



A Team for a Better Society



# ANNUAL REPORT



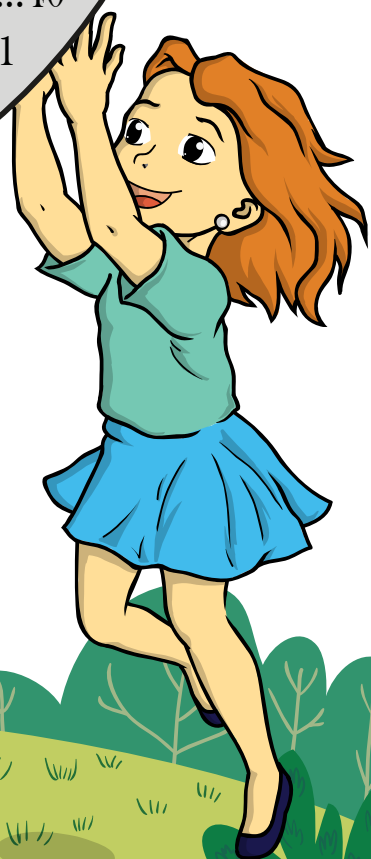
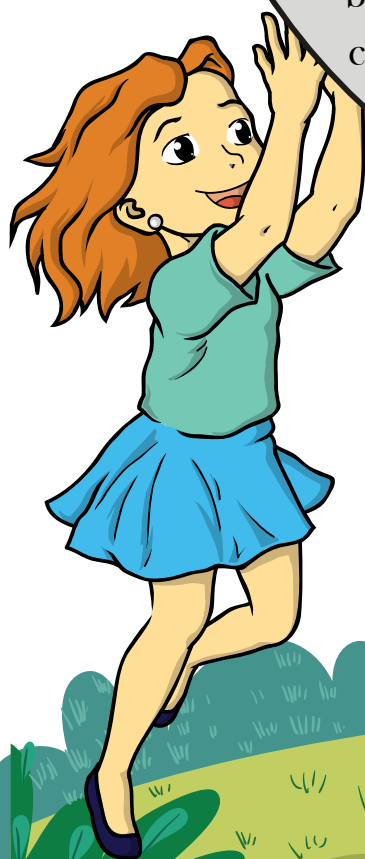
# 2016 - 17





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## 1. Children's Quotes

Naveen, 16 years, 10th standard

"My father passed away I eventually stopped attending school. I was staying at my aunts house at Hebbal and sold flowers on the road sides. I am very thankful that Sir Doddamani brought me to the hostel and enrolled me to Sparsha. I am now aspiring to become a police officer, since it was my fathers last wish. Without the support of Sparsha, I would not have been able to dream like this".



Bheemaraya, 19 years, 10th standard

"As my family's financial condition was very unstable, I decided to work as a laborer instead of going to school in order to earn money for my family. My father was an alcoholic who did not support our family's necessities. When my uncle brought me to Sparsha, I was provided with education, accommodation, nutrition and care. I was given the opportunity to prosper and to learn important skills for great future benefits".

Onmursa, 11 years

"I am very happy to be a member of the Sparsha community. I enjoy attending classes and participating in the different activities offered in school. I have made many friends and am immensely thankful for the given opportunities".

Rachappa, Morning College

"I will work hard to get promoted. This course is very helpful for me, not only enabling me to get a job but also giving me access to education for future benefits. I finally found confidence in myself".



## 2. Partner's Statement

**Dr. Krupa Amar Alva**, Chairperson of Karnataka State Child Right Protection Commission

„ One finger alone cannot do much, but 5 fingers put together can create the magic that has been created today through Gopinath and the Sparsha Team. “

„ Many times we have talked about the bright future of India and never have I believed in it, but today, here at the opening ceremony of Nisarga Grama, I believe so.“

„ I bow down to each one of you, who have contributed in your own way for this dream to become a reality.“

**Mr. Lawrence W. Stranghoener**, Chairmen of the board and president of Kennametal Inc.

„Because of your generous time and donations we will help hundreds of children by providing protection, food, education and medical care in order to support the children's overall development. Your team work, that makes all of this possible proves, that when we work together we win together“

**Dr. P.C. Jaffer**, IAS, State Project Director of Sarvashiksha Abhyas, Bangalore

„We are proud and really appreciate the possibility given to us to be a part of this great transforming initiative. It is truly unbelievable to see, what Gopinath and all other people with an active support and eager have transferred this place into.“

„ I pray to god, that his blessings continue to be on Gopinath and all other members relentlessly working for this great cause of bringing up the society to this children's empowerment education and shelter. “

**Mr. Rajendra Hinduja**, MD, Gokuldas Warehousing Cooperation Ltd.

"It is easy to write a cheque across the table but to actually give time, the efforts and to actually see this whole project is mind blowing. "

"It reminds me of Mahatma Ghandi saying: Show me the purpose, the means will follow "

„If enough people are supporting Gopinath, I am sure he will run this organization into growing further and further“

**Mrs. Emma Jindal**, Director of Finances & Controller, WM Global Technology Services India Pvt. Ltd.

„ It's an honor and privilege for me to be a part of this momentous occasion“

„ We consider it our responsibility to make a positive impact on the communities we are supporting“

**Mr. Giridhar Rajgopal**, Senior Vice President and Counter Manager, First America (India)

„We heard about Gopinath's struggles and obstacles he is trying to overcome, but there is always a rainbow following and at the end of the rainbow there is always a golden part. And Nisarga Grama is the golden part. “

„ We are very proud, because our cooperate responsibility is about providing people with homes and shelter. The Nisarga Grama project fits perfectly into our responsibility and we are very proud to be associated.“

**Mr. Solomon Devaraj**, Chief Corporate Responsibility Officer, AXA Business Services, Pvt. Ltd.

„ As an organization, we are looking forward to be an active participant in the center of the journey of Sparsha. We are looking forward to collaboratively creating a leading learning center.“



### 3. Board Member's Foreword



Dear All,

It is our great honor to share with you the Annual Report of 2016-17. This report comes to you with pride, as it is a collection of our most significant accomplishments and our latest most admirable project 'Nisarga Grama' from the past year.

We are with Sparsha Trust for the past 7 - 8 years and actively participating in all their activities and program in order to provide care, protection and education to all the needy children. In the academic year 2016-2017 Sparsha moved a few steps closer to realizing its vision, inaugurated 'Nisarga Grama', a nature village to provide accommodation for 500 street and working children. Nisarga Grama has all kinds of facilities and we are happy and proud to say that it will be a state of the art rehabilitation centre, playing a great role in moulding vulnerable, underprivileged and deprived children's future. Children will access to all amenities to have benefit for their career and bright future.

We feel good to provide the best of facilities to the shelter children and ensure that they receive an excellent education that enables them to reach their potential and transform themselves, their communities, and country. We are excited and glad to be a part of Sparsha Trust.

Thanks to all the supporters and our team for the continuing support on our journey.





#### 4. Managing Trustee's Foreword

Sparsha Trust is a young organization which started in 2005 with a vision to create a society free of exploitation of children and to help children manifest their inherent potential and talents. Sparsha is committed in its activities and shares its experiences and aspirations with everyone.

'Sparsha' as the name means 'The Touch', the organization is focused to offer a tender touch to the marginalized children by providing care and protection. social vision of Sparsha Trust has led to many achievements within a short span of time and we strive hard to create lasting change in the lives of children. I was lost somewhere in my life and my experience over the years in Sparsha has led to dream about providing holistic education and rehabilitation to the underprivileged children under one roof. When I shared about my dream with the well-wishers of Sparsha, they all welcomed this idea and at once became ready to bring this to reality.

