From Secretary’s Desk…

Dear Fellow Senior Citizens,

Trust this finds each one of you in the good health under the tsunami of instructions, preachings, advisories, guidelines and mentoring to combat the concerns of corona virus. The tiny earth in the cosmic creations; possessing a liveable environment; has currently encountered the threats / challenges emanating from the COVID-19. We a bunch of organs woven in trillions of organisms; that are in a dynamic and regular relationships; maintain a constant body temperature under outside temperatures from - 50 to + 50 degree centigrade!!!. Thus human body configuration is capable to face the challenges as well; subject to having the requisite nutritional nourishments, adhering to the prudent medical interventions and regulating the lifestyle while the liveable environment is under stress. We all having born with “body - mind - intellect” that has traversed six to nine decades of our life journey; is making us get recognised as a “senior citizen” in the society. We all have attained the grey hair stature; by acquiring many skills and rendering the competent services in varied fields over three to five decades that is unique to each one of us. Therefore the senior citizens are expected to perform as a think tank; specially in the era of crisis; I believe.

With the lock down situation for 21 days effective from mid night of March 24, 2020, besides following the Government instructions, it is time to gainfully utilise our knowledge base at home by writing down sustainable project profiles that could attract the CSR funds. We at CSR committee are available to assist in formulation, development, peer review & due diligence of the schemes aimed at qualifying for CSR funds. At the end of this news letter a brief check list on the project profile contents is given as a ready reckoner.

Majority of the affiliated Federations, Associations have been doing commendable activities in their region in stand alone concept. However the strength of collective wisdom formation deserves a debate for possible implementation of a major CSR project at AISCCON level that caters to the common interest of all affiliated organisations. For assessing the possibility of moving in this direction all the affiliated federations, associations are requested to offer their consent and intimate the following information as available with each one:

I. Audited Financial statements – last three years (2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20)
II. Annual reports – last three years (2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20)
III. Organisation structure – latest
IV. 12A Certificate (if available)
V. 80G Certificate (if available)
VI. NGO Registration Certificate
VII. NGO Pan Card
VIII. MOA / Trust deed
IX. FCRA Certificate (if applicable)
X. NITI Ayog Registration - Unique Identity Number (UIN).
Your sharing of the above information shall be used for the purpose of assessing the combined strengths both in terms of financial outlay and management resources for promoting a CSR project by all collective. Please let us know if there is any confidentiality requirement while sharing the information concerning your association / federation.

The CSR funds are expected to perform through the not-for-profit routes in a credible, transparent and trustworthy manner. The major Corporate Houses coming forward to provide funding support would also demand feedback on their funds utilisation and impact assessment of major programs / projects. Given the limited resources at our disposal; we plan to work in unison with the associated Federations / Associations for harnessing the best out of CSR funding avenues. We shall welcome the comments, queries and the same shall be sportingly reviewed for furtherance of our common endeavour. Stay in touch.

Cordially yours,

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An initiative of Ministry of Corporate Affairs....

Spending by Corporates to deal with the corona virus outbreak will be considered as CSR activity under the Company’s Law, Government said on Monday, March 23, 2020. In India over 400 people have been infected by the corona virus and at least seven people have died, while many states have announced lockdown to curb spreading of the infection. (current updates on corona virus is being updated by media)

Under the Companies Law, certain classes of profitable entities have to shell out at least an average of 2 percent of their preceding three years annual net profit towards Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities in a particular financial year.

The Government of India, Ministry of Corporate Affairs stated in circular dated March 23, 2020 that “ It is hereby clarified that spending of CSR funds for COVID - 19 is eligible for CSR activity”.

CSR funds could be utilised for various activities related to COVID - 19, including those relating to preventing health care and sanitation, as per the circular. The CSR funds could also be used for direct expenditure to contain the spread, morbidity and mortality due to the disease.

Corporate Affairs Minister, Honourable Nirmala Sitaraman tweeted the circular “ In view of the spread of novel # Corona Virus in India, its declaration as pandemic by the WHO, and decision of Government of India to treat this as notified disaster, it is hereby clarified that spending CSR funds for COVID - 19 is eligible CSR Activity”...

Every company having net worth of at least Rs. 500 Crores, turnover of Rs. 1000 Crore or more or a minimum net profit of Rs. 5 Crores during immediately preceding year has to make the CSR expenditure. A suggestion has been mooted to Government of India to create a portal on which specific requirements of equipment, medicines may be posted for contribution in cash or kind to make the coordinated efforts and avoid duplications. Thanks to the web site www.money-control.com for disseminating this information.

Brief guidelines for developing CSR projects:

Ageing Bodies - Growing Minds... Love...Live...Liberate...
The following inputs are normally envisaged in a project proposal aimed at convincing the Corporate houses to grant funding under their Corporate Social Responsibility domain:

1. Personal information, brief profile & contact details of the Head of the organisation & key personnel involved in the ongoing activities of the Federation / Association.
2. Organisation details i.e. name, date of registration, nature of organisation, (whether Charitable Trust, NGO, Section 15 company or any other ), city, brief on past experiences , achievements and current activities, current sources of revenue for undertaking the ongoing activities (from donors / volunteers / government support etc..). Preceding three years statement of accounts.
3. Problem statement ; key drivers to resolve the concerns of elderlies in the region ; proposed strategy. The issue should have impacts on social fabric in quantifiable / measurable terms.
4. Project details - the facilities, implementation methodology, agencies in the implementation, organisation supervising the implementation, commissioning, taking over and project life time operations. The project ownership until its life cycle including sustainability is to be established.
5. Financial Analysis : For project implementation & operation, sustainability for project life cycle.
6. Meeting donors concerns for funds getting utilised in trust worthy, transparent and credible manner for the intended purpose, progress reporting on implementation and social impact analysis / benefits. Donors may have some specific guidelines on the reporting formats.
7. Credentials of the promoters of the project & organisation like past awards / certificates, recommendation letters from dignitaries, bank statements, home work done (like field survey / back up offers obtained for project implementation etc..)

Sharing of experiences:
The following CSR projects are under pipeline. The promoters / project leaders contact details are also given. You are welcome to interact with the concerned to get an update on their efforts and possibly seek the guidelines / discuss as to how to go about your endeavours.

1. Caring for left out Elderly in Kumbh Mela Haridwar 2021. (Mr.MK Raina, Chairman CSR m 9760002072)
2. Care home for an elderly women in Ujjain city. (Mr. Arvind Jain, Ujjain, Jt.Secretary mob: 9424538639)
3. Old age home in Vijayawada (Dr. GVVUM Rao Member CSR, mob. 9441370225)
4. Services to economically deprived in Goa. (Mr. Diogo M. Da Costa, President mob. 9881090933)
5. Chennai - a number of proposals (Mr. D. Rajasekaran President mob. 6381874737 / 9444368077)
6. Day Care in Chandigarh (Mr. IP Puri, President mobile 9815077553)

Editorial Board
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