

## PRACTISE WHAT YOU PREACH, KERSI RANDERIA ASSERTS PHIROZE AMROLIWALLA

Kersi Randeria being upset at the accusations made by Phiroze Amroliwalla about depriving a poor man of food just to get even with Amroliwalla, suddenly attacked him on a personal level and sent a mail against Amroliwalla about non-payment of rent of his three flats on 6th June 2020 which was immediately rebutted by Amroliwalla on 8th June that he had sent the cheque of Rs. 1,03,939/ as legally payable rent up to December 2019 on 27th January 2020 which was deliberately NOT encashed with mala-fide intentions.

But Kersi Randeria smarting from the well reasoned rebuttal of Phiroze Amroliwalla sent a further mail on 9-6-2020 of the rent due of his three flats to show that the cheque of Rs. 1,03,939/ was less than half of the actual amount owed by Phiroze Amroliwalla to BPP.

Phiroze Amroliwalla not one to let any lies or distorted statements go unchallenged, now gives his detailed reply to each false or fabricated/distorted allegation directly in reply to Randeria's mail of 9th June 2020 taking each charge of Kersi Randeria and giving his clarification in red below it. We give below the reply of Phiroze Amroliwalla to his mail of 9-6-20 and thereafter the detailed accusations of Kersi Randeria made in his mail of 9th June and the rebuttal of Phiroze Amroliwalla in red below it.

### REPLY OF PHIROZE AMROLIWALLA TO RANDERIA:

From Phiroze Amroliwalla
To Kersi Randeria
Cc armaity tirandaz, Noshir - CAP, Viraf
Mehta, Xerxes V. Dastur, Yazdi Desai,
Yazdi Desai, Zarir Bhathena, cawas

panthaki, Aspi Sarkari, Shehnaaz Khambatta, bpphousing@gmail.com, dinshaw dinshaw Date Today 20-06-2020 12:55

KERSI RANDERIA,

You seem to follow double standards!

RANDERIA, CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME! AS A TRUSTEE PRACTICE WHAT YOU PREACH!!

I am told that you/your mother were staying in a flat with your kaka, the rent receipt for which stood in the name of your uncle (Kaka) at Contractor Building, Byculla, a charity property of the BPP.

Some years back you purchased a very large Ownership flat in Dadar Parsi Colony for Crores of rupees. I want to know why you did not TAKE YOUR MOTHER TO RESIDE WITH YOU and surrender this Byculla flat to the BPP as you now want others to do?

Also, I am very reliably given to understand that after becoming a trustee of the BPP in 2015, with help from staff loyal to you ONLY, you skilfully manipulated and secured support from other trustees whilst pretending to abstain, and managed to get this flat transferred in the name of your mother from your late Kaka's name, on his demise in 2017-18.

In fact We now understand that your mother lives with your sister in a flat in Godrej Baug, WHICH WAS ALSO ALLOTTED FREE TO YOUR SISTER.

Not for a moment, even though you are

a Trustee now, did you consider to take your mother to your huge flat in DPC and surrender the Contractor bldg. flat back to BPP so that it could be allotted to a needy Parsi. Even though you are now a trustee, you are still holding on to this Byculla flat of the BPP, but expect lesser mortals to surrender their lived- in flats back to BPP.

It is also alleged that you have very cleverly got the name of YOUR sister's son on the records of the Contractor Bldg. flat as a person residing there though he and his mother, your sister are residents of Godrej Baug.

### **RIGHT, MR. KERSI RANDERIA?**

Please note that your silence even after almost ten days to what I had stated in my email of June 11 about your trying to bribe me to waive the extra service charges of Rs. 750/ pm in my case and your offer to allow me to sell my Khareghat Colony flat (which even the earlier board had approved as per Minutes of 29th August 2013) if I stopped my protest, proves your double standards.

For these two acts alone you should BE EVICTED from the BPP trusteeship! Forget about getting me evicted!

