COVA-ICAN

COMPASSIONATE CITIZENSHIP AND RESPONSIBLE ACTIVISM PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Compassionate Citizenship & Responsible Activism Program aims to provide a systematic and sustained sensitisation to a range of social issues and concerns to school, college and university students, corporate youth and professionals through Extension Lectures and exposure visits to enable them to develop empathy and sensitivity to different social issues necessary to imbibe moral and ethical values required of a good human being and enlist their commitment to address these issues.

COVA-ICAN

14th Annual Display of Project Works on Social Issues by School Students

COVA and ICAN (Indian Children's Action Network) organised the 14th Annual Display of Project Works on different Social Issues by school students on 12th December 2018. The objective of the program is to sensitise people, especially school, college, university students and young professionals to social issues and concerns to inculcate in them compassion and responsible citizenship required of a good human being and enlist their commitment to address social problems to make society humane and just.





A Student sharing her experience at The Project Works Display-2018, (Right) Mr. Dilip Kumar Gir Inaugurating the Program

Key Takeaways:

- School students were taken beyond academic subjects to engage with social issues to become sensitive human beings and socially responsible citizens.
- 220 Students from 31 schools worked on 5 Topics for Project Works for 2018 viz.
 - 1. Gove nment Hospitals,
 - 2. Public Transport,
 - 3. Child Safety,
 - 4. Fake News and
 - 5. Problems Parents Face in Educating Children.
- Students were trained in the methodology of social sciences that included field visits, interaction with stakeholders and data collection to prepare Project Reports.
- Students were also encouraged to undertake advocacy with officials and social actions with communities/stakeholders to address the problems they have identified as part of their Project Work.
- Some Case studies of Student Teams who engaged in responsible activism to address specific problems they encountered as part of their Project Works are appended as examples of sensitization gained by the students to engage in action for social transformation.



Mr. Viguar Ahmed, Interacting with Students

The Process:

Students compiled information from libraries and internet, undertook field visits, interacted with people and officials, made notes of their experiences, came up with interventions to address the problems studied and finally prepared the Project Reports documenting the entire process under the mentorship of their teachers.

All the Project Works undertaken by 220 students from 31 schools on the five themes were displayed at a Program organised by COVA at their office in Bandlaguda, Hyderabad. Over 1500 students from different schools attended the Display and interacted with the authors of the Projects and gained insights into the social issues covered.



Students receiving prizes from Mr. S.A. Huda, IPS



View of the gathering at the Valedictory Session.

Feedback from Students and Teachers:

'I got to know about many government schemes and I am going to participate in awareness programs about Child Safety in the future.' **Fazilath Begum,** Class 10- Javid Mission High School

"Project Works is very beneficial to understand different social issues'.

Talha Soha Ali, Class 9-Crown High School.

'My students got practical knowledge while working on the project and they now have had enough confidence to speak about their work and social issues on or off stage'.

Ms. Syeda Afroze, Teacher, Faizan Islamic Mission High School

'The students are now more observant and talk about the issues and changes they see in society.' **Husna Farheen,** Teacher, Alfaz International School.

Project Works Case Studies: Topic: Government Hospitals

Zabiullah and Md Saifullah from MS Creative High School

'The action was required, and we did it with immediate effect' says Zabiullah and Md Saifullah from MS Creative School. Students as part of the 14th Project works program worked on the topic of government hospitals. The boys went to Osmania General hospital and found that the place was overcrowded and the premises very unhygienic. They also found that patients and their attendants

were finding it difficult to access information about where the facilities are. This motivated the students to do something about the situation and contribute in their own little way to change.

They began with buying a couple of face masks, some bleaching powder, some floor cleaner, and dustbins. They picked up the trash in some of the common areas, cleaned the floors, put some disinfectant and put up dustbins in the area for the public to use. In order to bring in the behavioral change, they made posters on not spitting and keeping the surroundings clean and put up in the areas where there was a lot of littering and spitting. Later, they tied a couple of ropes at places that were prone to crowding to make sure people follow a Queue. The students are visiting the hospital once every week and repeat the same.



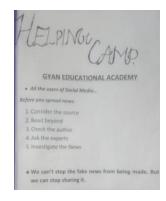
Students cleaning premises of Osmania General Hospital and spreading awareness about Hygiene to patents through Posters.

Topic: Fake News Syeda and Qhatibha from Gyan High School

Students after completing their systemic study on Fake News issue came up with 'Helping Camp', an initiative to spread awareness about the issue of Fake News and restrict its reach. Syeda and Qhatibha students of Gyan Educational Academy made pamphlets and distributed among students and people in Jahangirabad area. 'We told them to be Alert' students said while explaining the ill-effects of fake news.

For awareness through social media, students sent the message to their friends and relatives which says: All the Users of Social media before you spread a piece of news.

- 1)Consider the source
- 2) Read beyond



- 3) Check the author
- 4) Ask experts
- 5) Investigate the News.

