

R.S. ACTIVITY REPORT
(October 2010 to February 2011)

Dhirubhai Ambani International School Mumbai India

1.	Number of students gone out on exchanges in the last 5 months	None
2.	Number of students come to you on exchange in the last 5 months	<p>1 <u>Le'Ermitage School, France</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed February 2011 programme includes visiting DAIS Service programme, conducting a full day Eye camp in school for the school in-house staff and half a day Eye camp for the ACROSS THE ROAD service community Motilal Nagar colony. This is in addition to the proposed Eye Care Service Plan, free of cost, for the villagers in Hassachipatti, in Matheran. The main partners for the Eye Care camps are Lotus Optometry School, Juhu and Sight Savers. • The students will also help in the building of a Computer Lab, for Hassachipatti village, as a part of the empowerment initiative started here. This project is partially funded by FRS South Asia and Gulf Region. • Spending time with their host families will provide for the cultural experience. It will encourage exchange of the cultural and social aspects of both countries.
3.	Number of students who have participated in any sort of RS Conference in the last 5 months	<p>1. <u>Junior Round Square Regional Conference : BOOND</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DAIS hosted the Junior Round Square Regional Conference this year. • The Conference theme – '<i>Boond</i>' (A drop of water) highlighted the need and solutions to the issues engulfing water and its conservation. • 20 schools from the South Asia and Gulf Region RS participated in this conference with a total number of 168 delegate students. • The conference provided a learning experience for the 45 DAIS students from classes 7th to 10th who successfully planned, organised and executed this conference. The forum provided a platform for thought sharing, discussions and debates to strengthen the Student Citizenship movement locally, nationally and internationally. • Students were enriched with fruitful exchange of dialogues with the Keynote speakers including Mr Shekhar Kapur, Mr Bittu Sahgal and our chairperson Smt Mrs. Nita Ambani.

- The conclusion to the conference was that the learning and action plans from this conference will contribute directly to an enhanced understanding of a more proactive approach to the problem of Water Conservation.

2. Young Round Square Regional Conference hosted by The Daly College Indore January 7th to 9th 2011.

- 6 students from class 5th and 6th represented DAIS at this conference themed 'Make a difference'.
- The Daly College had invited two outstanding keynote speakers, Ms Priti Patel, the renowned Manipuri dance exponent who uses dance therapy to treat the patients of cerebral palsy, and Ms. Monica Punjabi, who is a reputed dancer and also an adviser to the Government of India on cultural issues.
- DAIS students made a mark with their statements. In the evening, there were art and craft sessions followed by school presentations on how each school made a difference to the society.
- The next day, as part of service, students visited various institutions such as the Helen Keller school for the blind, and the Mother Teresa home.
- The final day, was earmarked for environmental activities. Delegates were taken to visit organic Farms and tribal villages that follow sustainable living methods.

3. Round Square Regional Conference (Senior) hosted by British School, Delhi, from 19th to 21st January 2011.

- Six DAIS students from Year 11 participated in the RS Senior Conference (Regional) at the British School from 19th January 2011 to 21st January 2011.
- The theme of the conference was Peace and, in addition to the regular RS Conference activities (barazas, service activity), there were five other workshops that contributed to a better understanding of conflict and peace issues.
- Consequently, our students actively participated in Dance, Drama, Art, Music and Debate workshops as well as the service activity and baraza session.
- Art students were given the opportunity to work closely with the world renowned mural artiste Tom Wood. The objective of their 3 day workshop was to create 2 peace murals which would 'last longer than we will,' in Mr. Wood's words.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The dance that the students performed on stage after their 3-day workshop with Sharon Lowen radiated peace everywhere. With soft classical music and enriching words of the poem "There will come soft rains", they danced portraying frail flowers, leaves, the powerful wind and sea and the unpredictable human being. <p>4. <u>Junior Round Square Conference hosted by Scindia School, Gwalior from 3rd Feb. to 6th Feb. 2011.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 students from class 9 represented DAIS for this conference themed "Friends Everywhere" Student delegates conceptualised, directed and acted in a skit based on friendship, created an art work and put together a PowerPoint based on the theme. The PowerPoint included the CAS activity program 'Adwaita' and 'Akansha' where our students are involved with community service. It also projected the recent Thimun conference held in Hague in which DAIS participants uphold the flag of global friendship in their committees.
4.	Number of students who have participated in any sort of RS Service Camp in the last 7 months	<p><u>Project: VILLAGE HASSACHIPATTI, Matheran</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DAIS has adopted a village at the foothill of Matheran with the sole aim of empowering the villagers through education, infrastructure and vocational training. The background to this village of 61 Households is that it is a Landless Village with no access road to the nearest town. (Villagers have to climb up and down an uneven path of around 1000 feet to access the basic amenities) The villagers have to combat huge water scarcity especially during the summer months Impoverished due to low levels of literacy <p><u>Solution planned by DAIS Students:</u></p> <p>A 3 pronged approach to improve quality of life in the village:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>FIRST PILLAR –INFRASTRUCTURE:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Path - Access to the village path: 3000 ft. Rain/Stream water harvesting: 1 Million ltrs Build Pucca Houses: 25 Homes. Utility facility: 40 Toilets. Solar –Cookers & Lights: 61 Nos. Repair and furnish primary school: 1 Build Computer Laboratory: 10 Comps <u>SECOND PILLAR –EDUCATION</u> <p>- All children (99) , have been given text books, stationary kit bags & uniform, Aptitude tests & vocational guidance,</p>

