

# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

April 2019- June 2019



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

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## 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 more than 23 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 is also in the process of converting 12 Government Primary Schools into Inclusive Schools in 3 Districts of Uttar Pradesh, namely Barabanki, Lucknow and Sitapur.

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 **ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Company Limited, HCL Foundation** and **Jan Vikas Samiti, Varanasi**.

## JYOTI KIRAN SCHOOL (JKS)

### AUTISM AWARENESS DAY CELEBRATION

*Autism Awareness Day* was celebrated on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2019, at Jyoti Kiran School (JKS), SPARC-India. The main aim of the activity was to *create awareness about autism, its causes, its symptoms and measures among the students*. All the students, teachers, staff decorated the school with blue colored balloons and stripes. **Ms. Anju Tiwari** (Special Educator, JKS) explained all the students what the causes and symptoms and measures to deal with children suffering from autism, by sharing example of Zikra, a student of JKS who is an autistic child. After that all the students were grouped up together for palm painting activity in which the palms of students were painted with different colors and they made their impressions on the chart paper which had a phrase “SUPPORT AUTISM” written on it. Various posters related to Autism were also pasted on the walls of school and teachers described them by showing it to the students. Ms. Anushree (State Program Coordinator, Inclusive Education Program, SPARC-India) recited a poem on Autism describing its symptoms and preventions. At the end various questions related to the discussion were asked to the students which were promptly answered by them.



### VISIT OF HCL VOLUNTEERS

*HCL Volunteers visited* Jyoti Kiran School (JKS), on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2019. The main aim of their visit was to *study JKS Program and meet the students and staff of JKS*. They further met **Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra** (Founder Secretary and Director, SPARC-India) and discussed about the future of the program and how they could collaborate with JKS for betterment of the Children with Disabilities (CwDs).



### VISIT BY GAIL STAFF

**Mr. Ajeet Arora and Ms. Malika** from GAIL *visited* Jyoti Kiran School (JKS) on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019. The main aim of the visit was to *take an overview of the projects of SPARC-India which are currently running so that they can support our organization in the coming future in every way they can*. First, they met **Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra** (Founder Secretary and Director, SPARC-India). Dr Mehrotra briefed them about the programs of SPARC-India. After having a conversation with him they visited all the classrooms and met with the staff and children of JKS. They also visited the Vocational Center and interacted with the trainees. They appreciated the work done by the organization at different levels.



## ASSESSMENT CAMP FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM

SPARC-India organized an *Assessment Camp for Persons with Disabilities and Capacity Building Program* in collaboration with Composite Regional Centre for Skill Development, Rehabilitation and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (CRC), Gorakhpur in their premises on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019. From CRC, Gorakhpur, **Dr. Saba Haider** (Assistant Professor,



Clinical Psychology), **Mr. Neeraj Madhukar** (Assistant Professor, Special Education), **Mr. Arvind Kumar Pandey** (Special Educator), **Mr. Amit Kumar Kachap** (Lecturer, Occupational Therapy), **Mr. Vijay Kumar Gupta** (Lecturer, Physiotherapy), **Mr. Robin** (Speech Therapist, Clinical Assistant) and **Mr. Basant Pradhan** (Vocational Trainer) were present for



assessing the students. The team members assessed the students, suggested skill development and program planning for the CwDs of JKS. The CRC team gave inputs in the area of special education, occupational therapy, speech therapy, vocational training, psychological and behavioral issues. 54 students along with their parents participated in this camp. The team assessed them on all the aspects related to their development.



CRC, Gorakhpur intends to organize various new training programs in time to come.

## AWARENESS PROGRAM BY REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICE (RTO), LUCKNOW

Regional Transport Office (RTO), Lucknow organized an *Awareness Program* on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019 in which students of JKS, SPARC-India and Primary Schools of Saragpur Saraiyan participated along with teachers, staff members and their parents. The aim of the program was to *make students and everyone present aware of their voting rights and benefits*. The students with the help of teachers made *rangoli* giving the message that voting rights of PwDs should be ensured. **Mr. A.K Singh** (Regional Transport Officer (RTO) and **Mr. Raghvendra Singh** (Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO) joined and supported us. They appreciated the work and made everyone aware of their voting rights. They appreciated the students and other members for their creativity. **Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra** (Founder, Director and Secretary) thanked them and department for their contribution towards CwDs which have made their future bright and secure. Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra also requested them to ensure their



presence in future programs in our organization so that our children can be encouraged. In the end, everyone took an oath to vote and choose a right governing body for the welfare of our country.



## INAUGURATION OF PREPARATION OF ANNUAL DAY FUNCTION

*Inauguration of Preparation of Annual Day Function* was organized on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019, at Jyoti Kiran School (JKS). The Chief Guest at this occasion was **Ms. Anita Verma** (RTO, Deva). After the lamp was lit the students of JKS welcomed the guests by giving bouquet. Then, **Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra** (Founder Director and Secretary, SPARC-India) welcomed the guests and gave an introduction to the chief guest about the organization and its activities. He also said that theatre training is the most efficient way to bring out the hidden talents of these children, to make them aware of it and enhance their socialization. He informed them that Annual Day Function would be organized on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2019 at Sangeet Natya Academy, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow.



After that Ms. Anita Verma, thanked for welcoming her and said that previously she had only heard about special schools but had never visited any such center before. She was very overwhelmed after meeting the children and the staff of JKS. **Mr. Amit Dixit** (Satya Samarpan) told that we require proper training and knowledge about the special students before we provide them theatre training. We also require the staff members to participate in the program so that we can use them as fillers. He further added that they would



- Analyze the students' potential by assigning them tasks.
- Identify if they receive signal from them and deliver them correctly.
- Focus on the call responses.
- Teach them to control their nervous system and speech.
- Teach them Rhythm modulation and voice exercises through theatre training.

Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra said if platform and resources are fully equipped for CwDs then only they can get success so we should help them in achieving it. At the end, Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra thanked everyone for coming to the program, contributing and sharing their views.

## PARENTS SUPPORT GROUP (PSG) MEETING

*Parents Support Group Meeting & Report-card distribution of Annual Examinations* was organized on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2019 for discussion of achievements of students and issues of their parents at JKS, SPARC-India. The topics which were discussed during the meeting were:-



- Discussion related to progress reports of the students.
- Discussion about the integration of meritorious students in regular schools.
- Information about the summer camp 2019 at JKS.
- Open discussion- Parents can discuss on any matter related to their students.

All the class teachers assembled in their respective classes, distributed the report cards to the students and told their parents about the achieved goals of their ward. The parents discussed their issues which bother them about their children like assessment; progress reports issues about integration in other schools etc.

In Foundation class **Arpit, Deepali** and **Ansh** scored **I, II** and **III ranks** respectively. In Block-A **Jaywant, Ritik** and **Hariom** scored **I, II** and **III ranks** respectively and in Block-B **Sanjana, Gaurav** and **Areeba** scored **I, II** and **III ranks** respectively. In Special Class **Nawed, Harshit** and **Divyansh** scored **I, II** and **III rank** respectively and in Vocational Class **Pratham** and **Ronit** scored **I** and **II rank** respectively. All the mentioned students were very happy when they received prizes for their excellence.



### ANNUAL DAY CELEBRATION 2019

SPARC-India's Jyoti Kiran School celebrated the *Annual Day Celebration 2019* on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2019 at Sangeet Natya Academy, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow. The Chief Guest at this event was Honorable **Mrs. Sanyukta Bhatia** (Mayor, Lucknow). The Special Guest of Honor was **Mr. Rishi Kumar** (AVP and Center Head, HCL). The other Guests of Honor present at the program were **Mr. Suresh Kaul** (President, Sarthak Manav Kushthashram, Jaipur), **Prof. Dr. Geeta Gandhi Kingdon** (President and CEO, City Montessori School), **Dr. Ramesh Pandey** (Director CRC for PwDs, Gorakhpur, Government of India) and **Mr. Vinod Kumar** (Officer-in-Charge, West Bengal). Dignitaries from government and corporate were also present at the event. Around 500 people were present in the audience.

