

NEWS FROM INDIA  
AND FRANCEBulletin of **A**ssociation **F**rançaise pour l'**E**nfance **A**bandonnée

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A.F.E.A : 17 rue Voltaire, 44000 Nantes – Tel/fax : **02.53.45.12.18**E-mail : [accueil@afea-sneha.org](mailto:accueil@afea-sneha.org) – ccp : Nantes 3093 77 NSite : [www.afea-sneha.org](http://www.afea-sneha.org)Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/afea.snehasadan.1>**Dreams and nightmares**

Try as we may imagine what goes on more or less consciously in the heads of the children we are helping, we are most certainly wide off the mark as to the harshness of the ordeals they may have gone through as their young age made them all the more vulnerable.

Our cherished AFEA has set itself a sole objective for the boys and the girls who have experienced physical and moral distress: to substitute to the nightmares they have had in their childhood a dream leading to a project for the future. Such a prospect can be achieved only very gradually watched by benevolent parents-in charge and educators.

Bulletins after bulletins we have mentioned the help of various participants: supporters, punctual or regular donors ,godfathers and godmothers (and there is a firm among them), foundations and people initiating projects and events and so on.....We pay our full respects to them in this issue.

This end of the year is a key period for donations and the trend is worrying. You could talk about it around you, to your family, friends, neighbors and colleagues, couldn't you? Your word-of-mouth is the best way to share our ambition, which is to give each of the children of our homes a life that makes sense rather than one devoid of sense. Firmly rooted in this realistic dream, we do feel concerned by this quote from E.A. Poe : "Those who dream by day are cognizant of many things which escape those who dream only by night."

Thankfully yours.

Jean –Michel Couteau/ The President

*All AFEA members, wish you their best wishes for the new Year and to see yourr dreams becoming true.*

**SUMMARY**

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## FABULOUS GOA TRIP

*(article from Father Noël PINTO)*



On 27<sup>th</sup> September 2019, 28 children and 6 staff members of Snehasadan set off for a brief, but exciting trip to Goa. This trip was possible due to the sponsorship received from our French donor Chloé and AFEA who specifically wanted this amount to be used for a holiday trip for the children. We chose some of the bigger children who are either working or into higher education for this trip, as they are not able to attend our regular holiday camps to Lonavala.



We reached Goa on 28<sup>th</sup> morning and immediately began our tour by visiting the historical and scenic Fort Aguada with its imposing lighthouse and panoramic view. We then went to Calangute and Baga beaches where the children and staff enjoyed bathing and playing in the water and also walking in the sand and relishing nature. We then went to Mapuca for lunch and marketing.

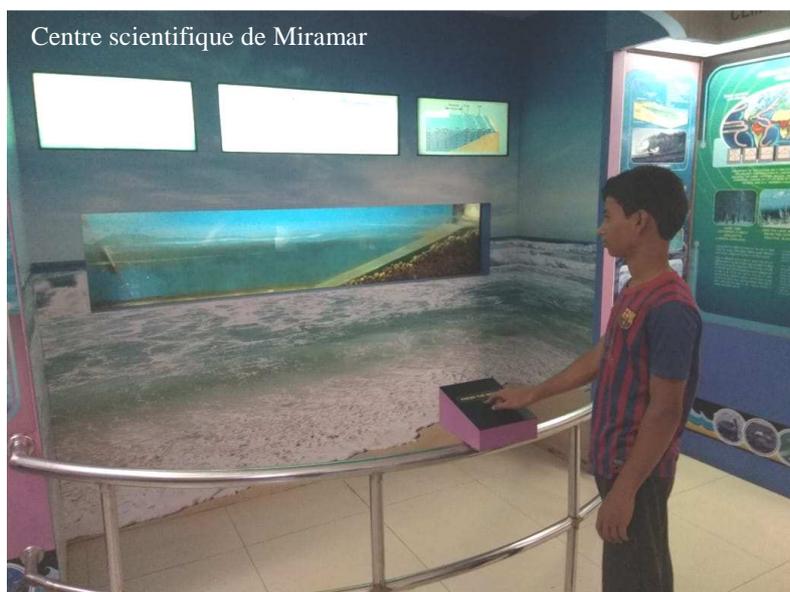
The children and staff were thrilled to purchase certain Goan specialties, available only in Goa. We then went to Loyola Hall at Miramar where we had booked our accommodation. After keeping our luggage there and freshening up, we went to Panaji for a wonderful boat cruise on the Mandovi River. The children and staff were enchanted by the scenic beauty and also danced to their hearts content to the lively music being played.

We then returned to Loyola Hall for dinner and then took a relaxing walk to the nearby Miramar beach before settling down for the night.

