

JOSH FOUNDATION

Press Note

<u>Remo D'souza joins hands as brand ambassador with JOSH FOUNDATION to</u> <u>support the cause – Hearing Handicap No more Handicap</u>

"Inter-School Fusion Dance Competition" was organized by Josh Foundation on Saturday, 11th January,2014 from 4 to 7 pm, At Bhaidas Sabhagruh, Juhu, Vile Parle, where over one thousand invitees witnessed spellbound performances by Hearing Impaired Children, from over 25 special schools across the city of Mumbai, wherein more than 150 special children participated in the said event. It was judged by Remo D'souza and five other dance experts. Disha Karnabadhir Vidyalay, Vile Parle was edjudged Winner, followed by St. Stephen School, Dadar for Hearing Impaired was Runner-UP and Sanskar Dham Vidyalay, Goregaon was declared 2nd Runner-UP.

Everyone present were surprised to see children with Hearing loss, Dancing and Coordinating so perfectly well to the tunes of Bollywood Songs. Most of the Participant entries were so perfectly well Choreographed that one can forget that they cannot hear as well as normal human being.

Impressed by their Work and performance of Hearing Impaired Children, Remo D'Souza, leading Film Choreographer, Director, Producer who was present last year in one of the Event on the panel of Judges, came forward to support this cause and has joined hand with trustee of JOSH Foundation to be the Brand Ambassador to spread message in the society that "They don't need Sympathy they need support.

Remo really enjoyed the whole program and he even performed on the stage with some of the children. Eminent celebrities like Amit Jadav, Tia Kar were also present and leading choreographers Punit Pathak, Jeet Singh, Kruti Mahesh were on the panel of Judges along with Remo.

JOSH Foundation, an Ngo working for Upliftment for Hearing Imapired Children for last over 9 years, is organizing such events every year to provide platform to motivate, encourage these special children to make them feel normal and showcase the world that Hum Kisise Se Kum Nahi", said Dr. Jayant Gandhi, a Gold Medallist & leading ENT surgeon, One of the Founder Trustee of Josh Foundation. WE would like to welcome and involve more celebrites like Mr. Remo D'souza and request Media also to come forward to create awareness in the society as the need is very high and very little work has been done till date, added Dr. Gandhi.

"It is a shocking fact that, there are 4 to 5 Million of such Hearing Impaired children in our Country. It is also surprising that very little work has been done in the society for upliftment of these Children. The Society has grossly misunderstood the hearing disability of a child and treats them as "deaf" and "dumb". They are actually not dumb but they are mute as they have not heard so they can't speak.

Every individual has a residual hearing which if treated well by usage of right technology like digital hearing aids and proper rehabilitation plans, their hearing loss can be minimized and make them hear all normal sounds and speak language understandable by all of us. We at JOSH have taken up this mission to eradicate hearing handicap from the society" said Ms. Devangi Dalal an Internationally trained



Audiologist and speech therapist and also one of the founder Trustee of JOSH Foundation and First Indian Audiologist to receive Humanitarian Award from American Academy of Audiology, USA.

JOSH is Instrumental in nurturing lives of over 1000 children, by providing them pairs of digital hearing aids absolutely free of cost and integrating them into normal schools. JOSH is currently supporting 12 schools and are dynamically involved in changing their "special" status added by Dr. Gandhi.

The said event was sponsored by Sahara India, Widex India Pvt. Ltd. and was supported by GN Resound, Phonak and Excel Industries.

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