

#### A successful life is a result of dedicated learnings and not top marks

Online education is not as easy as speaking into the microphone at one end, and connecting a laptop and listening in on the other; there are challenges faced at both ends of the spectrum – students as well as the faculty. As soon as the COVID-19 crisis broke out in India, the schools & colleges announced the suspension of classes. While schools & colleges were closed, everyone waited to see what would happen next, so they started exploring online classes. COVID-19 has forced universities across India, and the world indeed, to suspend physical classrooms and shift to online classes. In India, while this transition has been smooth for most private schools, the public ones are still adapting. To alleviate these circumstances, we need to start realising that the education of students has to be equally targeted alongside measures for health and food security.

As the old adage goes "Today's children are tomorrow's citizens," yet if the lessons from the pandemic are anything to by, much more can be done in this interim to better prepare these citizens for an uncertain future. Education is not just about classes. It is about interactions, broadening of ideas, free-flowing open discussions, debates, and mentoring of each student, this is what AROH-RISE is trying to help with the current situation of children. While we try to do all of this, we covered almost all the children through online platform. In this time of crisis, a well-rounded and effective educational practice is what is needed for the capacity-building of young minds. It will develop skills that will drive their employability, productivity, health, and well-being in the decades to come, and ensure the overall progress of India.



## Eid Mubarak



RISE holds equal importance of each and every event & festival celebrated irrespective of caste & religion. All the students & staff members enthusiastically celebrate all the festivals with their creative ideas. There are many religious festivals which they celebrate with great passion and dedication. One of them is EID-al-Adha. Eid-al-Adha is also called the "Greater Eid" as it the most significant of two Eid festivals, other being Eid-ul-Fitr. The celebrations also mark the end of annual Haii pilgrimage to the holy town of Mecca. Also known as the festival of sacrifice, Eid al-Adha is celebrated by Muslims on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of Dhu al-Hijjah, which is the 12 and last month of the lunar calendar. It also marks the end of the Hajj pilgrimage. However, Hajj was cancelled this year due to pandemic fear. The festival is celebrated in the memory of Prophet Abraham, who obeyed the command of God to 'sacrifice' his first-born son Ismail. However, he was stopped short of sacrificing his son by God and instead ordered him to sacrifice an animal.

The festivities range from two to three days and are marked with get together, feasting, charity and gift giving. Eid-al-Adha is reverently celebrated by the Muslims around the world. During the bakrid, devotees throng to mosques to offer afternoon prayer to Allah. The prayers are performed as a congregation on the 10<sup>th</sup> Dhu-al-Hijjah. Participation of women in the prayers differs from section to section. Prayers for all the three days of the festival are considered mandatory for any Muslim.

Everyone embraced each other and offer greetings after the prayers. By wishing "Eid Mubarak" to all, everyone visited each other's house and feast with family and friends. RISE students & staff members enthusiastically celebrated EID festival with their creative ideas, great passion and dedication. Eid prayers were offered at home only, and venturing out was a strict nono. There is also a custom of sacrificing an animal like a male goat and distributing its meat in three parts - one for the poor and needy, another for the family and friends and last portion for the relatives. But this year the above custom was un-followed in many areas due to lockdown restrictions and that has also thrown a spanner in the festival. With COVID-19 restrictions in place around the world including India, RISE children & educators celebrated the festival of Eid al-Adha taking all safety precautions and maintaining social distancing.



# Empowering our "Pillars"



Overcoming the impact of the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) on primary schools is an emerging need and priority in the current social welfare system. Accordingly, this study presents an empirical learning package to support teachers, who perform frontline work in schools, in coping with stress, preventing burnout, improving their information and communications technology (ICT) competency, and introducing the principles of emotional intelligence (EI) in the classroom.

Teacher training needs to evolve, in both content and form. COVID-19 has confirmed as much. There are twin pressures gesturing towards a marriage of technology and teacher training:

COVID-induced school closures in the developing world legitimise an argument for focusing on teacher Continuous Professional Development (CPD) rather than student learning.

