

FRIENDS SOCIETY 1986-87



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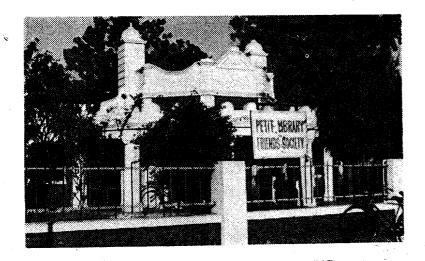
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WE THANK ALL OUR

SUPPORTERS

- FRIENDS





FRIENDS SOCIETY (REGD) BARODA-390 002.

Petit Library

Office Address :-

Petit Library, Opposite Parsi Agiyari, Fatehganj Main Road, Baroda-390 002 (India)

Telephone No. 66429

Nature :-

Voluntary University Youth Organisation for social service Registered under societies Registration Act Regn. No. Baroda/F-109 and Public Trust Act, 1950.

Exempted from Income Tax under Section 11 and 80 G of Income Tax Act 1961.

Non-governmental and non-political organisation.

A Bit of History :-

One day in August, 1969, a group of students of Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, decided to spend their leisure time constructively. Gradually other students joined and thus Friends Society (FS) was born. From modest begining, FS has expanded both in its concept and the size of its projects and today it is considered as one of the active and effective Youth Organisations in the country.

Membership :-

Primarily open to the present and past students and staff of the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda.

Others be accepted provided they can demonstrate genuine interest.

Membership Fees:-

Rs. 2500.00 Patron 200.00 Life member Rs.

Active member Rs. 15.00 per year for

and non-students Associate member \$ Rs. 10.00 per year for

students.

Organisation: --

Functional executive committee consists of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Joint Secretary, Treasurer and group Incharges of activities.

Office Assistance:

Volunteers, part-time and full-time staff.

Timings of office:

6-00 p. m. to 8-00 p. m. daily except Sunday

Publication; INVOLVE (Quarterly).



Special Features:

Developed and managed mainly by the University youth, functioning for the last 17 years. Individual touch/relationship with the members.

Objectives :-

- To provide a common platform for the students of all the faculties of Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda to spend their leisure time in a coustructive way so that their potentialities are enhanced and personality is enriched.
- 2. To bring the youth closer to the hendicapped sections of the society and render possible services to them.
- To give practical experience to the members in management of service organisations.
- 4. To participate in tackling city level problems in the areas of health and education.

FS ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

- * For Needy patients
 - Voluntary Blood Donation Programme
 - Eye Donation Movement
 - Sheth Khushalchand Charitable Medical Centre
- * For Fatehgunj Neighbourhood
 - Mother Health Care Centre
 - Child Health Care Centre
 - Public Reading Room and Library
 - Income Generation Programme
- * For Needy Children
 - Adopt a Family Friend Programme
 - Programme for Future Leaders
 - Youth Club
 - Cheer Up
 - Sunday School for Non-Institutionalised Handicapped Children
 - Integrated Balwadi
 - Educational Sponsorship Programme
- * For University Students
 - Programmes for University Students

WITH BEST COMPLIMENTS FROM

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372/1, G. I. D. C. Makarpura, BARODA 390 010,

Phone: 42458





INTEGRATED BALWADI

Learning Through Fun 'n' Play

This unique Balwadi was started in July 1982. It caters to underpriveleged needy children in the age group of 3 to 6 years living in the slums. It is run daily in the morning from 9-00 A. M. to 12 noon except on Saturday and Sunday. Within four years, it has taken the shape of the first Integrated Balwadi in the city, for handicapped and normal children. Such children from unorganised informal economic sector of society and far off areas in Baroda are helped through common experiences of play and creative activities. This helps to achieve their full potentials within their existing limitations. It also fosters self-confidence in the handicapped children and encourages normal children to have a helpful and friendly attitude towards their handicapped friends.

The head teacher along with the assistant teachers plan the whole week's acitivity. The children at the Balwadi are checked regularly for health and cleanliness. Medical rehabilitation is provided in the forms of surgery, appliances and physiotherapy. Presently 80 children-40 handicapped and 40 poor-are covered under this programme.

Parents are actively involved in the development and rehabilitation process of their children. They attend discussion, meetings and mothers are taken as helpers in the Balwadi.

