OUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

April 2020- June 2020



School for Potential Advancement and Restoration of Confidence (SPARC) India

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SUPPORTED BY:-





INTRODUCTION

School for Potential Advancement and Restoration of Confidence (SPARC)-India is a non-profit organization with its Head Office in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh (UP) and has been in its existence for 25 years now. The Founder Director and Chairperson, Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra is himself having Cerebral Palsy (CP) with mild spasticity since birth and it was his cherished dream to work for the cause of disability. He did his Post graduation from Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai and served Corporate and CSOs in Bihar and UP. Recently, he completed his PhD from Department of Psychology, University of Lucknow and was awarded PhD degree in Applied Psychology. At present he is nominated as member in Steering Committee of State Election Commission, Government of Uttar Pradesh and nominated as member (renewed) of State Coordination Committee on Disability. He is also member of State Advisory Board on Disability of Uttar Pradesh.

SPARC-India was formed in 1995 and registered in July 1996, as a voluntary organization which aimed to empower people with various disabilities especially people with CP. SPARC-India started its Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) program in the year 1996 for persons with disabilities (PwDs) in the urban slums of Lucknow. The thrust of the program was on health and medical rehabilitation, formation of Disabled Persons Organizations (DPOs) / Self-Help Groups (SHGs) of PwDs & their families and to establish linkages with the government schemes.

In due course of time, SPARC-India gradually established Jyoti Kiran School (JKS) for children with CP in the year 2003. Recently, SPARC-India has been aligning itself to the philosophy of 'Inclusion'. It emphasizes that inclusive environments will help in minimizing segregations and deep rooted misunderstandings and prejudices between the children with disabilities (CwDs) and non-challenged sections of the society. With this philosophy, the organization has also converted its Jyoti Kiran School for cerebral palsy children from a special school to an inclusive school, wherein the school caters to the educational and therapeutic needs of both the CwDs as well as the non-challenged children. In 2005, SPARC-India setup a Vocational Training and Placement Cell for PwDs to provide placement services to them. SPARC-India has immense experience in imparting vocational training and skill development programs for PwDs.

SPARC-India established Uttar Pradesh Viklang Manch (UPVM) to develop a support system for CwDs / PwDs to help them exercise their statutory rights and avail entitlements. SPARC-India has provided counseling to approx. 12000 community members, vocational training to about 2500 PwDs and has created self-employment opportunities for more than 1200 PwDs and their family members.

In the current quarter SPARC-India received funding from HCL Foundation and Jan Vikas Samiti, Varanasi.

The world, including India, is facing enormous challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Most of the governments around the world have rushed to respond to the virus. Now, it is more critical than ever to ensure that measures taken are fully accessible and inclusive for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and prevent human rights violations from taking place. PwDs are being disproportionately affected in this situation of heightened vulnerability, including those living in institutions and their own homes, children, older persons, those who are homeless, and people in rural settings.

The emergency measures are taken by the government to raise many challenges and concerns with regard to PwDs including the rights to life, access to health, and essential services. There are many services and/or support that Persons with Disabilities cannot access during the quarantine because of the lockdown situation in our country which includes personal assistance/care/support, assistive technologies, rehabilitation services, access to food and basic supplies, medical equipment, therapies or development interventions. The information has been provided but is not sufficient and exhaustive.

Since the lockdown started in India on 25th March 2020 the conditions of PwDs have been worsening due to the fore mentioned reasons. Now it is becoming difficult for the survival of PwDs in many cases.

JYOTI KIRAN SCHOOL (JKS)

The corona virus COVID-19 pandemic, a global health crisis, is the greatest challenge which we are facing since March 2020. Corona viruses are a family of viruses that can cause various illnesses. Signs and symptoms of corona virus disease appear two to 14 days after exposure. Common signs and symptoms include: fever, cough and tiredness. Early symptoms of COVID-19 may also include loss of taste or smell. The virus is transmitted through direct contact with respiratory droplets of an infected person (generated through coughing and sneezing). Individuals can also be infected from touching surfaces contaminated with the virus and touching their face (e.g., eyes, nose, mouth).

