



Devoted to
Comprehensive Development
Of Persons with Disabilities

For Private Circulation Only

B.P.A.

Bulletin

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SUPPORT BY KALUPUR COMMERCIAL COOPERATIVE
BANK FAMILY



6 December, 2022: The Kalupur Commercial Cooperative Bank Parivar celebrated the 53rd Foundation Day with Blind People's Association in a very unique way. 106 women with disabilities were each given a sewing machine to live an independent life. The fund was donated by the Kalupur Commercial Cooperative Bank Parivar. The following Board of Directors, and Staff of Kalupur Bank attended distribution function at Blind People's Association.

- Shri Bhawasagarsingh B Munjal- Director
- Shri Kanubhai G Patel- Director
- Shri Ambarbhai J Patel- Director
- Shri Vinodbhai G Dadlani- GM & CEO
- Smt. Mauliben S Bodiwala- AGM
- Shri Khanjan P Shah- AGM

BPA thanks to this Parivar for their unstinted support to the cause of disability by providing support for assistive devices and self

BPA thanks this Parivar for their unstinted support to the cause of disability by providing support for assistive devices and self employment.



The Kalupur Commercial Co-op. Bank Ltd.
SINCE - 1970 Multi State Scheduled Bank

106 દિવ્યાંગ બહેનો
સિલાઈ મશીન વિતરણ કાર્યક્રમ

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ધી કાલુપુર કોમર્શિયલ કો-ઓપરેટિવ બેંક પરિવાર

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તારીખ : ૬ ડિસેમ્બર ૨૦૨૨

BULLETIN
BLIND PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION (INDIA)

INAUGURATION OF DHOLKA CENTRE

4 October, 2022: Sanjivani- Comprehensive Resource & Rehabilitation Centre For Children/ Persons with Disabilities & Multiple Disabilities at Dholka, Gujarat was inaugurated by Dr. Pankaj B. Valvai, Deputy Collector of Dholka. Mr. Brijesh Vyas, Assistant General Manager and Plant Head Dholka Astral Limited was present along with Mrs. Bharti Makwana, CDPO, Dholka, Mr. Jalpesh Waghela of Astral and Mr. Chandubhai of Rajput Boarding. This Centre has been possible due to the permission for using property by Rajput Boarding for this purpose. From BPA, Mrs. Nandini Rawal, Mr. Bharat Joshi, Ms. Kinnari Desai, Dr. Rajeshwari Srimali, Mr. J.T. Panchal and Mr. Harmish Modi were present. The BPA management is very grateful to Astral Pipes and Astral Foundation for helping us to create a new centre for the poor and marginalized people with disabilities in and around Dholka. Comprehensive services of assessment, therapeutic intervention of physiotherapy and other therapies and rehabilitation services will be made available free of charge thanks to a CSR support from Astral.

Ms. Nandini Rawal, Executive Director of BPA, gave a welcome speech and also gave details of the activities Harmish Bhai Modi from the fund raising team of BPA shared the relationship with Astral foundation who agreed to support and run this centre for children with disabilities. Krupaben gave detailed information about the services which will be provided in the centre. More than 100 people have joined this inauguration function and got detailed information about the services which will be provided free of cost in this training centre for children with disabilities.



The clinical and functional assessment camp was organized for children with Disabilities and Multiple Disabilities at Astral Foundation at Sanjivani Center, Dholka in the weeks that followed. The professionals such as Physiotherapist, Occupational Therapist, Psychologist, and Special Educator were called to assess the children with disabilities. The following professionals attended the camp - Krupa Velani, Sunil Gaurier, Archit Shah, Rakshaben and Project team.



EVENTS/TRAININGS/WORKSHOP AT BPA

"RASOTSAV-2022" - ALL INDIA FLAG DAY FOR THE BLIND

The Flag Day serves as the Annual Day function of the National Association for the Blind, Blind People's Association and its associated Trusts in which hundreds of blind and disabled students of 15 campuses of the BPA come together and show their abilities through singing and dancing like classical dances, Bollywood dances, Fashion Show, other performances and much more..... It is a talent evening of special kids to showcase their abilities and Creativities. This program gives BPA confidence to support the artistic their true abilities. Talent pool from all our centers spread across the state. Donors and well-wishers, Trustees, top officials and staff were also present on this occasion. Some staff members from Beauty Studio and Academy supported as volunteers to do makeup to our 50 students with special needs on the occasion.

This programme was held on 14 September, 2022 at Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Auditorium, S.G. Road, Ahmedabad. As usual this programme was sponsored by Shri Upendrabhai Shah of Shah Investors Home Ltd.,

The Chief Guests of this programme were; Hon'ble Shri Pradipbhai Parmar, Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment and Shri Kiritbhai Parmar Hon'ble Mayor Ahmedabad City, Smt Jayshreeben, Joint Director Samagra Shiksha, Gandhinagar wash also present and blessed the children.





Blind People's Association (INDIA)
organizes a

State Level Parent's Meet of Children with Deafblindness

Time: 11:00 am,
Wednesday, 3 August 2022
Building 8 - Blind People's Association(India),
Vastrapur, Ahmedabad - 380015

Chief Guest
Mr. V.J. Rajput (IAS)
State Commissioner of
Persons with disabilities
bpaindia.org

Supported By **sense
international
INDIA**



3 August, 2022: Blind People's Association organised a State Stakeholder Engagement Meet on behalf of Sense International India. Mr. V.J. Rajput, IAS, State Disability Commissioner interacted with parents and teachers. 40 parents and 8 adult with deafblindness were present.

SNAC SEMINAR

26 August, 2022: Blind People's Association (India) is the State Nodal Agency Center (SNAC) for the states of Gujarat and Diu-Daman for National Trust. One day seminar was organized for Registered Organizations with National Trust and all Social Defense Officers with support from National Trust and Department of Social Justice and Empowerment Govt. of Gujarat.

The program started with a prayer by students with multiple disabilities /Deaf blindness who presented the prayer in sign language and lighting the lamp by all the invited guests. Mr. K.H. Vaniya, Deputy Director, Social Defense department talked about the various schemes and major activities of their department for



persons with disabilities in Gujarat. During his speech he mentioned about the provision of accessibility for persons with disabilities at various places and requested all the participants to implement the law about accessibility.