We drafted a huge plan of developing a system where 300-500 children can make their life brighter and build their career by utilizing all the facilities available. Finally, this plan took a definite shape and emerged out as 'Nisarga Grama' - Nature Village after 4 years of hard work and dedication by many people.



A team comprising of corporate MDs, interested individuals, citizens, LAL team and many other people have become an integral part of Sparsha and supported us in reaching our goal. I am very thankful and grateful to all the people who have played major role to fulfill my dream. I am also grateful to the children and their parents and the community who have helped me to reach the children to bring a sustainable change in their lives. They have carved out the rock and made it into a statue which is now worshipped by many people.

You all have trusted me to fulfill the dream of every child to enjoy childhood and right to education. You have been moulding the lives of many needy children through me and I am very grateful to the people who are behind me.

Now, the time has come to take a step further and we have started to create alumni for the children coming from villages with the support of the community and provide all the facilities in villages itself. It is our goal to create 1000 alumni groups and develop all the villages in coming days.

We require your support without which it is impossible to reach our goal and we are sure that you all will be with us at each level and strengthen our hands to make this possible at the earliest.

Together we can achieve anything and it is the responsibility of all stakeholders to provide a good environment to the children in order to make them responsible citizens of our country.

Looking forward to your invaluable suggestions, guidance and assistance.

Warm Regards,  
Mr. Gopinath. R  
Managing Trustee  
Sparsha Trust



## 5. Our Aims, Interventions, Strategies and Projects

### A. OUR MISSION AND AIMS

Sparsha Trust is a Registered, charitable trust started in the year 2005. The trust is working for the holistic development of needy and vulnerable children focused on promotion and facilitation of Child Rights. It is committed for the identification, rescue and rehabilitation of children from 6 to 18 years old.

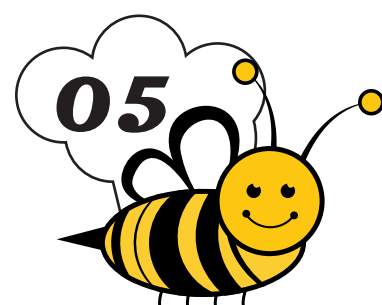
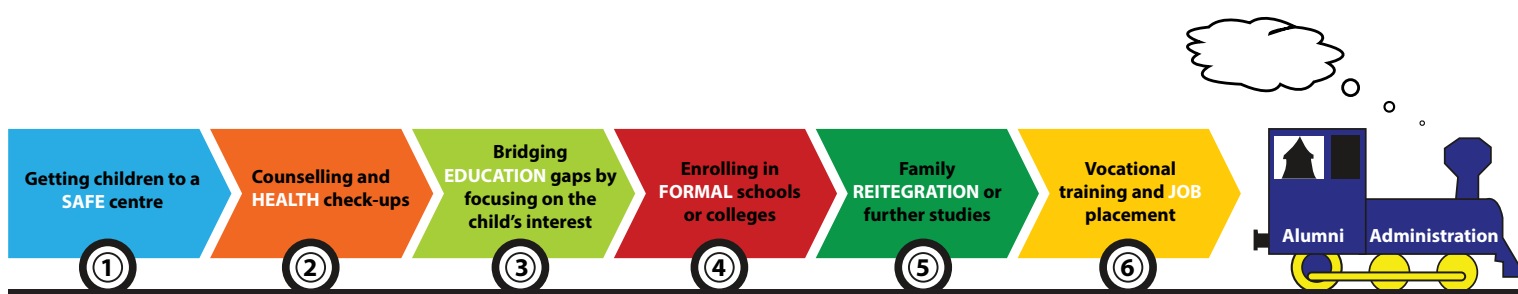
#### Mission

To create a society, free of exploitation of children and help children to manifest their inherent potential and talents.

#### Aims

- ① Create a safe home for every child with a free access to basic facilities (food, health, clothing).
- ② Guarantee that children enjoy their constitutional rights and eradicate the child labour system.
- ③ Develop the children's creativity and strengthen their self-confidence.
- ④ Provide quality and skills-oriented education to empower underprivileged children and youths.
- ⑤ Create a community of responsibility and solidarity in which every child has his/her own place.
- ⑥ Raise public awareness about Child Rights: care, protection, development and education.

In the past seven years, Sparsha Trust has been able to main stream more than 2500 children to school and reintegrate them with their families.





## B. STRATEGY

### STEP 1 - Getting children to a safe centre

Field workers are permanently in contact with the communities in the areas of concerns. They identify children who do not have access to basic facilities and education. These children are relocated and housed in Sparsha centres, with the prior permission from their parents and the government system.

### STEP 2 - Counselling and health check-ups

In the centres, the children are firstly accompanied for a health check-up. Their emotional well-being is assured through discussions with a counselor, in which children are encouraged to express their needs and difficulties. The aim is to help all the children to develop a positive attitude to life, recognize their strengths and express themselves.

### STEP 3 - Bridging education gaps by focusing on the child's interest

Children are then enrolled in a bridge school for 6 to 8 months to receive an individualized education, according to their age and ability. Teachers and trainers are available anytime to help the children to get involved in non-formal learning activities. They identify the children's interests to encourage them to develop themselves in these specific fields.

### STEP 4 - Enrolling in formal schools or colleges

After 12 to 15 months of non-formal classes, children are enrolled in a neighbouring school. They receive a formal education based on their age and learning level. To be sure to reach the level required, children can get tutoring in the evenings and have a free access to educational materials in the centres (library, science lab, computer lab, etc.).

### STEP 5 - Family reintegration or further studies

After two years spent in our centres, families of the children are contacted to assess if they can support their child's education and development. Our goal is to reintegrate the children with their families as early as possible. If they do not have any parental support, the children continue their studies in our centres or register in government or private childcare institutions.