You have one set of rules for yourself and all those cronies and stooges who fall in line and cow-tow and pander to your whims and fancies; and a completely different and vindictive attitude to those who dare oppose you and your policies. You have consistently harassed even

senior and trusted staff with an eye to getting rid of them so that you can fill those vacancies with men and women who will be loyal and faithful to you ALONE with scant respect for the other members on the board. I will in my next instalment demonstrate through concrete instances. These unfortunate newly recruited staffs do not yet know you well enough that time will surely come when they will be hounded out once their usefulness is served. And that goes for your favourite too! You are a master strategist at manipulating people.

#### **PHIROZE AMROLIWALLA**

I now reply to YOUR EMAIL DATED 9-6-2020. MY REPLIES ARE IN RED BELOW THE MAIL OF YOURS.

On Tue, Jun 9, 2020 at 12:23 AM kranderia <a href="mailto:kranderia@ahuramazdagroup.com">kranderia@ahuramazdagroup.com</a> wrote:

Mr Amroliwalla,

KR: You claim to have allegedly sent by Registered post cheques totalling Rs.1,03,939.

PA: IT IS NOT A CLAIM BUT A FACT DULY ACK. BY YOUR OFFICE FOR CHEQUE RECEIVED (BUT NOT ENCASHED AS PER YOUR INSTRUCTIONS).

KR: Let me share the factual details of the three flats which are in your possession

Bldg No 5, Flat No 16, Khan Estate Ms Aban P Amroliwalla Total outstanding upto 30th June 2020: Rs 86,071.00 Status: NOT PAID

PA: I DO NOT ACCEPT THIS FIGURE AS YOU HAVE NOT PROVIDED THE DETAILS OF HOW YOU ARRIVED AT THIS FIGURE. THE BPP OFFICE NEEDS TO GIVE ME COMPLETE DETAILS WHICH THOUGH I HAVE ASKED FOR REPEATEDLY THE BPP HAS FAILED TO PROVIDE.

EVEN ASSUMING YOUR CALCULATION OF RENT IS CORRECT, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT IT ALSO COMPRISES THIS EXTRA SERVICE CHARGES OF RS.750/ PM, FROM 1-1-2017 TO 30-6-2020 i.e. 42 MONTHS, WHICH I REFUSE TO PAY

ON PRINCIPLE. THIS COMES TO RS. 31,500/ DEDUCTING THIS FROM YOUR RENT DEMAND OF RS. 86,071-31,500= RS. 54,571/ WHICH IS THE LEGAL DUES PAYABLE BY ME TO BPP.

YOU CAN SEND YOUR STAFF TOMORROW WITH A LETTER GIVING THESE DETAILS. IF I AM SATISFIED THAT THE FIGURES ARE NOT ONLY DUE BUT ARE LEGALLY ENFORCEABLE UNDER THE RENT ACT AND THEREFORE PAYABLE, I ASSURE THAT I WILL ISSUE A CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY WITHOUT KEEPING THE MAN WAITING.

PLEASE NOTE THAT I WILL NOT PAY THE INCREASED SERVICE CHARGES OF RS. 750/ PM FOR THE REASONS STATED EARLIER.

KR: Bldg No 5, Flat No 15, Khan Estate Ms MANI K PATEL Total outstanding upto 30th June 2020:

Rs 61,510.00 Status: NOT PAID

PA: I DO NOT ACCEPT THIS FIGURE AS YOU HAVE NOT PROVIDED THE DETAILS OF HOW YOU ARRIVED AT THIS FIGURE. THE BPP OFFICE NEEDS TO GIVE ME COMPLETE DETAILS WHICH THOUGH I HAVE ASKED FOR REPEATEDLY THE BPP HAS FAILED TO PROVIDE.

EVEN ASSUMING YOUR CALCULATION OF RENT IS CORRECT, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT IT ALSO COMPRISEAS THIS EXTRA SERVICE CHARGES OF RS.750/ PM, FROM 1-1-2017 TO 30-6-2020 i.e. 42 MONTHS, WHICH I REFUSE TO PAY ON PRINCIPLE. THIS COMES TO RS. 31,500/. DEDUCTING THIS FROM YOUR RENT DEMAND OF RS. 61,510-31,500= RS. 30,010/ WHICH IS THE LEGAL DUES PAYABLE BY ME TO BPP.