We can't stop fake news from being made. But we can stop sharing it.

Topic: Child Safety Iqra and Urooj from Alfaz International High School

Working on the topic of Child Safety, students of Alfaz International School visited Government Schools and interviewed School principals and teachers to check the safety measures implemented and adopted by them. They found out that strict rules for visitors and precautions for the unexpected event are in place as per the guidelines of the schools, but have not been really discussed in the classroom. Therefore, the students came up with Awareness Campaign, where they visited Florida school and Anwar-Ul-Islam and held a session to create awareness with the help of Posters on topics like: Good Touch Bad touch, Road Accidents, Emotional Abuse, Heavy School Bags, Corporal punishment, Contaminated Water, Dirty Toilets, Child Road Accidents, Bullying and kidnapping, Molestation of Girls and Child Abuse that children can be exposed to.





Igra and Urooj from Alfaz International school during their awareness campaign on Child Safety in Florida school and Anwar-Ul-Islam school.

Media Reports:



SAMBANDH: 14TH ANNUAL INTER SCHOOL & INTERCOLLEGIATE COMPETITIONS

Praful Bidwai Memorial

16th Annual Inter School & Inter-Collegiate Competitions

In Commemoration of Hiroshima & Nagasaki Nuclear Holocaust

SAMBANDH – 2018 was organized by COVA on 9th August 2018 at Jawahar Bal Bhavan, Hyderabad. COVA, in collaboration with Jawahar Bal Bhavan, Indian Children's Action Network (ICAN), Youth TRAC; Coalition for Nuclear Disarmament and Peace; Center for People's Foreign Policy in South Asia and others has been organizing SAMBANDH Program in Hyderabad every year since 2002 to commemorate the nuclear holocaust in Hiroshima and Nagasaki during World War II. The objective of this annual event is to sensitize students and youth to the issues of war, violence, and promotion of peace all over the world in general and in the Sub Continent in particular. The event provides an excellent platform to sensitize students and youth to the issues of violence and need to promote and work for peace. Many participants from SAMBANDH Program enlist with COVA as peace activists and collaborate in our programs.

















The Theme for the Program was "Can Humanity Survive the Increasing Violence in the World?"

1399 Students from 26 schools and 5 colleges participated in Essay Writing, Debate, Declamation, One Act Plays, Slogan, and Poster making and Quiz on the following topics:

- 1. War and Peace
- 2. Who are Refugees and how they can be helped?
- 3. Is Nuclear Energy safe?
- 4. Conflicts in India and South Asia.
- 5. Effects of conflicts and wars on the common man.
- 6. Social and economic costs of conflicts and wars are part of history and cannot be avoided.
- 7. Life of a Family on the Borders during Conflicts and Wars.

About Praful Bidwai:

Praful Bidwai was a political analyst and commentator who worked throughout his life for the promotion of peace, nuclear disarmament, global justice, human rights, and environmental protection. He left us on June 23, 2015, while attending a conference in Amsterdam. COVA dedicates SAMBANDH Program to celebrate his memory.

Media Clippings:





Extension Lectures in Schools and Colleges To Enable & Sensitise Students to Become Compassionate Citizens

One of the main objective of the Compassionate Citizenship & Responsible Activism Project is to provide a systematic and sustained sensitisation to a range of social issues and concerns to school, college and university students, corporate youth and professionals through Extension Lectures and exposure visits to enable them to develop empathy and sensitivity to different social issues necessary to imbibe moral and ethical values required of a good human being and enlist their commitment to address these issues.





With the above objective COVA organised lectures in 43 schools and 1 college where 6170 students attended and learned about Right to Education, Awareness of Mindfulness, the Power of Networking, Self-Learning & Self Enabling, How to Score a Good Rank in 10th Exams, Environment and Animal Care, Goal Set After SSC and various other topics. COVA also partnered with Career Guidance Council to give lectures in schools and colleges about various life skills which are essential to students for better career and life.

COLLABORATION PROGRAMS

Painting and Rangoli Competition Organized by FTAPCCI in Association With COVA

The Federation of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTAPCCI) FAPCCI in association with Confederation of Voluntary Association COVA organized "Painting & Rangoli Competition" on the theme 'Telangana Ku Haritha Haram' held on September 7, 2018, at Federation House, FTAPCCI, Hyderabad.

220 students participated in the competitions from 16 schools. The judges selected the winners and gave them 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes. Mr. Ajay Mishra, Special Secretary to Government of Telangana is the chief guest for the event.





Gandhi Jayanthi Celebrations at Tmreis Organised by Sarvodaya International Trust and Cova

Spreading the message of non-violence and integrity in the society, students of Sarvodaya International Trust presented dance and drama with the vision of Gandhi. The program was successful and the children of the TMREIS had a good time enjoying the program's cultural events and learning about the vision of Gandhi.





The program of celebrating Gandhi Jayanti was organized by Sarvodaya International Trust in collaboration with COVA. Around 600 students were present in the event.