

# RISE

*Remedial Innovation in School Education*

Independence Special | RISE Update | August 2020

*Independence holds great importance for everyone across the world, irrespective of caste, class, gender or race. Thus, in India too Independence Day is considered a momentous day in its history. It was 15<sup>th</sup> of August, 1947 when India got its freedom from the long slavery of around 200 years of the British Rule. It would ever remain a holy day for every Indian because we have achieved our Independence after much struggle and sacrifices. It reminds us of the great sacrifices made by our freedom fighters to liberate our motherland. It also reminds us that our ancestors have performed their share of duties with great motivation and dedication and now it's our turn to give even a better shape to our country so that India remains equally respectable worldwide as it ever is. We are the future of India and the nation now looks up to us for remaining as prosperous and peaceful as it used to be earlier. RISE hails for freedom, freedom to live, freedom to speak, freedom to study and freedom to dream. Our children are coming from backgrounds where even after 72 years of freedom, they are restricted by economic, social and psychological chains. And so it becomes greater the responsibility to make our children break the chains and dream. Dream for life, dream for future and dream for our country. The celebration of freedom, in RISE, hence was of much greater deal and together the management, educators and children "Sworn to be Free."*



## Celebration of Eid



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 is the most significant of two Eid festivals, other being Eid-ul-Fitr. The celebrations also mark the end of annual Hajj 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<sup>th</sup> 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 per-

formed 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 no-no. 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, Muslims celebrated the festival of Eid al-Adha taking all safety precautions and maintaining social distancing. This was the second Eid celebration in 2020 amid the coronavirus pandemic that has wreaked havoc across the world. The first Eid- the Eid-ul-Fitr, was celebrated on May 25<sup>th</sup> this year.



## Rakhi Celebration



The Raksha Bandhan festival is the symbolic everlasting bond between brothers and sisters that reinforces ties between them even across continents, and it is the one which has the most importance on this auspicious day. In ancient times a woman tied a 'rakshaa' on her husband's wrist to protect him from evil. Gradually this changed; she tied a 'rakshaa' on her brother's right wrist, to protect him from evil influence and those factors which may taint his character, and to strengthen the bond of sibling love between them. The 'rakhadi' for rakshaa bandhan itself ranges from a coloured cotton string to exquisitely decorated balls of various sizes and materials such as fluffy cotton, 'zari' paper, tinsel, beads and so on. Raksha Bandhan is an important festival celebrated mostly in the northern parts of India. It has also expanded to central and western India. It is primarily a festival to celebrate the special bond shared by brothers and sisters, thus the rituals revolve around them. It is celebrated by the girls and women with much enthusiasm and joy. They start preparing for the festival days in advance; purchasing rakhi and sweets for their brothers. Those who are not able to meet their

brothers on the day of Raksha Bandhan, send their rakhi by post or courier. There is a custom of married women visiting their parental home for celebrating Raksha Bandhan. The women are escorted to their parent's house on the day of Rakhi or in advance. The respective brothers too start buying gifts for their loving sister or sisters. But this year the festival of Raksha Bandhan has been celebrated differently due to COVID-19 lockdown. As Coronavirus continues its grip, this year's Raksha Bandhan is seeing the festivities going digital, as a number of siblings have bought rakhis and gifts online. RISE children celebrated this very beautiful festival very differently. Those little kids made unique Rakhis made up by wheat, rice, different types of pulses, beads & glitter. These organic Rakhis were creation of their own efforts & imaginations. As India celebrates the festival amid the Coronavirus pandemic, a number of companies have paid a special tribute to COVID warriors

through couriers. Children were happier to create 7 help. They prayed for good recovery of everyone so that everyone can celebrate this auspicious festival with their loved ones.