### STEP 6 - Vocational training and job placement

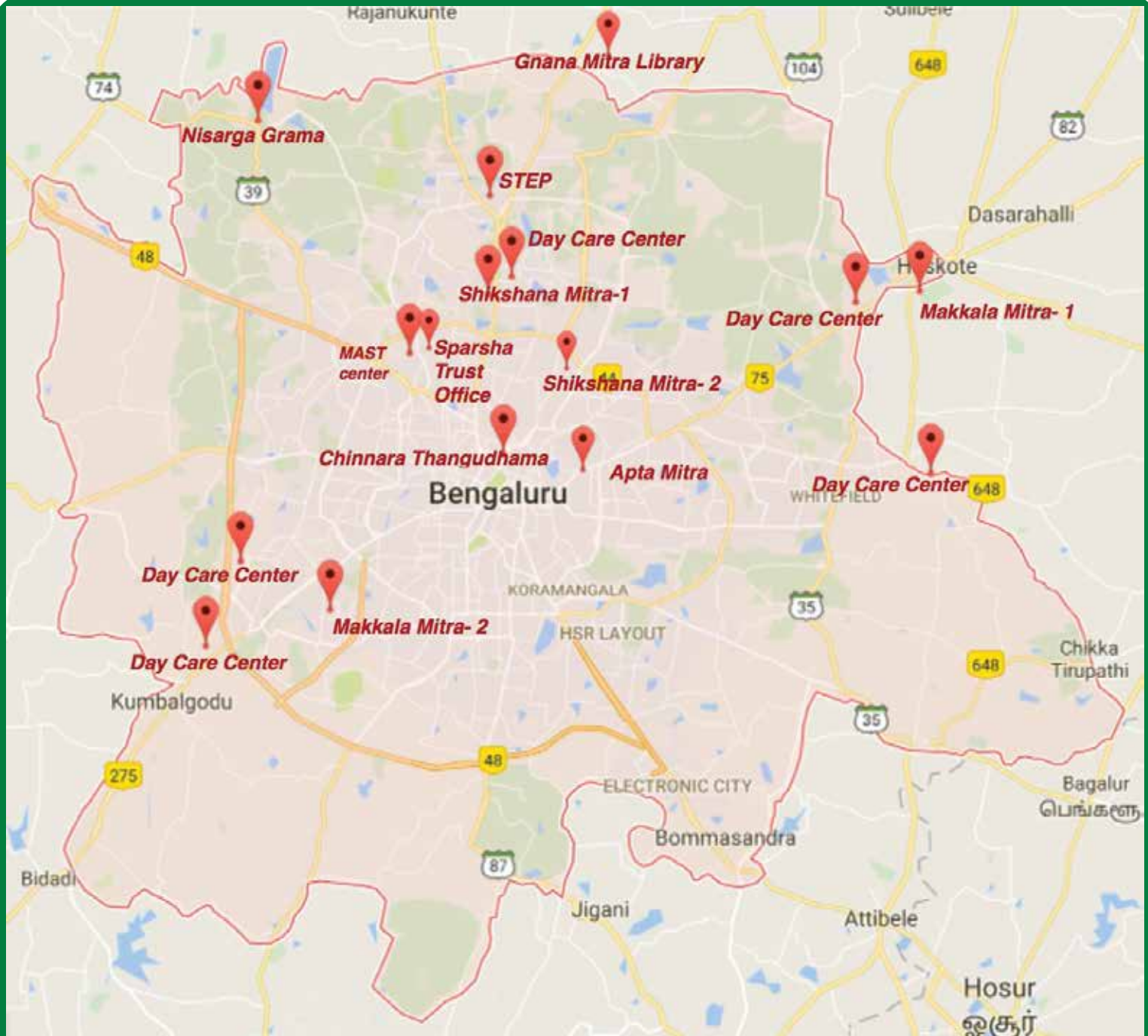
Above 16 years old, children and youth are welcomed in our centres to receive vocational trainings. Our aim is to give them opportunities to learn and then work in their own interested field (computing, design, art and craft, tailoring, etc.). More specifically, Sparsha wants also to provide job-oriented skills to rural youth to reduce the migration to cities.

### STEP 7 - Alumni administration

Sparsha is a community of responsibility and solidarity in which everyone has his or her own place and fills out a special role. To ensure the long-term existence of our centres and make this community grow even more, a group with all the previous students has been created. The alumni support the organizational activities and are responsible for the administrative functioning.



c. Projects



## 6. 2016-2017 Highlights

### CHILD PROTECTION PROGRAM

#### Child help line-1098

The child-help-line project is a part of the Department of women and child welfare, Government of India. In order to run this project in rural districts of Bangalore, Sparsha Trust has been selected to collaborate with the child line. The number (1098) remains active 24 hours and offers free protection to children as well as woman who are in trouble of any kind and at any time. The child-help-line is connected with the labor and police department and people in need will receive help within just one hour.



The Sparsha help line was initiated in 2015 and has so far registered 663 cases. In 2016-17 we have registered 310 cases. Most of the cases include child marriage and sexual harassment. We have raised awareness of the child-help-line project and reached more than 1800 people through mass awareness raising.

#### The main programs of child-help-line:

- ❶ **Rescue Operations:** Rescue is an important part of child-help-line. The children will be rescued when required and will be supported of the CWC (Child Welfare Committee)
- ❷ **Outreach and Awareness:** The child-help-line visits various public places (incl. Anganawadi, Bus stops, communities, SHGs, schools, etc.) in order to raise awareness of the child-help-line services and also to identify the problems of children
- ❸ **Open House:** Open house is a platform that finds solutions to the problems. During the outreach and awareness workshops, the team identifies the problems of the children (e.g. in schools/communities). Additionally the children are able to share their thoughts and doubts (incl. lack of basic facilities, child marriage, child labor) with the department officers and officials.
- ❹ **Phone Testing:** During the outreach and awareness workshops, the child-help-line team member makes calls from different places, using various network numbers in order to check whether the calls/the network is connected to the child line numbers.
- ❺ **CAB (Child-Help-Line Advisory Board) Meeting:** Under the leadership of DC, the CAB meeting has been introduced. Many issues related to the children in Bangalore rural districts have been discussed and solved.
- ❻ **“Child Line Se Dosti Week” program:** This program is conducted annually in November 2016. This year the press has been informed about the purpose and the importance of this program. The main aim of this program includes conducting mass awareness raising programs, counseling training sessions and Jatha workshops.
- ❼ **World Anti-Child Labour Day:** This annual event has been celebrated at the Government PU Col-lege. The secretary for District Legal Services Authority, the district child protection officer, vice-principal, ASI and the labour inspector have participated in this program. It was initiated through Jatha and nearly 200 children took part.



## Bangalore Rural Childline cases – 2016 – 17

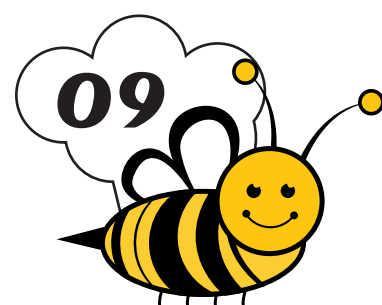
### Category

### Total No's.

Child Marriage	54
Child Sexual Abuse	19
Child Labour	17
Missing children	29
Physical Abuse	27
Child run away from home	20
School dropouts	46
Others	98

Total

310





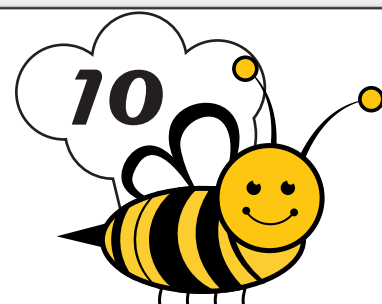
## SHELTER HOMES :

CHILD CARE, PROTECTION , DEVELOPMENT AND CAREER BUILDING CENTERS

### 1. Nisarga Grama

#### A dream turns into reality : Inauguration of Nisarga Grama

Sparsha's latest project, NISARGA GRAMA, began with the aim to reach out to more children, providing them with a place to develop and most importantly, with a home. Nisarga Grama is a nature village covering 2 acres of land, aiming to provide basic needs for 500 underprivileged and vulnerable children in the age of 6 to 18 years. This project is a multi-dimensional development centre, providing the children with a self-sustained, eco-friendly space, in which they can develop their creativity, strengthen their self-confidence and thrive to reach their potentials. It includes several facilities like dormitories for boys & girls, a kitchen, a dining hall, a library, a computer lab, a science lab, a theatre training centre, an arts & craft centre, as well as facilities for agricultural activities. By initiating this project, we hope to provide the children with an environment and a path to a better future, where they can freely choose their activities and simply focus on their interests. The centre was opened in June 2016 and has so far given a new home to around 130 children. On October 22nd 2016 Nisarga Grama was officially inaugurated with the intention of enrolling an additional 200 children by June 2017. We are planning to have up to 500 children living at Nisarga Grama by 2018. We expect 70-80% of the children to successfully reach their goals and reintegrate into society. One of our students (Kanaka, Nisarga Grama) has shared her thoughts: "I am very happy to be here. After joining Nisarga Grama, I have been elected as VC and I am looking after other children. I am taking care of all the responsibilities and have learnt how to lead a team".





