



bachpan ki

# udaan

Creating a Child-Friendly World

October 2021

## Our **Vision**

To create a child-friendly world where all children have access to their rights and become compassionate, responsible citizens and agents of change.


## Our **Mission**

To empower children to realize their full potential and become advocates for rights and social justice, through equitable and participative reform.

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**Bal Ashram Trust flagged off a campaign against child marriage #ShehnaiNahiPadhayi ahead of the 'Abhooj Sawa' in 50 villages of Rajasthan. Abhoojh Sawa is an auspicious occasion for organising weddings in the month of November and December.**



  
**Eternal Mewar**  
*Charitability unbroken since 734 AD*

**Arvind Singh Mewar**  
Chairman and Managing Trustee  
*Maharana of Mewar Charitable Foundation*

29<sup>th</sup> October 2021

**MESSAGE**

I offer my best wishes to, and laud the commitment of, the Bal Ashram Trust for the success of the 'Shehnai Nahi Padhai' campaign being launched in Rajasthan in October 2021.

The Bal Ashram Trust under the mentorship of Smt. Sumedha Kailash ji and Nobel Peace Laureate Shri Kailash Satyarthi ji have been doing yeoman service across Rajasthan in the field of child welfare, education and rehabilitation. It is indeed praise-worthy. They have set benchmarks for other non-governmental organisations and shown the way ahead for civil society.


The 'Shehnai Nahi Padhai' campaign is aimed at halting the incidence of child marriages by generating awareness among communities around the importance of education and harmful implications of child marriage on young girls. More power to the Bal Ashram Trust as they go about conducting this socially useful and much-needed service in our state and country!

It is our duty and social responsibility as citizens of democratic India to ensure that the occurrence of child marriages is halted. As a nation we have to give our young girls the benefits of modern education and the competence to develop life-enhancing skills. The 'Shehnai Nahi Padhai' campaign is a step in the right direction on this long road of social change and development in India.

I pray to the Almighty to shower His Blessings to all those associated with the 'Shehnai Nahi Padhai' campaign and the Bal Ashram Trust.

with best wishes,

sincerely to all,



**Arvind Singh Mewar**

The Palace, Udaipur 313001, Rajasthan, India  
T: +91 294 2528001-5 F: 2528007 shiji.secretariat@eternalmewar.in  
www.eternalmewar.in

**Bal Ashram Trust is honoured to receive the letter of appreciation from HRH Shreeji Arvind Singh Mewar, Maharana of Udaipur Palace. We sincerely thank him for supporting and sharing his words of wisdom on #ShehnaiNahiPadhayi. Click here to know more about our campaign: <https://bit.ly/3FBk43V>**

## Children Today, Leaders Tomorrow!

To promote leadership qualities among children, village level Bal Panchayat (children's council) elections were held in 50 Bal Mitra Grams supported by Bal Ashram Trust. It is an inclusive democratic group of children which functions closely with the Gram Panchayat and local government bodies to make the villages child-friendly.



### Education and Skill Development of children at Bal Ashram



**70** children received care and protection at Bal Ashram



**53** children were enrolled in Formal Education



**6** children received aftercare facilities while 1 child was repatriated to his home



**6** children received Non-Formal Education



**11** children received vocational training in trades like carpentry, electrical and stitching.

## Mental Health at Bal Ashram

We continued to support the mental well-being of children at Bal Ashram by providing **17 children online counseling sessions** from the team of psychologists from Fortis hospital. The aim of these is to promote their self-regulation and emotional skills, by creating an environment of self-reflection.



## New Cricket Pitch for the Young Players at the Ashram

Cricket is one of the most popular sports among all the children at the ashram. We are overjoyed to see children playing regularly on their new pitch constructed at Bal Ashram with the support of our valuable partners.

## Building Systemic, Sustainable Change in the Communities

19 children were mainstreamed to the Government Schools from Banjara Education Centres. 21 new children from Banjara communities were enrolled in BECs in their age-appropriate learning grades. **Total 319 children are studying in 10 BEC; out of them 56% are girls and 44 % are boys. We are proud as girls continue to outnumber boys in our Banjara Education Centres.**



# Community Development and Linkages with the Government Schemes



**48** people were vaccinated against COVID-19 in Banjara villages with the support of primary health care workers.



**4415** community meetings were held each in 10 Banjara communities and Bal Mitra Grams. 1250 people participated and were oriented on the government schemes.



**5** Bank accounts were opened



**6** Aadhar cards were made

An individual was linked with the Senior Citizen Pension Scheme



**19** girls were linked with Sukanya Samridhi Yojana

**7** people had received labour cards in two villages Jaitpur Gujara and Nitata

**41** cycles were distributed to female students from BMG and Banjara communities to prevent school dropouts especially among girls, and support them in commuting to their schools with comfort.



# Life at Bal Ashram



To celebrate the occasion of International Day of the Girl Child, adolescent girls from Bal Mitra Grams participated in games and fun activities like tug of war and Kabbadi and enjoyed the rest of the day with children and teachers at Bal Ashram.

## Dussehra Celebration

Dussehra was celebrated at Bal Ashram with great zeal and enthusiasm by burning the 10 faces of Ravana that illustrated the social evils with the message of victory of good over evil. We together vowed to fight against any kind of evil practice and injustice towards children.



## Pre-Diwali Celebration

Bal Ashram team went out for a team dinner before Diwali to celebrate the spirit of festivities.



## Best Performer of the Month



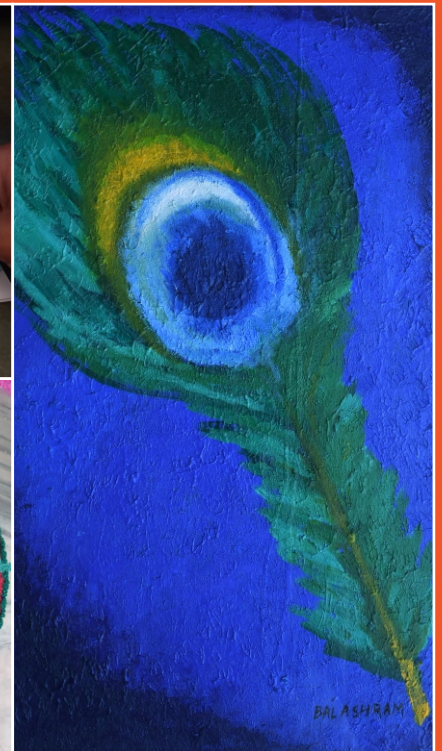
**MANISH SAINI**

**BEST PERFORMER OF THE MONTH**  
OCTOBER 2021

Thank you for taking care of the children at Bal Ashram with utmost sincerity and dedication!

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## Children's Corner



“Today it is time for every child to have a right to life, right to freedom, right to health, right to education, safety, the right to dignity, right to equality, and right to peace.”

- Kailash Satyarthi



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