Institutionalized education is one of the worst affected by COVID-19 pandemic due to the resultant lockdown which has been imposed to check the spread of disease. Schools have been shut to prevent the spread of the virus and this has given way to online/virtual classrooms. A virtual classroom is an online learning environment that allows for live interaction between the tutor and the learners as they are participating in learning activities over internet.

With schools closed due to the Corona threat, children's education has come to a standstill. In these testing times, Jyoti Kiran School, SPARC-India has adopted WhatsApp learning for its special children to compensate for the loss of education and therapy. Jyoti Kiran School teachers found online classes extremely helpful to make classes even more engaging than regular classrooms. JKS Coordinator, teachers, and therapists put extra efforts to engage students in their classes by revamping timetables, shifting discussions online, taking feedback from parents, and monitoring students constantly.

The online class is a fairly new concept and special students were pretty excited initially to be part of it. The virtual classes via WhatsApp were being conducted smoothly. JKS team tried to find things to keep our children entertained. We do many activities every day to keep the fun going with students and parents too.

ZOOM MEETING WITH SPARC-INDIA TEAM TO DISCUSS MODE OF ACTION UNDER COVID - 19

In the absence of a clear path for serving special children in this crisis, the best approach may be to consider every available option. **Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra** (Founder Secretary cum Director, SPARC-India) encouraged teachers / therapist of Jyoti Kiran School by organizing zoom meetings from 15th April 2020 to 18th April 2020 and advised them to communicate with families of students and discus their Individual Education Plan and how they can best meet the needs of their child. On 16th April 2020 he interacted with **Mrs. Anju Tiwari** (Special Educator, MR), **Mrs. Purnima Sahu** (Special Educator, HI), **Mrs. Kiran Rastogi** (Vocational



Teacher) Mrs. Shashi Srivastava (Volunteer) and Ms. Alka Verma (Assistant Teacher). Ms. Shalini Gupta (Speech Therapist) and Ms. Satwiki Mishra (Physiotherapist), Ms. Mala Yadav (Physiotherapist) and Ms. Kavita (Physiotherapist) interacted with him on 17th April 2020.

JKS TEAM STARTED TALKING ONLINE CLASSES

To stay connected with teachers and parents, **Mrs. Yogita Srivastava** (Program Coordinator, SPARC-India) kept up ties with parents by planning regular times to call. In coordination with the JKS team and its parents (as per the call received by the parents) the process of WhatsApp calling was individually explained to them and a demo was given. According to the Individual Education Plan of the students teachers started virtual teaching.





JKS STARTED REPORTING DAILY ACTIVITY TO HCL

Mrs. Yogita Srivastava (Program Coordinator, SPARC-India) provided daily report to HCL. Daily reports are the best way to get and backup schedule status and update the funder/organization on how teachers and students do their work daily, including all the achievements or challenges they encountered. The students of JKS actively participated in all the online activities which were conducted by the teachers and the therapists. Proper appointments were scheduled with their parents to avoid any inconvenience. The list of few activities which were conducted with the students, in presence of guardians, according to their potential level are given below:-