		<p>Fees paid for college admissions for courses such as B.Sc nursing), FYBA, TYBA, Computer hardware, Auto CAD, MSCIT, FYJC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>THIRD PILLAR –EMPOWERMENT</u> = “ i-TAP” I-identify markets, t-train the villagers, a-assist them to produce, p–produce for the market outside • The project has been accepted as a RS regional Service Project during the recent RS Heads & Reps AGM hosted by DAIS dated 14-16 January 2011 • Solar Lamps were distributed free to the villagers to light up their houses. These were handed over to the villagers by each participant of the AGM. • DAIS has already received proposals from other school to partner in this project. • Students who have worked on this project will be sent to RSIS projects to share their learning’s and enrich the project with their learning.
5.	Has your school had any cultural, service or sporting contact with any other RS schools?	<p>1. <u>DAIMUN October 2010</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The members of the <i>RS Heads & Reps AGM hosted by DAIS dated 14-16 January 2010 had accepted DAIMUN as an experience for INTERNATIONALISM, a pillar of RS ideals.</i> • DAIS IB students organised the conference wherein there was participation from 20 schools and 400 delegates. Of these there were 4 RS Regional member schools with 28 delegates. The theme of the conference was ‘Anti Corruption.’ • Student’s research, writes resolutions, and then debates their topics. Some of the issues discussed were <i>Narco terrorism as a threat to International Security, Combating corruption in the response to and Management of disasters, Rights of Prisoners and Intellectual Property Rights.</i> • Ms. Priya Dutt, Mr.Raju Hirani, Mr. Rakesh Maria and our Chairperson Smt Nita Ambani inaugurated the conference which also had a panel discussion. The conference lasted for three days and provided a fruitful experience for the delegates.
6.	Any teacher exchanges?	No
7.	Have you paid your subscription for 2010-11 due in July/August 2010?	Yes
8.	Any other information you would like to add	<p>1. <u>Annual Fund-raising event for the NGO partners: December 17 & 18 2010</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As an important counterbalance to the academic pressures of the national and international curricula at DAIS, every year, the school has a fete that

		<p>integrates the entire student, parent and teaching community. It also acts as a fundraiser for nine NGOs supported by the school. The fete in 2010 was called "Christmast" which communicated a 'glocal' (Indian) view of Christmas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hindi word 'mast' means 'exhilaration' and this was juxtaposed with a simplistic tag line 'Spirit of Giving'. This helped espouse the value that Christmas is the season of 'generosity'. • The total collection over two days was about USD 1,00,000 and after deduction of costs, USD 60,000 was made available to the various projects initiated and supported by the school and its NGO partners. However, more importantly, students were encouraged to engage with issues of global importance such as use of 'recyclable material to reduce carbon footprint'. The Art students thus built a tall Christmas tree with waste plastic bottles and paper. This fun-filled 'Winter Wonderland' was conducted by DAIS students from Grade 9-12. It helped bring CAS (Creativity, Action, and Service) to centre stage! CAS is the core of the IB curriculum and enables students to enhance their personal and interpersonal development through experiential learning. The annual fete gave students of DAIS an opportunity to engage in real and purposeful activities, take up personal challenges/ tasks that helped them shift out of their comfort zones. All students (about 350) who were involved were asked to complete written/ verbal reflections on outcomes and personal learning after the fete. • Most felt that it helped them increase their awareness of their own strengths, gave them the confidence to undertake new challenges, plan and initiate activities and work collaboratively with others. • This integrated well with the mission statement of International Baccalaureate (IB) and the pillars of Round Square mainly service and leadership. • The event was planned, coordinated and implemented by a group of Grade 11 students who run a student-driven weekly activity called 'Enterprise'. They also created designs, logos and a complete line of merchandise encompassing bags, pouches, Mugs and T shirts. Each NGO stall that was present at the fete got an opportunity to spread awareness for their cause and sell their merchandise to generate donations. The highlights of the programme that was spread over two half-days were merchandise sales, a life-sized Christmas tree with gifts for the underprivileged, • Santa's Grotto where Santa gave away 'goodies', games, raffle prizes, auctions and an array of fun fiesta food.
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2. IAYP and Adventure camps:

