



# Message from the Director

Firstly, a very hearty Diwali wished to all of you. In the past months, the organisation has associated itself with various campaigns. Its main thrust has been environmental education. I hope all the readers

would find this issue of our newsletter interesting. I also would like to congratulate Matthew for being associated with Janhit Foundation and wish



him a happy and learning experience here with us.

## Special Message by Matthew Shanley

Hi, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I have been given the privilege to be a volunteer with Janhit Foundation for six months. I obtained an honours degree in Civil and Environmental Engineer at the prestigious University College Cork, in 2006. For

the following four years I gained valuable professional experience with the largest construction company in Ireland, John Sisk and Sons Limited, as a site engineer. Due to a major down turn in the construction industry in Ireland and due to my growing con-



science, I decided to look at other avenues to take my career down. Working for an NGO seemed like an activity that would be highly rewarding. Janhit Foundation fitted the bill perfectly. Janhit are an esteemed organisation and run projects that my training and experience could be directly applied to. They are also based in India and I am delighted at the prospect of living in Meerut for the next few months. I wish to thank all the staff here and others I have come into contact with for their hospitality, showing me Meerut, the surrounding areas and the Indian way of life. I have only been here three weeks and am really enjoying myself, if the months to come are half as good I'll be very happy.

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# Janhit joins the 'Young Green Campaign'

Janhit Foundation joined the "Young Green Campaign for promoting low carbon practice and plantation drive" supported by the Centre for Environmental Education. The main aim of the campaign was to aware students about the protection and conservation of environment and different practices to reduce the carbon emission. In this line, the organized a tree plantation drive at Delhi Public School, Meerut and Swami Vivekanand Subharti University on 30<sup>th</sup> of Aug and 31<sup>st</sup> of Aug 2010.

On the first day, the plantation campaign was inaugurated by planting a tree by Mayor of Meerut City; Mrs. Madhu Gurjjar along with DFO – Meerut; MR Lalit Kumar Verma. Offering his active participation, Vice Principal of DPS; Mr. Kailash Tomar said that this campaign is a noble campaign for Meerut City and that the school would take care of the planted saplings.

Plant a tree, Green  
the earth,  
Clean the air, Live  
Happily!



IG - Meerut City; Mr. O.P. Singh marked the campaign on the second day by planting a neem sapling, followed by DFO; Mr. Lalit Kumar Verma and District Magistrate; Mr. Bhubnesh Kumar. Addressing the students, VC - Swami Vivekanand Subharti University; Mr. Atul Krishn made a call to the students to respect trees and plants in the manner as temples and Gods are revered. He expressed his concerns regarding increasing social and psychological pollution along with environmental pollution and requested that everyone should come forward to check these malaises. And that this responsibility should begin next from the stu

dents, their parents and also the teachers.

About 250 trees of *Imli, Bel, Saugan, Baheda etc.* were planted under the campaign along with 215 plants of *Amaltas and Adshoka*. Eco-club students marked their active participation by watering the planted saplings. Director of Janhit foundation; Mrs. Anita Rana encouraged students to participate in activities which strengthen and enhance national unity, human values, cultural ethos and ecosphere of our society. And of course, clean and healthy environment is an essential component of all this.



## An 'Enviro-Green Centre' developed at CVPS, Meerut

Mitigation of air pollution in developing countries like India has emerged as one of the challenging tasks for environmental management agencies. The status in small towns is likely to become more acute with the continued and enhanced rate of expansion and increase in vehicular pollution and

pollutants and check the flow of dust, etc.) and reduce noise levels.

Against this backdrop, Janhit Foundation undertook a project with the support of Global Green-grants Fund (GGF) towards establishment and maintenance of an 'Enviro-Green Centre' in the

structure which is now functioning as a live model. On an average, this structure will harvest 80,000 litres of water annually. Communication material has been printed as a part of the project which includes a set of two pamphlets and a poster. The material has been distributed amongst the



the limitations of carrying capacity of the respective environmental basins. India being a developing country, end-of-pipe treatment alone is not technoeconomically feasible and control emission of vehicles is not feasible because of exorbitant costs. It is a known fact that green belts (GB) or vegetation around polluted areas mitigate air pollution (as the plants serve as a sink for

school premises of City Vocational Public School, Meerut.