The next morning the children got up early to play football and volleyball and bath on the beach. After breakfast we visited the Science Center at Miramar where the children were thrilled to see several scientific principles explained through innovative working models and hands on experience. We then visited an ancient 13<sup>th</sup> century Shiva temple where the children spent some time in silent prayer and devotion.



Our next stop was the World Heritage Site, Basilica of Bom Jesu and the Se Cathedral at Old Goa. The children and staff were awestruck by the beauty and grandeur of the Churches and they also spent some time praying in front of the body of St Francis Xavier. We then had a sumptuous lunch and proceeded to the beautiful hilltop pilgrimage center of Blessed Fr Agnel at Pilar. Last but certainly not the least was our visit to the beautiful Colva beach, where some of the children again bathed in the water, while others relaxed on the beach or did some shopping.



We then proceeded to the Madgaon railway station to take our train back to Mumbai.



Thus ended two days of hectic activity and enjoyment for the children and they were all longing for more. This was an unique experience for our children to enjoy a trip out of Mumbai, and they and our staff whole heartedly thank Miss Chloe and AFEA for making this trip possible.





## **OTHER NEWS FROM SNEHASADAN**

*(extract from english bulletin april/august 2019)*



### **R.B.I : Visit to the Reserve Bank Museum**

On the 26th July, volunteers took some children to the Reserve Bank Museum of India. Very informative, this museum presents the evolution of money and portraits of the various leaders that India knew. Children were happy to receive knowledge of how the monetary system started in India.



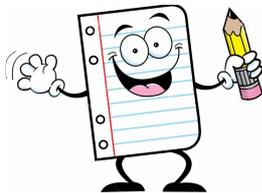
### **SUPER 30 (movie)**

Boys of house 3 and 7 received movie tickets to see the movie of Anand Kumar. It is the true story of a man who wants to help poor deserving students to crack the IIT entrance exams. He decided that no child who is intelligent and deserving would be deprived of education for the lack of money. Therefore, he started tutoring poor children. Many of these children have entered the IIT's, becoming engineers and are doing well for themselves and their families. This movie shows that we must treat everyone equally and to work hard to achieve our goals.



### **SKILLDEVELOPPEMENT**

On 19th June 2019, Girls of house 10 took part in a variety of activities. They spent their day making fragrant toilet -soaps. They made the soaps in various shapes and colors. Which brought smiles to their faces. Most of them learnt the importance of team-work.



### **ACADEMIC RESULTS**

The beginning of June is the time for HSC and HSC results. Le début du mois de juin est l'époque des résultats du HSC. This year 5 children appeared for HSC and all passed. At the SSC exams, 8 children appeared and only 2 failed. Rachel Britto got 67% marks. Sheetal Vishwas 79% at SSC. Bhakte Kardi cleared his bachelor in Engineering (Electronics and Telecommunication). Rajesh Salve completed his Diploma in Civil

Engineering and got a job in L&T while Sunanda Tandel successfully completed her General Nursing Midwifery diploma and got a job in Holy Spirit Hospital as a staff-nurse.



### **SNEHASADAN : 57 th Anniversary**

On 29th June 2019, Snehasadan celebrated his 57<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The whole Snehasadan family participated in the programme. A lot of activities were conducted (skits, dances...)



### **THE SNEHASADAN STAFF-PICNIC on 10TH AUGUST**

On 10<sup>th</sup> August, the much-awaited day arrived to refresh their minds and bodies !. A picnic, a walk in the nature, a boating on the river, and a visit of a farm were offered to all the staff. At the end though physically tired, they were filled with fresh energy and enthusiasm to work hard together as a team





## RAKSHA BANDHAN on 15th AUGUST

This festival celebrates the love between brothers and sisters. Sisters tie rakhis on the hands of their brothers as a sign of their love for them, while the brothers, in their turn, promise to protect their sisters from any danger. Snehasadan celebrated this feast by bringing together all the biblings, living in the different homes and also those who are living with the families. It was truly a wonderful sight to see the joy and excitement on the faces of the children.

## NEWS FROM ARULOLI (PONDICHERY)

(extract from report of Sr Cathrine June/august 2019)



First of June all the children have arrived after their holidays. For few days they were excited in sharing their holidays experience with one another including the one who remained in the home. Schools were reopened, thrilled to go back to school. This year the Government has changed School uniforms for students. They were happy to get new uniforms. This year we have 13 students appearing for the Government exam.

Sr. Angela was transferred to Chennai and Sr. Lilly Joseph was appointed as superior. On the 12<sup>th</sup> the children welcomed her and had a program. Sr. Lilly and Sr. Cathrine attended a meeting at DCPU office. On the 20<sup>th</sup> the child welfare officer sent a girl to us. She is in XI standard.