### About the Nisarga Grama facility:

- ❶ **Dormitories:** The dormitories are currently able to accommodate 240 children but there are plans to expand in order to accommodate up to 500. We have already shifted 75 children and the remaining are to be shifted soon (depending on the schools available). There are 8 dormitories in total, 4 dormitories for each gender (boys and girls). Each dormitory can hold up to 30 children and includes 15 bunker carts and 3 bathrooms.
- ❷ **Learning Hub:**  
There are 3 classrooms:  
1 digital class room  
1 computer lab, including 24 computers available for the children  
1 Science lab
- ❸ **Other Facilities:**  
Dining hall - 250 children can have food at a stretch.  
Library - can accommodate more than 20,000 books.  
Water - 2 bore wells are functioning as a water facility.  
Kitchen Garden - vegetables required for daily food preparation are grown on campus  
Training Center - for children and staff



## A day of celebration

All 180 children of all the centers assembled at the Nisarga Grama Village to celebrate Christmas. The entire nature village was decorated grandly and everyone helped and wished to celebrate a healthy, warm and prosperous Christmas and a happy New Year. The Excalibur Foundation enabled this celebration and raised hope for a healthy upcoming new year, by hosting health checkups for all our 200 children of the 6 Sparsha shelters.

The children from all the centers participated in various cultural activities like, Bharathanatyam, Yakshagana, Dollukunitha and Tamate. They conducted the programs in an organized way in the presence of all the guests. Ultimately, Christmas was celebrated by receiving gifts, including various books, color books, crayons, chocolate, sweets, pens and pencils and colorful and very soft bedsheets. Eventually, the children relished a very good lunch and enjoyed a memorable day.





### “All in One” Summer Camp 2017-18

For the first time, the Sparsha Team planned and initiated a Summer Camp for the children of the Sparsha shelters. **This summer camp was conducted from the 14th of April 2017 to the 13th of May 2017 at Nisarga Grama (Hesarghatta, Bangalore).** 170 Children of different Sparsha shelters travelled to Nisarga Grama to attend the camp. The children were allotted into 10 teams of specific age groups and allocated to different dormitories. People from various cooperations and many individuals volunteered to sacrifice their valuable time in order to help to make this summer camp a memorable experience in the life of every child. They were also able to spread happiness and joy among the children, through their kindness, knowledge and value based resources.

The Summer Camp mainly aimed to give the children an opportunity to engage into their fields of interest and to focus on developing valuable skills in this area, in order to enhance their hidden skills and talents. Moreover it aimed to support the children's personality and character development and wants to shape self-confidence, self-awareness, and self-discipline in each child.

After the Summer Camp, children developed self-confidence and self-discipline. They identified their fields of interest and succeeded to work towards it. Moreover they participated in their academics, expanded their general knowledge and English skills and enjoyed playing and learning different games and dances. Lastly, they enjoyed creative activities including making masks, using material such as hard board, mud and balloons.

With the help of our supporters, Sparsha was able to provide delicious and nutritious food, snacks, fruits, juice and milk. Additionally, our children enjoyed every support and the contact to the staff and volunteers and appreciated the encouragement.



## 2. Chinnara Thangudhama

Chinnara Thangudhama is a home for children who are engaged in rag picking , construction work, domestic work or single parenting, children who are orphans, school dropouts or children of migrated families, neglected by their communities and families.

The shelter currently accommodates 18 boys who study in 7th std. up to college. They joined Sparsha Trust in a very poor condition in 2010 and were supported and encouraged to achieve their dreams among the commitment of the Sparsha staff.

The children were provided with basic facilities, including a shelter, food, health care and various activities to support their character and personality development for future benefits. They are attending government schools and show great interest in their studies and their learning process. In the years of 2016-17, we were able to support 5 students in 10th standard with tuition. With the help of our supporters, these 5 students scored very good marks in their final exams. 3 out of the 5 students have scored really well, including Shashikumar with 90%, Manjunath with 68% and Naveen with 69%. With the financial support of our partners, 2 children were able to continue their higher education and their results of their final exams were excellent. Raghu scored 86% in 2nd PUC at Shashedripuram college (Yelahanka) and Janakiram scored 68% in 2nd PUC at Gnana Jyothi College (Yelahanka).

On the weekends, the children are able to focus on their fields of interest, including sports, dancing, drama, chess, carom and science. In 2016-17, the children have attended many competitions and shows (dancing, sports) and won various prizes.



### 3. Shikshana Mitra -1

This shelter is originated in Sanjeevininagar, Hebbal and currently accommodates 38 children (boys and girls in the age of 6 to 14 years). In 2016, all the children of Shikshana Mitra-1 were sent to go to a government school. We are taking care of their health, care, shelter, entertainment and exposure. So far:

- ❶ They had 4 health-checkup camps
- ❷ They attended a trip to Cubbon Park, McDonald's, Rachenahalli Lake
- ❸ The Canadian International School children interacted with our children. Our children's English knowledge has improved through this interaction and the children of the International School expanded their knowledge about the underprivileged children

More than 6 volunteers regularly visited the center and helped the children with reading and writing. The children participated in various competitions at their school and have won prizes. Such competitions were organized by Cognizant, AXA and others. This helped them to build up a better relationship with the cooperatives and other individuals.

The children learnt folk dances, cinema dances, English skits and songs, three Kannada songs, drawing, tables with an average of 25, reading and using an average of 15 to 20 books of the library. All the center children along with Canadian International School children flied kites and learnt many things about it. They also visited Manthri Mall and played bowling game. Moreover they visited the Coca Cola factory, Jakkur Lake and Nandi Hills to learn about birds, how to make pots and lights and enjoy a picnic. The children celebrated Independence Day at Sanjeevininagar center and a few children gave a speech, danced and sang patriotic songs. They also celebrated Christmas, New Year Day and enjoyed by cutting the cake.

### 4. Shikshana Mitra -2

This shelter is currently taking care of 16 children (only boys in the age of 13 to 18 years) and follows an independent foster-care model. It is run by the family of Mr. and Mrs. Vanamala Kiran, who have adopted the responsibility to develop the center through parental care. They are training the children to live independently and are improving their self-confidence. At the center, the children are learning about cooking, financial maintenance, earning money by delivering newspapers, budgeting and how to maintain the center itself. They are growing in character and personality and learn how to adopt the responsibility of helping their fellow students in learning activities and hygienic care. Moreover, they have participated in summer camp and countless other activities hosted by Sparsha Trust and have grown to great and reliable students.

Harshith, who dropped out of II PUC completed a training in baking and cooking works now as a chef in a hotel. He is training other children of the center too. Another 4 students have been admitted to St. Joseph's College and are performing very well.





## 5. Makkala Mitra- 1 & 2

Makala Mitra is located in Rajarajeshwari Nagar (Bangalore urban) and Hoskote (Bangalore rural) is currently hosting 23 children in the age of 6 to 14 years. In 2016, it was initiated an open shelter for children who are engaged in different areas of labour, including construction work, domestic work, begging, rag picking but also school dropouts. This shelter is open 24 hours daily and any child is able to avail the facility at any time. The shelter conducts cultural activities and games for children and cooperates through 3 contact points. Through these contact points, the children are provided with school enrollment, introduction to CWC, access to government and private shelters and are eventually able to reintegrate into their families.