The program began with the National Anthem in sign language by a group of trainees of the Skill Development and Placement Program of SPARC-India. The Honorable Mrs. Sanyukta Bhatia inaugurated the program and lit the lamp. Students of JKS welcomed her with bouquet. **Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra** (Founder, Director and Secretary, SPARC-India) welcomed all the guests and emphasized on creating inclusive society which will enable challenged persons to become a part of the society. He thanked the corporate, institutions and persons who have always helped us in our hard times.

The cultural program consisted of a Theme Play titled "*Ham mein hai rashtra*" written, music, gimmick concept and directed by **Mr. Amit Dixit** (Satya Samarpan) which was enacted by students of JKS and students from community. The theme play included **humor, music and dance** along with moral values of equality and cleanliness awareness and problems like dowry, increasing dirt, untouchability, female



feticide and power theft. The program was anchored by **Ms Alka Nivedan**. All the people present in the audience were mesmerized on seeing the play.

Addressing the audience, the Chief Guest, Honorable Smt. Sanyukta Bhatia congratulated everyone for the work. She also appreciated Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra's work for the People with Disabilities since last 23 years. She gave examples of '*andhe ki chowki*' and '*langada fataak*' which were renamed as they were derogatory names for persons with disabilities (PwDs). She assured that if any changes related development is required, the municipal corporation and the government are always with you.



The Special Guest of Honor, **Mr. Rishi Kumar** appreciated the hard work which is being carried forward by SPARC-India team towards this social cause and assured to support this further. Then the Chief Guest along with all the Guests of Honor distributed the Best Parent Award, 100% Attendance Award (JKS) and gifts to the participants, trainers etc.



In the end, **Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra** thanked the honorable guests and dignitaries for making this event successful.

## **INCLUSIVE EDUCATION (IE) PROGRAM**

Inclusive Education Project is in progress in Lucknow, Barabanki and Sitapur district of Uttar Pradesh. Jan Vikas Samiti Varanasi is the project holder. The target for the covered period was as follows:-

1. To strengthen basic structures for Inclusive Education in 12 direct schools.
2. To implement IE Project in 20 indirect schools for the year 2019-2020.
3. To ensure community participation in the process of structural changes viz. communication and behavioral changes.
4. Ensure stakeholders involvement in Inclusive Education.



## **BASELINE SURVEY**

In second year, the **baseline survey** was done from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019 with the objective to *directly link 30 CwDs and 60 non-disabled children viz. girls and siblings of CwDs in Govt. Primary / Upper Primary schools after 5<sup>th</sup> class.*

Through survey, target was to bring at least 60 families of CwDs in mainstream and benefit them through the collective at villages and State level forum of CwDs.

In 2019-2020 at least 20 indirect schools would be sensitized on Inclusive Education and will practice Inclusive Education by accepting diverse educational needs of CwDs and increase enrolment rate of CwDs by ensuring accessible and modified teaching and learning methods to deliver quality education. Based on baseline survey in Sitapur, Lucknow and Barabanki the following schools have been selected for indirect interventions in this year.



Lucknow	Barabanki	Sitapur
1. Upper Primary School (UPS) Sarakpur Saraiyan	1. Upper Primary School Odar	1. Primary School Mulayampur
2. Upper Primary School Bhauli	2. Upper Primary School Ghunghter	2. Primary School Akbarganj
3. Upper Primary School Saraiyan	3. Primary School Kaamipur	3. Primary School Badaripur Mansoorpur.
4. Primary School Indaurabagh	4. Primary School Gugaur	4. Primary School BishunNagar
5. Upper Primary School Indaurabagh	5. Primary School Madaarpur	5. Primary School Benipur
6. Primary School Rampur Raza	6. Primary School Anwari	6. Primary School Karbalapur
7. Primary School Bhauli	7. Primary School Padari	

### **SCHOOL CHALO ABHIYAAN**

The core of Inclusive Education Project is based on RTE Act 2009 and RPwD Act 2016 which is basically aligned with the success indicators of IE Project i.e. to increase the percentage of enrolled CwDs and to reduce percentage of dropout rate of CwDs.

In this context *School Chalo Abhiyaan* was launched in 12 direct Primary Schools and 20 indirect schools of Lucknow, Barabanki and Sitapur Districts. Under this campaign, Inclusive Education team engaged with Govt. Officials, teachers, SMCs, DPOs and parents at community level to spread awareness on RTE Act 2009 as well as RPwD Act 2016. The entire inclusive education team worked together in cooperation with Inclusive SMCs, PRI and its members to influence community, particularly parents of CwDs so that they can understand the importance of enrolling their children in school.



The main objective of engaging SMCs and PRI was to strengthen inclusive governance at community level in selected villages, so that identified CwDs can take benefits of Education and contribute in attaining Sustainable Development goals. IE interventions were also focused to fill the gaps i.e. (As per the data inferences 2011) nine out of ten children with disabilities were not welcome in schools. At present the activity focused on enrolling a minimum 30 CwDs in 20 indirect Govt. Primary





School in respective areas and to ensure the following goals of IE project in 2019-2020.

1. All CwDs must be able to reach school
2. All CwDs must be able to enter and pass through the school.
3. All CwDs must be able to visit toilets without any barriers.
4. All CwDs must receive education.
5. All CwDs must participate in games and activity.
6. Enhancement of Inclusive Peer Groups
7. All parents must stand up to support CwDs for their inclusive development

## **TRAINING ON RTE AND IE WITH STAKEHOLDERS**

**Training on RTE and IE** with stakeholders, SMCs, community and parents was organized on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2019 in Primary School Tikaitganj in Block Nindura of Barabanki District. The main agenda of this program was *sensitization of community towards Inclusive Education*. **Mrs. Rachna Awasthi** (Headmistress, Primary School Tikaitganj) welcomed parents and community members. She discussed about the scenario of schools and also listed out the major changes and transformations in schools. She informed parents and community people about the inclusion of CwDs. She also emphasized parents to be responsible towards their children.

**Ms. Anushree** (State Project Coordinator, IE Program, SPARC-India) talked about Right to Education Act 2009 and RPwD Act 2016. The RPwDs Act 2016 pronounces that the appropriate govt. and local authorities shall ensure that CwDs must enjoy the Fundamental Rights- life with dignity and respect his/her own integrity equally with others.

**Mr. Sudhakar Singh** (State Advocacy Coordinator, IE Program, SPARC-India) emphasize on cleanliness, % increase in daily attendance, barrier free infrastructure and fund allocation.

In the discussion with parents it was emphasized that parents play important role to enable the rights of children including CwDs. The ignorant attitude of parents will demise the career of CwDs viz. no social inclusion, no peers groups, no participation. The life of CwDs will only be limited to their home. If they are regular to school then through inclusion, participation in extracurricular activities they would build up a strong base for their career / livelihood. The program concluded with assurance to be active and sensitive towards the education of CwDs.



## **CAPACITY BUILDING OF RESOURCE TEACHERS**

A **Capacity Building of Resource Teachers** was organized on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at Shiksha Bhawan, Kaiserbagh, Lucknow in coordination with Samekit Shiksha and IE Program of SPARC-India. 23 Resource Teachers at Lucknow District level participated in this training. The Resource Person of this meeting were **Mr. Siddharth Verma** (Ex State Nodal Officer, National Trust), **Mrs. Meenu Tewari** (District Coordinator, Samekit Shiksha Lucknow) and **Mr. Someshwar D. Bajpayee** (Expert on disability and inclusion, SPARC-India) discussed the



agenda of the meeting.

