



# RISE



*Remedial Innovation in School Education*



Christmas is unique among all the holidays, holy days, and birthdays that we observe. The story of the first Christmas is so simple that a little three-year-old caught its spirit when she said, "I know what Baby Jesus wants for his birthday — a cradle." In love, she wanted to give him what he did not have when he was born. The unique truth of Christmas is that the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. The unique outcome was that this marked the beginning of a new creation, a possible rebirth of humanity. God, through His Son, entered into our human life that we, believing in Him, might receive power to become "sons of God." The Baby who had no cradle but a manger became the one Lord and Savior of mankind! In RISE, when we are dealing with five hundred deprived children, who have been dejected from basic happiness, rights and needs of their lives, we enforce the power of humanity and dedication, which can bring in the change of positivity in their lives. Also, as even as Christ was born unknown to the world and in the obscurity of darkness, even so, the advent of the Christ-spirit takes place in the inwardness of man when there is total self-effacement self-abnegation. Whatever darkness prevails around humility, humanity and hard work, it cannot last longer. Victory of light over darkness is due, and it can evolve only with persistence and hard work. Our children in RISE are being given a foundation of dedication and we assure bright and shining lives just like stars of Christmas.





## RISE Children taken for an Excursion



“A picnic is more than eating a meal; it is a pleasurable state of mind.”  
**DeeDee Stovel**

The haphazard pace of a slum is deleting play, fun, from the childhood experience. Organized activities, while having their own rightful place in a child’s life, are not the same as free, self-selected, spontaneous play, play that is unorganized and unstructured by an adult. Excursions and eat outs serves as a platform to nurture skills of team, leadership, mutual; harmony and conflict resolution. It is during this unstructured time that children unwind, relax, focus, and refresh. It is during this time that they develop the skills of leadership and. When the brain has a chance to process the day’s information, the child develops habits of the mind, heart, and soul – thinking, creativity, loving, and learning.

important gift you could give your young children is the simplest and least expensive of all. It is the sheer time, opportunity, and joy of being a child exploring the world around. This time can be spent in our nearby localities, in the park near us, or a visit to some iconic places like Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium (JLN) with no cash expense ensures leisure, enjoyment along with learning.

cultural events were being conducted. Children also went to attend Food Festival at the JLN stadium only. They enjoyed many delicious delicacies and dance along the tunes being played by open bands at the garden.

After having lunch and enjoying various cultural, funs, sports and food activities, all of us moved ahead to visit a temple nearby. Children throughout maintained the decorum but enjoyed every part of the trip thoroughly.

Thinking on the same track, RISE Team in association with Akhil Bhartya Gayatri Pariwar (ABGP) put in effort to take maximum children of poverty stricken RISE centers to a trip for excursion, cultural event and visit to monuments. The aim of this initiative was rejuvenation for our children so that they can refresh their tired nerves. This break gave our students a temporary relief from their studies, daily life struggles and monotony of slum life. After enjoying a day off, they feel fresh and take up their studies & lives with renewed vigor. It is important to provide memories that could be cherished forever by our children. The most

It was a bright Sunday morning on the 26<sup>th</sup> of November. Around 50 children and 5 educators from RISE centres of Sangam Vihar slums had gathered with all zeal anticipating a fun day all along. We had planned to take them for a cultural event cum excursion trip in association with Akhil Bhartiya gayatri pariwar. We started off on our bus journey at 8 AM. Children were all screaming with joy in the bus and enjoying themselves. Around 9 am all of us reached JLN Stadium. After having the breakfast, all of us gathered at the auditorium to witness the cultural event. Speeches were made to narrate to children how to use their youth in a better and efficient way. Behavioural tactics to tackle day to day life and other struggles were demonstrated. Performances by many children were made.

Finally it was time to go home. All the children got into the bus, said bye to the ABGP volunteers and thanked them for their company. The return journey was quiet and calm as all children were totally exhausted and left with no energy to scream. They were just recollecting the good time they had in stadium and repeatedly saying things about their lifetime experience. Not just children, RISE management team and educators were narrating the experience as a memorable one and the smile on the faces could explain the rest contentment.