National Trust act and its provision for Mental Retardation, Multiple Disabilities, Autism and Cerebral Palsy were explained in detail by Mr. Umesh Kumar Shukla, Programme Director, National Trust who joined the meeting virtually.

Regional Network Meeting and Training by BPA and Sense International India

6-8 September, 2022: BPA Regional Learning Centre arranged Vocational Rehabilitation by BPA and sponsored by Sense International India. The parents, teachers and adults with deafblindness were brought together in Hotel President and multiple training programmes were organized for the different groups. The adult deafblind were given training in personality development, grooming and independence and the parents and teachers were helped to understand vocational skills and were given tips on understanding and managing people.



22-26 November, 2022: A similar training was organized in which a total of 22 participants from Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Goa attended. The objectives of this training was to understand deafblindness,

assessment, communication and teaching strategies, parents and professional partnership and technology.



CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP



27 August, 2022: A Second One-Day Seminar on Capacity Building of NGOs was organized at BPA campus on 27 August, 2022. supported by IndusInd Bank. FCRA Act 2010, CSR Rules and Income Tax Rules for Charity Organizations were explained to the participant. CAs and CSs and other experts from NGOs, Executives and all accountants from BPA attended this Seminar. In the recent times, these laws have changed significantly and due diligence is needed. NGOs are well meaning but do not have professional competence to handle such matters and hence get frustrated. The workshop helped the participants to gain new ideas about managing their NGOs in the changing scenario.

JASMINE SUPPORT



26 August, 2022: Jasmine Beauty Care team organized makeup and hair cutting seminar at Andhajan Mandal ITI Hair & Skin Care in which 80 disabled students enthusiastically participated. Each student was also given a gift from Urvashiben of Jasmine Beauty Care.

CMA CGM SCHOLARSHIP



5 September: CMA CGM Agencies (India) Pvt Ltd arranged to distribute Scholarship to 300 Persons with Disabilities these blind students are studying in college and post graduate and require help in pursuing their education. Mr. Pranab Roy, Area General Manager - Zone 2, (Gujarat Region), CMA CGM Agencies (India) Pvt Ltd, and his colleagues were present on this occasion Mr. Tarak Luhar Secretary NAB Gujarat selected the candidate after a very tough process and coordinated the programme.

ATC FOUNDATION DAY

ATCB Foundation Day: Foundation Day of Adult Training Centre Trust was celebrated on 17 August, 2022. The function was presided over by Mr. Mohanty, CEO of Sight Savers. He first visited the BPA Porecha Eye Hospital at Bareja. This was Mohantyji's first visit to BPA since he took over the reins of Sight Savers. BPA Officials shared the glorious history that BPA had with Sight Savers.



TTC EVENTS

Competitive Exam Preparation Centre for Blind and low Vision: Competitive exam center was launched by BPA for Blind and low Vision Students. Orientation program on the same was held wherein 30 persons were enrolled. Detailed Information about the training course and basic information and assessment on training course was done. This course will help the participants in getting good jobs in the future.

4 December, 2022: BPA organized the Teachers Eligibility Test Preparation Training Programme at BPA campus. 5 laptops donated by FORD Company were distributed to the students with visual impairment in this programme.

BRAILLE PRESS MEET

13 December, 2022: Meeting on progress of Braille Presses under "Project on Financial Support to Braille Presses" was organized by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment in which Shri F. J. Porwal, Braille Press Manager and Mr. Bharat Joshi, Deputy Director participated.



DAN UTSAV



7 October, 2022: As a part of Joy of Giving – Daan Utsav, an Ayurvedic Sarvarog Nidan Camp held by Sarkari Akhand Anaand Ayurved Hospital at BPA campus. Under weight students got chyvanprash and medicines to increase the immunity power. 205 students with disabilities and staff were benefitted by this camp.

SIGHT SAVERS VISIT



23 December 2022: Sight Savers Top Management visited BPA for strategic planning and discussing partnerships. Dr. Bhushan Punani, Nandini Rawal, Vimal Thawani, Dr. Dharmendrakumar Jena, Mr. Bharat Joshi, Ms. Kinnari Desai participated in this meeting. Sight Savers and BPA will partner together in the development of various capacity building courses in the field of Community Based Inclusive Development.

JAGDISH PATEL REMEMBERED



Garland of flowers were offered to the statue of the Founder of BPA Late Shri Jagdish K. Patel on his birth anniversary 5th September (Teachers' Day). The students and staff paid homage to the founder and conducted various activities.



Covid-19 Booster Vaccination at BPA Campus



In the light of spreading awareness among citizens to take the Covid-19 vaccine across the nation BPA organized first and second dose of Covid-19 Vaccination Camp for persons with disability in June and September, 2021 at BPA campus. After these camps BPA again arranged the Booster vaccination camp in the same premises on **5 August, 2022** for persons with disabilities and 128 people were vaccinated. The camp was organized by Mr. J.T. Panchal, Manager of BPA.

SHINHAN Bank Donation

30 September: The Managing Director, Shinhan Bank, Ahmedabad Mr. Mr. Srikrishna Narayan & Mr. Srivastava inaugurated the Industrial R.O. Unit & Cots donated by the bank for School hostel students.



JMMT Exams



Japanese Medical Manual Therapy (JMMT) Exam was held on 26 August, 2022 and students answered the exams on computers themselves. No writers were used. The expenses of the JMMT course are met through a donation given by Shri Sanjay Agrawal and his wife from USA.



HDFC Visit



27 September: HDFC Bank Ltd has taken initiative to recruit people with Blindness, low vision and other disabilities. Top officials of HDFC Bank Ltd from Gujarat region visited Blind People's Association and got orientation

and were sensitized about the technology for the persons with Blindness, low vision. It was a very interactive session. BPA will provide technical inputs in job roles and for the access audit.



MASALA GAMES SUPPORT



29 December, 2022: Masala Games Pvt. Ltd., Company distributed wheel chairs, tricycles and bilateral hearing aids worth ₹6,40,000 to around 60 beneficiaries. The promoter Mr. Shalin Shodhan, his father Parag bhai, his wife Khyati, mother-in-law Urmilaji were present. This funding was under the Company CSR.