**Dr. Amarkant Singh** (Basic Shiksha Adhikaari, Lucknow) was the chief speaker in the Program.

Dr. Amarkant Singh focused on the roles of special educator in Lucknow, specially in context of schools in Bakshi ka Talaab (BKT Block). A teacher is the focal point of education system. Without good teachers even the best system is bound to fail. With good teachers, even the defects of a system can be overcome. Resource Teachers have lots of responsibility to deal with CwDs. The good understanding between Regular teacher and resource teacher is quite important. The major agenda for capacity building of resource teacher were as follows:



- To focus on changing strategy and the goal of education in context of RTE Act 2009 and RPwD Act 2016 with parallel connection of UN Sustainable Development Goal.
- Policy level changes in education domain in context of Uttar Pradesh Shiksha.
- To understand specific features of Inclusive Education in context to its implementation.
- To work for reducing systematic barriers.
- To establish common platform for all children including CwDs.
- To create child to child learning system.
- Discussions on developing innovative TLMs as per the IEP Plan.
- Group Discussion & sharing of Success Stories by Itinerant (IT) teachers from their respective field area.
- Discussion on the challenges faced by IT Teachers during field intervention and their innovative solution to deal with the challenges.
- Developing common strategy of intervention by IT teachers and District Coordinator of Inclusive Education, SPARC-India to increase the learning level of CwDs along with non disabled children by focussing on coordination with regular teacher in schools and adoption of Inclusive Approach of learning i.e. Universal Design of Learning for CwDs by them.

Mr. Someshwar D. Bajpayee shared that imparting education to CwDs should not be a burden process. The IT Teachers should enjoy the process. Inclusive means that diversity should be embraced without any presumptions. The attitude of creating equality in society comes with an acceptance of Inclusive Society. Inclusive Education is the base of Inclusive Society. We in coordination with other mentioned stakeholders have to promote Inclusive Education mentioned in RPwD Act 2019 at all stages of educational process and in same way the Act demands the co-operation from concerned society. He also shared the detail vision of SPARC-India which is working since last 23 years on the cause of disability. Further he shared the policies and schemes related to PwDs.



Mr. Siddhartha Dubey shared the background history of CwDs and PwDs and the journey of RTE Act 2009 and RPwD Act 2016. The RPwD Act, 2016 is thus mile stone for attaining rights and development of CwDs in India. Thus as stakeholder it is our responsibility to play the role efficiently for enabling rights of CwDs. He also focused on how to improve the interventions with different categories of disability of CwDs. For classroom intervention strategy it is important to make sitting arrangement based on support and needs of CwDs. The conversation with other non-disabled children should be sensitive and based on buddy system to develop empathy towards each

other. The resource teacher acts as voice of CwDs and has to work with support of parents, DPOs, SMCs, peers and regular teachers. The parents should also need to be oriented to send their CwDs to attain bridge course for covering the syllabus. It is important to share the success stories of other CwDs and PwDs with parents of current CwDs in schools.

Finally, Mrs. Meenu Tiwari shared that the success results of Resource Teachers depends on percentage increased in enrolled CwDs and percentage reduction in dropout rate of CwDs. So we should work together by focusing this goal in mind.

### **TRAINING ON RTE AND IE WITH STAKEHOLDERS**

RPwD Act 2016 enforces appropriate government and local authorities to ensure rights of PwDs / CwDs. The Act is addressed to the appropriate government, SMCs, DPOs, parents, teachers, PRIs, siblings and peers to enforce them to take actions to ensure that PwDs / CwDs enjoy the rights mentioned in it.

A **training of stakeholders** was organized on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2019 by Holy Cross Welfare Society, Sitapur in Karim Nagar Village. **Mrs. Kapoor Lata Dwivedi** (District Coordinator- Sitapur, IE Program, Holy Cross Welfare Trust) was the Resource person. About 60 people from community participated in this meeting. The core objective was to *sensitize the stakeholders about the critical need of enrolling CwDs in school and ensuring the basic education of CwDs.*



Education is equally important for CwDs to make them strong and self-reliant in future. In India, the Govt. through implementation of RPwD Act 2016 has taken a strong step for enabling the rights of CwDs. RTE Act 2009 also guarantees free and compulsory education for all children (6-14 years) including CwDs / PwDs up to 18 years. Government has also provided lots of welfare schemes for CwDs. It is our responsibility as part of community to take sincere steps in increasing attendance percentage of CwDs in schools.

At the end she also discussed about the vision of Jan Vikas Samiti, Varanasi and SPARC-India Lucknow for taking initiatives in implementing Inclusive Education- Reach All, Teach All in Lucknow, Barabanki and Sitapur.

Another, **training on RTE and IE with Stakeholders** was organized on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019 in Village Karbalapur in Khairabad Block. In Karbalapur the total numbers of identified CwDs were 7. Holy Cross Welfare Trust team spoke about the inclusive spirit in the society and how all of us together can work for it, as a community and also as the Govt. bodies viz. teachers and village panchayat.



## LIVELIHOOD RESOURCE CENTER (LRC)

### ORIENTATION CEREMONY OF BATCH 11

SPARC-India's Livelihood Resource Center (LRC) organized the *orientation ceremony* for the trainees of Batch 11 on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 at LRC campus, Vidya Bhawan, Nishatganj, Lucknow. **Ms. Zeba Khan** (Program Officer, Skill Development Program (SDP), SPARC-India), LRC team members and 18 new trainees were present in this ceremony. Ms. Zeba Khan addressed the newly joined trainees by telling them about the various aspects of this "training program" along with the rules and regulations at the center which they have to follow. She told them about the syllabus in brief and discussed about SPARC-India and its various programs. She also told them to share about this project with their friends and inspire them to come here. She introduced all the members of LRC team to the trainees. After that she asked every candidate to give their introduction. She encouraged the candidates to never lose hope and climb the mountain of success in a relentless manner. The whole team of LRC wished them success in this journey.



### INTERACTION WITH Dr. AMITABH MEHROTRA

**Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra** (Founder Secretary and Director, SPARC-India) interacted with trainees of Batch 11 of SDP for the first time on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2019 as their batch started a day before. He told the trainees about his struggles as a PwD and how he overcame all the problems with grit and determination. He said that disability is not a bar in achieving heights in life and motivated trainees to work hard to get a job so that they can lead a dignified life and also help others. He also assured the trainees that he will always be with them in need and suggested them to be connected with each other on various social platforms.



### KIT DISTRIBUTION CEREMONY

Education is a very important tool for everyone to succeed in life and get something different in order to progress in life. It helps a lot in lessening the challenges of a difficult life. As every education and training mostly starts with a Pen and Copy to note the required material, therefore the *kit distribution ceremony* of Batch 11 trainees was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019. Kits were distributed by **Ms. Zeba Khan** (Program Officer, SDP, SPARC-India). Each bag contains adequate material for a trainee to study for 3 months of the training period. Each study kit contains the basic study support needed, like a clear bag, a notebook, pencil, eraser and a pen. The trainees were very happy on getting the kit. The study kits strive to bridge the gap between the trainees and education provided by overcoming the barriers in acquiring it.



## CHART MAKING ACTIVITY

A *chart making activity* was conducted on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2019 to *enhance the spirit of team work in trainees*. The topic for the activity was 'Swachhta Abhiyaan'. Trainees were divided into 4 groups comprising of 5 members each. The trainees prepared charts demonstrating how to keep our surroundings clean. Trainees actively participated in the activities and gave their best. Trainees also discussed on the importance of waste segregation before putting the garbage in the dustbins.

## FAREWELL CEREMONY OF BATCH 10

The *Farewell Ceremony* of Batch 10 trainees was organized on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at Livelihood Resource Center, Vidya Bhawan, Nishatganj, Lucknow, where staff members of LRC, SPARC-India, bid farewell to the outgoing trainees.

At the start of the program all the trainees shared their experiences during their stay at the center and how the changes that occurred in the 90 days of training has impacted their lifestyle post their training. After that **Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra** (Founder Secretary and Director, SPARC-India) shared his thoughts with them. Before & after videos of all the trainees was played so that they could see the changes that each individual has gone through during the course of the training. A short video of memories clicked during their training was also showed. A team from Babu Banarasi Das University also joined this ceremony for their documentary, where they took Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra's interview and also interviewed the trainees of LRC.