S. No.	Name of Student	Disability	Activities Being Conducted
			Children with Hearing Impairment
1	Sanjana Bharti	Hearing Impairment	- Create a Sensory game - make ball of earth - Follow the leader
2	Affan Siddiqui	Hearing Impairment	
3	Ritik Rawat	Hearing Impairment	
4	Pratham Kashyap	Hearing Impairment	
5	Sudhakar	Hearing Impairment	- Button your shirt
6	Gaurang Awasthi	Hearing Impairment	- Emotion sorting Activity like sad, happy, angry etc.
7	Lucky	Hearing Impairment	mappy, angry etc.
8	Suraj Saxena	Hearing Impairment	7
			Children with Cerebral Palsy
9	Hariom Shukla	Cerebral Palsy	
10	Nawed Akhtar	Cerebral Palsy	
11	Anshi Singh	Cerebral Palsy	
12	Isha Srivastava	Cerebral Palsy	- Mirror Activities - Fine Motor Activities
13	Yash Maurya	Cerebral Palsy	- Coordination Activities
14	Adarsh Ranjan	Cerebral Palsy	- Colour Identification - ADL Activities
15	Gungun Prajapati	Cerebral Palsy	
16	Sumit Maurya	Cerebral Palsy	- Fruits and vegetable Identification
17	Ansh Rajpoot	Cerebral Palsy	- Tie the beads
18	Arpit Shukla	Cerebral Palsy	- Stickers and felt collage making
19	Deepali Gautam	Cerebral Palsy	- Paper bags weaving- Tearing and sticking collage
20	Pranjal Srivastava	Cerebral Palsy	- Fearing and sticking conage - Sorting coloured chips in egg cartoon
21	Suraj Yadav	Cerebral Palsy	- Tape resist painting
22	Rajshekhar Tiwari	Cerebral Palsy	- Finger paint mono painting
23	Tauhid Khan	Cerebral Palsy	- Painting with water- Pom Pom drop games
24	Uvaish	Cerebral Palsy	1 om 1 om drop games
25	Mohd. Rehan	Cerebral Palsy	
26	Anirudh	Cerebral Palsy	

			Children with Cerebral Palsy + Mental Retardation
27	Ayush Srivastava	Cerebral Palsy + Mental Retardation	
28	Neha Khan	Cerebral Palsy + Mental Retardation	
29	Bikki	Cerebral Palsy + Mental Retardation	
30	Ayush Singh	Cerebral Palsy + Mental Retardation	Pebble sortingThreading with beads on to pipe
31	Divyansh	Cerebral Palsy + Mental Retardation	
32	Pragya	Cerebral Palsy + Mental Retardation	
33	Shivansh	Cerebral Palsy + Mental Retardation	
			Children with Down Syndrome
34	Sonu	Down Syndrome	- Cutting practice - Learning shapes
35	Shivan Rajput	Down Syndrome	- Design lacing pattern- Fine Motor Activities- Mix and match (Animal Pictures)
			Children with Mental Retardation
36	Meraj Abbas	Mental Retardation	
37	Jaywant Rawat	Mental Retardation	
38	Harshit Nigam	Mental Retardation	
39	Deepanshu	Mental Retardation	
40	Mohit	Mental Retardation	
41	Ronit Yadav	Mental Retardation	- Short and Long concept
42	Kanhaiya Gupta	Mental Retardation	- Thick and Thin
43	Divyansh Sharma	Mental Retardation	Long and ShortCleanliness
44	Sandeep Nishad	Mental Retardation	- Fold the cloths Demo Exercises
45	AradhyaTiwari	Mental Retardation	- Count the No. of Things
46	Tayyab	Mental Retardation	- Good and Bad Touch - Blow the balloon
47	Neeraj	Mental Retardation	- Plantation
48	Zikra	Mental Retardation	- Open the tap and fill the bottle
49	Shivam Kashyap	Mental Retardation	- Vegetable and fruits Identification
50	Muddasir Khan	Mental Retardation	- Poem Recitation- Eye Hand coordination
51	Aastik Rawat	Mental Retardation	
52	Manu Balmiki	Mental Retardation	
53	Raj Singh	Mental Retardation	
54	Sneha Chaudhary	Mental Retardation	
55	Ranjeet	Mental Retardation	

FUN WITH MOVEMENT GAMES

Jyoti Kiran School organized online Saturday activity on April 25th 2020 which the students of JKS enjoyed to the fullest. The activities included- playing the movement games, brick games, art-based activities, collecting different peel offs, play and laughing in different ways. These activities led to the all-round development of children and made them achieve their maximum potential.





WORKSHOP ON AWARENESS OF COVID-19

Jyoti Kiran School, organized a *workshop on Awareness of COVID-19* as Saturday Activity on 2nd May 2020. Teachers helped children in understanding the basic concepts of disease prevention and control to diminish students' fears and anxieties about the disease and support their ability to cope with any secondary impacts in their lives. Teachers asked the students to focus on communicating good







health behaviours, such as covering the nose and mouth while coughs and sneezes with the elbow, using mask and washing hands regularly etc.

