

RISE

Remedial Innovation in School Education

Rising Aspirations

Education is very important tool for the people all over the world to make balance of life and its existence on the earth. It is the tool which stimulates everyone to go ahead and succeed in life as well as provides ability to overcome challenges in life. It makes us able to create fine balance of our body, mind and spirit. We at AROH Foundation are trying to create this balance through RISE, a unique and pioneering model that provides a critical interface to needy children and develop their competency to face the world by improving their access, retention and learning outcomes.

AROH Foundation envisions a world where people live with dignity. Due to lack of resources available to not so fortunate, we decided to do our bit this winter season. We conducted a clothes distribution drive from 11th to 15th February, 2017 wherein we distributed clothes to the family of RISE beneficiaries.

We believe that celebrating festivals help the children connect with their spiritual side and also teach them the importance of team-work. This month our RISE beneficiaries showed their team spirit by celebrating Saraswati Puja, a festival celebrated throughout the country to pay allegiance to the goddess of learning.

Our team continues to work towards the mission. We thank all our partners for their continued support.

RISE Team



Empowering Parents to RISE for their Children



Most of the poor families consider education as an unnecessary expense. As per the fundamental Right to Education, every child in the age of 6 to 14 years is entitled to free and compulsory education, but the government schools they attend are poorly resourced and have low teaching standards. English and computing skills are barely taught, and the option of higher education remains an expensive dream. Most parents of poor backgrounds do not believe in education and/or they prefer their children to work and support the family living by earning money at an early age. A vast majority of these children drop out of school at different stages of their schooling.

The parents of children from poor backgrounds are often illiterate or less literate and ignorant. This makes the situation all the more worse. Therefore, they cannot give learning support to the children. AROH understands the need to support the parents as well as the children through its programme RISE. The parents are the role models and in charge of the early childhood of their children. It is important to reach out to the parents to ensure children's education and continuous attendance at school. The regular parental counselling done under the programme motivates and encourages parents to send their

children regularly to school and also keep an eye on their progress in school.

Parental Counselling is expected to build the capacity of these parents thereby empowering them to be able to positively impact on the lives of their children. This is done through guiding and counselling parents on the kind of social, schooling and educational support they can provide to their children. This aims at ensuring that parents support children with homework, release the children to attend the after-school support with homework sessions, cooperate with the volunteers and mentors to help the children. Besides, they are told to cooperate with the teachers to track the child's performance in school, and encourage the parents to attend sensitization sessions with children. The counselors use the counseling guides to carry out the guidance and counselling sessions with parents. The parental guidance and counselling sessions are held once every month.

The educators remain in constant touch with parents through monthly parent teacher meetings. During these meetings, parents are counselled, helped and supported in all possible ways. Their child's progress is discussed with them and they are informed and prepared

Parent speaks...

"I am regularly meeting Neelam Madam who explains my child's progress in studies and I feel so proud. I have been to his school twice. I told school teacher how RiSE has helped us in taking care of our child's education. Teacher was very happy with Salil's progress in school"

about the desired learning outcomes of their wards. This keeps them motivated and they in turn, tell the educators what more they want their children to learn. They also give suggestions and areas of improvement in their children. Parents are now learning to value education and to attend to the needs and requirements of a school going child.

The parent teacher interaction also helps the educator in understanding the child's background and perceptions.

Monthly Assessment of RISE Children



Adequate, rigorous, inclusive and continuous monitoring and evaluation have been important keys to successful implementation of the program. Under the RISE program, monthly exams are conducted to check the progress of the students. This monthly exam consists of two types of assessments. The Scholastic Assessment includes Pre, mid and Post Test papers as assessment tools to assess the level of the beneficiaries in the beginning, middle and end of the annual project cycle. The rationale for the pre-test is to assess the level of the student. The mid-test is conducted so that the status can be checked and at last the post test is conducted to ensure and to check the improvement in the student from the stage of the beginner and after the test remedy is provided to the student; it manifests

the change or the development in the student. After the mid test, the results are also compared with the results of the midterm exams of the schools so that the exact development in the student could be traced out for the better functioning of the centre. An increasing trend has been observed in the marks of the students in their schools as well as the RISE centres. This means that their performance has improved ever since they started coming to the RISE centres.

