

Diwali Special | RISE Update | November 2018

# RISE

*Remedial Innovation in School Education*

**Asato maa sad-gamaya (Lead us from Untruth to Truth)**  
**Tamaso maa jyotir-gamaya (From Darkness to Light)**  
**Mrityor-maa-mritan gamaya (From Death to Immortality)**  
**OM shaanti shaanti shaanti (OM peace, peace peace)**



Diwali illuminations signified supernatural brightness and joy with the hope of finding light in darkness, achieving knowledge where there is ignorance, and spreading love amidst hatred. These lights symbolize knowledge. A Diya doesn't merely represent a decorative item but reminds one and all to give up their materialistic desires, defeat their ignorance by gaining knowledge if they wish to merge with God. We, in RISE also strive hard to add purpose and vision to people's life by adding the flavour of education and spread the light of knowledge within the darkness of ignorance. All 500 children and RISE management team ensured the actual message reached to everyone around celebrated the festival with all zeal. "Green and Clean Diwali" was the motto this year. It was well conveyed that lighting diyas is actually similar to showing gratitude towards nature and giving a selfless service. Placing a diya generates positive energy into the environment. The energy generated gives a positive effect on all the living around. It is a beacon that leads to a spiritual path and provides serenity of mind and soul. The month of October symbolized light, peace, harmony and knowledge. Diwali and Dusshera celebrations in the month depicted victory of good over evil, end of ignorance and darkness and attainment of knowledge.



## Lighting the diyas of “wisdom”



The festival of lights, Deepavali is one of the most popular and important festivals of India, which is celebrated to ward off evil forces and to bring in peace and harmony in the lives of the people. Also known as Diwali, it is celebrated to worship Goddess Laxmi, the deity of wealth. This festival is celebrated exactly 20 days after the celebration of Dussehra, another major Hindu festival. On this day of Deepavali, Goddess for wealth and prosperity is worshipped. People illuminate their houses and streets with lights and earthen lamps to lighten up the night. 'Deep' meaning earthen lamps justifies the sacredness of the festival. The festival of lights continues for five long days. The first day of the festival is called Dhanteras. The second day is the 'Nark Chaturdashi' or 'Choti Diwali'. Diwali falls on the third day while the fourth and fifth day of Deepavali is celebrated in a different way in various parts of India. Deepavali falls on the day of Amavasya or the no moon night during the month of Ashwin of the Hindu calendar. In the late evening when it becomes dark, lamps are lit to illuminate and brighten up everything around.

Rows of clay lamps are lighted for decoration and to illuminate the night. The lamps are said to ward off the



evil forces and signifies the triumph of the good over evil power. Even the poorest of homes light some lamps to celebrate this day. People light firecrackers which add to the light and colour of the night. Beautiful multi coloured Rangoli and floral decorations beautify the houses. The glamour and shimmer all around the country fulfils the significance of the festival. The jubilation continues for five days. Lights, fireworks and colours make the night of Diwali a memorable one. The shops worship goddess Laxmi along with Lord Ganesh. People wait eagerly every year for Deepavali to celebrate with great enjoyment and fan-fare.

At RISE, our children also celebrated the festival with all

zeal. Children of all sects whether Hindu, Muslim, Sikh or any other religion participated in all activities conducted at RISE and contributed towards harmony of the community. Children started the celebration with "SAY NO TO CRACKERS" rally, to contribute towards fight against rising pollution level of the city. Pre parathion of the celebration included decoration of

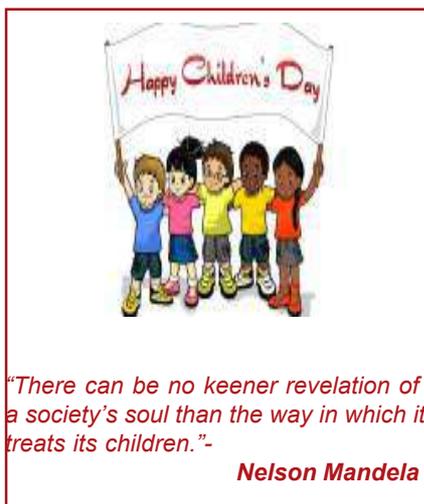




Diyas, candles, rangoli making and cleanliness of centres were done. Goddess Lakshmi pooja was conducted at RISE centres to invite peace, harmony and prosperity and on the day of Deepawali, children lit the whole centres with hand-made biodegradable diyas. The significance of lightening the diya was also that we hope that similarly, the darkness within the lives of these children shall also omit and light may shower to promote them towards progress and happiness. RISE, on the auspicious day pledged towards peace, harmony and light of education.



## Celebrating our “children”



In India, the basis of Children’s Day is Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru’s Birthday, which is celebrated on 14<sup>th</sup> November. Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru was always very concerned for children, loved them a lot and contributed immensely towards their development.