Saplings of different species and herbal plants have been planted with an active participation of students and community members offering their 'shramdaan'. A gardener has been appointed for taking care of the saplings. A Rainwater Harvesting structure has been con-

students, teachers, school staff and community members.

*The centre was inaugurated on October 26, 2010. Students of eco-club of other schools also participated in the programme. They were taken to the centre and were explained about the benefits of tree plantation and rainwater harvesting in detail, and how it helps towards environment conservation and pollution reduction.*

## One Year Old Survives T.B.

Varsha, a one year old slum child's family spoke to CHILDLINE, Janhit foundation by the way of meeting its member in the informal school 'Gyan Ashram' of the slum. They told CHILDLINE how their one year old was severely sick since the past few days and that they were unable to get her medically treated. CHILDLINE went ahead to get the child counseled by a 'child-specialist'. The doctor suggested a blood test and an X-ray to diagnose the illness as a result of which was found that the little girl had fallen a victim to tuberculosis. Further treatment for T.B is being supported by CHILDLINE.



# Meerut CHILDLINE lights up the young flames of literacy

A waste water body which runs through the A-block of Shastrinagar, Meerut had been a home to many little rag-picker hands. These kids were dwellers of the nearby slum to which open sky was the home and rag-heaps the employer. The daily roads of the founder of the organisation Lt. sir Anil Rana passed through such dark lanes and every time he saw them, he was moved by the realities of the fate of such kids. With this deep urge of attempting to make their lives a bit better, he started an informal school "Gyan Ashram" in their slum. When the CHILDLINE volunteers initiated this program under the shade of a tree, the slum residents sarcastically remarked and raised questions about the longevity of the program but today after a successful survival period of three years, this proved to be a **medium to make the great visionaries' dreams come true.** And no better an evidence it could produce by inspiring the current director of the organisation to start off its sibling in D-block slum.

Gyan Ashram although started with

the sole objective of providing primary education to slum kids but actually indulges itself into much bigger ventures. It is interpreted as a centre which not only gives basic education to kids, but also grooms their personality overall and has thus emerged as the helpline centre in those areas.

This organisation is coordinated by **the employees of the "Janhit foundation" viz. Asha Rani and Swati** under the directives of Sanjiv Kumar. Both ladies on the front recall their experience of the evolution from when the **kids didn't know a word about hygiene** and basic ways of living, to the situation where they can not only read and write but are also conscious of the personal hygiene. Gyan ashram **doesn't put age bars for admissions** and also distributes books free of cost. The kids here are made a part of all the celebrations of the Indian festivals and are told about their importance and history. They are also made aware about the basic facts regarding environment and its conservation. The centre also arranges for periodic vocational training courses and puts up free medical camps time to time. (the medical camps are mediated

with the support of HOD, community medical department ,Dr.Rahul Bansal, Subharati Medical College and Rural India Foundation, New Delhi). In addition to this the centre also arranges for the approval of the various pension schemes like – widow pension, disabled pension, old age pension etc.

Gyan ashram in an attempt to prompt the active participation has come up with a club among the school kids which coordinate the rest in matters extra-curricular activities. This team is also invited to the Child Counseling Committee of the organisation. Different programs and schemes initiated by the organisation from time to time is a regular feature of the informal school.

These centers had been the vision of Sh. Anil Rana ji and are today in existence only because of his efforts and the further, continued involvement from Meerut CHILDLINE members. This program does not receive funds from anywhere but is run on the pure lines of societal welfare.



## CHILDLINE picks up the lifelong liability of the disabled

Mukesh , a 14 year old and a resident of Madhavpuram slum, Meerut, had been to see his sister in Brahmपुरi, but he never knew that this meeting would change his life forever. While playing with an iron rod on the terrace of the house, this rod accidentally connected with the high-tension electric wire passing by and resulted into the tragic accident in which his liver blasted and both his hands were severely burnt. He was immediately rushed to Subharati medical hospital but the accident was major and thus required a major amount wealth to amend it. With a dead father and poor mother, treatment was withdrawn. The utterly severe condition of the

child was heartbreaking. The child also could not claim compensation from the govt. or public welfare society. Since the family could not register a police complaint at the time of the accident the Electricity Department also has provided no compensation.

At such point of time, Meerut CHILDLINE took over the case, it took the child to the renowned hospital of Delhi –‘Wimhans’ and negotiated with Dr. Rajneesh Saxena, who estimated the expenses for Mukesh’s artificial hands to be 13lakhs. In view of the huge amount required Meerut CHILD-



LINE demanded compensation for the child from the ‘Prime minister Relief fund.’ But still no response is to be seen.

