



# Sparsha Trust Annual Report Contents

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## MAKKALA DHAMA

Sparsha trust initiated this home during the year 2009 for the children who are engaged in quarry work, single parented, orphans, school dropouts and neglected by their communities and families. By the year 2010-11 we were able to achieve significant development in the shelter infrastructure and in the academic progress of the children.



Makkala Dhama (MD) has turned into a place where children are giving shape to their careers with a view to become good future citizens. Sparsha has built a stage in which children are ensured their rights such as care and protection, participation, development, education, shelter, etc.,

45 children made use of the infrastructure during the year 2010-11; they were in the age group of 7 to 14 years. 30% of the children were never enrolled to any formal school, 70% were school dropouts due to various reasons like poverty, migration, etc. Among them, 5 were orphans, 8 were single parented, 10 were either separated from their families or were abandoned by their families and 22 were from below poverty line.

Sparsha trust has adopted various methods to ensure, education to all children at MD:

- Identified talents, abilities, IQ of children.
- Made groups of children according to above said criteria
- Created an environment where children feel comfortable and confident.
- Initially implemented creative and cultural activity
- Made them realize that academic learning is important for their life through telling stories of famous personalities.
- Made them adopt good values and practices through moral stories and practicing of yoga, meditation, bajan, prayer, making them visit places of interest, and through interaction with volunteers, etc.,
- Making academic learning as fun and making them learn through play, adopting "*Chinnara Angala*", "*Kali Nali*", etc. which are curriculums prepared by the government,
- Children were introduced to computers.



At Makkala Dhama, children's committees were constituted and were delegated responsibilities for cleanliness, hygiene, food and stocks, education and library maintenance, and entertainment. This was done so that the children take up responsibilities and provide leadership to other children in the shelter.

Children housed at Makkala Dhama participated in various program and visited eminent personalities, this helped them identify their own skills, and to understand the importance of education. This resulted in 32 children were enrolled to concern schools such as Bettalasuru-4 children, Chennahalli-12 children and 16 children to Bainahalli government schools.



## SHIKSHANA MITRA-1, Sanjivininagar

Shikshana Mitra, “A friend for education” was initiated to reach those children who are deprived of education. In this programme, we identify educated youth in the target community, these youth become the role model to the community, he/she identify the children who do not have access to education in their communities and will ensure that they enroll into formal or non formal school situated near the community. They also, conduct tuition classes, motivation classes and other creative class to help the children with their formal / informal curricula and develop into model personalities.



With the above concept, we started with one center at Sanjivininagar during in September 2009. In this year, i.e. 2010-11 we have been able to observe significant changes in the student community.

Sanjivininagar area of Bangalore has a significant population of construction labour, domestic labour, and apartment house keeping (contract labour) workers. The children of this community do not find support at home for education, and hence we found a large population of children as school dropout. As a pilot project, we started one center in above area and were able to identify more than 45 children.

Throughout the year we conducted various programs to ensure education to all the children.

- Initially we identified 3 Shikshana Mitras in the community
- Through them, we were able to identify 45 children who were school drop-outs
- We profiled the children based on parameters family situation, mental and physical status.
- Through the above study we found that their families were in very poor conditions, and had difficulty in earning their livelihood,
- We started a Shikshana Mitra center as a shelter-cum-career-building home to these children.
- In the center children, were given nutritious food and comfortable accommodation.
- We counseled them about the importance of finishing their education.
- About 7 Shikshana Mitra are helping the children in various subjects. facilitate these children in different subject such as English, Yoga and Meditation, Health and hygiene, Career guidance etc.
- Children are provided with a library and computer classes.



We have been able to ensure education, care and protection to these children. About 45 children have been enrolled to the nearby government school.

## SHIKSHANA MITRA-2, Mastripalya

A home for children of migrant families who are engaged in construction work and hence deviated from the educational mainstream.

we conducted a survey in April 2010 all over Bangalore, with the help of Shikshana Mitra and other volunteers. During our survey, we found a large population engaged in the construction work at Manyatha Tech Park. This population consists of migrants from northern Karnataka who have come in search of work due to natural calamity (2009 was a specially bad year for northern Karnataka because of floods) and poverty. These families are engaged in daily wage work. Due to low wage they are not able to fulfill their basic needs like nutritious food, clothing, house, etc. They live in small plastic covered tents or thatched houses which are smaller than 8' x 4'. More than 4 members live in such small hutments. In our survey, we found more than 50 children who were either engaged in labour work, or taking care of younger siblings, or were at home.