With Compliments From I

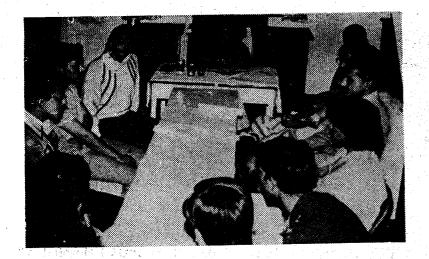
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Dealers: Ind. goods, welding safety equipments.





PROGRAMME FOR UNIVERSITY YOUTH

Group Discussions during Interview Clinic

The greatest resource of an organisation is its 'MEMBERS'. They are the people who have to conceive, design, implement and coordinate activities. It is, therefore, imperative to keep them abreast with developments in various fields. This need was recognised well in advance and hence this programme was started.

To bring about the development of individual members and the organisation, the following activities are regularly carried out every year.

- 1 Talks on topics of interest by experts and inter disciplinary talks among members.
- 2 A two-day out station training camp for Executive committee members wherein special tailor-made exercises, audio-visual aids and classroom sessions are used to teach effective functioning of the groups and the organisation as a whole.
- 3 An overnight outstation Programme Planning Camp for designing an effective and

smooth calendar of activities, and to foster better understanding of one another.

4 Award of work scholarships on relevant task to a few active members.

For other university students, the following activities are arranged:

- Interview clinics for the final year students to equip them with skills of application procedure, group discussions, personal interviews, etc. Senior executives from the industry, business and academics are invited as experts. So far, in six such clinics 150 students have participated.
- Week-end programme for senior students-a two-day bull session is organised with the help of Leslie Sawhney Institute of Bombay. National leaders in various fields interact with 30 students. So far 120 students participated in 4 sessions.





SHETH KHUSHALCHAND CHARITABLE MEDICAL CENTRE

Drug Store at SSG Hospital

Shri Sayaji General Hospital of Baroda caters to the needs of 1,200 indoor and 2,000 outdoor patients daily. About 80% of these patients belong to very low socio-economic strata of the society, unable to spend much on medicines In order to partly help these needy patients, our society started this drug store in May 1974 with the financial assistance of Khushalchand Charity Trust. This centre is located opposite the out patient Department (OPD) of SSG Hospital. It is open from 8.00 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. daily except Sundays and hospital holidays. It sells medicines to about 400 patients daily at concessional rates. Yearly turn over of this centre is about 12 lakhs rupees. Besides saving 15% of money on medicines, patients also save their time and money on transportation.

Other services of the centre:

- Sale of schedule X drugs (used in epilepsy)
- Free loan of oxygen cylinders to needy patients.
- 3. Reading room for relatives of patients with financial assistance from United Way of Baroda.
- 4. Water cooler and sale of daily use articles.

This centre is managed by a group of doctors, FS volunteers and paid staff, social workers and leading doctors of the town are members of the Advisory committee of the centre.

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Phone Factory: 42730 Regi. Office: 326595





PERFORMANC OF SHETH KHUSHALCHAND CHARITABLE MEDICAL CENTRE(1974-1986)

Patients buying medicines

year	sales turnover	No. ot patients benefitted	minimum savings to patients	
1974-75	2,58,000.00	30,000.00	25,800.00	
1975-76	2,91,000.00	39,000.00	29,100.00	
1976-77	4,89,000.00	46,000.00	48,900.00	
1977-78	6,00,000.00	60,000.00	60,000.00	
1978-79	7,18 000.00	70,000.00	72,000.00	
1979-80	8,54,000.00	80,000.00	85,400.00	
1980-81	9,55,000.0 0	90,000.00	95,500.0 0	
1981-82	8,74,000.00	90,000.00	87,400.00	
1982-83	9,54,000.00	1,00,000.00	1,35,700.00	
1983-84	10,73,000.00	1,02,000.00	1,61,000.00	
1984-85	11,30,000.00	1,05,000.00	1,70,000.00	
1985-86	11,62,000.00	1,05,000.00	1,74,000.00	
TOTAL	93,58,000.00	9,17,000.00	11,44,800.00	

With Best Compliments From

CHEMO FAB INDUSTRIES

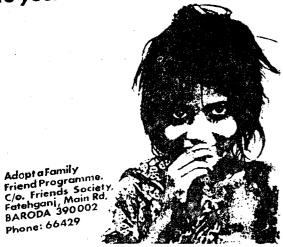
450/2 GIQC Makarpura BARODA 390 010 Phone 42538

CAN YOU GIVE LOVE AND AFFECTION?