YOU CAN SEND YOUR STAFF TOMORROW WITH A LETTER GIVING THESE DETAILS. IF I AM SATISFIED THAT THE FIGURES ARE NOT ONLY DUE BUT ARE LEGALLY ENFORCEABLE UNDER THE RENT ACT AND THEREFORE PAYABLE, I ASSURE THAT I WILL ISSUE A CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY WITHOUT KEEPING THE MAN WAITING.

PLEASE NOTE THAT I WILL NOT PAY THE INCREASED SERVICE CHARGES FOR THE REASONS STATED EARLIER.

KR: Bldg No C, Flat No 27, New Khareghat Colony Mr JEEJIBHOY NUSSERWANJI Total outstanding upto 30th June 2020: Rs 67,802.00

**Status: NOT PAID** 

PA: I DO NOT ACCEPT THIS FIGURE AS YOU HAVE NOT PROVIDED THE DETAILS OF HOW YOU ARRIVED AT THIS FIGURE. THE BPP OFFICE NEEDS TO GIVE ME COMPLETE DETAILS WHICH THOUGH I HAVE ASKED FOR REPEATEDLY THE BPP HAS FAILED TO PROVIDE.

EVEN ASSUMING YOUR CALCULATION OF RENT IS CORRECT, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT IT ALSO COMPRISES THIS EXTRA SERVICE CHARGES OF RS.750/ PM, FROM 1-1-2017 TO 30-6-2020 i.e. 42 MONTHS, WHICH I REFUSE TO PAY ON PRINCIPLE. THIS COMES TO RS. 31,500/. DEDUCTING THIS FROM YOUR RENT DEMAND OF RS. 67,802-31,500= RS. 36,302/ WHICH IS THE LEGAL DUES PAYABLE BY ME TO BPP.

YOU CAN SEND YOUR STAFF TOMORROW WITH A LETTER GIVING THESE DETAILS. IF I AM SATISFIED THAT THE FIGURES ARE NOT ONLY DUE BUT ARE LEGALLY ENFORCEABLE UNDER THE RENT ACT AND THEREFORE PAYABLE, I ASSURE THAT I WILL ISSUE A CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY WITHOUT KEEPING THE MAN WAITING.

PLEASE NOTE THAT I WILL NOT PAY THE INCREASED SERVICE CHARGES FOR THE REASONS STATED EARLIER.

KR: THE TOTAL DUE FROM YOU IS 2,15,383/-

PA: THE CORRECT LAWFUL RENT PAYABLE IS ONLY RS. 1,20,882/

KR: You have sent a cheque for less than HALF THE AMOUNT DUE and are waxing eloquent about all issues except the money LEGALLY DUE FROM YOU.....

PA: I HAD SENT CHEQUE FOR RS. 1,03,939/ IN JANUARY 2020 AS LAWFUL RENT FROM JANUARY 2017 UPTO DECEMBER 2019.

UPTO JUNE 2020, I AM READY TO PAY YOU THE CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT OF THE DETAILS

#### **ASKED ABOVE.**

**KR:** It is surprising that the BPP has as yet not initiated any legal proceedings to recover both the dues and the two flats that you have no legal right to keep locked especially when hundreds of beneficiaries are waiting to be housed

Maybe these figures and this email will act as a wake up call for my colleagues One last crucial point: You are in India for less than 6 months a year

PA: YOUR ALLEGATION THAT FLATS ARE KEPT LOCKED BY ME ARE HOLLOW.

It is a known fact that annually and only for a few months, we visit our son and his family in Canada. We are tax-paying Indian citizens and not even NRIs, unlike many others who are foreign nationals and who keep their flats locked for years together but have not even received a letter of eviction let alone a legal notice. Discrimination at its worst!