The program comprised of several games like Housie and Passing the Parcel. Best student award was given to **Sikha Gupta** and 100% attendance award was given to **Vijay Bhatiya** by Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra. At last the team wished them Good Luck for their future.

## MIND GAME (COUNTING THE # OF SQUARES) ACTIVITY

A mind game (counting the # of squares) was played on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019 by trainees of Batch 11. In this game trainees were divided into four groups and a square sheet was given to each group. In the sheet there was a square shaped grid, having many squares. The task was to find out how many squares were there in the grid. This game was conducted to *know each student's reasoning ability and also to gauge the team work of each group*. Each group tried hard to count all the squares in the given sheet. The winners of this game were Mazida from Group 2 and Banke Lal from Group 3. The gifts were given to each of the Team Leader of the winning team by **Ms. Zeba Khan** (Program Officer, SDP, SPARC-India).



## TALENT HUNT

A *talent hunt* was organized on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2019 for the trainees of Batch 11. The main objective of the activity was to *give a platform to the trainees to show their talent*. Trainees prepared an invitation card for the staff. Trainees sang patriotic songs, Bhajans, Saraswati Vandana, some recited poems and poetries; a trainee shared an



anecdote of how he got help in tough times, a student danced to the tunes of a Bhojpuri song, a student mimicked one of the staff members and another student played drum on the table. First prize was given to Dileep for his mesmerizing dance performance, second prize was given to Sandeep Verma for mimicking and third prize was given to Shubham for his expertise at drumming. Trainees enthusiastically participated in the event.

### **VOTER AWARENESS RALLY**

A *Voter Awareness Rally* was organized by District Divyang Shashaktikaran Officer, Lucknow on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2019. 250 PwDs participated in the rally. 22 trainees along with two staff members of SDP, SPARC- India were also present at the event. **Mr. Kaushal Raj Sharma**, (I.A.S., District Magistrate & District Election Officer), **Mr. Manish Bansal** (I.A.S., Chief Development Officer, Lucknow), **Mr. Prakash Gupta** (Deputy District Election Officer, Upper District Magistrate (A.D.M.), Lucknow) were also present at the rally. The District Magistrate welcomed the voters who came for the Voter Awareness Rally and he explained what the significance of a vote is and emphasized on this & motivated everyone to cast their vote. At the end of his speech, the C.D.O. flagged off the rally by showing the green flag. In the rally the voters raised slogans to make people aware of voting.



**“No Voter to be Left Behind”**

### **GROUP DISCUSSION**

A *group discussion* was organized on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2019 to assess the teamwork skills, listening skills, discussion ability, subject knowledge, and communication of trainees. The topic of discussion was ‘**Disability**’. Trainees expressed their views on physical disability and how people treat them and how they are addressed by people according to their disability. According to the trainees it’s not their disability when someone addresses them with slangs and abuses; instead it proves their mental disability. Trainees also analyzed the schemes of the government running for PwDs. The trainees also discussed about how a disabled person can lead a respectful life. The trainees also motivated their peers who were a little hesitant to speak on the topic.



### **VISIT OF HCL DELEGATES**

A *visit of HCL Delegates* was organized on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019 in the presence **Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra** (Founder Secretary & Director, SPARC-India). The delegates included team from HCL Foundation comprising of **Mr. Vineet Singh** (Project Coordinator, UDAY, HCL Foundation), **Mr. Shashank**, **Ms. Namrata** and **Mr. Ashish Singh**.



The HCL team interacted with the trainees of Batch 11. The trainees were asked to give their introduction to the visitors. During the visit the trainees were handed out their Identity Card which was distributed by Ms. Namrata, Mr. Shashank & Mr.

Vineet. Trainees were very happy on getting their Identity Cards from the visitors. Identity Cards determine whether or not a trainee is part of the SDP in order to attend class, event etc.

### **INTERVIEW AT AKS STRUCTURAL**

A **job interview** was held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at AKS Structural, Polytechnic Crossing, Lucknow for one of our trainees Shiv Kumar who appeared for the post of Accountant in the company. He was briefed about the organization, the profile that he was applying for, salary expectation and leaves structure. After the briefing, he was asked to fill forms in hard copy & soft copy format on the computer system. After completion of form he was asked to appear for a typing test and a personal interview. The interview round comprised of self introduction and various questions related to the job. ***He successfully secured the job in his very 1<sup>st</sup> attempt.***

### **MOCK INTERVIEW**

A **mock interview session** was conducted on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019 by **Ms. Zeba Khan** (Program Officer, SDP, SPARC-India) to assess the interview preparation of trainees who would be appearing in interviews for the first time. A small interview session with trainees where the trainees were asked questions related to their CV, organization they would be appearing for, where do they see themselves in next few years etc. The aim of mock interview session was to *prepare trainees for the frequently asked interview questions so that they are prepared and also have an idea of an interview.* Post this proper feedback was shared with the trainees about their body language, confidence and also advised trainees to have a brief knowledge of the company or organization in which they would be appearing for interviews.



### **MOBILIZATION MEETING IN HATHRAS**

A **mobilization meeting** was organized on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019, under the guidance of **Dr. M. L. Rawat** (Chairman and Guardian, Rawat Education Committee) and **Mr. Raj Mala** (President, Divyaangjan Vikas Sangathan, Women and Men) at Rawat Education Committee operated under the scheme of Deaf Mute, Blind and Mental; Free Residential Special School, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, D. D. R. S.



A total of 8 people were present in that meeting. The meeting was chaired by **Mr. Ravi Prakash Verma** (Mobilization Officer, SDP, SPARC-India) who gave detailed information about the organization and the on-going programs being conducted at SPARC-India .

Dr. M. L. Rawat gave information about his organization and talked what all they undertake at the organization & the job fair that is conducted every year under their supervision. He informed that last year about 1200 trainees were selected from his institution, however due to lack of proper resource availability to some of the trainees they were returned back. Mr. Ravi Prakash Verma assured him that currently SPARC-India was handling its 11<sup>th</sup> batch. He also informed Mr. Rawat about the job prospects that the trainees who joined the program & pass out from the center could look up to. Dr. M. L. Rawat shared the list of trainees associated with Rawat Education Committee and asked Mr. Ravi Prakash Verma to give him 4 days lead time to arrange for the trainees to be

mobilized in Hathras at his center for effective Screening & final selection of trainees for the next batch.

### GUEST LECTURE BY Mrs. ARCHANA KUMARI

**Mrs. Archana Kumari** (Freelance Consultant) *visited* our center on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2019 to meet the trainees of Batch 11. She interacted with the trainees. She started by introducing herself & then asking the trainees to give their introduction. After the introduction session she shared a lot of things that happened in her life. She talked about the various projects that she had worked on till date especially some on women's life, and how they could become self sufficient. She also shared how she had been helping other organizations to do better. Post this she shared a great method with the trainees on how to achieve their dreams. She told the trainees, that whatever they want they should calculate; for that she asked them to make a chart of their targets which they want to achieve in near future. She encouraged and motivated all the trainees to do more to achieve what they want in their life. In the end she wished them good luck for their future.



### INTERVIEW AT KARVY

A *job interview* was held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at Karvy Office in which 9 trainees of Batch 11 participated. The interview was conducted by **Ms. Shyamoli Banerjee** which was followed by an introduction, word reading and pronunciation. None of our trainees were selected due to heavy MTI (Mother Tongue Influence). In this interview Karvy needed candidates with fluent English as per their clients' requirement; our trainees were advised to practice as much as possible on words for such kind of jobs.

### INTERVIEW AT AEGIS

A *job interview* was held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at Aegis Limited in which 17 trainees of Batch 11 participated for the post of Customer Care Executive. The interview process was in two rounds.