During the years of 2016-17, an average of 25 children per day have benefited of this program. Health issues were examined and treated by government and private hospitals. We implemented activities that supported their learning process and celebrated major festivals with the support of many volunteers, including the Republic Day, Independence Day, Ugadi, Christmas, Shankrithi, Childrens day, Gandhi Jayanthi and more. A progress assessment helps to identify the potential of each child monthly.

Moreover, we conducted 3 field days (to Lalbagh, the planetarium, Bhaneraghatta).

Every day, the children are able to focus on their fields of interest, including sports, dancing, drama, chess, carom and science. In 2016-17, the children have attended many competitions and shows (dancing, sports) and won various prizes. Nearly 150 children have benefitted from this program and this shelter in 2016-17 and around 50 children have been enrolled to schools.

**Abhay's Case:** Abhay was diagnosed with cancer during a health check-up conducted by Ra-jarajeshwari Nagar center. He does not have parents and is taken care of by his uncle. We admitted him to M S Ramaiah Hospital for treatment. Recently, he has been taken to Kid-wai hospital for bone marrow replacement. We are working to find a solution to this issue.









## CHILD CARE, PROTECTION AND BRIDGE CENTERS : DAY CARE CENTERS

### 1. Save me- Contact points

This is a unique concept initiated in the year 2015-16, in which abandoned / under privileged children are recorded into the center and will be provided with basic education. Moreover, Sparsha Trust will protect and take care of them with the support of the government and private institutions. We make children feel comfortable by providing a child-friendly environment and daily meals, and snacks, healthcare and other facilities. The contact points are set up in places where children are not going to school/ have no access to education, including construction sites, rag picking yards and other places where more than 10 children were found beforehand.

After motivating the children to join our community, they are taken to a bridge course and once they successfully complete the bridge course, they will be admitted to public schools for formal education. The children who need care and protection will be enrolled into our other shelters/care centers. We achieve our goal by having the right understanding and expertise to deliver our services to those in need. We also confederated with other organizations and raised awareness among our group of stakeholders in order to create a wider and bigger impact:

- ❶ We raised awareness of education and children's rights among the parents
- ❷ Every month, we host health camps / health-checkups
- ❸ We planned 3 field trips in one year
- ❹ We hosted 4 sports competitions in a year

Area	Category of the people	Families	Children
Mestripalya, near Manyatatechpark, Bangalore - 70	Migrated construction workers from Andra, North India and North Karnataka	300	130
VinayakaLayout, NayandaHalli, Mysore Road, Bangalore-45	Rag pickers, construction workers, domestic workers laborers, street venders and daily wage workers	135	55
Chimasandra, Old Madras Road, Bangalore-40	Migrated construction workers	56	30
Samethanahalli, Hoskote Taluk-35	Migrated construction workers	115	35



## 2. Mobile Crèches

This project ensures daycare services to children of construction laborers. Children are provided with curative health care, adequate and supplementary nutrition, education, care and protection. There are 3 age-group categories of children. The first group includes children in the age of 0-3 years, who are located in Balavadi. The second group includes children in the age of 3-6 years, who are going to Anganawadi and the third group hosts children in the age of 6-14 years who join the Bridge Course center.

The centers conduct health check-up camps, awareness programs with respect to childcare, health and education and inform the community about the schemes of the government and the facilities available for them. The workers identify school dropouts and child laborers during their survey and enroll them to centers by convincing their parents and the children themselves. Over-all, the centers work for the personal development of the children of laborers. Moreover, the centers celebrate Deepavali, Sankranthi, Ugadi, Gandhi Jayanthi, Kannada Rajyotsava and New Year and arranged picnics for the children. The children have been taken to Lalbagh and Vishweshwaraiah Museum in order to teach them about nature and science related subjects through personal experience.

With the support of Mobile Creches, Sparsha initiated 2 centers in 2016-17 in Bangalore:

- 1 Tata construction, Rachenahalli (behind Manyata Tech Park)
- 2 Hombale Group (Kommaghatta, Mysore Road, Bangalore)



Area	Category of the people	Families	Children
Rachenahalli, near Manyata Tech Park, Bangalore-70	Migrated construction workers from An-dhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and North Karnataka	450	140
Hombale Constructions and Estates Pvt. Ltd, Kommaghatta Village in Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore (Phase I)	Migrated construction workers from UP, MP, Bihar, AP, North Karnataka	130	42



## YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND CAREER BUILDING CENTERS

### 1. STeP Center (Smile Twin-E-Learning Program)

Smile Twin - E - Learning Program (STeP) is a national level program, which trains the urban based underprivileged youths in English Proficiency, Basic Computer Education, Digital literacy and Soft Skills for enhancing their prospects of employment in the fast expanding retail, hospitality and BPO sectors. The main goal of the program is to create opportunities, space and scope for underprivileged Urban based youths who are jobless and dropped out of college and school, to help them to develop important skills for future benefit and employment purposes.

Sparsha initiated this program with the support of SMILE Foundation at Yelahanka, Bangalore. We are mainly focusing on the rural youth, slum community youngsters and economically deprived families. In the year of 2016, 40 Students were participating in TERM (4 Months Duration) and we have completed 3 TERMS so far. A total of 119 Students have completed this course.

Batch Period	Students Mobi-lized	Student En-rolled	Trained	Placed
July 2016 to October 2016	60	40	39	28
Nov 2016 to Feb 2017	80	40	40	32
March 2017 to June 2017	100	40	40	21
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>81</b>

#### Case study of Rachappa, Origin: North Karnataka (Raichur District)

Rachappa's parents and elder siblings worked as laborers in their village and on construction sites and moved to Bangalore in order to earn better wages, whilst he continued his studies and only worked during holidays. The families financial condition was very bad, but because of his elder siblings earnings he was able to continue school. He used to say - "Ma'am, life is difficult and earning daily meals is not easy after all". Now he aims to continue his studies for better future benefits.

After joining STeP he showed commitment, although he was a very shy young man. He faced difficulties coming out of his shell, but was very eager and preferred to spend his days studying and practicing to work with computers. Now, his self confidence grew and he enjoys learning about retail management and personality development. He took all the time he needed and studied hard to complete the course with a good grades.

#### First job through STeP:

Rachappa and his friend were both selected for the job they have applied to, before attending the employee engagement session. He now works as an assistant to Reliance Fresh and is attending the Morning College. Rachappa begins working in the afternoon and usually works until night, earning a great salary to provide himself with food, education and supporting his family.





## 2. MAST Center

**MAST Center:** In March 2016, Sparsha initiated a course in Market Aligned Skills Training. This is a digital media training and skill building service of 6 months, supporting the poor rural/semi ur-ban/urban youth and enabling them to share their concerns in communities, to apply to jobs and to earn sustained livelihoods. We were able to initiate this course with the support of the Adobe Foundation & America India Foundation (AIF).



### Objectives of MAST Centre

- ❶ To provide opportunities to the youth with innate talents, and turning these into practical skills to benefit their future employment
- ❷ The projects key objective is to provide professional education skills to the underprivileged and undereducated youth
- ❸ We strive to nurture the youth to become creative and forward thinking. Graphic design students visited industries and observed different types of packaging. Moreover they learned about the use of packaging in Retail Management.
- ❹ Practical and theoretical tests in Graphic and Print Design were taken at the end of every week, regarding the concerned subjects
- ❺ We are not only teaching design and skill oriented subjects, in contrast we offer guidance about other life skills, counseling sessions, cultural activities and English classes.