HOPE SUPPORT



17 September, 2022: Hope is comprised of home makers who are volunteers of BPA and who raise funds through their contacts. They fund educational activities, give medicines, assistive devices and also help in donating clothes and other essential items for person with disabilities. They have been helping BPA through such small activities for the past 3 decades.

NATIONAL TRUCKERS MEETING



13 September, 2022: Mrs. Nandini Rawal and Dr. Dharmendrakumar Jena attended the Celebration of 5 years of Sight Savers RAAHI National Truckers' Eye Health Programme in Delhi. The Truckers Project was reviewed with all partners and the 5 year's celebration function was graced by Shri Kabir Bedi, Actor and philanthropist who is the Brand Ambassador of Sight Savers

16TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF VISION 2020- THE RIGHT TO SIGHT – INDIA CONCLAVE 2022 IN SILIGURI.



2 September: Nandini Rawal participated as expert in the first Consultation Meeting of the 'National Task Force for Inclusion in Eye Health' in Siliguri.

Nandini Rawal presented two papers at the Conference namely "Vision Centres & Disability Rehabilitation-Unique Synergy Achieved by Blind People's Association" and "Role of Disability NGOs in Eye Care". Dharmendra presented a Paper on "The Factors that Affect the Effectiveness of Outreach Eye Camp in Rural Areas - Need and Importance of Community Involvement and Participation in the Outreach Activities".

3 & 4 September: Mrs. Nandini Rawal, Executive Director; Dr. Dharmendrakumar Jena, Deputy Director and Mr. Soumen Maity, Outreach Camp Manager BPA attended 16th Annual conference of Vision 2020- The Right to Sight – India in Siliguri. There were around 900 participants who attended the conference from different parts of the country and had a great opportunity of interacting with different big players in the eye care sector.

FORD SUPPORT



23 September, 2022: Mrs. Nandini Rawal, Ms. Kinnari Desai, Mr. Bharat Joshi and Mr. Harmish Modi went to Ford Company where they received 65 laptops in donation for BPA.

NEPAL OFFICIALS VISIT



24 August, 2022: BPA and ICEVI India arranged a six day orientation and training visit of top officials of the government of Nepal who had come to understand the implementation of inclusive education. A very successful meeting of Nepal team with top Government officials of Samagra Shiksha was arranged. Government of Gujarat showed the visitors their world class facilities of monitoring and improving quality of education. Congrats to Bipinbhai, Bharatbhai and team for the excellent arrangements and networking. Mr Rao, Secretary, and SPD, Samagra Shiksha, Dr. Ratankanvar Gadhvi Charan interacted with the Nepal delegation.



STRIDE CLIMATE INVESTMENT SUPPORT



30 August 2022: Sarpanch Training: A One day Training Programme for Panchayati Raj leaders was organized on July 30th at Moti Majethi under CSR program of Stride Climate Investment Ltd. Mr. Bharat Joshi organised the training. The Sarpanchs of 10 villages were invited to participate in the training program. The main objective of the training program was to create awareness among the Sarpanchs on the role of Panchayati Raj leaders for community development.



Panchayati Raj Training - Rajpar - Patdi Block:

Training on Panchayati Raj was held on December 28, 2022, at Rajpur village, Patadi block. The Sarpanch of the Village and members of the Panchayat were present in this training program.

Health Hygiene Training at Rajpar:

A Health Hygiene Training Program was held in the high school at Rajpar Village for adolescent girls.

Panchayati Raj Training – Kaamalpur:

Training on Panchayati Raj was held on December 28, 2022, at Rajpur village, Patadi block. The Sarpanch of the Village and members of the Panchayat were present in this training program. Mr Bharat Joshi, Dep Director of Blind People's Association was present for both programmes and gave detailed information and discussed about Panchayati raj System

VARIOUS TRAINING & VISITS



7 September, 2022: A Training Session for Civil Defense Officers, and Chief District Health Officer on Inclusion of People with Disabilities in Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy organized at Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management, Gandhinagar. Mr. Bharat Joshi Deputy Director conducted the session on Inclusion of People with Disabilities in Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy.



24 September, 2022: The Comprehensive Resource and Rehabilitation Center is one of the Sanjeevani project's main initiatives. It aims to offer high-quality services to those who reside in Dholka Block who are handicapped, underprivileged, and people of marginalised groups. The purpose of the parents meeting, was to inform the parents of the facilities that will be offered to the children, as well as to get a sense of the types of disabilities the children have, the treatments they have received, and other necessary details. The center's precise information, including physiotherapy treatment, learning activities, child development-growth and education with play areas, were shared.



5 August, 2022: Parents Meeting of disabled students covered under Ranna Day Care center, Sanand was held Dilipbhai, Yatinbhai from Mumbai and Jigna Joshi from BPA attended. The parents discussed about the development of children, equipment support, guidance etc. Parents felt very reassured after the Meeting.



28 November, 2022: Parents training at Shree V. S. Gandhi Charitable Trust, Kapadwanj on the occasion of 100th Birthday Celebration of Late Shri Mukundbhai Gandhi. Mrs. Vimal Thawani, Mr. Bharat Joshi and Mrs. Krupa Velani attended the function.



15 August, 2022: Tarak Luhar visited Andhjan Shala, Dang for flag hoisting as



21 August, 2022: Tarak Luhar and Kinnari Desai attended the inauguration of "Bhaskar Bhavan" building of NAB Sabarkantha. The building is named after Shri Bhasker Mehta, a living legend and initiator of services in Sabarkantha and Aravalli districts.





28 August, 2022: Tarak Luhar attended the opening of Andh Apang Kalyan Kendra of Andh Sarvoday Mandal. There was Prize Distribution Ceremony of different competitions and students of BPA schools achieved good prizes. Tarak Luhar in his capacity as Secretary NAB Gujarat, is to complimented for visiting all district branches and their programmes regularly.

23 September, 2022: Mr. Lalitbhai and Mr. Hitesh Chaudhary Teachers of BPA School demonstrated teaching methods in Maths in Annual National Symposium 2022 organized by Consortium for Inclusive Education at GSFC University Auditorium, Vadodara, Gujarat.