FAMILY DAY EVENT

Jyoti Kiran School, organized "The Family Day" Event on 4th May 2020. Through the event the family members and their children celebrated the meaning of being a family and spending quality time with their loved one's by





participating in fun activities like playing indoor games, viewing television or learning with elder ones. Students exhibited their amazing performance by posting a photo or video of the activity. This is one of the best ways to have a strong, happy relationship with family. Children learned to be active, sharing and polite.

ZOOM PARENTS TEACHER MEETING

ZOOM, Parent Teachers meeting was organized by **Mrs. Yogita Srivastava** (Program Coordinator, SPARC-India) on 9th May 2020. The Parent Support Meeting is normally conducted on every second Saturday of the month. This was the first time when the





meeting was conducted through ZOOM App. The meeting was a very cordial interactive session between the teachers and parents on performance of the students. The parents gave a very positive feedback about the activities and facilities provided by the Jyoti Kiran School. 10 parents, all the JKS teachers and therapist attended the meeting. The parents were enthusiastic and happy for the online teaching facilities they are availing, and appreciated the strategies followed by the School.

JKS PERFORMANCE MEETING

Jyoti Kiran School, organized a meeting on 13th May 2020 to share performance with the JKS team. **Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra** (Founder Secretary cum Director) said that to facilitate effective education, the School will provide Teaching Learning Material to the students. Effective individualized support measures should be provided to maximize academic and social development of the students. He also motivated the teachers to do their best for their students in this current pandemic scenario.



INDOOR GAMES

Jyoti Kiran School organized Indoor games on 16th May 2020. Indoor games are not only fun but also help to develop gross and fine motor skills, a sense of co-ordination and team spirit. Parents showed great interest and played different indoor games with their kids, like Ludo, carom, throw ball, pillow games and batball. It also encouraged creativity, hand-eye coordination and it is comfortable and safe in COVID-19.





EID-UL-FITR CELEBRATION







Jyoti Kiran School teachers encouraged parents to make an environment of the festival Eid-ul-Fitr on 23rd May 2020 at home, and enjoy it with their loving ones. Parents and teachers explained about the culture and its importance. Students and parents attempted to participate in the activity to the best of their abilities. The JKS team is always thankful for parents' great support.

ORIENTATION SESSION BY HCL

The online *Orientation session* was taken by Mr. Vineet Kumar Mishra (Associate Manager, Monitoring & Evaluation, HCL) and Mr. Nitesh Sinha (Deputy Manager, Finance, HCL) on 26th May 2020 with the objective of bringing all partners (54) together and clarifying the doubts while filing the Quarterly Progress Reports. The main objective was to empower and equip the partners and establish standard planning, implementation, monitoring and evolution in community development.

CARD MAKING ON FLOOR WITH NATURAL OBJECTS ACTIVITY







To explore drawings with natural objects Jyoti Kiran School team organized an activity on 30th May 2020 in which students made cards on floor with natural objects. Teachers encouraged students to be active and think on their own, using their brains, which would result in long-term memory retention. Through this activity not only the students' knowledge would improve, but their interest, strength, knowledge, team spirit and freedom of expression would increase as well.

CELEBRATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL WEEK







Environmental week celebration at Jyoti Kiran School started 1st June 2020 with great zeal and enthusiasm. The entire week was dedicated to spread awareness. Children were shown the video of forest and animal. In the next session various topics like water conservation, watering the plants and keeping our city and school clean etc were discussed with parents and students. Students of

Jyoti Kiran School actively participated in discussions related to COVID-19 "quarantine and the positive aspects the lockdown has had on the environment". We ended our session with a fine motor tearing and pasting activity, a craft with natural objects, and an interactive session with coordinator, teachers, therapists, parents and student where the team explained the importance of Mother Earth and trees.