There are many orphan children in Baroda who have never known the love of a family

Why don't you invite such a child to your home on Sunday?



ADOPT A FAMILY FRIEND PROGRAMME

This Indianised programme is one of the oldest activities of FS and is run with the help of those families who have a genuine concern for the orphaned children living in various institutions of Baroda like the Government certified school and Remand Home for girls such families invite one of these children to their homes. The main objective of this programme is to give love, security, confidence, encouragement and parental relationship which these children otherwise miss in their life.

At any given time, on an average 10 families volunteer for this noble cause. We are proud of them. Our volunteers serve as a link between these families and the children. The volunteers take children to families on Sundays and holidays in the morning and bring them back

to their institutions in the evening. This exposure infuses confidence in children, provides encouragement and above all gives them experience of home life.

Raksha bandhan celebration, a friendly cricket match with FS members, Garba, sports meet and a few outings are other activities of this programme. Health check ups are carried out and a get-together of children, families and volunteers is organsied every year to review the programme.

After 16 years we feel satisfied that many such children have become good human beings and respectable citizens of the society.

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EDUCATIONAL-SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME

A beneficiary is receiving books.

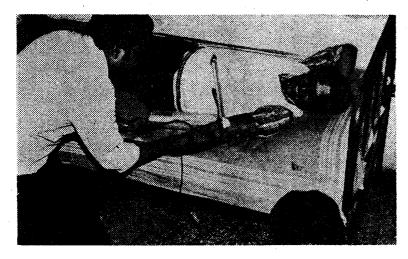
This programme was started in 1981. The objective is to locate needy children in the age group of 7 to 15 years who find it difficult to pursue their studies due to lack of funds. They are ensured of a support for minimum of 7 years to carry out studies.

Under this programme, presently 110 children are covered. Financial support for 100 children is granted by ACTION AID, a UK-based organisation. Ten children are supported by individual donors. Children whose family income is less than Rs. 300 per month in case of non-handicapped children and Rs. 450 per month in case of handicapped children are enrolled in this programme. They are helped materially by providing school fees, books,

uniforms and other educational aids, providing regular health check ups and medical help, exposures through non-formal local and outside trips, etc.

Two trained Family Welfare Workers not only help these children, they also follow them up regularly in their schools and homes, monitor their progress in the field of education and health and maintain their records. They maintain the link between children and their sponsors through exchange of letters, greeting cards and photographs. Parents are involved through regular Parents Meet,

If you wish, you can also sponsor a needy child by donating Rs. 360 every year.





VOLUNTARY BLOOD DONATION PROGRAMME

Someone lives when someone gives

The River of life which flows within all our veins and which does not have a substitute, binds all mankind together in oneness. Gratefull indeed is the person who in need of blood and so close to death survives it because of humanitarian act of an unknown brother. Voluntary blood donation is therefore, the highest donation which no amount can match. For this reason only, FS launched Voluntary blood donation programme in 1970.

The purpose of this programme is to mobilise young persons, especially university students, for voluntary blood donation and disseminate scientific knowledge about blood donation and transfusion. With the active support of Nagrik Rakta Dan Samiti and blood bank of Shri Sayaji General Hospital, Baroda in last 16 years, FS has organised 256 blood tapping sessions and collected 12,832 units of blood. These camps have been arranged in the hostels and

faculties of the University, banks, adjoining community and even outstations. We also respond to emergency calls for blood from the hospital.

The blood bank of SSG hospital, Baroda needs approximately 7000 units of blood every year. Half of this is obtained through blood donation camps. The contribution of students community is about 25% of the total bottles collected in camps.

Besides this, FS has also published educational pamphlets "In ten minutes you can save a life" and 'Anaemia' and has developed a slide show on blood donation with commentary. The Gujarat Red cross society has awarded rotating Asha Parekh Trophy thrice to FS for collecting maximum no. of blood bottles in Gujarat state.

"Today you may not be dying to give blood but some day

You may be dying for it"

No. of camps Organised

Blood bottles

12,832

collected :

12,00.