27 September, 2022: A meeting was held with the Trustees of Lohana Mahajan at Nakhtrana Center and Dr. Dharmendra Jena had local trustees and charitable leaders were also present. During this meeting, the future planning of the Vision Center, dissemination of information and how more and more people can benefit from the service were discussed.



26 September, 2022: Dr. Dharmendra Jena Deputy Director of Health, BPA-Bareja hospital interacted with the staff of BPA-KCRC Bhuj about operation theater protocol, DBCS guidelines, legal formalities in eye care and future planning of the eye department etc. Simultaneously BPA Accountant Mr Jigneshbhai checked and verified stock management, cash management, tele entry, day to day entry etc. and gave training in writing accounts to the new staff. Dr. Jena also conducted a meeting with the staff regarding, monitoring, reporting and fund raising.



24 December 2022: 24th consultation program of Vision 2020- The Right to Sight India and Gujarat Chapter at held Hotel Riviera Sarovar Portico, Ahmedabad under the leadership of Dr. Dharmendrakumar Jena, President, Vision 2020 Gujarat Chapter. The President of Vision 2020 Shri R.N. Mohanty; the CEO Shri Phanindra Babu Nukella were present along with the top officials of the Government of Gujarat like Dr. Rakesh Vaid, Dr. Uttpal Jani along with reputed ophthalmic surgeons and NGO representatives.



19-22 December 2022: Mr. Arindam Ray, Deputy Director; Mr. Arkesh Patel, Purchase Officer, Mr. Prakash Joshi, Supervisor (Furniture Repairing Department) and Contractor Mr. Mahavirprasad Sharma visited CSIR National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) Dona Paula, Goa, Pre bid conference for supplying furniture at Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Goa.



8 December, 2022: Mr. Vanrajsinh Chavda is the SNAC coordinator of National trust for Gujarat and looks after all activities related to the National Trust. He attended the meeting at Diu and made a presentation on the activities of the National Trust in Gujarat, Daman & Diu.



22-23 December, 2022: Parents training was conducted at Nakhatrana, Bhuj by Mrs. Krupa Velani. She explained to the parents about various needs of their disabled children and the importance of patience and love in bringing up their children. Krupa was felicitated by Members of Lohana Mahajan Samaj for excellent services in Nakhatrana.



1 December, 2022: BPA organized a Local Level Committee Meeting at Ashirvad Viklang Trust, Sayla. Mrs. Krupa Velani and Mrs. Deepa Joshi discussed about child protection policy, issues related in teaching, daily living activities and clinical assessment. 29 parents of children with disabilities participated in this meeting. The programme was funded by Sense International India.



27 September, 2022: Mrs. Jignaben Joshi visited the Pravin Mandakini Bhagwati Savinay Sammilit Vidhyalaya and she observed the studies in all the classes and gave very good information about to teaching disabled children and making their IEP.



11-14 October, 2022: Mrs. Krupa Velani did a mentoring visit to MPVSS, Ujjain, organized and supported by Sense International, India. She conducted a staff training and assessment of children with deablnidness in Ujjain and nearby villages.



25 -27 August, 2022: Tanya Computer Center Team (Ahmedabad, Sayla, Deesa, Kapadwanj) & Shanta Mehta Digital Library staff went to Shree Navchentan Andhjan Mandal Madhapar for 3 days training in Assistive Technology For VI & In Audio Book Library Management and also visited BPA-KCRC campus. The team learned My Studio PC software (To use for DAISY books creation), making E-pub books, reading of Daisy Books, use National digital libraries Bookshare and Sugmay Pushtakalay website.

TRAINING TO AIRPORT STAFF



The BPA conducted a sensitization-cum-orientation training for the staff of the Ahmedabad Airport on the occasion of International Sign Language Day – 23rd September, 2022. Kinnari Desai, Mrs. Krupa Velani and Ms. Mittal Thaker conducted the training. Kinnari spoke about the needs of people with disabilities and how they should be met with and treated at airports. For example Kinnari informed the group that she has low vision, she needs help with reading, she doesn't need a wheelchair in airport as she can walk !! Krupa and Mittal gave practical demonstration on finger spelling and sign language. They had made a list of 50 sentences which are needed at airports and which can be easily conveyed to people with hearing impairment. This was the first such training conducted by BPA for airport staff and a very positive letter was received from **Ms. Deepa Karthikeyan, Ahmedabad Airport: "Let me begin by thanking you and your team for providing such excellent training to our employees. We were all completely satisfied with the training because it provided knowledge and made us more sensitive to our disabled passengers. Kinnari Desai's presentation was very insightful, and Krupa Velani's fun way of teaching made us more interested to learn and Mittal Thaker's first time presentation is to be complimented. Please convey to Mittal to keep interested conducting such type of programs in future too."**

APPLE GLOBAL SCHOOL STUDENTS SERVICES IN BPA VOCATIONAL TRAINING UNIT

This year in the Diwali Mela Grade 11 Applets took an initiative of supporting the BPA by selling various items handcrafted by them. It all started with an inspiring visit to Blind People's Association where the Applets learnt about their struggles, and how to manage their disabilities and overcome all of their hardships, and develop their creativity inspite of their disabilities. After the visit, time was invested in the preparation of getting things ready for the initiative named "ACT OF KINDNESS", where students planned to sell table mats, bags, travel kits and a variety of beautiful and handy items in the Diwali Mela. Applets worked hard at making paper bags to sell, created banners, developed advertising strategies and gave shape to the plan. Then came the day of Diwali Mela when Applets set up the stall and were motivated throughout the event to sell all their items. From explaining the initiative, billing, packing the sold items and creating awareness, it was a encouraging experience for the Applets.

The entire Initiative taught the Applets to value the little things in life, inspired them creatively and made them responsible. At the end, we were successful in making a positive impact in the lives of the people at BPA, supporting them in their struggle to make a living.



INAUGURATION OF TCC VALSAD



27 December, 2022: BPA has been promoting computer literacy among persons with blindness and low vision in Gujarat.

Under Tanya computer centre with financial assurance of Madison Resource Foundation, BPA has set up 4 Tanya Computer centres in Ahmedabad, Sayla, Deesa, Kapadvanj. To expand the reach of Tanya Computer Center in Southern Part of Gujarat, BPA has set up 5th Tanya Computer Center in Valsad with local Support of National Association for the Blind, Valsad District Branch.

