

Abhivyaakti



Let's Give Life A Better Chance

The yearbook of
Sankalp India Foundation®
2007

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Editorial

We are extremely happy to bring to you the first Sankalp magazine. Our small Organization that was born on the night of 23rd May, 2003 is completing 4 years of service.

All this while, the philosophy that drives us, the methodology we adopt and the experiences we have are more or less lesser known outside the primary working team of Sankalp. This magazine has tried to bring about a clearer and a more wholesome representation of what we are, what we do and how.

Making of this magazine was a wonderful experience in itself. The toughest job in Sankalp is to make volunteers write reports. They are so addicted to Project Execution, that they find reporting less interesting. The first phase of activity was to force people to write down about their activities.

Thanks to the designers of the spell check sub-routines on computers. As the editor of this magazine I must admit that the editorial board (two Volunteers) are more or less beginners at English Language in terms of spellings, vocabu-

lary and sentence formation. So as you read the pages, our request is that you ignore the language mistakes and focus on the content. People working after office and class hours (precisely work began at midnight), with black tea in hand, some mistakes are bound to creep in. Please bear with us and any suggestion for further improvement is welcome.

I must thank the contributors on *sankalpindia.net* for their beautiful blog posts and opinions. These posts have not only helped in bringing out a more realistic picture of the Organization but they are also excellent stuff to read.

We wish that this magazine, beyond informing you about Sankalp, helps you to take an extra step on road to your dreams. At the end of the day, that is what Sankalp does.

I am proud to present to all of you this collection of our dreams, our ideas and our experiences. Hope you have a good experience reading them. Thank You!

For more information visit www.sankalpindia.net

Or call: 9880132850

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Certificate of Registration of Society

Government of Karnataka

Print Date
Tuesday, May 29, 2007



Office of the Registrar of Societies,
BANGALORE URBAN

Schedule 'B'
[See Rule 3(5)]

Certificate of Registration of Society

Society Number ; BLU-S297-2007-08

Date : 29-May-2007

I hereby certify that *SANKALP INDIA FOUNDATION*, No.21, Flat No.07, Silky House Apartment, A.E.C.S.Layout, 6th Cross, Sanjay Nagar, Bangalore - 560 094. District : *BANGALORE URBAN* is this day (Tuesday 29 May, 2007) registered under the Karnataka Societies Registration Act, 1960(Karnataka Act 17 of 1960).

Fee paid Rs . 1000/-

Given under my hand at *BANGALORE URBAN* on the 29 day of May,2007.



Office : BANGALORE URBAN

Society Number : BLU-S297-2007-08

CD Number : BLUS25

Registrar of Societies,
(BANGALORE URBAN)

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(ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ)
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

Introduction

In the era of self-centered thinking, when the sense of responsibility towards the society and the country is dying out, Sankalp India Foundation is a Youth Organization that begs to differ.

Promoting Youth Empowerment for Social and National Welfare, we invite all those who believe in the change for the better to Stop Thinking and Start Working.

Sankalp provides a platform for all such people who want to contribute and participate in Nation Building but who find the inertia of the system too much to overcome.

By constructive group work we slowly break the barriers of fear to act differently and nurture individuals who live up to their inner feelings and commitment to this land.

Explore to know more...

Blend Into the Spirit of Life



The Beginning

While enjoying a cup of tea on the night of 23rd May, 2003 a group of students from MSRIT came across a person who was looking for blood donors.

It was very late at night and he was literally begging any and everyone he found.

These student's looked into the matter and found out that a patient from outside Bangalore was waiting for blood to be given to him since past 5 hours.

The blood bank had blood, but it was insisting on the blood to be replaced.

These students immediately gave blood but by the time they were back from the blood bank the patient had died..

The feelings and emotions of that night did not die out. It was decided that responsibility will be taken and work done.

Sankalp was born..

Look at the sky. We are not alone. The whole universe is friendly to us and conspires only to give the best to those who dream and work— Dr A P J Kalam

Who Runs Sankalp?

A fairly dedicated set of individuals who are at the brink of a change is what we have as the Sankalp Volunteers.

All Sankalp Volunteers are common people, the very same common people that each one of us can relate to.

We are made of the same fabric as you.

Today the Volunteers' are trying to change

themselves into individuals who act on their wishes. They are shaping themselves into people who have the *courage of convictions* and who can face lot of opposition and problems to get their job done.

They are a team that works for a cause. The cause that is dear to them. They often dream impossible, most of the time it remains a dream, but at times they give it shape. But they are still under development.. They are still developing into individuals who will work selflessly.. Who will bring in Revolutions..



Sankalp Volunteers meet every Sunday. It is here that we as a group exchange idea, plan and shape the future and bug-fix the present.

Planning

Throughout the week the plans that were made on Sunday are executed. Each unique activity has its own set of Volunteers and In-charge.



Execution

Down the Memory Lane...

After the decision to start Sankalp was taken, the Volunteers started registering blood donors who were willing to donate in emergency conditions. When they approached people they were greeted with all types of reactions. Some questioned their intentions. Some said that they were planning to set up a blood trade racket. But some of them filled up the form. Our first database was made with 30 donors. In the very first request after that, in-spite of having registered about ten O+ donors, we could not convince even one of them to donate.

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has.

We the people

Just ask a person what to do when he needs blood in Bangalore and You have a good chance of hearing our name. Sankalp. Over past four years we have changed the way blood donation works.

No, we refused to complain and squeak about the careless blood banks. We did not go and put up a campaign against big camps which lead to blood wastage. We did not blame the people. We did not design heart rendering material asking someone else to bring in the change we wanted. We started walking.

In-significant! Oh yes, we are nothing but a small group of students.

In-experience! Oh yes, we had no experience in this field.



Time-Constrained! Yes we too do the things that keep others busy for most time of the day!

But we still manage to take up emergency blood requests round the clock!. We find time

to travel to various colleges taking to the Principals for Blood Camps. We do find time to learn the basics of blood.

Big, or small, right or wrong, the work that we do is the Voice of our heart. No! We do no favors. Please do not call us a social service Organization. Service to the Motherland is a Responsibility. SERVING YOUR COUNTRY IS NOT A SACRIFICE. ITS A PRIVILEGE.

Please do not ask us how big we are our.. That to us does not matter.. What matters is how effective we are!!

Please do not ask us how much we impress. All that matters to us, is what we express..

Please do not pat our back. We will really be thankful to You and highly encouraged, if You go back with a positive change..

Please do not offer us Your money or Your contacts.. All we ask for is Your true heart..

Please do not show us the boundaries of practicality.. We are dreamers.. We wish to dream..

Our strength lies in Your selfless service.. When You donate a unit of blood, with the single intention of saving someone's life, You make us happy!

The wind blowing across the face, the rain drops falling from the sky, the soil, every Indian, they are all ours! And we are theirs.

Be determined not to curse anything outside, not to lay the blame upon anyone outside, but stand up, lay the blame on yourself. You will find that is always true. Get hold of yourself.—Swami Vivekanand

Work for us one day. Like us. Unconstrained!
When You go back to sleep at night You will know what we get out of doing all of this.

You like Challenges.. Action.. Adrenaline flowing through the arteries and veins.. We do not go into the controlled and simulated environment for these. We face the real world! When we search for blood for a patient, it's a battle that we don't afford to lose.

Did we hear someone say that the time is too less. Our days should be stretched beyond 24 to enable us unto 40 hrs/week of Sankalp work..

Exceptional? No we are not! We have our share of pain. We do not walk on bed of roses. We walk the thorns..

Meaning! This minute if we die, right here, and become answerable about what we did with our life, we will have lesser excuses and reasons to complain!

Patience! Is that what some people say our generation lacks? Come see us talking to one person after the other endlessly. Come see us visit one college at a time without results. Come see the same fire in the eyes after every rejection, after every suspicion, after every rude word! Come see us work the very same.. Till things CHANGE!!

Recognition? Yes we do recognize each other by the name and face, by work and by nature. But Certificates?? Sorry, we are too poor to

publish certificates for ourselves!

Laziness! Oh yes! We too are lazy only at times. We have not built our self with money. The stature and contacts of our parents have not built up things for us! We have carved our way with the work of our own hands, our own sweat.

Gain! Want to know who is at the largest gain in all we do? Patients.. Somewhat.. Donors. Somewhat.. Blood Banks.. Somewhat.. Hospitals.. Somewhat.. But the true gainers, the people who have made the most out of it is WE our self. Look at us! See us working! See us struggling and sweating.. You see us only further down the road of our dreams. Closer to the supreme happiness. Closer to the mental peace. Closer to sensibility and humankind.

Does Loneliness Frighten You? Do you hesitate to stand alone for the voice of Your heart. Please do not believe we do not know how to gather crowds. Please do not believe we can't increase counts ruthlessly. Our work is not done by hundreds of people. Our work is not done to better utilize free time. We do it with a motivation. We do it with a passion. That we feel exceeds the frenzy of a thousand cries.

Do not label us as success or failure. We do not belong to either. The truth is that we are just striving.. To shape our dreams.. To shape our country. Each moment.. Now.. Now.. And we hope to continue it for all the moments to come..

Down the Memory Lane...

My most memorable moment was the candle march __ "Shaheed". Freedom fighters must have started with similar kind of fire in them. -Varsha

You can do anything in the world If you Don't Look For Credit

Note for those who have trusted us

This one word is the biggest support that you have given us through these years is your support and your trust. We stand here to thank each one of you who has at any point in time kept your trust in us.

It is hard to believe in our cause. It is even harder to believe that we do what we do. Most of the people find one way or the other to dismiss us and our work. We don't mind. We will not work to make this change.



But for all of you who have actually stood by us, we have the deepest respect in our heart. Your faith in us empowers us. It helps us take an extra step. And on dark moments when we combat our weaknesses, this support from you pumps in a fresh supply of energy in our body and soul.

This is your organization as much as it is ours. Pardon us for not being able to keep you informed all the while. Please do not mistake our silence at times as our arrogance. At the end of the day, we have immense respect for each donor in our heart.

We hope and pray that we do justice to your faith all the time.

- Volunteers

Down the Memory Lane...

A Volunteer from some other Organization recently approached one of our junior Volunteers. This lady had come on behalf of her Organization to convince Sankalp to hold a blood camp of 1000 units. The Volunteer informed her that we do not conduct big camps. In order to convince the Volunteer the lady said - "The ways that Sankalp uses are too slow and too in-effective. Over past so many years of work all you have done is arranged 3000 donors on a database. We will get 1000 donations in a day!". When people challenge us with such questions, we do not care. This is because even though we do not have the huge numbers on our side, but each person who is our donor and well-wisher is a person who has deep trust in what we do. And for us, that is a bigger strength than anything else. We will not go for numbers.

Patriotism is not short, frenzied outbursts of emotion, but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime -Adlai Stevenson

Work@Sankalp

Blood Donation Organization

Blood Donation Organization

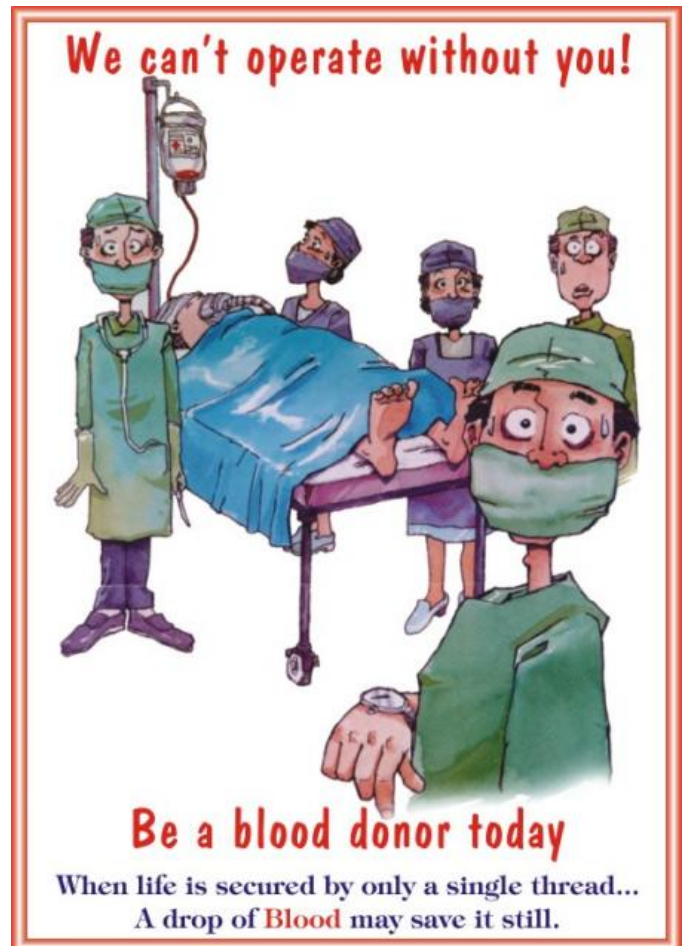
On 23rd May 2003 when a patient in one of the city hospitals died because he did not receive blood on time, Sankalp was born.

The commitment was simple. Whenever there is any requirement of blood which the blood banks in the city fail to satisfy, we requested them to forward it over to us. Sankalp 24 X 7 X 365 emergency blood helpline has been working since then taking up all emergency blood requests that come up.

The fragmented nature of the blood transfusion services led to un-necessary competition and seclusions. Blood banks did not work as one unit. We conceptualized and eventually realized a single helpline number that gave information about blood availability in various blood banks in Bangalore. Need Blood - Call 1062

Every time the donor went to donate, he/she was doubtful about his/her safety. Is this the right place to donate? Am I safe? Will they sell my blood? These questions were raised frequently and there were no sure answers.. each party blew it's own trumpet. We explored, we studied and we came up with a solution. We came up with information that answers the donor's questions and ensures the safest of all donations.

The blood banks across the country face a problem in delivering good quality of service to the people. Many times they are unable to deliver the gift of life. To ensure safe and sustainable supply of blood it was realized that enroll-



ment of Voluntary Non-remunerative blood donors was a must. People wanted to donate blood. But there was little organized help to conduct camps. We are working on Rakta Kranti, the road to 100% Voluntary Non- Remunerative Blood donation.

We are slowly changing attitudes. We are slowly pushing in reforms. We are providing help, but at the same time we are empowering people to help themselves.

We don't know a millionth of one percent about anything.

Bangalore's Blood Scenario

Beside being the IT Hub of the Country, Bangalore is also the Health Capital of South India. People from around the globe travel to super-speciality hospitals like NIMHANS, Narayan Hrudayalaya, Manipal Hospitals, Sagar Apollo, M S Ramaiah Memorial Hospitals and many for treatment. The City poses a huge blood re-

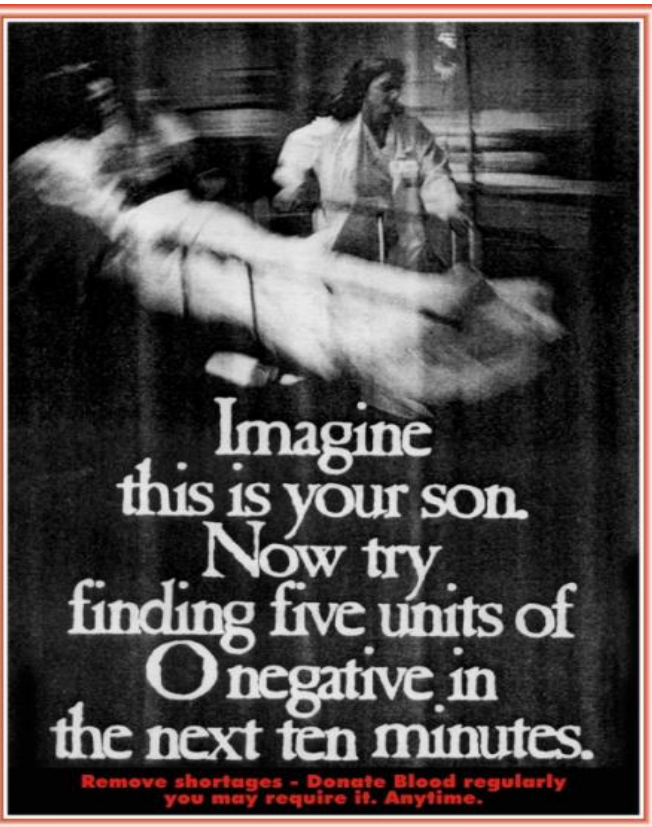
quirement. This means that the other 1,00,000 units of blood are donated in forced conditions. The city has more than 50 blood banks. But NACO Certified, truly reliable blood banks can be counted on finger tips. Every 2 minutes someone in Bangalore needs blood.

The blood banks are constrained. The donors are few. The requirements are immense.

If only 1 % of the city's population donated blood regularly we will not only be able to meet the internal demand for blood but will also be able to spare some. The IT capital of the country also symbolizes as the educational hub. Here people are educated. They have employment. They understand the difference between right and the wrong clearly. But sadly even in this city we have extremely poor blood donation.

In no part of the world have Governments been able to solve the problem of providing safe and adequate blood supply without the support of the community. Blood can not be manufactured like other drugs. It is time that we stand up in this city and participate in enabling the doctors in their attempts, soothing the pain of the family members, creating world class medical facilities, strengthening the blood banks to serve better and helping save the patient's life..

Bangalore needs you to Donate Blood!



quirement.

Out of the 2,00,000 (approx) units of blood the city requires annually only about 50% come

Every 2 minutes someone in Bangalore needs blood. There are more than 54 blood banks in the city but most are unreliable. If only 1% of us donate there will be no blood shortage. Throughout the world the problem of blood shortage has been solved by citizen participation alone. Only around 40% of the blood collected comes from voluntary sources.

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single minute before starting to improve the world." - Anne Frank

What does a person face in case of emergency?

Think of yourself being asked to arrange 5 units of 'O' negative blood for one of your friends at 11:00 PM at night.. Just for a moment give it serious thought..

People who come along with patients go through extreme amount of mental agony and pain when they start searching for blood. Many of them do not even belong to the city. They know nothing here, no place, no relatives, no friends..

If sometime back you were asked to search for blood, first thing that you would have to do is to run from pillar to post finding the contact numbers of the blood banks. And even in case you find it, you will have to go through numerous attempts of trying to reach the blood banks and have them pick up the ringing phone



Each time someone admits a patient in an emergency, they know they are in the worst phases of life. Next, the heavy costs of medical treatment are pressurizing them to arrange for more and more money. On top of this, they are asked to get replacement/direct Blood donors.

before you can talk to them. Pray and wish that you know Kannada, else you have a thin chance of being able to find out blood availability.

Sometimes blood is available. But the blood bank would have reminded you to arrange for replacement donors when you come. So, there you stand. The patient wanting blood. The Blood Bank with blood in store. But, you will not get it unless you somehow convince an equal number of people to go and replace blood.

But things are changing.. People are calling a single toll free number to look for blood ie. 1062. The messages and ending their forward journey at 9880132850(Sankalp helpline). The blood banks are maintaining stocks. There is an increase in Voluntary donations reducing the pressure for replacement. Our work is showing some small initial results.. And these will grow with your support.

Only a person who has actually gone through this pain understands how helpless it feels. It adds to the problems that come apart from this when the person is hospitalized.

Even for people who do have some time to search for blood, even for the educated lot things are not much better. People sent SMS's which did nothing but circulate, people sent mails, which were blankly forwarded, people called their friends and relatives only to find that most do not come up to help..

Life is not so short but that there is always time enough for courtesy.

Emergency Wing: The Ray of Hope

Sankalp Blood Donation Organization promises life to the people in Bangalore through one of its most reliable and committed wing..

24 x 7 x 365

Whenever a person who needs blood and who has not been able to arrange it from conventional sources (blood banks), he can simply call our helpline 9880132850 and be assured that the best possible help will be given to him/her.

Thousand of people from Bangalore who have stored our numbers forward us the blood requests. The emergency staff in hospitals has our contact. When 1062 cannot find blood for a person, our helpline is recommended.

The emergency wing gets activated at these requests. The request is carefully analyzed to determine if there is some way the person can arrange for blood by themselves. All the information they require like blood banks contacts, web sites, information about blood, the right places to approach, and a variety of other questions are answered at this end. If the person has time and the person is able to do the needful, then the telephonic advice itself satisfies the requirement.

In case of situations where the person requires further intervention and help, we have our 24 x 7 teams ready. Students and Young professional, who are thoroughly trained about every aspect of blood donation process go ahead to see the patient and arrange blood immediately. They talk to doctors to identify the exact requirement, strategies the help plan, and if require arrange for donations.

Thousands of people from all over Bangalore have enrolled in our Life saving Brigade. They have enrolled as blood donors with a promise that when a person requires blood they will come ahead to donate. These good Samaritans take their time off to help the unknown person

and that too at extremely short notice. Within minutes of us receiving an emergency request, usually we are able to mobilize donors.

If the donation takes place, it happens only in the safest and secure environment. Every care is taken to ensure that the donors face no problem. At the end of the process the kind gesture of the donor is acknowledged with a small Thank You Card.

Every fine detail of how every request was handled is carefully noted down in a Case Report Form which is later reviewed. Any discrepancies found is immediately identified and corrective action taken.

It takes a lot to be able to run this service all the time.. During exams, at 2:30 AM in the morning, .. at hundreds of such times. But we are very happy to inform you, that so far we have been able to strike the balance..

This is what we call the "Spirit of Life"

Down the Memory Lane...

It was only a few days after I joined Sankalp when Rahul & I went for a case at Ramaiah New Hospital. He required two units and we were able to help him. When he came to know this, he was very happy. It was the first time when someone who had no relations with me blessed me from the core of his heart. I felt as if GOD was blessing me. -Amit Kumar

Project Disha

It started on 23rd May, 2005 when few Sankalp Volunteers dreamt of how to better the present blood donation scenario.

Few questions arose, "If somehow the blood banks were transparent enough to show their blood statistics". "How nice it would be if we had a single number which would cater to all blood requirements in Bangalore".

We dreamt of connecting blood banks. We thought about having a common point access to all available blood. We looked for a future where a person would make a single call and get the blood he wants. We dreamt of providing a DISHA to the helpless.

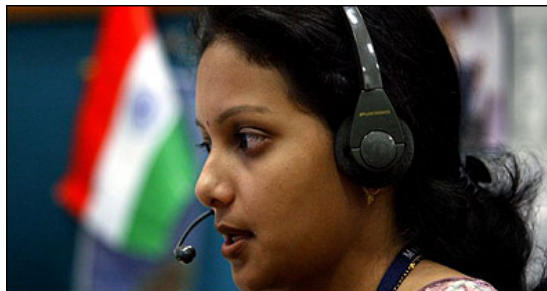
Two years back when we started work with Disha, it was a huge challenge. But work did start. We explored all possibilities from IVRS to a SMS based network. Finally we found someone who worked in the same direction as we did- Comprehensive Trauma Consortium better known as Operation Sanjeevini, which provides free ambulance services to all accident related victims. On 13th September, 2006 Project CTC Disha was launched by the Governor of Karnataka. Now the life saving 1062 also provides blood information.

