



RISE Update | May 2021 | The Month of GIVING

RISE

Remedial Innovation in School Education

Corona Warriors from RISE AROH bring Hope and Help as Corona Cases Surge in Delhi

The second wave of corona, starting around April 2021 has reported 7,24,000 cases and claimed more than 45000 lives in India till 17 May 2021. It is estimated that that along with 7.2 lakh patients, around 20 lakh kins of these patients are also indirectly hit in the pandemic, left to hues and cries. The dire need is to make safer, healthier solutions for them too, so that they are able to take up the fierce battle. At the time of crisis, it's the good Samaritans who come to the forefront and work tirelessly for the sake of the needy. One such angel in disguise, bringing a ray of hope to people battling in this crisis is team RISE AROH. RISE has taken up a #MealDrive to distribute wholesome meals to the needy outside the hospitals, ever since the start of lockdown in UP. Taking prompt actions since the advent of the second wave, AROH's front line warriors have been distributing food on daily basis.



Team RISE distributes Free Meal to needy in Corona



Recently during lockdown, Mr. Yogesh, RISE Project coordinator came up with an initiative & helped poor people with food distribution at JJ Colony, Bakkarwala, and then he told Mr. Vijay, Social worker about AROH Foundation how it is ready to reach & help people. Impressed by sense of service, Mr. Vijay praised AROH and requested for support to provide food packets for poor & marginalized people living in slum areas of Bakkarwala. 100 packets of food were distributed in Bakkarwala followed by Educator Geeta Ji, RISE Center. To support this initiative, RISE Mundka team did a survey in the communities keeping in mind the idea of social distancing and counseled the community people about the pandemic and its preventive measures. Therefore in such a short span of time the team was able to collect the funds & start the process of food distribution & sanitization. The villagers too were in full support of the initiative to fight against the pandemic. All the people of Bakkarwala immensely appreciated & thanked for the work done by Team RISE-AROH.

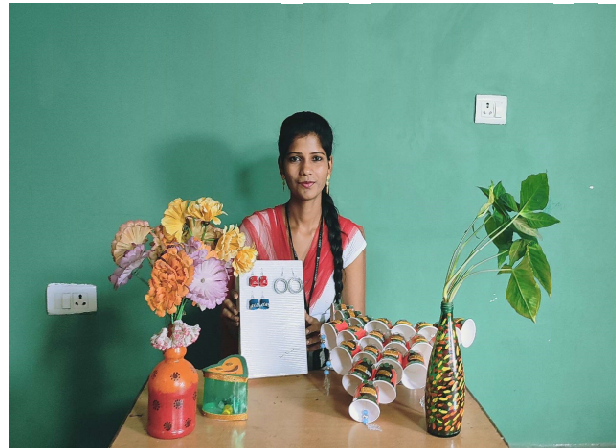




Empowering Educators ...

“Creativity - a process of having original ideas that have value” – Robinson

Micro enterprises in unorganized sector have become boom to girls/women. It has provided women an opportunity to utilize their knowledge, skill and time for productive purpose. These small side businesses allow irregular working hours which are suitable for women to carry on their family responsibility as well. With increasing cost of livelihood due to various reasons such as inflation, modernization, globalization, demonstration effect and so on the need to explore different sources of income is very high. Many women entrepreneurs in the unorganized sector have done wonders by grabbing the local opportunity and utilizing available resources. They have proved themselves to be more confident and good managers in running small business along with their household duties. In many cases women entrepreneurs are successful. RISE, in Sangam Vihar, Delhi is one such program which helps women to grow and empower. Besides its many other programs, AROH led RISE to initiate a pilot program in jewelry making that promises to help women to empower themselves through attainment of skills and economic upliftment. This is where RISE decided to step into the picture to make a significant contribution in the most important areas of imparting training, conceptualizing design and finding markets for this handmade jewelry. We plan to establish a network through which ladies can take care of all of their family needs.