• Blended learning is set to become the norm and teachers require upskilling on how to deliver it effectively.

During an education crisis, teacher training is helping 'Build Back Better' by improving pre-existing educational norms, and to develop structural resilience that withstands future COVID-type crises. In this shared emergency, RISE team is trying hard preparing teachers to support learning from distance. At RISE we understand the importance of continuous education and provide to various learning to not only the children but the top 20 hardworking and deserving educators. The trainings are conducted every month by RISE-AROH team through F2F or Zoom/ Google meet. In these training, teachers are taught new concepts and their teaching methodology is improvised based on the progress of the students. The lessons from BLMs were assembled, with different logic applied here. The aim of the session was to make them aware of the online mode of

more independently which would further help focus on their students learning levels. Apart from this, educators were also taught about advanced concepts like zoom/ Google meet friendly, BLMs, Education practices during COVID. With the increase in internet penetration the importance of mobile banking has greatly increased, it is not only convenient but also safe. We even train our educators about the usage of computers to have basic hands on it. In AROH-RISE, we consider our Educators as the backbone of RISE initiative.



#### Education

## Contributing towards mother nature



"One of the first conditions of happiness is that the link between man and nature shall not be broken."

The World Nature Conservation Day is observed on July 28 across the world to create & raise awareness about protecting and conserving natural resources. There are so many threats to nature like deforestation, illegal wildlife trade, pollution, using plastics, chemicals, and a lot more. But nowadays many countries have woke up and have realized the importance of conserving nature. A healthy environment must be created to safeguard the present and future generations. It is essential for people to understand that the world is one and anything that is done in part of the globe will affect other parts as well. Earth gives basic necessities to live like water, air, soil, minerals, trees, animals, food, so it is required that we keep our nature clean and healthy. As there is no immediate danger, people take nature for granted to exploit it for money. Nature is facing huge problems like deforestation and illegal wildlife trade on the rise. Man comes into contact with nature right from birth. Conservation of resources has an important role in protecting the nature of the Earth. The balance in the natural beauty of the earth can be established by preserving various components of nature – water, air, soil, energy, vegetation, minerals, fauna etc. The main purpose of celebrating World Nature Conservation Day is to conserve the fauna and trees and plants from the natural environment of the earth.

Coinciding with the every year celebrations, on July 28<sup>th</sup>, we at RISE celebrated World Nature Conservation Day. The main purpose of celebrating World Nature Conservation Day is to conserve the animals, animals and trees that are extinct from the natural environment of the Earth. With this the idea was to plant more and more trees in their nearby communities. At the same time students were taught how to take care of the plants and to help the environment with more biodiversity. They understood the different uses of trees and its importance in the ecosystem. Also, how it affects the climate and provides shelter to the wildlife in the region. RISE educators guided the students that our contribution in preserving nature is a small environmental investment that will pay dividends for decades to come. RISE educators elaborated that even when the importance of tree plantation & nature conservation is so evident; there are only a handful of people who actually take it as their responsibility to indulge in this activity. The rest are so engrossed in their lives that they do not understand that without enough trees around we wouldn't be able to live long.

RISE Educators informed students about various vital points to remember like, do not cut trees, water conservation & circulate the water used, limit noise pollution, discard plastics & use paper bags, turn off electricity usage when not in need, walk more & cycle more, etc.

It is time we must recognize the importance of tree plantation and contribute our bit towards the same. Everyone must promote environment-friendly activities in their daily life to lead a Green Lifestyle. Swachh Bharath Abhiyaan, Project Tiger, Mangroves for the future (MFF) are some initiatives that India has undertaken to conserve nature. Today, it looks like planting trees is the only option we are left with, to counter the increasing pollution levels, and the climate change. It is simple, the more the number of trees, the better oxygen we will get to breathe, and lesser environmental calamities would happen in future. Thus, more and more trees must be planted if we really want to survive and lead a good life.