The Co-scholastic Assessment of the children is conducted to assess the level of skills in sports, music, environment, art, etc. Tools have been developed to assess these skills and other extracurricular skills of children. An increasing trend has been observed in the marks of the students in their schools as well as the RISE centres.



RISE is shaping the future of more than 500 children living in abject poverty and deprivation in slums of South Delhi.

Through its 10 learning centres and 10 dedicated educators, RISE is not only giving them core subject skills, but also nurturing their talent and fostering growth in these children.

RISE children look forward to coming to the Centre and participate in the project based activities which make them learn faster and retain their learning longer.

School teachers report that RISE is making a big difference in the learning levels of children enrolled with RISE.

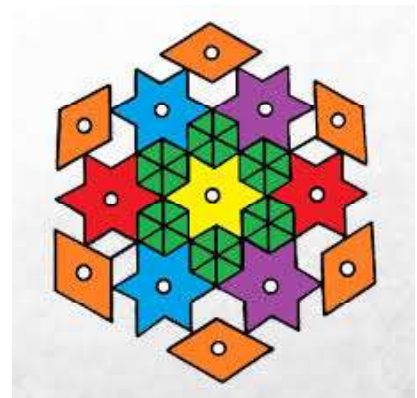
Celebrating Basant Panchami & Sarawati Puja



Saraswati Puja is celebrated throughout the country. The Goddess of knowledge is revered among the students and learned who strictly follow all the rituals to worship her. The festivities that accompany Saraswati puja is a part of the social celebrations. Young girls are seen in yellow sarees. Pushpanjali (offering of flowers along with mantras) are offered. Bright palash flowers are offered that are a part of the worship. Young people enjoy the day with each other. Cultural programs are staged at night. The Goddess who is the patron of music, culture and learning is revered by singers and musicians with great devotion.

The Saraswati Puja is celebrated in almost all the houses and educational institutes. People of all ages worship the goddess on this day. Small kids who are yet to learn how to write are a part of this tradition. On the day of Saraswati Puja many small kids sit in front of the goddess Saraswati in a queue. They are accompanied with an elder. They are made to write one or two alphabets. It is considered an auspicious day to start writing. It is said that if a child writes his or her first alphabets in the presence of goddess Saraswati they will always be blessed by the goddess and will do well in their education.

AROH foundation celebrated Saraswati Puja with its RISE beneficiaries. It is believed that Goddess Saraswati bestows the boon of All Pervading Knowledge to her sincere devotees. Saraswati Puja was conducted followed by a drawing competition was organized. An active participation was seen by the students and the best drawings were awarded. This boosted their confidence and inculcated a sense of value for education.



Art and Craft Workshops - Nurturing Talent

Children naturally love art-painting, drawing, making music, the theatre. Unfortunately, when schools cut back on budgets, the arts are usually the first to go. It seems that schools do not appreciate the importance of art in building a kid's brain.

Arts & Crafts is a great way of learning and developing in essential ways while children make a beautiful mess by digging into arts and crafts projects with paint or glue up to their elbows. Children derive many important benefits from the opportunity of working with arts and crafts projects, making activities worthwhile. Kids should be exposed to the arts as their cognitive skills mature achieving the full potential of the mind. Kids learn to think creatively, with an open mind. They learn to observe and describe, analyze and interpret. They also learn to work in teams.

Art involves unstructured activities in which a child can explore with his imagination, whereas crafts involve

structured activities with a specific goal in mind. When children participate in such activities, creativity and imagination receive strong stimulation. A child with a paintbrush in his hand suddenly has the ability to create vivid paintings and express himself with color and brush strokes.

If art and crafts is integrated into a child's academics, he can derive additional benefits. Many literacy and mathematical concepts can become easier to comprehend and more interesting. A child, through his drawing may boost his reading comprehension and interest in literature. A child who uses artistic manipulative such as paper shapes and beads can gain mastery of mathematical concepts due to the hands-on nature of the items.

