

Empowering Today Enriching Tomorrow

From the desk of the CEO



Shri. Prafulla Parakh

Dear Friends,

It is with great hope and expectation that I welcome this month of June, as we all wait for the rains to quench the thirst of our parched neighbourhoods - its people, animals, and vegetation.

The severe drought that has gripped the drought-prone region

in Maharashtra this year, it is said, is not just due to failure of rains, but also because of inadequate water governance.

Under the visionary and passionate leadership of Shri Shantilal Muttha, National President, the BJS team

launched large scale relief operations since March 2013.

Its network of dedicated grass-root volunteers has been very efficiently managing 30 specially established cattle camps (Chhavnis), and is taking care of about 10,000 cattle of helpless farmers, primarily in

7 districts of Marathwada and Pune.

Shri Muttha, however, was immensely dissatisfied with the provisional 'first-aid' nature of this relief; especially for an area that eternally faces seasonal drought. Determined to tackle the problem at its roots, Shri Muttha, briefed by experts, instantaneously decided on May 1, 2013 to rejuvenate/ revive at least 50 village lakes and tanks in Beed district. Huge storage capacity has been lost due to silt accumulation over the last many years. Desilting as a solution had to be completed in all lakes before onset of monsoons - almost in a month's time - with the help of excavator machines and people's participation! He thus launched a full-fledged campaign. In order to personally organize and monitor all activities, he has camped at Dongarkinhi village in Patoda taluka of Beed district - his home town.

On a war-footing, with technical guidance of experts and cooperation of Beed District Collector and administration, lakes have been identified, machinery - JCBs and Poklands sourced and organized, villagers mobilized, excavated silt transferred onto the farmers' fields, and all work is being carried out simultaneously! As per BJS' principle, no grant/ funds have been taken from the government.

Heeding to the plight and daily requests of villagers, numbers of lakes undertaken for desilting has risen from 50 to over a 100 in the talukas of Patoda, Ashthi, Shirur, Beed and Gevrai in Beed district. As on May 27, 2013, 92 JCBs and 32 Poklands were working simultaneously, most of them in two shifts; the total silt

excavated was 92,400 cu meter, thus making way for additional water storage in the tanks. In 11 locations all excavation is being done manually. All work is in progress with full force!

Farmers are spreading the nutrient filled silt onto their fields at their own costs. Soil is getting richer and fields more

fertile. In times to come, there will be work for people - more water, more crop, more income.

The entire venture is revolutionary in nature - one that would change the face of the region and bring permanent benefits.

Thus, to mark the World Environment Day - on June 5th, with hearts filled with hope for a better tomorrow, the villagers and BJS team have scheduled a cultural celebration on each of the 100 sites, calling for the rain to wet the mother earth, and fill their lakes to their brim.

With a deep sense of fulfillment, I close here, inviting you to participate in this sustainable venture through Shramdaan, or contribution to our fund, or join us in the celebrations of June 5th.

Prafulla Parakh, CEO, BJS

Benefits

- 15 lakh cum of additional water storage in lakes
- 1500 acres of land will become more fertile due to silt
- 1000 acre of land would be additionally irrigated
- Over 100 villages will receive water

BJS SAA Makes a Mark: Feedback by Academicians, Civil Executives, and Educators

It was a proud moment for BJS when their school assessment and accreditation (BJS SAA) framework and the efforts taken so far in implementation were lauded by Prof Parshuraman, Director-Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. Prof Parshuraman in his meeting with BJS also extended valuable suggestions on ways to take this initiative forward to many more states in the country.

BJS received another reassuring piece of news which came from the Zilla Parishad Primary School, Mhaskevasti (Shivne) of Maval Taluka. Two girl students of Std 4 have secured 5th and 6th positions in the merit list of Std 4 Maharashtra State Scholarship exam. Incidentally this school is one of the eleven ZP primary schools adopted by BJS for its Model Cluster Project. The spectacular achievement by these rural students only reinforces the belief of BJS that even schools from rural India can deliver if they focus their efforts on imparting quality education to all their students despite their odds. It is with this belief that BJS has embarked upon transforming these schools into model schools through its Model Cluster Project. The assessment reports have been shared with all the schools and a plan for rolling out the next set of school quality improvement programs for this cluster is being finalized.