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The present chapter discusses about Farhin, one of the best educators in RISE is a successful woman entrepreneur today. Be it making bracelets and jewelries from beads or coloring with crayons, making Rakhis out of waste, folding papers expertly to make origami shapes or preparing things from best out of waste, there are numerous arts and craft activities that spikes Farhin's interest and tap her artistic potential. Starting her own jewelry company or a school is actually something Farhin has had dreams of since she was about six years old, believe it or not. Getting any other kind of job was never an option for her but after a major loss in her father's business her passion towards education landed her a job in RISE. Farhin started actually making jewelry when she was five years old, where she would sit on her parent's living room floor and thread all her mum's old buttons and beads onto string and make bracelets for friends and family, and by the time she was 11, she was creating wedding and bridesmaid's jewelry by using simple beaded jewelry techniques. She taught herself by using books and watching short DIY videos online from a very young age and all of her pocket money went on beads. Farhin was not limited into teaching only as she was a pro in Arts and Crafts & jewelry making activity. In RISE, Farhin introduces herself to a range of educative and innovative ideas/practices on

Arts & craft and how to integrate it with in daily life as she was always ahead of showcasing her talent through programs. She had explored the various forms of art: pictorial, decorative and performing as a viable media of self-expression under the brand AMYA. She got a platform to relive her childhood dream to make jewelries with her creativity. As she was pro in jewelry making, she made beautiful and adorable earring by using her creativity and quality are in high demand.



She shares her journey by saying “RISE has given wings to my creativity. My passion for education Designing & creativity has been identified and has been groomed. Now my creativity is reached to people by selling these earrings, bracelets & creative products through RISE, which adds on to my contentment. Because I'm a teacher & small budding entrepreneur I receive more respect and good status in my family and society. Women in the society look upon me as an ideal for them. Though I belonged to a poor financial background, my hard work and sincerity had achieved a lot. Attaining immense identity and self-confidence through RISE is unredeemable for which my word of thanks will be less always.”

International Day of Families ...



Families are the fullest reflection, at grassroots level, of the strengths and weaknesses of the social and development welfare environment, and as such offer a uniquely comprehensive and synthesizing approach to social issues - United Nations

The International Day of Families is observed on the 15th of May every year. "Families and New Technologies" is the theme of International Family Day 2021. The Day was proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in 1993 and reflects the importance the international community

attaches to families. The International Day provides an opportunity to promote awareness of issues relating to families and to increase knowledge of the social, economic and demographic processes affecting families. The symbol of the International Day of Families consists of a solid green circle with an image in red. The image consists of elements of simple drawings of a heart and a house. This indicates that families are the center of society and provide a stable and supporting home for people of all ages. The day highlights the importance of all caregivers in families, be it parents, grandparents or siblings and the importance of parental education for the welfare of children. It will focus on good practices for work-family balance to assist parents in their educational and care giving roles. In particular, the day is to raise awareness of the role of families in promoting early childhood education and lifelong learning opportunities for children and youth. 15th

RISE is committed in providing education to children and thereby securing the future of the family. The family of the children is counseled, helped and supported in all possible ways. Even after the child is admitted to school, parents are regularly counseled till they are able to attend to the needs and requirements of a school going child. They are informed and prepared about the desired learning outcomes of their wards. In RISE centers children are treated as a part of big family. At RISE, we not only are dealing with crying need of quality education for our children, but also helping their family to rise above these social issues like poverty, sexual harassment, corruption, child abuse etc. RISE team strives to create brighter futures for the around 1000 RISE kids. The day started by speech by the educators to children about importance of the family and their role in securing the future of the family. Then, they were given sheets of paper colored pencils, paint, crayons, and asked to make drawing or a card and dedicate it to their parents and also female caretakers, as homage to them for being such special women in their lives more than special day. Families are basic units of social life, are major agents of sustainable development at all levels of society and that their contribution to that process is crucial to its success. RISE strives in making this basic unit stronger.



Health & Education during COVID



Due to COVID almost whole world's countries have shut their schools in efforts to slow the transmission of COVID-19. For most of these students, school closures are temporary; they have access to quality education and distance learning; and their education and ambitions for the future will continue after the crisis. National lockdown has restricted children to stay at home which is likely to impact their physical as well as mental health. Especially vulnerable to this are children. It has been found that children staying at home due to lockdown spend more time in front of TV and internet which can lead to psycho-

social problems, like lower self-esteem. Excess use of internet can lead to internet addiction disorder. Some can also experience cyber bullying which can affect their health. Moreover, spending more time inside the house makes children vulnerable to effects of indoor pollution which can affect their brain development leading to limited development of cognitive abilities.