On the 27<sup>th</sup> we had farewell for Sr. Angela. The children were very upset with the departure of Sr. Angela it was 6 years of love and care that they were missing. As the days went by, they are back to the normal.

Sr. Cathrine was giving all the techniques she learned in healing the inner child applied to the children and made them to attend all the therapies. The weekends were with these healing sessions which healed many of our children and they are free within and can concentrate on their studies well.



In July the Child welfare officer sent two more girls who are in 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. They could not adjust to us and the mother also was not willing to keep them with us so they left the home in a month. On the 6<sup>th</sup> women police came for a sudden visit to our home and met all our children and advised them to study well and to be safe while the go out and come in. they too created awareness to the children about the child marriage and the new laws that are available for the child protection.

The same day we too had the election for the children's parliament and 3 leaders were elected and the meetings are conducted every month. As the requirement of the DCPU we had to do the water sample the result came on the 6<sup>th</sup>. On the 11<sup>th</sup> our children created an awareness on hand was near our home. The children from our area participated in it.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> we had the home management committee meeting at Aruloli. All the heads of the DCPU and CWC had come. The children expressed their problems they face in the school and the officers assured of their action regarding the problems.



On the 4<sup>th</sup> of August we had a meeting with our new counselor children were happy and free to share with her. Since it was a friendship day, to celebrate our friendship and get closer to one another we had gone to the beach and spent time in playing.



From 10 to 12 we had competitions in view of Independence Day. This was asked by the DCPU to do it. Our children participated in drawing, speech, singing, short film story writing, essay writing and poem. All these were on the themes on child marriage, freedom today, child labour, and child protection.



Our children participated in school sports and won medals.

All the certificates we got it done. The ration for the children is on process.

## **NEWS FROM NAVAJYOTHI DAVANGERE**

(extract from report of Sr Kuttiamma)

On 5th June, children and the staff celebrated the world environmental day by planting the saplings in the premises. On the occasion Sr Kuttiamma elaborated on the need to protect the environment and preserve it for the next generation.



Plantation de jeunes arbustes



On 8th June, an orientation day was organized for the children. It was an interesting and creative session where they are motivated to begin their schooling with enthusiasm and the determination to study.

On October second children celebrated the 150 birthday of Mahatma Gandhi and honored him by a rally and celebrated « swach Bharath » Clean India Celebration. Awareness was created to the public by slogan and children cleaning the public road by which they themselves are motivated to keep the surroundings clean.



On 15 August, children celebrated the Independence Day giving speeches.

On public holidays children are given opportunities to learn computer and cooking.

They also participated in the Onam celebration organized by the “Kerala Samaj”. They admired the Athapukalm and enjoyed the typical vegetarian meal and games.



**On the road for Onam celebration in Kerala**





# Navajyothi *SUCCESS STORY!*

## SHEETAL VINOD PEDNEKAR

*My story* : My name is Sheetal Vinor Pedurkar and I would like to share with you my life experience. I would say that I am grown, molded and shaped in the Navajyothi house, Mumbai. And it has become my home.



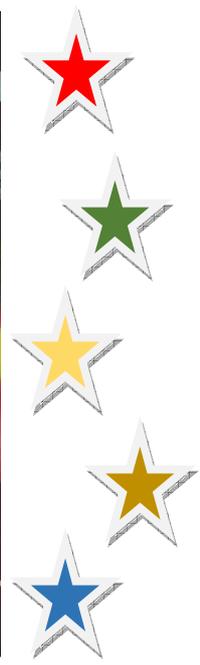
I was brought by my Aunt to Sister's Adorers, Navajyothi as a little child when my father expired and my mother was in great difficulty to look after me and my three younger brothers. My mother had problem with the eyes, so she went to the village and remained there with my brothers and now she works there as a gardener. I remained with the Sisters for thirteen years and sometimes went to Aunt's house in Chakala for holidays.

All my childhood and my young age I have remained with the sisters and enjoyed my childhood by playing, making fun etc... Sisters have given me all that I required : the education, opportunities to bring out my talents and make my desires come true. More than anything they have given me the care and motherly love.

Because of that I could complete my S.S.C, H.S.C and D.Eds. Training (teacher training) and fulfill my ambition of becoming a teacher. I did my teachers training form my aunt's house but all the expenses and financial help was given by the Sisters. Every little thing that I decided I took help from and their concern and their word. I feel that I have taken better decisions because Sisters were with me in times of troubles an in joys.

Now I am working as a teacher and teaching in St Francis Xavier High School, at Kanjurmarg and continuing my correspondence graduation. I feel that I have successfully grown and can be a better citizen. Not forgetting the blessings of many Sisters, their support, care, affection and love. I continue to visit Sisters when I have holidays. Plant is grown only when it is nurtured and taken care. So my life has been nurtured by Sisters to give good fruits in life.