An Inauguration Ceremony was organised on 27th December 2022. The Centre has accessible Computer, Qualified Trainer, and 10 Trainees. Balsara family were present in the function. Mr. Bharat Joshi and Ms. Vidhi Shah attended the function.

VISIT TO ISRAEL

10-14 December, 2022 : Mr. Rajendra Shah, President and Dr. Bhushan Punani, General Secretary of BPA; Mr. Parag Shah and Mr. Nandkishore Parekh, Trustees of Anand Dham visited Kfar Tikva, Village of Hope in Israel. Dr. Bhushan Punani visited Israel to observe programmes for the rehabilitation of persons with mental retardation and severe disabilities. The Israeli Ambassador to India H.E Mr. Gilon has visited BPA along with Mr. Kobbi Shoshani on 10 August, 2022 and they were very impressed with the activities of BPA.



3 December, 2022: Ms. Kinnari Desai visited Gandhinagar Central University for a lecture on Disability Challenges.



9-11 November, 2022: Krupa Velani visited Akansha Madhya Pradesh for mentoring of their programmes.



10-16 November, 2022: Deepa Joshi visited Nashik and Dhule for mentoring of their programmes.



21 November, 2022:

Dr. Dharmendrakumar Jena, Deputy Director of Health, BPA-Bareja Hospital attended VISION 2020 INDIA West Zone Members Meeting at Lotus Eye Hospital, Mumbai.

18-19 November, 2022: Mr. Bipinbhai R. Mehta attended STTI the review of modules for inclusion of students with disabilities organized by Gujarat Educational Research and Training Parishad, Gandhinagar.

EMPLOYMENT DRIVE



17 November, 2022: The students of BPA had an interview drive at Zydus for the Machine Operator Profile. Total 10 candidates appeared for this position and 5 were selected.

CMA CGM

For this opportunity, BPA mapped prospects, and three of them were chosen to move on to the interview stage. A candidate named Jeebran Pathan was shortlisted after an interview in the month of October. On November 1, 2022, Jeebran has started on his job.

V-MART

V-mart Interview took place for Jamnagar location, 1 candidate has started job at Jamnagar Store.

Bento B Japanese restaurant has taken a very good initiative hiring people with disabilities for Vadodara and Ahmedabad locations. Hearing impaired and low vision candidates have successfully completed on the Job Training and joined there from 1st December 2022 with salary of 15000 plus. They require 4 more candidates for Vadodara location.



Amazon Interview Drive: Amazon Interview drive and Plant visit was organised on 24th December 2022. Total 17 candidates appeared in an interview drive, and also completed documents verification process.



Shine-in is a Company that provides Ecofriendly vehicle cleaning services in Ahmedabad. They recruit people for fulltime & part time job. They have been contacted and motivated to recruit people with disabilities to work as a shiner. The management has agreed to recruit people with disabilities for two positions, one for a shiner and second for back office assistant. The interview was scheduled in the month of October-2022.

VOICE OF SAP SUPPORT

30 December, 2022: Voice of SaP on behalf of Mr. Pranav Desai, Founder of Voice of SaP with generous donors from USA supported 70 specially abled people at Palanpur, Gujarat by giving various assistive devices. From BPA Mrs. Nandini Rawal, Executive Director and Mr. Bharat Joshi, Deputy Director attended the function. Mr. Vanraj Chavda, Head of BPA Palanpur Centre coordinated this distribution programme.



MEETINGS ATTENDED

24 November, 2022: Dr. Bhushan Punani attended a National Advisory Committee Meeting on Accessible Election at New Delhi.

10-18 November, 2022: Dr. Bhushan Punani attended the UNESCO ECCE Conference on behalf of ICEVI Vice President.



9 December, 2022: Mrs. Vimal Thawani, Project Director of BPA attended as a Chief Guest during the Valedictory Session of the One-day National Seminar on Rights of Differently abled Women at Dr. I.G. Patel Seminar Hall of the Faculty of Social Work, Maharaja Sayajiro University (MSU) of Baroda, Vadodara. Vimalben is an ex-student of MSU University, Baroda.



Mrs. Nandini Rawal, Executive Director, & Mr. Bharat Joshi, Deputy Director, Blind People's Association facilitated a two days Workshop for Trustees, Executive Members and Members of Samarth- Organization of Persons with Disabilities organized by Sight Savers International at Paralakhemundi, Gajapati District Odisha. The main objective of two days' workshop was to develop vision and strategy to be built for Samarth Organization as State Level Organization of Persons with Disabilities.



12 November, 2022: Nadabet Indo-Pak border tour of children of Deesa Divyang Bhawan. Datashree Parmanandbhai Sharma's birthday was celebrated with a tour with 60 children and staff of Palanpur, Deesa Centre .



Sheth Jamnabhai Bhagubhai Trust conducted an Eye Testing Camp at Saijpur Bogha with the help of Porecha Eye Hospital



20 November, 2022: Mega Eye Camp was organized at Bhagwat Katha of Shri Rameshbhai Oza in Dhrabudi Tirtha, Mandvi. The KCRC Eye Hospital conducted the Camp.



21 November, 2022: Diagnosis Assistive Devices Camp was organized at Jamnagar by Ashirvad Viklang Trust, Sayla supported by BPA & ATCB



VISITORS FROM INDIA & ABROAD



GUESTS OF HONOUR

Mr. Ritesh Parmar, Principal Commissioner of Income Tax (Exemptions)
 Mr. G.C. Daxini Additional Commissioner of Income Tax (Exemptions)
 Mr. Atul Gokhle, Deputy Commissioner of Income Tax (Exemptions)
 were the Guests of Honour in a function at BPA on 3 August, 2022. They planted trees and distributed assistive devices

1-4 September, 2022: Exposure visit of MSW students (Disabilities Studies) from TATA Institute of Social Science, Mumbai. The MSW Students had an exposure visit to Blind People's Association (India) for four days. They have been trained on disability laws, community based inclusive development, and networking. They visited rural projects in Surendranagar district, had an interaction with persons with disabilities, the family members, community members, self-help group members.