Children's health has been the biggest casualty during the lockdown as they need their schools. Every child deserves to have an uninterrupted education and teachers, school leaders and local authorities have worked tirelessly to provide that before and during COVID. But teachers do so much more than teach and schools provide so much more than education. Schools are vital to the wellbeing of children and young people, providing a range of services from vaccinations to mental health support. And, of course, schools are also where our children run around, play and laugh and argue with each other. They need to return to that sort of a healthy normality as soon as possible. But for the last few months the majority of children and adolescents in India are experiencing a prolonged state of physical isolation from their friends, as well as teachers, extended family, and community networks. While quarantining children have generally led to negative psychological effects, including confusion, loneliness, depression, anxiety, trauma, mental health, or mental wellbeing and anger & still turn up for studies everyday appearing fine! AROH team is continuously working to uplift the psychological morale of marginalized children. Children are continuously coping with excessive homework even after being locked in houses.

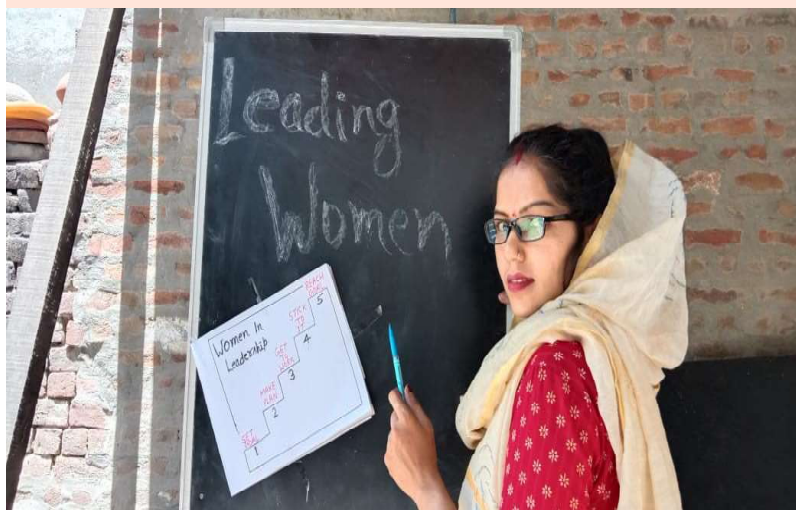
Nearly 16 lakh children from poor families studying in government and municipal schools in the national capital are staring at disruptions in their studies without access to mobiles, internet and laptops or desktops, even as privileged students from private schools are taking online classes amid the corona virus lockdown. Delhi government has started teaching students on the Zoom app, but most of the students in primary and middle schools are struggling as they have either no access to assignments, or find it virtually impossible to study mathematics and many other subjects through WhatsApp or other platforms. It has been months since private and government schools in the city have been providing online classes and sharing study material through various digital platforms with their students. However, many of the students have been struggling to access the classes because of poor internet connectivity and lack of devices that support such classes. The emergence of virtual education during the lockdown seems to have further created a 'class division' among the rich and the poor, especially those from the economically weaker section (EWS). According to the Delhi government, in private schools about nearly 10 to 15 per cent of students from the EWS do not have access to the digital medium to attend the online classes. But private schools have claimed that 90 to 92 per cent of their students have access to digital platforms, and most students from the EWS managed to attend the classes. We engage them in innovative games/ competitions/ webinars to keep their learning going on. Even, RISE educators are counseling & helping the kids on regular basis through video calls. To eradicate mental issues,





children have started performing Prone exercises to combat COVID, Yogasanas & listening music to keep them calm & stress-free. RISE-AROH team is counseling parents to spend more & more time with their kids and told to maintain healthy environment. Though RISE is stopped but RISING has not! "In the beginning, they attended the online classes, but after 4-5 days, they could not log in due to internet issues. Now, they completely rely on a WhatsApp group where their teachers send study material and recorded videos for EWS students. But it is tough to study without any assistance and tuition classes," said students studying at in private & government schools. In the past days Team AROH has realized that the problems of limited resources and poor connectivity are compounded for students with disabilities. Due to which RISE Educators are trying very hard to teach children through online classes and helping them study through calls. They daily follow up the kids, counsel them and ask for their wellbeing which somehow motivates the inner selves of the children to study.