In the first round, trainees were firstly briefed about Aegis, the profile trainees were applying for, salary and leaves by **Mr. Shivam Verma** (HR - Aegis). Then they filled forms in hard copy and soft copy on the computer system given by **Mr. Arvind** (HR, Aegis). After completion of forms trainees were given a unique identification number to go through tests which were objective in nature. The first test was based on quantitative aptitude (simple mathematics problems), second test had questions related to cell phone and computer, the third and fourth test were based on English comprehension. After all the tests were completed trainees gave a typing test in which the minimum speed to qualify the test was set at 17 WPM. Then the trainees appeared for a reading and translation session of a passage in English.



9 trainees were selected in the first round. The Second round was held on the 14<sup>th</sup> of June 2019. Out of 9 selected trainees, **5 trainees cleared the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of interview.**



## VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME BY HCL TEAM

A *volunteer engagement program* by HCL Team was held on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2019. The team consisted of **Mr. Furkan Ali, Ms. Eshita Sharma, Ms. Aprajita Srivastava, Ms. Akansha Mishra, Ms. Rashmi Pandey, Ms. Ayushi Saxena and Ms. Chandni Gupta.**



The HCL team came and interacted with the SDP team and the trainees of Batch 11. The trainees were asked to give their introduction to the volunteers which included sharing their hobbies, their future plans, their achievements, academics etc. After the introduction of trainees, the volunteers too gave a brief introduction of themselves under the same heads.

A fun activity **Ice Breaker Session-Meditation** was also conducted for the trainees. Trainees were very excited during the session as some of them were doing it for the first time. They were very happy after the activity as they learned new things.

## VISIT BY Mr. SURESH KAUL & Mrs. ASHA KAUL

**Mr. Suresh Kaul** (Chairperson, Sarthak Manav Kusht Ashram, and Jaipur) & his wife **Mrs. Asha Kaul** came to *meet LRC trainees and the team* on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2019. They also met **Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra** (Founder Secretary and Director, SPARC-India). They discussed about various important aspects related to SPARC-India and the problems faced during the running of the program including lease of the building which was going to expire on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019. Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra discussed various aspects related to LRC and on-going program at SPARC-India. **Ms. Zeba Khan** (Program Officer, SDP, SPARC-India) shared detailed information about the program with them.



Post the discussion Mr. and Mrs. Kaul met with our trainees. They were asked to share their thoughts regarding their overall experience. Trainees also enjoyed the short session with them and some of them showcased their talent with full enthusiasm. Mr. Suresh Kaul motivated all the trainees and boosted their morale. Before leaving they wished the trainees for their future and also appreciated Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra and all the team members for their contributions.

## MOBILIZATION MEETING AT NIGHASAN -KHERI

A *mobilization meeting* was conducted on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2019 in Nighansan Block of Kheri in the presence of **Dr. Surjan Singh** (District Mission Manager-SRLM, Lakhimpur), **Mr. Neeraj Singh** (Block Mission Manager, Nighasan) and Ms. **Preeti Rani** (Block Mission Manager, Isanagar). 26 people were present in the meeting from three different blocks of the district namely: Nighasan, Isanagar and Paliya. The meeting was started by Dr. Surjan Singh who introduced himself and gave a short introduction of the program.



After this, **Mr. Ravi Prakash Verma** (Mobilization Officer, SDP, SPARC-India) gave his introduction followed by the introduction of the candidates. **Mr. Pankaj Verma** (Trainer, SDP, SPARC-India) gave the detailed information about the Skill Development Program. He said that after the completion of the 3-month residential training, the trainees would be taken for placement opportunities in various sectors of BPO, Retail & Data Entry Operator. Only trainees who are between 18-35 years of age and are high school pass are eligible for the training. Free fooding and lodging is provided to the trainees during the training period, and after the training is completed trainees will have to manage their stay on their own. After this Mr. Ravi Prakash Verma added that trainees should get all their things for daily use such as utensils, quilts etc.

The candidates filled up the admission form and attached photocopies of the required documents including all educational certificates & mark sheets, Domicile certificate, Income certificate, Disability certificate, Category certificate, Aadhar card etc. The admission form also included a simple questionnaire which was filled by the trainees. During the screening process a small interaction with trainees was done to understand how serious they were about joining the training program and mainly for the job. The candidates were then asked to read an English paragraph and translate in Hindi; this process was to check the current status of reading and translation of trainees. 18 trainees were screened out which 11 trainees were selected for the training.

### **INTERVIEW AT KARVY**

A **job interview** was held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at KARVY, Indira Nagar, Lucknow in which 2 of our trainees appeared for the post of Customer care Executive. At first they were briefed about the organization, the profile that they were applying for, salary and leaves structure. Then they filled the forms and gave a typing test in which the minimum speed required to qualify was 20 WPM. This was followed by personal interview which included introduction, reading and pronunciation and various questions related to the job. **Both the trainees successfully cleared the interview.**

### **INTERVIEW AT AMARTECH CONVERGENCE INDIA Pvt. Ltd.**

A **job interview** was held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at Amartech Convergence India Pvt Ltd which was attended by 6 trainees. They all appeared for the post of Customer Care Executive (CCE). The interview process was in two rounds. The first interview round was conducted by **Mr. Nitish Abhishek** (Hiring Team Head) in which he asked the trainees to introduce themselves. Second round screening was conducted by **Mr. Brijesh Singh** (Process Manager). The trainees were tested for their computer and reading skills. Out of 6 trainees, **3 trainees were selected** for the post of CCE in Tele-Verification Process.



On 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019 another interview was held at Amartech Convergence India Pvt Ltd in which 17 trainees of Batch 11 participated, they all appeared for the post of CCE. The interview process was in two rounds as mentioned above. Out of 17 trainees, **8 trainees were selected** for the post of CCE in Retailer Help Desk (RHD, UP West).



## INTERVIEW AT GVK AMBULANCE (108)

A *job interview* was held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at GVK Ambulance, Lucknow where 2 of our trainees appeared for the post of Customer care Executive. They were firstly briefed about the organization, the profile that they were applying for, salary and leave structure. After that the interviewer checked their efficiency as the job was specialized for emergency medical cases. Post this they went for a personal interview. **Both the trainees were selected for the job.**

## AADHAR CARD CORRECTIONS UNDERTAKEN BY UIDAI

*Aadhar card correction process* was conducted on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at LRC, Nishatganj, Lucknow. Aadhar cards correction of 13 trainees of Batch 11 and 1 trainee of Batch 10 was done in the process. The process was conducted by **Mr. Ashutosh Singh Bisht** (UIDAI Office, Lucknow) which was followed by installation of machines and detailing of document required by the trainees. After validating the documents of the trainees the online form was filled on their machine and fingerprint scan and retina scan of the candidate was done. On completion of the whole process the trainees were handed over the receipt of correction. They were assured that in 48 hours corrections would be updated in the system. 14 Aadhar corrections were done, while few others could not be done as the trainees as the trainees had no supporting documents, were on job training or were on medical leave.



## MOBILIZATION MEETING AT NIGHASAN -MATHURA

**Mr. Ravi Prakash Verma** (Mobilization Officer, SDP, SPARC-India) *visited* the field office of community based rehabilitation (CBR) project in Mathura on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019. The meeting was organized by **Mr. Jeetesh Lavania** (District Coordinator-CBR, Mathura). He explained the purpose of gathering. He started by introducing himself & his team at CBR. **Mrs. Anju Kumar, Mr. Baldev and Mr. Devesh Kumar** (Mobilization officer, Mathura) were present during the meeting. A total of 19 candidates attended this meeting. Mr. Ravi Prakash Verma gave his introduction followed by a round of introduction by the candidates. The candidates were explained about the 3-month residential training program and how SPARC-India has helped in the skill enhancement of the selected candidates. He also explained that after the training is complete the candidates were taken for interview to different BPO, Retails and Data Entry Operator job openings.



Mr. Ravi Prakash Verma further motivated the candidates by sharing the success stories of our previous batches. He informed the candidates that who are between 18-35 years of age and are high school pass are only eligible for the training. He also informed that free fooding and lodging is provided to the candidates during the training period but after the training is complete candidates will have to manage their stay on their own. He advised all the selected candidates to bring items for their personal use such as utensils, quilts etc when they come to Lucknow.