In 2016, we trained 48 youngsters. 25 of them have successfully found jobs, 15 are engaged in freelancing and 8 started their own business.

GRAPHIC & PRINT  
DESIGN



### 3. Talent Encouragement (Pratibha Protsaha) Program

#### Monthly celebration of Aadi-Nali, Oodi-Kali

Regularly, we conduct a few competitions in the centers of Sparsha, in order to raise interest for education among the children. The competitions include kabaddi, sack race, drawing, dancing, singing, quizzes, and others. The children enjoy taking part in the competitions and the winners are awarded with prizes.

### 4. Talent Encouragement (Joy of learning) Program

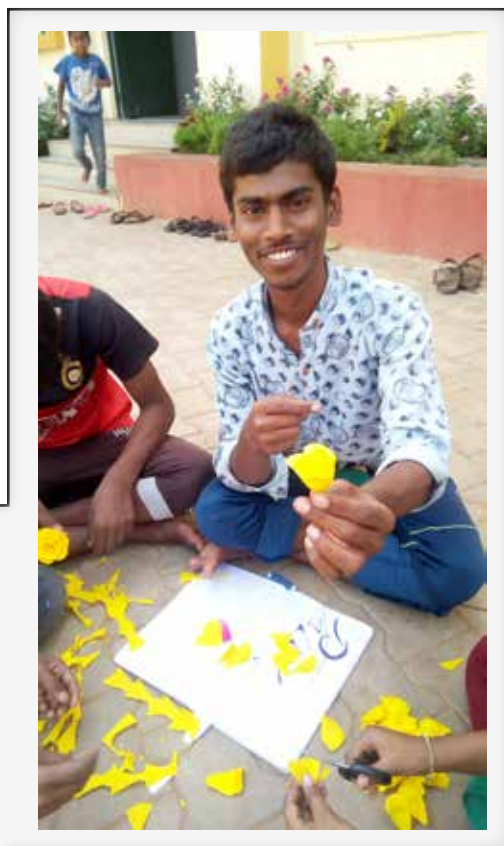
#### **“Joy of learning” month – An event to explore talent of deprived children**

In 2012, the Team of Sparsha initiated a special event called “Joy of Reading” for the Sparsha Trust children and government school children. It is now organized every year during the month of November in response to the “Children’s Day” celebration. The idea is to make learning joyful to children as it has been stated in the motto “learn by reading, understand by doing”. The role of “doing” in learning has been highlighted through centuries by various pedagogues. We have implemented various methods of joyful learning in our centers and community libraries where the inherent talents of children are nurtured. The Joy of learning program is an event to give an opportunity to the children to show what they have learnt over the course of year. In the event, more than 420 children participated from our centers and the community libraries.

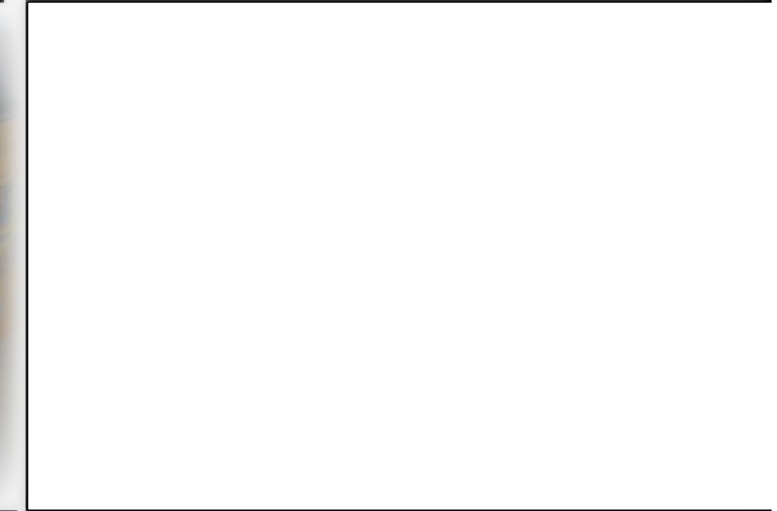
The eligibility to compete is to have read a certain amount of books from the library and to know the multiplication tables up to 20 or 50, depending on the child’s age. The event is mainly conducted to develop interest in reading books and ensure that it becomes a knowledgeable and joyful act.

#### The activities organized during the event are:

- ❶ Book reading competition
- ❷ Super Minute games
- ❸ Drawing Competition
- ❹ Table reciting
- ❺ English words competition
- ❻ Group songs contest
- ❼ Solo and group dances
- ❽ Special skills award
- ❾ Story telling







## 7. Outreach and Outcomes

### Sponsorship :

Individual supporters of Sparsha are the main backbone of our initiative and help us immensely to reach towards the children in need and to provide them with care and protection. In 2016-17 we introduced the Child Sponsorship program. This program aims to create a friendly environment for our children and tries to enable them a save environment. Moreover, we are trying to create a stable connection between the children and the sponsors in this project, which can make a valuable impact on the child's personal development and its future. For this reason, we are looking for reliable, supporting sponsors who are committed to support our program financially and to involve themselves with the children from the center. So far, 11 children have received a sponsorship by individual supporters. In 2016-17 we have sent one progress and evaluation report to our supporters.

### Scholarship:

We are proud of our shelter children, who have their origin in very poor, humble surroundings but are yet aiming towards higher education. We are also thankful for the support of Excalibur foundation, Jindal Foundation, Godream (Guardians of Dreams) and various individuals who have agreed to support the college studies for 8 children and the schooling for 14 children.

### Volunteers help to support the development of the Sparsha Children:

Over the past years (especially 2016-17), many supporters, corporates and volunteers were involved in the direct and indirect development of our shelter children. and indirectly in Sparsha children development.

- ❶ 25 children attended English classes (spoken) at Cognizant for one month.
- ❷ 15 children were mentored by Netscout volunteers for one year daily.
- ❸ Mrs. Manisha agreed to help 45 Shikshana Mitra -1 children in their academic development daily.
- ❹ First American India volunteers helped to spread awareness of child help line-1098 at Devanahalli.
- ❺ IBM Volunteers came to Mobile crèches to help conducting various activities that helped us to attract more children and to motivate the children to get regular attendance
- ❻ Kennametal volunteers conducted a magic show and a music show at Nisarga Grama
- ❼ Broadsoft came to conduct an elucidation on health, cleanliness, the importance of education and hygiene, in the month of August 2017 at Nisarga Gram
- ❽ Walmart volunteers collaborated with the Nisarga Grama team and created a program for library coding, coloring and entering into the system. They also engaged in the preparation of the science lab, downloading of videos, using the science equipment, supporting the viability of resources etc.
- ❾ Infinite computer solution took 30 children to their office to show how the corporate people work and introduced them to working with a computer, how to create files and more.









### Foreign volunteers:

In the year of 2016-17 Sparsha Trust received 10 volunteers from foreign countries, including Germany, France, UK, USA and Venezuela. These volunteers have stayed in the centers with our children and took care of their health, hygiene, studies and more. The children learned to adapt simple practices like brushing your teeth twice a day and keeping the environment clean. They learned about the world, received help in maths, English, reading and writing and were taught songs, games and countless other activities. They also helped to setup the library at Nisarga Grama, and introduced photo documentation to the Nisarga Grama staff.

With the regular intervention of such volunteer, our children are able to develop in many ways.





### Fellowship:

Another main activity of Sparsha is Fellowship. This activity teaches students who are pursuing to attend higher education to guide younger students through their education. Also they will participate in activities that help students to develop various skills that help to shape their personality and their personality development.