256

Average bottles

50

per camp

DETAILS ABOUT BLOOD
DONATION CAMPS

(1970-86)

year	camps	bottles	year	camps	bottles
1970-71	12	630	1978-79	15	591
1971-72	09	836	1979-80	23	1013
1972-73	17	975	1980-81	20	1026
1973-74	12	518	1981-82	21	1069
1974-75	12	696	1982•83	2 2	1072
1975-76	13	662	1983-84	11	525
1976-77	17	783	1984-85	16	726
1977-78	22	1012	1985-86	09	530
			1986-87	05	168
			(Till date)		·

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SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR NON-INSTITUTIONALISED HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

An art session in progress

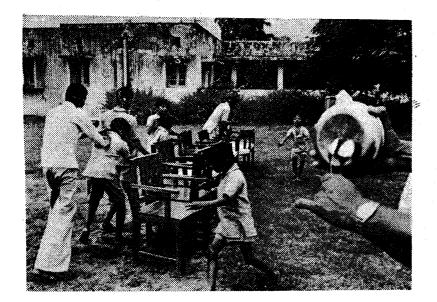
The Sunday school is a school with difference. On every Sunday morning when other schools remain closed, volunteers of this group pick up about 70 children from their homes in vehicles and bring them to FS campus for spending next 3 hours in meaningful and still enjoyable activities. These are the children who are either physically handicapped or developmentally subnormal.

At FS campus these children indulge in activities like drawing, painting, clay modelling, singing, playing, learning etc. They undergo medical check ups, corrective surgery with physiotherapy and fitting of appliances, art therapy and play therapy with the help of experts. The objectives of all these activities in short are to provide a comprehensive package. Services to the beneficiaries like early medical rehabilitation, mobility acceleration, supplimentary education and social integration.

Other activities include non - formal outstation trips, outings, parents meets etc. What started as mobile recreation and medical aid programme in 1979 has now culminated into more concrete more exciting programme of today. A team of volunteers along with the project holder, a social worker and part-time experts put their best efforts to achieve the goals.

So far about 100 children have taken advantage of this programme. A few distinct achievements are operations of 31 children, fitting of appliances and giving tricycles to 44 children and getting training in radio and TV repairing to 13 children.

An unique feature of this programme is that it is financially supported by the UNICEF since July, 1983.





CHEER UP !!!

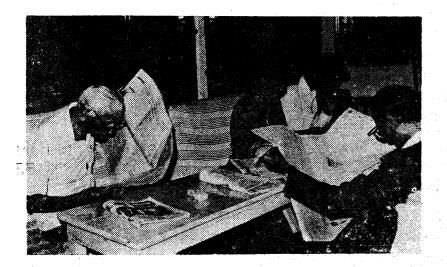
Handicapped children playing musical chair

From our association with the residents of various social welfare institutions, we have realised that they do not expect material or monetary help from the students community but they definitely need freinds who can talk to them, sing with them and share their adventures and experiences of life. We, therefore, carry out recreational and creative activities for the residents of these institutes so that monotony of their life is reduced.

In fact, this was the first activity with which FS started in 1969. Presently about 105 inmates of Home for crippled children 50 inmates of school for blind and 45 inmates of home for

mentally subnormal children are covered in this programme, Volunteers of cheer up group visit these children twice a week in the evening to carry out activities like singing, playing, story telling, teaching etc. Children are taken to garden, circus, film shows etc. Celebration of Rakshabandan, Garba, cricket matches, kite flying competition, celebration of festivals like Diwali and Holi, picnics, cleanliness competitions are notable features of this programme. Medical check-ups are also organised.

The best reward for volunteers of this group is the smile on the faces of these 200 children.





PUBLIC READING ROOM AND LIBRARY

Readers engrossed in their favourite news papers

Books can open 'the windows of perception' for children and adults alkie. To promote healthy reading habits a public reading room and library are run by our society. Daily news papers and magazines are kept in the reading room which remains open from 8-00 A. M. to 11-00 A. M. and from 4-30 P. M. to 7-30 P. M. About 60 people take advantage of this facility daily.

The public library was started in 1973 and now

has a membership of 300. It has nearly 4168 books in Gujarati, Hindi and English. A notable feature of the library is a children's section with 764 books. It operates on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 5-30 P.M. to 7-30 P.M. Annual membership of the library is kept low at Rs. 15-00 only (ane Rs. 10-00 as refundable deposit) so that people with moderate means, living in Fatehgunj area can make use of it.

With Best Compliments From

NOOTAN ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

131-3 G. I. D. C. Estate, Makarpura, BARODA-390 010.