Introduction of Mulyavardhan in English in select Federation of Jain Educational Institutes (FJEI)

BJS has been conducting its Mulyavardhan Pilot Program in Marathi in 500 Zilla Parishad schools of Ashti, Patoda & Kaij Talukas of Beed district for the last 4 years from 2009. The program has been well received and its impact is evident among all the stakeholders.

This year BJS is planning to introduce Mulyavardhan in English in selected volunteer schools in the FJEI network. The training for the first batch of teachers from Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh & Chhatisgarh was held in May at Pune. Mulyavardhan in English will be introduced in these schools from the current academic session.

On similar lines the private aided CBSE school Hiralal Jain Senior Secondary, Delhi had approached BJS for conducting a workshop for its stakeholders as a measure to implement the prioritized improvement plan as generated through the BJS SAA school report. The workshop aimed at creating awareness among the management members, teaching and administrative staff and the school leaders towards their roles and responsibilities for collaboratively improving the school quality.

The MP pilot project of BJS SAA culminated in the report sharing and presentation of school reports and the higher level reports at Bhopal recently. The school reports were presented to the heads of all 50 schools across five districts in which SAA was implemented from July to October 2012. The state level reports were presented to the nodal officers designated by MP government. Among them were the Additional Directors of Rajya Shiksha Kendra and Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan. Commissioners of both the divisions made it a point to review the report sharing sessions with school heads and solicited individual feedback from the district officers. They are keen to discuss further details for the state-owned up-scaled implementation. Reports were also presented to the representatives of the State Planning Commission who had initiated the BJS SAA pilot project to review it as a new initiative in the state.

The second such teacher training program on Mulyavardhan is scheduled in July and is open only for interested English medium schools in the FJEI (Federation of Jain Educational Institutions) network.

You would be eligible for participation in this program only if you are willing to:

1. dedicate one period daily for Mulyavardhan for every division of the standards I to IV
2. dedicate at least one teacher for conducting Mulyavardhan sessions
3. send not more than two teachers for the training

All FJEI English medium schools which are desirous of introducing this program in their schools are welcome to contact the BJS Head office via email to get the details.

info@bjsindia.org or call us at 020-66050000

Social Development

10,000 cattle find succour at our chhaavnis....

This summer has been scorching hot all over the country with the mercury touching numbers not seen during the past decade. But this is now, in May. A drought looming over Maharashtra, probably more severe than the last major one 40 years ago, was foreseen months ago. Realising the extreme situation and with an experience of more than 20 years in disaster mitigation BJS decided to address the drought situation in the worst affected and the driest of the dry districts of Maharashtra.

measures to supply water to the concern for the poor hapless desperation, even their owners them to die of dehydration or to the slaughter houses! The idea the live stock was first mooted at a February 26, 2013. This found a month and about 30 'chhaavnis' Solapur, Jalna, Osmanabad, The BJS volunteers who are a day long comprehensive training and chhaavni at BJS HO on March 23, 2013. This training was delivered by experts such as veterinary doctors, officials and professors from the animal husbandry department of the state government and from Pune University. With summer at its peak, the heat and dryness has only become worse. The volunteers together with a few BJS staff live at the chhaavnis with the most basic infrastructure for themselves. They give little regard and attention to their own working and living conditions, focusing only on looking after the welfare of the 10,000 animals at these 30 chhaavnis. They have done such a commendable job!. It has to be seen to be believed. These chhaavnis will be operational until end of June.



The state government took people, but there was little animals. Out of sheer were prepared to either abandon maim them so as to be able to sell to provide shelter and fodder to meeting of BJS volunteers on whole hearted support and within (shelters) in the districts of Beed, Aurangabad, and Pune were up, manning the chhaavnis were given on management of the animals

People enthusiastically giving their all for the restoration of lakes...



