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Crusade against dismal gender ratio goes national, Nanhi Chhaan launched by President of India

Gandhi Darshan, Delhi, 9th April 2011



Nanhi Chhaan, a not-for-profit organization has twin goals of restoring the gender ratio and increasing tree cover in the country - two issues that plague our social fabric and require urgent and transformational attention. “There could not have been a bigger and more auspicious launch platform for us than this - the crusade against the dismal gender ratio is being flagged off by none other than the First Lady of India and that too at Satyagraha Mandap, Gandhi Darshan, Raj Ghat. Our *satyagraha* (demand for truth) is to fight this malady that has become ominously rampant in our society,” said Mr. Harpal Singh, Mentor & Chairman Emeritus, Fortis Healthcare Ltd., and

Chairman, Nanhi Chhaan Foundation. “The alarming bias in the gender ratio is likely to result in more girls being married at a younger age, increased maternal mortality as a result of early child bearing and an associated increase in acts of violence against girls and women such as rape, abduction, trafficking and forced polyandry,” adds Mr. Singh.

Her Excellency, the Honorable President of India, Smt. Pratibha Devi Singh Patil addressed the distinguished gathering of cabinet and state ministers, top politicians, & faith leaders, bureaucrats, educationists,

students, and *sarpanch* from three villages besides the media fraternity. She also planted saplings in the Gandhi Darshan complex. This was followed by an invocation from the celebrated Ms. Zila Khan, a performance from the renowned classical danseuse Ms. Shovana Narayan and skits by school children.

Nanhi Chhaan partners NDTV Greenathon on World Environment Day, provides free saplings



“India’s forest cover is only 26% of the country’s total geographical area”

June 4, 2011:

‘Greenathon’ - a nonstop 24-hour programming telecasted across all NDTV networks, began with a primary objective to raise funds for TERI’s (The Energy and Resources Institute) ‘Light a Billion Lives’ project, in order to provide light through solar power to villages across India, which would otherwise have been without electricity for over a decade. Simultaneously the programming showcased a series of other campaigns that were initiated across the country ranging from

clean-up drives to tree plantations, to awareness drives on topics such as waste water treatment, air pollution control, etc.

In its third edition this year, coinciding with the celebrations of World Environment Day, the ‘NDTV- Nanhi Chhaan programme partnership Greenathon 3’ held on 4th June-5th June in Delhi. During the tenure of the above program Nanhi Chhaan distributed about 2,000 saplings along with the Nanhi Chhaan Greenathon pamphlets

describing the objectives of the campaign.

The programme this year expanded internationally with hubs established in Tokyo, Los Angeles, Toronto, London and Sydney.

These are the new locations which we covered on World Environment Day-

- Select City Walk
- Ambience Mall
- MGF Toyota

Nanhi Chhaan on World Environment Day in Amritsar



“World Environmental Day” on 5 June 2011 was observed at Ranjit Avenue. .This was celebrated in joint association with Fine Plastics (being the main organizer), Big FM, Amway and Coca-Cola. The function was attended by around 200 people along with passer

School), Sh. Krishan Kumar (Kukku) from Sharma & Gangahar, S. Gulzar Singh Bhatti (Chief Correspondent, Ajit for social security of women and child development and also state president of “disabled welfare association”), Mr. Parneet (Punjab Head of Amway), Col Bham from Coca-Cola Amritsar), Col Dubey, few prominent advocates, CA’s school children and another invitees including Mr. & Mrs. Sahil Adlakha from Beams Hospital

Amritsar.

In this event around 200 trees were planted on the central verge of Ranjit Avenue “M.K. Road” and invitees were asked to dedicate those trees in the name of their loved ones. 5 trees were designated to Nanhi Chhaan

DPS Society partners with Nanhi Chhaan

DPS International, Saket, New Delhi, July 29, 2011

The Delhi Public School Society (DPS Society), a non-profit, non-proprietary, private, educational organization that has a network of over 140 English medium, co-educational, secular schools providing quality education from pre-nursery / nursery to class XII has been invited as a **National Partner by Nanhi Chhaan Foundation**, a national movement that builds alliances, strengthens capacity, influences policies, harnesses resources and inspires action to **save the girl child, improve environment by planting trees and save humanity through promoting inter-religion harmony and secularism**. The objective of the foundation is to address these issues and to restore nature's balance through various school based activities. The partnership program

named **“DPS Ki Nanhi Chhaan”** is proposed to reach out to **10000 young adolescents in 25 schools across North India in the first phase** of the campaign.

A vibrant national launch ceremony held at DPS International, Saket, New Delhi, marked the beginning of this partnership. Principals of the participating schools received plaques from Mr. Salman Khurshid, Minister, Law & Justice (an eminent DPS alumnus), who in his keynote address impressed upon the need for more such partnership initiatives. Mr. Ashok Chandra, Chairman, DPS Society in his welcome address reiterated DPS Society's commitment to these three contemporary national issues and outlined the three dimensions of the

campaign. Mr. Rajendra Pawar, Chairman & Co-founder, NIIT Group presided over the ceremony as the Guests of Honour. A representative audience of over 500 students, teachers, and educational administrators pledged its commitment by receiving saplings on the occasion. The peaceful chants of *Sarva Dharma Prarthna (an all faith prayer)* set the context for cultural performance by the students. The dance and music based performance highlighted the understanding of the three issues by young DPS students, the agents of social change.



Mr. Harpal Singh (Chairman Nanhi Chhaan Foundation & Mr. Aditya Jha (Head Nanhi Chhaan Foundation) with DPS School Girls

“DPS Society partners with Nanhi Chhaan to save the girl child, protect environment & promote secularism.”



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**Million Trees Gurgaon Kicks off project for a green
Gurgaon in association with Nanhi Chhaan**

The initiative to plant a million trees in the city was kicked off in the Biodiversity Park on Thursday. More than 3,500 individuals, including students from 10 city schools, corporates, government officials and residents of the city, participated in the plantation drive.

Deputy Commissioner P C Meena, MCG Commissioner Sudhir Rajpal, mayor Vimal Yadav, councilors and other government officials also planted saplings in the pits that

were dug up almost a month ago. manner."

Many residents adopted the trees before planting them with the complex. Kids from various private schools in the city participated planting the saplings enthusiastically in the park.

Talking about the drive, the mayor said, "By planting a tree, I have done my bit for a greener Gurgaon.

The task of planting one million trees needs to be done in a properly planned and phased

"A million trees planted over 3,500 acres would remove 8,750 MT of carbon dioxide and help save 3.7 billion litres of rainwater annually."

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