In a period spanning two months, we conducted 4 community meetings and 2 street plays to explain to the community about the ill effects of child labour, importance on education. We took up a house for rent near the area and started an informal center for the children who are out of school. By the end of May 2010, children started enrolling into our center, we profiled each and every child, and came to the conclusion that these children are in need of shelter, food, care and protection.

We started Residential shelter for these children in the month of June 2010. We succeeded in enrolling 45 children (in the age group of 6 to 14 years) to our center. The needs of these children were taken care of by Sparsha Trust.



### **We implemented various strategies to the above end:**

- We classified the children according to age, knowledge, interest, etc.,
- Introduced various teaching methods like child to child, using charts, using cards, games, CD Shows, Build up a cultural group, etc.,
- Volunteer intervention was one of the most effective strategies.
- Conducted various competitions, Theme based story telling classes
- Celebrating festivals and telling about its importance.
- Involving all the children in making teaching materials

Health care was ensured by regular health checkups, which was conducted by nearby Government Hospital. Narayana Netralya conducted an Eye camp in the month of August 2010.

During the month of February 2011 we were able to enroll 35 children to the nearby school children enjoy going to the school regularly

## CHINNARA THANGUDHAMA (UDC)

This is a home-cum-de-addiction center for those who have got deviated from the mainstream. They include

- Children who have taken to drug abuse, begging, rag picking, child labour,
- Those who have committed non-serious offences.
- Those who are sexually abused, orphans, and run away children.



Many children come to urban centers because of various reasons like troubled childhood, conflicts at home, conditions of want, etc. They all fall prey to anti-social elements who take advantage of their impressionable age and deviate them from the mainstream, they get into bad habits and addictions, many of these children turn anti-socials themselves.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2010, this shelter was inaugurated by the Honorable Education Minister of Karnataka.

**The present status of the shelter is as follows:**

- ▣ 36 children are being housed at the De-addiction center at M.S. Palya. These children have been brought from different area such as RMC Yard (Yeshwantpur), Muthyalanagar, Hebbal, TVS Cross, Peenya, MS Palya, Best county, Kanshiramnagar, Nelamangala, Kaverinagar, etc.,.
- ▣ Till March 2011 52 children were enrolled to our center among 15 are substance abusing children, 22 are rag pickers, 12 are begging children and 3 were orphans
- ▣ 16 children were replaced home and other shelter home till March 2011
- ▣ They are being trained to rid themselves of addictions through counseling, training, educational guidance, self-evaluation through sessions of introspection, Yoga, Meditation etc.
- ▣ A team of 10 expert volunteers is aiding the recovery of these children.
- ▣ We are trying to ensure they get minimum education and go back to normal life.
- ▣ Regular Health checkups are done with the help of a nearby government hospital.
- ▣ As a motivation factor children were taken 4 time exposure to various place such as Cubbon Park, Planetarium, Art of Living.



**BALA MITRAG**

Bala Mitra (Early Childhood Care or ECC) is a project of Sparsha Trust through which we seek to provide parental care to young children who are devoid of it. During the year 2010-11, 60 (Sixty) ECC (Early Childhood and Care) centers are being run by us in government schools in Bangalore South and North districts. Here we are providing care and protection to more than 1800 children. 120 (One hundred and Twenty) volunteers are supporting this activity (two per center



In the centers we ensure that children are well protected, and take care of their needs such as food, education. This project was supported by Sarva Shiksha Abhiyana (a project of the Government of India). The main agenda is to provide educational environment to the children whose families do not provide them education.

## JNANA MITRA (COMMUNITY LIBRARY)

**Jnana mitra** is a project which seeks to make libraries as instruments change in communities. To this end, we seek to make a library a friendly place for children by implementing activities.

During the month of Oct 2010 India Literacy Project (ILP, an NGO working for the cause of education) helped us initiate libraries for 2 communities viz.:

At Bynahalli community hall, Near Makkala Dhama  
At Shanjivinagar, Shikshana Mitra-1 center.



of

### Objectives of library

- Bringing all the children into one platform and helping them learn moral values and teaching them to live and learn together.
- Motivate the children in the concept of “**GROW BY READING**”.
- To increase awareness in the community about importance of education.
- To inculcate and promote reading habit.
- Make learning of subjects a fun experience, interesting and easy using innovative methods.



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### Strategies used to improve the quality of Jnana Mitra:

- A program called “Child to Child”
- Library Drive program to make more children use of the library and to give awareness about library
- CD-DVD based training kits to help students gain knowledge at their own pace
- DHWANI monthly learning kit
- Identified Volunteers to make the program more effective.