To bring out the creative side of our children and to enhance learning, we organized a craft activity for our children. They made artistic greeting cards using quilling. With help of our



educators, they also made a beautiful nest using dried grass and cotton for the eggs of the bird. The children actively participated in the activity and had a lot of fun.





Restored Childhood

Salman has a family of five which includes his two brothers and his parents. His father is crippled and drives an auto-rickshaw. He earns approximately Rs 8000 every month which is just sufficient to meet the family expenses. The family originally belongs to Agra, Uttar Pradesh. Salman is the youngest of the three brothers. All three of them go to the same government school. Prior to coming here, Salman along with his family resided in a village. But after Salman's father became crippled, it

became impossible for him to pursue farming. Moreover, all the other people in the village used to make fun of him. This compelled the family to shift to the city. Initially, his condition did not permit him to find a job in the city premises. Subsequently, he started driving auto-rickshaw upon his wife's suggestion. His wife is a home-maker. Salman and his brother used to go to the village school also but the studies imparted in city are quite different from that in their village school. Hence, it was becoming difficult for them to catch up with the other students. Additionally, the high

student to teacher ratio did not allow the teachers to focus on each kid individually. So, it became difficult for him to cope-up with the others and comprehend what was being taught in the classes. Also, he started committing mischiefs and fighting with other students of his class. After coming home, he told his mother that the learning imparted in classrooms was highly poor and that, he would not go to school. This made his mother anxious since weak financial position prevented them from arranging for any tuitions. At this juncture, she was informed about the RISE program from other beneficiaries. She visited the RISE training center at Sangam Vihar and arranged for Salman to go there. Initially, Salman was reluctant to go there and depicted low interest in studies. Eventually, he started liking the teaching assistance being provided at RISE centers and showed keen interest in studies. This also permitted him to excel at his studies in school. During his free time, he enjoys playing chor-police with other kids his age and aspires to become a cop once he grows up.



Cloth Distribution at RISE centres

The cold temperature this winter is approached an all time high & it is indeed difficult to get away with the cold. A lot of fortunate people use cold creams, moisturizing lotions to upkeep their dry skin, hot water bathing & the amount of hot coffee, tea and food items which they prefer has no end at all. Not to mention, the special winter shopping spree is also a highlight in this regard. But, all these luxuries are far beyond the imagination of the common man on the road. We may not be able to give them all these facilities but we can definitely help them by giving away our old clothes.

AROHfoundation observed the lack of resources available to the not so fortunate and decided to give back to society. We quote the importance of giving and receiving blessings in return. We conducted a clothes distribution drive from 11th to 15th February, 2017 wherein we distributed clothes to the disadvantaged children dressed in rags. Many poor children benefitted from the drive. The children and their parents were very happy to receive the clothes.



Nurturing talent and Fostering Child Development

Pooja is an eight year old girl. Her family consists of nine members including five sisters, a brother, and her parents. They originally belong to Koira in Bihar. Five of Pooja's sisters attend school. But, her brother stays at home. Her father is engaged in stone-rubbing activities. The income arising out of this activity fluctuates significantly. He is able to earn Rs10,000 during some months. But, in other months, it becomes impossible to even meet their basic needs. Pooja is the youngest among all their sisters. Four years back, their family resided in a village. But, being able to feed such a huge family was becoming difficult so much so that they had to beg in front of other people to meet their daily bread. Consequently, they migrated to Delhi in search of better work opportunity. Her father was able to find work after days of looking around. Pooja's mother too started to do menial work in order to supplement their family income. Back in the village, Pooja had been doing well at the school being well verse with the local language. However, post migration inability to comprehend the local Delhi language translated in her ineffectiveness in understanding the concepts being taught in her new school. Poor financial health of the family prevented them from engaging her in



any tuitions. Despite this, she attended school every day and spent extra hours trying to revise and understand all that had been taught in class. But, she still could not catch up. Her elder sisters were also unable to help her. The fear of under-performing and being reprimanded