## **MOBILIZATION MEETING AT NIGHASAN – MAU UNDER BALIA JANPAD**

**Mr. Ravi Prakash Verma** (Mobilization Officer, SDP, SPARC-India) *visited* the Disabled Capacity Development Summer Camp 2019-2020 organized by diocese of Varanasi held in Mau under Ballia District on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2019. The meeting was organized in association with Amravati Rehabilitation Center (ARC) Taajopur, Mau. **Mr. Rajesh Yadav** (Coordinator-Purvanchal Gramin Chetna Samiti) started the meeting with self introduction & then the rest of the team comprising of **Mr. Raju, Mr. Raj & Mr. Bihari Lal**



introduced themselves to all those present. Mr. Rajesh Yadav explained the purpose of gathering everyone on a common platform. Mr. Ravi Prakash Verma then took over the session and introduced himself followed by a round of introduction by the candidates. Mr. Verma followed this up by explaining the 3-month residential training program and how SPARC-India helped in the skill enhancement of the selected candidates. He motivated the candidates by sharing the success stories of our trainees of previous batches. He added that after the training candidates are taken for various placement opportunities in the trades of Retail, Data Entry Operators & BPO. Only trainees who are between 18-35 years of age and are high school pass are only eligible for the training. He told them that free fooding and lodging to the candidates is provided during the training period but after the training is complete candidate will have to manage their stay on their own. In the end he advised all the selected candidates to bring items for their personal use such as utensils, quilts etc along with them to Lucknow.

## **INTERVIEW AT UP DIAL 100**

A *job interview* was held on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at Dial UP100 in which 2 trainees of Batch 11 appeared for the post of Customer Care Executive. The interview process was held in two rounds. The first round of interview was conducted by **Mrs. Namrata** (HR). First the trainees were asked to introduce themselves. After that the interviewees were asked to appear for a typing test. Post this both the trainees were asked to spell a few words. The second round of interview was scheduled for 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019.

## **PPT PRESENTATION ACTIVITY**

Trainees gave individual *PPT presentations* on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2019 on the topics selected by them from their syllabus, general awareness and general knowledge. Presentations are a great way to *build confidence and are also a skill that most people will need in the world of work*. The trainees prepared PPT's on topics of their choice. Some of them prepared presentation on “The Environment”, “Save the water”, “Taj-Mahal”, “Swachh Bharat Mission” & “Dowry system” etc. All the trainees prepared well for their presentation. In their presentation they tried to incorporate all they had learnt during the course. All the trainees performed very well and gave positive response during the last activity of the batch.



## FAREWELL CEREMONY OF BATCH 11

The *Farewell Ceremony* of Batch 11 trainees was organized on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2019 where SDP staff members, bid farewell to the outgoing trainees. The program started with a game of Housie. **Mr. Furkan Ali** (HCL-Volunteer) joined us on the occasion. Prizes were given to all the winners and runners up of the game by Mr. Furkan Ali. After that **Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra** (Founder Secretary and Director, SPARC-India) shared his thoughts with all the people present in the ceremony.



All the trainees shared their experiences during their stay at the center and how the changes that occurred during training impacted their lifestyle post their training. The before & after videos of all the trainees was played so that they could see the changes that each individual has gone through in the course of the training. A short video of the memories of their 3-month journey at the center was also showed to the trainees.



The Best student award was given to **Mazida** and 100% attendance award was given to **Banke Lal** by Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra. At last everyone wished them Good Luck for their future.

## VOCATIONAL UNIT

### VOCATIONAL UNIT AT MADIAGON, LUCKNOW (APRIL 2019-OCTOBER 2019)

SPARC-India started a vocational training at Madiagon, Lucknow in the month of April 2019. The centre enrolled around 50 girls for the stitching training program. The girls who were enrolled in this program were mostly marginalized women / girls with disabilities (W/GwDs). The trainees were registered under National Livelihood Service Center (NLSC).



The training was provided to trainees in steps. So far, they were taught following things:-

- They were taught **hemming** in paper cutting after that it was taught on handkerchief.
- They were also taught to stitch **button, buttonhole, hook and eye closure or loop**.
- Then they were taught to stitch panty first on newspaper then on cloth.
- Then they were taught **variety of embroideries on handkerchief**.
- They have learned **crochet work** on various materials like **matte cloth, chikan cloth** etc.
- They have also learnt **stuffed embroidery, reverse bone stitching**.
- The present trainees of the program can currently stitch variety of clothes like **baby frocks, umbrella frock, blouse, salwar-suit, and can do variety of embroideries in handkerchief, kurtas** etc.



## PRESENTATIONS AT VARIOUS PLATFORMS

### A ONE DAY WORKSHOP ON PREPARING YOUR NGO FOR CSR AND WORKING WITH GOVERNMENT:-

A one day *workshop* on “**Preparing your NGO for CSR and working with government**” was organized on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at Myriad Banquets and Accommodation, Lucknow. The workshop was organized by SP Jain Institute of Management & Research (SPJIMR), Mumbai and was supported by a renowned legal and CSR compliance expert- **Mr. Noshir Dadrawala**, (CEO-Centre for Advancement of Philanthropy). Other resource persons present in the workshop were **Mr. Pravin Dwivedi** (Awoke India Foundation), **Ms. Rukaiya Joshi** (Professor, SPJIMR), **CA Rajeev Sharma** (Treasurer, SPARC-India). **Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra** (Founder Secretary and Director, SPARC-India) and **Ms. Priyanka Singh** (Counselor and Documentation Officer, SPARC-India) attended the workshop.



The main focus of the workshop was on the following topics:-

- Income Tax rules for NGO.
- Modules of compliance.
- Legal Fundamentals.
- Types of NGO.
- Understanding Registration process.
- Types of Funds (General and Corpus).
- Form 10, RAN, TAN, 12AA
- FCRA Rules and Regulation Act.
- Company Identification Number, Director Identification Number.
- CSR Proposal Essentials, CSR Reporting, Corpus maintenance.
- Sources of Funds (Individual, Companies, Overseas, Online Portal, Government and Self Generation).
- Crowd Funding



Second half of the session consisted of an interactive group discussion round where each and every participant could share their view points or sort out their queries through discussion. Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra raised a question on how we could maintain and raise corpus.

### **MEETING WITH GOVERNOR OF UTTAR PRADESH**

**Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra** (Founder Secretary and Director, SPARC-India) along with **Mr. Suresh Kaul** (President Sarthak Manav Kushthashram, Jaipur), and **CA Rajeev Sharma** (Treasurer, SPARC-India), *met* **Honorable Shri. Ram Naik, Governor of Uttar Pradesh** on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019 and discussed the issue that SPARC-India is currently facing in running the Skill Development in a rented hostel of Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Nishatganj, Lucknow since last 2 years on renewal basis (every six month) which was about to expire on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019. We have already requested the government for the extension but all our efforts have proved to be futile so he requested to garner support for extension of the rented govt. building to smoothly run the Skill Development Program (SDP).



Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra along with **Mr. Uma Shankar Singh** (President, SPARC-India), **Mr. Vineet Singh** (Project Coordinator, HCL Foundation) again *met* **Honorable Shri. Ram Naik, Governor of Uttar Pradesh** on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2019 to follow up in regards to the building issue which was discussed in the previous meeting. He also suggested other buildings which could be provided for running SDP.



Dr Amitabh Mehrotra also discussed the issues that he faces in running such an organization and told about his future plans for which land and space is one of the main obstacle. The Governor assured help and said he will support SPARC-India so that good work for SDP continues.

## COMMUNITY BASED REHABILITATION (CBR) PROGRAMME

### BAL SAMUH MEETINGS

#### BAL SAMUH MEETING AT AYODHYADAS WARD

A **Bal Samuh meeting** was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 in Madehganj of Ayodhyadas Ward, Lucknow. The main objective of the meeting was to *make children aware of the rights of children / persons with Disabilities*. The meeting was attended by **Ms. Shyama Devi** (Field Worker, SPARC-India), 15 children including CwDs and non-challenged children and their parents/guardians. At first the children introduced themselves and then they were made aware of their rights which they should utilize like the right to live, right to conservation, right to participation and right to development. They were encouraged to benefit through these rights and utilize them to become self dependent.