Five major blood banks in Bangalore associated with us in our initiative – Ramaiah, Rashthrothana, Rotary, Sagar Apollo and Manipal. CTC provides toll free helpline call center via 1062 which assists people requiring blood to the blood bank where it is available. Also, it provides them every information required like address and contact details.

Initial Phase: We started collecting statistics from the blood banks and posted them on to

the site maintained by CTC on a regular basis. Initial hiccups came when the blood bank didn't want to share their information with us. There were communication problems which existed as we are a small organization trying to make things better. However after the official inauguration by the governor of the state, everything became smooth.

Somewhere in the middle of October, we realized that in spite of great media coverage, there was very poor response to CTC



Disha. Hence on 11th Nov, 2006 we conducted a march, "WALK FOR LIFE" in order to promote 1062. 42 kms, 15 hrs, 40 students- one message "Need Blood Call 1062".

Problems came, the CTC site crashed several times. There were problems of net not working in CTC. The response time per call, reliability and stability became critical. We came up with setting up a FTP server which too didn't bring in the desired results.

Second Phase: We wanted CTC to automate the whole process. All calls to the blood banks are made by CTC. At this stage CTC site crashed. It was the time we saw the wheels of time going back. From an interactive website, we shifted to simple functioning FTP server. Even that didn't work. Finally we asked them to maintain plain paperwork to take updates. Simplicity clicks. There was a marked improvement in the response time from CTC in handling cases. At this stage, CTC Disha is pretty much stable and working. Anytime you make a call to 1062, there is a definite chance that your query will be answered.

Some people make things happen, some people watch things happen and some people just wonder what happened.

Somehow, after all this, considering the number of blood cases Bangalore gets and the number of cases received by Disha, there still is a lot to improve. One reason we see for this is citizen participation. We want to make Disha a phenomenon in Blood banking system and it is only you who can help us make that happen. We request all of you to please spread this number, if not please store it. Someday, someone will require blood. It will be you who will be saying-Call 1062. People who mail can send "Need blood call 1062" as their signature, you can even put it as your status message during a chat. You can put Disha posters at your door. I guarantee you that, if you do this and this has a cascading effect entire Bangalore will know about 1062 in a month.

DISHA was initiated for a single purpose of

making the blood scenario in the city better. We cannot see anyone being denied of blood. We want to make blood search a cakewalk. Blood should be accessible at your fingertips. It takes to fight the system. It takes to make world a better place to live in.

In the near future, do not be amazed to see blood availability indicated in the local media along with the weather reports. To see, the blood availability in the city with your morning cup of tea.

We all can make a change. Only thing required is that, we need to be strong enough to make our dreams come true. Together we can make a difference.

Jai Hind.

PROJECT CTC DISHA



www.ctcbloodinfo.org

- **Centralized Blood Bank Information System.**
- Simplicity in Blood Search.
- To Bridge the gap between the needy and Blood Bank.
- Toll Free Helpline Number **1062**.
- Easy and fast search during time critical situation.
- Increased awareness among people regarding Blood Banks and Available Blood Resources.
- Better management of available BLOOD.



All the problems you can see when the focus is lost.

Walk for Life

42 Kms, 15 Hrs, 40 Students.. One Message
"Need Blood Call 1062"

Walk for Life was an awareness drive conducted by the Sankalp Volunteers to bring to the citizens of Bangalore "CTC Disha" the single point access Blood Helpline!"

Somewhere in Mid October we realized that in spite of the great media coverage, there was very poor response to CTC Disha. Very few calls were coming and many people were still searching for blood. So something should be done that is so large an effort that people take notice.

We ended up planning "Walk For Life". Sankalp Volunteers thought that they will walk the roads of Bangalore not for 1, nor 2 but for 15 whole hours. A thing unheard of. Sankalp decided that 42 kms of Bangalore roads will be walked to take the message across to people.

11th November 2006 was decided as the big day. Preparations were immense, The new Sankalp first year Volunteers worked tirelessly to prepare publicity material that was to be used. The seniors familiarized them to Sankalp work culture. Things rocked.. At the same time, the senior volunteers took up large email campaigns to take the message to maximum people.

ple.

The day came. The walk started sharp at 6:30 AM. The eyes of the volunteers said it all. Their voice only lowered close to the hospital. "Need Blood Call 1062".

Each kilometer that these students walked, one must not forget that it was essentially youth who had taken up the challenge to do the unimaginable for the cause. The cause of life. All they were doing there on the road was trying to have this one number stored on your mobile, or find a place in your memory. So



that , when you find someone who needs blood, you can be the life saver for them. You can guide them to the right place.

Hundreds of people turned around and took notice. Thousands heard the voices. The number of calls increased.

Media finally was largely disappointing. I guess for a city of over 10 million people, the news of 40 Students walking 42 kms for a cause for 15 hrs at one stretch was too insignificant to find some space. But then, we did our job. And we did it by the way we consider right.

But, there was an impact. Our work paid. calls

Down the Memory Lane...

The dedication blended with enjoyment during the preparation of posters for the "Walk for Life" was really memorable. -Aniket

Put your heart, mind, intellect and soul even to your smallest acts. This is the secret of success.

Campus Connect

It Sleeps Deep Within
But It Must Come Out
Feelings Alone Do Not Make A Difference
Action Does

Any campus in the country is a hub of activity which shapes the future. And this future is one in which each person will be transferring the blame for the problems on someone else and expressing helplessness and inability. Or this future will be one in which the people will take charge and shape things in the right way.

The concept of Campus Connect is tailor made to allow student participation Directly in the process of saving lives. This is one activity which the students can take up and be major stakeholders in the process of successful saving of lives.

Packed with zeal to do something for the society and the excitement of the youth, Campus Connect challenges student's of one particular responsibility to adopt one blood bank in their vicinity. The concept is not limited to one donation camp, or a few per year. It extends beyond. It stands for optimally donating blood on a need basis to the blood banks of vicinity so as to reinforce them and prevent drastic shortages of blood at some particular time.

Concept has three ingredients.

> The Blood donors, who are found in plenty in

the campuses.

> A Blood bank which is ready to maintain transparency of operation and provide good quality of service.

> And the third is a group of student Volunteers who co-ordinate timely and optimized donation.

When the three come together, the blood bank rarely faces a situation when it has 0 stock of any particular blood group. And therefore the patient is treated in a proper way.

There were doubts and mis-conceptions at the inception of this project. People wondered if students would actually take on the responsibility. And the answers came in the form of Campus Connect Implementation for Indian Institute of Sciences and Gokul Education Foundation. The two premier institutes together have within one month changed the blood scene at M S R Memorial Hospital.

Next time you as a student dream of a change, or you as a teacher think of nurturing future leaders, here is one starting point. Will you accept the responsibility of assuring a better chance to life?

Down the Memory Lane...

When I was walking between that small crowd of people walking I felt that no matter what these people including me will try, we will surely bring about a change with whatever we undertake. -Tejasvi

There is only one success - to be able to spend your life in your own way

Association with M S Ramaiah Group of Institutions

M S Ramaiah Group of Institutions contributes hundreds of units of blood each year to the city. But the home blood bank of this group itself had a very poor ratio of Voluntary Donations. This paradoxical situation was broken for Good by Sankalp. All the colleges in Ramaiah Group

of Institutions were brought under a common Blood Transfusion service that will make sure that Ramaiah Blood Bank becomes an example blood bank for all to see.

A Major Milestone was reached when Sankalp for the first time ever got into an Understanding with the M S R Group of Institutions to provide a very regular and frequent (Every week) supply of blood to M S Ramaiah Blood Bank.

No longer will people be sent back because blood is out of stock. No longer will there be immense pressure on the patient to replace blood. No longer will there be tears of helplessness.

With this arrangement, Sankalp will organize blood donation camps in a planned and well

controlled manner in the 14 colleges of the M S Ramaiah Group of Institutions in a cyclic manner. To start with only about 35 units of blood will be collected at each camp. The arrangement will be such that the entire process is seamless to the working of the college. The

blood bank will come and collect blood at the college itself.

With this process, the blood bank will receive a very regular supply of Safe Blood. This will ensure that the blood bank faces lesser pressure for insisting on Replacements and thereby the patient who critically requires blood will not suffer.

This is the starting of the process of eliminating the shackles of Non-Voluntary Blood Donation from the M S R Blood Bank and thereby promising quality and world class service to people in North Bangalore.

We congratulate the Volunteers on realizing this dream but also at the same time ask them to prepare for hard work in the months to come.

With small and continuous effort of Blood Donation Organization team of Sankalp Today we have achieved a major Milestone in this mission.

Vande Mataram



Effort only fully releases its reward after a person refuses to quit. -Napoleon Hill

... Progress so far @ MSR Group

The response to the M S Ramaiah Memorial Blood donation Service has been fabulous. So far three blood donation camps have been conducted in MSRIT. Each of these camps has seen a new enthusiastic group of blood donors ready to take on the challenge posed by the blood shortage today.

The other colleges in the Group are also beginning to schedule the camps. By the time you will be reading this report, M S R Medical College will be done with their camp. This way, one at a time ,colleges are coming in and the wheel is turning. Already we have been able to maintain an always available status of blood for the positive groups at the Ramaiah Blood Bank.

The blood bank has been very co-operative in organizing the drives and all the time, the Chief of the blood bank himself supervised the

camps. A team of 8 Volunteers monitored each of the camps and ensured proper conditions and detailed information for the donors.

The next steps will be to have the NSS take over the Camps wherever possible. This will provide an opportunity for the Volunteers to train the students elsewhere.

The number of units collected in each of the camps is as follows:

7-04-2007	29
21-04-2007	34
5-5-2007	23



Anticlockwise from top:

1. L-R-> Mr. Puttabore Gowda, Dr. R Chandrashekhar, Dr. K Rajnikanth, Dr. Gopal Krishna, Dr. Nand Kishore and Rajat Agarwal at the first Blood Donation camp
2. The dignitaries talking to the blood donors.
3. The blood donation camp on at full swing.



Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new. -Albert Einstein

Association With Indian Institute of Sciences

The best of brains from around the country come to the Indian Institute of Sciences to shape the future.

We at Sankalp were very happy to go ahead and partner with them. The process started with the registration of donors. The first time we visited IISc we got a total of about 600 donors. In those days Sankalp was restricted to being the Emergency help organization.

The donors from IISc helped us time and again to answer the emergency calls. With their co-operation we took up innumerable blood requests and promised a better chance to the patients.

The Kashmir Earthquake was also a path breaking step on the road of our friendship and association with IISc. On one hand our Volunteers were battling to be able to provide help to the Kashmir Earthquake victims and on the other hand they were struggling to arrange funds. IISc lent a helping hand. In a short span of time, IISc collected Rs.11000 which finally let to the purchase of 120 extra blankets to help the suffering.

Yet another Milestone was reached in March 2007. Expanding the horizons of activity and promising larger commitment and service, we walked into an arrangement to promote voluntary blood donation. Radical shift from the previous strategy of emergency donations alone, this service is designed to thaw the suffering and the mental agony people face in their quest



to find blood. IISc will be helping to ensure that the blood bank closest to it (M S Ramaiah Blood Bank) becomes one place in time where people do not have to go back empty handed due to shortage of blood. Regular weekly donations on a need basis will fuel this attempt.

Currently with 800 donors and 10 Volunteers working from IISc the stage is set to make a difference in our society.

We congratulate the Administration, Student's Council, Donors and Volunteers at IISc for the exemplary initiative and service.

There are some people who live in a dream world, and there are some who face reality; and then there are those who turn one into the other.

Company Connect Building Blood Bonds

When hundreds of Engineers in various IT companies stand up and work, they shape the future of the world by their technology. They shape the face of the society. On one hand they add comforts and convenience to life and at the other, and on the other they have a strong urge to do something good for the society. We decided that we will help them to add one more role to their existence.. that of a life saver..

Company Connect is the name of an approach that Sankalp took to shape the IT companies around Bangalore into organizations that live up to their social commitment by providing blood in two fold method, by blood camps and by helping out the emergencies.

Each organization has thousands of individuals who are so keen to serve. They needed the right platform. This gave them one.



As step one, it meant that the company will conduct Blood Camps. But these would be no ordinary Camps these

would be. We arranged for all that was required for them to conduct Blood Donation Camps with the best Donor Safety Procedures in place. We developed for them, resources, to maximize the blood donation. We got ready all the required information for them, to conduct an excellent blood donation drive.

But a deeper side to it was the building up of a

database of internal blood donors. This database holds the blood groups and contact information of all employees who are willing to donate blood. Whenever there is an internal requirement for someone, in seconds the right place is searched and the donors found.

This was not all. It meant to extend the horizon of this activity. It also meant strengthening the blood donation service on a very frequent basis. Each of these companies chooses a blood bank in near vicinity. Whenever the blood bank is terribly out of stocks, the database could be used to search for some donors who go and donate to ensure that no one is refused blood at the critical moment.

This way, one company at a time, one blood bank at a time, we will slowly proceed to ensure that no blood bank faces 0 stock of any blood group.

Company Connect is a very ambitious project that is set to change the donation pattern of the people and optimize it for maximum utilization for the suffering.

The first feather in the Company connect Cap came in as Cap Gemini. With the immense support of the HR there, we could come up with an effective database of donors. Not only that, but the company also committed to arranging frequent camps. Manipal blood banks reported very poor platelets stocks and immediately donors from Cap Gemini came to rescue. When in an emergency no A- donor was found, another employee rose to the occasion.

The wheel is turning.. The Dawn is breaking.. The future promises smiles to all..

If I did 1% of one millionth of what I want to do The world would be a much better place to live in..

Association With Capgemini

Sankalp's association with Cap Gemini has been a successful one.

Firstly, together we have set up the database of all the employees within the company, (around 1500 to 2000 employees) with their blood groups and contact number.

This means that now we can get donors for a blood case without much tussle in case of an emergency.

A nodal Volunteer was appointed at Cap Gemini who was to take care of the donations from the organization.



Manipal Hospital, being the closest to the organization was chosen to be the blood bank that should be donated to.

Secondly we have also able to get around five moderators within Cap Gemini who would moderate the entire blood donation activity.

They would be a interface between the donor and the patient requiring blood. This means that within the company any requirement of

blood would be successfully completed and also requirements from outside if any.

The first break through came when one of the donors from the Capgemini database came ahead to donate for an emergency case. She came forward to donate at a time when there was no blood in the city of that group.

This was followed by 4 donations at Manipal to maintain the poor platelet stocks to a reasonable level. This time the donors were taken to the hospital where they donated.

Capgemini has extended it's commitment to the cause of blood by organizing a blood donation camp in the fourth week of May.

Overall the association with Capgemini has been on expected lines and the one to look forward.

Down the Memory Lane...

Nothing is impossible in Sankalp and I realized this during project "Koshish". We pushed ourselves to the extreme limit to do what we wanted to do. After exhausting all places from where we collected money to buy blankets for the earthquake victims, we were still short of cash. We targeted IISc which seemed impossible, but seeing the energy flowing in us, we were allowed to start collection drive there and thus, we could collect even more than expected.

— Ankita

Rakta Kranti

The challenge facing everyone today in blood service delivery is to ensure a safe and sustainable blood supply. This can be achieved only through recruitment and retention of voluntary, non-remunerated blood donors who donate through altruistic, humanitarian motives. It is well documented that there is generally no particular resistance to blood donation or reluctance to donate blood. In many instances people do not donate simply because no one has ever asked them to do so.

Rakta Kranti is an attempt to bring in 100% Voluntary blood donation in Bangalore by taking the message of blood donation straight to the community.

The first time we spoke about 100% Voluntary blood donation was at the inauguration of Disha. And by March 2007 we had planned Engineering Safe Blood Transfusion. This was a programme at Manipal Hospitals Bangalore where we invited the top transfusion specialists from the town to come in and share their ideas about blood donation with us. Student representatives from various colleges were invited. There were people from the industry. All the time, there was just one question whose answer was being sought—How to increase Voluntary Blood Donation. After knowing about the blood donation process and critical aspects of Blood Banking, the participants involved themselves in an active discussion to explore what can be done.

The primary line of action was seen in approaching the 300 colleges in Bangalore and requesting them for camps.

The following weeks involved rigorous cam-

paigns and personal visits to schools and colleges to bring in more camps. But, we must admit that the type of response we got was far from expected. Most Principals seemed to be least interested in anything to do with blood.

But that in no way means we are giving up. Our Volunteers are honing their skills to come to a situation when their confidence, knowledge and mission will reassure all the people and put an end to

all doubts.

While on one front the Volunteers were visiting colleges, a breakthrough camp came from Trianz Consulting Ltd. Bangalore on 9th March 2007. A whopping 72 units of blood were collected in the short span of 3 hours from a company of 200 employees. This set the pace right for the things to follow. Manipal blood bank was the participating blood bank in this camp.

A determination of a single person can make anything happen. We saw this statement taking shape when Rajrajeshwari English High School held a camp on 11th March, 2007. 22 units of blood were collected by Lions blood bank. The place where the camp was held is the area where maximum myths about blood donation prevail. Still a collection of these units by the efforts of a single man is highly commendable.

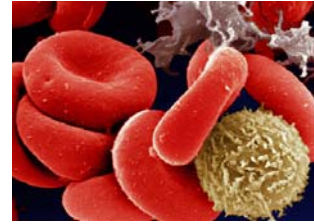
We have seen over past several projects that it takes some time for people to understand and accept new things. The static is too great for many to overcome at a short notice. We believe that is what is happening with Rakta Kranti. We look at 2007-08 as a great promise for this Project.



How Can You Contribute?

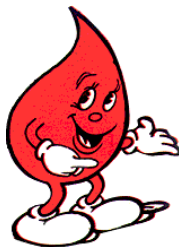
Donate Blood

The first and the biggest thing that you can do for Sankalp is to become a regular blood donor. This is the biggest need of the hour. Starting now try and donate blood every three to four months. Take the same message to your friends and family



Organize Blood Donations

One man can not just save 3 lives but many more. In your college, in your locality, on a birthday or on any other occasion, just arrange for more than 20-25 donors and organize a small blood donation drive. Not only will you be helping the patients, but you will also be providing people around you a chance to make a difference.



Join the Core

In case you are ready to take a step out of your comfort zones and keen on doing whatever it takes to make the blood scenario better, then read about our activities. If you are convinced, then come ahead and join us in the core implementation team.

Need Blood?
Dial 1062

Toll free helpline
that helps you
locate blood in
Bangalore.
Please spread the
message and help
save lives.

Help People Who Need Blood

All efforts of Sankalp will be a waste if people do not find blood on time. Join our life saving brigade. Publicize 1062 by messages, by stickers which we can provide on request) and let the community know that "Need Blood Call 1062". You can also forward all blood requests to our helpline 9880132850 and Sankalp.admin@gmail.com

Promote Our Projects

If you are in a company, read about Rakt Kranti and Company Connect. Help in making your organization and many more a part of these efforts. It is by the efforts of individuals alone that revolutions are born. Be the architects of The Blood Revolution where the entire society stands up to fight blood shortage.

Educate n Motivate

You may also work to raise the awareness in the society about blood donation. This will involve actively interaction and networking with the society by means of posters, meetings, talks, presentations and other means. We want the people to know the truth about blood. We want them to know that blood is not collected in bottles. We want to reassure them of the safety issues. And you can do it .

It sleeps deep within. But it must come out. Thoughts alone don't lead to a change Action Does

Project Tiranga

Project Tiranga

When it comes to direct action for the sake of the nation and its interests, we call it Project Tiranga. Its an attempt to bring in participation of people in National Festivals, prevent disrespect to the National Flag and ensure that the Martyrs are not forgotten.

Started around Independence day 2004, this Project has slowly increased in operational areas. We spread awareness and ask for participation.

We want to see the things that *symbolize National Pride to be placed with high dignity*. They are tokens that keep the sentiments going..

Project Tiranga is not an awareness drive. It is not a fight for something. It is not an activity to take out to the world. We consider Project Tiranga a very eccentric activity.



As Indians, the responsibilities that we have towards our nation are simply manifested in this Project. We come together as a group and celebrate *Indianism*. We salute our heroes, read about the, know them, find out what we can do to make things better and do the things that we think our nation expects from us.

All of us can always join in any activity of this Project. After all it is the Celebration of Nationhood.

The Beginning



A walk of 4 miles on the roads of a small town immediately after the Independence Day celebration revealed to one of our volunteer's that the National Flags that were supposed to be symbolizing our pride , were

finding their way into garbage bins and roads. Throughout the day he made attempts to collect the flags . Because it hurt him to see them in that condition so he did collect them. After washing and drying the paper and plastic National Flags , he *counted a total of around 200 units*.

He made attempts to find out from the Government the methods of proper disposal of the used Tiranga. The results were disappointing.

Even the very high officials in the state government did not have a reply.

The pain that was felt transformed into action for the festivals to come..

Independence Day 2006

K C General Hospital is one of the places in Bangalore where the most helpless come for treatment. This is the place where family members desert the suffering ..

We decided to celebrate our Independence with our Countrymen here.

All the Volunteers got up early morning and headed to KCG. The Hoisting of the Tiranga



and the singing of the National Anthem brought out the string feeling of proud that we have in us. This is one moment when we all of us bind into the same fabric. The fabric of our motherland.

The small group of students that we are, we have too flimsy resources to be able to bring sweets and gifts for all the patients. However we could somehow arrange for bananas and Parle biscuits.

With prior permission of the hospital administration we went to see the patients in the wards. Many of us, well protected by our family, for the first time in life saw the pain and the suffering that our countrymen go through. Each patient had a story to tell. All we could really do for them was to spend a minute or two by their side listening to them.

One thing that we would like to share here is that though most of us do not really understand Kannada, but still that day we had beautiful communication with the patients there. The spark in their eyes when they realize that some youngsters have come to see them, the glow on their face as they talked to us, the small little smile that came out tearing the barriers of the sorrow and the pain were an ex-

perience that we cannot forget.

We were there with our people. We were there with them for few minutes, but we guess it could make them smile. And this, without the borders and limitations of states, language, age, sex, caste or creed. The emotions are hard to depict in pen.

We walked back home taking with us the memories. Still sometimes, when someone is alone, a picture or two from that day flashes across our eyes. It was a very special Independence Day.



I blamed the entire universe for all its wrong doings to me until I looked into myself.

Republic Day 2007

Another small effort towards Mission 2020 and to nourish the feeling of being INDIAN we visited a small school in Tyagarajanagar.

This time the Volunteers had decided to go to some place in town where the children need some little help. By our humble means we



gathered a small amount of money. We thought that it would be a better idea to ask the school itself what they wanted us to bring. And this gave way to the addition of brand new spots equipment at the school. Along with this, the children got

new notebooks. They also got a carpet to put an end to sitting on the floor in class.