## Trainings:

A training program will be conducted regularly for the staff members of Sparsha Trust. The training will be given to the staff members, regarding the procedure of executing the documentations, child protection policies and project related information and securities.

With the support of child help line, the training was given to around 24 staff members and included information about children rights, the Juvenile Justice act and the child labor act in the years of 2016-17. This training session helped to inform the staff about general information connected to the children, their protection and safety and helped the staff to deal better with the children. During this training program, Narasimha G. Rao and Mrs. Vani guided the staff members through the children's sections.





### Children's Parliament:

Every year, children representatives from all the districts of Karnataka will communicate and discuss the children's problems with the chief minister of Karnataka in the month of November. The main goal of this children's parliament is to conduct this program. Prior to this, the children parliament will be conducted in all the districts.

Sparha Trust organized the children's parliament program in the rural district of Bangalore. A total of 60 students took part in this program and discussed the concepts of the parliament and how to deal with the various problems the children are facing. 2 out of the 60 students participating, were selected to have a discussion with the chief master at Vidhana Soudha. Through this meeting, the concerns and problems of the children in the particular districts were noticed by the concerned departments.





### Summer camp:

In 2016-17, a summer camp was conducted in Hoskote (taluk of Bangalore rural district) with the help of Karnataka Bala Vikas Academy, Dharwad and the Women and Child Development department. In this summer camp, 100 children from Hoskote taluk participated and were accommodated over a period of 10 days. The camp hosted countless activities, including drawing, craft, dancing and singing. In the end of the camp, a participation certificate was given to all the students.

This program was witnessed by DCPO and the Joint-Director of Women and Child Development department of Bangalore rural district.



### Student Internship:

Every year, students from different schools and colleges are attending courses like MSW, LLB, MBA and enjoy an internship. This year, we received approximately 98 students from different colleges. They learned more about our organization and involved themselves in organization development activities including the creation of case studies of each child, identifying child laborers, conducting creative activities in order to motivate the children in getting interest in education, participating in home visits and counseling the children. All this will be done under the guidance of the head of this organization.

This year, we hosted internships from Acharya College, Gowtham College, Bangalore University, Gurushree College, Ramaiah Management College, Ramaiah Law College and Tumkur College and from schools like Canadian International school, Mallaya Aditi International school, Kendirya Vidyalaya school and Vidyanikethan school.

### Sparsha Children achievement:

In 2016-17, 8 boys and 3 girls attended 10th standard and II PUC examinations. All the children are very focused on their education and usually studied up to 4 hours daily. Some of the volunteers also helped them in their difficult subject, including science and maths. Eventually, our children have achieved admirable results in their examinations.



## SSLC RESULT 2016-17



**SHASHIKUMAR**

**MARKS: 90%**



**KANAKA**

**MARKS: 80%**



**NAVEEN**

**MARKS: 69%**



**MANJUNATH**

**MARKS: 68%**



**NARASAMMA**

**MARKS: 60%**



**BASAVARAJ**

**MARKS: 68%**

## 2ND PUC RESULT 2016-17



**RAGHU.G**

**MARKS: 86%**



**JANAKIRAM-G**

**MARKS: 68%**

*—❖❖ Congratulations! ❖❖—*







### Sparsha Children and cultural experiences:

Along with the academics, Sparsha helps the children to showcase their talent in the cultural field. Many children are interested in dancing, singing, acting and music. Mr. Hidayath has been hired to train our children. This year, our children have learnt Veeragase, Dollu Kunitha (boys and girls), Kamsale, Yakshagana, Garbha, Jambhe, piano, thamate, classical dance, folk dance, cinema dance, patriotic songs and much more.

### Children have performed their Dollukunitha in many government department programs:

- ❶ At Vidana Soudha, girls performed Dollukunitha in front of the Chief Minister
- ❷ Dollukunitha was performed at AXA Company, Rotary (Vidyaranyapura), Infinite Computer Solution and First American India (during the new office inauguration)
- ❸ Veeragase was performed at Women and Child Welfare department on children's day, Infinite Computer solution (during awareness campaign on child labour), New Horizon College (during Deepavali)
- ❹ Kamsale was performed at Actuant Company and Persistent Company





### SparshaChildren in Sports:

Our children participated in various sport competitions and have won many prizes. Such competitions were organized by different organizations and institutions. They participated in a competition hosted by Concern India Foundation and won prizes in running race, relay race, long jump, kho-kho, long throw and high jump.



### Operation - Muskaan:

This program was initiated to rescue child laborers and to identify the missing children. With the collaboration with the Women and Child Development department, the police department, and the labour department, we conducted Operation Rakshana in the month of July 2016 at Devanahalli taluk. Previous to this program, we prepared a survey to determine child laborers. On operation day we rescued 14 child laborers, who were working in different sectors including garages, hotels, construction sites and silk industries.





### Trip for Children and team of Sparsha Trust:

Children in the age of 16-18 years and the Sparsha team members (40 members) went on a 2-day-trip to Sharavana Belagola, Belur, Halebeedu, Dharmasthala, Udupi and Murudeshwara. The children learned about the historical places and their background and enjoyed the bus journey by singing, dancing, cracking jokes and more. We took many photographs in these historical places. In the end of the trip, we all relaxed in the Murudeshwara sea shore.



## 8. Financial Performance



## 9. Aims for 2018



- ❶ Nisarga Grama:  
Equipping the infrastructure and providing all facilities and good accommodation to 250 children
- ❷ Setting up of AVID (Alumni for Village Integrated Development) in 100 villages across Bangalore rural district
- ❸ Reaching out to children who are in crisis and starting Mobile Crèches centers and Day Care Centers wherever required
- ❹ Developing awareness programs for youths and the community





## 10. Our Values and Ideology

### A. VALUES

#### a. Children:

- 1 We take action for children who need care and protection.
- 2 We respect all religions and cultures and we work towards the development of children from all communities.
- 3 We strictly adhere to the principles of United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and we promote child rights through various programs of our organization.
- 4 We are committed to provide all basic facilities to children and bring underprivileged children to the mainstream by protecting them from exploitation of any kind.

#### b. Staff:

- 1 We respect and value each other and treat all equally. Our staff grows responsibility as they understand the core values, missions and visions of the organization.
- 2 We take personal responsibility to achieve objectives of the organization and to be accountable to supporters, partners, communities and mainly the children.
- 3 We try to set high goals for ourselves and commit to improve the quality of our work.
- 4 We support all staff members by fulfilling their needs and basic requirements.
- 5 We help our staff to grow in their career by providing a good working environment and annual training to enhance their skills.

#### c. Supporters:

- 1 We are committed to the MOU and we assure that we will make proper utilization of the funds given to the organization.
- 2 We maintain transparency regarding the funds allocated to fulfill the social objectives of the organization.

### B. EHTICS

- 1 Responsibly maintaining and conducting activities for the welfare of children and community.
- 2 Proper utilization of public funds and careful handling of public assets and caring towards the environment all the activities.
- 3 Willing to work beyond the borders of politics, religions, cultures, races and ethnicities within the limits of the organizing documents and with organizations and individuals that share common values and objectives.
- 4 Never violating any person's fundamental human rights.
- 5 Recognizing that all people are born free and equal in dignity.
- 6 Being sensitive to moral values, religion, customs, traditions and culture of the communities we serve.
- 7 Respect the integrity of families and support family-based life.
- 8 Respect religious freedom.
- 9 Being accountable of all actions and decisions not only to the funding agencies and the government, but also to the people we serve, staff and members, partner organizations and the community.
- 10 Being transparent in all dealings with the government, the public, donors, partners, beneficiaries and others, except for personnel matters and proprietary information.
- 11 Providing accurate information regarding work, projects or any individual at all time.



