

bachpan ki

udaaan

Creating a Child-Friendly World

January 2022



Our Vision

To create a child-friendly world where all children have access to their rights and become compassionate, responsible citizens and agents of change.

Our Mission

To empower children to realize their full potential and become advocates for rights and social justice, through equitable and participative reform.

What better way to start the New Year than to collectively e-meet and exchange warm greetings with each other in the presence of our mentors and leaders. Our Co-founders Nobel Laureate Mr. Kailash Satyarthi and Ms. Sumedha Kailash shared their words of wisdom over a zoom call with more than 450 members under the entire Satyarthi Movement including child leaders and child survivors pan India. The meeting infused new energy and optimism among all of us to work more strongly towards our shared goal of making this world a better place for children.

Here is the quick look - sneak preview of the zoom meeting-

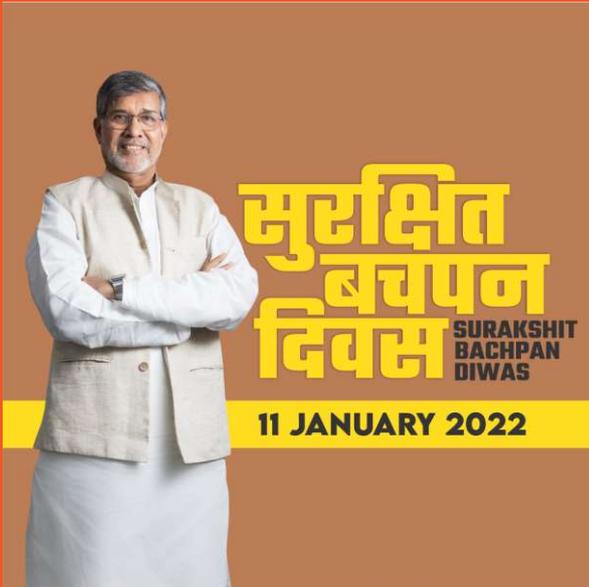


Celebration of Surakshit Bachpan Diwas

11 January 2022

"When I had lost all hopes of living a free life,
Bhaisahab Ji came to my rescue and saved my life.
I felt like I was born again."

- Mannu (name changed) from Bal Ashram expressed



All of us at Bal Ashram Trust and especially children have immense respect and love for their favorite 'Bhaisahab Ji and Mata Ji'. To save many more children like Mannu, every year 11th January is celebrated as #SurakshitBachpanDiwas to commemorate the birthday of Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Mr. Kailash Satyarthi.

We were overwhelmed to witness 2000 plus entries and several responses from children and youth in the age group of 10-30 years who participated in the unique online national painting and music competitions that were organized as part of the extension activity by the Satyarthi Movement.

Child survivors from Bal Ashram also participated in the nationwide online discussions that covered two themes-

- **Mai Azad Hu (I am free)-** sharing the stories of child survivors
- **Sangharsh Jari Hai (The struggle continues)-** sharing the stories of child leaders who are now becoming the catalyst of change and advocating for the rights of children.

Interested to read more? [Click here >>](#)



73rd Republic Day (26 January 2022) celebrations

The 73rd Republic Day was celebrated with great pride and reverence at the Bal Ashram Trust. It was an extreme honour for the team of Bal Ashram Trust and children to witness flag hoisting and recite our nation's anthem in the presence of our power couple and leaders Nobel Laureate Mr. Kailash Satyarthi and Ms. Sumedha Kailash.

While we were enjoying the spirit of freedom, our happiness got extended as we received the certificate of excellence from the Sub-Divisional Officer and Sub-District Magistrate (SDM) of the Thanagazi block, Virat Nagar, Rajasthan for our exceptional work on child rights. We are thankful for this honour and will continue to strive towards ensuring every child is safe and free from child labour. Check out some special images of the event here>>



Education and Skill Development of Children



82 children received Rehabilitation and Care at Bal Ashram



60 children received Formal Education while 09 children continued Non-formal Education



08 children were supported by Bal Ashram as part of our Aftercare Facility



13 children received Skill Training in Stitching & Tailoring, Carpentry, and Electrical Units.

Building Systemic, Sustainable Change in the Communities

Securing the Young; COVID-19 vaccinations for 15 to 18 years

As the COVID-19 vaccination drives kickstarted for adolescents in the month of January, our team geared up to raise awareness for vaccination against COVID-19. We went door to door, registered the names of the eligible children, and were successfully able to get 358 children vaccinated.

Kishan, a 17-year-old from the Banjara community said "I was a little nervous earlier thinking I will get high fever after my first dose. However, the team members from Bal Ashram Trust advised me that it will be completely safe. After getting vaccinated, I have now started to mobilize other young people through door-to-door awareness campaigns to get their first shots.



Setting up Mini-Libraries

With an aim to improve children's reading and learning outcomes, by familiarizing them with the age-appropriate text, mini-libraries were created in 10 schools of our Bal Mitra Grams in the Jaipur and Alwar districts- Rajasthan. Each school was provided with 242 books including general knowledge, grammar, stories books, etc. Children were overjoyed to see new storybooks and artbooks in their libraries. Abhilash, a 9-year-old from BMG Kaled shared "I was awestruck when I saw the library in my school for the first time, I couldn't believe that so many books were kept at one place and were available for us to read for free."