Only one person had visited the school earlier so the others did not know what to expect on the morning of the 26th. As we made our way through the narrow lanes of Tyagarajnagar we could see a remarkable difference in the quality of life with every step that we took forward. From the IT capital of the country we were slowly moving into a slum.

Once we reached the school, we had the staff and the children eagerly waiting for our arrival. Within minutes of our coming in, they started the program. The first smile that came to our face was probably radiated by the beaming and confident faces of the little kids there. Each one's eyes were glowing, promising a better future ahead.

We were glad to have parents of one of our Volunteers Smt. And Sh. J P Caourasia as the Chief Guests for the occasion. Sh. J P Chourasia, unfurled the Tricolour. At the end of the National anthem we started looking for the bags that had the equipment that we had got.

We thought that things were over.

We cannot describe the surprise that these beautiful young souls gave us in next 1 hour. Will you believe that in a field probably 3 times the size of your bed room, about 40 students paraded and also Saluted the Chief Guest. A battery of beauti-

fully worked out drills and dances, songs and music had been arranged.

No one would believe that in a school where the students from the weakest section of society come to study, such amazing work will be on display.

The beautiful coordination by the students and the excellent mentoring and teaching by their teachers, all left on us an impression that will not be equalled soon.

On that one day we felt the irony of modern day living. Though prosperity and riches shine in Bangalore, though Garuda and Forum are full of people, small places like this school where our future is built receives very little support. I must say, we walked back that day very happy about what those people in the school were and very guilty about the people who we are.

Next visit to the school is long awaited and will take shape soon.



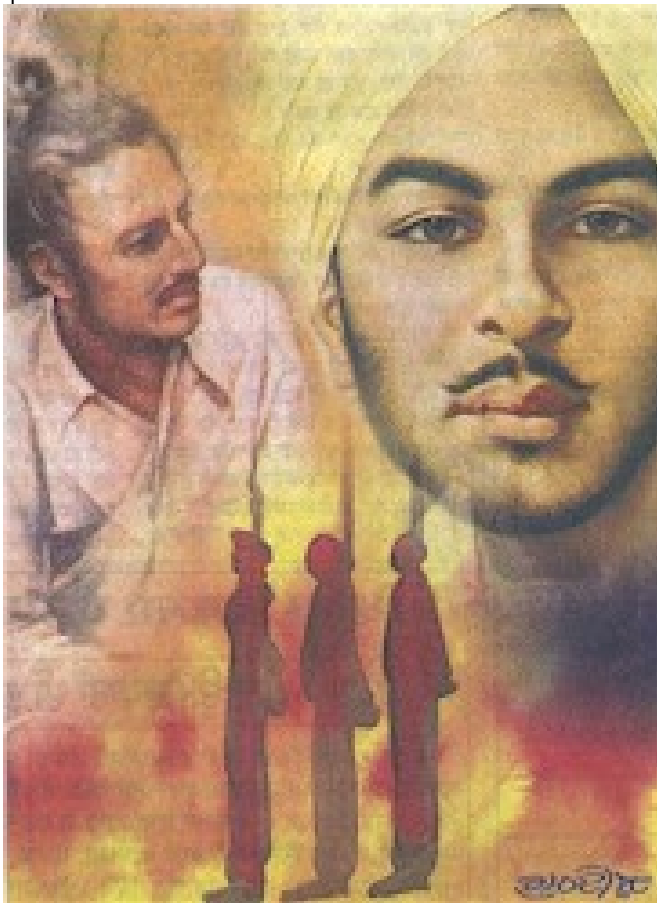
Shaheed

Ah! Not for idle Hatred
Not for Honour, Fame ,
Nor self Applause
But for the glory of the cause
You did
What will not be forgot.

In Lahore Central Jail, Bhagat Singh, Rajguru
and Sukhdev gave away their lives for us.

Last year when Sankalp celebrated the 75
years of the sacrifice of these men, we also de-
voted ourselves to know more about them .
Soon we knew there is some magic that binds
us to them.

This year 23rd march was a much awaited day.



We started off by holding a small ceremony in
the college to mark the occasion. We sang
Vande Mataram. Three of the volunteers pent 5
minutes each unfolding some of the lesser
known facts about these young men.

"Sarfaroshi Ki Tamanna" , the song that
sparked the fire in those revolutionaries was
beautifully presented. We spent some time re-
membering them with hundreds of the college
students who joined in.

Many of us do not know much about their real
motive. So, we decided to bring the film that
most closely resembles their real idea for all of
us. In the evening we had the screening of the
Legend of Bhagat Singh.

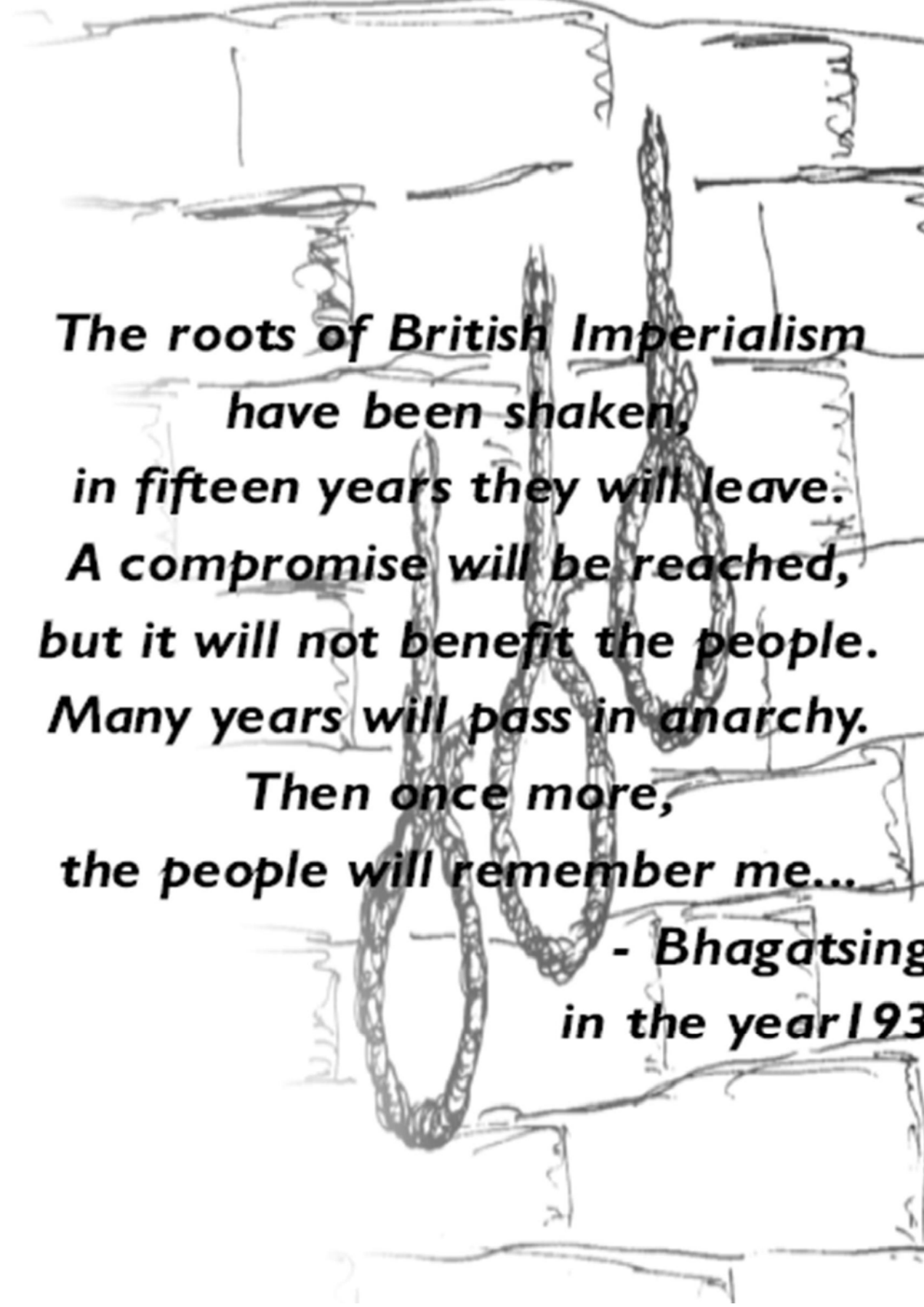
They did not merely talked about political free-
dom. They talked about freedom in all senses.
Freedom from tyranny and suffering. Freedom
from fear and inaction.. The freedom that they
dreamt of has not been realized to the fullest.
We are the people who they thought would re-
alize their dreams. Shaheed is an attempt to
keep reminding us this fact till we achieve the
goal.

Down the Memory Lane...

During "Shaheed"

The intensity of my voice during
shouting the slogans gave me the
power to do what I want to do.

-Vibha



**The roots of British Imperialism
have been shaken,
in fifteen years they will leave.
A compromise will be reached,
but it will not benefit the people.
Many years will pass in anarchy.**

**Then once more,
the people will remember me...**

**- Bhagatsingh
in the year 1931**

www.sankalpindia.net

Welcome to the world of Sankalp. I will be taking you into the world of

www.sankalpindia.net.

Lets us start with the reason for starting the site.

When Sankalp started 4 years back we were a handful of volunteer with very few task. But as the organization grew from MSRIT to Bangalore and thereafter as a nation wide organization, Sankalp felt a need for a platform for all the people to know its idea and philosophy. The site was to provide a medium to keep the geographically far apart well-wishers, volunteer and other people to remain connected with Sankalp. This website was to provide an opportunity to everyone to know, participate, and contribute in Sankalp work in their own ways.

I am happy to bring to your notice, that this indeed has been achieved. 14 users from Hyderabad, 10 from Delhi and more than 50 from others parts of the country are part of the active member chain of www.sankalpindia.net. I should point out here that, not just outside Bangalore, but even within the city, this website is helping people to exchange

ideas.

Lets us see some of the number associated with the site:

Authenticated user – 287

Pages – 1562

Hits -- more than 5 lakh

On average more than 100 people access our site from around the world.

Some technical Information:

This site is not a static collection of static pages. Running on a content management system named "Drupal" from open source community, our website is end to end packed with dynamic data. MySQL database provides storage and front end is coded with in PHP. In a simple man term, this website allows an armature user to create web pages just like profession.

Features –

Let me give a brief introduction about the features.

Blog:

Most hit and most demanding feature of the site. Any user who want to share his thought, feeling, experience, or knowledge use the blog space as a medium.

Forum:

A forum is a place in our site where we discuss our doubt or queries. By English language forum means common platform for all people to different category to express his view point.

Image Galleries:

Another one of the most demanding feature of the site. As its said "Image speaks a thousand words". People want to see more and more image than reading on the site. While working we try to capture the different moment so as to share them with you all. We have an organized system with proper hierarchy of image gallery with more than 500 image.

Comments:

Most common thing one can find on the site. It is the most easiest way to express ones

Events:

A small section in right bottom column in our site which give pointer about up coming events of the sankalp. This section keep people other than volunteers update about the work going on.

New Features:

Hero of the month:

There are numerous hero in the Indian history but either we have not read about them or have forgotten about them. This section reminds you of all heroes. This section will give you the real person you can look in the darkest of your time.

Sankalp samachar: Yes it is the news section of Sankalp which keep people updated about the activities going on inside Sankalp. You need not go through the whole website to get the updates about the Sankalp activities. Just look and read the Sankalp samachar next time.

Though for the moment:

Just give this thought a moment and you will find energy around you .Yes this section will fill you with energy and motivate you within seconds.

Performance Count:

This section gives you sankalp in numbers.

Number of volunteer

Number of donor.

Number of cases.

Number of cases.

Number of donation.

Future Planning:

We try our best to get the website as interactive and informative for the user. With this in mind we have some new section which will help to make site more informative.

Sankalp Giri.

FAQ about sankalp.

Know India.

Feed backs from people.

Know volunteers.

Project of the month.

Videos of the Sankalp.

So, summing up the reasons why you should visit our site:

It provides you in depth information on all the activities Sankalp has been doing.

It gives you a platform to share, discuss, help, and take help, about your dreams and your ideas with a group of fairly motivated positive thinkers.

It brings out the reality and the roots that somewhere down the line are being forgotten.

Its Fun, at least 100 odd users who exchange idea on a very frequent basis on the site will testify it.

Success or achievement is not the final goal.

It is the spirit in which you act that puts the seal of beauty upon your life.

Sankalp Giri

All these years Sankalp and Blood has been synonymous to each other but our dreams are much more than that. Here we have tried to put some of our principles which we try and follow. These are Sankalp Giri which were taught when we were in Kindergarden but forget as we grow up and face life. The volunteers of Sankalp get a platform to ponder over these small things and put them to use in real life. Here we offer you our SG cards. Pick whatever you think you can follow in your everyday life and understand what's life all about.....

Sankalp Giri

I will use Swadeshi product.

Why are we, as a nation so obsessed with foreign things? Is it a legacy of our colonial years? We want foreign television sets. We want foreign shirts. We want foreign technology. Why this obsession with everything imported?-- A.P.J. Abdul Kalam. From now, I will buy Indian product as far as possible.

You can do anything in this world if you don't look for Credit.

A commitment to ourselves.



Sankalp Giri

I will not cheat

It's always easy to take shortcut path to success but it takes strength of character to resist the temptation and stand for what is right. I will not lay the foundation of my life on quick fix approach. From now, I will not cheat.

It is only matter of time before which the truth will come out and the real character will show.

A commitment to ourselves.



It Sleeps Deep Within

But It Must Come Out

Feelings alone don't make a difference

Sankalp Giri

I will not waste food.

I have never seen hunger. I always had a three meals a day. But there are people in my country who die because of starvation. Just because I have it enough I am not going to waste food.

Just think about not having food for 48 hours.



A commitment to ourselves.

Sankalp Giri

I will not waste water.

When I see a tap running unattended, I will think for once about the huge number of people who in our nation suffer from droughts. I will take an initiative to close it. I'll do what it takes to save the water...

If you are not a part of solution, you are a problem itself.



A commitment to ourselves.

Sankalp Giri

I will help the accident victims.

When I see someone suffering from a accident neither will I sigh nor comment not steer in amazement. I will not believe that some one will come to help I will go ahead and help to my best.

Timely intervention by me could prevent a person from seeing the worst time in his/ her life.



A commitment to ourselves.

Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.

Sankalp Giri

No Blame Transfer.

Why do all of us find someone else to blame for all the wrong around us. I will break this blame transfer cycle. The question I will ask myself from now : "Is there something that I can do to solve this problem?"

Ask not what the country has done for you.
Ask what you can do for your country.

A commitment to ourselves.



Sankalp Giri

I will not bribe

They call it convenience tax. They pay it at all the places where they can. They cut short procedures, play with law and laugh about it. And then they say that things are not right. I will not be a hypocrite. Over convenience I will value principles and morality. From now, I will not bribe.

It takes guts to stand for what is right!

A commitment to ourselves.



Sankalp Giri

I will not litter.

I see all of them lowering the window of their cars and throwing the packets on street. I see them drop packets. I see them clean their houses and throw the garbage outside. But this is my land. My country. I will ensure that I do my bit in keeping it clean. Whatever other's do, I will drop the garbage in bins only.

A commitment to ourselves.



Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time -
Thomas Alva Edison

Disaster Mitigation and Management

Disaster Mitigation and Management Group

Pain of a fellow human has always inspired people to come forward to help. Probably this is what drew Sankalp into reaching out to the victims of the Tsunami in Nagapattinam with relief.

But the seed that was planted in the organization by that event took a different shape. Sankalp did not make a relief agency.

We as Indians have a natural tendency not to prepare for future calamities. We wake up when it's too late. Grass root level education on disasters and modern preparedness and mitigation techniques is the need of the hour.

Sankalp Disaster Mitigation and Management Group is an initiative to overcome the shackles of unpreparedness in the society and thereby promote education, preparedness and mitigation.

We look towards minimizing damage.

We work to build a safer society.

Why Disaster Mitigation

The count of disasters and the damage that they have caused has been increasing at an alarming rate.

Recent times have witnessed alternating droughts and floods in the same area. Its snowing in deserts and the temperature in warm areas goes sub-zero.

God seems to be unhappy with us.

And then, the man made disasters are competing for supremacy over their natural counterparts

too. Terrorist attacks, fires and biological/chemical contaminations have made history in recent times.

We are sitting on time bombs ready to explode. The technological advancements in bio/chemical/nuclear warfare are making us vulnerable like never before.

So, it's high time that we pull up our socks and start thinking seriously about methods of controlling or at least minimizing the damage in any future disasters.

For a safe and secure future for ourselves and our society we need to immediately group up and start making ourselves less vulnerable.



Survival of the Fittest is the only rule nature follows.

Winners don't do different things but they do things differently

Our Idea Of Relief And Rescue

If no one is interested but the pain is immense,

Lord Show Me the Way

Sankalp has been going around the country for relief missions. Here is the reason why Kashmir Valley called us for relief because although it was far from us, but most of the country men refused to acknowledge its pain.

Safety concerns

and fear, some real, some not quite so real. This is what prevented large scale mobilization of people into offering help to the people of Kash-



mir. This was our work zone then. We went with supplies of 600 blankets. These were distributed in the most remote location 200 km off Srinagar

and 3 km from International LOC at Tangdhar.

We work in cases where very few would like to Dare.. For us, anywhere in this country, pain is the same.

Down the Memory Lane...

March 23, 2007 was the first time I got a scope to attend "Shaheed". I had to talk on Shaheed Bhagat Singh. I was confused as to what should I say. Rajat sir then asked me to take up one of the legend's lower courtroom speeches. His speeches were sheer class! When I was delivering the speech, I could feel the fire in me. That day, I believe, was my most memorable day after joining Sankalp India Foundation. -Buddhabrata

Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up -
Thomas Alva Edison

School Disaster Preparedness Programme



Our Children definitely deserve better.

Each disaster in recent times has seen damage to our chil-

dren. They are the ones whose safety is the biggest issue as they are not capable enough to defend themselves if not trained properly.

Sankalp has taken up the task to take to the schools of our country the best of the best technologies from around the globe to foster safety at school. We are promoting disaster education in schools so as to make our chil-

dren "Super Kids" who are packed with knowledge to mitigate disasters. Beyond bookish knowledge which is un-interesting to the young minds we are exploring the best techniques befitting the psyche of the children. Modern educational tools are being employed for this purpose.

At the same time we are assisting schools to put up their Emergency Response Plans. Not only do these activities promote disaster preparedness and management, but they also lead to an organized response in the event of a mishap. This is bound to save a lot of pain and grief.

Keep Them Safe.. They Will safeguard The Future

Ramadevi School Preparedness Program

R N Bhargava Inter College, Mussoorie is a school that is in zone 5 of the earthquake vulnerability map. It is also endangered by landslides and several other hazards.

Once we were sure that Sankalp is going to start working towards school safety, we started work immediately.

: -) As they say in Hindi - "

Loha garam hai Hathoda Maar Do"

So we did. Started off with a school preparedness programme when we were infants.

We collaborated with the Government of Uttaranchal to give this School Safety Program

to this school. We were only facilitators. We got the arrangements done and Disaster Mitigation & Management Centre, Dehradun delivered the programme to 72 individuals.

Our first venture into making schools safe, the program was highly appreciated and well received.

The results or lets say the benefits of the program were seen on the October 8th, 2005 when the children boldly faced the powerful earthquake.

Sadly, we have not been able to give the school safety document to the DMMC so far. Delay is regretted.

Making Yourself Safe

What can You do to make yourself safe?

Information is the key to safety. It's the starting point for preparedness. Go forward and find out about possible hazards. For a common man the following are the first steps towards a safer future.

1> Spend some time reading material on site like ours. These will be able to expose you to the basic approaches you can use to assess your safety and also guide you into steps that can be taken to improve it.

2> List out the possible hazards in your vicinity. Make it as comprehensive as possible. There may be relatively infrequent disasters that you may be exposed to.

3> Look into the degree of preparedness is the

next thing you must look at. List down what is it that you have that prepares you to reduce the impact of the spotted hazards.

4> Following this you need to think about the methods that can be adopted to control and mitigate possible future disasters. That is, you will work towards preparedness in this phase.

All of the above are not a single person's activity. Disasters are a community matter and so they are to be dealt with as a group. Possible groups are

>> Family (first and most important)

>> Workplace (schools and Offices)

>> Locality

Sankalp can assist you to work towards your safety in the first two areas.

Down the Memory Lane...

Take the name of Sankalp and most of the people around you get hyper active because it's beyond their imagination why the volunteers work without expecting anything in return. When I joined college there were lots of people who influenced me not to join Sankalp. Everyone had some funny reasons. Some said that you won't be able to concentrate on your studies (which wasn't able to deter me because I anyway don't do that) while others said it's useless. But I gave it a shot and answered them satisfactorily and was very happy when those people who were against Sankalp became a volunteer and now work for a cause. The wheels of revolution are turning. Now I know how to manage my personal life along with work. Everyone has preferences in life and I feel very satisfied when a blood case is given a preference by me and the patient and his relatives bless me from the core of their heart. That's the only personal motive I work for.

- Rahul

Kashmir Earthquake



It's the soil for which they lay down their life. The same soil which we call our mother. It's a part of our own country.

really cared.

600 blankets were all that we could take to



Then why do we feel differently for it?

Devastation was close to complete in the Tangdhar region of Kashmir. The earthquake had taken its toll.

We initially thought that large scale mobilization will take place. We thought that we are so far that we won't be able to reach the place in time. We were wrong. Something deep within drove us and gave us the directions to proceed for relief. Reaching the place we saw that there were very few who



Tangdhar. Tejas Networks and Mr Suvajit Sen placed their trust in us. Students from Indian Institute of Science, MSR College of Law, Degree and P U, Diploma, M S R Institute of Technology, M S R Institute of Management, M S R Dental College and few more, all joined in hands to show that we care..

Down the Memory Lane...

Till my last breath I am not going to forget those days. The days when we used to sleep whenever we got time wherever we found place. The days when the body mind and soul used to work in unison towards a single target. The learning from childhood used to come to the mind. Challenges looked welcoming and refusal went un-heard. Those 12 days outside Bangalore, when we the common people, the small insignificant few, worked our way towards our dreams.. Who gets such joy in life? And what else can compare it? It might be aimed at providing relief to someone

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away

First Aid Training



Instead of waiting for someone else to come and help, or to listen to 20 people advising different things, in case of

medical emergencies we thought it fit to learn

first aid.

For 20 odd people first aid training coupled with response training was delivered at MSRIT. The enthusiastic students learnt the tips and tricks of first aid and vowed to deliver the knowledge and the help to the needy.

This small attempt is a small step in improving the preparedness of the society.

More such activities are planned for the future..