VISITOR FROM IDRF



Ms. Vandana Matravadia from India Development and Relief Fund (IDRF) visited Blind People's Association on **3rd August, 2022** and had a meeting with Dr. Bhushan Punani. On **8 August, 2022** she visited BPA-Porecha Eye Hospital, Bareja and had an interaction with BPA Bareja staff. Then she also visited Vatrak project with Mrs. Nandini Rawal, Executive Director, BPA and Dr. Dharmendra Jena, Director of Porecha Eye hospital. She also met the trustees of the Samata Vikas Charitable Trust and the K.K. Shah Sabarkantha Aarogya Mandal. She was very happy with the progress of the proposed Eye Hospital.



VISITOR TO BPA



8 December, 2022: Mr. Shailendra M. Bhosale, Manager-EOHS of Colgate- Palmolive (India) Ltd., Sanand visited BPA.



17 December, 2022: IDFC First Bank Employees visited BPA and they spent time in learning vocational skills along with persons with disabilities of BPA Vocational Training Unit. They enjoyed working with them and they also visited Vision in the Dark.



Thank you Note and Appreciation Letter from the Udgam School, Thaltej, Ahmedabad

A group of students from Grade & Middle School, Udgam School for Children accompanied by their teachers on 6th October, 2022 having a purpose to

bring cheers and smiles on the faces of kids residing and studying at BPA and with a great deal of zeal and enthusiasm prepared various interactive activities. The social visit helped to inculcate ethical and moral values in our school students, moreover to be kind and helpful to others.



The 47 Nursing students of 3rd year from Victoria Jubilee College of Nursing Kalupur Ahmedabad visited BPA and they are shown sitting in the Vision in the Dark.



Students of Apple Global School and Pragati English Medium School also visited the activities.



Dhirubhai Ambani University of Information & Technology Gandhinagar, students and Educators of Eklavya School visited the BPA and interacted with the executives.

BHAGWATI SPHEROCAST VISITOR



26 November, 2022: Mrs. Nandini Rawal, Mrs. Vimal Thawani accompanied Ms. Krishnaben, Advisor of Reenaben Bhagwati who is the donor of Pravin Mandakini Bhagwati Savinay Sammilit Vidhayalaya.



7 December, 2022: Ms. Krishnaben from also visited Porecha Hospital, Bareja and had meeting with Dr. Dharmendrakumar Jena, Mrs. Sonia Jena and Bareja team at BPA-Bareja Hospital.

CELEBRATIONS



7 October, 2022: Lions Club of Vastrapur, Blind People's Association and BPA Staff Welfare Fund organized the Garba Mahotsav at BPA campus.



5 October, 2022: Dusshera Pooja was held in the workshops of the BPA and the machines were worshipped as per the Indian tradition.



20 October: Distribution of Diwali sweets and Nastas to persons with disabilities at BPA premises. 150 Lunch Boxes from Barbecue Restaurant sponsored by Mr. Shirish Patel, Karma Belief Charitable Trust, Ashima Tower, Near Sandesh Press, Vastrapur, Ahmedabad.



Christmas celebration of VIMD children of BPA Special Need Centres.



Birthday Celebrations



BPA has a common birthday celebration every month for staff whose birthdays fall in that month. The birthday celebration were held on 23 September, 2022 | 22 October, 2022 | 21 November, 2022 | 31 December, 2022



SWABHIMAN ACTIVITIES



On 27th August, 2022 Swabhiman group arranged an inclusive DJ party for children with and without disabilities on lawns of the BPA campus. Last two years due to Covid the group was not able to organize a DJ party. But this year around 400 children enjoyed it. They danced, sang and enjoyed themselves to the utmost.

"Swabhiman Group" organized a special event to lend support to needy persons with disabilities on 17 September, 2022. They distributed items to poor beneficiaries like assistive devices, digital hearing aids, sewing machines, plumbing kit, physiotherapy kit, massage kit, beauty parlor kit, hand carts, provision kit, educational scholarship, food support and transportation expenses.

A large number of persons with disabilities were benefited by this generosity. Swabhiman Group has been arranging this programme twice a year for the past two decades. The beneficiaries are from remote rural areas and this support will make a tremendous difference to their lives.

JUNAGADH SUPPORT



90 Not Out

Our Trustee Natubhai arranged charity goods collection and donation drive in his society as every year. More than Rs. 91,000 collected. Same as age of Natubhai..Bravo..



5 August, 2022: BPA Employment and Self-employment department arranged distribution of self-employment devices to persons with disabilities in Junagadh. A team from BPA -Ms. Kinnari Desai, Mr. Ramesh Patel, Mr. Jyotish Choudhary, Mrs. Sangeeta Ajalpuria, Mrs. Dipal Vyas and Ms. Hemangi conducted this programme. 34 kits were distributed to needy persons with disabilities.

VOSAP SUPPORT

24 December 2022: BPA conducted a distribution function with the help of voice of SAP in Jodhpur. Sewing machines, 6 beauty parlor kits, 1 daisy player, 1 smart phone, 1 tricycle and 1 wheel chair were distributed to 59 Divyangjans in this camp. Bharat Joshi and BPA Jodhpur team coordinated this camp.



DONATION OF VEHICLES TO BPA



SBI Donates School Bus

18 October, 2022: A School bus donated by State Bank of India (SBI) under their CSR activity. Mr. Alok Kumar Chaudhary, Managing Director, Retail Business and Operations handed over the key to Dr. Bhushan Punani, General Secretary and Mrs. Nandini Rawal, Executive Director of Blind People's Association at Local Head Office of SBI, Laldarwaja, Ahmedabad. Students and teachers took a ride in the bus and enjoyed themselves. Thanks to SBI for the generosity and Mr. Dinesh Bahl, BPA Fund Raising Department for facilitating the same.

“State Bank of India presented a cheque of Rs 26,47,178 for the purchase of School Bus - Thanks to the bank for this very generous support”.



Medical Van Gifted

Akroll Charitable Trust in collaboration with Luhar Suthar Seva Samiti has gifted a medical van for the medical facility for children of BPA-MSM-Naaz Center.