Your claim that you need flats for the poor is a hoax that many in the community who are conversant with your style of functioning

will find it hard to digest. Going by past records I say with authority that you are largely responsible for allotment of flats and most in the Board believe you! To cleverly manipulate allotments, you managed to convince the board to abandon the time tested merit rating system and resorted to complete adhocism and arbitrary method of allotting to your favoured few. I have with a few others challenged on more than one occasion that you make public a complete list of the 150 plus allotments made by the board. I am only reminding you of what you expected of the BPP when you were an activist. If your linen is clean then why not hang it out to dry? Besides transparency was the election promise of your panel! Or was that a "Jhumla" to fool the electorate?

KR: And you have NOT PAID FROM JANUARY 2017 - THREE AND A HALF YEARS!!!

PA: WRONG. YOU HAVE NOT ENCASHED THE CHEQUE SENT FOR THE LAWFUL RENT OF THREE YEARS OF RS. 1,03,939/ UPTO DECEMBER 2019 SENT

**AS FAR BACK AS ON 27-01-2020.** 

**KR: MAN OF PRINCIPLE?** 

PA: YES, I AM PROUD TO BE A MAN OF PRINCIPLE UNLIKE YOU. FROM WHAT I HAVE DARED TO SAY ABOUT YOU EARLIER NO ONE IN HIS PROPER SENSES CAN SAY YOU ARE A PRINCIPLED MAN LET ALONE **ALLEGATIONS OF HAVING VARIOUS** CRIMINAL CASES ONGOING MAGISTRATES COURTS INCLUDING FOR MOLESTATION OF A LADIES **DIGNITY AND GOONDAISM.** 

I CAN WRITE VOLUMES BUT SO MUCH WILL SUFFICE FOR THE MOMENT.

DISCRETION IS A BETTER PART OF VALOURANDIHOPEYOUUNDERSTAND.

Kersi Randeria Trustee

Phiroze Amroliwalla My replies are in

### **THINK WISELY SHAPUR BAUG RESIDENTS**

In the Parsi Junction of 17th November 2019, we had exposed the harassment meted out to the Parsi occupants of Shapur Baug, Congress house lane, off Lamington Road, next to Aslaji Agiary by their Parsi Landlords Pilloo Broacha and her family members under any excuse. We have received two mails from a vigilante activist under the pseudo name of Parsee Crusader complaining of the Parsi residents continuing ill treatment and blackmailing harassment by the Broacha family especially the youngsters of their family who have been newly inducted as Trustees of the Broacha Trust which is the Owner of Shapur Baug. One mail is of 20th February 2020 sent by the activist to residents and the other of 13th June 2020, both forwarded to us this week.

""From: Parsee.crusader@outlook.com <Parsee.crusader@outlook.com> Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2020 2:48 AM Subject: Shapur Baug Residents, Think Wisely

Dear Shapur Baug Residents,

Month of March is approaching and Gool Broacha will approach you to obtain "Consent Letters' to appoint her henchmen for the so called Committee to manage Funds of Rs. 3,500 that are collected for security, etc.

You are fully aware of the harassment to senior citizens caused by these Trustees through their Gate Keepers stopping cars bringing in senior citizens.

The CCTV is to keep an eye on you.

Broachas have been fully exposed in Parsi Junction dated 17th Nov 2019.

If they want to protect their property, they can do so from pugrees obtained recently on 'sale' of flats on in B Block 1st floor and another in A Block also on first floor fetching them total of over Rs 6 crores.

They use such funds just to oppress tenants with multiple eviction suits and have not spared even their onetime close neighbors.

So please do not fall for sweet talk of MATLABI GSB and do not undertake the duty of collecting signatures appointing her rubber stamp henchmen.