Help in Bangalore Floods

Outside the college main gate honking endlessly was all that could be heard when torrential rains hit Bangalore. Students had parked vehicles in the middle of the road, adding to the poor condition of the already narrow road. Everyone was trying to make their way ahead by any possible mean they could use.



We stepped in. We removed the obstructing two

wheelers and guided the traffic for two hours. In pouring rain volunteers of the Department of

IEM joined in. We could help people reach their homes on time..

Evening was spent amidst people in a relief shelter on outer ring road. We took drinking water with us and distributed it there.

Tamil Nadu Floods

When the Thanjavur Red Cross saw that the people were suffering like never before in the repeated floods of November, 2005, they invited Sankalp to come forward and help.

If we see a thing happening again and again, we become de-sensitized to it. This is what happens in floods now. Today we take floods like a normal happening. At times it is not so normal for the suffering

With Collaborative effort from the girls of Mount Carmel College we could gather some relief supplied. Food for 250 people was packed and transported to Thanjavur and then distributed in the relief camps. 150 families were recipients to the care and concern the students from Bangalore offered them.



Again a small step.. But it promises to be the starting point.

Tsunami Relief Work

With the first news of the disaster reaching the volunteers, The adrenaline started flowing in blood. Without the proper information on the nature, extent and the precise locations, it was very difficult to proceed. But there was no stopping and waiting.

Early in the morning at 3 am the first Sankalp volunteer left for disaster hit areas in Tamil Nadu.

We were the first from outside Tamil Nadu to have reached Nagapattinam for help. The scene was not at all good. Its only a miracle

that our volunteer who had not seen death in its most gruesome form earlier did not get traumatized on seeing 3000 human bodies dumped over one other at the base hospital in Nagapattinam.

The little we could do then was to assist the Red Cross in disposing off the bodies and handling them to the people who wanted to

take back their dear one's body.

Students from our college came forward and relief supplies were gathered and transported to Nagapattinam.

There was not much that we could do for the victims there. But it spark us to proceed on the road that led to Disaster Mitigation and Management Group.

Parivartan - Change for better

Parivartan- A Change

A FRIEND DIED DUE TO ELECTROCUTION

Can we let more people die due to negligence?

Tejas Acharya, an engineering student from M.S.Ramaiah Institute of Technology was electrocuted to death on 25th May 2006. He died of electrocution because he stepped on an untended live wire.

When we come across any such happening, we have few choices to make. One choice is to just think about the incidence for a minute and then resume our work. The other

choice is to see what could have been done to prevent the happening.

Many people would have noticed that wire in that place. But none of them cared to bring it to the notice of the authorities. Had someone taken a little care to see that that wire was repaired, we would not have lost our friend?

We have decided that we will bring in a change. We will put in an effort to see that no one else suffer this way. No we are not going out for a protest march. All we are asking for is a little concern from the people's side. We are launching a campaign to encourage people from all over the city to shed negligence and report any live wires that they notice to concerned authorities.



If we citizens of this country start taking responsibility of the things happening around us , only then will there be a change.

So what are you waiting for? Join us now.

Please do something. Make a better world.

What has to be done?

Sankalp is networking with conscientious individuals around the town from various institutions. All what is required of them is a little time and effort. We will be sending them posters which they have to put up through out their

institutions. They can also choose to send messages, forward mails and thereby include larger number of people.

A little time from their side will take the message to hundreds of others around them. As different individuals do the same in their institutions together we will be able to take the message to countless number of people in no time. Even if the minute fraction of these people starts taking positive steps, it will be enough to avert such disasters in future. We have requested BESCOM to respond to any such complaint to their fastest.

Our request to you is to put up posters, talk to people, get involved, involve more people and thereby bring in a change for better in the world around you.

*I have something
to say*

A girl from Calcutta

By Venugopal

29th April 2006, Saturday afternoon I got a call from an auto driver, who took us to 'Home of Hope' to admit an old lady. He gave the information that there is a girl who desperately needed help. I met him and the girl along with two volunteers. The girl (Name Reena 15 yr old) was looking very much depressed and she wanted to go back to her place (Calcutta). She was working in a house since 8 months. Since she had problem she had left the house and decided to go back to her place. I thought she might have experienced some serious problem and she needed to be counseled. We took her for lunch and one of our volunteer spoke to her to know if she had any problem. After a long interaction between the girl, volunteer and a Bengali speaking friend of us, we got to know that she was beaten and verbally harassed by one of the member in the house she was working in. She did not want to go back to

the same house. She did not know any one in Bangalore. She was helpless. It was decided that she can go back to her place but she had no money. We bought her ticket, food and boarded her on the train to Calcutta. I don't know what she would have done when she had no money, no house, no relatives. Now I hope she will have better life when she reaches her place.

A small story..

By Ankita

Once all village people decided to pray for rain as they had famine. So on the day of prayer all people gathered to pray and only one boy came with an umbrella. That's faith.. Never loose it.



Can you make a difference?

By Rahul Mourya

In a couple of days I would be leaving for Bangalore. Hopefully the boring life which I have been facing for the last some months will come to an end and I will get busy and find a new meaning of life. During the last some days I have been doing a lot of thinking-some good and some bad but mostly revolving around the surroundings which affect me. Things like illiteracy and poverty have been haunting me. Some days back I went with my parents for shopping. I picked up 4 Moustache jeans and wanted to buy all of them because each one of them had a new look. But my mom settled for only 2 jeans citing the reason that my waist is never constant and I already had many jeans. I was very angry at her-so angry that I refused to have dinner and headed straight for home. On the way our car stopped at a traffic signal and I saw a semi naked child banging his hand at the window pane. His body was soaked with dirt and there were tears in his eyes. I turned my gaze so that the kid goes away- but the signal turned green and the car moved. I remembered the incident again when I wore one of the jeans the next day. Here I was who refused dinner because I was 'angry' with my mom and there was that boy who had to run in the middle of the road, semi clad, with the hope that someone will give him a rupee with which he can eat something. Here I was who wanted jeans because they had something new in them despite of having loads of other clothes and there was that kid who would consider himself lucky if he found something to wear. I felt guilty of myself. Why does such disparity occur? I have no might of my own- I am what I am because of my parents. I don't contribute anything in the fact that I lead a good life and yet I have the audacity to turn my gaze away from that boy.. and yet I have the courage to tell people whom I see begging to earn and live

a good life when I myself am so lazy that I just go about ordering things around.... We have it in us to lecture people but not once do we think that what if we were in their place. I am not telling that I believe in giving alms to anyone and everyone who asks for it, but it at least gives my brain a racking. Can I do something to help these people? And I get the answer as a big NO. I can't do it alone. I still don't know what's gonna happen to my future then how can I think of others. I have plans to set up an NGO but it's just that- a plan. What the hell am I doing right now. I am frustrated. I am angry at myself. What I propose that some of us unite and do something. A few days back I gave some of my friends a treat because I was leaving Calcutta. Absurd.. now it will sound so but I never thought twice before giving the party. I feel guilty now. I am not saying just give the money to the poor but we can at least help in setting a small shop or something for them. It's just a thought but I am sure if we unite we can help them. I have never done anything like this before and I don't know if I will be able to do so. But I will try and make a difference. A thing started is half done and I promise that I will try and start things around while I am still studying. I know I will do something in the future but why wait for the future?

P.S.-I wrote this before coming to Bangalore

Chance

By Rajat

"Do not wait to strike until the iron is hot, but make it hot by striking it"-William B Sprague. This statement is worth my recommendation as it puts up in simple words the approach that we need to take. Most of the time we are waiting to get the right opportunity. What we do not do is make that chance. Today living is a competition on every level. If you wait for things to go your way, sorry you will never rise. On the

other hand, practice bending things to give way to your thoughts and convictions.. You will rise.. And one more last thing. Keep your goal good and pure.. Let you not realize at the destination that this is not what you wanted..

Aim of Life

By Venugopal

The aim of life is to grow. Growth in every sphere of life. Be it an individual personality development, a family or anything which adds to the betterment. We need to grow socially, economically, educationally by solving the

problems we come across to make the place around us a better place to live. We being the part of society its our responsibility to build a better society for us and for the future. So lets grow together.

Behind money!?

By Pooja



Did you know this "amazing" but disheartening fact---- In our nation there is one doctor for every 4000 people

where as in America for every 1600 people

there is one INDIAN doctor. Why do these people have to go and serve other countries leaving their own nation?? They take birth here, eat the food grown on this land, inhale the air blowing on this land, get educated on this land and go pour all their knowledge to nowhere instead of serving their motherland...is this fair?....This is just true to the dialogue in the film Swedes-"It is like giving light to other's house!

Do you have 10 min to spare for your the country ?

Spoken by Dr. Kalam

By Smruthi

Allow me to come back with a vengeance. Got 10 minutes for your country? If yes, then read; otherwise, choice is yours. YOU say that our government is inefficient. YOU say that our laws are too old. YOU say that the municipality does not pick up the garbage. YOU say that the phones don't work, the railways are a joke, The airline is the worst in the world, mails never reach their destination. YOU say that our country has been fed to the dogs and is the absolute pits. YOU say, say and say. What do YOU do about it? Take a person on his way to Singapore . Give him a name - YOURS. Give him a face - YOURS. YOU walk out of the airport and you are at your International best. In Singapore you don't throw cigarette butts on the roads or eat in the stores. YOU are as proud of their Underground links as they are. You pay \$5 (approx. Rs. 60) to drive through Orchard Road (equivalent of Mahim Causeway or Pedder Road) between 5 PM and 8 PM. YOU come back to the parking lot to punch your parking ticket if you have over stayed in a restaurant or a shopping mall ir-

YOU say that our country has been fed to the dogs and is the absolute pits. YOU say, say and say. What do YOU do about it?

respective of your status identity... In Singapore you don't say anything, DO YOU? YOU wouldn't dare to eat in public during Ramadan, in Dubai . YOU would not dare to go out without your head covered in Jeddah. YOU would not dare to buy an employee of the telephone exchange in London at 10 pounds (Rs.650) a month to, 'see to it that my STD and ISD calls are billed to someone else.' YOU would not dare to speed beyond 55 mph (88 km/h) in Washington and then tell the traffic cop, '*Jaanta hai main kaun hoon* (Do you know who I am?). I am so and so's son. Take your two bucks and get lost.' YOU wouldn't chuck an empty coconut shell anywhere other than the garbage pail on the beaches in Australia and New Zealand . Why don't YOU spit *Paan* on the streets of Tokyo ? Why don't YOU use examination jockeys or buy fake certificates in Boston ??? We are still talking of the same YOU. YOU who can respect and conform to a foreign system in other countries but cannot in your own. You who will throw papers and cigarettes on the road the moment you touch Indian ground. If you can be an involved and appreciative citizen in an alien country, why cannot you be the same here in India ? Once in an interview, the famous Ex-municipal commissioner of Bombay , Mr. Tinaikar, had a point to make. 'Rich people's dogs are walked

We sit back wanting to be pampered and expect the government to do everything for us whilst our contribution is totally negative.

on the streets to leave their affluent droppings all over the place,' he said. 'And then the same people turn around to criticize and blame the authorities for inefficiency and dirty pavements. What do they expect the officers to do? Go down with a broom every time their dog feels the pressure in his bowels? In America every dog owner has to clean up after his pet has done the job. Same in Japan . Will the Indian citizen do that here?' He's right. We go to the polls to choose a government and after that forfeit all responsibility. We sit back wanting to be pampered and expect the government to do everything for us whilst our contribution is totally negative. We expect the government to clean up but we are not going to stop chucking garbage all over the place nor are we going to stop to pick up a stray piece of paper and throw it in the bin. We expect the railways to provide clean bathrooms but we are not going to learn the proper use of bathrooms. We want Indian Airlines and Air India to provide the best of food and toiletries but we are not going to stop pilfering at the least opportunity. This applies even to

the staff who is known not to pass on the service to the public. When it comes to burning social issues like those related to women, dowry, girl child! and others, we make loud drawing room protestations and continue to do the reverse at home. Our excuse? 'It's the whole system which has to change, how will it matter if I alone forego my sons' rights to a dowry.' So who's going to change the system? What does a system consist of ? Very conveniently for us it consists of our neighbors, other households, other cities, other communities and the government. But definitely not me and YOU. When it comes to us actually making a positive contribution to the system we lock ourselves along with our families into a safe cocoon and look into the distance at countries far away and wait for a Mr. Clean to come along & work miracles for us with a majestic sweep of his hand or we leave the country and run away. Like lazy cowards hounded by our fears we run to America to bask in their glory and praise their system. When New York becomes insecure we run to England . When England experiences unemployment, we take the next flight out to the Gulf. When the Gulf is war struck, we demand to be rescued and brought home by the Indian government. Nobody thinks of feeding the system. Our conscience is mortgaged to

money. Dear Indians, The article is highly thought inductive, calls for a great deal of introspection and pricks one's conscience too.... I am echoing J. F. Kennedy's words to his fellow Americans to relate to Indians..... ' ASK WHAT WE CAN DO FOR INDIA AND DO WHAT HAS TO BE DONE TO MAKE INDIA WHAT AMERICA AND OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES ARE TODAY' Lets do what India needs from us.

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Five lessons..

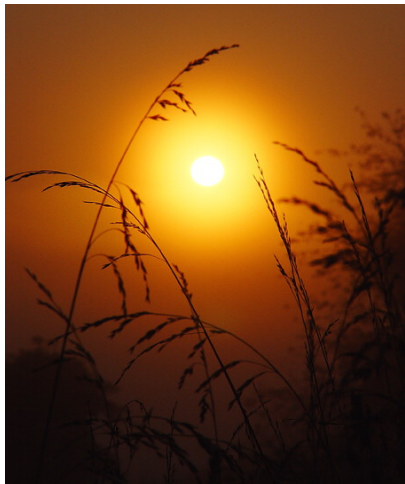
By Ankita

Five (5) lessons to make you think about the way we treat people.

1 - First Important Lesson - Cleaning Lady. During my second month of college, our professor gave us a pop quiz. I was a conscientious student and had breezed through the questions until I read the last one: "What is the first name of the woman who cleans the school?" Surely this was some kind of joke. I had seen the cleaning woman several times. She was tall, dark-haired and in her 50s, but how would I know her name? I handed in my paper, leaving the last question blank. Just before class ended, one student asked if the last question would count toward our quiz grade. "Absolutely," said the professor. "In your careers, you will meet many people. All are significant. They deserve your attention and care, even if all you do is smile and say "hello." I've never forgotten that lesson. I also learned her name was Dorothy.

2. - Second Important Lesson - Pickup in the Rain One night, at 11:30 p.m., an older African American woman was standing on the side of an Alabama highway trying to en-

dure a lashing rainstorm. Her car had broken down and she desperately needed a ride. Soaking wet, she decided to flag down the next car. A young white man stopped to help her, generally unheard of in those conflict-filled 60s.. The man took her to safety, helped her get assistance and



put her into a taxicab. She seemed to be in a big hurry, but wrote down his address and thanked him. Seven days went by and a knock came on the man's door. To his surprise, a giant console color TV was delivered to his home. A special note was attached.. It read: "Thank you so much for assisting me on the highway the other night. The rain drenched not only my clothes, but also my spirits. Then you came along. Because of you, I was able to make it to my dying husband's bedside just before he passed away... God

bless you for helping me and unselfishly serving others." Sincerely, Mrs. Nat King Cole.

3 - Third Important Lesson - Always remember those who serve.

In the days when an ice cream sundae cost much less, a 10-year-old boy entered a hotel coffee shop and sat at a table. A waitress put a glass of water in front of him. "How much is an ice cream sundae?" he asked. "Fifty cents," replied the waitress. The little boy pulled is hand out of his pocket and studied the coins in it. "Well, how much is a plain dish of ice cream?" he inquired. By now more people were waiting for a table and the waitress was growing impatient. "Thirty-five cents," she brusquely replied. The little boy again counted his coins. "I'll have the plain ice cream," he said. The waitress brought the ice cream, put the bill on the table and walked away. The boy finished the ice cream, paid the cashier and left. When the waitress came back, she began to cry as she wiped down the table. There, placed neatly beside the empty dish, were two nickels and five pennies.. You see, he couldn't have the sundae, because he had to have enough left to leave her a tip.

4 - Fourth Important Lesson. - The obstacle in Our Path. In ancient times, a King had a boulder placed on a roadway. Then he hid himself and watched to see if anyone would remove the huge rock. Some of the king's wealthiest merchants and courtiers came by and simply walked around it. Many loudly blamed the King for not keeping the roads clear, but none did anything about getting the stone out of the way. Then a peasant came along carrying a load of vegetables. Upon approaching the boulder, the peasant laid down his burden and tried to move the stone to the side of the road. After much pushing and straining, he finally succeeded. After the peasant picked up his load of vegetables, he noticed a purse lying in the road where the boulder

had been. The purse contained many gold coins and a note from the King indicating that the gold was for the person who removed the boulder from the roadway. The peasant learned what many of us never understand! Every obstacle presents an opportunity to improve our condition.

5 - Fifth Important Lesson - Giving When it Counts...

Many years ago, when I worked as a volunteer at a hospital, I got to know a little girl named Liz who was suffering from a rare & serious disease. Her only chance of recovery appeared to be a blood transfusion from her 5-year old brother, who had miraculously survived the same disease and had developed the antibodies needed to combat the illness. The doctor explained the situation to her

little brother, and asked the little boy if he would be willing to give his blood to his sister. I saw him hesitate for only a moment before taking a deep breath and saying, "Yes I'll do it if it will save her." As the transfusion progressed, he lay in bed next to his sister and smiled, as we all did, seeing the color returning to her cheek. Then his face grew pale and his smile faded. He looked up at the doctor and asked with a trembling voice, "Will I start to die right away". Being young, the little boy had misunderstood the doctor; he thought he was going to have to give his sister all of his blood in order to save her. "Work like you don't need the money, love like you've never been hurt, and dance like you do when nobody's watching."

FORGET NOT!

By Smruthi Aravind

Forget not!! years ago INDIA gained its power, not by doing but by suffering. Forget not!! now you are freemen living with pleasure, only because of the noble, whose sacrifices in the minds of the masses are still lingering..... Can you sleep with you country burning with misery? Can you think of a great thing done by a coward? Bold words and bolder deeds are to show my country the essence of glory..... Look not back! march forward!! Those uncared, those illiterate, the poor who sink lower and lower everyday who feel the blows showered upon them than anyone else more.... who work day and night without any remuneration.... Are they not your brethren with your flesh and blood? The land of moral perfection. the youth of out-breaking confidence... are facing the challenge of changing times...CORRUPTION.

Instigate the inferno which shall burn corruption and ignite the intelligence..... Rise up! brave lads! wake up the power latent!!! MY INDIA, the highest heaven would like, the smell of sweat of my countrymen, rather than the sweet fragrance from the foreign flower garden. TOIL! BE BRAVE!! YOU ARE BORN TO SERVE YOUR COUNTRY!!! Annihilate! oh my audacious!! Begin the Armageddon with undaunted energy! Tear the sickening factors apart! The strong zealous youth of India.... No one is ever powerful to thwart you!!!

SERVING YOUR COUNTRY IS NOT A SACRIFICE. ITS A PRIVILEGE.

Here I stand a criminal in my own court

By Pravachak

My walking on the road has become difficult. I have become mad. When I see a helpless, my mind asks me to move on but my heart curses me for my insensitivity. I am, but one man. I do not like to see old people and children struggling to cross the road. The picture of a man starving on the footpath tears through me. Poor kids begging on the road is not my India. My philosophy says-"Work to shape your dream world". But I find myself helpless. How can I change the situation? What makes me

feel for these people? Why can't I just overlook and move on? My job, my existence, my hands, my eyes, all are in question. I stand as a criminal in front of the Jury of my heart. Finding answers..

Be determined not to curse anything outside, not to lay the blame upon anyone outside, but stand up, lay the blame on yourself. You will find that is always true. Get hold of yourself.

For Students having Placement ahead...

By Jayesh

I thought of sharing my college to corporate switching experience with all of you. You may find it bit long but you will appreciate it only if you read it till the end. After enjoying my last few semesters (after placement) and finishing off all the formalities of the university (ie. 8th Sem project and exams etc...). I was ready for the corporate life. After college I had got good holiday of 3 months which I enjoyed to the most. Now after all this fun and *masti* finally the day came (4th Sep) when I entered corporate life. It was a day I was waiting silently for a long time, fully prepared (mentally) to start my professional life. Slowly days start passing as during initial days we had to only listen to PPT about soft skills, workplace etiquette, Phone Etiquette etc ...Slowly 15 days were over and our technical training started. I thought that was the time I was waiting for to win the world. But it was little disappointing to note that again in technical training we had nearly same schedule, to listen to lecturer and do some hands-on (lab exercise) which was like a child play. We used to get some assignment and deadline but that was too simple to make me tense. I tried

to finish the work **as far as possible**. But I could remain relaxed as most (80%) people never submitted their assignment. Slowly pressure started building. We were asked to submit all assignment towards the end. We had some special design exercise which makes sure that all people go through tremendous pressure. I worked hard and stretched myself **as far as I can** to give my best. Finally the training came to an end and I left with mixed feeling as I had completed training with decent score but deep inside I was not a happy person as I had expected more from it. Today when I look-back I can say that it taught me one of the most important lessons which I had always heard read but never understood. That was: ITS ONLY ATTITUDE THAT MATTERS. By now you must be wondering what attitude has to do with all this. Let me explain: In life we face many challenges (small/big). Challenges need not to be like as its shown in films where your life is involved in it. Challenges can be as simple as participating in college competition or facing VTU exams or dealing with unusual situations in life. We have lot of options to face these situations like simply doing things half heartedly or trying to do well or doing well or stretching

ourselves as far as possible or doing it in the right way by giving what ever it requires (hard work, courage, and separation). ATTITUDE of person is all about choosing one among this path, which slowly become its habit. I had written in last paragraph that I worked as hard as I could. This is because this is my attitude. So it has become my habit and it remains same when I joined corporate life. It does not change overnight. I am sharing this experience with all of you because I feel it important after I came to know that juniors (who are having placement this semester) are choosing easy path (Quick Fix approach like Personality Development course). By this they will land up in one of few starting companies as it's a matter of pride to get selected as soon as possible. But this approach will become habit without there knowing and they will realize it in there latter life. I hope I have made my point clear. Before choosing any path, think again. You may feel that it is very difficult right now but you will like choosing it after it for the rest of your life. The people who are in corporate life can also share there view. Moral of story: ITS ATTITUDE THAT MATTERS AT LAST.

If

Written by Rudyard Kipling

By Tarun Sonkya

Brother Square-Toes' - Rewards and Fairies

If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,

If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;

If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream - and not make dreams your master;

If you can think - and not make thoughts your aim;

If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same;

If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:

If you can make one heap of all your

winnings And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;

If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: 'Hold on!'

