

Empowering Today Enriching Tomorrow From The Desk of The President



Shri. Shantilal Muttha

It is with great pleasure that I welcome this New Year - 2013 with the launch of the first monthly e-bulletin for January. Through this and the subsequent issues, we wish to present before you certain serious current national and global social concerns and update you on BJS's attempts to address these through its various initiatives and activities. The e-bulletin is proposed as a medium to communicate with you, especially with the techno-savvy young generation - the future leaders, and seek your ideas and involvement in resolving these concerns.

Me and my organization BJS, has worked passionately for nearly three decades on several issues of national concern, especially issues of marginalized and deprived communities - as explained on the website. To state briefly, its social development initiative addresses discriminatory social practices such as dowry and marriage expenses etc.; endeavors to equip young girls and couples with necessary life-skills; and provides mediation and counseling in cases of marital and family disputes. Its educational initiative focuses on improving quality of education and provides residential educational care to deprived children. I take this opportunity to share with you the activities that we propose to undertake in coming decade in response to the fast changing societal scenario.

For BJS, good qualitative education for children that majorly contributes towards creating responsible and enlightened young human beings, the future citizens of the nation and the world, has always been a priority. We believe that the strength of our nation lies in its 1.2 billion population, projected to rise to 1.35 billion with a 65% youth population (below 35 years of age) by 2030. Over 10.64 lakh, government-managed elementary schools enroll nearly 70% (13 crore) children. In order to yield the demographic dividends of this youthful profile of the population and considering the need to reach the masses of

our country that study in government schools, BJS decided to develop its 'Educational Initiative' in a more concreted and holistic manner.

I, along with my able BJS team, have visualized four pillars of interventions that would hold the initiative together and move forward systematically -

1. 'School Assessment and Accreditation': This started as an experiment in 2005. It has evolved into a model that uses an assessment tool that is customized as a developmental tool to be used by schools for improving its quality.
2. 'Teacher Training Institute': Teacher training has always been a part of our effort at stakeholder empowerment that has now geared up to take the shape of an 'Institute'. It aims at developing training content in the form of pre-service, in-service and refresher training courses that is needed to bridge the gap that exists between policy expectations and the existing formal teacher training..
3. Value Education initiative: 'Mulyavardhan' that has been operating in 500 primary government-schools since 2009, is all set to aim at development of the whole school so that the value component get built within educational content and the education system.
4. 'The Research Institute': is taking shape as an autonomous body for conducting research in the field of education, health, law and pertinent social issues, for the purpose of advocacy. It would also provide the necessary knowledge support to the various initiatives of BJS.

As has always been the principle and practice of BJS, it would engage actively with the government by means of these four pillars so as to strengthen its effort of providing quality education to the masses of this country.

We wish to introduce you to each of these initiatives through this bulletin and provide more details in issues to come.

Shantilal Muttha
Founder and National President

Enhancing Quality of School Education

Mulyavardhan: Moral and Values Education Program VALUES as principles and standards of behaviours influence our thoughts and attitudes, and guide our choices, decisions, actions and goals. It is a matter of grave concern for one and all that basic values such as love, peace, tolerance, human dignity; essential for the harmonious co-existence of the diverse globalized society, are rapidly losing their importance. Policy-makers, educationists and thinkers across the world have therefore stressed the need for 'Value Education' in schools, as one of the ways of imbibing values within the young and blossoming minds of children. In India, several notable efforts have been undertaken by private educational bodies in their schools, but have not reached the huge majority of the government-run schools that enrol over 13 crore children.

BJS therefore, in 2009, conceptualized the value education initiative - Mulyavardhan that would have a large-scale applicability in government schools. It has tested and demonstrated its viability through the pilot-project implemented since 2009, in about 500 government primary-schools in two tehsils of the Beed district of rural Maharashtra and the Jalgaon Municipal Corporation, covering nearly 35,000 students.

Teaching-learning sessions based on a well designed content and stage specific pedagogy are conducted in a specific time-slot within the daily school schedule. Teachers specially trained for



'Just like the teacher does'

Mulyavardhan and exclusively appointed by BJS conduct the sessions and play a very important role in involving participation of all stakeholders concerned with children's holistic development. Teaching guidebooks and children's activity books produced by BJS in simple Marathi are extensively used.

