



SOS CHILDREN'S  
VILLAGES  
INDIA



# HAPPYNINGS

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2022





### Empowering caregivers for a brighter future

In order to empower families, it is vital to empower mothers or caregivers. Capacity building forms a very important part of the Family Strengthening Programme (FSP). Keeping this objective in mind, the FSP team in Rourkela organised a skill training on making carry bags and fancy bags; this session was held with 20 caregiver at Dhamara.

### Generating awareness on child safeguarding

FSP Shillong, in collaboration with Childline India and Miss A.W. Thomas Memorial School, organised a child safeguarding programme. A total of 95 children participated in this programme. It started with a roleplay performed by interns, pursuing Bachelors of Social Work from Martin Luther Christian University; this play highlighted the importance of child safeguarding in a family.



### Encouraging creative expression in youth

Bondrich Aviation Company held an essay writing competition at Children's Village Bangalore. Surbhi\*, one of the youth, got the first prize of Rs. 50,000/- in cash. The event saw good media coverage and also active and enthusiastic participation by all children.

\*Name changed to protect the child's privacy

### A one-of-a-kind gift

SOS Children's Villages Bawana received a beautiful gift from the Embassy of Austria in India. This was a unique cycle rickshaw, which showcases the friendship between India and Austria. The children were super excited to receive this unique gift, and took rides with great enthusiasm.





### Imparting digital literacy effectively

Digitisation has become a necessity in today's time and age. A Digital Village at Kannur, Bengaluru has been set-up to impart digital literacy skills to children, youth, and caregivers. Dr. Shivakumar Nagaranavile, State President, Karnataka Press Club Council, Bangalore, along with Mr. Ramesh Kumar, Vice President, Kannur Gram Panchayat and Captain Nath, State Mission Officer, NSDC Karnataka graced the occasion.

### Awareness programme on adolescent health

In collaboration with the RSKS (Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram), Department of Health, Govt. of Assam, FSP Hojai organised an awareness programme on Adolescent Health at Hirabasti. Mr Prasant Paul, District Master Trainer, RSKS, was the resource person for the session. The programme envisions to enable adolescents in India to take responsible decisions related to their health and wellbeing. Topics covered were: nutrition, sexual health, mental health, reproductive health, substance abuse, physical wellbeing.



### A starry night to remember

Zee TV invited a group of children from SOS Children's Villages Alibaug, to meet the leads of their new serial "Sanjog" – Amrita (Shefali Sharma) and Gauri (Kamya Punjabi) during the launch event. The lead stars, interacted with the children, mothers and co-workers, heard their heart-warming journeys out, pampered them with lots of love, admiration, and even gave them gifts.

### Health camp for awareness generation

A health camp was organised in collaboration with Marwari Hospital, Guwahati, to address seasonal diseases and generate awareness on preventive and curative health. 123 caregivers were examined and prescribed medicines accordingly. A medical team consisting of a doctor, nurse, technician and chemist were engaged for the health camp; medicines were distributed free of cost.







### Nurturing talent, early on

Painting or art is a powerful form of expression. At SOS Children's Villages India, we have some wonderful young artists. Bhavesh\*, a class IX student is one such youth, who loves to paint landscapes. This youth also won the first position in the National Painting Competition, district level, Faridabad, Haryana.

\*Name changed to protect the child's privacy

### Doing our part, for a cleaner tomorrow

Preservation and conservation of the environment are burning topics in today's time and age. Involving the children and youth of today, who will go on to be the decision makers of tomorrow, is imperative in helping ensure that this challenge is affectively curtailed. Keeping this in mind, youth boys of Vizag participated in a beach cleaning exercise, along with local MLA V. Ramakrishna.



### Providing books to children, creating a more successful future!

Pencil Education Trust provided support to students in the form of books. This programme was organized in coordination with the FSP team in Begusarai. The support comprised of NCERT books, Hindi, classes 6 to 8; BTBC - classes 1 to 8, Hindi to English dictionary, guide for Navodaya entrance exam, books pertaining to English grammar and translation, general knowledge books and a wooden almirah. This effort will be a first and important step towards setting-up a library of sorts, encouraging children to read more.