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings - nor lose the common touch,

If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,

If all men count with you, but none too much;

If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And - which is more - you'll be a Man, my son!

Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936)

If we did all the things we are capable of, we would literally astound ourselves

Fighting The Static..

Its diverse ingredients contributing in their own unique way for its betterment builds a "good" society. An idea turns into a dream and into a passion and finally into a reality not by the efforts of some sporadic factors, but by that inexplicable blend of small things, whose absence in the right proportion results in a magnanimous catastrophe of the passion that burned within the mind and heart..

"Rome was not built in seven days". "Failure is the stepping stone to success". and "Genius is 99% perspiration and 1 % inspiration". We hear and read these things repeatedly. But have we ever wondered about the degree of truth, which is signified by each of these adages and the thousands of others, which ask you to never look back and tread along the path of righteousness and belief, to forfeit the fear of failure, to view every unsuccessful venture as learning and as a blessing in disguise? Legends over the past centuries have established that every such adage is a phenomenon whose understanding can only be linked to the experience of achieving or conceiving some actions whose impact goes far beyond the horizons of the human senses.

But then, every one of us goes through a period of unrelenting madness, a time, which creates a void within us, questions the significance of our beliefs and rattles the "I can do it" stigma within us. It is a phase, whose passage is a bane, whose memories serve as a pointer, that all was not well over the days gone by. What will you do when you face such a circumstance? Give up or persist? The answer can be found only by "peeping" right into your thoughts. Is persistence, perspiration, struggle only words to be mugged by a student going for an entrance exam or are they feelings that convey a message?

With these thoughts, let me put down a small story of an unbelievable chain of events in the life of a young man who learns some of life's subtleties, which till then according to him were only a boring part of his granny's tales, which he believed can never be truth, for he felt the world was filled with "humane" individuals who could make any sacrifice for a good cause. Here it goes,

Akash had a normal life with a good mixture of work, sports and friends. He always had a notion that he had to help

someone in distress, somebody, who though lived in this world of education and opportunities, could not fight an "organized" structure that governed the manner in which some things functioned. But he never knew how. He knew what he wanted but never knew where to start, until one fine day when he met up with a group of like-minded individuals.



The town that they lived in was a major manufacturing hub. Big business families had their units set up there. But most of these industries never bothered to address issues like pollution and cleanliness. The waste would usually be let into the beautiful river that was the pride of their city or disposed of unscientifically into open spaces. This young group decided to act.

They knew that there was a waste disposal and recycling unit at a little offset from the main industrial area. But most industries opted to ignore it's presence for the cost involved in transportation and recycling reusable products. For most of the industries the option of dirtying the rivers and open spaces fitted well into their budget and middle men basked in the sunshine. These "middle-men" were the private transporters who collected and dumped waste. Most of the industrialists failed to believe that these actions would have serious repercussions after some two decades. Newspapers highlighted the issue, protests and demonstrations were held by social service groups, most of which were poorly organized and were unconvincing. But all these fell on deaf ears. The vicious association of intermediaries and industrialists was backed by the blessings of powerful politicians who ran the show from behind. Ironically, the waste disposal-recycling unit was a government venture.

The band of revolutionaries Akash teamed up with wished to fight this. They dreamt that one day every manufacturing unit in the town would wake up to a new beginning. They be-

lieved that if they persisted they could convince the tycoons to act responsibly. They decided to talk to the concerned people in these organizations rather that act passively by holding protests and shouting slogans. They named their group as "PARIVARTAN". They decided on a course of action. They wanted to network all manufacturing units to the disposal and recycling unit and also wanted to force the organizations to adopt some environmentally safe practices. Everything was well structured. The ideas looked clear, the confidence levels soared, and their eyes beamed the light of confidence and passion. They marched ahead.

Akash took the responsibility of meeting up with one unit's concerned person. The unit was a market bigwig. Their wings were spread across the globe. They were the technology leaders in what they did and no educated person would bet against them in any new venture that the unit stepped into. Akash was initially nervous, but some power within him told him to be focused. He introduced himself, their group, and their plans. His explanation lacked clarity on a few occasions, but he knew "PARIVARTAN" was genuine, their foresight was realistic and they could clear the mess

around them. People listened to him and lauded the concerns of the youngsters. They pledged they would do anything to help, but the ultimate decisions will have to be taken by the men sitting higher in the hierarchical ladder. He was referred from one level to another. He had to meet more than five people, explain to each of them, but only to be told to meet another person. Akash refused to bow down. He persisted, and it paid off. He finally was invited to meet the man who could take a call on these issues. His joy knew no bounds that day. His "PARIVARTAN" team members who constantly urged him to persist were also thrilled to hear that. But this was just the beginning. Would it bear results? He hoped it would.

He prepared well for all questions that could be shot at him. He looked confident but he knew his nerves were dancing with a mixture of excitement and nervousness. He met the man. The person looked interested, and Akash's confidence ascended to newer heights as he spoke. He spoke like never before and told them about all "PARIVARTAN" was involved in. The man was not entirely convinced with Akash. He doubted his intentions.

Was it fame that this person is looking at? Is he really bothered about society? How can a fellow of his age be concerned? Such thoughts raced in the man's mind. Poor Akash, he never realized this. He thought that world was filled with caring people. The worst was yet to come.

Every time Akash met the man, the man presented new doubts. Questions with "Can you , Would you , What for" etc were always bombarded at Akash. He addressed them. Akash formulated written drafts as per the man's request. At every meeting that man confused Akash further, he cleverly came up with diplomatic dialogues. He said he realized the danger and was equally concerned. He said that the company is also working on similar lines to get away from the cheap malpractices and respect social and environmental concerns. Nevertheless, they looked to be very "textbook" like replies and never had conviction.

Akash refused to bow down. Akash worked on some plans with his group. He met the company's representative repeatedly to explain to him about the many facets of waste disposal and safe environmental practices and how the company can formulate their plans. He also wished to build a rapport with the man.

PARIVARTAN's team members educated themselves on all aspects. They wanted not only the action to be carried out, but it had to be done in the best possible way. Still all Akash could hear were promises. He was dejected. He always felt if he needed to persist. Somehow, he did find enough patience and energy to carry on. Akash worked out with ways to convince the man. He invited the man to meet the group's members, to visually realize the zeal within the youngsters. The man always said he was interested to do so. Nevertheless, he always had a reason as to why he would be busy. Nothing seemed to work. Akash also spoke to some well-established social service groups who were a part of the company's social service plans to get to talk to the man. Even they claimed he was a tough person to convince. Akash wondered if they were the right people themselves.

Desperation and frustration got the better of Akash. He maintained contact only through mails and phone calls. He never wanted to lose out with the man, but somehow he had no reason to believe the man. He believed, "where there is a will, there is a way". Akash doubted every word in that sentence. On a closer analysis, Akash realized that the man

was always worried if his personal reputation and esteem and that of the company would take a beating after an association with a group of self-sponsored revolutionists. The man eccentricities increased. He started neglecting Akash. Akash was clueless and left the result to fate.

Finally, the company's representative called up Akash one day and called him for a small talk. Akash wondered what it was now. He went there expecting requests for some more written drafts and some more false assurances. Akash had seen all faces of this monster, what could it be now? Akash was told that the company would go ahead with the plan. Nevertheless, they would not be very keen to go ahead with the help of "PARIVARTAN". Akash said that the group never dreamt of publicity. The company representative claimed the social service society was contacted and they gave them some "flexible" options. Akash wondered what they were upto. Still he agreed to support the cause in any form, active or passive. The man asked him for more materials to awaken a sense of responsibility in every

individual employee of the unit. Akash gave him all documents he had. The man now assured that work will go ahead and a plan will be chalked out. Akash seemed thrilled. His struggles seemed like reaching the light of the day from the dark, endless tunnel it had accidentally ventured into.

Akash waited with child like enthusiasm for the completion of the first phase of the long-term plan. All "thorns" had to be removed from the bed of roses. The issue had to be addressed at many levels. Akash volunteered to help. The man ignored him again. Still, Akash felt a little sense of satisfaction, which the dream was turning into a reality. One phase was completed. It had worked well. The company was able to achieve certain environmental standards for themselves. A lot of hard work had gone in to follow environmentally safe practices. A lot had been done to come so far.

The company had other phases planned out. Akash was jubilant when he learnt about them. He vowed help. Nevertheless, as usual they were ignored. The company's sense of social responsibility won showers of praise from the media. The representative beamed with joy. He claimed credit and mentioned the endless help by the social service

society. This never bothered "PARIVARTAN". They believed something good had happened.

Personally, Akash felt he had fought the static. He felt that a tide had risen to the fore, a tide that had changed the mindset of the unrelenting. A tide that would cause more roars, which would bring more waves to the shore. However, his beliefs came crashing down. Through some sources within the company, he realized that a wicked nexus had been forged between the company, the social service group and the government authorities. A nexus that had been worked out to be profitable for all in the long term. But would they carry out the good work done in phase one?. Akash never found an answer. He was a pawn that was intelligently used by the company for it's benefits. Had he fought the static?

My story ends with that question. Let the rest of the story be completed by every reader's imagination. Often it is seen that persistence pays, the never say die attitude works. But is the result always a positive one?. Was Akash wrong with his approach? Or was he just too small a force to change a system?.

The 'C' programming language associates an attribute called

'static' with objects whose scope is limited. The thesaurus dictionary defines static as "pertaining to or characterized by a fixed or stationary condition". Fighting the static is no easy task. The whole behavior needs a revamp. Think of it, static to dynamic is a huge change. But we need to realize that victory or defeat, the fight must go on. The desire to win, the joy of victory, the fear of failure or the despair of defeat must be no roadblocks in the continuance of the fight. No fight is over. There is always that something which needs to be improved. Victory or defeat, let us believe in ourselves, let us believe in our goals. The first step is to dare to dream. The next is to persist with it. Let us fight the static forever. Finally, let us realize the importance of SANKALP in our lives. **"Let us give life a better chance"**

India is Rising

By Jayesh

From past few days I am feeling different. I am feeling changes in my surroundings ,in society and in my country. I am feeling the energy in the air. In past some days i have met people, who are general people like any of us but, they are ambitious, hardworking and courageous. People who have the courage to dream. People who had courage to follow their dream. People who have courage to make their own path. People who dare to stand out in crowd for their dream. People who have energy to work after 9-6 job for their dreams. But the best part is that all this are people are from age group 19-25. They are common teenagers going to college , professional people who are working, or businessman. These people are from different background and

have different dreams. The dreams vary from establishing their own business, earning money, or social work and so on. All this people are choosing non-conventional path or making their own path. This people are not afraid to loose. These people motivate me to work for my dreams. They give me confidence to dream and make my dreams come true. By seeing this I understand the power of youth and understand why Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam spent so much of his time with children. I understand the power of youth. By seeing these people my heart and mind get filled with energy and I feel like saying it loud that **"INDIA IS RISING"**. Finally it also remind me of one song from Movie DIL CHAHATA HAI "Hum hai naye aandaz ho kyu purana"

Its our turn now let rock and roll....

It chills me out

By Rajat

Hey people I just want to tell you that you make my day:) Wondering how? *Lemme* explain.. Every time I log onto the site, I find myself face to face with people who care. People who are concerned. And more than that people who want to do something. When I read your posts I can feel the energy in there. Be it news or other blood sites, all I can see is

pessimism and blame transfer. Here the case is different. Every logon is full of such vivid and nice experience that I just cant describe "We are coming together. We are building up our potential" .I am glad we are doing something..

IT'S 150 YRS TO THE INDIAN FREEDOM STRUGGLE

By Smruti Arvind

I posted this not to say about what the Indians have done in the past 150 yrs..1857 first Sepoy mutiny to 2007....90 yrs of slavery and 60 yrs of independence.. but to tell u why we still feel dissatisfied with ourselves and our system. Even after 60 yrs of independence I feel guilty when i think of what I've done for my nation till now..... "I've got time. I should do something more. something more useful". Think... just think of what's stopping our nation from being the best. Think of what's hindering it's progress....there is so much for me to work upon- so much...and its not going to be very easy. this is what I say to myself. Be it the poverty, the greatest enemy which is holding our country much stronger than the British who enslaved us, be it the corruption which is unfortunately mainly due to the literate people, be it the child labour, the son of poverty. We don't need anyone to explain us these problems. Its not going to be easy to defeat them when we look at them as problems. But just imagine the

INDIA which has got none of these evils. To stop her from shining. Yes... we can drive them away... You don't have to be great to start...but start and succeed to feel great about yourself... Our revolutionaries have given us independence, but now its our job to get more meaning to that independence....

Let's start making the difference

By Venugopal

Let us implement from today, during lunch hours. Here is a chance to make a difference, by devoting JUST 10 seconds a day. You don't need to go anywhere, donate money, stage protests, or shout slogans. How? If you use computer to work, just remember to switch off your monitor every time you leave your desk. Very simple, isn't it? What difference does it make? Roughly, normal monitors consume around 150 W. Even if your screen remains ON for 1 hour per day without any use, energy

wasted per day is 150 W-h (or 0.15 "units"). This is enough to light a small lamp for 10 hours! If you care to switch off your monitor each time you leave your place, you save electricity enough for basic household needs of a small family in a village! If your monitor remains ON overnight, this figure becomes 10-fold - so you can probably save electricity for 10 families. And supposing that you leave your seat 5 times a day and it takes 1 second to switch the monitor ON/OFF, you spend only 10 seconds a day for this deed which saves LOTS of energy on a long run!

Success is like your own Shadow. If you try to catch it you will never succeed. Ignore it and walk in your own way! It will follow you!

Let's give life a better chance...

By Venugopal

It was on 20th April 2006, I was going to Majestic. I saw some lady lying on the foot path near Malleshwaram circle. It took two minutes to react to the situation. There was a doubt is it a genuine case to go ahead. I was going for a project work and i was late as usual. But still decided to check if it is genuine, if not I am not going to lose much. When the bus stopped in the next stop rushed back to see the lady. By then she was given water by the people working there. The lady was very old, tired and her condition was very bad. Since 15 days she was out on the streets without any care. She had no idea where she was and where to go. When I asked the address she told some place. I brought orange juice for her. She had not had any food for a long time, not even water. Her lips were dry and she was not able to sit. After she had juice she could sit properly. The lady working there offered rice, but the old lady could not eat rice. By then I was thinking of taking her to

her home or to admit in some old age home. I called Rajat and got to know that Sujatha is interested to come along with me to help the old lady. Both of us took an auto and tried to look for the address she was telling but we could not find her house. So we decided to take her to the orphanage, Home of Hope. It is in the out skirts of the city. We gave a letter in the office and got her admission. Home of Hope is run by the New Ark Mission of India. There were 130 patients(orphans) and few staff to take care. It was a good place. When we were coming back we were sure that she will get some care which is much better. She will get food and shelter and care in her last days. It did not end here. I was not satisfied. when I spoke to Sujatha regarding the problem of helpless old age people she agreed to work towards it. We asked the auto driver to give us information about such helpless people, so that we can call the old age homes and make sure the person is admitted at good place where he can live happily. Presently we are finding out

the good places and planning to visit these places and talk to the administration there in this regard. In this case I could see the worst of situation from close and could feel the pain and sufferings of helpless aged people. I could see the difference between hearing and seeing. When we visited Gandhi Old age Home I did think of helpless aged but it was not strong enough to work towards it. But in this situation I could see exactly what the suffering is. This made me to start working towards the betterment of helpless. If any body has got better approach and interest towards betterment of helpless aged people, they are welcome. Not just to think about it but to work towards it. This is the address and contact of the orphanage: Home of Hope Doddagubbi Village, KRC Road Next to KRC Bangalore- 562149 Ph: (R)25461188, (O) 56997274 Mobile: 9845281915 E mail: joshutraja@rediffmail.com Web site: www.newarkmission.org

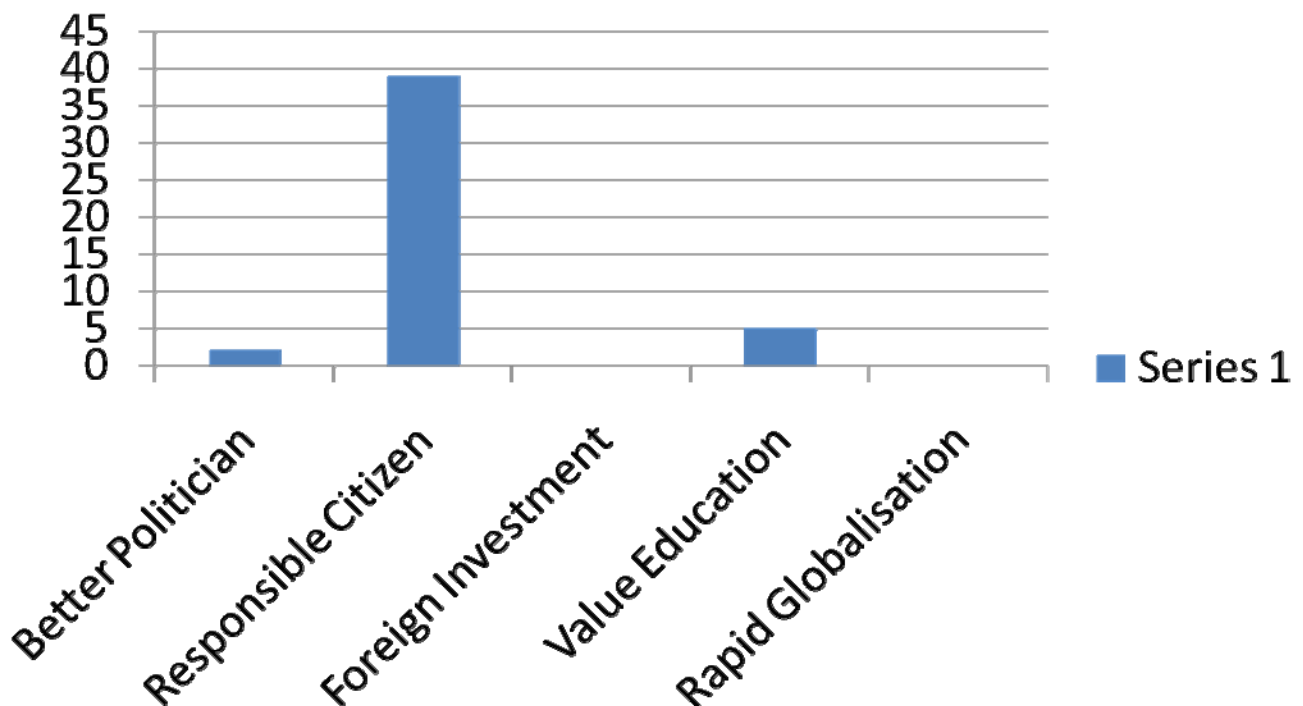
"When building a team I searched always for people who love to win; if I can't find any, I look for people who hate to lose"

Abraham Lincoln's letter to his son's teacher

He will have to learn, I know, that all men are not just, all men are not true, but teach him also that for every scoundrel there is a hero, that for every selfish politician there is a dedicated leader. Teach him that for every enemy there is a friend. It will take time I know, but teach him if you can that a dollar earned is of far more value than five found, teach him to lose and also enjoy winning. Steer him away from envy, if you can teach him the secret of quiet laughter, teach him if you can the wonder of books. But also give him quiet time to ponder the eternal mystery of birds in the sky, bees in the sun and flowers, on a green hillside. In school teach him its far more honorable to fail than to cheat. Teach him to have faith in his own ideas even if everyone tells him they are wrong. To be gentle with gentle people and tough with tough. Try to give my son the strength not to follow the crowd when everyone is getting on the bandwagon, to listen to all men but teach him also to filter all he hears

on a screen of truth and take only the good that comes through, teach him if you can how to laugh when he is sad and that there is no shame in tears. Teach him to scoff at cynics and to beware of too much sweetness. Teach him to sell his brawn and brain to the highest bidder but never to put a price tag on his heart and soul. Teach him to close his ears to a howling mob and to stand and fight. Treat him gently but do not cuddle him because only the test of fire makes fine steel, let him have the courage to be, let him have the patience to be brave. Teach him always to have sublime faith in himself because then he'll always have sublime faith in mankind. That's a big order, but see what you can do because he's a fine little fellow.

For a better nation the first need is

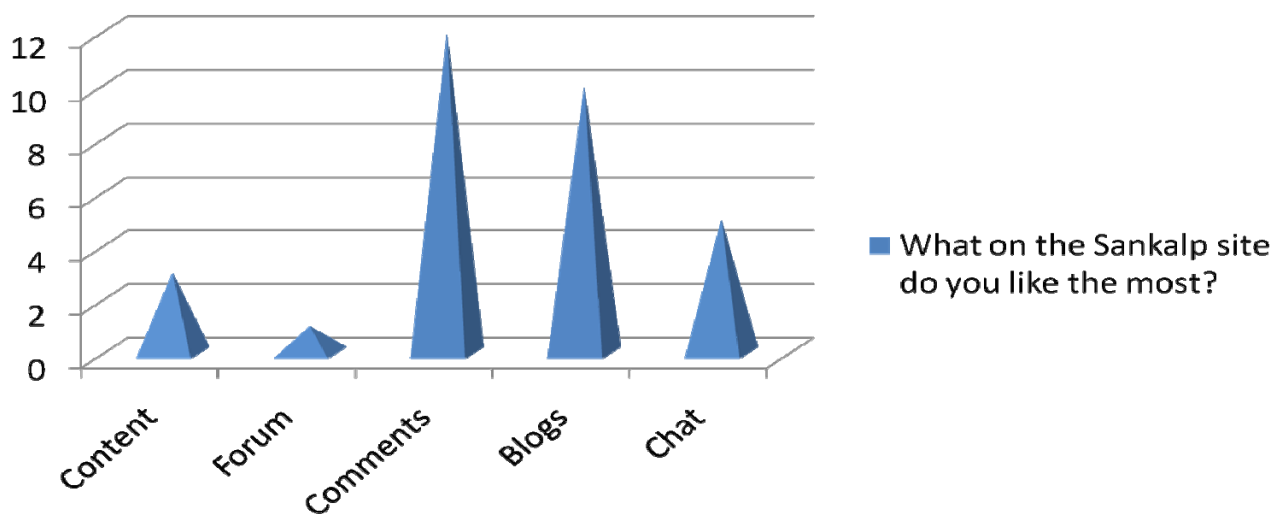


My Job

The most baffling question of all is again standing in front of me. India.. this five letter word has some special meaning to a billion people. India- my home. Once in a while, the mind breaks free from the intricacies of normal living and flies.. flies high.. Something deep inside gets triggered. When we watch Rang de Basanti or Shaheed, it gets triggered. It asks for me to do what I know is the right thing to be done. I am one of those people who have witnessed extreme human pain. I have been lucky not to have suffered myself, but I have been close, very close to that pain. And to a small extent deep down inside , it pains. There are times when a person starts thinking about himself and his own people. His own people are his family and friends. The person plans life in the best interest of himself and his family. There are the other times when the person feels one with a larger population. There are those moments when a person feels like the country as his/her home. Difference is in this. When you are in someone else's house, you will know that your role in the house is either to let things happen the way they are happening or at most just point out the mistakes and the im-

provements. But, when it comes to your own home, you know that the only way you can make things better is by acting yourself. Thus, when you feel for the country as your home, I guess you try to see what you can do about the problem and probably take the thoughts ahead as action Now, here is the baffling point. I do not know how many of you agree, but I believe that a man can do anything if he puts in this/her best for it. Now where do you actually put in your best? Is it for the sake of your immediate family? Or is it for the sake of the larger family, the nation? This is irrelevant for anyone who fears putting his/her mind body and soul to test to achieve his/her goal. This is only for those who have the guts to slog. Does working for one make you unjust? Or do you need to maintain the balance always? DO you need a perfect commitment to get things done? It baffles.. It takes its toll.. I just hope that before I die, I find the road that I want! To die... as they say.. in peace..