## Jashn - e - Aazaadi



The midnight of August 15<sup>th</sup>, 1947 is memorable for every Indian, as it is the time, when India gained independence from the stranglehold of the mighty British. The otherwise suppressed tri-colour flag of India was given its due respect, when it was hoisted in the midnight on the Independence Day. Since then, the day is celebrated with pomp and gaiety, across the length and breadth of India. Cultural programs and flag-hoisting ceremonies are the predominant affair of the day, while colourful kites fill the sky in the evening, to symbolize freedom. People indulge themselves in remembering the heroes of the freedom struggle and pay homage to them. All the patriotic hearts rejoiced at seeing India becoming a sovereign nation and the triumph of hundreds and thousands of martyred souls. It was a birth of a new nation and a new beginning.

Every year, Independence Day is celebrated with grandeur, gaiety, fervour and enthusiasm. This year with the theme **“Aatmnirbhar Bharat”** Independence Day will be celebrated in a manner befitting the occasion. However, in view of the spread of Covid-19 pandemic, while organizing various programmes or activities for the Independence Day celebrations, it is im-

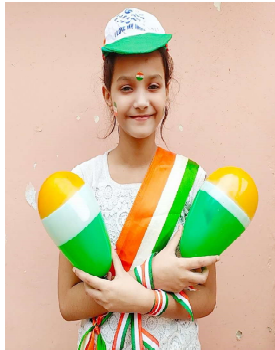
perative to follow certain preventive measures such as maintaining social distancing, wearing of masks, proper sanitization, avoiding large congregations, protecting vulnerable persons, etc.; and following all guidelines related to Covid-19 issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. As there will be no physical involvement of students in Independence Day celebrations to be held at schools amid COVID-19 pandemic on August 15<sup>th</sup>, our RISE children decided to keep it sober and celebrate by following health protocols like social dis-

tancing & wearing masks. Many important changes were made in the Independence Day celebrations this time in view of COVID-19 pandemic, for which children were well aware & adhered. With the help of their teachers they decided to sanitize their community people and asked for their well-beings. They even distributed the self-made, coloured and creative kites with other children of the communities. They made aware the community people how to be Aatmnirbhar and help everyone in times of COVID-19.

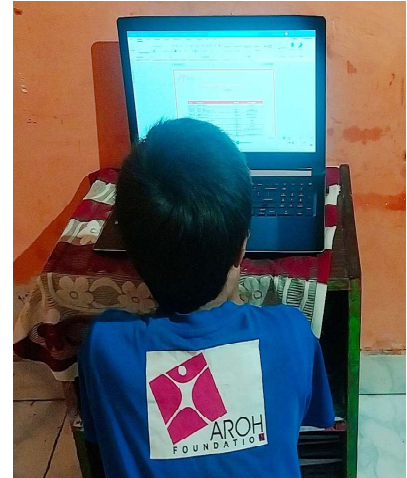
RISE team strives to create brighter futures for the 500 RISE kids and making them truly independent!







## Covid Survey in RISE



RISE COVID-19 survey brought us about most unprecedented public health and socio-economic crisis in our lifetime. It affects us all, especially the vulnerable populations, which almost all the people and migrants often find themselves in. The World Health Organization advocates for the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health for all. Assessing the public health social impact is a key to addressing COVID-19 preparedness, prevention and control. COVID-19 showed us that our system is as strong as our weakest link. This survey is a study to assess the health of RISE students and the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on them. This survey aimed to better understand how students & their families is experiencing the psychosocial impact of COVID-19 and how they are dealing with any challenges that have arisen. The insights from this survey will be used to inform us all on how we can better them during and after this pandemic.