Scorpio Donated

17 August, 2022: Sanjiv Rawal formally donated a Scorpio on behalf of K.G. Rawal family to BPA Deesa-Palanpur Project. The vehicle will be used for picking

and dropping disabled children to and from the centre to their homes.



Kit Distribution

17 December, 2022: BPA arranged a kit distribution programme for self employment to the recovered patients from mental illness at Deesa Centre. Kits were funded by Praveen Infrastructure Limited. Shri Praveenbhai Mali, MLA of Deesa was present at the function. Mr. Vanrajsinh Chavda, Head of BPA-Deesa Centre arranged this programme. Mrs. Vimal Thawani, Project Director and Ms. Kinnari Desai, Senior Manager of BPA attended this function.



SAMSARA SUPPORT



24 July to 5 August 2022: Skill Training to Women with Disabilities & Non Disabilities at Moti Majethi & Sayla under Sea Trade Shipping Agencies Ltd, and RCL Agencies Ltd. The 10-day training program for women with disabilities and without disabilities was organized at Sayla. 10 women without disabilities participated in the training program at Motimajethi, and 20 women with disabilities participated in the program. These 30 women successfully completed the training program and the sewing machines were handed over to them.



7 October, 2022: As a part of CSR initiative 23 Petty shops were distributed at Thasra supported by Gujarat State Seeds Corporation Limited, Gandhinagar implemented by Blind People's Association. The Corporation has helped BPA to the tune of almost Rs. 88 Lacs in the past year.



17 September, 2022: Sillai Training Program for Women with Disabilities at Wankaner. 10 days training program for women with disabilities was organized at Gayatri Mandir, Wankaner for women with disabilities under CSR initiative of Sea Trade Shipping Agencies Ltd from 6th September to 17th September 2022. The 16 women with disabilities successfully completed the programs, and the sewing machines were handed over to them after the training program.

STRIDE SUPPORT



3 October, 2022: 10 Days Sillai Program was started by BPA India for Women with Disabilities and without disabilities in Zainabaad with CSR support of Stride Climate Investment Ltd. Mr. Bharat Joshi attended the function.



CONGRATS CORNER



Mr. Rajeshbhai & Ms. Hemangini were conferred by the Government of Gujarat State Disability Award on 20 October, 2022 at Gandhinagar.



NASEOH INDIA AWARD

The Awards Selection Committee of NASEOH INDIA has unanimously conferred Dr. Amar Nath Tandon Award for the year 2022 to Mrs. Madhurlata Sharma in recognition of her outstanding voluntary services in the

rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities with Blind People's Association. The BPA family wishes her the heartiest Congratulations for this well-deserved honour. The award carries a Citation and cash award and the presentation held on Friday, the 9th December, 2022 at NASEOH, Chembur, Mumbai. Madhurlata has donated the award money to BPA.



Mr. Jaydev Vankar was given an award by Nandini Divetiya Foundation on 3rd December World Disabled Day for his excellent work

Re Appointment

Mrs. Nandini Rawal has been reappointed as 'NGO Representative' for Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) of India International Exchange (IFSC) Limited (India INX) and India International Clearing Corporation (IFSC) Limited (India ICC) under The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal)



23 December, 2022: Gujarat State Para Powerlifting Championship was organized at Pavadham. Sapana Shah won the Gold and Mayabhai Bhammar and Arman Shekhwon the Silver.



Certificate of Appreciation by Prathama Blood Bank: A Certificate of Appreciation was awarded to the Blind People's Association by Prathama Blood Bank for organizing a blood camp on the campus on December 3rd, World Disability Day.



"Understanding CSR Compliance and the Way Forward"
December 23, 2022 | 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM @ AMA Campus

CSR assumes great significance as it permits the companies to engage in projects or programs related to activities related to social welfare and improvement enlisted under the terms of Companies Act, 2013. CSR is not merely a compliance today, as it has become a key enabler for nation building in 21st Century India. It is therefore imperative that all stakeholders fully understand the evolving framework of CSR compliances, its implications, and how they must move forward to maximize impact.

AMA's CSR Conference 2022 on "Understanding CSR Compliance and Way Forward" will reinforce core elements of CSR, the macro-outcomes attained, amendments to compliance brought about, and how key steps and action points must be kept in mind by all concerned as the way forward.



Dr. Bhushan Punani
Executive Secretary,
Blind People's Association
to address on
"CSR Compliance as Enabler for Sustained and High Impact"

23 December 2022: Dr. Bhushan Punani spoke on CSR Compliance in Programme at Ahmedabad Management Association (AMA).



21 December 2022: Felicitation of Dr. Bhushan Punani by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India during the Seminar on Demystifying the Social Stock Exchange at Gandhi Vidyapith.

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SPORTS STARS



FOOTBALLERS: The Indian Blind Football Federation (IBFF) is an independent organization promoted by SRVC, Kochi and is affiliated with the Paralympic Committee of India, It arranged in Kochi. from 11th to 18th November-2022 in which 10 nations took part.

It is matter of great pride that 2 Visually Impaired Divyang Girls Nirmala Thakerda and Asha Chaudhary and 1 visually impaired boy Vishnu Vaghela from Blind People’s Association, Vastrapur Ahmedabad


represented the Blind Indian Football Team and all of them are from small villages of Gujarat. Blind Women Football team of India was placed second rank in this championship and have now been selected in world championship which will be organized in Birmingham, England in 2023. The 2 Visually Impaired Girls have made the country proud. Nirma and Aasha became the first International Women’s Blind Football players of India and we are proud to say that they are from Gujarat. Blind People’s Association Vastrapur took challenge to train them and after the hard work of Coach Sanketsingh Rajpurohit they are selected for the World Championship. We wish them a great success in Future.



Blind Women's Football team of Gujarat were invited for the football Championship Tri-Series Match between Pune ,Gujarat & Tamilnadu from 9-11 December, 2022 at Pune. The BPA Football Team from Gujarat won the Championship.

CHESS PLAYERS : The Gujarat State Selection Chess Tournament for the Blind-2022 on 3-5 November, 2022 by was organized by Gujarat Chess Association for Visually Challenged (GCAVC) and sponsored by Manpasand Gymkhana, Ahmedabad. 65 visually impaired male and female competitors participated in this tournament.