What on the Sankalp site do you like the most?



Live to express not to impress...

My Senses and Blood

By Rajat

People have strange and curious likes and dislikes. We like eating some stuff, smelling some other stuff, touching some special item at home or any other thing.. For my senses I have a different kind of stimulant. Over the past three years I have realized that this stimulant acts like the strongest drug on me. It pulls me out of blues. It re-builds confidence, it restores a smile, it increases confidence . But more than anything else it *pumps adrenaline* in my body. All five senses start behaving in com-

plete harmony when i am dealing with it. Its probably for this reason that i can never leave it alone. I just have to be a part of it to keep going. Any guesses.... Its Blood Donation.. I have felt its magical effect on me.. See if it works something like that on you :-) There are two types of people in this world. One, who give blood. Two, who don't give blood. If you are willingly in the first group its fine, otherwise i am preparing a mosquito army to cater to you.. So Beware..

Give and Let Give.

My SOP??

By Ankita



Since yesterday I was thinking about a matter that I would like to share with everyone. I came across a

blog post, which told us various reasons to feel proud of our country and work for it. Today I was asked to give SOP (statement of purpose) for working for one of the Sankalp activities. I would like to mention here that to participate in any Sankalp activity each volunteer has to give

his or her SOP. The question that struck me yesterday again echoed today. "Do I really need a reason to work for something which is so close to my heart? Is this reason not enough that it is mine and I have to take its responsibility and work to bring it to the position it should be?" Sankalp is like my own family and the patriotic feelings, which I have now, is the gift of this family to me. After searching for several reasons I realized that it won't be right on my part to just fabricate some reason and give for the sake of giving. So finally I decided to convey my true feeling and gave the same SOP which I have mentioned above but as answers to those questions.

Be more concerned with your character than your reputation, because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are.

My Teachers and Me

By Rajat

Blessed are those who get teachers like the ones I have got. In today's real world there are very few teachers who command respect. The most essential reason I believe is that education has taken a very different shape. Its no longer dedication and hard work on the part of the teacher. Neither is there any quest in the students to learn. At least this scenario is true in B Grade college like mine. But at the same time, there is one special feature about my teachers which make me think about them in very high terms. A teacher is supposed to educate a student for life, is it not. My teachers do. They give me all the opportunity to live life the right kind of way. Since the second semester in the college I have been constantly working for Sankalp. This has meant endless no. of calls,

some during classes. My teachers have always encouraged me to take them. They have never put hurdles in what i consider my duty. We have a very beautiful relationship. I on one hand ensure that i never misuse the trust and the faith they have on me. And i guess they support me because they feel that i wont betray them. But in this silence , a beautiful tomorrow is taking shape in me. I get encouraged to come out of hesitation and work for the right things. I feel that by doing so I will win the confidence of many more good people like my teachers and will be able to move towards a Better Bharat. Dear Teachers, Kindly bear up with me. Kindly forgive me for my wrong doings. Kindly guide me into the future. Thank you so very much.

My Team....

By Shweta

My team... From "Walk for Life" till a blood donation camp in MSRIT, working with my team, my friends has been a wonderful journey... Every time i see you guys working my ZEAL rises to sky... The way you guys work without complaints, with so much of energy, zeal is AWESOME... You work with the same energy level whether your spirits are up or down, Even when you were tired... You put a smile on my face when you guys were having fun, left it there, and joined me in the work... Gosh! I was so happy that day... I feel so happy when I see you come to the morning meetings at 8.30 am (I know how difficult it is for you to wake up early..) Though many of you end up coming after 8.45, but gives me an immense GLEE... How wonderfully you get immersed in the smallest of the small work.... The way you said YES to work even when you were tired, is just

WOW.... Working with My Team is fun... In fact loads of fun... Though you guys trouble me so much.... It's fun being with you... Working with you... I feel so happy to see me in you guys... You guys gave me the wonderful days of my LIFE...

THANK YOU SOOOOOOOOOO MUCH.....

AND GOD BLESS YOU.....

And one more thing,

You people have very HIGH SPIRITS....

loads of POTENTIAL....

Sky reaching ZEAL....

A beautiful MIND...

Start making your path...

Pick your PATH...

Only one life and I do not know what to do

The soil is wet, the seeds are ready , it's the break of dawn. But somewhere deep down inside the fresh air has still not made enough impact to arouse from the deep sleep. The determination one night before and the wild dreads, both made restlessness fill up in every bone, some voice from the soul crying out, saying that it is time to sow. Now morning is here. But why do i sleep. Tears and blood drops both must come, the bones must get roasted in the

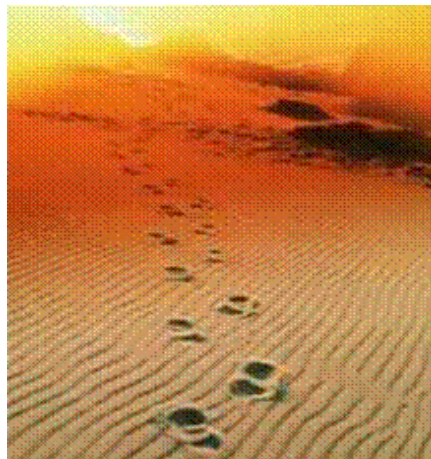
heat of the mid-day sun. The legs must get cut and bruised. The throat must feel the thirst. The body must pain. This is the time. If I sleep now and keep away from these, there will be no green crops for me. There will be no life for me..

Should I call them My experiments with the truth?

By Rajat

About three years back I started on a journey. It was a journey whose destination is still not known. I started working for Sankalp. Past three years in my life have been witnessing a constant struggle with inertia. Not only have I been motivating myself to some extent but also trying to motivate others into breaking free. Truly, as i look back,

I don't know how successful or un-successful I have been. I have always had faith in change for the better. But the truth that I see around me suggests that I am wasting my time energy and resources to a certain degree. But I have



been reluctant to accept this truth (many people cite this truth as a reason for inaction) in my life. I still believe in a change.. A sort of small (or possibly large) revolution. I don't know what will I do with my life later, but these moments of perpetual denial of the obvious way of living will surely make a difference in my life..

Last night I dreamed I ate a ten-pound marshmallow, and when I woke up the pillow was gone.

Separation and Responsibility

By Rajat

Being a Sankalp Volunteer is not a job meant for everyone. Sankalp does not stand and work to please the Cheer Leaders. I remember the time when we started Sankalp. The very first steps towards the making of this Organization were seen with suspicion and were mocked at. We were looked at differently. I remember being ragged because I was seen near food court. Had I got a chance to explain, people would have understood the fact that there was a blood request. Over past three years I have seen the impact of doing something that others do not do. But, I am rarely moved by public opinion. I never have been the choice of cheer leaders. I do not want to be. I do not want to do the things they will like to see me doing. I like to do the things that I really want. Some equations of Physics indicate the tendency of every body to be in minimum energy level. Some great philosophers talk about the crowd mentality. Actually it all relates. People are happy as they are. Doing what everyone is doing. And the society does not really like change. Be it for the better or the worse. For a person to follow his own convictions, it takes a hell lot of clarity in the mind. What do you want? Do you want to be approved by the crowd for doing what everyone does. Do you want to be approved for being a no-one? Or do you want your own roads? Do you follow your own mind/ Do you have the courage of your convictions. There is a small difference in happy living and seemingly happy living. Most people smile in crowds and cry when alone. These are the people who are largely guided

by the wish of the masses. they never take risks. they never dream big. And they are terribly afraid of acting differently. But the only reason for their sorrow is that they never seem to get anything out of their lives. They are just living. The other type is the one, who might not be the rage in the crowd but who can stay alone and still smile. their inner voice tells them that they are doing the RIGHT thing. They dream. They achieve. When someone throws a stone of few unkind words at them, they smile back. They smile away the ignorance of the person. They live life King Size. Coming back to me in person. One good thing I have in life is the company of the people who really mean to me. I have people around me who understand me, support me and drive me to my dreams. They came in one by one. Slowly. From the large group of people who disapproved me. They are more valuable to me than the largest crowd.. And one last thing.. As long as I honestly follow my dreams and selflessly work to realize them. I have full faith in the Gods above. I will have my way. :) Being a Sankalp Volunteer is not easy. It is a job of those who dare, who dream and who achieve. *p.s. The reason i posted this blog is to share my views about being treated differently when you volunteer for Sankalp. Revolutions do not come without some effort. Give in your best.*

"All of us are born for a reason, but all of us don't discover why. Success in life has nothing to do with what you gain in life or accomplish for yourself. It's what you do for others."

Steps towards the goal

Dreams take shape when you start working on them. But it is not all that simple. The crossroads where you need to make a choice are available in plenty. For every ten steps you take, you come to a new crossroad.. You need to make a fresh decision. On one hand you are really focused on achieving your target. On the other, you are seen struggling to move ahead. At those times, when the clouds block the sun.. just remember... there is a sun.. and no clouds can cover it forever. Following are the basic important things:

Take a little rest if you are tired. Do not exert yourself just for the sake of continuity.

Do not loose the sight. The end target must be

revisited time and again.

Be open to failures. I do not affiliate to the school of perfectionists. Do it dude. If it turns out to be wrong, what's the big deal? Do it again. Take a better way.

Face situations. Do not escape them. They will return if escaped. In case there is a problem which is making you helpless, wait for some-time and then rethink. Mostly, you will naturally figure out the best answer. Be a revolutionary. People who listen to their souls. Cry, Bleed, Sweat but keep walking on the road to your *target*

The making of new roads

Dreams come in all different shapes, sizes and colors. The very thought of trying to give shape to them can at times make you a disbeliever. Since the time, I have leant to experiment with the dreams; there is one definitive rule that has shown up. When you walk your way (towards the realization of your dream), the first steps are very blurred. You have no idea of what you are doing and why.. You are actually struggling for someone to come in and make your way smooth. For everything that is required for the realization, you are trying to find a shortcut. And of course, you fail misera-

bly at it. The period after that is of despair and hopelessness. You look into the sun but see no light. Most people give up at this. But, if you still keep going on, just beating up the idea in your head and looking up here and there... There surely comes a **Eureka Moment**. Believe me, it is worth all the pain.... **So, dreamers... Keep Dreaming... Keep Walking.. Make your Own Roads....**

Take Control

By Rajat

I know that the movie Rang de Basanti has had the "Loose Control" effect on the entire nation.

But I guess I will Recommend Take Control. Who are you? Are you a liability to the society and the people around you? Are you a baby who is on the floor crawling? I believe you are what you want to be. So if the above two questions have even a partial amount of truth in them, its high time you Take Control. The little bird when born is tender and weak. It has no wings. It cant fly. It can't find food for itself. At that time if you see the parents around the little baby bird, you will realize that they stay hungry themselves, but get food for the tender soul. Then comes a time when the Mother bird slowly starts exposing the little one to the world around. It shows the child how to fly. It makes the little one hop around. It stays there all the time while the little one learns its lessons of life. The next stage is when the bird has to be forced to fly. The mother bird takes it high and drops it on the edge of a cliff. Does it expose the baby bird to danger? No it exposes the baby to a world of opportunity. Now the baby bird must jump. It can see the dangers and the problems. It can see the risks. But it

must jump. It was not sent by God to earth not to fly. When the baby jumps, it is on its own. It must fly. The job of the mentor the mother is over. Now it must fly. If it does not choose to fly.. it might be a chance or two in which the parent bird will save it. But it will not be long before it falls. Each of us is a little bird meant to fly. The society around us, our parents, friends, siblings and all others are like the parent birds. They nurture us and support us when we are highly in need of it. But there should be a limit to it. There should be a time when we take charge. When they leave us alone on the cliff, it does not mean they are not there. They were there and that's why you are where you are, at the edge of an opportunity. The dangers of laziness, inaction, irresponsibility, fear and other negative emotions are there. But we must take up the challenge. Lucky are those who find some support in life. Feeble are those that keep leaning against the support. The strongest of trees in the forest die out. So will it be with your support. If at that time you are incapable of supporting it in its time of pain, its not what it should be. So.. Choice is yours.. Keep lingering crawling and complaining Or make them and yourself proud. Jump off the ridge. Go fly TAKE CONTROL!!

You cannot discover the purpose of life by asking someone else - the only way you'll ever get the right answer is by asking yourself.

Ten point oath for the youth of the nation

By Ankita

I will pursue my education or the work with dedication and I will excel in it.

From now onwards, I will teach at least 10 persons to read and write those who cannot read and write.

I will plant at least 10 saplings and shall ensure their growth through constant care.

I will visit rural and urban areas and permanently wean away at least 5 persons from addiction and gambling.

I will constantly endeavor to remove the pain of my suffering brethren.

I will not support any religious, caste or lan-

guage differentiation.

I will be honest and endeavor to make a corruption free society.



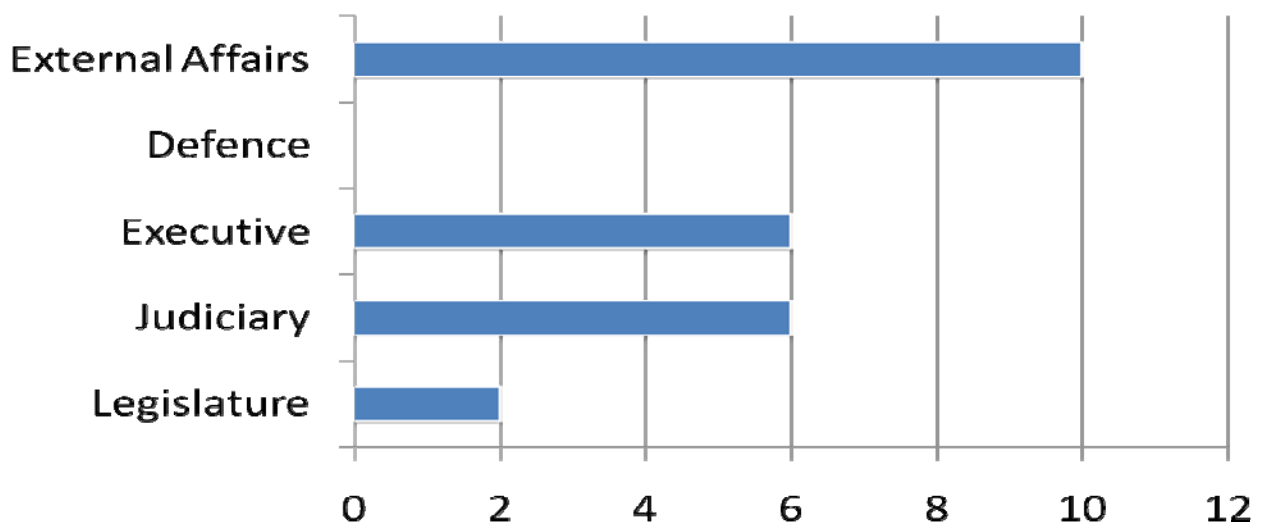
I will work for becoming an enlightened citizen and make my family righteous.

I will always be a friend of the mentally and physically challenged and will work hard to make them feel normal,

like the rest of us.

I will proudly celebrate the success of my country and my people. (A part of ADDRESS TO THE NATION BY THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA DR. A.P.J. ABDUL KALAM ON THE EVE OF 55th REPUBLIC DAY - 2004)

If you were the PM what will you try and change first?



These Clear My Concepts..

By Rajat

Our school had its science block on top of a hillock. We used to walk up to the computer labs with our wonderful inspiring teacher Mr. Tindale. One afternoon, Mr. Tindale was talking about his work as a headmaster. We were talking about the ways to get the work done by people. In that conversation he cited this quote:

**You can do anything in the world
If you don't look for credit**



These words mesmerized me instantaneously. They have been extremely important at many times in my life. The beauty of the thought is

too great for me to be put in words. When there are times that I get seriously dissatisfied with life-primarily due to work outputs and cor-

responding effort input, I suddenly am reminded of these words. Instantaneous smile appears on my face. It's like a reminder of the true inner target. Once that realization is back, I am recharged to move mountains. It's introspective and strong. Out of the many things I do in my daily living, there are some, for which I put in a very deep down strong effort. But sadly, those are the things which at the end of the day, the stakeholders fail to recognize and appreciate. It's disappointing, especially if the purpose of that attempt was well met. Cumulating over a period of time, it makes me a ready volcano waiting to erupt. But essentially I am not this way. It's one small negative emotion that makes its way into my mind. As I wrote earlier, the plans work, the targets are met, and the job is done. All that I had aspired for is achieved except the little feedback. And that truly is not prime requirement. It's not a necessity. At the end of the day, after reading this quote I feel so much better with the negative emotions killed and the positive ones energized. And my life continues better and stronger...

Will you?

Will you challenge the sky the mountain and the sea? Will you stand up and live up to your convictions? Will you still stand by the cause when people mock you? Will you not give excuses of time and resources? Will you take charge and not push blame? Will you smile for having put in the best and not worry about the result? Will you



accept all scorns and thorns that come your way? Will you help your mates in the time of

their pain? Will you know the pain of another human being? Will you sacrifice your pleasure? Will you walk ahead on the darkest nights? Will you? We will walk through the horrors of this world. If you can face them, Join in..

Time Management

By Jayesh

Most common heard and known by all of us. All of us are or had faced this problem in their life. A young boy going school didn't find time. A teenager going to college doesn't have time. A professional working doesn't have time. A husband has no time for his wife. A father doesn't have time for his children. A friend doesn't have time for another friend. All of us don't have time for something. So the question which we should ask ourselves is where all the time is going. We just keep working and doing thing expected from us without taking care about the most precious asset of a person **"HIS TIME"**. Have you ever heard Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam, Narayana Murthy., Azim Premji, or any success personalities complaining about the time management. They also have only 24 hours in a day as do we get. Are they born with special power or do they know some special formula which we don't know. The answer is a big **"NO"**. They had learnt everything here only and from many things they learn, one of

the important thing they had learn is **HOW TO MAKE BEST USE OF THEIR TIME.** The only

difference between them and us which I can see is they make sure that whatever time they spend show productivity rather than just working and ignoring the result. It takes a lot of courage to stop and turn around and see the result of the time and effort spent on a particular task and then to make it productive. So if you have a courage then stop, turn



back and see your time v/s productive graph. And if you still had courage then improve it. Finally then one day when you had done it, you will stop complaining about the time and will write such article in some forum.

Never to suffer would never to have been blessed.

Try Going Through!!

An article was written by Madhu Trehan. She writes regularly for "Outlook" and in this she is replying to a letter by a reader. Both the letters are shown below.

Hi Madhu, I have read your articles ever since I was a kid and you were at India Today. You have often come across as a balanced person not prone to Gandhi nonsense, until now. I live in a White Nation (the US) and have never felt like a second class citizen. Only a blind and a deaf person can compare the pride of a US citizen with the indignity of being an Indian. A US citizen trusts his government, knows his/her death will never go unpunished, while an Indian soldier is there to die. Elite is a bad word in India because 95% of our country lives in abject poverty. Next time ask the waiter in Taj who served you the Rs. 400 drink, how much he makes in a month. The Durban who opens the door for you, ask him how much he makes? I bet his monthly salary will be around your dinner bill. Shame on you and journalists like you who have failed India in the past with colored reporting and are doing so now. They should feel ashamed. Rather than calling Bush names, maybe we should hang our heads in shame on PM's like Vajpayee who is too old to walk, too

much of a coward to protect his people. Maybe, just maybe, the day people like us (the English educated hence smarter) start feeling ashamed enough we will start making changes in India rather than just exploiting our servants and labor class. It anguishes me to read this national character articles. A nation that cannot feed its people has no character, a nation whose children move around naked (Mumbai) has no reason to feel proud, a nation whose elected reps call religious riots "opposite reaction" has no future. Once again, shame on you and all of India. I am ashamed to be an Indian and shame on you for suggesting anything else.

Chet (Chaitanya) Madhu Trehan's response was:

Hello Chet, I will answer your letter point by point. Your name. You can be Chet or Jet, stay away from the sun, fake an American accent, but you will never be able to run away from Chaitanya. He will always be there even though you hate him today. Gandhi, whom you hold in such contempt, despite all his controversial behavior, is largely responsible for the fact that there is no white boot on a part of your anatomy today. You live in a white nation but you are not white and never will be. You can fool yourself

to believe that you are not treated as a second class citizen. You choose to forget the Dot Busters, the Sikh who was killed because he looked foreign, and rampant racism. How many times a week do you have to explain where you are from and spend your time EXPLAINING India to Americans? I cringe to think what you say to them about India. We do not need spokesman such as you. You will never be able to share a good desi joke with any of your new friends. If you can't laugh together; you cannot understand each other. You will always be an alien. Yes, we are economically poor compared to US but we do not have to suffer the highest rate of teenage pregnancies, kids coming into schools and killing students and teachers, the highest rate of suicide among college students, alienated parents and children, lonely old people dumped into old age homes, drugs being offered to eight year olds (as my daughter was when she was in the UN school in New York), serial marriages and divorces. The US had a president who was senile and deaf (Reagan), one who turned out to be a serial sex offender (Clinton), and now you have one who didn't know the heads of state of major countries and ignored warnings of a terrorist attack months before it took place.

heads of state of major countries and ignored warnings of a terrorist attack months before it took place. The US is responsible for massacres in Vietnam, Cambodia, Iraq, Chile and the list goes on. The rest of the world does not view America with the rose-colored glasses you have been brainwashed by the US media to see through. And, how much does a waiter in Jean Georges restaurant in Trump International Hotel in New York make compared to the price of the drink he is serving? The labor class is exploited all over the world. You seem to be very upset that I am pointing out we have a national character to be ashamed of and we should do something about it. Your insistence that we stay ashamed and do nothing

about it is perhaps to make it easier for you to live in a country where the only religion is to hang out at malls and accumulate consumer items you don't really need but have been dictated by advertising to buy to keep the US economy going. It is not by accident that Americans are flocking to yoga and meditation classes to buy happiness. You have done well to leave a country you are ashamed of. Call yourself an American but sooner or later your disguise and American Halloween costume will frighten you enough to get rid of it. I love America's energy and have good friends there. New York is a center for an enormous outpouring of creativity and imaginative thinking. Every country has its own

problems. It is for the people who belong there to take responsibility for change. If you are so far removed from India, ask yourself why you are so anguished with my article.