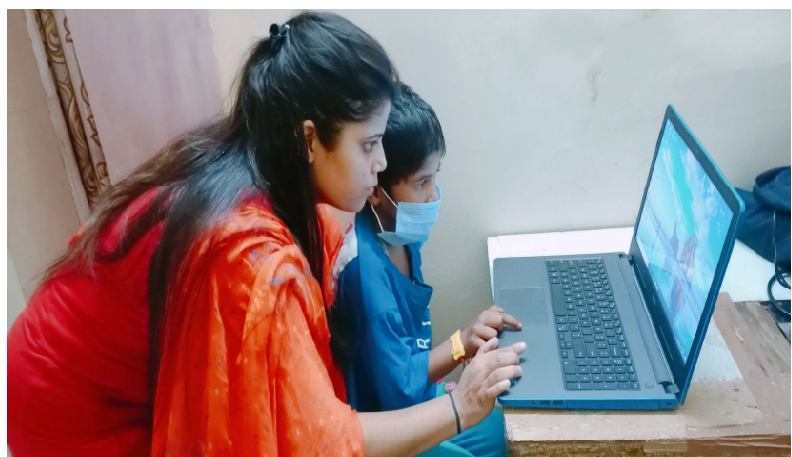
Prior the survey door to door information were spread related to Novel Coronavirus. Families living in the areas of Sangam Vihar & Ghevra were well educated and informed by RISE educators about the COVID-19 symptoms, how long does it take after exposure to COVID-19 to develop symptoms, when to seek medical care if one has COVID-19 symptoms, how COVID-19 spreads, how to protect ourselves, about self-isolation, self-quarantine & social

distancing, how to properly wear a mask etc. We conducted a survey to help us better understand how the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic is affecting people's lives. To help us better understand how people's physical, emotional and mental health are being affected, we prepared a proper survey sheet and form to ask the children & their families questions about their possible exposure to the virus, their experiences with testing and treatment and some questions about how their lives have changed as a result of COVID-19 and the preventive measures that have been put in place. This survey was for the sake of RISE children's health which contained questions related to Novel Coronavirus, their Education status, and their Educators helping them study.

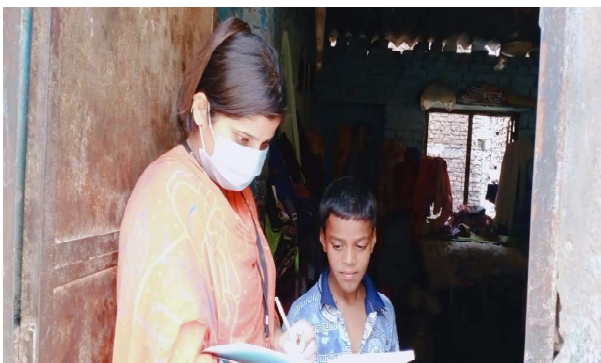
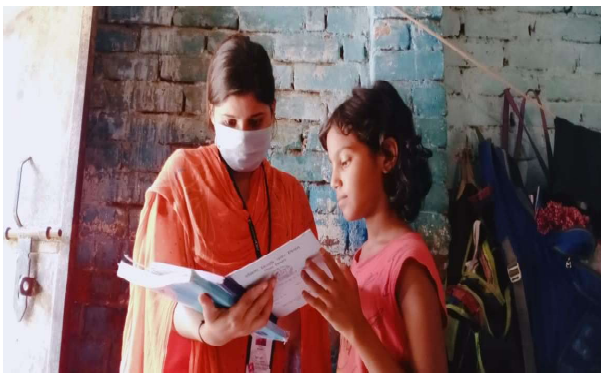
The analysis report shows us about how many children got symptoms of COVID-19 and how many were safe

during the pandemic. Those who got symptoms were got checked by doctors and asked to self-isolate and self-quarantine at their homes only. Students who were studying at their homes only were provided help digitally. RISE educators were asked to know the status of their students through Video calls and home visit once and twice a week. Sanitization & Ration kits were distributed to each and every family living in Sangam Vihar & Ghevra. Infected children were provided with Vitamin C and other medicines prescribed by doctor. The goal of this detail COVID-19 survey was to provide a set of standardized quantitative and qualitative assessments of RISE students' health and facilitate comparisons of the impact of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