Young and Far-Sighted leaders from Bal Mitra Gram



पायल जांगिड़
बाल सरपंच

राजस्थान के एक छोटे से गांव हिसला की एक ऐसी बालिका जो दृढ़ता से न ही सिर्फ खुद के अधिकारों के लिए खड़ी हुई बल्कि आस पास – समाज में बदलाव लाने के लिए बड़ी पहल की, हमसे रुबरु होगी – पायल जांगिड़।

बाल विवाह, पृष्ठ प्रथा जैसी अल्पविकसित विचारधारा को मिटाने की जिम्मेदारी पायल ने अपने कंधों पर ली। पायल 2013 में बाल पंचायत की दूसरी बाल सरपंच बनी, जिसके बाद उन्हें बाल आश्रम ट्रस्ट द्वारा संचालित बाल मित्र ग्राम के सामुदायिक कार्यों में शामिल होने का अवसर मिला। स्वीडिश काउंसिल के लोग आपके कार्यों से प्रभावित हुए और आपको विश्व के बच्चों के पुरस्कार के लिए जूरी के रूप में चुना।

आपकी पहल और हिम्मत से आपके सम्पूर्ण गांव के बच्चे किसी भी प्रकार के शोषण से मुक्त हैं और आज अपनी प्रारंभिक शिक्षा को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए स्कूलों में जा रहे हैं। पायल जो पहले अपने गांव हिसला के लोगों के लिए प्रेरणा थी, अब पूरी दुनिया के लिए प्रेरणा बन गई है, हमसे मुलाकात करेंगी –

बुधवार, 19 जनवरी 2022, सांय 6:30 बजे
HamaraRajasthanSakshamRajasthan

HAMARA RAJASTHAN
SAKSHAM RAJASTHAN
An Initiative by PDRF

Payal Jangid never misses out on a chance to make us feel proud. She recently participated in the 'Humara Rajasthan Saksham Rajasthan'- Facebook Live hosted by Princess Diya Kumari's foundation. Princess Diya is the granddaughter of the then Maharaja Man Singh II. After winning various awards and recognition for campaigning against child marriage and women empowerment at her village and state level, Payal was chosen as one of the prominent faces to share about her journey with other young people who are also committed towards making a difference in the lives of others.

We wish her good luck! To see the picture-perfect moment, click here >>

Free Health Camp



To ensure that access to basic medication does not become a challenge for children and adults we keep organizing free health camps in the villages where we work. Last month, along with the team of local health officers from the district hospital we visited Nijhara village and conducted regular health check-ups, and provided free medicines to 135 people.

Linkages with Government Schemes

Like every month, we are constantly facilitating the development of identification documents and further creating linkages with government schemes for people belonging to marginalized communities. 211 people including women, children, and senior citizens were linked with various government schemes including Palanhar Yojana, Senior Citizen Pension Schemes, etc.



Life at Bal Ashram



National Youth Day!



“A few heart-whole, sincere, and energetic men and women can do more in a year than a mob in a century”

- Swami Vivekananda

We were happy to uphold the teachings of Swami Vivekananda on the #NationalYouthDay2022! Young representatives from our Bal Mitra Gram (Child-Friendly Villages) program joined the 100 million for 100 million campaign for safe childhood.

A total of 410 members from our youth group participated in the pledge campaign for ensuring safe childhood for all children. To know more about the 100 Million for 100 Million campaign [click here](#)>>

Celebrations of Makar Sankranti



On January 14, while India was celebrating the auspicious Makar Sankranti festival, we organized a unique gathering of people from our interventions for a 'potluck lunch'. The lunch was planned to propagate social cohesiveness and eradicate the social discrimination and caste prejudices that exist among upper and lower castes in Rajasthan. The lunch brought smiles on the faces and warmth in the hearts of people from different communities.

Children's corner



Best Performer of the month



VIJAY KUMAR MEHTA

BEST PERFORMER OF THE MONTH
JANUARY 2022

We thank you for your honesty and sincere dedication towards the progress of children at Bal Ashram!



Stories of Change

Sachin Kumar, (18), Mathura, Uttar Pradesh



From being a victim of child labour in Delhi to now pursuing a Business Management Degree, Sachin Kumar proves that sky's the limit!

Sachin being the eldest among his 3 siblings wanted to share her mother's burden of looking after the family after the sudden demise of his father. Misled by his uncle's false promises of providing free education and job opportunities in Delhi, Sachin worked in deplorable conditions at a utensils factory in Delhi. He would lift heavy containers and would often sleep empty stomach due to the unavailability of food. During a raid operation conducted by Bachpan Bachao Andolan in Nangloi, he was rescued and was sent to Bal Ashram-Rehabilitation centre to support him complete his schooling. He loved being at Bal Ashram and became friends with other children on the very second of his stay.

With the unabated support and guidance of the teachers at the Ashram, he became the class 12 topper in the entire Virat Nagar Block of the Papdi village-Rajasthan.

Currently, he is pursuing BBA-MBA integrated course from Sanskriti University, Mathura, he recalls "I must thank Bachpan Bachao Andolan and Bal Ashram Trust's activists and teachers who have put in their hard work and relentless efforts in shaping up the future of thousands of children like me who otherwise would be continuing the life of penury."

To read more about Sachin, click here-

<https://www.facebook.com/BalAshramTrust/posts/1369168530204582>

“If you keep on buying things made by child slaves in such conditions, you are equally responsible for the perpetration of slavery.”

- Kailash Satyarthi