Just to put it in perspective, There are about 146 flats, of which the Trustees occupy 5, AND of the 141 there are around 36 Suits in various courts of Mumbai; all for eviction under different sections. Do vou think almost 25% of the Residents are illegal occupants. NO THEY ARE BEING HARASSED TO EXTORT MONEY, their rents are stopped, they are cajoled / threatened to part with sizable sums to change name to the next of kin. If that does not work cases under Rent Control Act are filed for IMAGINARY structural alterations. ""

""From: Parsee Crusader < Parsee.

crusader@outlook.com>

Date: June 13, 2020 at 5:35:00 PM

GMT+5:30

To: "ahuraprops@gmail.com" <ahuraprops@

qmail.com>

Subject: Shapoorji Baug, Grant Road (East)

Dear Fellow Zoroastrians,

Below is an article published in Parsi Junction 17.11.2019

Please inform your friends and relatives to beware of thinking of paying a pugree to take a flat on Leave & License in Shapoor Baug, Grant Road. In normal times too, no Poultry seller, Fish Seller, etc are allowed entry. During the lockdown aged tenants are compelled to go out for daily necessities.

Even tenants are not allowed to enter in cars of their friends or relatives. For all repairs only two contractors are allowed"

**USHTA TE""** 

WE ARE INFORMED THAT EVEN BPP UNDER INSTRUCTIONS OF KERSI RANDERIA HAVE STATRED TAKING PUGREE AS DONATION (AND NOT AS REFUNDABLE SECURITY DEPOSIT AS DONE BY THE EARLIER BOARD) TO GIVE A FLAT ON LEAVE LICENSE AS THEN THERE IS NO REFUND OR SECURITY OF THE DONATION GIVEN.

BASED ON THE ABOVE WRITEUP, WE HAVE BEEN TOLD OF A VERY CRIMINAL ACTIVITY OF THE OWNERS OF THEIR TAKING POSSESSION OF A TENANTED FLAT IN SHAPUR BAUG.

ONE PIROJ WADIA, A SENIOR PARSI, HAD PURCHASED IN 2007, FLAT NO 17 ON 5TH FLOOR IN B BLOCK OF SHAPUR BAUG ON TENANCY BASIS AFTER PAYING A HUGE PUGREE OF RS. 1 CRORE AND STARTED RESIDING THERE.

SHE EXPIRED IN JUNE 2017 AND SINCE HER ONLY LEGAL HEIR, ONE HORMUZ DUTIA, WAS AT THAT TIME IN CANADA, THE BROACHA FAMILY TOOK THE KEYS OF HER FLAT FROM HER NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOUR WHO HAD BEEN GIVEN A SPARE KEY TO KEEP FOR EMERGENCY USE AS PIROJ WADIA WAS SUFFERING FROM VARIOUS AILMENTS AND EVEN NEEDED OXYGEN CYLINDER BY HER BED TO SLEEP. AFTER TAKING THE KEY THE LANDLORDS OPENED THE FLAT AND SURVEYED WHAT WAS INSIDE AND SURREPTITIOUSLY CHANGED THE LOCK OF HER MAIN DOOR AND TOOK POSSESSION OF HER FLAT WITHOUT DUE PROCESS OF LAW.

AFTER A FEW MONTHS WHEN HORMUZ RETURNED FROM CANADA AND TRIED TO ENTER HER SHAPUR BAUG FLAT HE WAS SHOCKED TO FIND THE LOCK CHANGED AND HIS ENTRY BEING BARRED BY THE LANDLORDS. POOR HORMUZ BEING A TYPICAL TIMID PARSI DID NOT FILE A POLICE COMPLAINT OF UNLAWFUL ENTRY OR TAKING ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF A TENANTED FLAT WITHOUT DUE PROCESS OF LAW OR EVEN GO TO COURT AS HE COULD NOT AFFORD LEGAL FEES.