Around 12 noon, children took a round of other auditorium where many other



## Fight against Dengue & Malaria

The reality that some children do not have the opportunity to grow up healthy and become productive members of their communities and the nation, has enormous ramifications for all. Failure to optimize the health and development of children will result in future burdens of dependence that come from an unhealthy and unskilled workforce and dysfunctional families. Furthermore, growing scientific evidence demonstrates that disparities in health have their origins in early childhood and, if not addressed, are compounded over the life course. And hence in RISE, we are constantly addressing all barriers towards a healthier lifestyle of just the kids but whole community attached. Children go out campaigning and awaking people about the hazards of unhygienic living and request for maintain cleanliness. We address this barrier through a holistic approach by giving children nutritional support by whichever means possible, imparting education towards health & hygiene, educating the parents and community involved. Even timely health checkups of children in Mohalla Clinics ensure the mission is meeting its goal. Now, Children have begun to be recognized not only for whom they are today but for their future roles in creating families, powering the workforce, and making Indian democracy work with a Sound health.

It was students of the entire center who did the rally and made an effort to aware community of south Delhi about health Hazards. Children living in slums suffer from adverse health condition. The motive was to spread awareness that how can we prevent from those diseases and what are the effects. Water & Health problems in Delhi are a threat to the well-being of the city and the nearby areas inhabitants. Delhi is, the first most populated metropolis in the world, is one of the most heavily polluted city in India, having for instance one of the



country's highest volumes of particulate matter pollution. Lakhs of people are denied the basic need for a toilet, breeding indignity and infections 90 percent of slums affected and suffer from malaria, dengue, and from typhoid diseases and these are the main concern of Delhi metropolitan cities. Poor sanitation, health and hygiene poses the perennial risk of exposing the residents to infection and disease. 16% Delhi slums have own toilets, 7% have share toilet, and 55% percent use community toilet and 22% percent slums people used open defecation. And fact is that an MCD public toilet in the slums of Tigre camp in Deoli are rarely clean and residents, especially women, fear going in.



With the aim of combating deadly diseases like Dengue & Malaria, hundreds of RISE children marched through the streets and markets of Sangam Vihar Slum with placards & posters and raising slogans about the precautions that could be taken to prevent breeding of mosquitoes, promoting cleanliness and living habits for a healthier lifestyle.

Children made their point through repeatedly saying following preventive measures:

- Avoid getting bitten by mosquitoes
- As a community, to prevent such diseases, ensures that there is no water stagnation in the surroundings, because they become excellent breeding grounds for mosquitoes.

A small effort by the children to reduce number of cases down with such life threatening diseases was appreciated by the community members and they vouched that they would clean up their homes, coolers and would even pitch in as a community to clean the drains & remove stagnant water along the streets.



## Training of Trainers (TOT)



We at RISE make sure that along with the children, our 10 highly deserving and hardworking educators also are exposed to various learning experiences. From yoga classes to various laws in Indian constitution, AROH keeps RISE educators engaged in various capacity building sessions. One of the core sessions in the capacity building is monthly TOTs. The aim of these TOTs is to ensure that we give enough food for thought and delivery before every post based learning (PBL) curriculum to the educators. The concepts are cleared, the modus operand of teaching and delivery is taught and communication between the Educator and children should be very clear. She needs to have knowledge of practical down to the grass root. She should not be a mute speaker just to say do this, do that but capable to guide the children. Every month training of educators is conducted by a master trainer then we ensure educator learn the training schedule with an honest intention that both trainees and organization benefits.

Educators are trained to establish a good relation with the students and for

the same purpose they are also made to interact with parents & community people too. All educators are trained with immense patience to deal with the students as every person has a different capacity of grasping what is being taught especially in such extreme circumstances. To make students understand in detail, educators are trained to narrate some stories, facts, incidences to make the matter more realistic. These educators are equipped with special emotional touch as they are dealing with special children of extreme circumstances and struggles.

