

# From Sparsha Trust Annual Report for years 2017-18

## Annual Events

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### **Joy of Learning**

Sparsha Trust conducted its special event “Joy of Learning” program for the year 2017-18 on 20th and 21st January 2018 at Sparsha Nisarga Grama, Hesaraghatta. Sports competitions were organized on 20-11-2018 and cultural and educational activities on 21-01-2018. Altogether, 260 children from Hosakote, R. R. Nagar, Shivaji Nagar, Sanjivini Nagar, Nisarga Grama and Mesthri Palya took part in this program.

### ***Sport Activities***

**On 20-01-2018**, sports activities were conducted and **Wg.Cdr.R.S.Murthy**, Sparsha Trustees, Team of 7 members from **Neralu – Kennametal India**, Mr. **Brijesh** and team of **15 members from Consero Solutions** India Private Limited and Mr. **Azim Mandal** from Persistent Systems Ltd., and our shelter child **Hanumantha** an national athlete inaugurated the program by lighting sport torch. We conducted 100 m running, 800 m running, long jump, chess, kabaddi and also frog race and sack race were conducted for children. There were several other games such as lemon and spoon race, breaking the pot, shuttle cock, kabbadi etc.

Lunch was organized for all the children and staff members.

### ***Cultural and Educational Activities***

On 21-01-2018, **Mr.Engene Brauner** and **Mrs.Heera Brauner**, **Mrs. & Mr.Ravi Srinivasan**, **Mr.Sunil Rastogi** and **Mrs.Tina Rastogi**, **Mr. Giridhar Country Manager of First American India**, **Mrs.Sunitha** and team of **12 members of Infinite Computer Solution**, **Mr.Harish**, **Mrs.Geetha** from **ILP**, **Mr.Naresh Dulam & Neralu** team of **Kennametal India**, **Mr.Kiran Shetty** and **Mrs.Vanamala Kiran** participated in this program. We conducted table telling, storytelling, telling English words, drawing, quiz, group dance, solo dance and group song competitions for children. The last stage of this program was prize distribution which was done by **Mr. Giridhar Rajgopal, Country Manager, First American India Pvt Ltd.**, **Mrs.Sunitha of Infinite Computer solutions**, **Mr.Harish of ILP**, **Mrs.Roopa Mahajan-Sparsha Trustee**, **Mr.Naresh Dulham-Neralu Kennametal India**, **Mrs.Vanamala Kiran**, **Mrs. Shashikala of DCPU** distributed prizes along with **certificates to the winners**. The children took part in the competitions which were conducted for 2 days and received the prizes, trophy and certificates for competitions in which they won felt very happy after receiving prizes. Lastly, **the children of Hosakote and Shivaji Nagar won maximum prizes** and together were selected as **Joint Champions** and they received the **trophy**.

## **Summer camp**

The annual summer camp was conducted by Sparsha Trust for 150 children in the month of April-May 2017. The children who attended the camp included school drop-out children, children from poor families, children from migrant families, children rag-pickers and beggars.

The main objectives of the summer camp were to provide these children an opportunity to learn skills they do not normally get in their daily life due to their circumstances. Other objectives include:

The summer camp was planned in such a way that the children learnt about various subjects in a participatory manner. The children very much enjoyed all activities that included exposure trip, learning, music and dance. Some of the activities included:

- ▶ To enhance the hidden skills of the children.
- ▶ Developing the participation of the children in the academics.
- ▶ Building self confidence, self awareness, and self discipline in each child.
- ▶ Inviting experts to conduct the educational sessions like backyard science experiments/innovations, Abacus.
- ▶ Sports, Yoga, Meditation, theatre & drama
- ▶ Conducting cultural programs – expertise in Yakshagana, Dollukunita, Kamsalay, Garba, Kolata
- ▶ Learning musical instruments / folk music

The children are also provided with refreshments all through the camp.

The activities in the summer camp that concluded on the event – My Steps Towards Education, included:

- Morning yoga and exercises
- Indoor games
- Science related activity
- Garbha dance
- Meditation classes
- Classical dance
- Keyboard learning and practice
- Craft work
- Visit to planetarium
- Clay mask making,
- Children Parliament and career counseling
- Health camp

Some of the supporters of the summer camp were Ms Vicky Tong, Excaliber Foundation , New Horizon education and cultural trust, Kennametal team, Mr. Chitbhanu, Mrs.Latha, Ms.Shambulingam, D S Foundation and Cognizant.

