



OSAAT Newsletter

Special Edition

May 2020

With heartfelt gratitude, we dedicate this newsletter to all the COVID-19 Warriors. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you!

It seems like not that long ago we were all putting down plans for the year 2020. We were proud of our humble achievements in 2019, felt excited about the ambitious, yet achievable goals for 2020, eager to contribute to the meticulous planning and preparation for the projects in 2020. Faced with more questions than answers at this very moment, the realization is upon us that we have all become warriors, fighting the Coronavirus at home, work, school, business, and so on. At the forefront of this war are doctors, nurses, police, essential workers feeding us and helping keep our world clean. **We thank you and pray for your safety and well-being.**

Where do we currently stand?

The war against COVID-19 is being fought on a lot of fronts with every available technology and every available tool. Social distancing, hand sanitizers, masks and other types of personal protection equipment, have all become household words. While life as we knew it before the pandemic has been interrupted in many ways, it has also challenged us to come up with creative ways to stay alive and even thrive! Everyday we hear of random acts of kindness. People are sharing what they have with people they have never met.

This is where our humble attempts come in. When we thought about ways we can make a difference, the logical choice was to connect the community with experts, to discuss issues related to education and mental health. How does COVID-19 shape the future of learning? How are kids affected by remote learning? How does COVID-19 add to stress and how do we combat it? There are several webinars conducted by OSAAT around such topics of interest, where Subject Matter Experts shared their opinion and recommendations.

Webinars Completed:

- ❖ “Post COVID-19 Challenges of Public Education”, hosted on May 3, 2020, with Dr. Niranjanaradhya, Fellow and Program Head, Universalization of Education at National Law School University, Bengaluru. Participants enjoyed the vigorous Q&A with Dr. Aradhya.
- ❖ “Post COVID-19 Challenges for Teachers and Students”, hosted on May 14, 2020, by Dr. Gururaj Karajagi, (renowned Educationist and Chairman, Academy of Creative Teaching) and Mr. Rajesh Rao (CEO, Connecting the Dots). Participants were very appreciative of the perspectives shared by the speakers.
- ❖ “Dealing with Stress - COVID-19 lockdown effect”, hosted on May 16, 2020 by Dr. Padmakshi Lokesh, renowned Clinical Psychologist and Life Coach, CEO and Co-founder of Smilez in Milez. Dr. Lokesh’s talk was appreciated by the participants as timely and very beneficial.

Webinars planned:

On May 30, 2020, a webinar will be hosted on the post-COVID-19 job situation, with industry experts Mr. Rajiv Ramaswamy, COO of VMware, Mr. Vijay Pulluru, Co-founder and CEO of Pramati technologies, Mr. Sathesh Heddese, Head, Support Services, Amazon internet services Pvt Ltd, Mr. Santosh Rao, General Manager (HR), Toyota Industries Engine India Pvt. Ltd. The session will be moderated by Mr. B.V. Jagadeesh, Chairman, OSAAT Board of Directors.

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One Mask At a Time (OMAAT) Contest

We are excited to announce the One Mask At a Time (OMAAT) - mask making contest for kids under 18 years of age. The purpose of this contest is to encourage kids to contribute their time and talent to help thousands of kids in the rural areas that do not have an easy and affordable mask to protect themselves during this pandemic. It is unknown what impact COVID-19 will have once the schools are opened back up. Despite the social distancing and other precautions, we expect that rural areas will face huge challenges due to lack of availability and affordability of masks and products that are needed to maintain the required level of hygiene to fight the COVID-19. We intend to help the kids in rural areas by providing them with masks at least as a minimum defense.

Kids can compete by themselves or as a team of 5, submit their design and win prizes. The design must be practical, easy to make, cost effective, aesthetically pleasing, easy to reuse, clean and maintain. The winning design will then be mass produced and donated to kids in rural areas.

[For contest details, please visit: \[osaat.org/omaat\]\(https://osaat.org/omaat\)](https://osaat.org/omaat)

A few highlights of 1Q2020

SAADHANE 2020

We hosted “Saadhane 2020” on February 16th, to share our goals and objectives for 2020. The event was well attended, with talks by chief guests Mr. Anil Kumble, former captain of the Indian cricket team, Prof. A.H. Ramarao, President, National Education Society, and Mr. B.V. Jagadeesh, Chairman of OSAAT Board of Directors. Anil Kumble spoke about the untapped talent of the youth in rural areas and how a helping hand to them makes a difference. The presentations and discussions were focused on the following:

- 1. OSAAT’s accomplishments to date - How do we do it? - Experiences shared by Volunteers and Teachers**
 - a) 30+ dilapidated, inadequate, unsafe and dangerous school buildings successfully rebuilt across 6 States in India, on time and within budget. Hundreds of children are the beneficiaries with each project after OSAAT’s intervention directly. Significant domino effect in terms of donations of furniture, books, computers, sports equipment, etc.
 - b) Nearly 100% of funds raised spent directly and/or committed to school projects with minimal overhead. Donors are provided with complete details. All our processes are transparent, from school selection to partnerships with contractors and other NGOs.
- 2. Plans for 2020 - What’s driving us and why we believe we can: presented by Volunteers**
 - a) 10 flood affected schools across Karnataka and Maharashtra included in the pipeline for 2020.
 - b) Using (i) efficient, proven processes from start to finish (ii) eco-friendly approach (iii) constantly refining and fine-tuning processes by applying lessons learned
- 3. Activities on the fundraising front - How do we earn the trust?: presented by Volunteers**
 - a) We have raised nearly \$1 Million in the USA and INR Rs. 3 crores in India through community events, Corporate CSR funds, grants, individual and corporate donors, partnerships with social, cultural, educational organizations.
 - b) Our track record has resulted in individual donors adopting 14 projects - each one adopting a school project in its entirety or significant portions.
- 4. Plans to reach for “Benefits beyond the Building” - Why and how: presented by Volunteers**
 - a) Working with Various NGOs to complement our efforts. The goal is to build an eco-system of like-minded partners to do more – furniture, uniforms, sustaining and maintaining the facilities (building, toilets, rain-water harvesting and clean drinking water), computers, etc.

