

Issue 3 | October 2015 - March 2016

**Diya**  **India**  
Changing Lives

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# Peekhal



We can never  
obtain **PEACE**  
in the outer World  
until we make  
**PEACE** with  
ourselves

- Buddha

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We make  
a living  
by what  
we get,  
but we  
make  
a life by  
what we  
give.

Winston Churchill

## Chairman's Message

Dear Donor!!

2016 is a decisive year for the future of Diya India Foundation. I feel honored to be entrusted with leading the foundation's dreams and projects allied to health, education and culture. We have achieved significant progress during last six months. Mostly noted are our workshops, discussion groups and observance of special days, which have contributed hugely to the skill development of our members and associates, thereby, strengthening their capabilities and making them aware that their actions are of great importance to the growth of the community.

Diya Foundation has also managed to establish a results-oriented social intervention framework, which quantifies the benefits and lays the ground for new missions. Most of our projects contain the elements of capacity building and focus on the importance of learning new measures for these domains. The collaboration with society as well as the communities has proven to be extremely useful to the effectiveness of our initiatives and has helped us in generating additional resources, wherever needed.

It is exciting to see how our work ensures the appropriate use of funds with a view to foster development of the marginalized individuals and their livelihood against the increasing risks of modernization. This newsletter provides some insights into how we do it and the direct benefits of our interventions. I look forward to receiving your feedback in making our efforts stronger and invite further support, partnership and participation from all of you.

**Padma Shri Dr. S.C. Manchanda,**

Senior Cardiologist, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi  
Chairman, Advisory Board, Diya India Foundation

## Awareness on Dengue

With the aim of combating the deadly disease Dengue, Diya India Foundation organized a workshop on Dengue Awareness on 3rd November 2015 for the children of Chetan Vidya Mandir. Students and teachers of the school joined hands against the terror of dengue and participated enthusiastically. Under the guidance of the Principal of the school Ms. Jasmine, a special rally was organised in Nihal Vihar, a slum cluster of Delhi, to spread awareness among the masses about dengue and its preventive measures. Students did door to door campaigning, vociferated slogans and distributed informative pamphlets to the passers by advocating the message that-'We can win against Dengue'. This workshop acquainted the students and teachers about the symptoms, preventive and remedial measures of dengue, and made them messengers of good health and healthy practices.



## Say no to Crackers

Keeping up with our mission of making the world a safer place to live, a workshop was organized on 'Say No to Crackers' on 9th November 2015 at Chetan Vidya Mandir. The agenda was to create awareness on the ill effects of firecrackers on humans, environment and animals. Participants were made aware of the nuisance that crackers cause that leads to air and noise pollution, smog, global warming and other health hazards. They were given tips on how to save the environment and celebrate Diwali in an eco-friendly way. Highlight of the event was the concern shown by the students on the issue and their enthusiasm about spreading the message of the workshop to their neighbours, friends and families.



## Science Workshop

Students of Chetan Vidya Mandir got a chance to learn science in a fun way. Topic was 'density' and it was explained to them with the help of vinegar and egg. With our cool activities and experiments, they discovered new principles of science and had fun at the same time.





## Workshops by NDIM Volunteers

Students of New Delhi Institute of Management (NDIM) conducted multiple workshops in November 2015 to educate young adults of Chetan Vidya Mandir on photosynthesis, child abuse, Swachh Delhi and art & craft. The students, actively participated in all the activities.

The volunteers also conducted consecutive dance sessions in which they taught various steps and moments on the song "Chota baccha jaankar humko naa samjhana re" from the movie Masoom. The energy of the students was worth watching and appreciable.

Keeping in sync with the emotion of Mahatma Gandhi, who once said that "It does not require money, to live neat, clean and dignified", NDIM students conducted a rally on Swachh Delhi. They spread the awareness on the importance of keeping the surroundings clean.

In Chetan Vidya Mandir "Learning" is all about going beyond boards and books and tugging at the inherent talents of every learner and being exposed to various interesting and innovative activities. Creativity was elevated to another level when students of Class III and IV made paper baskets and bunny from cups during their art and craft classes.



## Legal Awareness



The 4th year students of School of Law, Sharda University, Greater Noida organized a legal awareness camp in November 2015 at Chetan Vidya Mandir. The Law students made children and their parents aware of their rights, including child's right to health and education. They also listed parental duties and discussed the issues of trafficking, prohibition of child marriage, child labour with the parents. The workshop also covered rights of the adults and taught tips to individuals on how not to become dependent or get demoralized by in-laws or abusive spouses.



## The Festival of Lights

The 'Festival of Lights' at Diya India on 10th November, 2015 was supported by making a few sincere efforts for lighting the world of less fortunate children of the slums who sometimes find it difficult to relate to the festivals due to their deprived circumstances. Like other festivals, we began our festivities by making the children understand the reason of why Deepawali is celebrated and its meaning. The children were also made aware of its significance, which is to remove darkness and spread the light of wisdom, love, peace and prosperity with each other to make a better society.

