



ISKCON Food Relief Foundation NEWSLETTER

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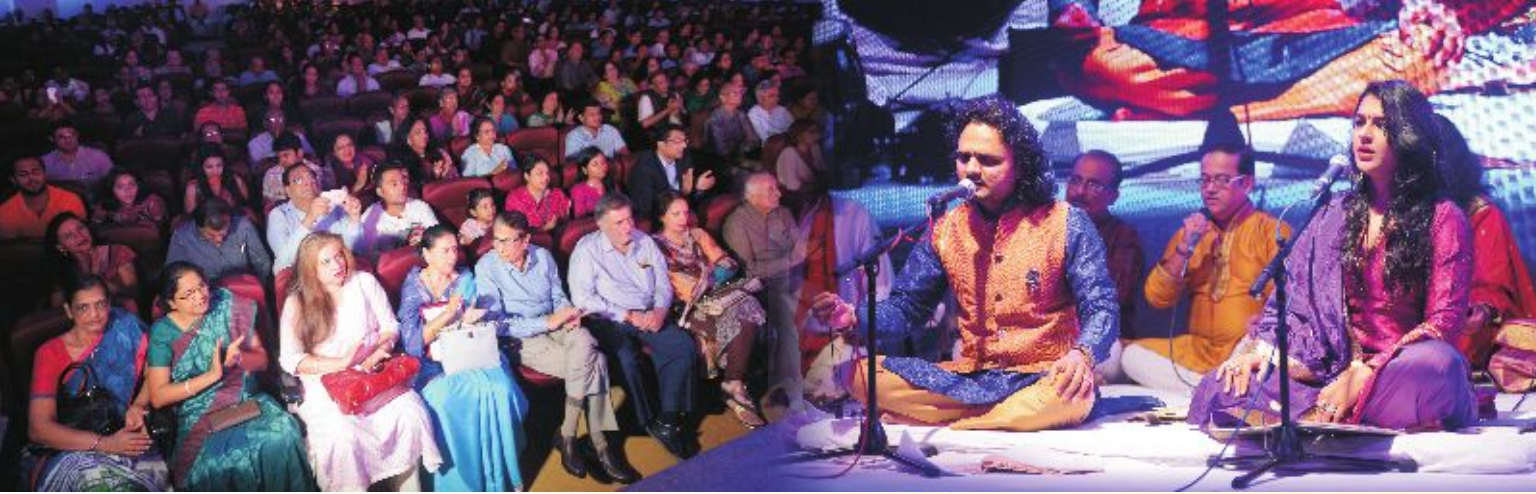
"No duty is more urgent than that of returning thanks" – James Allen

2015 saw Annamrita complete 11 years of serving over 3 billion meals to underprivileged children across India. Annamrita has been able to achieve this huge milestone in a relatively short span of time. Thanks to our donors and supporters who have year after year not only encouraged our work but have also helped spread our mission far and wide. It was in honor of all these well wishers and supporters that Abhar 2015 was organized to express our Gratitude for their support. **Aabhar** was held on Friday, 4th Sept at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Chowpatty. The event was co hosted by **JSW team**.

The program started with the National Anthem followed by an invocation to Lord Ganesha by the oldest recipients of the Annamrita Mid Day Meal program - **V. S. Desai** school kids. This adorable rendition was followed by **Shri N. D. Desai** – Administrative Advisor paying a tribute to **Srila Prabhupada, the Founder Acarya of ISKCON**. What followed was a Dashavatar dance performed by **Krishna Shah** that left the audience enthralled. Then, **Shri Radha Krishna Das** - Founder and Administrative Advisor of Annamrita, was called on stage to speak about Annamrita's work and achievements so far. He spoke about the inspiration behind the project - His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Srila Prabhupada's vision of ensuring that no child within a 10 mile radius of the ISKCON centers should go hungry. Till today the focus has remained on providing nutritious, high quality sustenance for children which will not only nourish their body but also nurture their soul. Shri Radha Krishna Das also spoke about the various kitchens we have opened across the country and the new upcoming project in the city and work that Annamrita has started with Hospitals. A video was played showcasing Annamrita's journey so far.

