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WHAT TO EXPECT IN 2014



January 2014

Vol: 13

Special Edition

Education is Power

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From CEO's desk



Dear Friends,

Change is the only constant in life.
— Heraclitus

How true is that! And whatever is alive or growing is changing, merging, morphing... Changing for good is what we, at BJS, believe in. As part of our efforts to improve communication, collaboration and campaign for all our initiatives, we are making some necessary changes across the organisation.

A redesigned monthly newsletter is part of that change. It's been a year that we launched our e-bulletin and we have had some great moments with it. It gives me great pleasure to ring in the year 2014 with the first edition of our new, improved e-bulletin.

Accepting change is never easy but we sincerely hope that the changes we have brought to the newsletter, with the intent of making it more enjoyable and user-friendly, is worth your while.

Before you go on to the other sections of the newsletter, I would like to take a quick moment to share our broad action plan for this year.

In keeping with BJS' mission and philosophy of working on fundamental issues, we are committed to place even greater thrust on our Education initiatives this year. We firmly believe in education being the biggest catalyst for change and the extraordinary power it gives people to change their own lives and the lives of their children.

Consider this: one extra year of schooling increases an individual's earnings by up to 10%. If all students in low-income countries left school with basic reading skills, 171 million people could be lifted out of poverty – that's equivalent to a 12% cut in world poverty, reveals UNESCO's Education for All Global Monitoring Report.

Not just poverty, education is the key to addressing gender-based inequalities and discrimination. An extra year of female schooling reduces fertility rates by 10%, says the report. Again, education helps combat HIV and AIDS, and other life-threatening diseases better by fostering access to treatment, and reducing stigma and discrimination. It also helps communities understand the links between sanitation and health.

In essence, the importance of education in empowering billions, who still live with poverty, hunger, disease and illiteracy, cannot be over-emphasised.

In this regard, technology can be a great enabler in large scale, deep impact implementation of Education initiatives.

Governments, NGOs and other institutions working in this area should tap the power of technology since it can create highly versatile, real-time and interactive learning environments that can provide easy access to learners regardless of gender, geographic location, socio-economic background, disability or any other circumstance that could hinder the opportunity to high-quality education.

At BJS, we are poised to using technology strategically to extend the learning space beyond the four walls of a classroom and optimise the scale and reach of our initiatives.

Hope you enjoy this edition. Like always, I look forward to hearing from you.

A very Happy New Year to all!

EDUCATION

The Look of Mulyavardhan in 2014

Mulyavardhan will see substantial recast in 2014 based on nearly five years of field experience, research findings, suggestions from experts and intensive internal brainstorming. BJS has in principle accepted NCERT's recommendation for moving towards a whole-school approach to value education. However, we believe this approach should be dovetailed with an effort to make an overall improvement in quality of education in schools, using guidelines of the National Curriculum Framework 2005 and the Right to Education Act, 2009, which strongly recommend adoption of a child-centred and constructivist approach to teaching and learning. Hence, one of BJS's important goals for 2014 is development of an integrative framework that embraces promotion of Constitutional values with improvement in school climate and academic outcomes through adoption of a learner-centric teaching and learning approach. [More>>](#)

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

More Power to Girls

Our society is at crossroads today. While we are taking long strides in scientific and technological advancements, we are witnessing increasing instances of regressive mindset and crimes against women. Such barbarism makes one wonder if we are really progressing. The bitter truth is that women are faced with harsh realities and challenges of a dichotomous society – which can be both progressive and regressive at the same time.

The solution does not lie in putting restrictions on them in the name of 'protection'. In fact, the responsibility lies with each of us to make sure that such incidents do not deter young women or girls from enjoying the freedom that the Constitution of this country promises. The way forward is empowerment of girls and women so that they can navigate their lives confidently. [More>>](#)

CONNECT WITH US

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MINORITIES

Loans for education and business for Minority communities recognized by Govt. of Maharashtra are available from Maulana Azad Minorities Financial Development Corporation. Please look up their website for details. [More>>](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Empowerment of Girls Program (EOG)

Dadar, Mumbai, January 2 to 4, 2014

Contact : Sushila Jain - 9867191111

Trainer- Dr. Sunil Bhutada

Chennai, January 19 to 21, 2014

Contact : Shri Mahaveer Parmar

2. Parichay Sannam

>>Parichay Sannam for General Category

Kolhapur, January 5, 2014

Contact : Shri Prakash Mugali, 9850281336

>>Remarriage Parichay Sannam

Pune, February 2, 2014

Contact : Shri Rajendra Surana, 9371023161

MOC : Shri Prafulla Parakh

>>Highly Educated & Remarriage Parichay Sannam

Kumhari, Durg, February 28, 2014

Contact : Shri Inderchand Bagrecha, 98271999010

Shri. Pannalal Parakh, 9826815768

MOC: Shri Prafulla Parakh

3.State Conference, Rajya Adhiveshan

a. Madhya Pradesh Indore January 5, 2014

b. Karnataka Hubli January 12, 2014

c. Tamil Nadu Vaniambadi January 16, 2014

4. Free Plastic Surgery Camp :

Dr.Larry Weinstein & Team

Pune, January 9 - 13, 2014

Contact : Shri Shashikant Munot, 9420477052

**Don't Miss
this.**

Online Launch of BJS Student Assessment Test Programme IV

The Student Assessment Programme (SAP) IV is a multi-dimensional test specifically designed and developed for

students of standard IV. This test measures emotional, social, physical and intellectual growth of the student in a user-friendly format and guides them to leverage their strengths and manage their non-strength areas. As an introductory offer, this test will be complimentary for the first batch of users.

Watch this space for further details and be the first one to avail of it.