 Thakore Khodaji Danaji participated in the T12 second 100m and 400m Open Indian para athletics national championship 2022

 Tejal Damor: participated in the T13 category and won Gold in the 100 m gold and 400m



24 December, 2022: Ladies Circle of Ahmedabad Round Table organized a Braille Tambola House Competition at Rajpath Club. A mock round of this competition held at BPA campus. Two students of BPA Suthar Krunal and Sandeep won and got a prize of Fridge and TV and cash amount. Congratulations to both the students .

LIONS CLUB OF VASTRAPUR & BPA SOCIAL ACTIVITIES



BHAGWAT SAPTAH AT BPA-BAREJA HOSPITAL

19-25 September, 2022: Both organizations conducted unique Bhagwat Saptah which was narrated by Dr. Krunal Shastri, the first ever blind preacher in India. The Bareja Community were very impressed by his teaching and they promised to raise funds for the development of the blind community. This Saptah resulted in the marriages of 5 blind couples in Bareja. A blind dancer called Tushar Verma performed Krishna Dance in this Saptah.

MARRIAGES AT BAREJA



12 December, 2022: BPA and Lions Club Vastrapur for the first time in the history of BPA arranged the marriages for 5 blind couples in a grand manner at Bareja. The couples were given gifts for setting of their house including furniture, jewellery household equipments, mattresses and other items worth Rs. 3 Lacs per couples. All these funds were raised from the local community who also provided the party plot as well as lunch for 1000 persons on this

5 નવયુગલે પ્રભુતામાં પગલાં માંડ્યાં:
બારેજાના પ્રજાચક્ષુ સમૂહ લગ્નોત્સવમાં 5
નવયુગલે પ્રભુતામાં પગલાં માંડ્યાં



વાપ-સ કલબ ઓફ વસ્ત્રાપુર તથા બારેજા ગામના સંયુક્ત ઉપક્રમે બારેજા બારેજી રોડ પર આવેલ વૈભવલક્ષ્મી પાર્ટી પ્લોટમાં 5 પ્રજાચક્ષુ નવયુગલે પ્રભુતામાં પગલાં માંડ્યા હતા. ભલે ચક્ષુથી વર કન્યા એકબીજાને જોઈ નથી શકતા, તેઓને કરાવવામાં આવેલ શાસ્ત્રોક્ત વિધિ જોઈ ન હોતા શકતા પરંતુ અન્ધોની મદદથી સંપૂર્ણ વિધિ સંપન્ન કરી પ્રજાચક્ષુઓએ પ્રભુતામાં પગલાં માંડતા તેઓ આનંદીત થઈ ગયા હતા.

occasion. Dr. Jena, Tarak Luhar and entire Bareja team and members of Lions Club of Vastrapur deserve special congratulation for this wonderful programme.



4 November, 2022: Prostate Cancer Awareness and Screening Camp by AceMed Gujarat in association with Civil Hospital, Asarwa was organized for People with Disabilities and Staff of Blind People's Association at Blind People's Association. 55 people have benefited from this camp. BPA is very thankful to AceMed Gujarat for this camp.



3 October: Cancer awareness program by Lions Club of Vastrapur for the staff members of BPA-Porecha Eye Hospital, attended by 80 participants by Gujarat cancer and research society

Celebration of the World Disabled Day on 3rd December, 2022



Khushio Nu Sarnamu-1, Deesa Centre celebrated International Day for Persons with Disabilities by inclusive drawing competition at the centre. The whole event was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Deesa.



Dr. S.K. Mewada Lions Divyang Education and Training Center, Palanpur celebrated International day for persons with disabilities through Street Play and Rally on awareness about their rights and entitlements. Innerwheel Club Palanpur participated in the event by providing snacks to all children with disabilities.



Andhajan Mandal K.C.R.C as part of World Disability Day celebrations. And Divyang Adhikar Manch Kutch district organized a public awareness campaign and equipment aid distribution program in which more than 200 disabled persons held a rally followed by a tricycle distribution program with the help of donors.



Blood donation drive by HDFC Credila staff as part of CSR was organized at BPA on 3rd December 2022.



Sumeru Centre students created awareness of disabilities on International World Disabled Day.

ON INTERNATIONAL WORLD DISABLED DAY – 3 DECEMBER



Online sign language by Mittal Thakar on International World Disabled Day.



RALLY FOR "WALK FOR VOTE":

3 December, 2022: On the occasion of International World Disabled Day, a rally with the purpose of creating awareness among differently abled voters was organized by the office of District Education Officer, Ahmedabad City, BPA Ahmedabad under the initiative "Walk for Vote". The rally proceeded from BPA main campus at 8:30 a.m, passed through the PRL staff quarters, Alpha One Mall, Ganesh temple at Vastrapur and

Kendriya Vidyalaya and returned to the BPA campus. District Education Officer Mr. Rohitbhai Chaudhary Ahmedabad City, Dr. Bhushan Punani, General Secretary of BPA and other Staff members, office bearers of the institute and principals of different divyang institutes, teachers friends and divyang students, conscious citizens and survey staff of the institute, teacher friends and students joined this rally.

GUJARAT ELECTIONS



15 November, 2022: Voter Awareness Programme was conducted at BPA by the Department of Social Defense of Government of Gujarat as also the office of the election commission. It is very essential persons with



5 December, 2022: BPA students proudly showed their election stamps on their fingers after participating in the Gujarat Elections.

SHRADDHANJALI



SAD DEMISE OF RESPECTED SHRI RAMNIKBHAI HALARI, GENERAL SECRETARY, NAB MEHSANA DISTRICT BRANCH AND VICE PRESIDENT, NAB GUJARAT

Truly a father and founder of inclusive education in Gujarat, Prof. Ramnikbhai Halari left for his Heavenly Abode on 21 September, 2022 at Visnagar. Doyen of inclusive education and institution builder and life time supporter of NAB movement shall always be remembered for devoting his whole life for the comprehensive development of people with visual impairment in Mehsana District and whole of Gujarat. NAB Gujarat family and BPA and allied trusts have lost a pillar of strength and a source of inspiration

BPA Bulletin is issued every quarter.

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