



# सेवा पत्री (Seva Patri)

Seva Newsletter of Vishwa Hindu Parishad of America (VHPA)

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We are delighted to publish quarterly Seva Newsletter online only to share the various “Seva” activities done by the VHPA to provide the visibility so that it can be replicated and/or reapplied by others as needed. We are looking forward for your constant support and welcome your comments and suggestions.

Focus of this quarter’s newsletter is on the **Support a Child (SAC)** institutions visits in Bharat. Some of our USA SAC team members have visited few institutions. We encourage SAC sponsoring families to visit these institutions. SAC team believes this is a great way for us to connect with the roots of our other land Bharat.

## Visit to Girl’s Hostel in Harsul, Nashik, Maharashtra by Renu and Arun Gupta

We visited a Girl’s Hostel in Harsul, a beautiful hilly scenic place in the interior of Nashik district. This hostel is home to 103 girls studying from 5<sup>th</sup> grade to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Hostel has a “Computer Room” with ten desktop computers and a library and also a “Tailoring Center”, where women from neighboring villages come to learn tailoring so that they can earn some money to support their family. This hostel has two wardens who live there with girls 24/7 plus four fulltime workers for cooking and cleaning. I was very impressed by the bookkeeping of the hostel. The warden of hostel maintains several registers for attendance, students’ database, tracking supplies purchases and inventories etc. There is big compound of hostel and has two buildings. There are four large halls, 25+ girls live in each hall. The property of each girl is one box, where they keep clothes and personal belongings, one short book cabinet, where they keep books and one mattress to sleep. So the whole hostel is very simple but clean and impressive. I found girls feel very much at home in this hostel.

In spite of all the adversaries in this tribal area, there are tremendous athletic capabilities in the girls in the area. This area has produced world-class athletics such as **Kavita Rout**, who won medals in Commonwealth and Asian Games. Kavita used to practice running without shoes in the hostel compound. Like Kavita many girls living in the hostel are great gymnasts competing at the state level. We saw superb performance of rope climbing and gymnastics. Many girls from Harsul hostel compete at state and national level; we hope to see more Kavita Routs.



## Visiting SAC Hostel in Kota, Rajasthan by Renu and Arun Gupta

In our recent Bharat trip we also visited a special hostel for boys in Kota called "Chandra Bhan Gupta Hostel". Only 15 boys attending high school live there in four rooms with very humble and simple living. Boys living in this hostel belong to very primitive and remote tribe of Kota district. These boys have never seen a big city before coming to Kota. They did not know how to read or write. They lacked confidence even to walk to road. However,

now due to great training and Sanskaar, these boys are very well behaved and well versed. They go to a nearby school. At home (hostel), they participate in all household chores, study very hard, do Satsang, Pooja, Yoga and study lives of great leaders. I was highly impressed seeing a change in lives of our children of remote Bharat. I wish to get more of these boys/girls to our hostels



## Visiting SAC Hostel in Ghoti, Nashik, Maharashtra by Sheela Kane and Ashwini Gadre

We visited this SAC hostel in Ghoti, Nashik and met 45 children attending 5<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> grades. We watched students chanting second chapter of Bhagwat Geeta shlokas and explained meaning of it. It was heartwarming experience. These children were very curious and asked many questions about USA. They were very knowledgeable about India's history. They expressed their desire to get higher education and serve their country. These children come from farmer

families. They go back home during vacation and help their parents in farming. One thing that I noticed missing in their curriculum was not having access to computer. We could think about providing them computer and some training on how to use it. It will be great if high school students from Mumbai or Poone can spend time at the hostel with these children so that they can learn from each other.



## SAC Shows in USA in 2018



There will be 18 shows in different cities in USA by artists from Bharat to raise fund for SAC project

15-Sep, 2018	Hartford	05-Oct, 2018	Cleveland
16-Sep, 2018	NY/NJ	06-Oct, 2018	Pittsburgh
17-Sep, 2018	Philadelphia	07-Oct, 2018	Allentown
21-Sep, 2018	Boston	19-Oct, 2018	Indianapolis
22-Sep, 2018	Dallas	20-Oct, 2018	Chicago
23-Sep, 2018	Houston	21-Oct, 2018	Green Bay
28-Sep, 2018	Detroit	26-Oct, 2018	Atlanta
29-Sep, 2018	Cincinnati	27-Oct, 2018	Irvine
30-Sep, 2018	Columbus	28-Oct, 2018	San Francisco

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