

Ratna Nidhi Charitable Trust

Annual Report 2012-2013



Mobility Project

Mega Mobility Camp at Palitana:

Under the Patronage of the Sheth Anandji Kalyanji Pedhi, Ratna Nidhi Charitable Trust, Mumbai in association with and supported by several National and International organizations as well as other well wishers had organized a Mega Mobility Camp for rehabilitation of the physically challenged and hearing impaired at Palitana, in the Bhavnagar district of Gujarat.

The camp stretched over a 13 days period from the 25th December 2012 to 6th January 2013 and was a significantly large humanitarian project of its kind giving out 9094 appliances.

Set up in a Dharamshala that was used exclusively for the project, the camp received unprecedented response. The camp rehabilitated approximately 5000 orthopaedically handicapped and another 4000 hearing impaired thus giving a new lease of life to poorest of the poor disabled people of Bhavnagar districts.

Many physically challenged beneficiaries of our 2009 camp came to this camp to get new prosthetics to replace their used ones.



Mobility Camp at Leh & Kargil:

Many physically disabled people living in highly mountainous regions such as Leh and Kargil have been neglected from rehabilitation or help of any sort, the main reason being the difficulty to reach these high altitude zones along with adequate equipment and staff.

Nonetheless, The RatnaNidhi Charitable Trust with its infrastructure and compassion has been successful in overcoming this challenge and has made its outreach in these inaccessible areas as well. This year we carried out our 3rd camp in Leh and Kargil.

It took us twelve days to transport all the equipment and mobility aids across Delhi, Jammu, Srinagar and finally to Leh and Kargil. We also sent fully equipped mobility vans/ambulances. Thus we were able to distribute 490 quality mobility appliances and hearing aids in Kargil and 1148 in Leh.

The local beneficiaries expressed their gratitude by saying that this camp was nothing less than a miracle for them, as nobody before has given a thought about their condition.



Some of our other mobility camps during the year are as follows:

Over a period of 2 days (2nd & 3rd October 2012) a camp was held in collaboration with the Polio Foundation in Ahmedabad, where 152 mobility appliances were distributed to the needy physically disabled people. In December 2012 a camp was held to rehabilitate amputees from the army at Rajouri,

Jammu Karshmir. A total of 18 made-to-size Jaipur feet were given to army persons who have lost their legs.

With the support of Neev Foundation, a one day camp was held at our Mahalaxmi Centre on the 21st of October 2012 distributing 35 calipers to polio ridden persons.

A camp was held at Param

Keshavbaug in Ghatkopar, Mumbai on 31/3/2013, sponsored by Gohilvas Dasha Srimali Mahila Mandal wherein 256 mobility and hearing appliances were given out.

In association with the Inner Wheel Club of Mulund a camp was held at Airoli, Maharashtra on the

16/2/2013 distributing 195 mobility and hearing appliances.

At our permanent center in Mahalaxmi Mumbai, a total of 40 appliances were given to the needy handicapped persons in the period between April to December 2012.

A few touching stories from the Palitana Camp

Just as any 8 year old boy, Dixit has a lot of dreams and ambitions. He says that he will study well and grow up to work hard and bring his family out of poverty. He loves Math and science and really enjoys going to school. Unfortunately 2 years ago little Dixit contracted polio. Now, either his parents or grandmother have to carry him to school. Unfailingly they made sure that his disability does not come in the way of his dreams. Yet they were always faced with the apprehension that their child will always be dependent on them. But now, they are freed from this worry as Dixit can walk all by himself to school with his new callipers and crutches that he received at the Palitana Mobility camp of 2012. When Dixit contracted polio, his parents had lost hopes on him leading a normal life, now they are happy that their son will be able to live an independent future.



Mohammed Ibrahim contracted polio at the age of 7. Despite this he has lived a near normal life. He set up his own street business of bangles and also got married. Today he lives in a small home with his wife. Although she suffers from a mental illness they share a special bond. They take care of each other filling the others weaknesses. Mohammed came to the Palitana camp with his wife's support. Here he received crutches and callipers, after which he was moving about happy that he could walk upright and independently. He felt that now it would be easier for him to travel around to purchase his supplies and stay out long hours for business.

Shuruat Mobility - Business on wheels

Through our work over the years with the physically challenged, we came to realise that a significant number of the beneficiaries we were supporting were youths of working age who needed not only the gift of mobility but also the opportunity and means to become financially independent, support a family, and play a meaningful role in society.

It was within this context that the Shuruat Mobility concept was developed. With the aim of enabling the physically disabled to earn an income, We distribute attractive, hand-powered tricycles designed by professional engineers and designers from the Cambridge & IIT for the purposes of mobile vending. Alongside we run a 5 day training program designed to teach each beneficiary the in's and out's of managing a street-side business and ensure they have the soft skills, practical knowledge and self-confidence needed to succeed. We have had 2 pilot runs of this project in Palanpur and Palitana in Gujarat this year.