## **Outcome**

At the end of the summer camp, it was very obvious that the children had become more self confident and disciplined than before. They were enthused as they got a chance to identify their talent and practice their interest – music, art or craft. Being with all other children for a long time in an enjoyable learning atmosphere made them emotionally secure as they could bond with each other. Overall, academically, their skills in math, general knowledge and English speaking increased.

### **Friends of Sparsha**

The Third edition of Friends of Sparsha, sponsored by Infinite Computer Solutions, was held in Le Meridien Bangalore in November 2017. This event is organized each year to thank and felicitate the supporters of Sparsha Trust, without whose support, the organization and its projects would not have come this far. During the event, that was attended by about 200 well-wishers, Ms. Tina Rastogi, Sparsha Trust's Sponsorship manager, spoke about 'Sponsor a child' a new plan to mobilize educational support for school drop outs, and children from poor families. As many of Sparsha Trust's supporters are individuals, there is need to ensure that any funding that is sought is within the reach of individuals and yet, has the necessary impact.

During the event, the supporters of Sparsha Trust saw the positive signs of change in the children whom they were supporting. The guests also spoke about the concerns related to child protection and rights. Ms. Kumar Amar Alva, a chairperson and member of the Karnataka State Committee for Child Protection spoke about the need to get every child into school.

Ms. Vanamala Kiran, a long time supporter of Sparsha spoke about the happiness she felt after seeing the positive transformation in the children she supported through Shikshana Mitra 2. Among those who attended included Mr. B C Rao as well. Sparsha Trust is grateful to M/s Infinite Computer Solutions for sponsoring the event. Through this event, Sparsha Trust thanked each and every one of its supporters.

During the event, Mr Sanjeev Gulati, Vice Chairman, Infinite Computer Solutions, who were also the sponsors of Friends of Sparsha spoke about the company's association with Sparsha Trust since 2014. He donated Rs. 50,000/- from his personal funds for the education of two children. Infinite Solutions is also sponsoring a golf event for fund raising.

Additionally, members from Lodge Sainik also spoke about their association. Mr Rajan Hinduja expressed his happiness at the work the organization is doing and urged people to come forward and support the cause.

### **My steps towards education (Nanna Nade Shaale Yedege)**

Sparsha Trust identifies and rehabilitates children who are school drop outs, beggars, rag pickers, victims of exploitation (child labourers) and those living in extreme poverty each year. These children then live in different shelters under various programmes. Some of the children are in day care centres as well. During their time in the various shelters, the children are given food, educational support and bridge courses that prepare them to attend school. The children are given a positive environment due to which they feel confident and enthusiastic to attend school.

With the support of various stakeholders, Sparsha Trust organizes My Step towards Education in order to enroll the children of the shelters to schools.

My Step towards Education is an annual event to bring the dropout and out of school children to the mainstream of schooling. Accordingly, the All in One-2017 Summer Camp was conducted on 03<sup>rd</sup> June 2017 between 10.30 am to 1.30 pm at BalBhavan,Cubbon Park, Bangalore. The objective was to enroll 120 children of Sparsha Trust' shelter home to enter formal schools. The staffs with the support of Women and Child Development department in Bengaluru urban and Bengaluru rural districts have been prepared the children of Open Shelters to enter formal schools.

Smt. Krupa Amar Alva, Chairperson of KSCPCR, Sri. Narmadananda, Project Director, Smt. Divya Narayanappa, DCPO, Bangalore Urban DWCD, Smt. Ashwathamma, DCPO, Bangalore Rural DWCD, Mr. B. C. Rao, MD, Kennametal India Ltd, Dr. Ravi Srinivasan and Sri. Nikilesh Mylavaram, General Manager, Kennametal India Ltd came as guests to this program, Sri. Maheshwarappa, Deputy Director, DWCD, Bangalore Rural, Smt. Narmadanandan, Project Director, Sri. J. M. Maheshwari, Jai Shivashakthi Health & Educational Foundation, Mr. Ranajit Victor Sen, Senior Vice-president & Head of US Life and India Operations, AXA Business Services and Ms. Aparna Sangli, Sr. HR Manager, Netscout Systems Software India Pvt. Ltd were those who graced the occasion.

#### **Details of children admitted to Government schools**

- 17 children to 2<sup>nd</sup> standard,
- 22 to 3<sup>rd</sup> standard,
- 16 to 4<sup>th</sup> standard,
- 15 to 5<sup>th</sup> standard,
- 18 to 6<sup>th</sup> standard,
- 7 to 7<sup>th</sup> standard and
- 2 children to 8<sup>th</sup> standard.