School Assessment and Accreditation Program

Can a two room school produce great students? Likewise can a school with a two storied computer lab produce disasters? Maybe or maybe not! It depends; not as much on the school infrastructure as on the quality of teachers and the School Head

driving the school. It also depends on the vision and passion of those governing the school and a lot depends on the school administration. This is what BJS School Assessment and Accreditation (BJS SAA) believes and espouses. BJS SAA is not just a diagnostic tool but is looked upon as a developmental tool for the improvement in the quality of school processes which can then translate into positive student outcomes. The new and revised BJS SAA system after being test run in thirty schools of differing criteria has now been successfully piloted across 83 primary to higher secondary, government and private aided schools of MP, Chhattisgarh and Meghalaya in a span of 3 months from August to October 2012. This was done in order to acquaint the respective states with the BJS SAA system and enable them to consider its state wide implementation with due customization, to enhance the quality of all the government schools in a structured manner.

Teacher Training

Mulyavardhan Content Training: Two months residential training of "Mulyavardhan Content" is conducted for the selected teachers of Mulyavardhan at Wagholi Educational Rehabilitation Center (W.E.R.C.) Pune. This includes 15 days basic training for class management skills & setting appropriate attitude of the teachers and 45 days content training for actual teaching Mulyavardhan to the students of 1st to 4th STD in the government schools of 3 tehsils of Beed district.

In service Training : Nurturing intellectual, physical, emotional, & social potential of each student irrespective of his/her background & ability is a difficult but divine task for a teacher in today's world. Teacher is a role model for students, parents and even for the society. Therefore to develop the personality of the teacher, to give insight about child development, child psychology and to improve facilitation skills, 40 modules are been designed for the school teachers. The training of these modules is been given in Diwali and summer vacations.

Training for Community Program: For imbibing values in children thoroughly and to make them use it in routine life; appropriate support is essential from parents, grandparents, neighbors and the community at large with whom children spent maximum time of their life. So there is a need to make the society understand importance of healthy interpersonal relations in the family, better ways of communication, better habits and life style related to health and hygiene etc. For this purpose the experienced teachers of Mulyavardhan get trained on various topics and present programs in the form of drama, lecture, puppet show etc. in front of the community in rural area of Beed district.

Social Development

सुखी परिवार, प्रगती का आधार

Empowerment of Girls

The last century saw a change in the socio-economic environment of India. The impact of liberalization and privatization shook our socio-cultural base. The media focussed on commercialization and glamour, changed our value system. Our daughters suddenly became susceptible to enticing social ethos. The scenario is ghastly.

Shri. Shantilal Muttha, Founder and National President, BJS, understood the sensitivities, decided to bring awareness to these young and immature daughters and shield them from these ill effects. This evolved into a strong message to the society and 'EOG to face the social challenges of 21st Century.' evolved. The course focuses the minds of the generation next to concentrate in the core area of self development. This is achieved through introspective exercises, discussions and role plays. It makes them realize the importance of family and the significance of effective communication with parents. It builds trust, creates positive relationships, bolsters self confidence and self esteem. The parents, on the other hand, learn how to bridge this generation gap and the importance of spending quality time with them.



'Girls on the way to Empowerment'

Empowerment of Couples

Marriage is a sacred union of two unknown/ known individuals, who grow together for life. It is said that marriages are made in heaven. Yet our society is becoming plagued with unhappy homes. BJS, after a survey, observed that family discords occurred in the first 5 to 10 years of marriage. High education of both sexes, passion for career, little time for each other, lack of tolerance, patience, and even respect are some of the causes. The family must understand that marriage puts pressure on the girl as she adjusts to the new way of life and accepts the new family as her own. Some-times this does not happen. Determined to resolve this, BJS designed 'EOC'. A two days workshop with sessions for the

wife, husband, and the mother-in-law. The young couples understand Marriage and new relationships, the significance of sharing, caring, love and respect for all, ensuring a lasting marriage.