The children, with the help of their teachers, took part in the preparations very enthusiastically. They designed beautiful traditional lanterns and made exquisite rangoli designs, decorating them with diyas, candles and flowers. The entire building was given an illuminating look, which matched with the cheerful energy of the children. We also distributed sweets, candles and sparklers and shared the immense joy that their face radiated, which in itself was a remarkable sight.

Together, everyone in Chetan Vidya Mandir and Chetan Playway celebrated the occasion with a wholesome experience as these little angels helped us realize the joy of sharing, the need to be grateful and the real essence of Deepawali.



## Celebrating Gurupurab

Anniversary of Guru Nanak's birth, the founder of Sikh religion was celebrated on 24th November, 2015 with great zeal and joy at Chetan Playway. The celebration began with everyone gathering in the assembly area and singing hymns and prayers in praise of the Guru Nanak Ji and then proceeding to the cake cutting ceremony. The kids were beautifully dressed in their cultural outfits.





## Celebrating Christmas

Christmas is most truly Christmas when we celebrate it by giving the light of love to those who need it most. On 24th December, 2015 Little souls of Chetan Vidya Mandir and Chetan Playway celebrated Christmas in full spirit. We installed and lighted Christmas tree, taught carols to the children.



## Celebrating Indian Republic

Little souls of Chetan Vidya Mandir and Chetan Playway rejoiced in the glory of India and its freedom fighters on the country's Republic Day on 25th January, 2016.





## Fun Time for Kids

Children need the freedom and time to play. Play is not a luxury, but a necessity that helps them learn and grow. Kids of Chetan Playway and Chetan Vidya Mandir went to picnic on 14th December, 2015 at Traffic Training Park where they took swings and played games. They were also treated with delicious burgers at KFC, same afternoon visit Zoo, Lotus Temple and India Gate, which gave us the glorious feeling to see the smiling faces of the kids.



## Visit to Hockey India League

Kids of 3rd, 4th and 5th class of Chetan Vidya Mandir went to Shivaji Stadium to enjoy Hockey India League on 18th February, 2016. The children showed enthusiasm towards learning more about the game while cheering for their respective teams and enjoyed to the core.



## Glimpses from Farewell

"Life is about cherishing the past, facing the present and moving ahead towards new mile stones." During first week of March, we bid adieu to our 5th class students and hopped for their bright future.





## World Cancer Day Workshop

The 10th world cancer day was celebrated with students of class 4th and 5th on 4th February, 2016. They were informed about the major risk factors that cause and the types of cancer being found in different age groups. The treatment modalities were also discussed in brief. It was an interactive session where kids showed keen interest and discussed all their queries.



## Health Camp in Ghaziabad

Shree Jagannath Charitable Cancer Hospital, Ghaziabad in association with Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India, and Diya India Foundation, New Delhi organised free Tricycle, Hearing Aid and Walker distribution camp to 100 differently abled people of Ghaziabad on 29th March, 2016. The program started with the Lightning of Lamp by the Chief Guest Dr. Ajay Agarwal, CMO Ghaziabad, Special Guest Mr. Umesh Dandwal, Distt. Handicapped Welfare Officer, Dr. R.K. Poddar, Chairman-Shree Jagannath Charitable Cancer Hospital, Dr. Subhash Agarwal, Secretary, Dr. Ratan Lal Garg, Vice-Chairman, Mr. K.K. Bhatnagar, Vice-Chairman and Mr. Nipun Gupta, Eminent Industrialist. Dr. R.K. Poddar gave a mesmerizing speech about the activities of Diya India and his words of wisdom were encouraging, inspiring and blessing to all the audience. He applauded and praised Diya India for the wonderful work it is doing. The camp was a complete success and Diya India Foundation will always look forward for its participation at such places in order to help differently abled people.





## Good Health Together

Nothing feels as good as being healthy. On 22nd October, 2015 Diya India Foundation ran two parallel activities for the residents of an old age home Mahilla Ashram at New Rajinder Nagar. The first activity was supported by Dr. Neeraj Manchanda and Dr. Payal Manchanda and Manmohini Kaul Diagnostic Center, who conducted free health check-ups of senior women (age 60+). The second activity focused on distributing items of daily need to the residents and was deeply appreciated by both the administrators and residents.



## Joy of Giving

Millennium School students organized a noble campaign 'Joy of Giving' for children of Chetan Vidya Mandir on 18th October, 2015. The campaign had a focus on distributing books and engaging in uplifting talks with the children. The aim was to donate as many books as possible as every book has the power to bring a big difference to someone in need.



## Ration Distribution

Continuing our fight against hunger!!!

As a part of our monthly distribution of ration for the low socio-economic families, we fulfill our promises without failure every month. We are grateful to the management of MCKS, food for hungry foundation for supporting 20 BPL families.





## Distributing Pullovers to our Little Souls

During the freezing winter nights of Delhi, when the entire city dons their blankets, monkey-caps and mufflers with a hot cup of tea, there are few underprivileged who cannot afford even a sweater and are left alone to shiver. Diya India Foundation organized a sweaters distribution drive in December 2016 for the children of Chetan Vidya Mandir and Chetan Play Way along with bags and other stationery items of their need. For us, it's not about changing the lives of the people but doing something even more basic than that – making them survive – enabling them to fight their battle of survival against harsh winter. This feeling has kept us in the forefront of constantly working for the development of underprivileged children in Nihal Vihar area of West Delhi, and we are thankful to Mr. Nipun Gupta, Director, Jayshree Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd. for supporting us in this noble cause.