MOTHER HEALTH CARE CENTRE

An expectant mother undergoing macical check-up

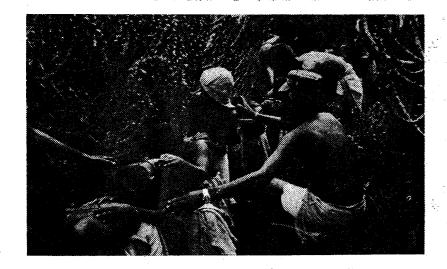
A healthy baby is born when the mother's health is maintained during the pregnancy. At the same time the available mother health care services are either inadequate or are not fully used by the needy women. To bridge this gap and to provide essential mother health care service to the unreached poor women of Fatehgunj locality, above project was started in 1979.

Under this project a weekly ante-natal and post-natal clinic is run on every Saturday from 4 00 P.M. to 6.00 P.M. at Friends society campus. The following services are rendered to the pregnant and lactating women.

 Regular weekly check, up and physical examination of pregnant women

- Laboratory investigations including examination of urine, estimation of haemoglobin and grouping of blood.
- 3. Free supply of iron, folic acid calcium tablets and injections of tetanus toxoid
- 4. Advise about balanced diet and hygiene
- Examination and advise about gynaecological problems.
- 6. Advise for family planning.

Doctors from Jamnabai Hospital and SSG hospital provide honorary service for this clinic On average 4 patients attend the clinic every week and 100 women benefit every year. A unique feature of this activity is regular followup by student volunteers.





PROGRAMME FOR FUTURE LEADERS

Blind children making their way in the jungle

'Leaders are not born, they are made'.

Under this programme, which was started in 1974, various tailor-made exposures are offered to school children to develop their leadership qualities. The main objective of this programme is to provide a common platform through which secondary school children can learn together through adventure and non-formal education so that their personality is enriched.

Outward bound programmes are organised at Deolali with the active support of Leslie Saw-

hney programme of Bombay, where adventurous activities like rock climbing, cross country hiking, gliding canoeing, agility and obstacle tests plus workshop on creativity, group discussion and citizenship and leadership are conducted. So far 10 camps have been organised of which 302 children have benefitted.

Nature appreciation and education camps are organised in collaboration with the World Wild Life Fund-India at Pirotan Islands, Hingolgadh etc. Till now 16 camps have been organised in which 500 children have participated.

TODAYS' CHILDREN ARE TOMORROWS' LEADERS





INCOME GENERATION PROGRAMME

Women in the sewing class

A sewing and embroidery class for the adolescent girls and ladies residing in the Fatehgunj community and the neighbourhood has been started since June 83. The basic objective of this class is to impart some skill to these women coming from lower economic strata of the society and help them generate some additional income for their families.

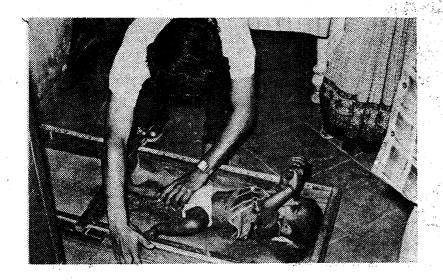
The beneficiaries are taught by a trained teacher

right from drafting to stitching the clothes. Within a short time they start stitching uniforms for the sponsored children. Besides sewing and knitting they undergo lessons in primary arithmatic as they are illeterate. Classes are run every afternoon between 2.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. except on Sundays. Presently 55 women take advantage of this class.

WITH BEST COMPLIMENTS FROM

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CHILD HEALTH

A child is being weighed

Health of children is the measure of health of any country. To grow into a good citizen of tomorrow a child must be cared for today. Unfortunately one million children die every year in India. Major causes of these deaths are infectious diseases and malnutrition, which are quite common amongst poor. Nearly 40% of pre-schoolers in India live below poverty line who do not have access to health care services.

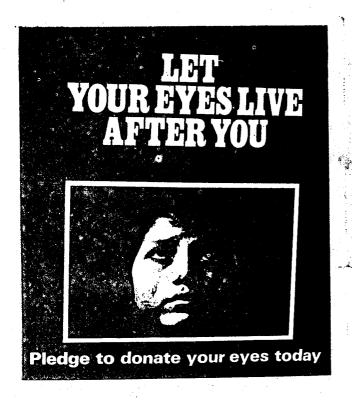
This programme was launched in 1978 with the basic objective of providing comprehensive preventive health care services to the unreached, needy children from Fatehgunj community. A 'under five clinic' is run every Saturday from 4-00 p.m. to 6-00 p.m. in which the following services are rendered:

- Regular check-up of infants and children below the age of 5 years and monitoring their growth.
- 2. Immunisation including measles vaccine.
- 3. Advise about diet and hygiene.