### Raising awareness on cyber crime

A session was organised by Patiala Police on cyber crime, cyber safety and road safety. Besides this, other topics such as environmental awareness and drug abuse were held at Children's Village Rajpura. These topics are very important and relevant in today's time and age, especially for the youth. Awareness is the first step in addressing the challenges associated with these topics.







### Staying fit, staying healthy!

FSP Nagapattinam conducted a session on nutrition and diet. Two batches, with a total of 50 caregivers, attended the session. The session was interactive and easy to understand. Recipes on nutritious and healthy food, especially for children, were also discussed. Points pertaining to a healthy lifestyle, including a balanced diet, exercises et cetera were also discussed.

### On your mark, get set, go!

Exercise and fitness are vital for overall growth and development, in addition to securing physical and mental health. Maheshwari\*, a class XI student, Children's Village Nagapattinam stood first in the 3000m race; she also secured the first position in the 1500m race and the third position in relay at the Zonal Level Sports Meet. She has now been selected to participate in the District Level Sports Meet, in all the above three events.



### Inauguration of a home of hope for children

Short Stay Homes serve as homes of hope for children who require a short-term, safe and secure abode, ranging from a few days to a few weeks; these children are affected by calamities or disasters, and their parents or caregivers are not able to take care of them. With this programme, we provide child care spaces alongside ad hoc or permanent infrastructure to secure care to those affected, receive resources, professional aid, and emotional healing, in a child-friendly environment. Recently, a Short Stay Home was inaugurated recently in Bhuj.

### Transcending the Corporate Ladder

B. Bharathi was brought up in CV Hyderabad. Post completion of her MBA (HR), she joined CODEFORCE 360, an American organisation, as a Trainee - US Technical Recruiter, with a CTC of 4.4 lakhs. Bharathi has completed 1 year now and has been promoted as Senior Associate, with a good hike in salary.





# Photo Gallery

## TEACHER'S DAY



CV Rajpura



CV Bangalore



CV Bhuj

## WORLD LITERACY DAY



CV Rajpura



CV Trichur

## TARANG ZONAL LEVEL COMPETITION





## Stories of Change

### Equipping youth with 21st century skill sets, and more

Akshay was welcomed in SOS Children's Villages India when he was nine. Post completion of his Bachelor's in Engineering from the Maharashtra Institute of Technology, he pursued his Diploma in Engineering, securing 87%. Subsequent to the same, he got placed in 2021.

In the second year of college, Akshay and his group developed a SMART Helmet as a part of a project, which is in the process of being patented. Akshay is the first boy from SOS Pune Village, whose initial salary is Rs. 50000/- He is currently employed with PricewaterhouseCoopers.



### Future decision makers for social issues

Roshan\* resides, along with his parents, Rajnarayan Pandit and Rinku Devi, in Bihar. His father is the only breadwinner of the family, and though the family does face financial challenges, Roshan and his parents understand the importance of completing one's education, no matter what the challenges may be. Roshan has not only performed well in academics, but also in co-curricular activities.

Roshan is an active member of the Ambedkar Bal Panchayat. He has motivated Bal Panchayat members to be a part of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan extensively. "We are 52 children in the Bal Panchayat, and every month-end, we have a meeting to discuss challenges, possible solutions and the way forward. The most pressing task is the cleanliness of our locality. With garbage disposal sites spilling over, dirty toilets and foul smelling nalas, the hygiene condition was terrible. Since the elders were taking little interest, we children decided to step-in, and address the matter ourselves, with all necessary safeguard and precautions. Now, our locality is presentable and clean, preventing health hazards for all of us."

Rinku Devi is super proud of her son: "At the beginning, I was a bit uncertain about all these initiatives, but when I saw the motivation and result, I was amazed at what these kids can actually achieve."

The cleanliness of the locality is now maintained by children and caregivers, with each taking the responsibility for a week each.

