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Kid's Corner

Maaza Maharashtra Maaza Sahabhag

A monthly newsletter highlighting activities of the Children's Parliaments in Maharashtra

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EDITORIAL

Dear friends,

We are happy to bring to you the very first issue of this newsletter to be circulated within the network of partners of Maaza Maharashtra Maaza Sahabhag.

The objective of these newsletters, which will be sent to you on a monthly basis, is, to highlight the good work that is being carried out by your respective children's parliaments and to share best practices, success stories, action on social issues that plague the children, exposure visits, activities, essays, drawings, etc with other children in the network so that we all can learn from each other and to motivate and boost their confidence.

Once you receive this newsletter we encourage you to translate this in Marathi and share it with the children from your children's parliaments, discuss in your meetings and/or take a print to preserve this. Initially, the mode of communication for these newsletters will be in English, while we work on the parallel to bring you this in Marathi as well. But, this will take a couple of months to streamline.

The top left hand corner will give you a glimpse of the content that is covered in the newsletter and since we are celebrating 30 years of the Convention of Rights of the Child, the first two pages at the bottom will cover the various articles which are a part of the UNCRC. These rights are mentioned in a child friendly manner.

Going ahead, we request you to share with us the content as mentioned above by the 15th of every month so that we can bring to you the newsletter on time and most important that we motivate our children to perform better both academically and socially. We invite you to share your feedback and suggestions with us on balsansad@csamumbai.in. Happy reading!

- The Editorial Team

Maaza
Maharashtra
Maaza
Sahabhag



UN Convention
on the
Rights of the Child

“All children have these rights, no matter who they are, where they live, what their parents do, what language they speak, what their religion is, whether they are a boy or girl, what their culture is, whether they have a disability, whether they are rich or poor. No child should be treated unfairly on any basis.”

<https://www.crcasia.org/>

Cleanliness is next to Godliness



Shraddha Karmore, a 16 years old girl studying in 10th standard from Mohapa community under Umred block of Nagpur district and she functions as a secretary of Azad Children's group. Shraddha was selected from this group as a representative of Child Protection Unit which plays an important role at block level for the safety and security of children. She is also actively involved with a group called "Damini troops" which ensures the protection and safety of girl child.



As a secretary of Azad Children's group, she visited another group called Indian Children's Group located at Kumbhari village under Mohapa Gram Pranchayat. She explained to them the concept of Maza Maharashtra Maza Sahabag and taught the topics which were covered under MMMS. Through this initiative she started clean village concept in the community and also started awareness program through children's group by conducting various activities. She also spread the message by organizing rallies in the village. As a small initiative of

this execution, the Gram Panchayat has started the vehicle to collect the garbage from the community. This practice has been followed since last 4 months in the community.

Today, the scenario of Kumbhari village has entirely changed. Children are happy to be in the safe environment of the community.

Clean and safe drinking water for all

Peruwadi is a Kathkari Adivasi (Tribal) hamlet under Chavane Gram Panchayat (Local Government), Panvel Taluka, Raigad Dist, and Maharashtra. The children's parliament here is facilitated by Perna Charitable Trust, Rees under the guidance of Centre for Social Action. The people had the problem of water scarcity and they were collecting drinking water from a leaking pipe which was going to the nearby industrial area. Since it was an open area the drinking water was not safe enough for the people to drink.



The people came together and held a meeting to discuss this issue and decided to attend the gram sabha meeting. The women raised the issue at Gram Sabha meeting and submitted the application for the water pipeline in the village.

Since this issue was not taken seriously, the children belonging to the children's parliament discussed the issue and decided to visit the Chavane Gram Panchayat again. The community leaders helped the children to write the applications and accompanied them to the Panchayat office. All of them went to the Gram Panchayat and submitted the applications. Seeing the children's determination the Panchayat promised to do the needful. As a result of the intervention of the children and people the MIDC water pipe line is now connected and safe drinking water is supplied to this village.

The people enjoy clean drinking water and very happy about their collective action which helped them to build unity and togetherness.