The occasion of children’s Day is not only an opportunity to celebrate and enjoy, but it reminds us of the mission and message of Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru. He always wanted children all over the world to grow, prosper, get education and prosper in life. Jawaharlal Nehru popularly and fondly remembered as Chacha Nehru, always believed that children decide the future of any country or civilization. If the children of the country are provided with proper foundation and development opportunities, they can uplift the nation towards greater

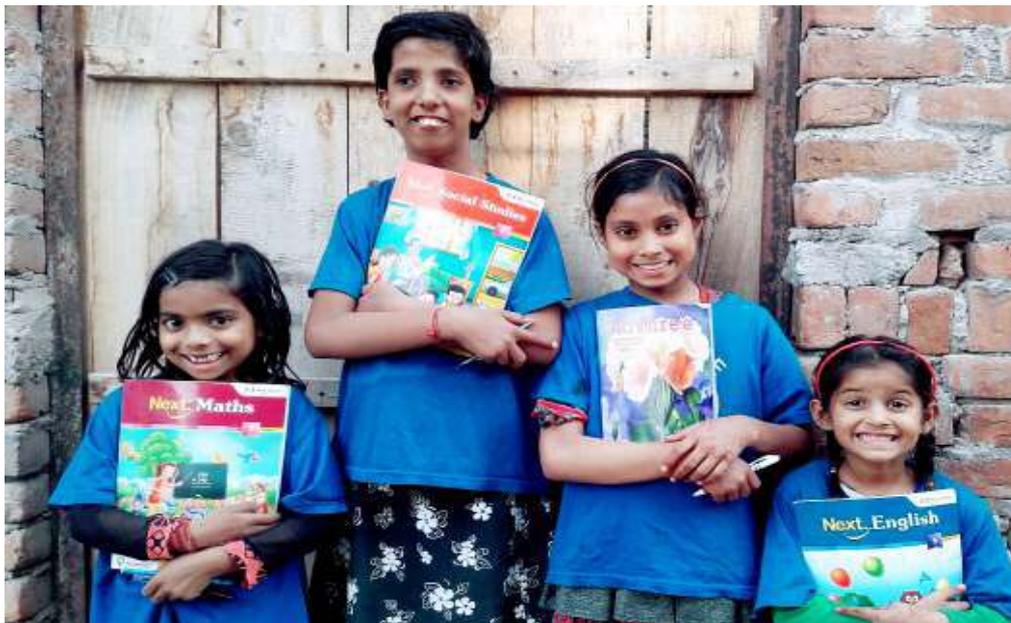
prosperity. On the other hand, failure to feed and educate the children prepares to ruin all the expectations of any nation.

Therefore, amidst all this pomp and glory, we should not lose sight of Chacha Nehru’s real message. On this 14<sup>th</sup> November, in RISE Children’s Day was a day to engage in fun and frolic. The day was celebrated with great pomp and show across all RISE centres and activities like plays, dance, skit and songs were conducted at all centres. But not just that, this day reminds everyone to renew their commitment towards the welfare of the children and to teach them to live by Chacha Nehru’s ideals. And for grown-up people, it is an occasion to imbibe the qualities of childhood. Children’s Day also reminds us of the rights of children. We are the citizens and leaders of tomorrow. So we really matter and deserve respect, special care and protection. But we also have to admit that children like those in RISE, of slums, where crimes are at peak are regularly abused and assaulted. They are far away from the glimpses of childhood, and have been pushed into the struggle of survival. At RISE we

also made our children aware about their rights and train them to fight for it. Children were also guided towards that Children’s Day is an occasion to imbibe the values of discipline, sense of order, cleanliness, beauty, and above all, innocence. So let us join hands, let us stand up, for we are the future leaders of this beautiful nation and let us lead by example.



# Knowing our rights on Childrens Rights Day



United Nations Universal Children's Day was established in

1954 and is celebrated on November 20th each year to promote international togetherness, awareness among children worldwide and improving children's welfare. Day also marks the anniversary of the date that the UN General Assembly adopted both the declaration and the convention on children's rights.

Children's rights includes their right to association with both parents, human identity as well as the basic needs for physical protection, food, universal state-paid education, health care, and criminal laws appropriate for the age and development of the child's civil rights, and freedom from discrimination on the basis of the child's race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, religion, disability, color, ethnicity, or other characteristics.