“

I want to become a Scientist, as Science affects almost all aspects of our lives, from the food we eat to the technology we use; in fact, it applies to the world that surrounds us. With a career in Science, you can explore the world, make fascinating discoveries and help improve the lives of others too.

**Roshan\***

Ambedkar Bal Panchayat





## Enabling specially-abled children to reach great heights

Neha\* suffered a traumatic childhood, the marks of which remain with her till day. She was brought home to CV Khajuri Kalan at the age of six. Today, Neha has many achievements to her credit. She participated in the National Championship – Cycling, organised by Special Olympics Bharat, going on to win the gold medal in the one km and the bronze in the two kms cycling race. She also received a cash reward of INR 4 lakhs. At the age of 16, she went on to compete in the World Games 2015 at Los Angeles and won the silver medal in the five kms and bronze medal in the ten kms cycling race. Apart from cycling, her interests also lie in basketball, badminton and dancing. Under the guidance of her coach and coworkers, her practice begins at 6.00 am, every day, consisting of a warm-up round, stretching and 12 kms of cycling – six kms in the morning and six kms in the evening. Her diet and medical fitness are constantly monitored to enhance her stamina. At present, Neha is studying to become a nurse, and is in her GNM final year.

\*Name changed to protect the child's privacy

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I never took the challenges in my life as roadblocks, but as opportunities to hone my skills. I believe in myself, always. Today, I am happy about where I have reached, and love the accolades I have received. My motto in life remains that nothing is impossible if one is determined to achieve it.

**Neha\***



## Empowering youth to become contributing members of the society

It is widely understood that a stable, nurturing and safe environment lays the foundation for a child's wholesome development. Unfortunately, not every child has this advantage. Without the stability of a family, a child faces an increased risk of malnutrition, violence, exploitation and other life-threatening circumstances / social evils. A child's wholesome development is best realised in a caring and loving family. This makes the departure point for our Family Like Care model. This programme features personalised, individual quality care provided by a trained caregiver (SOS Mother). The four pillars of this programme include: home, Mother, siblings and the Village, emphasis, thereby, being on stronger socioemotional relationships with a stable caregiver (SOS Mother), family and community.

“

This is a profession I wanted to take up since as long as I can remember. My father was speech and hearing impaired. Perhaps, that served as one of the reasons. The job I have chosen has, actually, chosen me. It is challenging, but also fulfilling. Children, who come to me, face different problems, and one has to be very patient, empathic and understanding.

**Srilatha**

Settled Youth, Family Like Care





The month of August - September 2022 saw a total of 25 coverages including 13 print, 9 online, 2 in social media and 1 on youtube

HT Bureau

**GUWAHATI, Sept 23:** SOS Children's Village, Guwahati has been conducting capacity building activities for the local communities under its 'Family Strengthening Programme'. The programme aims at working with families and communities to help them build sustainable livelihood options, ensuring prevention of child abandonment and securing wholesome development of their children. Around 531 families in the region were educated about various livelihood activities and skills like candle making, weaving, cow and goat rearing, bookkeeping and management, financial literacy, parenting skills, etc.

36 self-help groups (SHGs) are being equipped with capacity building. The SHGs act as the main source of cohesiveness within the community with whom individuals and families share their issues and problems. The groups work towards assisting the concerned members of the community with support and solutions, while also helping them with knowledge and skills about various livelihood means, which allows them to enhance financial stability.

Sumanta Kar, secretary general, SOS Children's Villages of India said, "The capacity building programme has created a positive impact motivating the community members under the 'Family Strengthening Programme' adopt new ideas and models of generating a sustainable income and grow their existing business ventures. Families get an idea of various means of livelihood available to ensure financial stability and wholesome development of their children with the optimum use of local resources. Apart from that, we also help these families with financial literacy and parenting skills. At SOS Children's Villages India, we aim at supporting and strengthening the community."

The Hill Times

## Bengaluru girl Shrisha wins the essay-writing competition organized for the kids of SOS Children's Village, Bengaluru

September 14, 2022



Bengaluru 14 Sep 22, Bondrich Aviation and Chipson Aviation organized an essay writing for the children from SOS Children's Village (Bengaluru) with prize money of ₹50,000 and a free helicopter ride to the winner on the topic of 'The Importance of Education'.