MEETING WITH RAJEEV KUSHWAHA, PROJECT MANAGER ICICI FOUNDATION





Mr. Rajeev Kushwaha (Project Manager, ICICI Foundation) visited Jyoti Kiran School SPARC-India on 5th June 2020. The main aim of the visit was to *take an overview of the projects of SPARC-India which are currently running*. He met **Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra** (Founder Secretary cum Director, SPARC-India). Dr. Mehrotra briefed him about the programs of our organization. After having a conversation with him, He interacted with the whole team of SPARC-India and shared his experiences and advised the precautions to be taken under COVID-19 and gifted some bottles of sanitizers too. He appreciated the work done by the organization at different levels.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY CELEBRATION

World Environment Day, also known as 'Eco Day' or 'Environment Day', is celebrated on June 5th 2020 to spread awareness about the importance of the environment and why we need to protect the nature for a better life. **Mrs. Yogita Srivastava** (Program Coordinator, SPARC-India) encouraged the team to be a role model for our special children. Teachers guide students about the particular nature resource, through





by being a role model. The team also organized drawing competition in online classes to make students understand the importance of a clean and green environment.

SHAPE AND COLOR RECOGNITION ACTIVITY

Jyoti Kiran School, teachers' primary goals were directed towards keeping children healthy and safe in COVID-19. On 13th June 2020 they taught cognitive skills such as shape and color recognition, encouraging personal behavior, and introduced basic literacy and numeration skills. The creativity focused on the process of "divergent thinking," which involved:







- · the breaking up of old ideas
- · making new connections
- · enlarging the limits of knowledge
- · the onset of wonderful ideas
- · how to promote creative thinking

The creativity of children was fantastically executed through drawing, coloring, and making crafts. They were individually appreciated and encouraged for their abilities.

FUN WITH CLOCK AND TELL THE TIME ACTIVITY







Jyoti Kiran School teachers organized *Tell the Time* Activity on 20th June 2020 to show and make them learn how time works and how to make different types of the clock using household materials. All the students with the support of their parents made some clock drawings and clocks out of craft material and also learnt to tell time. Three days of clock activity practice indicated that the children were able to acquire the skill of time telling while maintaining a high percentage of correct response during training and how much the program which required minimal prerequisite skills is effective in teaching mentally impaired children to tell time.

LEFT HAND AND RIGHT HAND RECOGNITION ACTIVITY

Teachers of Jyoti Kiran School taught recognition of Left Hand and Right Hand on 27th June 2020. It was fun, active, and interesting activity. Most students were not able to distinguish left and right correctly. Left-right confusion could be a sign of learning and attention problems and visual processing issues.







Trouble in telling left vs. right can affect motor, reading, writing, and count skills as kids move up in grade. In SPARC-India teachers are often asked to modify instruction to accommodate special needs students. To remember left versus right here are some strategies that have helped: Forming an "L" with the left index finger and thumb. We used colour to mark the right hand.

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM

Inclusive education program is in progress in all three districts of Uttar Pradesh Lucknow, Barabanki and Sitapur. As we know that Jan Vikas Samiti is the main project holder and SPARC-India is the partner organization along with the Holy Cross Welfare Trust. The objective of this program is to increase enrollment and to reduce the dropout's rates of children with disabilities in regular government education system.

But COVID-19 has a widespread effect during last three months & it has shown drastic changes which the humanity had never expected. This disease led to a new Paradigm across the Globe. Thousands of lives have been lost due to Covid-19. During



this fatal virus outbreak Govt. of all the Countries were forced to impose the lockdown which was the only way to stop the virus to enter our community. India having a huge population has faced continuous lockdown which was the only way to protect the citizens of this country from falling prey to this deadly virus. The Indian Govt. has strictly restricted the movements of people at the closure period & advised them to stay at home & take all Preventive measures during this

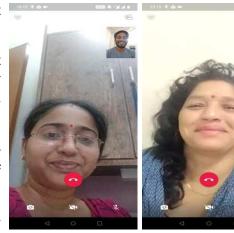
pandemic. Offices, Public Places like Malls, Cinemas & other utilities were shut down & all Transport facilities in the country were on halt & everyone was stranded wherever they were. Ongoing Lockdown in the country has created a history which was not dreamt of by the citizens. All kind of work came to a standstill. PwDs are different from others as they need more care & support at this moment.