“All adults should do what is best for you. When adults make decisions, they should think about how their decisions will affect children.”

“Your family has the responsibility to help you learn to exercise your rights, and to ensure that your rights are protected..”



Pinky stands for her rights!

An organization in Sai Baba nagar, Parbhani named Asmita Seva Pratishthan works towards the promotion of sustainable development. It also works for vulnerable children and educates them about their rights. They provide free coaching facility to under privileged children from first upto the tenth standard. They are one of the partners of Maaza Maharashtra Maaza Sahabag where they learn about their rights and children's parliament. They implemented the same programme in their committee. They started organizing meetings for

their students. During one of the meetings regarding the children's parliament the facilitator observed that one of the girls was not able to concentrate on her studies. Her name is Pinky (name of the girl has been changed to keep her identity confidential) and she was studying for her SSC exams at that time. The facilitator observed that she was showing poor performance in her studies all of a sudden. After speaking to her, he realized that she had been facing problems at home. She knew that her rights were being violated but she was scared to raise her voice against it. She further opened up saying that her father was an alcoholic and would hit her mother and her siblings as well. She could fight against it but she was concerned about her father's well-being. Her family comprised of eight members yet none of them took any action against the domestic violence. She was also scared about that the society would judge her if she took a drastic step like of reporting such behaviour. One night, Pinky came running to the facilitator's house seeking help, saying that her father was hitting her mom with a gas cylinder and her sister ran away in the dark out of fear. The facilitator first, calmed her down and made her understand that if she complains against her dad in the police station, it would not create any problems. He said that the police would just come and warn her dad not to repeat such things. After she was convinced, they went to the police station and reported the incident. The police warned her father, who was under the influence of alcohol at that time. He apologized to Pinky and her family members and promised to not repeat it again.

This incident took place about six months back and now Pinky's father has stopped hitting her and other members of the family. The incident has not occurred again ever since. Pinky feels empowered and is aware of her rights and how to act when they are violated.

A Confident Shabnam

I am Shabnam Guddu Shaikh studying in Jeevan Dhara's study class from last 2 years. I am in 6th standard from Municipal Urdu School. When I joined Jeevan Dhara that time was a very shy and innocent girl. I was not even participating in any activity. The month of July was like new discovery through Children's parliament, which provided a platform to explore myself. A huge change occurred in my life because of attending the session of children's parliament. I learned about my rights and responsibilities towards the society. I understand the importance of unity and the power of group work. I would say that my value was zero before joining this session and now it had become 100%. It created confidence in me to speak in front of the crowd which is because of our facilitator who always motivated me to do the best. I felt very proud when I conducted the session for the other study class students without any fear. Now when I look at the other students who are like my past i.e shy and innocent I think about to make them like new and creative Shabnam. I got an opportunity to attend the 6 days CATS Asia conference in Panchgani which was very amazing and experience sharing. I interacted with the outside people and learnt new and innovative games like treasure hunt which was new for me. Musical and cultural night gave the message that India really had communal harmony.



' निसर्ग- निरोगी जीवनाची देणगी '