This Week India



CSR

BUSINESS INDIA - THE MAGAZINE OF THE CORPORATE WORLD



SOS Children's Villages continue its commitment of care solutions

Established in 1964, SOS Children's Villages of India is a part of SOS Children's Villages International (SCVI), founded by the philanthropist Hermann Gmeiner in 1949. It was prompted by a realization that the World War had left many children orphaned and neglected, so, it endeavored to provide children who have not got parental care (or are at the risk of losing it) a value chain of quality care services that goes beyond child care alone, ensuring comprehensive child development. The customized care interventions such as Family Like Care, Family Strengthening, Kinship Care, Short Stay Homes, Foster Care, Youth Skilling, Emergency Childcare and Special Needs Childcare are aimed at transforming lives and enabling children under care into self-reliant and contributing members of society.

The organization empowers vulnerable families in communities to become financially independent, thereby enabling them to create safe and nurturing spaces for children under their care. Today, over 6,500 children live in more than 440 family homes, inside 32 SOS Children's Villages of India, in 22 states/UTs, from Srinagar to Kochi and Bhubaneswar to Shillong. They are lovingly cared for and nurtured by over 600 SOS Mothers and Aunts. As India's largest self-implementing childcare NGO, SOS Children's Villages India directly touches the lives of about 30,000 children every year.

Apart from the 32 children's villages across the country, SOS also has two Hermann Gmeiner Schools in Faridabad (including one in Anangpur, Faridabad) and a total of eight across the country. There are two vocational training centres too – one at Rajpura, Patiala, and the other, in Nizamuddin, New Delhi. There is a nursing school in Anangpur and a BEd College in Bhamal, Noida, which offer vocational training programmes.

### Empowering vulnerable families

"For over five decades, we have been providing children who have not got parental care (or are at the risk of losing it) a value chain of quality care services that goes beyond childcare alone, to ensuring comprehensive child development," says Sumanta Kar, secretary general, SOS Children's Villages of India. "Our long-term customized care interventions are aimed at transforming lives and making children into self-reliant and contributing members of society. We empower vulnerable families in communities to become financially independent, thereby enabling them to create safe and nurturing spaces for children under their care."

Apart from overseas donations and small government aid, SOS India also boasts of having a big list of corporate partners, such as Blue Dart Express, Canon India, Citibank, Exim Bank, United India Insurance, Lufthansa India, NISAN India, KOCI Prudential Life, Hero MotoCorp, HDB Life, Mahanagar Gas, SBI Cards, DTL Logistics and many others, which help it fund its various programmes.

During the recent pandemic, the teams at SOS Children's Villages of India responded to this devastating and grim situation across the country with a renewed commitment for advancing vulnerable children and their well-being through SOS's comprehensive Basket of Care Solutions. "To uplift children's health, safety, and learning outcomes, we enhanced our digital capabilities," adds Kar. "Using this methodology, we were able to seamlessly transition to online teaching-learning and provide children with uninterrupted access to education. We launched the Emo-Aid programme to support our mothers, children, and young people, under our care by focusing on their mental and emotional well-being."

Of the many customized interventions, SOS India's Family Like Care Programme is an innovative and individualized care model for children who have lost their families, providing them an opportunity to grow with love, respect and security, within an SOS Family Home. Over 6,500 children are today growing up in over 440 SOS Family Homes, even as over 2,600 youth have graduated since inception of the programme.

SOS also enables specially-abled children without parental care to lead a normal life, through a uniquely designed Children's Village, at Khajuri Kalan, Bhopal, which is equipped with infrastructure for medical care and training. Some 100 children and youth with special abilities live and grow in a loving home, which is watched over by trained Mothers and support staff.

SOS Short Stay Homes serve as homes of hope for children, who require a short-term, safe and secure abode, ranging from a few days to a few weeks. These children are affected by calamities or disasters, such as the ongoing pandemic, so that their parents or caregivers are not able to take care of them. Through this programme, it provides child care spaces alongside ad hoc or permanent infrastructure to secure care to those affected.

