

RISE

Remedial Innovation in School Education

New Year & Republic Day Special | RISE Sangam Vihar & Mundka | January 2021

Wishing HOPE . HEALTH & HUMANITY for the New Year !

Every year in RISE, we provoke hope within children with the start, commencement and end of an year. 500 slum children, who were otherwise deprived, depressed and disgraced are led towards new life, new opportunities and new vision with series of strategic interventions. A hope to create something better, a better version of ourselves, a better version of our outlook, a better version of the society we are living into. This is the hope given to all our RISE children with the start of Brand New Year. They have been imbibed with a dream of change, change towards life-changing benefits like medical care, educational support, life skills and job-training before they graduate.

*2020 has been a challenging year for all of us. However it has also shown us we are far mightier than we imaged. Together the whole world sailed through the unprecedented events strongly. We take this opportunity to thank all our partners for standing fast with us during these times and supporting us to spread smiles. Now with the dawn of a new year, wishing 2021 to be a year filled with **Hope, Health & Humanity** for all of you.*

We wish all our readers a very Happy New Year & Happy Republic Day !



Empowering Girls for a Brighter Tomorrow



“You can call your daughter ‘Beta’ but won’t ever call your son ‘Beti’ this signifies why Daughters are so special” With a purpose to spread awareness in society about the lack of equality girls facing today compared to boys, National Girl Child Day is celebrated across India every year on 24th January. National Girl Child Day was started by the Women and Child Development Ministry since 2008 to celebrate as the national observance. This mission raises the awareness among people all over the country about the importance of girl’s promotion. It enhances the meaningful contribution of the girls in decision making processes through the active support of the parents and other community members. Celebration of National Girl Child Day was started to offer more supports and new opportunities to the girls in the country. It is celebrated to increase the awareness among people about all the inequalities faced by the girl child in the society. Inequality about girl child is a vast problem which includes many areas like inequality in education, nutrition, legal rights, medical

care, protection, honour, child marriage and so many.

Campaign like ‘*Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao*’ which addresses issues like stop female foeticide, girls’ rights to education is created on mass awareness about changing the mind-set of people. Government is planning many strategies like increasing construction of toilet for girls in rural areas to increase the attendance of girls in school. In today’s era girls are not only restricted to education, in sports & other physical activities too they are making their footprints. This is the first time in the history of Indian sports that the ministry of sports nominated Nine women athletes for the Padma awards 2020. Also, first time at the republic day parade last year all women biker contingent of CRPF participated to showcase Daredevil stunts. Its 65-member team showed skills on 350cc Bullet motorcycles.

RISE also celebrated a weeklong event digitally on the occasion of National Girl Child Day. The event included online awareness programs, self-defence training, drawing and painting competitions for children, child literacy etc. To commemorate the day, Girl students delivered online speeches about their rights for equal education and fundamental freedom. Girls and their parents were also made aware of an important scheme called ‘*Dhanalakshmi*’ implemented by The Women and Child Develop-

ment Ministry to make cash transfer to the girl child family to fulfil the basic needs such as immunization, birth registration, school enrolment and maintenance up to the Class VIII. The Right to Education Act has made available the free and necessary education to the girl child. The parents were also educated not to be gender-bias against their daughters and asked them to send their daughters to schools every day to turn them into successful persons. They were taught the importance of the daughters in their families. The parents were made aware of the topics called save girl child, child sex ratios and





creating a healthy and safe environment for a girl child. As schools are closed so through online classes, RISE educators helped the parents understand that when a family decides to kill a female foetus in the womb, they decide to kill a daughter, a wife and a mother. As a society which worships goddesses like Saraswati and Lakshmi, it is a shame that such hypocrisy exists. It is time we pledge to always go against this practice because every girl has a right to be born, to study, to succeed and to live. The day today was such a good initiative for us to help parents understand the importance of daughters in their lives says the educators.

Despite all of measures taken across at different level, we need to change the thinking of people in Male dominated society where education of son is given more importance and girls are always first choice for household work. But let's not lose hope, with the coming years girls' education in India shall reach to new heights.

Recognising our Mother Tongue .. Hindi

World Hindi Day is celebrated across the country at 10th of January every year to remember the historic occasion of the Hindi. It was started celebrating as a World Hindi Day as Hindi written in Devnagari script was approved as an official language by the Constituent Assembly at 10th of January in the year 1949. India observes World Hindi Day annually on 10th of January, to promote Hindi language and to save it from getting extinct. Together with the economic prosperity and technological development in the country, the Hindi language is losing its importance a little while. Everyone wants to learn and speak English language in order to get success in almost all the fields as there is demand of the same. However, we should not leave our mother language and take interest in it to have thorough knowledge together with other necessities of being success. Language and culture of any country plays an important role in making people-to-people contact between any countries.