ULTIMATELY WHEN PIROJ WADIA'S LIFE TIME MAID RETURNED FROM HER VILLAGE AND CONTACTED A COMMON FRIEND, FIROZA PATEL OF DARBHANGA MANSION, ALTAMOUNT ROAD TO GET CLOTHESANDTHINGSSTILLLYINGINTHE SHAPUR BAUG FLAT THEY ALL WENT AND MET PILLOO BROACHA FOR THE KEYS. INSTEAD OF BEING APOLOGETIC FOR BREAKING AND ENTERING A TENANTED FLAT AND CHANGING THE LOCH, SHE STARTED SCREAMING AND SHOUTING AT HORMUZ DUTIA FOR MAKING A CLAIM TO THE FLAT AS THE FLAT WAS GIVEN TO PIROJ WADIA ON CONDITION THAT IT WOULD REVERT BACK TO THE LANDLORD ON HER DEMISE.AFTER FURTHER TUTUMAIMAI, SHE AGREED TO CONSULT HER LAWYER AND REVERT.

THEREAFTER, THE LANDLORDS AGREED AS A SPECIAL CASE TO OPEN THE DOOR AND ALLOW THEM TO TAKE OUT ALL HER ARTICLES, FURNITURE AND THINGS LYING IN THE FLAT ONLY IF HORMUZ AGREED TO GIVE AN UNDERTAKING ON A STAMP PAPER THAT HE WAS THE ONLY LEGAL HEIR OF PIROJ WADIA AND SINCE HE WAS ADEQUATELY HOUSED HE DID NOT REQUIRE HER FLAT AND HE WAS SURRENDERING VACANT POSSESSION OF THE FLAT BACK TO THE LANDLORDS OF HIS FREE WILL AND WITHOUT ANY FORCE.

TIMID HORMUZ GAVE THE DECLARATION AND IN TURN THE LANDLORDS TOLD HIM THAT HE HAD TO REMOVE ALL FURNITURE AND ARTICLES IN ONE DAY ONLY AND THE FLAT WOULD NOT BE OPENED AGAIN. THUS IN APRIL 2019, HORMUZ AND PIROJ'S MAID EMPTIED EVERYTHING LYING IN THE FLAT AND THE MAID TOOK AWAY ALL HER CLOTHES AND THINGS AND FROM THE SALE PROCEEDS OF RS 1.15 LAKHS FOR ALL HER FURNITURE AND ARTICLES AN AMOUNT OF RS.80,000/ WAS GIVEN TO THE MAID FOR HER LIFETIME SERVICE TO PIROJ.

THUS THE TENANTED FLAT PURCHASED BY PIROJ WADIA AFTER PAYING A LARGE PUGREE DID NOT GO TO HER LEGAL HEIR BUT WAS TAKEN OVER BY THE LANDLORDS WITHOUT DUE PROCESS OF LAW BY THREATS AND SUBTERFUGE.

WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO THE SAID FLAT IS UNKNOWN AS RUMOR HAS IT THAT SOME THIRD PERSON HAS INDUCTED HIMSELF THERE AND A SUIT HAS BEEN FILED BY THE LANDLORDS AGAIST THE INDUCTEE.

# The Parsi Heroes of the PanAm 73

Zoroastrian Luminaries-The Parsi Heroes of the PanAm 73 hijacking incident

While the courageous Indian stewardess Neerja Bhanot was the main heroine of the flight who through her quick thinking saved the lives of many passengers, but herself was shot dead by the terrorist hijackers, there were some Parsis who played a role in the incident, including one who was also shot dead in the incident by a hijacker.

Pan Am Flight 73 was a Pan American World Airways flight from Bombay, India, to New York, with scheduled stops in Karachi, Pakistan and Frankfurt, West Germany.

On September 5, 1986, the Boeing 747-121 serving the flight was hijacked while on the ground at Karachi by four armed Palestinian men of the Abu Nidal Organization. The aircraft, with 365 passengers on board, had just arrived from Bombay into Karachi and was being serviced in Karachi on the tarmac.

Passengers disembarking in Karachi had left the plane and new passengers who were to board in Karachi were in a bus on their way to boarding the plane when four hijackers, dressed as Karachi airport security guards and armed with assault rifles, pistols, grenades, and plastic explosive belts drove up. The hijackers drove a van that had been modified to look like an airport security vehicle through a security checkpoint up to one of the boarding stairways to Pan Am Flight 73, and boarded the plane to take control of it.

