

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019

AUTISM SOCIETY OF INDIA

2019 - The year gone by has had its hit & misses !!

Each of these events helped in advocacy in some form . The media coverage of the some of the happenings during the year has helped in bringing back into focus Autism and the need to lay more emphasis on individuals with Autism .

Sincerely hope & pray that in the coming years lessons learnt are put to good use by all concerned in society at large

Here is the list of events & activities in which ASI was represented by some of it's EC members over the last 1 year

We have covered a few from 2018 , which we participated in some way but missed out on mentioning them in the Annual Report for 2018 .

WAAD (WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY) : APRIL 1st 2018

1st April 2018, different organizations working in the field of Autism came together to observe World Autism Awareness Day. Approximately fifteen organizations of Bangalore planned many different activities for children, families, college students and the community to participate and support the cause.

WAAD also hosted the MAKE A THON competition where college students came up with very interesting presentations for the awareness of AUTISM.

Autism Society of India was a part of the eventful day at the Jain College Auditorium with very enthusiastic, tireless students running the show of a variety of Cultural programs by children from different Autism schools and centers, Presentation by college students, Film screening – Antarlena (Oriya film with English subtitles) games and lots of Food.

21st October 2018 : Event In Srinagar (Jammu & Kashmir)

Early Intervention & Special Education

1 Day Workshop held at IMPA by Save the Destitute Foundation

The event was organised on behalf of ASI --- by one of the members of ASI in Srinagar

It was aimed to impart information related to early intervention & special education for children with special needs.

The workshop was well attended by healthcare professionals , and parents from all over Jammu & Kashmir and neighbouring states



Autism Awareness Car Rally – organized in Dec 2018 in which ASI was one of the co-sponsors

Organized by Ms Ruby Singh (VP – ASI)



7th April 2019 : 1st Autism Conclave --- focused upon inclusion and well being of individuals with Autism

Ms Ruby Singh (VP – ASI) was one of the guest speakers at the conclave

It was a great conglomerative event that focused upon inclusion and well being of individuals with Autism .

June 2019 : Mr Sundar Rajan (Jt Secretary – ASI) also did take up the case of the child in a special school in Whitefield being abused in the school by one of the teachers. He did mediate and try to get a rapprochement between the School Authority and the parents of the aggrieved child , but with limited success inspite of his persistent efforts for almost 2 months .

21st July 2019 : **Inclusive Marathon - Organised By SAP**

Ms Nishath Ali --- participated and represented ASI along with her Toddler, at the event



July 2019 : Also Retd Major General Suresh Krishnan (President – ASI) along with Mr Sundar Rajan did meet the Dy CM of Karnataka with regards to allotment of site for ASI . Though the Dy CM office has assured to consider the case , regular follow-up would be required from here which is being undertaken by both – Mr Sundar Rajan & Retd Major Gen Suresh Krishnan.

August 2019 : Initiative taken by the Archbishop of Bangalore (Head of all the churches of Bangalore) to create awareness about people with Special needs amongst all churches of Bangalore .

At a meeting attended by the Bishop , Priests , Parents of People with Special Needs , Sisters and Nuns who run institutions which cater to Special Needs people – a commission was formed to increase awareness across all churches in Bangalore and sensitize all church goers about the challenges faced by people belonging to this category and their families .



The Special Needs NGO's were represented by Mr Vijay Kant of Parivaar and Mr Anil D'souza of ASI .

Ever since , over the last 5 months , Special Masses for people with Special Needs are being celebrated across various churches in Bangalore . To further espouse the concept of Inclusiveness - Children and Adults with Special Needs actively participate in organizing each of these special services on Sundays at the Churches.

August 2019 : Ms Akila Vaidyanathan (EC Member) : Represented ASI at various forums

- **Invited Speaker** at numerous conferences and symposiums in the area of Disability and Inclusion
 - **Chief Guest /Keynote Address at Bala Siksha Sahayata ,TVS Special school Autism Spectrum Disorder, Madurai , August 2019**
 - **Empower 2019 , IIT Delhi Campus – Enabling technologies for Autism – Current and Future Perspectives, October 2019**

October 2019 : 27th National Parents Meet of PARIVAAR --- Ahmedabad

Mr Michael Pillai (VP – West) represented ASI in this program conducted in Ahmedabad on 18th Oct .

All participants were given handouts of ASI documenting ASI objectives and initiatives in the field of Autism

November 19th, 2019 - Autism Advantage Luncheon by SAP Labs

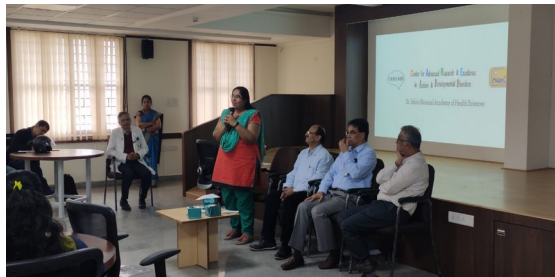
Ms Nishath Ali (Jt Secretary – ASI)

Attended the Autism advantage Luncheon bangalore, hosted by the SAP labs, Eminent speakers on the panel discussion were Ms.Shanti Raghavan,Disability Governor,Mr.Basavaraju and curated by Thorkil Sonne.

A good discussion of panelists of how employment can be created and sustained. First half was about Autism Awareness.

Second half during the Panel discussion, Mr.Basavaraju promised that the government is ready to welcome the inclusion of ASD in its schemes but is clueless as to how to go about it ,for which he is working upon.

He also talked about the unique disability identification document that has been introduced by the govt to facilitate Children with Special Needs.



December 2nd 2019 : St . John's Medical College

Ms Nishath - Attended the programme of meeting families of special needs at the St.Johns Medical college hospital,New Hope Center for autism and development disorders.Spoke to the parents and professionals present about ASI and its objectives and encouraged parents to become members.Also assured Dr.Ashok Mysore of ASI support in whatever capacity c





Dec 2019 : Ms Ruby Singh (VP – ASI) was elected on the **National Trust Tribunal** in the category of Association of Parents of Parents with Autism , Mental Retardation & Multiple Disability . It is a proud moment for ASI that one of it's members is on board with the NTT. Congratulations to Ms Ruby from all at ASI – It's a recognition of her untiring and relentless efforts in the field of Autism

Dec 2019 : Dr. Veronica Mathias (Course Director of KPAMRC) did represent ASI as an EC Member at the National Conference on Inclusive Education

Her enthusiasm and commitment to the field of Autism is a good example for a lot of younger parent members of ASI to look upto and follow !!



30th Dec 2019 : Ms Akila Vaidyanathan (EC Member)

On Behalf of ASI - Was invited as panelist on prime time on 30 December 2019 for the Channel MIRROR NOW to discuss the missing Child Tarun Gupta and to talk about how to prevent elopement of Autistic children and to help a missing child if we find one etc .



- **"Celebrating Diveristy" a talk to the general public at an Open forum at Mango Education , Coimbaotore , 8 Jan 2020**