

SPARSH

...enlightening lives

BRPL's CSR programs maintain a symbiotic relationship with the society as we live and work in perfect harmony with the communities around us. It looks for unique opportunities and works with the likeminded partners to bring about positive changes in the society.

Supporting India's 1st Digital public library in a Police Station

BRPL has partnered with the Delhi Police to financially support India's first Digital public library housed in a Police Station. In past few months, including during the nation-wide lockdown, around 43,000 beneficiaries benefited from the various activities carried out at the Police Public Library, Jamia Nagar. Many of them (20% boys & 80% girls), largely from the economically weaker sections of the society, have used the resources of the library and successfully completed Entrance Exam Coaching for various graduation and post-graduation courses like BA (all branches), Medical, B.Ed, Engineering and crash course for Civil Services, ICLATE and Law Entrance. The project has also caught the fancy of the mainline media and was recently featured in the Times of India.



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Learning with Khaki: Jamia police station library takes digital avatar

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New Delhi: If a student is looking for a quiet place for a few hours of peaceful studying, what would be the right place to head to? For a student living in south Delhi's Jamia Nagar, the answer would be the nearest police station.

Started in 2012, the "Police Public Library" at Jamia Nagar police station is arguably the country's first that arms visitors with books. Set up to remove a common citizen's fear of a police station, this unique initiative of Delhi Police is being successfully managed by an NGO, Shikhar Organisation for Social Development.

The library was recently revamped into "Delhi Digital Library" with financial support from power discom BSES Rajdhani Power Limited (BRPL). The cost of running the digital library,



WORD MATTERS: Delhi Police has been running a public library at Jamia Nagar Police Station for nine years



including that of educational material, maintenance and salaries, is being borne by BRPL through its CSR programmes.

Mehjabeen Shabnam, a teacher, couldn't believe her ears when she first heard about the library. "At first, my parents didn't

agree and even I had some hesitation about going to study among policemen," said the 20-something Jamia Nagar resident. "However, when I visited the library, the atmosphere there was safe and more girls came there," she added.

Devesh Chandra Srivastava,

special commissioner, who was the joint commissioner of police (southern range), when this initiative was mooted, said Delhi Police was a pioneer when it came to such community initiatives.

"One of the things we did to bring the student community clo-

ser to us was starting this library at Jamia Nagar. Then we got another at RK Puram and a third one at Okhla Vihar Metro police station," said Srivastava, adding that such initiatives smoothen the relation between police and public.

Srivastava added, "BSES is sponsor-

ing us in the smooth running of this library. The discom has also supported Delhi Police Public Schools by setting up smart classrooms."

"Our CSR programmes maintain a symbiotic relationship with the society as we live and work in perfect harmony with the communities around us. We look for unique opportunities and work with like-minded partners to bring about positive changes in the society," BSES said in a statement.

The senior IPS officer said, "We also run coaching classes in association with educators and provide books and journals." He added that apart from senior IPS officers like himself, other senior civil servants were also called to teach students, including an IRS officer who provides regular coaching.

"The library provides facilities like study materials, Wi-Fi, laptops,

A RESIDENT SAYS

At first, my parents didn't agree and even I had some hesitation. However, when I visited the library, the atmosphere there was safe and more girls came there

etc for free," said UPSC aspirant Ketan Singh, who loves the library's "professional environment".

Nadeem Akhtar, director of the library, said the idea was to provide coaching facilities to students who might not be able to afford it otherwise. "Initially, it was difficult to encourage parents from the nearby locality to send their children here. However, over time many girls and boys started coming here after finding out for themselves how safe the environment was," he added.

Vocational Training Centers' continue to enrol new students

BRPL's Vocational Training Centers continue to enroll students through the positive word of mouth being generated by the quality trainings and placements over the years. During the month, they enrolled 90 students, taking the total batch-size to over 870. These students are undergoing training, through both the online and offline modes, in Basic & Advance Computers, Beauty Culture, Fashion Designing & Tailoring.



Taking advantage of the weather, over 2600 saplings planted in August

BRPL cares for the environment and like Delhi's residents; it too is concerned about the incidence of growing pollution. Doing its bit, BRPL routinely plants trees in its licensed area. Taking advantage of the weather, BRPL planted ~ 7750 saplings at Delhi Government schools in September, building on the ~ 22000 saplings planted between April and August 2021.



BRPL Self Help Groups stitch and distribute sanitary napkins and masks to the needy

BRPL is striving to make homemade and affordable masks accessible to the underprivileged sections, who have to move out in the community and yet, cannot afford them. Stitched by BRPL's Self Help Groups, around 2000 sanitary napkins and 700 masks were stitched and distributed among the neediest in the month of August. Since April, around 15000 sanitary napkins and 4200 mask have been distributed till September.