by her teachers made her anxious and nervous. Whenever, she raised doubts in her class-room, she was scolded and even beaten. At this point in time, Pooja's friend, one of the beneficiaries at RISE center enlightened Pooja's mother about the same. Immediately, her mother got her enrolled there. Now, Pooja attends the remedial classes at the center and is very happy at her progress. Although,

her parents are still struggling with their financial problems, seeing their daughter happy has somewhat lessened their family woes. In addition to studies, Pooja enjoys singing. She is an industrious student and writes beautifully. Her parents are highly obliged to the AROH Foundation for their daughter's progress. They have requested AROH to start a programme for the senior classes so that their elder daughters can also benefit.

RISE transforms Educator RUHI's Life

Ruhi has two children. Her family consists of her children, her husband, her brother in law and her mother in law. Ruhi's husband does not earn a lot. It becomes extremely difficult to cover their expenses with this limited



income. They are also required to take care of their mother in law and her health care expenses. Being well educated, Ruhi wanted to contribute towards supplementing the family income. But, the stigma associated with women working in Muslim community did not allow her to do so. Her in laws did not allow her to go out and work. This inability to be able to help her husband troubled her a lot. At this juncture, she met Sujeet, one of the RISE supervisors. They were seeking an educator for one of their centres located in Ruhi's colony. Sujeet enquired about Ruhi's qualifications. He then asked her to join RISE as an educator. This overjoyed Ruhi who realised that now she would be able to contribute towards her family income and work within the constraints of her family conditions. Getting associated with RISE brings the satisfaction of supplementing their income and working towards a great cause. Everybody in the colony recognises her as a teacher. She wants to be associated with RISE for the long run. Helping poor children like her own gives her immense happiness. This has also given her a sense of independence.

TO EDUCATE A CHILD IS TO TURN WALLS INTO DOORS

Ray of Hope in Gulzar's Life

Poverty, despair and hunger can break any body's courage and determination. Gulzar has grown up in such an environment. Her father is an alcoholic. Whatever menial amount the family earns is wasted on alcohol. Her mother does household work at other people's homes in order to feed a family of seven people. Needless to say, it is barely sufficient to meet their basic necessities in the present times where inflation eats into most of their incomes. Despite this, she has enrolled her children in the government school nearby. Although, Gulzar is in the second standard, she does not even recognize the basic alphabets. Naturally, she is lagging behind in her school. After being informed about the RISE program, her parents were happy that she would at least be able to understand the basics. But, her attendance so far at the RISE center has been very poor. She attends the remedial classes some days but on other occasions she goes off to collect firewood at the jungle. The members of Aroh Foundation are striving hard to bring her to the center every day.



Agriculture Insurance Company of India Limited (AIC) was incorporated under the Indian Companies Act 1956 on 20th December, 2002 with an authorized share capital of INR 15 billion and paid up capital of INR 2 billion. AIC commenced business from 1st April, 2003. AIC has taken over the implementation of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) which, until FY 2002-03 was implemented by General Insurance Corporation of India. In addition, AIC also transacts other insurance businesses directly or indirectly concerning agriculture and its allied activities. AIC also works towards upliftment of marginalized sections of the society. Project RISE is CSR initiative of AIC which aims to provide better educational opportunities to underprivileged children.



AROH Foundation is a leading national-level NGO, strengthening government programmes and CSR initiatives of several corporates and PSEs by providing total integrated solutions - consulting, planning and implementing - for sustainable, inclusive development and growth of the needy and marginalised communities in several states of India for the past 12 years. AROH is an ISO 9001:2008 Certified organization, registered under Societies Registration Act, 1860.

RISE is a pioneering initiative designed by AROH Foundation, which recognizes the nation's concern of improvement of learning outcomes and universalisation of elementary education as of paramount importance, and strives to bring the deprived and marginalized or educationally backward children in backward villages and slums under the safety net of education through an innovative approach and Project-Based Learning Methodology.