In this reference in this Quarter of April-June 2020 all activities were put on hold. In such a time we could only stay connected with our stakeholders and primarily with our CWSN through the video calls and voice calls. Maximum parents in rural areas do not have smart phones but we tried our level best to connect to them.

OBJECTIVE:

- 1. To aware children, parents DPO members, SMC members about this pandemic and what precautions should be taken during this time.
- 2. To know their issues regarding the facilities which are provided by government whether they are aware or not and also how they can avail them.
- 3. Regular interaction with school heads of all the direct schools from all three districts. To know the new developments from their side for CWSN and non CWSN.
- 4. To conduct a survey on COVID-19 in rural as well as urban and bring the report and analysis to share the problems of C/PwDs with the society.

When we started the interaction many issues came up in regards to voice calls which were:



- 1. Teachers told that they are not able to reach students because of unavailability of smart phones with the parents.
- 2. DPOs/PwDs were not able to get the pension on time (because the bank were not working properly) and other facilities given by the government during Lockdown.
- 3. Health services were not provided and regular checkups were not done to identify who needs them.
- 4. Items of daily needs were not available as markets were closed.
- 5. The people who were into agriculture practices were very much affected by this as they could not move to fields and look after their crops.

OUTCOMES:

- 1. All district coordinators gave some task (like some activities and homework on daily basis) to the CWSN parents of all the direct schools and told the parents that at this time when you are not suppose to move out you should give more time to child.
- 2. Like we do calls to the children's parents' the school teachers also tried to connect with them.
- 3. Whenever there was some relaxation our District coordinators visited the communities to have a word with them and help them by providing the basic awareness of the facilities provided by Government.
- 4. The target of District coordinators was to connect at least two people every day whether on voice call or video call.
- 5. Regular interactions with the team to give proper report and what new could be done in this crisis.
- 6. During this time we have identified all the new schools which could be add in this year in all the three districts.
- 7. Discussion with teachers in regards to the admission of new students was also done.
- 8. The copy of MOU was sent to SSA for signing it and process has begun.
- 9. Online webinars over disability and education related which can help the program in future are done by our State Program Coordinator.
- 10. Discussion with other NGOs to collaborate with us on our program of Inclusive Education and presented the Presentations and all the required information through virtual mode of communication.

WAY FORWARD:

- ♣ Software will be completed by the month of July as all the discussion and information is given to them.
- Manual Development is in progress and will be printed soon.
- ♣ As the field movement resumes we can start the program on regular basis keeping in mind the guidelines of the COVID-19.
- Home visit and school visit will resume in month of July if lockdown is lifted.
- ♣ Enrollment of new students in schools will start in July and we will try more and more students to enroll and get education.





LIVELIHOOD RESOURCE CENTER (LRC)

MONTHLY REVIEW MEETING ORGANIZED BY HCL FOUNDATION

On 12th June 2020 a *monthly review meeting* was organized by HCL foundation. The main objective was to *review the last month performance of the Skill Development and Placement Program and the current situation during COVID -19 pandemic.*

The officials from the HCL foundation were Mr.Arpit Asthana, Mr.Vineet Kumar Singh, Ms. Ashu Joshi and Mr. Gaurav Majumdar. Dr.Amitabh Mehrotra (Founder Secretary cum Director, SPARC-India), Mr.Birag Dixit (Program cum Placement Officer, SPARC-India), Mr. Rajesh Asthana (Accounts Officer, SPARC-India) and Mr.Shailendra (Accounts Officer, SPARC-India) attended the monthly review meeting. It was discussed that the major challenge was to keep the selected trainees of the new batch updated regarding the starting of the training program.

COVID-19 has utterly disrupted our education system which has resulted in sudden shutdown of Schools, Universities and Skill Training Institutes all across the country. Due to COVID-19 guidelines we could not start new batch of our residential training program. The main focus was on to re plan the program with the help of e-learning platforms.