#### BAL SAMUH MEETING AT FAIZULLAHGANJ WARD

A **Bal Samuh meeting** was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2019 in Gaitri Nagar, Naubasta of Faizullahganj Ward, Lucknow. The main objective of the meeting was to *discuss the precautionary actions which are good for health*. The meeting was attended by **Ms. Mala Yadav** (Physiotherapist, SPARC-India) and **Ms. Shyama Devi** (Field Worker, SPARC-India), 14 children including CwDs and non-challenged children and their parents/guardians. Children were asked to intake high amount of water, fresh food, seasonal fruits, cold eatables etc. which will keep them hydrated. They were also told to keep themselves clean and bath daily, brush twice a day, wash hands before eating anything etc. to stay healthy.



#### BAL SAMUH MEETING AT FAIZULLAHGANJ I WARD

A **Bal Samuh meeting** was held on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2019 in Khadri of Faizullahganj Ward, Lucknow. The main objective of the meeting was to *make children / persons aware of the Right to Education*. The meeting was attended by **Ms. Satwiki Mishra** (Physiotherapist, SPARC-India) and **Ms. Shaheen** (Field Worker, SPARC-India), 17 children including CwDs and non-challenged children and their parents / guardians. They were told about the Right to Education according to which CwDs should also go to the schools so they asked the guardians to enroll them to the nearest primary schools for education. They were encouraged to benefit through this right and utilize it to become self dependent.



#### BAL SAMUH MEETING AT FAIZULLAHGANJ WARD

A **Bal Samuh meeting** was held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2019 in Semra of Faizullahganj Ward, Lucknow. The main objective of the meeting was to *make children / persons with disabilities aware of Yoga Technique and its benefits*. The meeting was attended by **Ms. Shalini Gupta** (Speech Therapist,



SPARC-India) and **Ms. Shyama** (Field Worker, SPARC-India), 14 children including CwDs and non-challenged children and their parents / guardians. They were told about the International Yoga Day, why it is celebrated, what yoga is, how it helps in keeping our body healthy etc. They were also told about various *asanas* like *pranayam*, *anulom-vilom*, *surya namaskar* etc.z



### **BAL SAMUH MEETING AT AYODHYADAS WARD**

A **Bal Samuh meeting** was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2019 in Madehganj of Ayodhyadas Ward, Lucknow. The main objective of the meeting was to *make children / persons with disabilities aware of Yoga Technique and its benefits*. The meeting was attended by **Ms. Satwiki Mishra** (Physiotherapist, SPARC-India) and **Ms. Shyama** (Field Worker, SPARC-India), 14 children including CwDs and non-challenged children and their parents / guardians. At first they were told about the International Yoga Day, why it is celebrated, what yoga is and how it helps in keeping our body healthy. They also discussed about various *asanas* like *pranayam*, *anulom-vilom*, *surya namaskar* etc.



### **DISABLED PERSON'S ORGANISATION (DPO) MEETINGS**

#### **DPO MEETING AT KADAMRASOOL WARD**

A **DPO meeting** was held on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at Shahdaushi Baba Ki Dargah of Kadamrasool Ward, Lucknow. The main aim of the meeting was to *make them aware of the voting rights of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs)*. The meeting was attended by **Ms. Shaheen** (Field Worker, SPARC-India) and **Ms. Shyama** (Field Worker, SPARC-India), 5 PwDs and members from the community. In the meeting the members were informed that it's their right to vote for our country and choose the best leader. We should avail this right as we are citizen of this country.

#### **DPO MEETING AT FAIZULLAHGANJ WARD**

A **DPO meeting** was held on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at Semra of Faizullahganj Ward, Lucknow. The main aim of the meeting was to *discuss about the policies of government like pension for PwDs and old-age pension which are currently available*. The meeting was attended by **Ms. Shyama Devi** (Field Worker, SPARC-India), 9 PwDs and members from the community. The members were asked to contact the Tehsil in their area and apply for the pension. They were informed that SPARC-India is running a Vocational Training Program of Sewing for women with disabilities and marginalized women so those who are interested can join it.

#### **DPO MEETING AT FAIZULLAHGANJ II WARD**

A **DPO meeting** was held on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at Yash Nagar of Faizullahganj Ward, Lucknow. The main aim of the meeting was to *provide information about the loan facility provided by government to PwDs*. The meeting was attended by **Ms. Satwiki Mishra** (Physiotherapist, SPARC-India), **Ms. Shaheen** (Field



Worker, SPARC-India), 5 PwDs and members from the community. In the meeting it was informed that government provides loan to PwDs for starting a business which could be availed to set up a business.

### **DPO MEETING AT FAIZULLAHGANJ II WARD**

A **DPO meeting** was held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at Yash Nagar of Faizullahganj II Ward, Lucknow. The main aim of the meeting was to *provide information about the loan facility provided by government to PwDs*. The meeting was attended by **Ms. Shaheen** (Field Worker, SPARC-India) and **Ms. Shyama Devi** (Field Worker, SPARC-India), 7 PwDs and members from the community. In the meeting it was informed that government provides loan for starting a business to PwDs which could be availed to set up a business.

### **DPO MEETING AT KADAMRASOOL WARD**

A **DPO meeting** was held on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at Shahdaushi Baba Ki Dargah of Kadamrasool Ward, Lucknow. The main aim of the meeting was to *make them aware of how to start a Disabled Persons Organization (DPO)*. The meeting was attended by **Ms. Satwiki Mishra** (Physiotherapist, SPARC-India) and **Ms. Shaheen** (Field Worker, SPARC-India), 12 PwDs and members from the community. In the meeting the members were informed that DPO is a group of members through which we can solve our problems like pension etc. and they were also informed about the benefits of DPOs.



### **DPO MEETING AT FAIZULLAHGANJ WARD**

A **DPO meeting** was held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2019 at Semra of Faizullahganj Ward, Lucknow. The main objective of the meeting was to *make members aware of Yoga Technique and its benefits*. The meeting was attended by **Ms. Shalini Gupta** (Speech Therapist, SPARC-India) and **Ms. Shyama Devi** (Field Worker, SPARC-India), 9 PwDs and members from the community. The participants were told about the International Yoga Day, why it is celebrated, what yoga is and how it helps in keeping our body healthy. They also discussed about various *asanas* like *pranayam*, *anulom-vilom*, *surya namaskar* etc. of yoga which one should perform daily. She quoted that in every home a women plays a lead role as it is said if a women gets educated she educates a family.

## **SELF-HELP GROUP MEETINGS (SHG MEETINGS)**

### **SHG MEETING AT FAIZULLAHGANJ-I WARD**

A **SHG meeting** was held on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019 in Khadri of Faizullahganj-I Ward, Lucknow. The main aim of the meeting was to *make them aware of the voting rights of PwDs*. The meeting was attended by **Ms Shaheen** (Field Worker, SPARC-India), **Mrs. Shyama Devi** (Field Worker, SPARC-India), 11 women members from the community. In the meeting the members were informed that it's their right to vote and choose the best leader. We should avail this right as they are a citizen of this country.

### SHG MEETING AT FAIZULLAHGANJ-I WARD

A *SHG meeting* was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 in Khadri of Faizullahganj-I Ward, Lucknow. The main aim of the meeting was to *discuss about self help group and its progress*. The meeting was attended by **Ms. Satwiki Mishra** (Physiotherapist, SPARC-India) and **Ms Shaheen** (Field Worker, SPARC-India), 6 women members from the community. In this meeting it was discussed how the self help groups can help in starting own business. The group members informed that they have completed all other formalities and they were just waiting for the loan to come, as soon as they will get it they would start the business.