In our November TOT, Student results were analyzed and accordingly new instructions were given. Focus was driven towards English speaking, and narrating English poems and essays. Educators were awarded certificate of participation and encouragement in the NGO mela. Extensive interactive sessions were done, where suggestions, issues and updates are delivered from the end of educators and Team AROH management. Record on 'Assets' List was taken. It had details about students asset's, educators asset's and the center's assets. Each

Educators were felicitated for incredible contribution in the NGO mela. YMCA Delhi had awarded our educators with certificate of participation and appreciation. AROH Foundation was also appreciated for zealous participation. Not in the classrooms, Educators have prominent existence in the fields and community too.

educator was called upon to know about its availability. New reporting formats were introduced & demonstrated.

RISE Educators are the backbone of RISE initiative. Their continuous, tireless and dedicated hard work has given RISE its strong existence in the community and beyond. Sangam Vihar knows where RISE centers are running, RISE educators are well known faces of the community and groomed and active students are promotional banners of RISE.

## Scholarly Achievements of RISE Children



### A small push can lead to a giant leap!

Each and every one of us has our own passions and areas of interest that we would like to explore and excel at. On the other hand, there are only a few who are brave enough as well as privileged enough to take the road less travelled. Would the world not be a much better place if people followed their passion rather than spending their time waiting endlessly in line to feel worthy of what they are doing or pursuing?

This is what scholarships are for; a morale boosting push that can help you propel yourself into the annals of creative freedom and true self-worth in the area of career professions. These scholarships are way more important for our RISE children as the dire need of money is not only keeping them aloof from basic education and leave alone of thinking about the corner which is holding a sapling of dream and passion in life. We, at RISE are not only striving hard to provide our children with basic education, but not leaving any stone unturned to ensure they join the mainstream and rather than just living, also dare to dream. In the same track,

Akhil Vishwa Gayatri Parvar(AVGP) came forward to provide an opportunity to dream. AVGP has enrolled all over RISE children for yearlong activity program. Around 50 well performing children are engaged for scholarship exams which would allow them to tackle hurdles of financial crisis and continue education with obstacles. Children are given books and educators are being trained to prepare well for the screenings. 1st round of exam was

conducted at our nodal center on 8th December, 2017. Children were also introduced to using OMR sheet which will be a common practice when these children would appear for higher exams in future. There are numerous ways in which these scholarships have been tailored for the purpose of ensuring that each student may avail crucial push during their educational journeys, depending on their personal aspirations.



There are numerous scholarships that have been created, with the goal of ensuring that essential aspects are taken into consideration with regards to the characteristics of the awardees themselves. At the same, more than just acknowledging their achievements, the scholarships act as positive reinforcements for the students, thus giving them an incentive to perform better next time and improve themselves incrementally. This can give a boost for the student when he/she looks for a career opportunity in the field of excellence. This initiative has a longer run in RISE and we are aiming at the PUSH which is required to move towards their dreams.



## The Christmas Marathon



### Every child deserves to feel the magic of Christmas

The festival of Christmas reflects the cultural unity of India as on this auspicious occasion, the whole nation comes together and celebrates the birth anniversary of Jesus Christ. This cultural unity sets an excellent example of brotherhood and humanism. British and European invaders brought Christianity into India and now it has become an integral part of the country. The doctrines and philosophy of Christianity has attracted people of many sections and hence, India has a large population of Christian community at present.

This year again, RISE students, educators and centers saw a colorful and zealous Christmas just like every year. Christmas is one of the favorite festivals of children. It promises songs, dances, Christmas carols, cakes, and presents to them. It is a colorful festival — as are most in India — and our RISE centers were draped in multicolored twinkling fairy lights, paper streamers,

and flowers. Centers were decorated with self-made decorative items by students and educators. Each center witnessed a Santa distributing sweets to children. Christmas songs were played and children enjoyed various activities. It was a fun day for all children.