## 11. Our Partners

Sparsha Trust would like to thank all the partners who are following and supporting every step we take and help us to build our children's career in a very successful manner. All your generous support, contributions and good-heart, by the way of monetary sustain, teaching children, giving basic required materials and organizing a lot of other activities for the children, enable us to work more energetically.

We have collaborated with various companies, government and institutions in different areas and have been working along with them to produce a significant impact on the society.

Our supporters who have been supporting and encouraging us in the years of 2016/17 are listed below:

### A. SUPPORTERS OF NISARGA GRAMA

- ✿ KENNAMETAL INDIA LIMITED & KSSPL
- ✿ NEW HORIZEN EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL TRUST
- ✿ AXA BUSINESS SERVICES
- ✿ JAI SHIVASHAKTI HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
- ✿ MR & MRS. EUGENE HEERA BRAUNER
- ✿ GOKALDAS WAREHOUSE CORPORATION LTD
- ✿ SITARAM JINDAL FOUNDATION
- ✿ LIGHT A LIFE, FIRST AMERICAN (INDIA) FOUNDATION
- ✿ LEHAR SINGH MLC DEVELOPMENT FUND
- ✿ WM GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY SERVICES INDIA PVT LTD.,
- ✿ WG CDR R.S.MURTHY FAMILY
- ✿ LODGE SAINIK NO.196, FREEMASONS
- ✿ VARUN VIJAY RAO FAMILY
- ✿ VBHC VALUE HOUSING
- ✿ BEARYS LAKESIDE HABITAT APARTMENTS
- ✿ 95TH PILOTS & 33RD NAVIGATORS COURSE IAF
- ✿ RAVI AND RAVINA SRINIVASAN
- ✿ MALLYA ADITI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
- ✿ LATE BHIMRAO ALUR FAMILY
- ✿ VENUGOPAL PUVVADA AND FAMILY
- ✿ CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
- ✿ DR.S. SHANTHARAM
- ✿ MRS.LEELA RANGANATHA RAO
- ✿ POOJA POWER PRODUCTS
- ✿ NERALU GROUP, KENNAMETAL
- ✿ INNER WHEEL CLUB OF BANGALORE WEST
- ✿ LAXMI MITTAL FOUNDATION
- ✿ SREE RAMA SUPER SURFACTANTS
- ✿ REGIONAL GRAND LODGE SI
- ✿ INFINITE COMPUTER SOLUTIONS



## **B. RUNNING SUPPORTERS OF SPARSHA TRUST**

- ✿ AMERICAN INDIA FOUNDATION (AIF)
- ✿ SMILE FOUNDATION
- ✿ EXCALIBUR FOUNDATION
- ✿ NERALU KENNAMETAL
- ✿ CHILD LINE INDIA FOUNDATION
- ✿ FIDELITY NATIONAL FINANCIAL INDIA
- ✿ INFINITE COMPUTER SOLUTIONS
- ✿ WOMAN AND CHILD WELFARE DEPARTMENT KARNATAKA
- ✿ NATIONAL CHILD LABOR PROJECT BANGALORE
- ✿ MOBILE CRÈCHE DELHI
- ✿ AMRUTANJAN HEALTH CARE LTD.
- ✿ SITARAM JINDAL FOUNDATION
- ✿ NETSCOUT SYSTEMS SOFTWARE INDIA PVT LTD





### C. WHO PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE FOR IN TRANSFORMATION OF SPARSHA TRUST

- ✿ MRS.KRUPA AMAR ALVA, CHAIRPERSON, KSCPCR
- ✿ MR.RAJENDRA J HINDUJA , MANAGING DIRECTOR GOKALDAS WAREHOUSING CORPORATION LTD.,
- ✿ MR.B.C.RAO, MD, KENNAMETAL INDIA LTD.,
- ✿ MR.GIRIDHAR RAJGOPAL, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT & COUNTRY MANAGER, FIRST AMERICAN (INDIA)
- ✿ MR.RAVI SRINIVASAN, RESIDENCE OF BEARYS LAKESIDE HABITATE
- ✿ MS.SANJU RAO, EXCALIBUR FOUNDATION
- ✿ MR.RAGHAVAN, CEO, BHARTIYA CITY DEVELOPERS PVT LTD.,
- ✿ WG.CDR.R.S.MURTHY, RETIRED AIRFORCE
- ✿ MR & MRS.HEERA BRAUNER, NISARGA GRAMA COMMITTEE MEMBER
- ✿ MR & MRS. ANDREW TANNER, DIRECTOR OF ADVANCED ENGINEERING AT KENNAMETAL INC.
- ✿ MS.VICKY TONG, DIRECTOR, PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT, BIOVENTURES - ASTRAZENECA
- ✿ MRS.RUPA MAHAJAN, NISARGA GRAMA COMMITTEE MEMBER
- ✿ MR.D.S.KRISHNA, PRESIDENT, SPASRHA TRUST
- ✿ MR.VARUN VIJAY RAO, MANAGING DIRECTOR, ACTUANT
- ✿ MR.JOE P VERGHESE, MANAGING DIRECTOR, COLLIERS
- ✿ MR.SURESH BABU, GENERAL MANAGER - GIS, INDIGEO CONSULTANTS PVT LIMITED
- ✿ MR.SRIKANTH EKAMBARAM, CFO, TEREX INDIA
- ✿ MRS.MAHALAXMI G BHAT, HUMAN RESOURCE PROFESSIONAL, IBM INDIA
- ✿ MR.SHASHIDHAR M KOTIAN, ASSISTANT MANAGER,TEAM LEAD DESIGN SERVICE, KENNAMETAL INDIA
- ✿ MR.RAGHAVENDRA TOTAMANE, NISARGA GRAMA COMMITTEE MEMBERS
- ✿ MR.AJAY THETE, NISARGA GRAMA COMMITTEE MEMBERS
- ✿ MR.ASIF FAROOQ,
- ✿ MR.ASIM MANDAL, R&D MANAGER (PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT & RELEASE), PERSISTENT SYSTEMS LTD.
- ✿ MR.CHITBHANU, SENIOR DIRECTOR HUMAN RESOURCES AT TAVANT TECHNOLOGIES
- ✿ MR.KISHOR KUMAR, ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT - INDIA OPERATIONS, AXA BUSINESS SERVICES
- ✿ MR.ROOPAK CHAUHAN, AMERICA INDIA FOUNDATION
- ✿ MR.SUNDARRAM, CRESTLAW PARTNERS
- ✿ MRS.BHAVANA, ATHARVI CHARITABLE TRUST
- ✿ MR.HARSHAL DEO
- ✿ MR & MRS.KIRAN
- ✿ MR.S.ANANTH, AUDITOR
- ✿ MR.AMOD, CEO AT INDIAN TEXTILE AUXILIARY CO.
- ✿ MR.AYAN BADRA



## 12. Appreciation and Acknowledgement

Our Team would like to thank every single individual who has shared and sacrificed their time, knowledge, resources, kindness and efforts in order to help and support the projects of our facility. We were able to build up a relationship of trust and reliability to our supporters and are thankful for the valuable guidance and conviction we have received throughout the past year. With your help we overcame obstacles, learnt to communicate and to present ourselves to the best of our ability and succeeded making our dreams come true.