## KALA JATHA (An awareness Program on Education)

November 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> 2010, Sparsha Trust conducted one week awareness program on education at North Cluster of Bangalore Rural district, with the support of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyana. We had 17 shows in the following

There were 10 members in the Street play group; we spread the awareness on education to the public by street plays, distributed hand bills, about child rights.

People responded in a good manner after seeing the street play many public gave a feed back and gave their contact numbers to join us in this campaign.

## PRATHIBHA PROTHASHA



on

20<sup>th</sup> Feb 2011, Sparsha Trust with the volunteer support had conducted “Prathibha Prothsaaha” an event for the needy children, children from 4 hostel that is 150 children had participated in different event like song competition, dance, drama, pick and speak, table telling, drawing, rangoli, running race, lemon and spoon, kabadi. The event was for full day children enjoyed and come out with lot of talent. In the end of the day Shikshana Mitra-1, Sanjivinagar shelter children won the trophy.

## VOLUNTEER WITH SPARSHA TRUST

At Sparsha Trust,, we believe public intervention will lead toward better society. With this concept in mind, we request you to join hands with Sparsha Trust to ensure education to the needy children. We are happy and honoured to have with us volunteers from different walks of life.. Volunteers have played a vital role in Sparsha Trust activity. To name a few instances:

- ❖ **FOE Group, Kennametal Shared and Service Pvt Ltd.,**(*First supporters to the trust*) had 3 visit in a year and provided the children with education material, support for health, etc.,
- ❖ **Neralu Group, Kennametal shared and service Pvt ltd.,** had regular visits (more than 15 visit) they have been providing monthly financial support towards Makkala Dhama mainantence, education, health, cultural activity, etc.. More than this, the group has interacted with the children regularly. This has helped the children get motivation and guidance about their future.
- ❖ **Lodge Sinik 196 Group,** supported partial monthly provision to one center and other requirements of Mastripalya center
- ❖ **Inner Wheel Club of Bangalore West,** organized eye camp and provided a stage for the children to come out with their talent.

- ❖ **Chiguru, Toyota** visited us thrice and supported us by providing education material, play material, etc.
- ❖ **IBM**, 2010 had visited Mastriplaya center and supported by providing education material, play material, etc.,
- ❖ **Goldman Sachs**, volunteers visited Makkala dhama center once and provided the children with education material, sports material, other basic requirements . They enjoyed playing and dancing with the children.
- ❖ **Intel Ltd.**, provided funds to the Jnana Mitra library through ILP India, through the year. They also provided us volunteers to improve the quality of library.
- ❖ **Amruthavalli charitable Trust**, continued their support in the year 2010. They sponsored a sewing machine to Makkala Dhama, which has proven helpful to initiate skill oriented training to the adolescent children.
- ❖ **Mr. Srivathsa**, was very kind hearted and supportive throughout the year, his guidance and support helped us to give a real shape to our regular communication with the supporters and reporting to the concerned project heads.
- ❖ **Mrs.Megha Vishwanath**, had supported us by designing the website of Sparsha Trust ([www.sparsha.org](http://www.sparsha.org)).
- ❖ **Many Individual supporters**, visited the center and appreciated our work, interacted with children by celebrating their birthdays, anniversaries and other occasions and also supported by sponsoring education material, provisions, clothes, vessels, etc.,
  - **Mr.Sudareshan**, has played a major role in the development of Sparsha Trust, he is a mentor of Sparsha Trust. Through his guidance, we were able to mould our organization into a better shape. He has supported us financially and by introducing supporters.
  - **Mr.Doreswamy**, has helped us to get support from other clubs. He himself has convince to bring the child labor into main stream.
  - **Mr.Minnagadala Padhma Sadananda**, is a senior citizen. With his blessings and support we were able to provide education material.
  - **Mr.Amol Kalkar**, continued to be our well wisher during the year 2010, provided medical expenses, education material, bed, computer table. etc.,
  - **Mr.Venugopal Reddy**, with his social concern, supported our trust by providing 3 months provision cost of Makkala Dhama shelter and celebrated his and family members' birthdays with the children of Makkala Dhama
  - **Mr.Rakesh**, joined hands with Sparsha trust by providing Rs.2000 every month for 6 month to the shelter of Shikshana Mitra, Sanjivininagar.
  - **Mr.Srikanth**, had come forward to join with Sparsha Trust to ensure education to the poor and needy children in the community during the year 2010. Supported education material to the children of Shikshana Mitra, Sanjivininagar.

Felicitation function