ARVIND GUPTA

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Business India

## Assam | SOS Children's Village Helps 531 Families With Sustainable Income And Development

2 - minutes read | 24-09-2022

The Capacity Building programme has created a positive impact motivating the community members under the Family Strengthening Programme to adopt new ideas and models of generating a sustainable income and grow their existing business ventures

KRC TIMES

KRC TIMES Desk



KRC Times

## भोपाल/सारंगपुर राष्ट्रीय स्पोर्ट्स "तरंग" का अंशोजन

दैनिक समाजसेवा का समाचार



भोपाल का हिंदू विद्यालय का बच्चा, सुप्रसिद्ध कलाकारों की सहायता से, राष्ट्रीय स्पोर्ट्स "तरंग" का अंशोजन कर रहा है। यह कार्यक्रम भोपाल में 3 सितंबर 2022 को शुरू होगा।

## एसओएस चिल्ड्रेन्स विलेज में हुआ वार्षिक कार्यक्रम 'तरंग'

जयपुर, 27 सितंबर (यूरो): एसओएस चिल्ड्रेन्स विलेज इंडिया जयपुर इकाई द्वारा वार्षिक कार्यक्रम 'तरंग' का आयोजन किया गया। इसमें बच्चों ने बहुत उत्साह और प्रेरणा के साथ भाग लिया। इस दौरान गायन, नृत्य, खेल प्रतियोगिताएं आयोजित की गईं, वहीं विज्ञान प्रदर्शनी समेत अन्य कार्यक्रमों में भी बच्चों ने बढ़-चढ़कर हिस्सा लिया। इस वार्षिक कार्यक्रम में श्रीमती नंदिनी अटल अध्यक्ष, एसओएस सौबी राजस्थान, अजय अटल उपाध्यक्ष, राहुल जोशी हेड-एचआर इंडस टोवेल्स और महामाया ज्योति राव फुल्ले युनिवर्सिटी के चेयरमैन निर्मल पंवार अतिथि के रूप में उपस्थित रहे।



जयपुर: 'तरंग' में उपस्थित अतिथि व डाइरिया के लिए बच्चियां।

पिछले साल यह वार्षिक कार्यक्रम ई-तरंग वर्चुअल रूप से आयोजित हुआ था। अ इस मौके पर बताया गया कि बच्चों के संपर्क विकास में कई पहलू शामिल होते हैं। इनमें से एक है विविध पाठ्यपुस्तक गतिविधियां। 1964 में स्थापित हुआ एसओएस चिल्ड्रेन्स विलेज इंडिया इस

पर विशेष ध्यान दे रहा है। बच्चों के जीवन स्तर को ऊंचा उठाने, उनके आत्मनिर्भर बनाने के साथ-साथ कमजोर परिवारों को आर्थिक रूप से सुदृढ़ बनाने में अहम भूमिका निभा रहा है। चाइल्ड केयर एनर्जीजी के रूप में एसओएस चिल्ड्रेन्स विलेज इंडिया हर साल लगभग 35,000 बच्चों के जीवन को सीधे छूता है। 122 राज्यों व केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों में चल रहे 32 एसओएस चिल्ड्रेन्स विलेज में 440 से अधिक पारिवारिक घरों में 6,500 से अधिक बच्चे रहते हैं, जिनका 600 से अधिक एसओएस माताओं और मौसों द्वारा पालन-पोषण किया जाता है।





**You support us to make a difference in the lives of vulnerable children and families. You choose to help those in need and fight for good.**

## THANK YOU

**For rekindling hope, spreading joy!**

Thank you for your thoughtful contributions and relentless support in helping those impacted by the pandemic. You have been our constant companion in making a difference to the communities we operate in. With you by our side, we will continue to empower the lesser privileged, helping them sail through these turbulent times. A little can change a lot. Do your part to help them out during these trying times.

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[www.pankajbuckshey.com](http://www.pankajbuckshey.com)