- 4. Treatment of minor ailments.
- 5. Referral of sick babies to general hospital and their follow up.
- 6. Identification of 'at risk' children and giving special attention to them.

Besides these, healthy baby competitions, community health education programmes and mass health check-ups with follow up are also organised periodically to generate health consciousness.

Presently 479 children are registered under this programme. Every week about 20 children attend the clinic. Success of this programme is due to help rendered by the doctors of Paediatric Department of SSG Hospital, Child Development Department of Faculty of Home Science, Baroda Municipal Corporation and untiring efforts of volunteers who meticulously follow up the children.





VOLUNTARY EYE DONATION PROGRAMME

You can live after your death through your eyes.

Awareness has now started growing amongst people that eyes can be donated after death for a humanitariam cause. The outermost transparent layer of the eyeball (cornea) can be transplanted in those blind people who have lost vision due to opaqueness of cornea following some diseases. Thus corneal transplantation can restore the vision of a blind man. According to a rough estimate 15 lakhs out of 1 crore blind in India can have their eyesight restored by eye donation.

It is for this reason FS started eye donation campaign in August. 1985. The main objectives of this group are to educate people about importance of eye donation after death, remove irrational fears, detect and enlist blind people who can be helped through corneal transplantation and to get eyes donated after death whenever feasible.

By now the group has developed a slide show on eye donation, prepared an educational pamphlet in the form of question answers and collected a few pairs of eyes.

We appeal to you to pledge your eyes, to put your families on oath that the donation be carried through to see that eyes of a deceased dear one are donated and help spread to the message of eye donation.

For further details—you can contact—either the Eye bank of SSG Hospital (Phone: 558222) or FS.

GOD GAVE THEM EYES

YOU CAN GIVE THEM SIGHT

TO SEE THIS BEAUTIFUL WORLD





YOUTH CLUB

Children learning Judo

Youth is full of energy, dynamism, vigour and strength. What is most needed is directive Channelisation of these energies and Youth Club aims at this.

Instituted in 1978, the Youth Club provides supportive atmosphere and helps reducing the delinquent tendencies amongst the adolescent boys and girls of Fatehgunj area, who usually are school drop-outs and become vulnerable to delinquent tendencies because of their surroundings.

These children are provided the opprotunities and facilities for games, non-formal education,

supplementary education and out-station leadership and nature appreciation camps. Some of the needy children who are good at studies or skills, are given financial and/or material support. They are medically checked up periodically and are also given elementary training in arts, crafts and performing arts. A total of 30 boys and 21 girls are members of this club.

The students of the Faculty of Social Work, are regularly associated with this programme, through their field work placement.

With Best Compliments From:

AMERICAN DRY FRUIT STORES

17-G, Cawasji Patel Street, 5th floor, BOMBAY-400 023.

Phone: 204 4545, 204 2525

Telex: 011 4344



OUR SOURCES OF FINANCE

Ours is a voluntary students organisation, and therefore we do not rely on the government or university for financial support. We heavily bank on community resources.

Starting with one activity and need of about rupees 2000 in 1969, today after 17 years FS has 15 service projects with an estimated budget of Rs. 2,50,000.00 per year. Of the projects Sheth Khushalchand charitable medical centre is self reliant. Educational sponsorship and Sunday school receive committed grants from Action Aid and UNICEF respectively. But for the effective running of other projects and administration FS needs to raise about Rs. 1,25,000.00 per year. The sources for this money are:

- Membership fees
- Donations from individuals, business and industrial organisations and trusts.
- Advertisements

- Fixed monthly contributions on a regular basis
- Special fund raising programmes like charity gift scheme, charity film shows charity dance and music recitals, setting up stalls in funfairs, etc.
- Contributions for sponsorship
- Small part contributions for activities from beneficiaries etc.

The notable features are :-

- Nearly 80% of funds are spent directly on the activities and expenditure on establishment is kept to the minimum.
- About 35% fund is raised by volunteers through special fund raising programmes without compromising with the activities. This also leads to a sense of self-accountability in members.