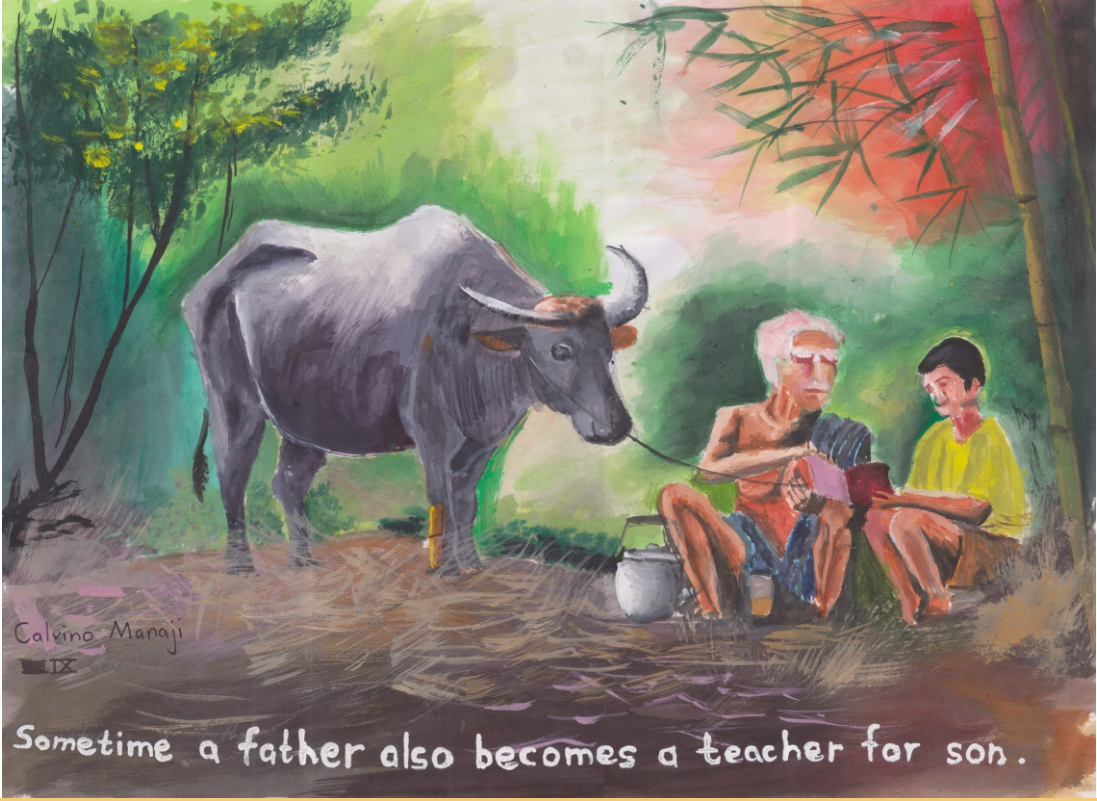
दररोज सकाळी नित्य नियमाने उगवणारा सूर्य शुभसुखणारा मंद वारा पक्ष्यांची किलाबिलाट कोकोबाचे सुमधुर गाणे ही ' सर्व निसर्गाची आपल्यासाठी देणगीच आहे. या पावसाळ्याच्या दिवसात तर सर्वत्र हिरवेगार पाहून जणू काही पृथ्वीने हिरवा शालू परिधान केलेला आहे. पण आपण मानवाने या निसर्गाची विकट अवस्था केलेली आहे. झाडांची मोठ्या प्रमाणात कत्तल केली जात आहे. आपल्या घरातील कचरा सांडपाणी रस्त्यावर राकून आपण रोगांना आमंत्रण देत आहोत. झाडांमुळे आपल्याला जगण्यास ऑक्सीजन मिळतो म्हणूनच झाडांची कत्तल थांबवा. आपल्या आवासात झाडे लावून त्याची काळजी घ्या. झाडांवर प्रेम करा लस्य आपण निरोगी राहू शकतो.

झाडांमुळे आपल्याला गोड रसाळ फळे भाज्या मिळतात. फळे व भाज्या आपल्या आरोग्यासाठी खूप उपयोगी आहेत. त्यांच्या सेवनाने शरीरासाठी अनेक जीवनसत्वे मिळतात. ह्या जीवनसत्वांमुळे रोग प्रतिकार शक्ती वाढते व आपण सुदृढ जीवन जगू शकतो.

आपण सर्वांनी आजारापासून दूर राहण्यासाठी आपल्या परिसराची स्वच्छता राखली पाहिजे व जास्तीत जास्त झाडे जगवून आपले जीवन निरोगी व आनंदी ठेवण्यासाठी स्वतःपासून सुरवात करायला पाहिजे.

' झाडे लावा, झाडे जगवा, जीवन वाचवा.'

नमिता खर्जा
टी
चौक-उत्तन)



Sometime a father also becomes a teacher for son.

▼ A Poem by Sheetal Raosaheb Chahure - Sacred (Jalna)