- As an ongoing process to ensure learning of Leadership, Motivation, Coordination, Communication, Interpersonal Relations and Team Building, students of class 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th went on IAYP and adventure camps. These camps were conducted at Matheran and Saputara.
- 77 DAIS students of year 12 and 8 teachers went on a qualifying camp to Saputara from 9th December 2010 to 12th December 2010. The camp had been organized to complete the Adventurous Journey section of the International Award for Young People programme. It is offered as one of the options in the Action section of CAS for the IB curriculum.
- The objectives of this section of the programme include the above objectives as well as obtaining a sense of achievement and satisfaction by overcoming obstacles, developing self reliance, gaining the appropriate knowledge and skills to journey safely through unfamiliar terrain and improving their investigation, review and presentation skills.
- The school had arranged the camp with 'Explorers India', an outdoor learning and adventure company who made an effort to encourage the students to complete each activity and raise their self-esteem. They were tested for rope knots and tent pitching skills, and were also involved in rock climbing, rappelling and commando activities.
- Students experienced a Jungle Trek in the Dang tribal area, climbing down to Malegaon village. There were sessions in self cooking and campfire activities as well.
- Since the students lived in the 'artist village' they had a session on the local art of Warli Paintings.
- 85 DAIS students of year 11 and 9 teachers went on a qualifying camp to Saputara from 10th to 13th February 2011. In addition to the above activities these students also had a 'Star Gazing' session where they learnt to spot and identify the constellations visible.
- As a preparatory stage for the bronze level students of class 9th and 8th went for leadership and adventure camp held at the DAIS study centre on 3rd to 5th and 10th to 12th February respectively.

3. THIMUN (The Hague Model United Nations), January 2011.

- 19 students participated in the conference in The Hague this January.

- 5 days experience for the students, where about 3500 delegates participate from about 500 schools from all over the world.
 - Students interacted with others of their own age group from all over the world.
 - Some of the issues discussed were, the situation in Afghanistan, Dismantling the blockade in Gaza strip and Measures against Fiscal Fraud.
- 2 students of DAIS were student officers and 1 student was an expert on the issue of Caribbean Islands in a special committee, The Advisory Panel.

4. AGM of the Round Square South Asia and Gulf Region

- DAIS hosted the AGM of the Round Square South Asia and Gulf Region members from the 14th to 16th January 2011.
- The delegate members for this AGM included the Heads of the RS schools, RS Representatives and staff (observers) in this region. It also included the honorary members of RS, FRS members and members of the AFS Intercultural Programme.
- 27 schools participated represented by 59 delegates.
- Those schools willing to host the various conferences over the next two years confirmed the timeline for these events and also for other service projects.
- The hosting of the international conference in the year 2014 was debated upon and a decision of hosting split conferences was agreed upon.
- Further discussions included new members in new regions, constitution for the region to be adopted, leadership training for RSIS, selection of the new RD designate, secretary & co-coordinator, review applicants for RS membership and designate inspectors, annual subscriptions, annual report, criteria for selection of delegate students & escort teachers for the various conferences and presentation of service projects by schools.
- The highlight of the AGM was the presentation on New and Renewable Energy by Dr. A.K. Singhal, Director - Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, followed by a presentation by the AFS Intercultural Programme on exchanges.
- The discussion of disbursement of funds for the service projects marked the closure of the AGM.