Smt. REMA SHRIKANT

Born in a family of artistes, Smt. Rema shrikant had her initiation and training in dancing from her illustrious parents: Guru Krishna Panicker and Smt. Gouri Panicker. She soon made a mark a dancer of great promise under their watchful eyes. She then mastered the subtler nuances of dance under the well-known Guru Kittappa Pillai.

Not satisfied by the traditional knowledge and skill, which by itself was of a high order, and inspired by the spirit of modernity and innovation, she joined the three-year degree course in Bharatanatyam in the Faculty of performing Arts, M. S. University, Baroda and came out with distinction, first class first rank in the University and was the first recipient of the pretigious award: "Anjali Merh Memorial Gold

Medal". She went further ahead and took her Master's degree from the same University under the able guidance of Prof. C. V. Chandrasekhar formerly the Dean of the Faculty of perfoming Arts and again came out with flying colours once again first class first rank with distinction.

Her presence on the stage is masterful, dynamic and lyrical. She has rendered several dance recitals at the major cultural centres of the country. Kalamandir Trust of Madras, a leading institution of the connoisseurs, honoured Smt. Rema Shrikant by presenting her Bharatanatyam recital in the 'Natyotsava' festival as a senior artiste during August 86. Her dedication and devotion to the art made her establish training centres in Indian Classical classes in Baroda and Jawaharnagar.

We are grateful to Smt. Rema Shrikant and her troup members for helping us

- Friends



AN EVENING OF MOHINIATTAM, KUCHIPUDI AND KATHAKALI RECITALS

PARTICIPANTS FOR 17TH EVENING

Mrs. Rema Shrikant

- 1. Miss Shailaja Panickerja
- 2. Mrs. Girija Sivan
- 3. Miss. Suchitra Gopinath
- 4. Miss. Geeta Thankappan
- 5. Miss. Akhila Swamy
- 6. Miss. Sushma Purani
- 7. Miss. Nitya Sharikant.

Musical Accompaniments

Nattuvangam - Guru Krishna Panicker

- Shri Bhaskara Menon

Vocal - Smt. Ambika Viswanathan

Violin - Shri Ramacnandran

Mridangam - Shri Natarajan

Flute - Shri Perumal

Idakka - Shri Parameshwara Panicker

Chenda - Guru Krishna Panicker

Back stage - Smt. Gowri Panicker

Commentary - Smt, Radha Bhaskaran



UNWRITTEN CONVENTIONS OF FS

- * Membership: We believe that 3 members can do the job of 30 if all of them are interested. We, therefore, do not go for mass blind membership.
- Selection of Executive Committee Members: We do not have elections for membership in the Executive Committee. You know the implications of elections. Every year, the outgoing executive committee nominates EC members for the next year.
- * Leadership Vacuum: Ours is a student organisation with floating population. We have, therefore, adopted a policy that as far as possible 50% of the executive committee members should he those who are likely to be in the university for the next 2 to 3 years, so that when seniors leave, there is no leadership vacuum.
- * Dispersal of Leadership: We have 15 service projects. Therefore, we have to see that all leaders do not fall in a few groups. We make efforts to disperse leadership in all the activities.
- Beneficiaries are our friends: When we work with beneficiaries, especially the handicapped, we see that we do not pity them. We work as their friends.
- Small is Beautiful, Big is Blessing: We give importance to smaller donations because our accountability increases to many people.
- * Accountability: We believe in self-accountability. Where a job can be done by going

- on a bicycle, our members would not spend money of the organisation on rickshaw. Judicious use of money is our policy.
- Personal Expenses: We do not encourage personal expenses of members from FS funds. Even tea in the EC meetings or group meetings is contributed by members.
- * Publicity: We do not shun the publicity but we strongly feel that it should be proportionate to our achievements. No individual publicity is encouraged. You may therefore, be surprised to note that no names are printed on any literature of the society.
- * Collaboration leads to best results: We believe in seeking support from or lending it to like minded organisations / individuals for effective implementation of need-based activities. We avoid duplication of activities done by others.
- * Once a friend-always a friend: We believe in continued friendship and relationship. Many of our ex-active members are now our life members.
- * Self-development through service: We have realised that by engaging ourselves in serivce activities we achieve our own development and therefore, we do not feel we oblige anybody.
- * A LEADER IS BEST WHEN PEOPLE BARELY KNOW HE/SHE EXISTS.

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