सुखी परिवार, प्रगती का आधार

Some Upcomming Events

Biography of Shri. Shantilal Muttha

At the Silver Jubilee National Convention in May 2012, the biography of Mr. Shantilal Muttha in Marathi, was released. Its audio version is being broadcast on FM institutional 101 MHz on All India Radio (Pune Kendra) every Tuesday at 10.20 am; so tune in and listen to an inspirational story!

Announcements for the month of June 2013

1. Prayers/Pujan at 101 distilled lakes for revival of water sources at Aashti, Patoda, Shirur, Beed & Gevrai Tehsil in Beed District of Maharashtra on 5th June 2013

2. Student Assessment Test 4th & 8th std - 22 & 23rd June
CG-Raipur - Shri. Rajesh Savantsukha- 982713615

3. Career Guidance
MH- Pune - 9th June 2013 by Adv. Jaiprakash Somani
Contact - Smt. Kamal Lunkad- 7588281091

4. Empowerment of Girls Program (EOG)

a. MH - Gadhinglaj- 3-5 June 2013

Contact- Shri. Ashok Datmajage 9422014588
Trainer- Shri. Ratnakar Mahajan, Hingoli

b. GJ- Ahmedabad- 7-9 June 2013

Contact- Shri. Babubhai Mehta 9825147701
Trainer - Shri. Sanjay Singhi, Raipur

c. MP -Kareli- 7-9 June 2013

Contact- Shri. Pramod Jain 9424718990,
Smt. Vinita Lunavat 7793270042
Trainer - Shri. Rajeshree Chaudhari Sagar

d. MP - Badwah -7-9 June 2013

Contact- Shri. Praveen Parakh 9826424195
Trainer - Shri. Ratnakar Mahajan, Hingoli

e. MH- Rukadi - 12-14 June 2013

Contact- Shri. Abhinandan Khot 9011552777
Trainer - Shri. Ratnakar Mahajan, Hingoli

f. MH -Manmad- 14-16 June 2013

Contact-Dr. C H Bagrecha 9423966797
Trainer - Shri. Amar Gandhi , Chandrapur &
Smt. Meena Chordiya, Manmad

g. MP -Ujjain- 14-16 June 2013

Contact- Smt. Manisha Vohra 9407130091
Trainer - Smt. Rajshree Chaudhari &
Smt. Amita Jain

h. MP - Narsinghpur 23-25 June 2013

Contact- Shri. Sunil Kothari, 9425169040
Trainer- Dr. Vimal Jain & Smt. Manjula Jain,
Jabalpur

5. Trainer's Training for Empowerment of Girls Program -Nagpur- 21-23 June 2013

Contact- Shri. Rajneesh Jain 9373104897
Trainer - Shri. Sanjay Singhi- Raipur

6. Empowerment of Couples Program (EOC) Gujarat- Surat- 1-2 June 2013

Contact -Shri. Chimanbhai Shah 98252 58258
Trainer- Shri. Dharmenda Chhaged, Bhilai

Connect with BJS!

BJS on Facebook



To connect <http://www.facebook.com/BJSIndia>

The BJS Facebook Community is now more live & interactive. It is being regularly updated with lots of photographs, videos, information, events.. etc.

Mr. Shantilal Muttha, has been sharing his Thoughts, Experiences and is Questioning....It is Exciting, Challenging and Philosophical.
It is all Debate and Discussion and not just quotes from him.
You must Participate.

Jain Minority

We have been receiving many queries and we welcome them. Keep writing .Give us your feedback on how our response to them helped resolve your issue.

In a minority educational institution, it is not mandatory to have a representative from the University in the selection committee (to select teachers and principals).

To get a Minority Status for your institute follow the guidelines given at the website:
<http://ncmei.gov.in/>

The highlights of BJS processes

national concern

focusing on selected domains that contribute to nation-building

social sensitivity

researching in-depth issues to address needs across the society

developmental innovation

strategizing novel ideas to align development within established frameworks

participatory process

enthusing all stakeholders for involved implementations

sustainable solutions

implementing workable, scalable and replicable models

meaningful impact

touching millions through our work!!!