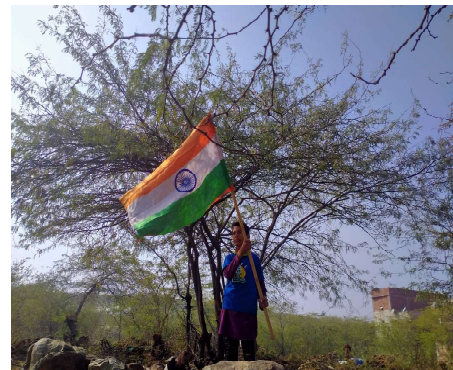


Celebration of Indian Republic



26th January 1950 was the day when the Constitution of India came into force. This was the day when India turned to a republic country after the British colonial rule of 300 years. Since then we commemorate the day by celebrating the Republic Day on 26th January every year.

The Constitution of India, which is also regarded as the supreme law of our country was framed by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar who was the chairman of the constitution drafting committee. The hard work and intelligence of Dr. Ambedkar and the members of the drafting committee helped our nation to get our very own constitution which declares India as a Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, and Democratic Republic nation. Republic Day has importance in every heart of an Indian citizen. This is one of the national festivals of India which embarks the sense of patriotism in everybody's mind. This is one of the occasion which helps to introduce the younger generation to our great Indian history and culture. This is the day when we remember our great leaders and freedom fighters who sacrificed their life for the country. Republic Day also teaches us the importance of unity and how it helped in the Indian freedom struggle to defeat the much powerful British Empire. Mahatma Gandhi's non-violence movement teaches us that how we can defeat a much powerful enemy without lifting a single weapon or shedding a drop of blood. Republic Day also makes us remember that all the citizens of the country are equal for the constitution and there is no discrimination on the basis of caste, creed or religion. The Republic Day is celebrated across the country with full enthusiasm, zeal, joy and off course, with the real sense of patriotism. The celebrations in schools are very common sightings on this day where children are smartly dressed up carrying the tricolour and wearing the badges of our great freedom fighters. Flag hoisting ceremonies, cultural programmes, speeches, various competitions etc. are conducted in all the schools as well as in the government and private offices. The President of India addresses the nation on the eve of Republic Day on 25th January and is telecasted on all the radio and television channels. The main celebration takes place in New Delhi at Rajpath near India Gate on 26th January. RISE team reiterated the importance of education and the role of educators in moulding the young minds, preparing them to lead the country towards development. The event commenced with welcoming the Beneficiaries and Community members. The students of RISE expressed their spirit of unity and secularism on the occasion of 72nd Republic Day celebrations. They participated in GK competition. Beneficiaries paid a special tribute to Soldiers through patriotic songs. The celebration continued with song and dance competitions and speeches that reminded the students of the sacrifices made by the freedom fighters. An air of patriotic fervour permeated the atmosphere. In the end, Prize distribution & Sweet distribution ceremony was held and best performers got prizes. While we today enjoy their freedom in heritage, we must know the amount of sacrifices the freedom fighters did without any second thought, the activities that happened during the struggle for freedom and the amount of bloodshed that took place, so that we, as a country, can enjoy this peaceful life. It's very evident to notice that their sacrifice, nowadays, seems to have a very little value. This is a very true quote with says, *"We realize the importance of a thing when it's taken away from us,"* and somewhere or the other, this is the exact case with today's youth. Most of them lack the sense of patriotism within them; they fail to realize the value of freedom they get in heritage.



Celebration of Prosperity



Lohri festival is a very popular Punjabi festival celebrated every year by the people of Punjabi religion in the South Asia. It is considered that it is celebrated in winter on the day when the day becomes a shortest day and the night becomes a longest night of the year. Significance of Lohri Festival Celebration is that the main crop of the winter called wheat is sown in the October however harvested in the end March or start of April. Before cutting, collecting and bringing crop to home, farmers celebrate this Lohri festival and enjoy. It falls in the mid of January month according to Hindu calendar when sun becomes farthest from the earth. Celebrating Lohri is the indication of end of winter sea-

son and start of the spring season gradually. During the celebration people take bath in the river Gange in order to get free from there all sins. It is celebrated as a harvest festival of the Punjab by lighting a bon-fire, dancing and singing in the praise of the Dulha Batti. Mainly it is a festival of Punjabis however it is also celebrated by the people living in other Northern Indian States including Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, etc. On this day it is said that a cleansing, holy bath should be taken symbolizing the washing of our bad Karma and Ego and to meditate so greed and desires leave us. The festival is very important for the farmers and the villages all over celebrate by welcoming the spring and praying and thanking Gods for a bumper harvest. The bonfire is used to roast the fresh Chholiya or Green Gram in its pods with the leaves and stem and enjoy the roasted gram as the first fruits of

labour.

RISE also witnessed the celebration of thanksgiving in times of Lockdown. Children were given the concept of thanking the gestures, act and words of generosity by any individual, group or nature. Educators demonstrated in detail how we are being selflessly served by our parents, neighbours, colleagues and nature and how we can thank them by taking proper care of the gifts given to us. Also, Lohri is like a final feast to bid goodbye to the cold winter, a festivity welcoming the arrival of spring. So, simultaneously children were warned against the diseases that would be spreading in season change time and so cleanliness, hygiene and proper nutrition would be essential in coming days. Even the Gods not reside at unhygienic places, and so maintain an ambience of health hygiene and harmony and make world a better place to live.