Basic Family Marriage Counselling Course

The modern society with its technology, media, communication systems, has made life comfortable. However, the ill effects are also clearly visible. The society has broken up into nuclear and micro nuclear families. The younger generation has become impatient, less tolerant, less respectful, unwilling to adjust and compromise. This is evident in marriage relations, before, during and after. The outcome, difficulty in finding a life partner, in decision making for marriage, post marriage adjustments, and incompatibility, leading to breakup of engagements and marriages. The problem needs to be tackled at the grass root level. BJS felt, It is necessary to train selected community people with problem understanding, a say in the community and convincing ability, so as to counsel the young, and help them to live together. After much brainstorming sessions, The 'BFMC' course was designed. It is a four day workshop carries out self introspection, getting the problem insight, delivering logical and practical suggestions that bring a better understanding of marriage, progressing towards harmonious family.

Parichay Sammelan

It all started 25 years ago when BJS dared to challenge and change the mindset of the community plagued with social stigmas like dowry and declining sex ratio. The search for a suitable match for the children of marriageable age had become a burdensome task. It was observed that work left insufficient time for family issues. Rising expenses of higher education, liberalization, emerging nuclear family structures were the key causes. Parichay Sammelans, were conceptualized which became a nation-wide movement.

In Parichay sammelan, marriageable boys and girls gather together, share views, put forth their expectations and interact with one another to find their soul mates. BJS conducts Parichay Sammelans, based on education, caste, for Widows/Widowers and Divorcees, etc. Today, Jain community is based throughout the globe but, for a life partner, still looks homewards, and so, last year BJS has been organising Parichay Sammelan for NRI candidates too.

Some upcoming events

1. Yuvak Yuvati Parichay Sammelan

- **Hubli -6th January 2012- General**
Contact- Shri. Padam Mehta-9845025161
- **Nagpur- 13th January 2012- Highly Educated**
Contact- Shri. Rajneesh Jain - 9373104897
- **Indore -13th January 2013- NRI**
Contact- Shri. Sandesh Jain 9826395679
- **Kolhapur -26th January 2013- General**
Contact- Shri. Abhinandan Khot - 9011552777, 96197777

2. Empowerment of Girls - EOG

- **Wardha -4 to 6 January 2012**
Contact - Shri. Manoj Shrivane - 9822945675 **Trainer-**Shri. Amar Gandhi & Shri. Sanjay Kshirsagar
- **Tirupati -11 to 13 January 2012**
Contact - J. Gheesulal Reddh 9441593383 **Trainer-** Shri. Sunil Lodha , Head Office, Pune
- **Badnagar -24 to 26 January 2012**
Contact - Shri. Ravi Jain 9827204351 **Trainer-** Smt. Kusum Pandya

3. Plastic Surgery Camp for Corrective Surgeries (Cleft Lip, Scar, facial deformities)

- **Pune - 3 to 6 January 2012**
Venue- Sancheti Hospital , Shivajinagar, Pune **Contact -** Shri. Shashikant Munot 9420477052

4. Empowerment of Couples - EOC Train the Trainer Program

- **Bellary - 7th to 9th January 2013**
Contact- Shri Rameshkumar Chhajed 9449816112
Trainer - Shri. Prafulla Parakh- BJS National General Secretary

5. Empowerment of Couples -EOC Program

- **Raipur (CG) -12-13 January 2013**
- **Bhilai (CG) -12-13 January 2013**
- **Dhamtari (CG) - January 2013**
- **Badnavar (MP) - January 2013**
- **Nagda (MP)- January 2013**

6. Basic Family & Marriage Counseling Course - BFMC

- **Mandav, Dhar - 11-14 January 2012 Training Program**
Contact- Shri. Pankaj Jain, Dhar - 9827010908
Trainer - Ms. Ratna Gosavi - Head office, Pune

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Jain Minority

Did you know??

That :

Doors to minority seat allocation in colleges open?

If:

The school leaving certificate carries 'Religion- Jain' !!!

Therefore,

✓ Ensure that the school leaving certificate carries 'Religion- Jain'.

✓ If School leaving certificate is already issued, attach an affidavit stating 'Religion- Jain'

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!!!