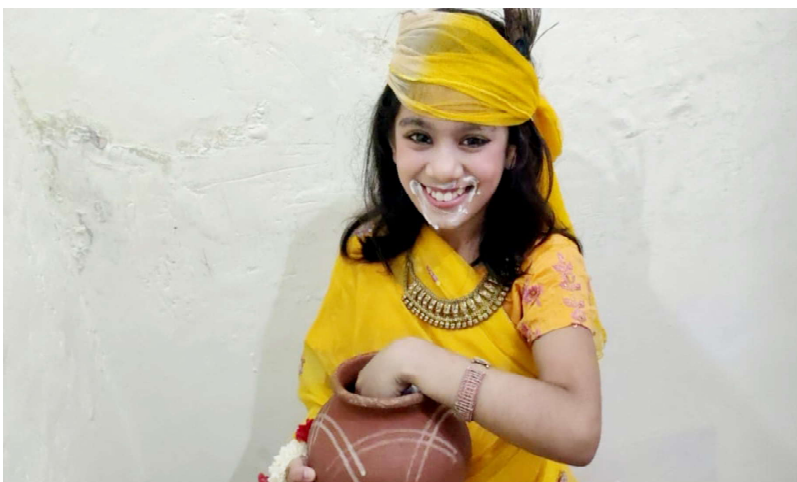
**Survey Report, Findings and proposed Solutions shall be shared with August Newsletter.**







## Janmaashtmi

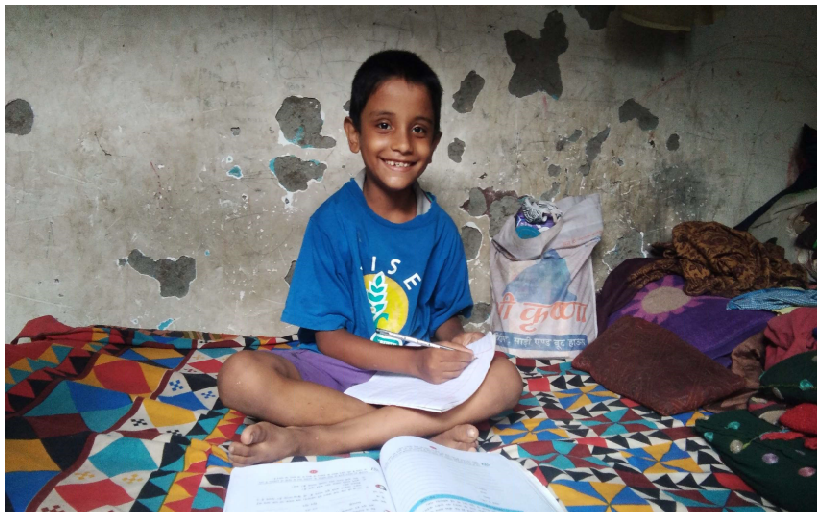


Celebrating Janmaashtmi

## RISE's "Gaurav"

Gaurav is one of the RISE beneficiaries hailing from district Madhubani from Bihar. He is one of the brightest students in his class who is always eager to learn and inculcate the knowledge as much as he can.

As soon as the COVID-19 crisis broke out in India, the schools announced the suspension of classes and shifted to Digital medium. Due to poverty & COVID-19 crisis, spending money on internet for his online classes was a burden for the family, due to which Gaurav's parents has shown their incapability to allow Gaurav to continue his studies to the RISE educator Niha.



Niha always believed in the capabilities of Gaurav and anticipated a bright future for him as he was one the brightest students of her class. So, she decided to help his parents. Team RISE decided to start a fundraiser for Gaurav to help him get a used digital gadget and he can continue his study.

Within no time overwhelming responses were received from people, and RISE AROH team could get a tablet for Gaurav. He is now religiously attending his online classes.

His father says, *"We thought that was it. Gaurav will have to drop out as education was not in our priority list when survival itself was critical. Not just the tablet, team RISE also gave us ration kits and family safety kits that had sanitizer, masks, soaps etc. RISE is a life saviour for us. Thanks a lot for all the help."*



**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.