



Grand Finale to 30 year celebrations of Prayas!

The celebration of Prayas journey of 30 years could not have had a better Finale! The journey of Prayas began with recognition of the vulnerability of children, 25 of whom were left orphaned in June 1988, when a huge fire in Jahangirpuri slums left hundreds of families homeless.

Mr. Amod K Kanth, then Deputy Commissioner in Delhi Police was moved by their plight and immediately decided to provide Nutrition, Shelter & Clothing and basic education for the 25 affected children within the neglected slum community.

As the work started by Prayas went on without any funds or official recognition to begin with, the Shramik Vidyapeeth and Delhi School of Social Work also joined the venture. From there to 2018, Prayas has reached out to 9 states/UTs Delhi, Bihar, Gujarat, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana and Andaman and Nicobar Islands responding to the needs of the communities and disasters. Over 247 including homes & shelters, U.T. Centres, Primary Health & Community based health programs, education centres are now serving nearly 50,000 beneficiaries annually by 800+ professionals created a powerful organisation.

Served by a highly professional and motivated team of above 800, Prayas in this mission to empower and secure justice for children, youth and women has been served by nearly 10000 personnel who may be working elsewhere, some in different parts of the world like Mr. Vinay Sansi & Ms. Claudia Paul, our ardent supporter of Prayas from Germany but have not cut off their bonds with Prayas.

And it can proudly and loudly proclaim that in its 30 years it must have directly and holistically helped at least 10 lakh beneficiaries who needed support and protection. However the growth of Prayas has not only been on the grass root level. Over these years it has also helped develop strategies, policies and mechanisms to protect and empower the weakest sections.

To discuss these innovations, it invited a number of experts from the government, bureaucracy, academia and Civil Service Organisations to speak on thematic areas such as 'Voluntary sector/ CSR and NITI Aayog', 'Street Children/ Missing Children' and 'Education/ Skilling and Livelihood'.



This high profile consultation or Manthan had two Union Ministers Mr. Suresh Prabhu, Union Minister for Civil Aviation, Commerce and Industry and Mr. Jayant Sinha, Minister for Civil Aviation among luminaries like Mr. Abhik Ghosh Retd. IAS, Mr. Amal Sinha, CEO of BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, Prof.R.R. Singh former Director TISS, Dr. Aruna Bhardwaj ex-Dean and Head Delhi School of Social Work (DSSW), Mr. Ramesh Negi, (IAS) Chairperson DCPCR, Mr. Kumar Rohit, Regional P F Commissioner, Ms. Bulbul Khosla, former First Project Director, Mr. Rajib K Haldar, former Executive Director & Mr. H.N. Sahay, former Director (PIEE) of Prayas, Mr. Prabhat Kumar, Mr. Rajiv Awasthi, Sr. Lawyer, DG (BPR&D), Prof. Vinay Sheel Gautam, Chairman DK International, Retd. Major General Brijesh Kumar, Dr. Sabeena Mathayas, Technical Consultant to NSDC, Dr. B P Pandey OSD, Directorate of Education and Prof. Devesh Vijay, Retd from Zakir Hussain College were among others who participated in a lively discussion to put their perspective on the thematic areas chosen by Prayas.





This brain-storming was followed by a cultural extravaganza which is the most awaited part of any Prayas program because it allows these children to bring out their best in the form of dancing and singing to floor the audiences. Such programs are not only a tribute to the youngsters oozing with energy, but also to the staff who take out time to train and groom this raw talent, because most of them are children from difficult circumstances.





November 28, 2018 became extra special because it managed to not only create a data base of its documents of 30 years but also of its employees who, through their dedication and commitment have made Prayas what it is.



Some of them have been serving for over 20 years while others have completed over 15 years working for the causes that Prayas has stood for and they were duly honoured for this. The very presence of so many former employees and those associated with Prayas, some of whom settled abroad, is an endorsement of the policies and the values that Prayas has stood for in this long and arduous journey.