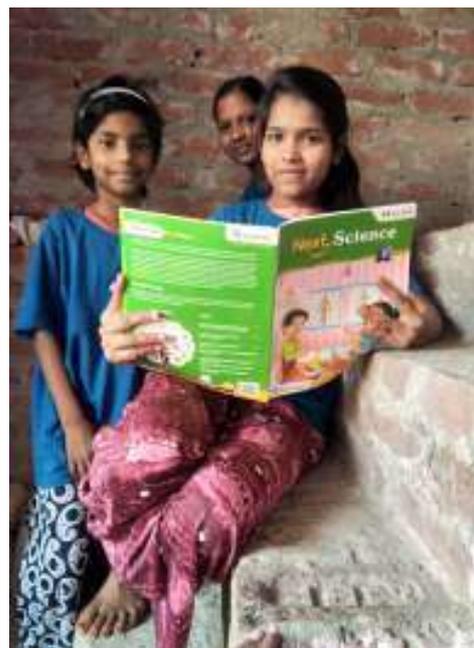
On the occasion of world child right day RISE made children aware about the various rights they have and can claim, including the schemes which Indian government

has provided them for the protection of their fundamental rights. From Right to education , to Mid day meal, to right to clean water and sanitation to right to equality , every child was informed, aware and sensitised in detail.

A workshop over Child Rights and POSCO act was also conducted by experts of the area. Another schemes like -Integrated Child Development Scheme, Scheme Operation, Integrated Programme for Street Children, Kishori Shakti Yojana, Wheat Based Nutrition Programme (WBNP), Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG), Rajiv Gandhi National Crèche Scheme For the Children of Working Mothers, Balika Samridhi Yojana (BSY), Initiatives to combat trafficking of Women and Children, Central Adoption Resource Agency (CARA), Shishu Greha Scheme, services, Reproductive, Scheme for Working Children in need of care and protection, National Child Labour Project. Etc was demonstrated.

On this occasion children were told about different child lines helpline numbers they can take help of in case of nay danger and need. They were told about CHILDLINE 1098 is

India's first 24 - hour, free, emergency phone outreach service for children in need of care and protection. Any concerned adult, or a child in need of help can dial 1098, the toll free number to access our services. We not only respond to the emergency needs of children but also link them to services for their long-term care and rehabilitation.



# Achievers of RISE

RISE initiative was also secured through many sustainable Stepney. Few bright children who had proved their metal through various internal and external assessments were given a chance to sit for scholarship examination conducted by AKHIL VISHWA GAYATRI PARWAR (AVGP). Around 150 children sat for exam and out of which 50 were felicitated with awards and few were engaged with year round scholarship for a bright future. AVGP enrolled RISE children for yearlong activity program. Well performing children are engaged for scholarship exam which will help them to tackle hurdles of financial crisis and continued education without having obstacles and could live their dreams. Children are being helped by giving books and educators are being trained to prepare well for the screening. The 1st round of exams was conducted at our nodal centre, in which children were also introduced to use OMR sheets which will be a common practise when these children would appear for any high exams in future. In the final phase of the examination, Akhil Vishwa Gayatri Parwar (AVGP) felicitated AROH Foundation and Project RISE for exemplary performance in the yearlong scholarship examination for the children. Our star



performers from RISE, Neeraj (13 years) won the Gold Medal, Ms Tanmaya (14 years) won the silver medal and Ms Divya (13 years) was awarded with bronze medal for their performance during the multi-level examination.

There are numerous ways in which these scholarships have been tailored for the purpose of ensuring that



each student may avail to crucial pushing during their educational journeys, depending on their personal aspirations. This is a huge step that has been taken for helping the children to fulfil their dreams and not only that they will get exposure towards the new things and will learn lots of things that will help them to move ahead in a future. The initiative has a longer run in RISE and we are aiming at the PUSH which is required to move towards their dreams. RISE initiative was also secured through many sustainable Stepney. Few bright children who had proved their metal through various internal and external assessments were given a chance to sit for scholarship examination conducted by AKHIL VISHWA GAYATRI PARWAR (AVGP). Around 150 children sat for exam and out of which 50 were felicitated with awards and few were engaged with year round scholarship for a bright future. AVGP enrolled RISE children for year-





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## “Usha” ki kiran

Usha is not a normal girl who is coming to RISE but an inspiration to battle out all odds and work towards Hope. Usha is 9 and studying in class 5<sup>th</sup>. She is having an emotionally tough childhood as her mother passed away 2 years due to illness and after which her father remarried. She had to leave her father's house and is now staying with her maternal uncle and aunt. Though her uncle and aunty are supportive towards her but the lack of parental love is evident in her life. But that was just a fact for her, as this has not taken over her life. Usha is a cheerful girl and a performer in RISE. Chirpy Usha lives life to fullest and mostly the first one to nominate herself for any activity.

*Her educator Aoli says, “She is the life of my centre. Nobody could imagine the emotional setback she faces on daily basis. She teaches other children too how to be happy in scarcity. We all feel really connected to her and she is an inspiration to all of us.”*



**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.