Thank you to Sisters who help children and also thank you to donors who help them.



# NEWS FROM FRANCE

## NEWS FROM OUR REGIONS

### News from NANTES



#### Sidewalk sales

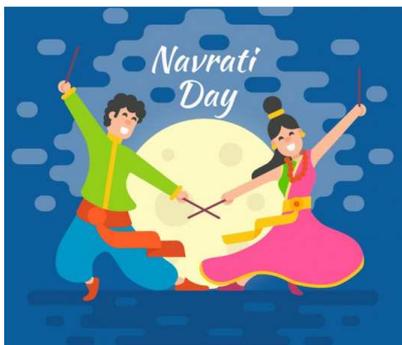
In the district of Sainte Anne in Nantes, the stall of the AFEA occupied a good place on June 16th. At 8 o'clock, the team of the Nantes board welcomed its first customers. Our stall was well-stocked thanks to the generosity of some of its members who had donated some fine items for which we thank them heartily.

The beginning of the day was quite encouraging but this was short-lived. In spite of our energy sales were numerous but not profitable. Competition was serious and our efforts were not rewarded. The financial results have been poor, so much so that

we are wondering whether we will continue this kind of events. We'll see.....



### News from MONTPELLIER



We are deeply thankful to the Indian Community of Montpellier, all the volunteers as well as our two regional partners, Mr. Jean SAVAJOL and Mr. Ajay PALA for organizing the Indian celebration of NAVATRI. A sum of money has been collected during this event. It will help the children living in homes in India..

### News from TOULON



The 2<sup>nd</sup> of September this year, our representative for the PACA region, Mrs. Isabelle LECOQ attended the forum of associations in The BEAUSSET with other volunteer friends of hers. We thank her for her involvement as well as all the persons who surrounded her during that day.

“It’s always a favorable time for talking and exchanging, an opportunity for the people who attend the forum to discover and get interested in our association: As a rule they take their time looking around and listening and they are attracted by our photos and testimonies. We’ve had some promising

contacts and we hope they will be followed up.” I. Lecoq

With the end of the year celebrations approaching, we wish to give our sincere thanks to our generous donators and our local correspondents. A big thank you to everyone, not forgetting the firms’ owners and sponsors whose backing is precious. They keep being solicited and we thank them for choosing the A.F.E.A.



From now on we will do our book-keeping on a chart of accounts for associations and we will show our balance-sheets to an external auditor for checking .Our statutes will therefore be modified and submitted to you for approval in the course of an Extraordinary General Meeting for which we are sending you an invitation.

We also take the opportunity to ask you to send your donations before January 5<sup>th</sup> 2020 if you wish to get a receipt for the year 2019. Thanks for your understanding.

**Assemblée Générale Extraordinaire LE SAMEDI 16 Novembre 2019 A 14H30**  
Chez Mme et Mr COUTEAU Jean-Michel - 48 bis rue d'Auteuil- 75016 PARIS



. APPROBATION DES NOUVEAUX STATUTS

✂ Je soussigné(e).....  
adresse.....  
**participera à l'A.G.E du samedi 16 novembre 2019 à PARIS**       oui       non  
**SI NON**, Donne pouvoir à M.....  
Aux fins de me représenter à l'Assemblée Générale Extraordinaire du samedi 16.11.2019 à Paris  
Fait le.....A.....  
signature précédée de la mention « bon pour pouvoir »

**A retourner avant le 11 novembre** (par poste ou par internet)

**Bulletin de parrainage** : formulaire à retourner à AFEA, 17 rue Voltaire – 44000 NANTES

Si vous souhaitez régler par prélèvement automatique, merci de le signaler au secrétariat de l'AFEA qui vous adressera un formulaire à remplir

- Pour parrainer un enfant : 23 euros par mois (8€ par mois après déduction fiscale)
- Pour parrainer un enfant et aider son foyer : 35 euros par mois (12€ par mois après déduction fiscale)**
- Pour aider un foyer ou une réalisation précise : somme à votre convenance.....
- Pour soutenir et recevoir notre bulletin : 30 euros par an

*En retour vous recevrez : le bulletin de l'association, par mail ou par voie postale, un reçu permettant une déduction fiscale de 66%, et pour ceux qui parrainent, un courrier de leur filleul*

NOM.....PRENOM.....AGE.....

SITUATION FAMILIALE.....PROFESSION.....

ADRESSE.....

.....TEL.....E-Mail.....

Informé par.....Date.....signature.....

**PS : nous sommes habilités à recevoir des legs. N'hésitez pas à nous contacter pour toute information.**