Turning Obstacles Into Advantages

By Ankit Anand

We Indians are often criticized for being pessimistic and stupid businessmen . but there are few examples that some of our fellow Indians have set and worthy of emulated : EARTH-QUAKE IN GUJARAT: Anjar was the epicenter of the 2001 Gujarat earthquake . it was totally devastated . the Gujarat govt. invited many construction companies to rebuild the areas . but none was interested . So they were given tax relief . as a result many pipeline companies came running to Anjar . and now Anjar is about to become 1 of the top 5 pipeline hubs of the world. METRO RAIL : central govt was not taking up project to build railway tracks in western ghats . they created a metro railway which was destined for failure . but MR E. SRIDHARAN

took it in his stride and converted it into the most admirable govt sector . OPERATION FLOOD: India was in dire need of milk production in order to relieve itself of milk imports from US and other nations . it is then that DR. VERGHESE KURIEN made a model called AMUL . This model is still being studied on unprecedented success even till this date . so guys do something worthy . and do something big . concentrate on your problems and obstacles . conquer it and make history.

Uunchaii

By Rajat

On being conferred the Padma Vibhushan on 24th April 1992, Atal Bihari Vajpayee recited his poem 'Uunchaii' (Height) at the reception held in his honour. The poem speaks of Man and the heights of success he can reach. He compares the peaks of success to a mountain peak, rearing up against the sky, alone, isolated and apart from the throbbing pulse of life below. There is no denying its majesty or its splendour. Yet no tree can grow on it or grass take root; no bird can build a nest or a traveler find rest on its snow covered heights; snow, which he calls - 'white as shroud and cold as death'. The reality is that attaining height is never enough, it must be accompanied by expanse as well. Only then can there be sharing, and companionship. The man who puts himself above other humans has no one with whom he can share his burden, to whom he can dare

show the regrets behind the smile. The sensitivity of the poet is evident when he says 'There is a world of difference between having great height and possessing great depth'. 'My Lord, Never let me climb so high that I can't bend down to embrace another human. Deliver me ever from such arrogance.'

WE

By Smruti Arvind

When the higher powers of the world were fighting for the unworthy leadership decades earlier.... when the most memorable 'Wars of World' were fought virtually saving no world for men.... we either supported our brethren or stood silent. watching how the political factions wiped out the lives. and gaining no experience of this.. when the English invaded us and looted us of all wealth.....all resources....all men...all heritage.. we either suffered and survived the torture . or died as martyrs..... Its not that we have not got the strong and wise the revolutionaries of my nation bear the testimonies to this fact.. Its the respect for mankind and 'thirst' for 'peace' that made us suffer and made them.. feel guilty and abandon this sacred land. During the last three decades.... when our brothers living in the

heart away from the soul of our mother ... when our own brothers of the neighboring land.. fought against us..... We either negotiated or defended...for.. they would someday come back to us.. to live in peace and harmony.. But when our own citizens become slaves... of the evils trying to rule the country and. do not fight against them, We neither endure nor remain silent. for the simplest reason that..... We are INDIANS!!!

We will not stop

By Rajat

You may put up a smiling face before us and when we are away, you may laugh at us. You may dismiss us as insignificant and weak. You may find our ways stupid and slow. You may try to fool us and use us. You may not live up to your promises with us. But we will not stop. Do what you can. Act the way you like. Believe what makes you happy.. But we will not stop. In the dark nights and on cold mornings we have given the best we could to our purpose. We have learnt by experience. We have fallen and got hurt. We know what pain is. We have walked on thorns.. We will not stop. Who says we are perfect? Who says that we are the best? But one thing your heart will admit.. We are keen on learning. We are open to change.. We are improv-



ing.. growing as they say.. and we will... We will not stop. The difference between you and us is primarily motive.. It is not limelight for us.. Nor is it money nor fame.. We do not wait for people to thank us.. We do not want to be acknowledged.. We have the one target.. We have a focus.. we will get it.. Come what may.. We will not stop.. Try stealing from us.. We will give to you for free.. try cheating us.. We will allow you to.. Try misguiding us.. we will take the hardest way.. Try fooling us. We will not retaliate...Try stopping us.. We will not stop.. Beware..! We are here.. Learning.. Growing.. Strengthening.. Beware .. Darkness. your time is up.. We are walking in.....

What it takes..

When you talk about Sankalp you talk about an attempt towards idealism. It's an attempt to get the things done, the way they should be. It's an attempt to struggle today for a better tomorrow. All the time in the world, there have been three types of people. There are ones who contribute positively, the other who contribute negatively and the third and the most common, the ones who do not contribute at all. When a person says that he/she wants to be a part of Sankalp, it simply means that he/she feels that they want to be the first kind. To be able to break the inertia of the static society, or to be able to counter attack the pull in the other direction by the attractive negative side, one must be ready to be very strong. This strength I am talking about is neither physical nor periodic. It must be a consistent, time in-

variant strength of mind. Paper burns too quickly on being ignited, but it turns to ash very soon. Neither does it give warmth, nor sustainable light. On the other hand is wood that slowly picks up the fire, but only to maintain it. When you talk about Sankalp, you talk about not giving up. You talk about consistent steps towards a better country.

When the going gets tough

Have you actually some day felt as though the entire universe is crashing on you? There are times when Gods play chess with men. We, the men are part of such a complex and well designed plan that we find ourself challenged on all the fronts we face. The forehead sweats and the heart beats slowly. Fear and hopelessness is on the rise. There are men who look for the escape path in these situations. They take things in the easiest manner. First thing to go is the thing that they want. And this to keep the people they are confronting away. Then next thing to go are the dreams. If you are in a problem, you do not find it hard to part with your dreams. Basic survival becomes the ruling light of life. This change is there for all to see. The friends and family are the first to notice. the fire in the eyes dies out and the man is reduced to a living machine. The person no longer dreams the impossible. Boredom reigns. Slowly the person turns his/her back on to the small somewhat meaningful thing-"Life". When

I find myself in fix.. the most important priority for me is to keep away from all of the above. "When the going gets tough, the tough gets going". And I want to believe that I am tough. If you can see warmth in a storm.. If you can see life in death.. If you can smile in pain.. Then dream.. Nothing can stop you from realizing your dreams.. And the moment you know that you can still dream, the universe suddenly seems not to crash anymore.. P.S. Live Life

When will you start looking into Yourself

I can not change anyone, but myself. I am the only entity in the universe who I need not convince and about whom I have no doubts. So when it comes to getting something done, I just look into myself and ask a simple question? Do i want it done? If the answer is yes then what else? I really don't look for more.. I am a firm believer of the fact that if i really want to do something, then that is all what is required. I was talking to a very highly motivated student leader. I could see the fact that he has big plans and big support behind him. But personally, I did not see him as a very strong person. He had himself decided that his job is only to motivate others into action. On the contrary I believe that all he needed to do was to start working. Support? It's definitely

important. It's powerful. It's required. But IT MUST NOT BE A MINIMUM PRE-REQUISITE. All I am trying to convey here is that I want to be a person who makes decisions of his life, not actually depending and expecting from others. This is why i say-"this is my country and ill take care of it." I am small and flimsy when compared. But please do not compare. Ill just do my part. My little bit.

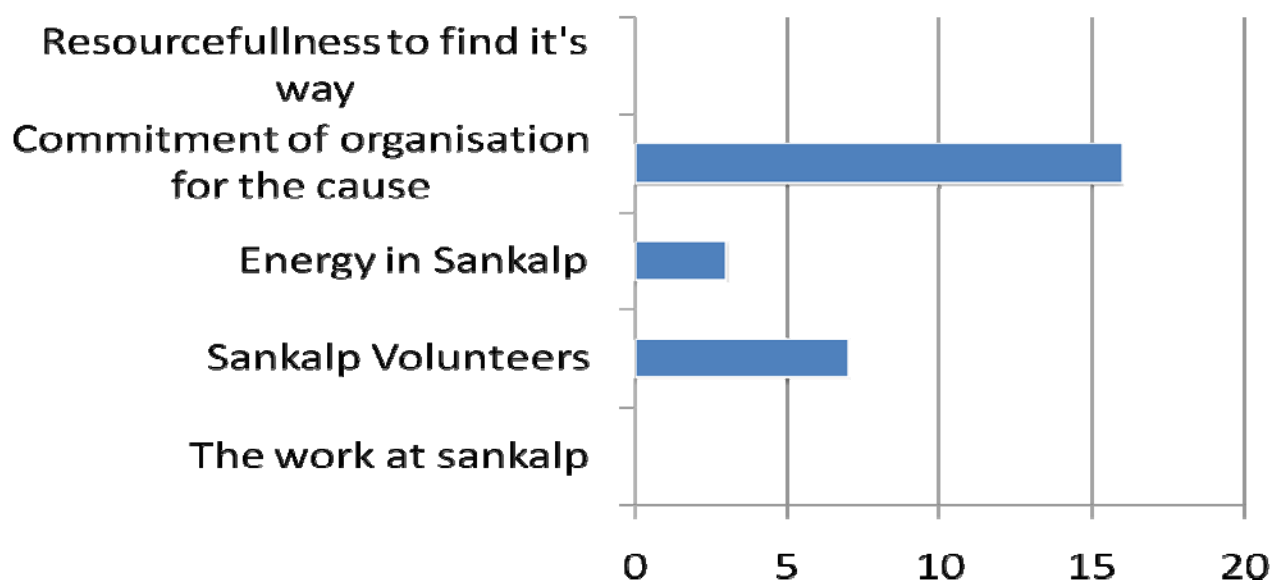
You have a choice..

By Rajat

Many of us are waiting for that one moment. Its that moment when the opportunity will knock the door and invite us. When you read this, think of one time in your life when opportunity actually rang some sort of a bell in your head. Think of the time when you did something that you really cherish in life. Was it only because you got an opportunity, or because you picked up some moments in your life and decide to do something that made some very deep sense to you? Think about it. You have some sort of education, financial stability, people who love you, understanding of the world around you, some talent and some little dream. Then what else do you need? What are you waiting for? The universe has given you chances far better than most. Are you using them? Or on the other side, are you aping a person who has actually made better use of

his/her available opportunities and gone up in the ladder of life. If the case is second, then my friend beware. Life has been good enough to you to serve you food on the plate. If you wont use your hands to eat then someone else will take the food away, or it will itself rot away. Stop giving excuses to yourself. Stop saying that you cannot do a thing because someone else has not done some other thing. Stand up and take charge. Give shape to you dreams. Make your own roads.. Instead of giving examples here, I would love you to add them..

What is the best thing in Sankalp?



Walk for life-an experience

By Rahul Mourya

My definition of a rally before being a part of walk for life- A group of people (mostly politically minded), having no work of their own getting together to cause inconvenience to the public and go against the persisting system. I am from Calcutta, so I very well know about the problems a general public faces. Whenever



a rally is about to take place I used to change my plans and avoided going to the place where the rally was supposed to take

place. I can't help- it's in my mind. So when Rajat sir mentioned about rally, I distanced myself from that group and preferred to stick with BDO. Sir was very convincing on his part that this was for publicity of the toll free number 1062 and was for a noble cause. But that 'rally' thing stuck to my head. Who knew that my definition was going to change on 11th of November and I would take part in 'Walk for life' and feel happy after doing my part. Anyway I was as confused as ever even the next day when I saw my friends working on charts to be used during the walk. I couldn't resist and ended up sitting in the college canteen.

The amount of work that was scheduled to be put up was huge and I was amazed by the optimistic level of the madams. Hats off to them and the amount of effort they put in. The pace at which everyone worked during the week was awesome. Plans were made and changed at will. Everyone was allowed to put forward his/her views. Earlier whenever I worked in a team there were some ego clashes and other innumerable problems used to creep up. But as a part of this amazing team I can proudly say that we worked as a real 'team' and were happy with the amount of work we put in. One week later, it's amazing to know that we have contributed in making the people aware of a blood helpline number. Starting from scratch to standing near the Mahatma Gandhi statue-we learnt a lot. I would have missed a lot if I was not a part of this. Someone was telling us that day that we need to motivate people. But in order to motivate others we ourselves first need to be motivated. Sankalp is the platform for us. A rally without disruption of traffic, without littering of streets, without police problems, without inconvenience to the general public is unknown. But this team managed it. All because of the effort of our senior volunteers had put in. Thank you sirs and madams. We, the first year students are indebted to you. Thank you.

Viewpoints

How can you use the site to convey your feelings?

Dear friends,

As we present this site to you, we need to discuss why is this site required and how will it lead to a change. Here are a few basic things.

Most of us have opinions about various things. But we do not share them either because we are not confident about our feelings or because we do not get a chance. Here is the answer. This site offers you space to discuss freely. Not only will it enable you to use the platform of Sankalp to voice your opinion but also it will help in refining your ideas by method of active constructive exchange.

In blogs you will be able to have personal space. In forums you have a public domain. Each page allows comments to give freedom of expression.

If used within the limits, this will bring about a great deal of personal and social refinement. Please express here what you feel about the site.

Indeed a good site

Submitted by pooja on Tue, 2006-05-02

Till I used this site I couldn't share my views with people other than my family members. This site has allowed me to know views about different people and also refine my views about certain things. It also inspired me to a great extent to work for our country.

Infer

Submitted by Pravachak on Sun, 2006-04-23

What I can Infer from this site is the fact that this is offering a place where you can get what is within you out. Once that happens you are much more clear about it. Secondly you get opinions of lots of other proactive people. Then you can pick up lots of ideas from elsewhere on the site to see how you can implement your plan. That's what was on the mind of administrator I guess.

Its working...

In this period of 3 years of Sankalp existence thousands of people joined us or contributed in some or the other way to its growth, many were very eager to know us more. We always tried to keep them updated and tell them the thing happening in Sankalp. We tried with general meetings, Annual function, newsletters, mails and many more. But some how we were not able to get people involved as they wanted to be.

I feel this site is the best platform to make others know more about us and also know their opinion. This site has helped us to understand our supporters, donors, well wishers better and know more about people who think in the same line of Sankalp's Philosophy. We can share our thoughts, feelings and know others view point about it without actually meeting everyone. It's actually working.

Quite true

Submitted by pravachak on Sun, 2006-04-23

But there is a long way to go.

Thousands should come.

Guests should be many.

New posts should be just too much.

Then i will call it the flow of ideas

"You have the gun. Just use it to kill"

- I only mean when things are ready, just plunge in and take it forward

This site is the medium to converge common thoughts

Submitted by Venu on Tue, 2006-04-04

The site is Excellent.. I just can't tell how much I love it...I was in the belief that only the working for cause can bring the people together. But this site is going to prove that thoughts and feelings brings the people together. The way I look at this site is as the platform to bring the youth of like minded on a single forum. This site will show the power of youth by converging all the thoughts at a single point.

An easy way

Submitted by Guest on Mon, 2006-04-03

This site has provided me an easy way of interacting with Sankalp. It gives me an idea of what's these guys actually do and along with that there is some interesting stuff too. You people should have put it up long way back.. Anyways its good. I am Loving It.

I never thought this

Submitted by Jayesh on Sun, 2006-04-02

From the day i started surfing on internet i always come cross the website which gave you information so i naturally thought that websites are for information. But after going through sankalpindia.net it changed my assumption that website are only for information...Not all website are only for information but for communication too ...Website can be a medium through which you can express your ideas...And sankalpindia.net has all thisOVER ALL ITS JUST TOO GOOD

nice site

Submitted by Abhijit on Mon, 2006-04-03

Yes friend ... i agree to u that this site of Sankalp's is a very nice one ... not only by its appearance .. but also because of its contents it provides u with facts and various other stuff....like the chat room where one can discuss one's views and ideas.... this site is overall very interacting Nice work guys .

Impact of Sankalp

Sankalp has slowly made place for itself in the community. It is gaining recognition and reputation.. What is the impact of Sankalp on the society..?

It's true..

Submitted by ankita on Tue, 2006-04-25

Its very true. You won't remain the same after you join Sankalp. Not that you loose or gain something but life changes. There is phase shift in your viewpoint towards everything. I love my new changed World-SANKALP.

I once read alchemist

Submitted by Guest on Fri, 2006-04-21

And I wanted to be a dreamer. Not the dreamer who just dreams. But a dreamer who achieves. I wanted to teach myself to believe. Sankalp is one organization that has shown me that I can dream fearlessly. The fear of not being able to achieve. Now I guess I can think of using my mind to change the way 'I' and in a broader sense 'we' live. It has opened the doors of actions for me. In true sense it has been an alchemist.

Impact of Sankalp

Submitted by amit sedai on Tue, 2006-04-18

Definitely there has been a change...

From a person who never cared about anything happening in his society..

Now has concern for the nation as a whole.

But this transformation wasn't Overnight....

It took me a lot more time to realize and i am still continuing...

This has been an Organization that has helped me look into my inner soul and forced me to do something which i always wanted to ... maybe because i didn't find it that cool...

I largely owe to SANKALP for giving me a opportunity..

Thanks.

Each and everyday of our

Submitted by ankit on Mon, 2006-04-10

Each and everyday of our lives we'll be shouting at system being corrupt..."Are yaar is desh ka kuch nahi ho sakta!!!, yahan ka to system hi kharab hai, sare NETA rishwatkhor hain... Even I used to do it.. but the 1st time I attended the Sankalp meeting, I got the hint that this was just a reason for people to hide from their responsibilities.. Who is responsible for system being corrupt?? If we are not bribing anyone then how is a NETA rishwatkhor??? If I am not bribing a policeman then how is this system corrupt??? This is what I learnt from SANKALP... If the SYSTEM has to change then 'I' have to change myself, agar is DESH KA KUCH HONA HAI to 'I' have to change myself and 'I' have found a change in myself.. A person sitting at home 2 years back on INDEPENDENCE DAY to a person finding NATIONAL FLAGS lying on roads.. A person hesitant in speaking in a group to the person shouting at his peak in the Bangalore's Biggest mall..I have found very small changes in my life that makes small but definitely some differences.. Thank you SANKALP for giving me a platform.. it definitely makes DIFFERENCES HOW MUCH SOEVER SMALL THEY MAY BE... Thank you..

A Ray of Hope

Submitted by Guest on Mon, 2006-04-03

A ray of Hope

Flickers In The Sky

A tiny light

Lights Up way up High

All Across The World

Dawns a Brand New Morn

This came to pass when Sankalp was Born..

It makes me hopeful that things will be better someday. It instills the confidence that still the thought for betterment of the life will be nourished. It helps me Keep the Faith..

But it's a long way ahead. Sankalp , you need to go on. Carry as many as possible along with you. Take the Banner onwards upwards with Hearts and Voices high.

Impact of sankalp on ME - - - jayesh

Submitted by Jayesh on Sat, 2006-04-01

Still i remember the day when we had gone for coffee in night and that incident happen which gave birth to SANKALP...I can't imagine that one incident can change so much of my life....I can say that my life shifted 180 degrees completely because of Sankalp... while working in Sankalp i saw the world with different prospect which never came to my mind...I had read some of the motivating books that a person should have PATIENCE,COURAGE, STRENGTH and many more things but i came to know the true meaning in SANKALP only... i don't know how many life had SANKALP changed and will change but i know that it had made a GREAT IMPACT in my life....

Journey from I to WE

Submitted by ankita on Thu, 2006-03-30

Sankalp's 3 years journey wasn't a cake walk. It was the sweat and BLOOD of the people who worked and who is working which built its foundation. Today not just in Bangalore but people around the country at least know that something like SANKALP exists.

Sankalp has brought change in lives of people associated with it at any point in time. It channelises our thought in one direction. Each person has hundreds of works and responsibilities to perform and in this trap we forget our social responsibilities. we become mean and self centric by thinking just about me, my family, my parents, my lives, my dreams...this MY continues....to live in this world peacefully this MY has to change into OUR or I to WE. Sankalp inculcates this feeling in all of us.

We tend to blame others for whatever wrong is happening in this society but we forget that even we are responsible for it. Sankalp makes us feel responsible for all rights and wrongs happening around.

What is Sankalp According to You....

Submitted by Jayesh on Wed, 2007-01-31

What is Sankalp according to you? How you see Sankalp?

Straight action

Submitted by amit on Tue, 2007-04-10

Sankalp is a totally volunteers organisation which believes in quick action.....a right thought and it gets implemented then and there itself...a total package of committed volunteers which makes thing happen, which have the guts to change the things around.....

Sankalp

Submitted by amit sedai on Tue, 2007-04-10

Sankalp is a dream come true. Most people complain when they see something unjustifiable but never do anything. Sankalp makes you believe that if there is anyone who can bring in a change it is but you only.

Sankalp is life. "They alone live who live for others, others simply exist".

Try Try Try Until you Succeed..

Submitted by tejasvi.adiga on Fri, 2007-03-23

Sankalp is an organization filled with willed people who are about to TRY and bring a change to this world we live in and make it a better place..

It thinks differently..

Does things in a different way..

Submitted by rajat on Wed, 2007-01-31

Opportunity, Duty, Blessing, Happiness, Peace, Motive, Inspiration, Driving force, Family, Energy, ..

Platform

Submitted by Jayesh on Wed, 2007-01-31

As i see Sankalp, It's a platform for all people to express their views and ideas which get lost due to many reasons...It's just not a platform to speak but to do action also...

Sankalp is not just a group of some youth but it's a INDIAN which is inside every person in this country.

Simply It Rocks....

Ummmmm.....

Submitted by shweta on Wed, 2007-03-21

Sankalp.....

Ummmm....

A THOUGHT WHICH TURNS INTO AN ACTION....

HEARTS THAT SAYS I WILL NOT QUIT EVEN THOUGH IT'S ONLY THEM WHO ARE STANDING ON THE OTHER SIDE....

SOULS WILLING TO WALK THE THORNS...

HAPPINESS...

FUN...

A CHALLENGE...

A FIGHT...

A SMILE...

SANKALP A FIRE...

A DREAM...

AN ACTION...

A RISING SUN,

BRINGING A NEW HOPE TO EVERYTHING THAT HAS TO BE DONE, THAT COULD BE DONE, TO MAKE THINGS BETTER...

THE SPIRIT OF LIFE...

I'll tell you what I should start writing poems...;)

Paradise

Submitted by lalithgparmar on Fri, 2007-03-16

Sankalp is paradise, Dream, way to absolute and true beauty, happiness, Confidence, fresh air and so on

SANKALP IS LIFE

SANKALP IS PASSION

SANKALP IS BEAUTY

SANKALP IS EVERTHING

Platform

Submitted by amit sedai on Tue, 2007-03-06

A platform where you can be yourself. A platform that will make you believe in the power of your convictions. These are big words, but i feel it whenever i associate myself as a part of the Sankalp family.