Meals play a vital role in providing sustenance and nutrition for the children that we serve, for many it is possibly the only wholesome meal they receive in the complete day. It has been the reason for many children to stay in school and complete their studies. One such success story that Annamrita prides itself over is that of **Shri Ramdas Angad Yede**- who lost his parents at a very young age and then lost his eyesight due to malnourishment and infection when he was 8 years old. Having no recourse, he started herding cows in his small village in Maharashtra. As a ten year old boy, Ramdas walked into an ISKCON temple, hungry, lonely and visually impaired, not knowing that he had just started a new chapter in his life. He was offered each





and every possible help by Annamrita. Ramdas, has already stood 3rd in HSC in Mumbai board and is a University topper who aspires to be an IAS officer. He hopes to inspire many more children with the story of hope and perseverance that Annamrita provides to millions of children everyday.

Then began the felicitations for the evening starting with JSW and Chief Guest, **Shri Ravi Parmar – Chairman, Mumbai Port Trust**. During his long career Shri Parmar has held several key positions at center and state government levels in sectors like Health, Transport, Industries, Steel, Personnel, Home, Welfare etc.

We then felicitated, with a beautiful engraved plaque, all our major supporters and donors who have helped make this year so memorable namely Rotarians, Corporates & Foundations. To name a few **SBI Mutual Funds, Piramal Foundation, RCF, Concast, DSM, Dena Bank, Suman Ramesh Tulsiani Charitable Trust, Blue Cross Laboratories, IDBI** etc. Eminent guests included individuals like **Shri Sanjay Deshmukh – AMC (Western Suburbs), Shri Manu Srivastava –Principal Secretary, Govt of Maharashtra (Urban Development), Shri Sunil Dhamne, Deputy Municipal Commissioner (Education), Rtn. Subhash Kulkarni – Rotary International District Governor RY 2015-16.**



Speaking at the event Shri Ravi Parmar expressed his gratitude for the work that Annamrita has been doing. “The commitment and dedication with which it has been carrying out this task day after day is something other organizations can learn from. Our mission is an inspiration that brings thousands of hungry children to school every single day.”

To entertain our audience for the rest of the evening, we had a soulful performance by **Shri Parthiv Gohil** and his team. Parthiv Gohil is a playback singer for reputed Indian films like Devdas, Saawariya and many more. He has been a winner of the Saregama finals and has lent his vocals for several films. An artist who is proficient in playback singing as well as live performances, he has performed extensively internationally, and has a tremendous fan following.

The finale of the evening was marked with the release of the latest Anamrita Process book and a yummy snack box full of treats for all attendees. Shri Radha Krishna Das concluded the evening by thanking the team staff and the entire Annamrita family, that works tirelessly to ensure no matter what, the children keep getting their meals every day.



Tata Cancer Hospital

Mrs. Preeti Pawaskar from Tata Memorial Cancer Hospital along with Mr. Thyagarajan Palani visited Annamrita Tardeo set up. Cancer patients need sustenance and nutrition, the meal we provide are packed with all the necessary ingredients to enhance their immunity and build up their health. They have asked Annamrita to start providing meals to cancer patients in Tata Cancer Hospital. We applaud the brilliant work Tata Cancer Hospital has been doing for the past so many years and we are honored to be supporting their mission.



Rotary club of Bombay Kandivli

The Rotary club of Bombay Kandivli visited Annamrita kitchen. They also served meals to CU Shah Sarvajanic School in Kandivli. The Rotary club of Bombay Kandivli has been supporting the Annamrita project for a while now. They have been sponsoring 200 children from surrounding areas. We are thankful for their support.



YOUNG SUPERSTAR



Annamrita is always happy to see the younger generation taking an active interest in helping out social causes. Mukul Khanna – a socially conscious teenager who unlike many of his friends decided to use his spare time to do social work. He came visited the Tardeo kitchen understood the working process and pledged to help the project. Within a short span of just over a month this 15 year old superstar was able to raise funds to sponsor meals for over 13000 children.

Mukul hopes to inspire other youngsters with his actions. "I feel it's a brilliant effort and everyone should help Annamrita out".

Thank you Mukul, we are truly touched by your spirit.



Rotary Clubs from district 3140 have so far sponsored 4745 children with Mid-day meals for the Rotary year of 2015-2016

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ISKCON Food Relief Foundation is looking out for talented and committed individuals to join us as interns or full time employees in Mumbai for various vacancies we have at the moment. We also require individuals with strong Sales skills to promote our cause and help us to raise funds. For more information about these profiles or Internships please contact dilzad on dilzad@annamrita.org

expressing our heartfelt gr

2015

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Annamrita, ISKCON Food Relief Foundation

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