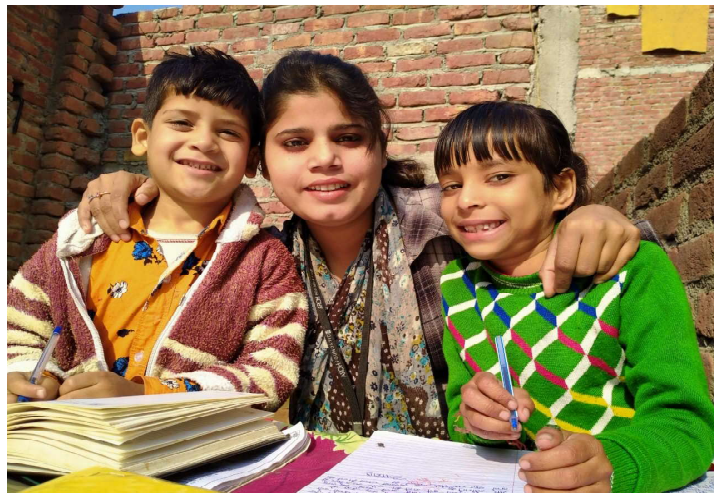
International Day of Education



Education is a human right, a public good and a public responsibility. The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 24 January as International Day of Education, in celebration of the role of education for peace and development. Without inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong opportunities for all, countries will not succeed in achieving gender equality and breaking the cycle of poverty that is leaving millions of children, youth and adults behind. RISE resolved to create a self-reliant, self-confident and competent Bharat that is literate, educated and empowered. *“Once you learn to read, you will be forever free.”* This quote stands completely true as the power to read, or educate, is much needed to escape any form of bondage or restrictions. History is witness to the fact what a pen or a book could do to overpower even those who considered themselves undefeatable.

Rising above obstacles .. Farhin

Overcoming challenges is what makes Farhin's story meaningful. Farhin, 24 yrs, is an extremely self-assured and a well-poised young girl. She had stacked all odds against her growing up in a Muslim family as a female child in a poor household. She is the youngest amongst three siblings in her family. Her brothers had the opportunity to attend school & work outside, but she did not, because her family didn't allow her stepping & working outside. Despite this, Farhin was determined to study, earn and share the burden of the family. Then one day, a different turn came about in her life when her neighbour told her about RISE and encouraged her to join as a Teacher. She requested her father to work & joined AROH Foundation as a RISE Educator 4 years ago. She has been a diligent and focused teacher all along and also an excellent artist. Farhin has completed her Education and now has become the first lady in her family to enrol in a college. Being associated with RISE-AROH, Farhin has actively attended Personality Development Training, Arts & crafts workshops to further boost her communication & artistic skills.



After becoming an independent woman, Farhin's family members are very happy to see her working profoundly. *Her mother says, “I feel proud to have such a great and intelligent daughter who is achieving her goals on one hand and supporting the family financially on the other hand”.* Farhin's father also appreciates her daughter & thank AROH Foundation for everything his daughter is turning into.

Giving Roots and Wings to Nandini

This heartening story narrating change of life for a special girl Nandini, 9 years, takes you in the southern territory of India's Capital Delhi's Sangam Vihar Slums. The loud chorus of children chanting mathematical numbers attracts any nearby visitor to much vibrant RISE centers. In one of these centers, one could see Nandini, in her blue RISE jersey, leading the chorus with bright eyes and wide grin on her face.

But the cheerful Nandini had a difficult childhood in the background. She hailed from Bade Gaon village in the Aligarh district, Uttar Pradesh. Her family of 7 children and her parents had moved to the Sangam Vihar slums 15 years ago in search of better life and livelihood. Her father was supporting his large family through petty gardening tasks. Struggle for basic needs of their lives starting from safe sanitation, safe water, health, education and a tiny public space for their children to play was incessant. Adding to these grievances, Nandini's started consuming excess alcohol and eventually the whole family got in the confinement of drudgery and distress. Nandini was the eldest, and being the girl child, she was forced to leave school and was indulged in domestic and sibling care tasks. Ceaseless responsibilities for those inconvenient and cumbersome chores at such tender age, aggression had gone deep in her genes. She had started reacting violently and annoyingly to everything even to her parents, towards her siblings and even towards her food and touch.

She was instantly reported and registered under their project RISE catering to holistic development of poor slum children along with dedicated efforts towards their education & health. After many months of consistent care, love and attention, Nandini began to show her first signs of change. She began to smile and respond with smiles and warmth. AROH managed to get her back to school with counseling of her parents and liaising with local authorities. Her grades started improving and she eventually turned into the protagonist of her class. Nandini did not even turn off from her domestic chores, instead she also is teaching her younger siblings at home.



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.