Sankalp is a dream come true...

Dream Come True

Submitted by Jayesh on Tue, 2007-03-13

Make your Dream, a dream of other thousand..

You know you brought an awesome smile

Submitted by rajat on Thu, 2007-03-15

The comment of yours brought an awesome smile to my face.. These are words which quantize a whole thought process.!

Oath and Dream

Submitted by ankita on Wed, 2007-02-14

An oath to take up responsibilities and perform our duty.

A dream to shape our country and improve our society.

A platform to do what I always thought is the Right thing to be done.

Challenge, Possibility, Responsibility

Submitted by rajat on Wed, 2007-01-31

Opportunity, Duty, Blessing, Happiness, Peace, Motive, Inspiration, Driving force, Family, Energy, ..

Will you donate blood if you know that the patient is dying?

Submitted by rajat on Fri, 2007-02-16

If there is a situation in which you know that the patient is terminally ill. And the doctors are still trying. And they are requesting for huge number of units of blood.

WILL YOU DONATE for this person?

and WHY?

MIRACLES do happen:-)

Submitted by tejasvi.adiga on Fri, 2007-03-23

Miracles do happen in our world.. sometimes even if the probability of occurrence of something is 0.1% miraculously it does happen.. So even if i know that the patient is terminally ill, i will surely do my best to try and save him.. Who knows a miracle might take place: -)

I Will...

Submitted by shweta on Wed, 2007-03-21

I would donate....

He'll survive or not is left to THE GOD....

But what I can do on my part to save that very life is in my hands...

You know that question or a thought that comes to mind if i had not donated than WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED IF I HAD DONATED?

PROBABLY HE WOULD HAVE BEEN ALIVE IF I HAD DONATED...

Question like that which can put me into the guilty feeling is not good.... i don't like them...

So I prefer doing whatever i can do....

Results won't matter....

Anyways I'll get back that blood within 90 days...

Nothing goes wasted...

And ya if he survives....

Hope..

Submitted by vibha on Tue, 2007-03-20

Yes I will. HOPE is one wonderful thing that keeps man alive. I believe that once we decide to do something the effort from our side should be maximum. Because that's all which is there in our hand. Rest all is unpredictable.

Try till the last moment gets over. Who knows the magic of the next moment.

At least you will not have a reason to regret.

A real Life Example...

Submitted by ankita on Mon, 2007-02-19

5 units were donated on 15th January 07 by Sankalp donors and volunteers for a blood cancer patient who was just 15yrs old. Today one of our volunteers was suppose to undergo platelets aphaeresis for the same patient but unfortunately that patient passed away last night. We were told by the doctor that survival chance is just 1% for this young boy still we agreed to donate blood and platelets. This was the only thing we could have done and we tried doing it in best possible way. Donors who donated and who agreed to donate are the real hero of this world who performed their duty without any expectations or hope...

Sometimes at night

Submitted by rajat on Mon, 2007-02-19

Before you go to sleep, one thought hovers in your mind..

Was there anything that could have saved that one life?

Then you can do nothing but sleep in pain.

Choose hope against reason. We play games with destiny. Whether we loose or win.. we must not back off from the fight..

Donate till the last breath..

Donating

Submitted by amit sedai on Sat, 2007-02-17

Yes, I will. That's because the feeling of service is much greater than the outcome. Being a volunteer, I feel it more strongly and I'll never stop this commitment.

Keep Trying...

Submitted by Jayesh on Fri, 2007-02-16

All what's in hands of all of us (doctor and donor) is to keep trying and i think we should not give up at any point...What i feel is if in case of 100 case if you save one life that will be biggest reward.

We should do whats all in our hand and leave the rest in which we don't have control...

My experience

Submitted by mansoor on Fri, 2007-02-16

I don't know about others i will surely donate blood like i did last year when one of my friend was dying. The doctors told us he won't live longer but later they asked us to donate blood to extend his life by some more hours which was done by me and 13 others friends of mine.

Press Clips

Disha To The Helpless



If ever you are in need of blood, including rare blood groups, and have no idea where to go, all you have to do is call 1062.

The Comprehensive Trauma Care Consortium's "Disha" has launched "Need Blood, Dial 1062" helpline for just these kinds of emergencies. The number previously used during medical emergencies will also be used to provide blood information. Partnering the consortium in this effort is Sankalp India Foundation, a voluntary agency of young people actively promoting blood donation. They have enrolled over 3,000 active blood donors and met more than 1,500 requests for blood over the past three years.

Tireless contributions and hard work for two years and trial of different possibilities like IVR and SMS based network finally bore fruit as DISHA was launched by the Governor of Karnataka on September 13, 2006.

The consortium with 35 affiliated hospitals with trauma care facilities, carried out extensive research into emergency blood requirements, based on actual experiences of medical personnel.

It was found that the process to source blood when most needed is a tedious one. There were unpredictable demands for blood transfusion from trauma incidents and from surgical patients.

From the research of the consortium and Sankalp India, was born the idea of a single-window source for blood, with a dedicated

helpline. To achieve this, a comprehensive database of blood availability information was developed through integration of the major blood banks in Bangalore.

This will now enable callers to the helpline access the information; the phone number will be answered by trained and friendly emergency response professionals, round-the-clock.



` Sankalp' offers help to flood-hit

THE HINDU

Date:01/12/2005 URL: <http://www.thehindu.com/2005/12/01/stories/2005120106200500.htm>

[Tamil Nadu](#) - [Thanjavur](#)

` Sankalp' offers help to flood-hit

Special Correspondent

All members of the organisation are college students

- *The affected got bread, biscuits and Rs. 100 each*
- *The organisation has 3,000 blood donors across the country*

Thanjavur: Whenever disaster strikes, they are there to help. Members of Sankalp, a voluntary organisation based in Bangalore, jump at any opportunity to help others.

The uniqueness of the organisation is that all its members are college students pursuing engineering and other courses. They were at Nagapattinam when the tsunami struck on December 26 last. And, guided by the Indian Red Cross, they carried out massive relief work.

At the invitation of the Red Cross, they are now at Thanjavur to help the flood-affected. They distributed bread, biscuits and Rs. 100 each to the flood affected at Rajagiri, near Thanjavur, on Wednesday.

According to Rajatkumar Agarwal, one of the members, Sankalp has 3,000 blood donors (all college students) across the country and 20 volunteers from six different educational institutions. Mr. Agarwal is a student of M.S. Ramaiah Engineering College at Mathikere, Bangalore. A native of Mussoorie in Uttaranchal, he has come here with three of his college mates — Tarun Sonkran from Jaipur, B. Venugopal from Bangalore and Kumar Gaurad from Muzaffarpur, Bihar.

"We students formed Sankalp three years ago with a view to donating blood... When we came to Nagapattinam to help people when the tsunami struck, we thought of forming the Disaster Mitigation and Management group to help people in distress," Mr. Agarwal said.

The organisation implements a school-level disaster preparedness programme. "We train school students on what they should and should not do during calamities. We sensitise them to help whenever people meet with accidents without moving away from the place. We also teach them how to act at the time of accidents without getting themselves into trouble," Mr. Agarwal said.

Besides service, they also inculcate values. "We are on a campaign to create awareness among students and people to respect our national flag. We are against using national flags in cinema and for decorative purposes." Mr. Agarwal said.

They distributed 600 blankets at Kshankot, a town six km from the Line of Control, when earthquake struck Jammu and Kashmir.

"Whenever there is a need to help people, we collect funds among ourselves and help them," Mr. Agarwal said. Any student can join them in the service. Interested students can contact Sankalp on emergency No. 9880132850 or visit website www.sankalpindia.net

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Deathly silence in Nagapattinam

While the town struggles to cope with the disaster, visiting VIPs have placed a strain on overstretched resources.

FROM DEEPA BALAKRISHNAN
DH NEWS SERVICE, NAGAPATTINAM:

Said to be the worst affected region in mainland India and reporting the maximum number of deaths post-tsunami, Nagapattinam wears a deathly silence as it grapples with the task of providing relief and succor to its victims.

Swarming with policemen, doctors and social workers the town has nothing to show for normalcy. With the threat of the epidemics looming over them, doctors go about the task of disposing cartloads of dead bodies. Almost all of the town resembles one big relief camp. Shops and schools have closed shutters indefinitely, platforms outside shops and bus stands are all abodes for the homeless. Several locals who were not affected by the tsunami deserted the town to visit relatives in near by districts out of fear with the result that everywhere you look you see refugees thinking of a bleak future.

For the injured who were caught in the waves three days ago and managed to stay alive by hanging onto pieces of wood, however, nothing could be more traumatic than being made show-pieces for VIP visits at the government hospital.

Take this case for instance, Sharanakumar and Jayalakshmi, parents of three year old Anitha, who lived in MGR Nagar in Nagapattinam could not decide what was worse — the death of their daughter at the government hospital after failing to recover from the impact of the tsunami or the trauma of waiting for the body to be released after three-hour-

long formalities.

The process wouldn't have taken that long under normal circumstances. But what with AICC supremo Sonia Gandhi paying a flying visit to the hospital to mouth reassurances, the 'release' took a back seat for over three hours.

About an hour before Ms Gandhi visited the hospital, the wards were refurbished with fresh bed linen. With antiseptic precision, the hospital decked itself up with sympathetic scenes for the tsunami tragedy — three days after the seven block hospital complex was reduced to two blocks.

"It is all artificial... the hospital forgot its normal work. Everyone in the government and the police are only worried about preparing for Ms Gandhi's visit. The 24 medical teams that were to leave for remote areas stayed put here. The doctors did not even allow the dead bodies to be disposed off, what if the VIPs were met by ugly scenes of bodies?, Food and medical supplies meant for far off villages are stuck here," complained Rajat Kumar Agarwal, a student volunteer from Bangalore who has led a team of volunteers from his NGO Sankalp.

While volunteers from several private organizations have landed from near by districts, the government is yet to wake itself up to the enormity of relief operations. About 70 camps have been set up around the district and these are getting dirtier by the day. Though water packets are distributed, doctors fear refugees may resort to drinking contaminated bore well water if supplies are not dispatched on time.

BMP) are ongoing on has parts of Karnataka, the mer- the rise e is also

say that outhwest expected 10 days. cal cons might rnoons.

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oon will al activi- soon is said an

Express photo by
Mohan Kumar B.N.

Minister R. Ashok and Mayor Manu-
Begum taking a look at a model of the
casualty block at Bowring Hospital.

Underpass at Ramamurthy Nagar.
Health and Family Welfare
Minister R. Ashok is also seen

Friend's electrocution spurs students' safe city campaign

Express News Service

June 13

A group of students from the MSRIT college in the City are campaigning to make Bangalore a safe place to live in. They are asking people to report unattended live wires to BESCOM authorities to avoid electrocution.

The students started the campaign, 'Parivartan,' after MSRIT student Tejas Acharya got electrocuted by live wire which was unattended. The youth organisation, 'Sankalp', which could not

Over 100 students have joined the campaign so far

come to terms with the death of their friend, decided to do something and took up the campaign.

They are putting up posters, sending SMSes, e-mails to people trying to convince them to report unattended live wires to BESCOM.

Rajat Kumar Agarwal, President, Sankalp India Foundation said if the common man takes a little care to report any live wire

that is exposed dangerously to BESCOM authorities and ensure that it is taken care of such things will not be repeated.

"We are going around the city putting up posters in this regard. We are also into forwarding messages and mails," he said.

Project in-charge Ankit Jain said over 100 students from around the City have joined the campaign, so far. "Our appeal to people is to join the campaign, spread the message. Let us make Bangalore a better place to live in," he added.

(Call 9880132850 or visit www.sankalpindia.net)

Headache: Posting of retd officials

engineer-in-chief Rame Gowda, who retired last year but was

the same day as the HC ordered in the PIL that he has no locus-

tradicts it.

BMP Commissioner K. Iairai.

V. SREENIVASA MURTHY

RASHEED RAHMAN

Tackling unattended live wires Sankalp India Foundation has launched a campaign called 'Parivartan'

Staff Reporter

BANGALORE: Losing a best friend is a bitter moment in life. A life lost cannot be got back and a life lost due to the carelessness of another is still worse an experience. Tejas Acharya, an engineering student from M.S. Ramaiah Institute of Technology, Bangalore, was electrocuted near his house after stepping on a live wire protruding from the ground recently.

Tejas Acharya was the victim on that day. Tomorrow, it could be some other friend.

Sankalp India Foundation, a voluntary organisation from M.S. Ramaiah Institute of Technology, Bangalore, could not see the death of its friend go in vain. It decided to do something about it. And it has launched a campaign called "Parivartan" to encourage people to report cases of unattended live wires in the city.

This foundation consists of 3,000 volunteers nationwide. It has participated in many relief works.

The organisation has posted wall-papers around the city bus stands giving the telephone numbers of BESCOM and helpline numbers to which people can call and inform about the livewires. People can call BESCOM authorities on Ph: 080 - 22355180, 22356627, 9844244638, and the helpline on 12660.

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Project Parivartan

TRS chief rules out withdrawing resignation

Special Correspondent

HYDERABAD: Rejecting the Congress high command's plea to relent, Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) president K. Chandrababhan Rao declared here on Wednesday that there was no question of withdrawing his resignation as Member of Parliament from Karimnagar.

Mr. Rao said that he had already despatched his resignation letter to Lok Sabha Speaker Somnath Chatterjee by post on Tuesday.

He would meet Mr. Chatterjee as and when the latter summoned him to authenticate his letter as required under the rules.

Speaking to reporters, he said the question of reconsidering his decision in deference to All-India Congress Committee's (AICC) appeal did not arise as it would amount to playing politics with the demand for separate

Governor inaugurates website for emergency blood needs

The venture has networked major blood banks: T.N. Chaturvedi

Special Correspondent

BANGALORE: "Disha 1062", the helpline for emergency blood needs, launched by Comprehensive Trauma Consortium (CTC) and Sankalp India Foundation, has a web-based link too.

The website: www/ctcbloodinfo.com was clicked onto by Governor T.N. Chaturvedi at Raj Bhavan on Wednesday. "The laudable venture backed by a group of young and enthusiastic blood donors has networked major blood banks and hospitals," the Governor said.

Explaining the features of the blood helpline, N.K. Venkatramana of Manipal Hospital, one of the CTC founders, said Disha would augment other services of the consortium such as dedicated ambulances and emergency care centres in the city and on Mysore expressway.

• 'Disha 1062' to augment services of other consortiums

• Karnataka needs 4 lakh units of blood annually

"Within six years, we have brought down deaths from accidents to below 3 per cent from 32 per cent and carried out 23,149 accident rescue missions and initiated the Emergency Response System with trained personnel. Since blood is needed by 60 per cent of all accident victims and by those undergoing major surgery and cancer treatment, the need for networking blood banks was keenly felt," he said.

The Rotary TTK Blood Bank, M.S. Ramaiah Blood Bank, Manipal Hospital, Sagar Apollo

Hospital, Narayana Hrudaya-laya and Rashthrotham Blood Bank are partners in the helpline.

K. Shivaram of Manipal Hospital said Karnataka needed 4 lakh units of blood annually and 50 per cent of the needs were in the city alone. The city's hospitals needed about 550 units every day. There were 55 blood banks in the city but there was no comprehensive information readily available about the blood inventory with them.

"Safe, screened donors are always needed. Blood even from a close relative may not always be suitable," he said.

Speaking on behalf of Sankalp India, Rajat Kumar said the initiative was to stop complaining and do something about a critical issue; the need for safe blood and its components for emergency usage.



COMPREHENSIVE
TRAUMA
CONSORTIUM



SANKALP INDIA

*Solicit your gracious presence
on the august occasion of the launch of*

' CTC DISHA '

HELPLINE for EMERGENCY BLOOD ACCESS
(Blood availability information through a dedicated
access number - 1062
and an integrated database of blood banks)

by

His Excellency Shri T.N. CHATURVEDI
The Honourable Governor of Karnataka

On

Wednesday, the 13th Sept 2006 at 4:30 PM
Venue: Rajbhavan, Bangalore

A joint initiative of

*Comprehensive Trauma Consortium
and Sankalp India Foundation*

- Entry through invitation only
- Kindly report to the venue 15 minutes in advance

RSVP: Vijayalakshmi
080- 2527 1870

With best compliments

CTC DISHA

Now a helpline for blood

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bangalore: Now need for blood during emergencies is just a phone call away. Call 1062 and the 24/7 helpline will direct you to the blood bank with the matching blood group.

'CTC Disha' a joint initiative by Comprehensive Trauma Consortium (CTC), Sankalp India Foundation, aims to provide safe blood for the needy from the blood bank nearest to where the request is made. Around 60 per cent of the trauma cases need blood within the first hour of the accident and in Bangalore the need arises every three minutes! Hence availability of safe blood is very crucial to save a life.

Tele No : 0194-2465083

Disaster Management Cell
HQ 15 Corps (EME)
Pin-908515
c/o 56 APO

48245/OP IMDAD/EME Coord

17 Nov 05

SANKALP INDIA FOUNDATION
R. No.F-24
MS Ramaiah Students Home
MSRIT Post
Bangalore – 560 054


**OP IMDAD: RELIEF OPERATION FOR THE VICTIMS OF
EARTHQUAKE IN J&K VALLEY**

Dear Sir,

This is to appreciate the sincere efforts of your relief organization (Sankalp India Foundation) who have sent across blankets to us for distribution to earthquake victims. These blankets have promptly been distributed in the locations of Tangdhar and Uri. We humbly acknowledge the confidence and faith you have in us as also for choosing us as your representatives to distribute the relief material.

Thanking you.

Yours faithfully


(Akhil Kumar)
Col
OIC
For DDEME

Letter from the Indian Army

Campaign to save people from electrocution

THE HINDU

Date: 23/06/2006 URL: <http://www.thehindu.com/2006/06/23/stories/2006062316650200.htm>

[Karnataka](#) - [Bangalore](#)

Campaign to save people from electrocution

Staff Reporter

'Parivarthan' was launched after an engineering student was electrocuted

- *The campaign is being popularised through posters, emails and SMS messages*
- *BESCOM has been supportive, says a volunteer*

· Bangalore: Students in the city are now campaigning for a new cause — to save and protect people from electrocution.

Students of the M.S. Ramaiah Institute of Technology here launched "Parivarthan" under the banner of Sankalp India Foundation, a youth organisation. The campaign was launched after an engineering student of MSRIT Tejas Acharya was electrocuted on May 25, 2006. He had stepped on a live wire. Kumari Ankita, a volunteer, told *The Hindu* here on Wednesday that the campaign was being popularised through posters, emails and SMS messages. Ms. Ankita said BESCOM had been supportive. For joining the campaign, contact "Sankalp" on mobile number 9880132850 or visiting the website, www.sankalpindia.net

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FROM : SHRI BAL COMMUNICATIONS PVT. PHONE NO. : 01352631143, ... AUG. 14, 1994-12, 1994 PM

Ruskin Bond,
I.V. Cottage,
Landour, Mussoorie,
Dehradun, U.A., India.
Phone:- 01352631143.

I take pleasure in extending my support to the Sankalp Volunteers in their efforts to bring about a greater respect for the dignity of the National Flag of India. The flag is a symbol of the country's pride and independence and should not be treated with disrespect or casually thrown away as refuse after a public event. Project Taranga aims at inculcating in our citizens a pride and love for the country and its achievements. The Sankalp Foundation has also undertaken relief projects in disaster-affected areas of the country. I join in the appeal to young and old everywhere to support the good work and sincere efforts of the Sankalp volunteers.

Ruskin Bond

January 15, 2006

Letter from Ruskin Bond to
Sankalp

NAME: SREE KRISHNA FAX

TEL-NO.: 0457881572

2005/11/27 14:44 P201

Phone 04362 278 333



DONATE BLOOD TO SAVE A LIFE

INDIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY

(Constituted under Act XV 1920)

THANJAVUR DISTRICT BRANCH - THANJAVUR - 613 007.

FAX 08022-921762

TO WHOMSOEVER IT MAY CONCERN

THANJAVUR DISTRICT HAS BEEN SEVERELY AFFECTED BY THE FLOOD WELL OVER 40 THOUSAND PEOPLE WERE RENDERED HOMELESS AND THEY ARE TEMPORARILY SHELTERED IN 102 PUBLIC PLACES FOR A COUPLE OF WEEKS. AROUND 150 PEOPLE DIED IN BUS & FLOOD ACCIDENT. RED CROSS IS IN FULL CONTROL OF THE HAVOC AND IS UNDERTAKING RELIEF MEASURES WITH AMBULANCE. HENCE WE NEED THE FOLLOWING FOR SURVIVAL AND PROTECTION.

1. DRESS MATERIALS
 2. EDIBLE ITEMS - BISCUITS & BREAD FRUITS etc.
 3. FIRST AID MEDICINES, SOAP etc.
 4. BLANKETS, BED SHEETS, TOWEL AND COSMETICS.
- PLEASE SEND ABOVE MATERIALS THROUGH SANKALP INDIA FOUNDATION AND DO THE NEEDFUL.

11/05

9000

1442169921

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CALL
YOURS IN SOCIAL SERVICE
C. RAJAMAHENDRA

Letter from the Indian Red Cross Society

4th Anniversary Programme



[Sankalp India Foundation]

Providing Blood In Emergencies

24 X 7 X 365 helpline
Networking blood banks
Organizing Donors

Igniting Patriotism

Celebrating Nationhood
Project Tiranga
Remembering Martyrs

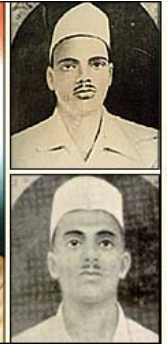
Tsunami Relief, Fire Safety
Kashmir Relief, TN Floods
Disaster Preparedness

Extending Help During Disasters

www.sankalpindia.net
Discussions, Blogs,
Chat, Multimedia

Shaping Thoughts

call: 9880132850 Mail: Sankalp.admin@gmail.com Visit www.sankalpindia.net



Live to express not to impress...



A blood bank technician showing the unit of blood that was collected . The unit is completely isolated from outer atmosphere and the testing and cross match samples are taken from the blood that remains in the tube

Donors listen carefully to the pre-donation advice being given by the Volunteers. Donor's safety comes first.



Trianz blood collection. An example to follow.

It is really painful and difficult to donate blood?
Look at his face. You have the answer.



The greater our awareness of intentions, the greater our freedom to choose.



Be it Tsunami, Kashmir earthquake, Bangalore Floods or Tamil Nadu Flood. One Aim.. To Provide Immediate Relief.





Some Blood Donation Posters painted by Ms. Rashmi Niranjana.