Annu, RISE Educator

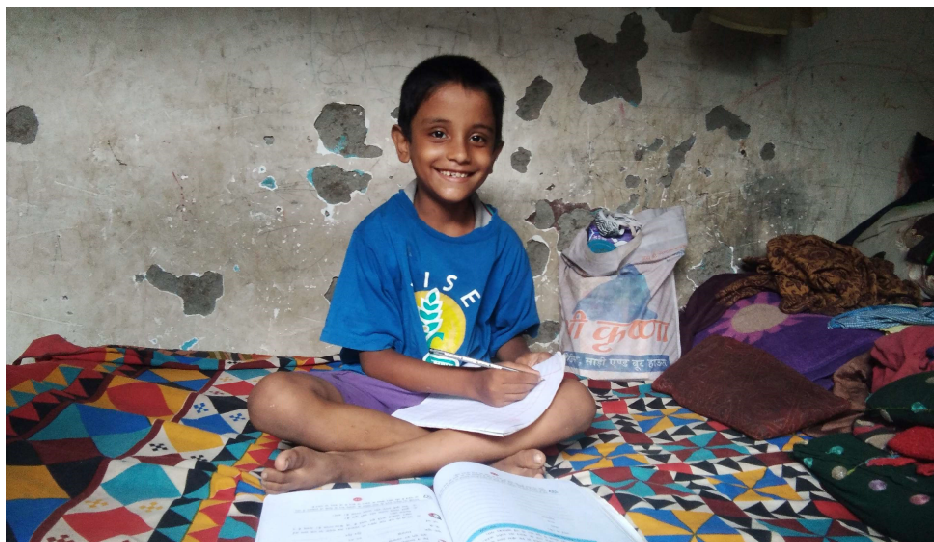


Mrs. Annu, RISE Educator, comes from a family of 6 members. Her husband, Mr. Jaideep is a driver and has 2 children. After completing higher secondary schooling, Annu was not given the opportunity to study further even though she was fairly good in her studies but for her parents, marriage was a prime focus. After getting married, she stayed in a joint family where her husband was the only earner at home, but during the Corona period his income has reduced, and it was very difficult to manage the family's expenses. Thus, it was hard to manage home expenses and Annu was in great need of work to support her family. Annu got the full support of her husband to choose her life and earn for herself. In search of self-

respect and self-dependency, Annu was trying every opportunity that was coming through her way. She is best in the craft. Annu was not that good in English communication and was facing some problems regarding her grammar skills but she was unstoppable as she at home starting learning by herself and improved her skills in communication. First, she used to prepare at home and now she teaches at RISE and at home she stitches to support her family.

Her excitement and enthusiasm for education are extraordinary and she is a gem for RISE. Annu is a known name in her community, in her own words she says, *"I have been associated with RISE program since the difficult time and I've received this golden opportunity of working as an Educator in RISE- AROH Foundation. Now, I can say that it has been the most fruitful and satisfying journey of my life. Each day after classes I derive immense satisfaction and happiness that whatever work I am doing would give these students a better future."*

RISE's pride ... Gaurav



Gaurav comes from a family of 5 people, his parents and two younger siblings. His family belongs to Bajrao village of Etah district in Uttar Pradesh. This family shifted to Sangam Vihar, Delhi around 2 years ago in search of better job and income. Now his father works as a security guard and mother is a housewife. Due to negligence and wrong companionship, Gaurav had turned into a mischievous and violent child. He was often involved in fights. As he was the eldest child, his parents were very worried and so they enrolled him in RISE, seeking some help. Over past 1 year, Gaurav has shown tremendous growth not just as a student, but has developed good etiquettes too. His educator Mrs. Shobha has been focusing a lot to help him redirect his energies into constructive work. His grades have improved, he convinced his parents to send his younger sister to RISE along with him. Gaurav is now a responsible and sincere child of the family. *"After hearing so many good things, I feel proud today that I have saved the future of a child from being destroyed. From an abusive child, he has drastically changed into well-mannered and decent child."* says Shobha, his educator.



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.