SCREENING OF CANDIDATES FOR THE BATCH -13

The screening process for Batch-13 started in mid February 2020. A total of 20 students were screened and selected to join the program in mid March 2020. But due to COVID-19 restrictions, no new batch started in the current quarter. Screening of the candidates for the Batch-13 is continuously going on.



The purpose of the screening is to identify eligible candidates as per the program guidelines and the candidate can be placed after successful training. The stepwise selection criteria are as follows:

• Step 1: The candidate has to fill the screening form with the relevant details. After data collection of the candidate, an eligibility test is taken which contains English grammar, Basic Mathematics and General Awareness.

• Step 2: A Small interaction with student is done to understand how serious they are about joining the program and joining the job if selected after the training; the candidates were also asked how they came to know about the program, their qualifications, family background, source of income etc.

- Step 3: The candidate has to read an English paragraph and translate in Hindi; this process is to check the current reading status and translation of the candidate and to know their understanding about English.
- Step 4: The document verification under which all original documents of the candidate is being scanned and saved in computer for future reference.
- Step 5: Collection of all photocopies of documents, original High School Mark sheet and 4 latest photograph of the Candidate.

COMMUNITY BASED REHABILITATION (CBR) PROGRAMME

In this Quarter of April-June 2020 all activities were put on hold as they all are community based so the only way to stay connected with our CwDs and primarily with our CWSN through the video call and voice calls.

Objective:

- 1. To make CwDs, parents, Bal Samuh members, DPO members, SHG members aware of this pandemic and what precautions should be taken during this time.
- 2. To know their issues regarding the facilities which are provided by government whether they are aware or not and how they can avail them.
- 3. To counsel the CwDs and their parents who are facing behavioral changes.
- 4. To find out if any online classes of the CwDs who are enrolled in regular schools were being conducted.
- 5. To conduct online classes for the students who come under this project.

During lockdown when we started the interaction through voice calls we faced many issues viz. all parents did not have smart phones, some DPOs/PwDs could not get their pension and other government facilities on time, lack of proper health services, basic needs were often not available as the markets were closed, financial crisis etc.







Outcomes:

- 1. All the field workers (Ms. Shyama, Ms. Shaheen) along with the mediator Ms. Satwiki Mishra interacted with C/PwDs who are under this project. They also spoke with the parents of CwDs and discussed about the precaution to be taken during lockdown and requested them to give more time to their child and help them in learning new things.
- 2. During this time we have also helped DPO members and SHG members in opening bank account or to apply for pension and disability certificates.
- 3. Students under this project were provided with regular virtual classes in which they study, do some activities (games, color concept, drawing, craft etc) and therapeutic interventions (speech therapy, occupational therapy, counseling) through video call by Special Educators, Speech Therapist and Physiotherapist.









- 4. Students who are studying in normal schools were also given various fine motor therapies through video calls and physiotherapists also gave them various tasks/exercises which they can easily do at home with the help of their parents or siblings.
- 5. The members and C/PwDs were also provided with essential things through our organization and various government institutions that were providing essential necessities.

WAY FORWARD:

- ♣ As the field movement resumes we would start the program on regular basis keeping in mind the guidelines of COVID-19.
- Home visits and community meetings will resume once the lockdown is lifted.
- We will try to enroll more and more students and so that they can get education and therapeutic interventions.
- ♣ More and more C/PwDs will get empowered through DPOs and SHGs.

DRY RATION DISTRIBUTION AT JYOTI KIRAN SCHOOL, SPARC-INDIA:-

In this reference on 29th May 2020 SPARC-India with support of Jan Vikas Samiti-Lilliane Foundation (JVS-LF) *organized a Dry Ration Distribution Camp* to *distribute dry ration to beneficiaries of JVS-LF at school as well as community*.

Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra (Founder Secretary cum Director, SPARC-India) distributed the dry ration to the beneficiaries at Jyoti Kiran School, SPARC-India, Madiaon, Sitapur Road, Lucknow

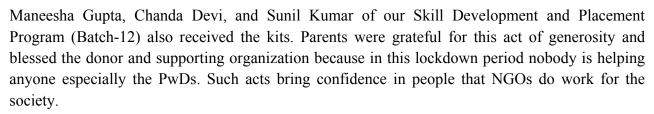
as it is not safe to move in the field because our work field areas are in hot-spot areas marked by the government so we were not allowed to go and distribute the items door to door. All the arrangements were done according to the guidelines of COVID-19 which included:



- · Maintaining social distancing.
- · Use of gloves and masks.
- · Following proper guidelines for hygiene while packing and distributing the ration kits.
- The area was properly sanitized beforehand.
- · All the beneficiaries' hands were also sanitized when they came to take the packets.

The ration kits were made according to the List of items asked by JVS which included:

- 1) 5 kgs of Wheat Flour
- 2) 2kgs of Potato
- 3) 1kg of Onion
- 4) 1.5kg of Chana Daal
- 5) ½ltr of Cooking oil
- 6) 5 kg of Rice
- 7) 1pkt of Salt
- 8) 2 pieces of Bathing soap
- 9) 2 pkts of Biscuits
- **10)** 5 Masks (washable and reusable).





OTHER PRESENTATIONS

During this lockdown **Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra** (Founder Secretary cum Director, SPARC-India) participated in various webinars and meetings which were organized by various organizations on virtual platforms. The list of them is given below:-

S.N.	Date	Webinar (Topic)	Organized By
1.	28 th April 2020	"COVID-19 and your Mental Health" by Dr. Achal Bhagat - MBBS MD (Psychiatry) MRC Psych & Senior Consultant Psychiatrist and Psychotherapist.	HCL Foundation Academy
2.	30 th April' 2020	Post COVID19 expectations of parents from schools	SCOO News in Early Childhood Association
3.	1 st May 2020	Partners Meet with Ms. Nidhi Pundir, Director CSR HCL.	HCL Foundation
4.	23 th & 24 th May 2020	Sessions on Quarterly Program Reports.	HCL Foundation
5.	1 st June 2020	State Level Meeting with NGOs from Uttar Pradesh	Government of Uttar Pradesh
6.	2 nd June 2020	Guidelines in order to support Divyangjans of your area during Lockdown period	The National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities, Government of India.
7.	24 th June 2020	Discussion with Prof. Ravi Pooviah, IIT Mumbai	IIT Mumbai
8.	26 th June 2020	Meeting with Mr. Uma Shankar Singh, Honorable President SPARC-India with all the staff members	SPARC-India
9.	27 th June 2020	HCL Training of Uday beneficiaries - AYCS, SHARP, Safe Society, Head held high, I create India, Aawahaan, MAMTA, Vatsalya, SHEF, SPARC, CLR, SEDT	HCL Foundation







SUCCESS STORIES

JYOTI KIRAN SCHOOL

ANIRUDH

Anirudh is 8- year-old Cerebral Palsy child. His father Mr. Bhima Prakash is in private job and his mother Mrs. Seema Devi is a housewife. Initially, he was very weak, not able to walk, and used to eat food with his hands and did not show any interest in school activities.



Various plans were made for him to socialize and inculcate the sense of responsibility and focus on his learning, JKS team's regular communication with his parents showed positive impact on his development. Also, new skills were taught with the help of the therapist and now he has become quite active and his muscles have strengthened. Focusing on his strengths is another form of positive reinforcement that motivated him to keep learning. Anirudh & his parents are very happy to see such efforts of Jyoti Kiran School Team. During the pandemic they helped him in learning at home.

PRANJAL SRIVASTAVA

Pranjal is a 14-year-old Cerebral Palsy child. He is studying in Jyoti Kiran School since 2013. Pranjal's father is a Public Prosecutor Officer and his mother is a housewife. Initially he was very weak, unable to interact with other students and did not show any interest in activities.

During Covid 19 with the encouragement of school team, he started interacting and spending quality time with his loved ones by participating in fun activities

like singing, playing piano, playing indoor games, viewing television or learning with elders. He exhibited his amazing performance by posting photos and videos.

His parents say- "We are thankful to Jyoti Kiran School Team. It is because of their hard efforts that he has shown so much improvement despite this pandemic scenario. We wish that he could become a musician one day and make his future bright".