## Distributing Blankets to BPL Families

As the winter chill turns harsh with each passing day, Diya India Foundation is spreading warmth among the less privileged people of the society by carrying on blanket distribution drive in January 2016.

The objective of the initiative is to provide shield to the less privileged from the winter.

Diya India Foundation is happy to witness the overwhelming response. We are thankful to Mrs. Sushma Berlia, President Apeejay Education Society for supporting us in this noble cause.





## Blissful Rendezvous



Dr. Soania Mathur, Director Surjit Verma Foundation for children education, Canada and her husband Dr. Arun Mathur along with their children Sarika, Neha and Meeraya visited Chetan Vidya Mandir on 12 March, 2016 and were impressed by the level of education imparted and the facilities provided by Diya India Foundation. They congratulated the staff and blessed the students.



Mrs. & Mr. Krishan Verma from Canada visited Chetan Vidya Mandir on 17 March, 2016 and were pleased to watch the functioning of the school and appreciated the cleanliness and had a wonderful time interacting with the students.



Mr. Babu, an Eminent Industrialist along with his friend Mr. Arun Kumar visited Chetan Vidya Mandir on 19 March, 2016 and were impressed to see the cleanliness and efficient management of the school.





**Ashok H Garg**  
Managing Director, Aska Group

“Education & Employment are the two main aspects usually for anyone. But gaining knowledge and taking a bold decision to setup an Non Governmental Organization (NGO) with limited resources and with a genuine purpose of improving the living standards of the less privileged children by giving them shelter, food, healthy conditions, education, merits a standing ovation. I had the privilege of visiting the School run by Diya India Foundation at Nihal Vihar in Delhi. Consequent to the visit my thoughts of Diya India Foundation have totally been changed. Diya is providing quality education to less privileged children so they can have equal opportunities as privileged children. They put in good amount of efforts into the schools they choose for the children so that the students fit in not just academically but also socially. They have ensured that the children imbibe high standards of values and principles. Diya is providing excellent and high standard of infrastructure to the children in their Class Rooms, Computer Labs etc. Basically, the environment & ambience of Diya is that of nurture and growth.

I hope if some Dignitaries join hands with Diya, they can do much better to the less privileged children not just to excel academically but also to participate in many extra-curricular activities which considering their financial background they would never achieved otherwise.”



**Rita Kaul**  
Director, The Millennium School

“Having been associated to Diya India Foundation since its inception, it amazes me to see the passion & dedication with which the organization has succeeded in sharing its vision & attaining its mission. Being born in a poor family & to get skilled education is a great challenge in our country. Most of us ignore the fact that until & unless this strata of society does not move with the mainstream, India would carry the label of Developing Country forever! I , therefore, congratulate & applaud Dr Manchanda’s team & all those members who believe in dedicating themselves to educate the poorest of the poor & at the same time take care of their health & socio-emotional needs. This effort will ensure that each & every child nurtured by the foundation will become self-reliant & would lead a dignified life in near future.”



**Bibiana Cuellar Castro**  
Volunteer, Columbia

Coming to India has been a great opportunity, but work with Diya India Foundation has been the best opportunity to learn from the people who are working to change the life of the less fortunate section of the society. I have always thought that nothing is more important than helping people, not only by providing them the basic facilities, but also giving them the tools to improve their quality of life. Diya India Foundation is more than a foundation, is a family working with love for the welfare of the community through its schools, its diagnostic and vocational centers and all the projects that are running. Become a part of this family has been a privilege where I have had the opportunity to get closer to the Indian society and understand more about this fascinating culture. I hope more people can keep supporting Diya India Foundation to help all the people who need it.

## YOUNG ACHIEVERS

### NURSERY



Tannu

99.6%



Arpit

97.8%



Shiva

95.3%

### KG



Israt

98.4%



Kaif

96.4%



Ayushman

92.4%

### CLASS I



Anjali

96.8%



Lishan

91.8%



Gurpreet

90.6%

### CLASS II



Mohini

91.3%



Anurag

89.8%



Diksha

87%

### CLASS III



Sarika

94.2%



Mansifa

90.6%



Nikhil

88.3%

### CLASS IV



Sandhay

95.2%



Abhishek

90.8%



Anchal

86.7%

### CLASS V



Deepak

98.7%



Isha

95%



Sunil

93.5%





## OUR PATRON

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Chairman, Council for Indian Foreign Policy

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## ACCREDITATIONS

Diya India Foundation is a registered trust under the Indian Trusts Act, 1882.

All donations to Diya India Foundation are eligible for deduction under Section 80 G of the Income-tax Act, 1961.

## DONATE

Donations to be made in the name of "Diya India Foundation" by Cheque/Draft.

For online donation visit our website [www.diyaindia.org](http://www.diyaindia.org).

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