## CHILDLINE funds the lamp of literacy

15 year old Bhavya Sharma was living a happy and facilitated life when one unfortunate day his parents got killed in the ‘uphar cinema’ . his family now consists of him and his 80 year old grandmother and are left with no financial resources. Meerut CHILDLINE now bears the expenses for the studies of this child as a part of its services.



## CHILDLINE : Shelter to be Abandoned

Aapna, a 10 year old minor recently lost her mother. Her misfortune was doubled when her father threw her out of the home and in turn left the home himself. In light of the girls conditions, Meerut city provided her with accommodation in its shelter home.



For any Suggestions or Comments, please write us at  
[janhitfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:janhitfoundation@gmail.com)

## Highlights

Meeting with the Inner Wheel Club members on Rain Water Harvesting	13th of August
Awareness meeting at Defence Colony, Meerut on organic food	26th of September
Meeting invited by District Magistrate, Saharanpur on Rain Water Harvesting	5th of August
Teacher's Day celebrated with the slum children	5th of September
Flag Hosting at Gyan Ashram	15th of August
Meeting by CEE UNDP on 'Low Carbon Campaign for Commonwealth Games 2010, New Delhi'	16-17th of July
Invite at IMA hall for presentation on organic food, attended by doctors and ladies club members	26th of August
Awareness meeting for the doctors on benefits of organic farming and organic food	5th of October
Stall put up at schools namely DPS, City Vocational and MPGS	

## Ensuring Food Security in a Changing Climate

Gene Campaign and Action Aid organized a national conference on *Ensuring Food Security in a Changing Climate* to generate greater awareness about this crucial issue and to develop recommendations for action, with wide stakeholder inputs; on 23 and 24 April, 2010.

Whereas the phenomenon of climate change has been in international focus, culminating in the Copenhagen Accord, its connection to agriculture and food security has received considerably less attention. Adapting our agriculture timely to climate change

is key to reducing its impact on agricultural productivity and rural livelihoods.

According to climate estimates, agriculture in the productive areas of South Asia will be amongst the worst affected, with predictions that almost 40 percent of the production potential could be lost if the problem is not addressed. Ensuring agriculture productivity and food security will require careful management of resources like soil, water and biodiversity. Our responses will need to address mitigation in agriculture, but more so, strategies for adaptation, this way the impact of climate change can be

minimized.

Sri Jairam Ramesh inaugurated the conference with Dr MS Swaminathan delivering the keynote address and a range of experts addressing various aspects of mitigation and coping with adaptation in order to support sustainable food security.

After the presentations, participants held discussions to frame recommendations for action that will be sent to the government. This is expected to lay the basis for a sustained advocacy program looking for policy changes to ensure food security in a changing climate.

Janhit Foundation wishes a very happy and prosperous Diwali to all our friends and associates.

# Environment Day Celebrated at Janhit Foundation

Our organisation, whom works on the issues of organic farming, water conservation as well as child welfare issues for the past 12 years, took a step forward by celebrating World Environment Day on 5 June 2010. We planted trees and held a workshop on environmental issues for children.

Some children from the locality of Shastri Nagar, Mr Narendra Rasthwadi the councilor of ward number 43 together with Mrs.

Anita Rana, the Director of the organisation planted medicinal and aromatic plants, to celebrate this day. The children shown their interest for environment and also took oath for protecting environment in their own ways.

Janhit Foundation organised this event to instil the seed of saving our environment in the young minds and to do so we thought **just planting trees wouldn't be enough**. We then conducted a

con-

ference for the children, in which children were given explanation that HOW and WHY they should save environment.

Mrs. Anita Rana, spoke to the children and in their language she made them realise the importance of healthy environment. Other speakers like Preeti Elhence, Senior Co-ordinator of Janhit Foundation and Mr. Sanjiv Kumar detailed the children about the conservation of environment in daily use.

The event was just a drop in the ocean of the work to be done for saving our environment. But as is said, drop on drop makes the ocean complete. Janhit Foundation has instilled the thought of saving environment in young minds who will certainly take the idea forward in their own ways.



Let us a little  
permit

Nature to take her  
own way;

She better  
understands her own  
affairs than we.