This year the celebration, along with food and drinks, included cultural performance ranging from dance to drama and singing, for which the children had been preparing for weeks. The children, especially the younger ones, were thrilled to meet



with Santa who presented each of them with a gift. It was an occasion, where these marginalized children were also given a chance to be a Santa for someone. We asked them to donate what they do not need or are done using to fellow children who might need the thing now. They were also asked to get some home cooked food and share and eat within centers to encourage the value of generosity, sharing and caring. Throughout the year, these kids work extremely hard not only in their studies and home but also to adopt the higher lifestyles of society – a life inspired & lead by



privileged and upper class of the society. By imbibing Christmas values into their lives, they have surprised us with their inspiring levels of generosity and compassion despite the challenges of poverty they face. Children took promises for better and selfless lives.

The Significance of Christmas is known to men, all over the world. Though it is true that Christmas is celebrated as the day of the Birth of Christ into this world, yet it also symbolizes a very deeply significant truth of the spiritual life. Jesus Christ is the very personification

of Divinity. He was born at a time when ignorance, superstition, greed, hatred and hypocrisy prevailed upon the land. Purity was forgotten and morality was neglected. In the midst of these conditions, Christ was born and He worked a transformation in the lives of people. He gave a new and a spiritual turn to the lives of man. The same was demonstrated to children, that however tough the life may seem right now, but the power of their dedication, perseverance and persistence would bring a change, A positive change towards life, health, hygiene, and mutual Help !

## Fighting odds - Sunderi

Sunderi (25 years), daughter of Shri Navratan Singh, is a dynamic and soft spoken personality. She is a graduate in Arts and had a strong passion towards teaching profession. She had a dream to do something in life and simultaneously work towards her passion, but was not getting chance to fulfill that. Trying to explore all possible opportunities in the same line, she was introduced to AROH Foundation and its various interventions in her community. She could see her dreams getting its wings. In 2012, she joined AROH Foundation's "Padho and Badho" program as an educator and thereafter got a chance to work in RISE also. She has a strong say in her community now, as every household is aware of the work she does. Her students show remarkable performances in all fields. She herself has grown a lot as a person. From a shy girl within the limits of her house, she has emerged as outspoken leader who is also the torch bearer of women and children welfare in her society.



In her own words, she says, "AROH Foundation's RISE and Padho and Badho initiatives have been creating huge and long lasting impact over lives of children and women of my community. Just like me I have seen immense growth in all educators working for RISE and in so many children covered under RISE. We have been given a platform to showcase whatever we had, not just like teachers, but also like responsible citizen, budding entrepreneurs and leaders. On behalf of all of us, I thank AROH Foundation for being supportive and giving us chances which was rare in this difficult scenario."

### Its not just books for Aishwarya ...

Aishwarya is an eleven-year-old girl studying at Shobha's RISE centre. She is in the fourth standard at school. Her family hails from Gonda which lies on the outskirts of Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh. Like most others in their community they had migrated to Delhi in search of a better life for themselves. Shiv Kumar, Aishwarya's father is a mason. She has three siblings including two brothers and a sister. One of the brothers is elder to her while the others are younger to her. Her father is an alcoholic. Her mother, Kusum Devi, is a home maker. Aishwarya is somewhat weak in her studies. But, she has a creative streak to her. She is good at rangoli making, art and loves playing with her friends. Aishwarya's mother is very prompt with her kids' education and regularly visits the RISE centre to enquire about their progress. She often delves into how her husband desires to send them to private school but their financial condition prevents them from doing so. RISE focused on the second side of Aishwarya's interest and has often been engaged in activities of art & craft, rangoli making and singing and dancing competition. Not just this scholastic growth has been kept in mind and she has been enrolled for Scholarship exam and its preparation by Gayatri pariwar.



Kusum Devi being elated by the RISE support says, "I am grateful to RISE and AROH Foundation, who are taking care of Aishwarya's scholastic development and along with it also encouraging her to participate in non-scholastic passion of hers too. You have given all of us a chance to dream and be positive about humanity and life."



**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.