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- b) Involving volunteers from the corporate sector to contribute - creating educational aids, teacher training, etc.

5. Recognition our donors and volunteers

With beautifully engraved plaques expressing OSAAT's heartfelt "Thank you" to donors and volunteers.

Morabagi School Inauguration

Morabagi School, our 36th project was successfully completed and inaugurated on February 29, 2020. The construction started in August 2019 and the school was provided with 2 new, large classrooms and a kitchen. Located in Morabagi village, Jath taluk, Sangli district, Maharashtra, and established in 1992, the school serves 125+ students enrolled in grades 8 to 10. The total cost of this project was INR 30 lakhs, and was made possible through generous contributions from **VDA Info Solutions, Pune, Infor, Bengaluru and Citix R&D India Pvt Ltd, Bengaluru. We are thankful to these partners for making another dream come true for yet another rural community in need.**

Charities Aid Foundation, India, Qualifies OSAAT

We are pleased to announce that Charities Aid Foundation, India (CAF), has performed due diligence checks on us and qualified us as a credible NGO to receive grants from companies looking for worthy organizations to receive their philanthropic and CSR investments. CAF has performed due diligence checks on more than 2100+ NGOs, improving their capacity building scope for the future. With robust and impartial validation processes, CAF has established trust amongst various NGOs which also facilitates increased engagement with the corporations.

CAF India is a registered charitable trust set up in 1998 to provide strategic and management support to corporates, individuals and NGOs with an aim to ensure greater impact of their philanthropic and CSR investments. As a leading international not-for-profit organization, which works to make giving more effective and charities more successful, CAF India is part of an international network with offices in nine countries, including Australia, Brazil, Canada, India, Russia, South Africa and the United States of America and distributes funds to over 90 countries around the world.

So, what does the validation by CAF mean to OSAAT?

Basically, large multinationals, Public Sector Undertakings, and Indian commercial giants have come to rely on CAF for conducting due diligence of non-government organizations across India. CAF was actively engaged with us in understanding what we do and how we do. Given the wide variety of socio-development causes and donors, CAF's recommendations play a vital role in bringing the two together, to take 'Giving' further. CAF has built a tremendous reputation for the impact their work has made on both sides of "Giving". Both donors and NGOs respect and trust CAF. Getting validated by CAF is like a badge of honor and opens many corporate doors that OSAAT will be knocking on. This is also a tremendous testament to the dedication and efficiency of the OSAAT family of volunteers, old and new, standing firm in their commitment to their "labor of love".








Kudos all around!

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Details of the webinars held and planned by OSAAT:

 <p>Webinar Challenges of Public Education - post Covid 19</p>  <p>Conversation with Dr. Niranjanaradhya, Fellow and Programme Head – Universalsation of Education at National Law School of India University, Bangalore. Date: Saturday 2nd May 2020 Time: 8.30 PM IST(8 AM PST)</p> <p>www.osaat.org</p>	 <p>Webinar ಕೋವಿಡ್ 19 - ನಂತರದ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದ ಸವಾಲುಗಳು ಸಂದಾಧ ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರು ಹಾಗೂ ಅಧಿಕೃತ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ</p>   <p>Dr. Gururaja Karajagi Chairman, Academy of Creative Teaching</p> <p>Shri Rajesh Rao CEO Connecting The Dots</p> <p>ದಿನಾಂಕ: 14-5 -2020, ಗುರುವಾರ ಸಮಯ: ರಾತ್ರಿ 7:00 PM ಈ ಸೆಳಗಿನ webeex ಲಿಂಕ್ ಮೇಲೆ ಕ್ಲಿಕ್ ಮಾಡಿ</p> <p>www.osaat.org</p>	 <p>Webinar Dealing with Stress - Covid 19 lockdown effect</p>  <p>Conversation with Dr. Padmakshi Lokesh, CEO and Co Founder - Smiles in Milez Renowned Clinical Psychologist and Life Coach. Date: Saturday 16 nd May 2020 Time: 9.00 PM IST(8.30 AM PST)</p> <p>www.osaat.org</p>
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OSAAT PRESENTS
Jobs! Jobs! Jobs!
How does it look post COVID-19?
Hear from Industry experts

OSAAT Webinar Series- 4

Post COVID-19, the new normal is still not clear and there are lot of unanswered questions on industries and jobs as such. Hear from some of the leading industry experts on this topic.

Esteemed panelists :

 Rajiv Ramaswamy COO, VMware Inc.	 Vijay Pullur Co-founder, President, Prisma Technologies	 Sateesh Heddese Head, Support Services Amazon Internet Services Pvt. Ltd.	 Santosh Rao General Manager (HR), Toyota Industries Engine India Pvt. Ltd.	 Moderator B.V. Jagadeesh Chairman, OSAAT USA
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JOIN US :
May 30th 2020
Time: 8.00 AM Pacific Time
8.30 PM Indian Time

Register at osaat.org/event-3844752

Photos from the inauguration of Morabagi school building:



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