Shantilal Muttha as Shantubhau*





*Enjoying a vacation with the family, Shantilal Muttha with wife Sarla, son Sameer, daughter-in-law Neha, daughter Sonali, son-in-law Vaibhav Chordia and grandchildren*



*Besides residential structures and office buildings, school buildings in Andaman & Nicobar were completely destroyed following Tsunami hitting the islands*





President Gyani Zail Singh being welcomed at home by Sarla Muttha



To mark the world day for physically challenged, Sarla Muttha extends good wishes to the participants while Shantilal Muttha and Shriniwas Patil look on



Home minister Buta Singh being welcomed by Sarla Muttha at the Muttha family's residence in Pune



Sarla Muttha felicitating participating women before the BJS state convention while Prakashchand Surana, Hastimalji Bamb, Abhaykumar Sethiya, Hemrajji Khabiya and Popatsheth Bafna look on



Shantilal and Sarla Muttha being welcomed by villagers at Dongarkhini, the birthplace of Shantilal Muttha





*Neha Sameer Muttha extends a welcome to Prof Ram Kapse, the governor general of Andaman & Nicobar during his visit to the WERC while Shantilal Muttha and Prataprao Pawar, chairman of the Sakal Media Group are also seen*



*Shankaracharya of Shringeri Peeth blessing Sameer Muttha*



*Sameer and Sonali Muttha welcome actor Sanjay Dutt at the WERC while Shantilal Muttha and Dungarwal Sir, look on*



*Dr Sharadkumar Diksheets and Dr K H Sancheti with Sonali and Sameer Muttha*





*Deepchand Gardi, Muttha and Chainrajji Jain of Bangaluru at BJS headquarter*



*Deepchand Gardi felicitated by senior social worker Anna Hazare, while Muttha looks on*







*At the BJS headquarter with senior trustee Bhawarlal Jain and Surendrakumar Hegde of Karnataka*



*Deepchand Gardi asking Muttha to bring his daughter into social work*



*During the Amaravati state convention Shantilal Muttha weighed against blood bags donated by volunteers*





*Delegation of  
Jain minority  
comprising Dr L  
M Singhvi, vijay  
Darda, D R Mehta,  
Suresh Dada Jain  
Chainraj Jain and  
P A Inamdar called  
on PM Manmohan  
Singh*





*Lost in deep thoughts Shantilal Muttha and Prafulla Parakh*



*National convention in Pune 2010 Prakash Surana, Shantilal Muttha Rajendra Lunkad, Kamlesh Umad*





*A vehicle being flagged off by Prataprao Pawar of the Sakal Relief Fund for the relief of flood affected families while Dr Banoo Coyaji and Chainraji Jain look on*



*In discussion with Prataprao Pawar, chairman of the Sakal Media Group, Shantilal Muttha at the BJS headquarters*



*Shantilal Muttha signing an MOU with Prof Ram Kapse, governor general of Andaman & Nicobar*



*Former chief election commissioners T N Sheshan guiding the staff of BJS at their head office*





*Shantilal Muttha with former governor Dr P C Alexander during his visit to the WERC*



*Shantilal Muttha with former vice chancellor of the Pune University Dr Arun Nigvekar and Bhushan Patwardhan*



*Shantila Muttha and Sunil Dutt busy working on the field*





*Shrungeri Shankaracharya Bharati Teerth  
blessing Shantilal and Sarla Muttha*

*Great saint Morari Bapu and Shantilal Muttha  
during the Gujarat earthquake*







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*Shantilal and Sarla Muttha at Raj Bhavan in Pune with Sonia Gandhi during a dinner after the three day meet of the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation*

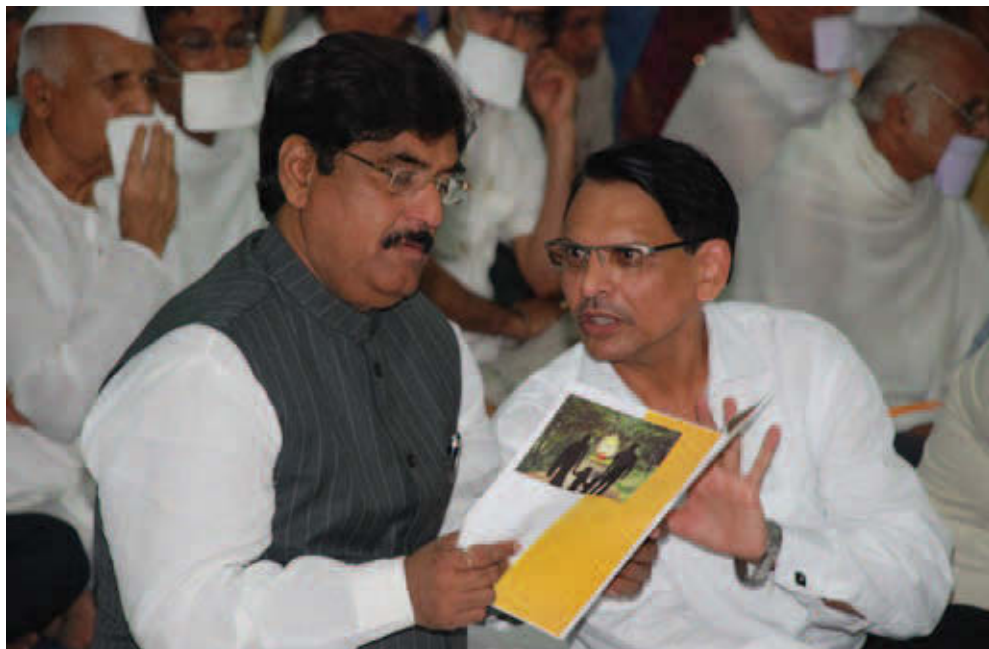


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Gopinath Munde with Shantilal Muttha



Former Chief minister Manohar Joshi giving some valuable instruction to Shantilal Muttha during the inauguration ceremony of WERC



Vilasrao Deshmukh and Chandrakant Chhajed during a visit to WERC



Central minister N KP Salve and Shantilal Muttha during 625 mass marriages ceremony in Pune





*Prafulla Parakh welcoming Digvijay Singh at the BJS office*



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*With Madanlal Khurana in Delhi during an educational function*

*Besides local authorities and prominent invitees, the handing over ceremonies were also attended by local students the beneficiaries of the project*





*Dalai Lama presenting an award to Shantilal Muttha on behalf of the Diwaliben Mohanlal Mehta Charitable Trust, Mumbai*



*Amitabh Bachchan presenting the Giants' International award to Shantilal Muttha*







*Receiving the WANGO award from president of WANGO*





Former President Shankar Dayal Sharma  
felicitated Shantilal Muttha



Pune Municipal Corporation felicitated Sunil Dutt  
and Shantilal Muttha mayor Ankush Kakde in  
1992





Guiding thousands of girls at Ahmadnagar







*On a tour of the country as a  
part of Vision 20-20 in 2009*



*Riding a horse at the Bangaluru  
Jain International Residential  
School*



*A student at Dongarkini works in the laboratory at the technical institute*



*BJS technical education centre in Dongarkini hostel*





*Exchanging pleasantries with tribal children of Melghat, Shantilal Muttha adds some memorable moments to their life*