# World Youth Skill Day



#### "Reimagining Youth Skills Post Pandemic"

COVID-19 is continuing to be casting a long shadow over the future of young people all around the world and so, this year, World Youth Skills Day 2021 will be taking place in a much challenging context. It is estimated that nearly 70% of the world's learners are affected by school closures across education levels currently. In India, young people are almost three times more likely to be unemployed than adults and continuously exposed to the lower quality of jobs, greater labour market inequalities, tedious and more insecure school-to-work transitions. In addition, women are more likely to be under-employed and under-paid, and undertake parttime jobs or work under temporary contracts. Apart from COVID, being the catalyst in creating this situation, under educated and under skilled youth also remain the main reason for this situation in India. This year, World Youth Skills Day 2021, very aptly, pays tribute to the resilience and creativity of youth through the crisis and

correspondingly to the technical and vocational providers that have adapted their learning delivery models in the pandemic.

Youth unemployment is increasing which is the most significant problem facing today's economies and societies in the world for developed and developing countries alike. World Youth Skills Day, observed annually on July 15, focuses on the strategic importance of equipping young people with skills for employment, decent work, and entrepreneurship. The main goal of this day is to equip young people around the world with

and entrepreneurship. World Youth Skills Day 2021 will again take place in a challenging context due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. We at RISE not only nurture the lives of students but also supports our Educators. We give trainings to our Educators to help themselves build back better. Some of our Educators have been empowered to pursue their passion & dreams. We believe that broadening their skills is not just about assisting them with change; it is also about continually professional updating their knowledge & skills.

essential skills for employment, work, and entrepreneurship. This day is meant to commemorate, acknowledge а n d celebrate the importance of equipping young people with skills for employment





### Online Education in RISE



### Flying Again .... Niha

Niha, an educator of RISE who belongs to the Muslim Community and has been one of the oldest educators of AROH Foundation. Few years ago due to insufficient income her father migrated in the city in search of employment and then after, they all started living here. Being a girl associated to the Muslim community she wasn't allowed to move out and work, thus she found it difficult to help & support her family financially. But now after being engaged with AROH Foundation she is one self-dependent & dignified girl who had fought from all the odds & outs and has been working confidently to support her large family of 9 members including her 3 sisters and 2 brothers. Trying to support, she was introduced to AROH Foundation as an



educator in project RISE. She feels more attached to the project RISE, working for the betterment of deprived children and community. She is one of the most loved educators in RISE. Her dedication, politeness & calmness has given her immense love and respect in her center and around in the community as well. Not just during teaching in her center, she also very enthusiastically takes part and initiates many other processes for the betterment of the students and community.

Niha says "in RISE as an educator has given me a chance to teach and learn both. AROH Foundation's influence and coordination towards society, environment and poor children has brought change to a greater extend in my life which cannot be expressed in words. Additionally, I thank RISE from the bottom of my heart that they recruited me and made me the member of RISE."



# **Rising Vipin**

Vipin Kumar, 9 years, comes from a family of 5 people, his parents and two younger siblings. His family, Vinod Kumar, belongs to one of the villages in Uttar Pradesh. This family shifted to Sangam Vihar, Delhi around 2 years ago in search of better job and income. Now his father works as a security guard and mother is a housewife. Due to negligence and wrong companionship, Vipin had turned into a mischievous and violent child. He was often involved in fights. As he was the eldest child, his parents were very worried and so they enrolled him in RISE, seeking some help. Over past 1 year, Vipin has shown tremendous growth not just as a student, but has developed good etiquettes too. His educator Ms Niha has been focusing a lot to help him redirect his energies into constructive work. His grades have improved, he convinced his parents to send his younger sister to RISE along with him.



Vipin is now a responsible and sincere child of the family.

"After hearing so many good things, I feel proud today that I have saved the future of a child from being destroyed. From an abusive child, he has drastically changed into well-mannered and decent child." says Niha, his educator.



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