~Michel de  
Montaigne



## MEERUT CHILDLINE digs in deep joy for slum children

On the 7th of October 2010 the police of Meerut city got an interesting assignment. Apart from their regular duties, "MEERUT CHILDLINE" introduced them to some slum children.

MEERUT CHILDLINE took up this admirable initiative to get the slum children friendly with the police officers of Nauchandi thane and Mahila police chowki. The sole objective was to take away the fear of "police" from the minds of the children so that they can themselves go and express their problems in police stations

when in times of need. The police also contributed in making this visit a success. They answered various queries raised by the kids about child laws, helplines, treatment by the police to the criminals etc. The visit to the police station by the children also instilled in the police to take up the issues concerning the children more seriously.

On the same day, we also arranged for

a one day outing for the kids, covering the prominent spots of Sardhana Church, lakshagrih barnava, Pura Mahadev, Luv-Kush Valmiki Ashram etc. The kids were given full details about the destination spots along with a proper arrangement for their lunch.



## 8th Annual General Body Meeting

8th Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) of IWP was on 30th October, 2010. Discussions centered on current projects being implemented by various partner NGOs with the support of IWP and also the future plans to support projects. Key issues and agenda was finalized. Being a member of the General Body, Ms. Anita Rana, Director of Janhit Foundation was invited to attend the meeting and share her inputs. The organisation is also presently undertaking a project to effectively implement the Groundwater Policy Draft. Ms. Rana shared this with the IWP.



## New projects which came up

Second Year of the project entitled '**Spreading Water Literacy on Wheels**', being supported by ADOBE and facilitated by CAF has started. The organisation has begun with workshops and training programs in various schools of NOIDA.

Another project with the support of Oxfam Trust, is being implemented wherein farmers are cultivating Lemon-grass, Neem, Garlic, Turmeric, Onion, Pulses and Cereal Crops by organic methods.

With the support of India Water Partnership, Janhit Foundation is undertaking a project to prepare a strategy for effective implementation of the groundwater policy, which the foundation has prepared for the UP Government.

Janhit Foundation is recently starting a new project, the *restoration of Siddh Baba Kodiya Talaab* located at Ma-chri village in Modinagar district.

## JANHIT TEAM

Anita Rana	Director
Papiya Sarkar	Consultant
Sonakshi Yadav	Chief Coordinator Prog.
Matthew Shanley	Volunteer
Devpal Singh	Senior Coordinator Prog.
Manish Kumar	Coordinator Prog.
Rohit Kumar	Coordinator Prog.
Ravindra Kumar	Coordinator Prog.
Ravindra Saini	Coordinator Prog.
Jitendra Kumar	Coordinator Prog.
Deshraj	Coordinator Prog.
Ravi Nirajan	Coordinator Prog.
Sandhya Verma	Administrative Incharge
Santosh Hudda	Organic Aaharam Manager
Arun Bansal	Accountant
Deepak Garg	Chartered Accountant
Rajesh	Attendant
Amit	Attendant

## CHILDLINE TEAM

Sanjiv Kumar	Coordinator
Simran Chopra	Para-Professional
Satyendra Kumar	Team Member
Anil Kumar	Team Member
Mahesh Kumar	Team Member
Ran Singh	Team Member
Shivesh Mujherjee	Team Member
Asha Rani	Team Member
Manmohan Singh	Team Member
Kavita Sharma	Volunteer
Swati Sharma	Volunteer
Daniel Paul	Volunteer

## ABOUT JANHIT FOUNDATION



Janhit Foundation is an independent, not-for-profit non-governmental organization, actively engaged in the promotion of human welfare through environmental protection since 1998.

Key areas of work include:

- Groundwater quality protection for human health
- Provision of safe drinking water to marginalized communities
- Protection of river water quality for aquatic ecosystems
- Enhancement of available water resources through water conservation measures
- Promotion of sustainable agriculture by organic farming methods
- Environmental education and empowerment of local communities

Janhit Foundation undertakes this work through scientific research, campaigns, advocacy and grass-root level community involvement.

As a public interest organisation, Janhit Foundation focuses on strengthening local communities through their active participation in decision making, to achieve sustainable development. We believe that environmental degradation can only be addressed adequately if local people are empowered in decision making at all levels and have control over resources.

To achieve our goals, we work in partnership with government, non-governmental, national and international organisations on environment and human rights issues.

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*We Strive Towards  
Building a Sustainable  
Future for Mankind*