Food For Education Project

The year 2012-2013 was the year of consolidation in the Mankhurd / Govandi slum belt as Dharma Bharati Mission scaled-up its support from 700 to 2000 children, adding 9 new schools. The total strength in Mankhurd / Govandi reached to 3000 children. The total strength of the Food programme increased to 5000 meals daily.

The Bombay Down town area of Girgaon, Byculla, Khetwadi and the Western suburbs of Bandra and Vakola are yet other land – mark areas of the Food for Education Programme.

While other factors in terms of cost have been stationery, the three-fold increase in the cost of LPG Gas cylinder from Rs.435/- to Rs.1218/- has adversely affected the Annual Budget of Food for Education.

The Total meals served during the year 2012-2013 was 6,46,447.

We are pleased to receive the positive feedback report from our Food Project Partners. To quote a few:

“The Lunch is very nice and tasty. Children look forward to your food. Menu, timing, cleanliness, transport and all services are good. But children want sweets more often.” Awami Urdu KG School, Bandra.

“We have received healthy and Good Food. This has helped children increase their weight and improve academic performance” Principal, Mahatma Gandhi Memorial High School, Mankhurd.

I thank you from the core of my heart “ Principal, Zakir Islam English school, Govandi.



These kids are seen relishing even basic food!

Bhartiya Bal Vikas Trust



Young girls learning the art of Jam Making

In the year 2012-13 a total of 83 workshops were held where 3216 children were trained in various vocational courses that will facilitate them to take a step towards becoming financially self sufficient.

The various courses offered included, Business orientation training, Domestic helper training, Candle making, Agarbati making, Rakhi making, Detergent powder making, Phenyl making, Liquid soap making, Artificial flowers making, Paperbag making, Mehendi designing, Pickle making, Garland making, Perfume making and the likes.

In these courses they were not only taught to make saleable products but also provided with sources of raw materials as well as avenues to sell.

The program was held at various NGOs and remand homes like Prayas, David Sasoon Industrial School, Mobile Crèche, SadakChap, Meljol, Shivneri Mitra Mandal, Life Trust, Janta Kendra, Pratham, Hamara Foundation, Y.W.C.A, Sathi, Apne aap, Vimala Vikas Kendra, Manav Abhas Kendra, Don Bosco, and Central Board of Workers.

Garments project

The garments we receive from our partners abroad are sorted as per the age and sex and are folded, packed and transported to the respective destination of NGOs in India.

Fancy carry bags and shoulder bags were given to the school children as gifts in Elocution and Drawing competitions.

Totally 18450 beneficiaries received garments in the year 2012-2013 in NGOs from Maharashtra, Gujarat, and West Bengal. A few the NGOs where, garments were distributed are Aastha, Gowalia Tank Jain Temple, R.D. Charitable Trust, Shivneri Vidhyalaya, Kamdhenu Sevakendra and GCM Charitable trust.

Small Projects

A book distribution exhibition was held on the 15th of September 2012 in association with the Rotary Club of Worli. 13000 books were received from The World Bank, which were sorted in various subjects and levels. 350 teachers from 107 schools came to the exhibition to pick out relevant books for their students. Thus 9017 books were distributed free of cost to schools whose students may have otherwise never had access to such world class reading material.



Terror Project

The Terror attack project (2008)

This 5 years project will be over in the academic year 2013-2014. We thank all our sponsors for their support. The families of 197 children have been emotionally attached with Ratna Nidhi in this crucial post Terror Attack period. Many of them are well on the way of Rehabilitation, however, nearly 80 children are still young, and schooling, and need protective arm of RNCT before they manage independently in this big world.

RatnaNidhi will soon approach all the sponsors to continue support for selected cases for another 3 years or so.

The Bomb Blast at Zaveri Bazaar, Opera house and Dadar on July 13th 2011:

48 children on this list continue to receive Educational sponsorship. It gives us great pleasure to say that one mother who had lost her husband at Opera House has re-married with the blessings of her in-laws. Another widow has started earning by being Estate Agent, providing accommodation /business- space in Khetwadi area, some of the injured fathers are back to work on a reduced level. 3-4 mothers are being helped by Tata Trust to find Life Support work. All the children supported by the Educational Sponsorship Programme are schooling well. One of them, Abhishek Das appeared for SSC exams.

Rajiv Gandhi Foundation's ESP for bomb blast victims of 2004 and 2008:

19 Children received valuable assistance.

Safe Kids Foundation

The creation of Safe Kids Foundation in India is a logical continuation of the Ratna Nidhi Charitable Trust's work to help children of all backgrounds lead better lives. The Safe Kids program educates both the school and non-school going children about 'Pedestrian Safety' thus creating and strengthening their awareness of the hazards on the road. It also conducts interactive sessions for parents, teachers and volunteers.



It is said that there is no exercise better for the heart than reaching down and lifting people up.

Help us in our efforts to uplift the poor, disabled, hungry and dependant.

We sincerely thank each donor, on behalf of the beneficiaries you have helped uplift!

We welcome you to donate and partner with any of our projects and contribute towards building a brighter future for the less fortunate.

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