### SHG MEETING AT FAIZULLAHGANJ-I WARD

A *SHG meeting* was held on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2019 in Khadri of Faizullahganj-I Ward, Lucknow. The main aim of the meeting was to *discuss about self help group and loan process progress*. The meeting was attended by **Ms. Satwiki Mishra** (Physiotherapist, SPARC-India) and **Ms Shaheen** (Field Worker, SPARC-India), 7 women members from the community. In this meeting the group members informed that they have completed all other formalities and their loan is about to come, as soon as they will get it they would start the business.



## SUCCESS STORIES

### JYOTI KIRAN SCHOOL

#### **ADARSH RANJAN**

*Adarsh* is studying in Jyoti Kiran School since August 2015. He was recognized with **Mild mental retardation**. Initially he couldn't sit at one place for a very long time. He had a habit of repeating words and mimicked the action of others. The teachers made proper interventions to make him stay in class. They involved him in extra-curricular activities and started giving him small responsibilities. More focus was laid on oral education and conversation. He received speech therapy in JKS. Within three years Adarsh has shown incredible progress, he daily comes to school, takes part in extra-curricular activities, has made friends in his class and understands their conversation.



#### **PRATHAM**

*Pratham* is a 14 year old boy with **Hearing and speech impairment**. He has been studying in JKS since August 2017. He belongs to an economically weaker section of the society. Pratham didn't know sign language or lip reading, so there was a communication barrier between him and teachers. He



was very mischievous and irritated because of lack of communication. Teachers started working on his communication and started teaching him sign language to associate objects with sign. Now he is one of the most active students of JKS.

## **INCLUSIVE EDUCATION (IE) PROGRAM**

### **SUDHA**

**Sudha** is a 9 year old girl, studying in 05<sup>th</sup> standard and has **Speech Disorder (Tutlana)** since birth. Sudha lives in Odar, a small village of Barabanki district. Her father passed away in her early childhood. There wasn't much acceptance in her family as her mother was disappointed after knowing that she will not be able to speak for the rest of her life.



Through our baseline survey we found that Sudha is already enrolled in school. So after knowing this we started visiting her school. We observed that though her attendance percentage was satisfactory teachers weren't very supportive. After SPARC-India's intervention through IE Program and regular visit, teachers became motivated towards her in a positive manner.

For her further growth, individual education plan has been developed in the school. We coordinated with special educator Mrs. Kriti and Mrs. Laxmi for Speech Therapy Intervention. Training has been organized by SPARC-India on "Training on RTE and IE" with stakeholders. It influenced her mother in a very positive manner. Later through Medical Assessment Intervention Process and continuous dialogue her mother became more acceptable and sensitive toward her disability. Now she realizes the efforts like Medical Assessment and Interventions of IE Team and appreciates the initiatives taken by SPARC-India. Her mother has now become a member of SMC, thus SMC has become an inclusive SMC and her mother regularly attends SMC meetings.



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### **AYAN**

**Ayan** is a 8 year old child who has **hearing and speech impairment**. He is a very intelligent child, tries to grasp everything, loves to eat dishes prepared by his mother and studies in class 02<sup>nd</sup>. He loves to play with children of his age group. Ayan usually welcomes others with a broad smile on his face. Like other children he shows his feeling by smiling, frowns to show anger and sometimes cries to show his distress. Ayan resides in small village of Ghunghter of Nindura block situated in Barabanki District.



Initially at the time of entry, he was shy and had problem in mixing and playing with children of his age group. Now he easily mixes with the children of his group without any assistance. At the time of admission children use to call him by nick name; *Baudam*, *Gungwa*, and teased him. This developed a tendency in him to bunk school. After SPARC-India's, IE Team interventions, regular

visit and counseling of parents, visit to school, working on his case history, preparation of individual education plan (IEP), teachers have now started motivating him positively.

For his further growth, IEP has been developed in the school. Training has been organized on RTE and IE issues with stakeholders. It influenced his parents in a very positive manner. Earlier he was not allowed admission in school, but through our intervention, teachers admitted him. Now the school authority is happy to support IE staff and carefully listens to our advice as well as plays a key role in building a conducive atmosphere in school periphery.

### **LIVELIHOOD RESOURCE CENTRE (LRC)**

#### **SHIV KUMAR**

**Shiv Kumar** is a 23 year old boy. He belongs to District Barabanki. He has completed his Graduation from Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia University, Faizabad. Shiv Kumar has below **elbow amputation right side 70% disability**. Shiv Kumar likes to watch and play cricket in his free time.



Shiv Kumar's father is no more. He attended the mobilization meeting conducted by SPARC-India in Barabanki under the UPSRLM initiative; thereafter he joined the 3-month residential training program. He has seen his mother struggle as a single parent in order to raise him. The circumstances have been a major contributor in his overall personality development. He wants to change his circumstances in a positive manner and provide his mother a sense of strength and financial stability. He enhanced his skills through day to day participation in co curricular activities conducted in class. Shiv Kumar has the habit of motivating and helping other trainees in their studies. He has good leadership quality in his personality. He is a bright and studious student.

After completing training he was selected in Aegis, GVK (EMRI), AKS Structural, RK Timber and Karvy. But he chose to join GVK (EMRI) as Customer Care Executive.

*“LRC has been a learning experience. I am grateful to my trainers for constantly guiding me to improve. I am very happy after getting a job because now struggles of my mother would end” –* says Shiv Kumar

#### **POOJA SINGH**

**Pooja Singh** is a 22 year old girl. She belongs to District Barabanki. She has **85% amputation of right arm below shoulder disability**. Pooja has done her intermediate but did not continue her studies when she failed in graduation second year. Pooja loves to sing at any given opportunity.



She is eager to get employed in order to support her family financially. She is presently living with her parents. Mr. Arun (BDO, Barabanki) under the UPSRLM initiative approached her and informed her about the 3-month skill development residential program so she visited Lucknow and took admission for the same. Pooja is a hardworking girl. She has shown extreme enthusiasm and perseverance to bridge the gaps in learning. She has been an exceptional student who showed a rise in the learning curve by sheer

hard work and dedication. She is a very happy go lucky girl who tries to spread a smile everywhere she goes. Pooja is always open to feedback and ensures that the feedback taken is worked on and implemented.

After completing training she was selected in Amartech Pvt Ltd. as a Customer Care Executive. She is happy with her new job.

***“I am happy that I enrolled myself in the training program and today after getting a job I feel independent and confident”*** – says Pooja.

## **COMMUNITY BASED REHABILITATION (CBR) PROGRAMME**

### **ARJUN DIXIT**

**Arjun Dixit** is 14 years old and has **Cerebral Palsy**. His mother, Mrs. Renu Dixit is a housewife and his father, Mr. Sharad Dixit is a priest. He is living with his parents and one younger brother in Naubasta. Due to cerebral palsy he was not able to sit, stand and speak.



When Arjun was 5 years old, SPARC-India came to know about his status. He was totally bed ridden at that time. SPARC-India started working with him by providing regular and focused physiotherapy facility and motivational counseling of parents to make Gaiter (standing frame for CP children) for him. Slowly he started speaking (very slow and yet not clear) and stands on his own on Gaiter. This process was not easy for him but through motivation, regular physiotherapy interventions he can stand on the Gaiter for 20-30 minutes, can sit for some movements and has developed hand grip to hold something.

After observing these unbelievable changes in very short time team made an effort to motivate the family to send him to school but his parents were not ready for it. But through regular follow ups and on seeing his physical improvement, his parents agreed to send him to JKS. He attended the school regularly, learned ADL (activity daily living) and made friends.

After all these interventions, his physical condition improved gradually. He participated in all the cultural programs of the organization. Now he can read and write. He is also interested in learning computers, art and likes to play with his friends. After completing his education at SPARC-India, in the year 2017, he was integrated to class UKG of Shree Balaji Public School, Hariom Nagar, Naubasta where he is now studying in class II. His parents are very grateful to SPARC-India & JVS-LF for giving recognition to Arjun in the community and boosting their morale.

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