



# REACH

Empowering Girls Through Education

by **The Visram Foundation**

June 2015 Issue

Dear Donors, Sponsors and Friends,

Summer Greetings from the **REACH** Institute! We welcome you ALL once again to the Visram Foundation Newsletter as we get ready for the next Academic Year!

All the girls and staff at REACH Pray for the health, wealth & prosperity of all our donors, sponsors and well-wishers.

We would like to share with you the new developments and additions at our REACH Institute. We also request you to kindly visit our Institute and experience the difference you have made in the lives of our children.

In March 2015, our Trustee Mr. Rashid Parekh and his wife Mrs. Loris Parekh visited the Institute. They interacted with all the children at the Reach Institute.

Our Administrator Mrunal Nelge is overseeing the entire facility and staff. In the current Academic year, we have enrolled new children seeking financial assistance at our Institute and now have a total of 95 children from different parts of India. We may consider 5-10 more students before the academic year begins.

We bid adieu to our 12<sup>th</sup> grade girls – 7 of them who have completed their Board exams and moved on from the Institute, with their “Mission Graduation” independently. These girls will now enroll in the Universities for their further studies.

In the Academic year 2014-15, Seventeen girls had sat for their Grade 10 Board Exams and now will seek admission in the Junior Colleges Grade 11 in the Commerce and Science courses. Our search for the best Colleges in Pune, is in progress.

All these achievements and progresses are the results of your support, cooperation and blessings, for which we are thankful to you **ALL**.

Thank you from all of us at the Reach Institute and have a great summer!

**Shubhra Gaikwad**  
Public Relations & Liaison Officer

## Visitors to the Institute

We had a number of visitors at the Institute from overseas who visited the dormitories, interacted with the children and were very impressed by the operation of our Institute and also appreciated the girls. These were Mrs. Farida Giga from Ontario, Canada, Mr. Rashid Keshavji and Mr. Murad Gilani from Ontario, Canada, Mrs. Salma Makhani from Allen TX, Mrs. Zarina Droliya from Kinshasa, South Africa and Mrs. Zulekha Kurji from Calgary, AB. We also had our yearly visitor and guest Nazira Jamani who every year devotes her time, unselfishly, in the furtherance of providing counselling for our children.

Many of the visitors brought gifts from foreign countries and sponsored lunch/dinner for the children as well.

## New School

This year, we have identified a very good Convent School - Nirmala Convent for our new admissions. We managed to secure new admissions for 23 girls from grade 1 to 7 at this School. Nirmala Convent is very well known for their education system and discipline.

## **Celebrations at the Institute**

The children celebrated Christmas and New Year at the Reach Institute. They also enjoyed a picnic and went to Vedi Farm, a serene location far away from the crowded city! They had an experience of nature's beauty, agricultural & farming activities, swimming, bird watching and above all, a delicious breakfast and lunch. The younger children also enjoyed a picnic when they went to Sanskruti.

The following days were celebrated:

- (i) Navroz was celebrated by all the girls at the Institute which included lots of merriments and delicious food, sweet and dry fruits.
- (ii) Republic Day – 26<sup>th</sup> January was celebrated as well. There was the Flag hoisting ceremony and the children sang the National Anthem. Sweets were distributed thereafter.
- (iii) The Grade 10 and 12 girls had attended farewell parties at their respective schools and colleges.

## **Excellence**

Suzaan Solanki of Grade 7, was awarded the Trophy for “Best Student of the Year” by Pune International School and Life Insurance Corporation of India for her par excellence performance at school.

## **Students' Council Elected**

The Head Girl along with her team are managing their responsibilities efficiently, maintaining discipline on the Lunch/Dinner table, and overseeing Games & Sports and cleanliness.

## **Beneficial Activities/ Events at the Institute**

- Career counselling for girls of Grade 10 and 12 was carried out by Chetna Counselling Centre.
- Dr. Singh, Senior Psychiatrist gave a lecture on sex education.
- Mrs. Nadiya Kheraj of Kalyaninagar visits regularly for further academic motivation and improving behavior.
- Telephone extensions have been provided in the dormitories to enable the children to speak to their parents on specific days.
- The Grade 10 girls went for an Educational Excursion organized by the Schools.

## **Staff Members**

We have appointed an Assistant to the Administrator by the name Ankita Rao. She brings with her relevant work experience as she previously worked with an Institute in Panchgani. She will be assisting Mrunal, the Administrator, in the daily activities. We also have a new room attendant in the dormitory, Bismillah Shaikh to take care of the younger girls. All the staff members continue to carry out their individual responsibilities diligently, be it kitchen staff, logistics, security & vigilance or house-keeping.



**Our Trustee Mr. Rashid Parekh and his wife Loris interacting with the children**

***7 SECRETS OF SUCCESS !!***

*I found the answer in my own room.*

*Roof said : Aim High*

*Fan said : Be cool*

*Mirror said : Reflect before you Act*

*Clock said : Every minute is precious*

*Window said : See the World*

*Calendar said : Be up to date*

*Door said : Push hard to achieve*

***Reshma Meghani***

***Grade 10***

***Pune International School***





# GIRL OF THE MONTH

Suzaan is from Ranavav village, Porbandar District in Gujarat. She lives with her grandparents, father and mother. She has two siblings - an older brother who is studying in Grade 11 and a younger brother.

Suzaan is in Grade 7 at the Pune International School and speaks fluently in English. This year, she was awarded a Trophy for the "Best student of the year" by her School and she was also felicitated by the Life Insurance Corporation of India for her achievements.



## Suzaan Solanki

She is a very disciplined, intelligent and friendly girl. When she graduates she wants to become a Chartered Accountant. She also intends to make donations to the Foundation since she is living at the Reach Institute for the past 4 years and believes Reach has helped her make her dreams come true.

Her hobbies: She likes reading, playing games and watching TV in her spare time.

*Your generous gift will keep our children's faith alive.*

*Dreams will become realities!*

*Your contribution is tax deductible and a receipt will be provided when your donations are made either in Canada or the United States in US dollars*

*You can also make a donation online at [www.visramfoundation.com](http://www.visramfoundation.com)*

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