Meherjee Kharas was a 28-year old Parsi aircraft mechanic working for PanAm in Karachi who was servicing the aircraft. The mechanic was forced by the hijackers at gunpoint to accompany them and make radio contact for them with persons outside in the Airport's operations centre. He warned the hijackers that there was only about fifteen minutes of reserve power left on the parked plane, but he was not believed. When the lights did in fact go off a few minutes later the hijackers panicked, presumably thought he had done something to deliberately shut the power off, plunging the plane to darkness, and shot him dead.

Another Karachi Parsi whose role has not been heralded widely was Mr. Cawas Daruwalla, who was the Supervisor of Telephone Services at the US Consulate in Karachi. As

soon as the Consulate was notified, he was summoned out of bed at night and assigned the task to establish three separate secret and secure hot lines between the Consulate, the Pakistan Central Government in Islamabad and Karachi Airport operations. Despite a lack of technical infrastructure available at the time and only some primitive telephone line systems and equipment to deal with, he incredibly figured out a way and patched together a fully functional telecommunications system overnight in just a couple of hours, which was used extensively in the negotiations to defuse the situation. Cawas was given awards by the US Government for his outstanding service. Mr. Daruwalla emigrated to the United States after 31 years' service in Karachi. He passed away in the US just last month.

Another Parsi active in the incident, who worked through the brunt of it was Mr. Viraf Daroga, Director of PanAm operations in Karachi. He was constantly on the tarmac, negotiating with the terrorist hijackers via a megaphone, and in the direct line of fire.

It is further reported that Hector Grant of Ruby Hal, Pune and his wife were on the plane too. He received an injury in the knee.

Stewardess Ms. Sherene Pavan, of Mumbai, aboard the plane, was one of the first to realise

a hijacking was in progress when the mock security guard armed hijackers boarded the plane from near the rear door where she was stationed and headed towards the cockpit. She instantly called out the specific numerical hijack code on the intercom to alert the flight attendants elsewhere on the plane as well as the cockpit crew. As a result, the pilots were able to quickly escape to safety via the cockpit emergency hatch exit before the hijackers could make their way there. While they were criticized for that, consequences for all aboard the plane may have been much worse if the pilots had remained on board and the plane had subsequently been ordered to fly on to another destination such as Libya, as the hijackers had intended. Without pilots on board it remained stuck on the tarmac. Sherene was then held and used as a human shield by the hijackers through much of the 18-hour long incident when they were negotiating with those on the tarmac.

The incident ended when Pakistani commandos stormed the plane and captured the hijackers. At the end, 21 fatality casualties resulted, 13 Indian citizens' deaths and the remaining being US and Mexican passengers, but with the majority of the 365 passengers and 23 flight crew surviving the hijacking, although many received schrapnel injuries in the melee.

# Thinking out of the Box- Ears to Hear you!! Jiyo Parsi team lightens the Burden during CoVid-19 crisis

Difficult times call for innovative and resourceful measures. The CoVid 19 pandemic is a period of acute stress, uncertainty and anxiety. The whole world is trying to cope with the pandemic and adjust to the new normal.

The team of Jiyo Parsi has been working hard throughout the lockdown to help people handle the stress and anxiety issues that arise during crisis situations like this pandemic.

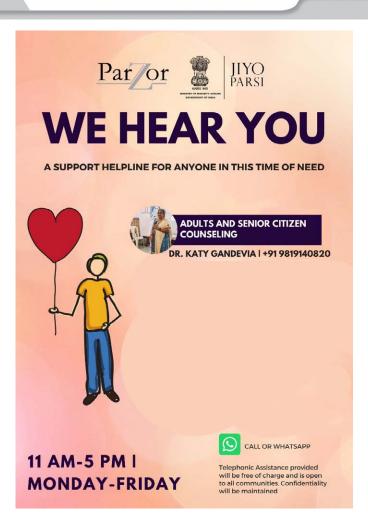
The team which was under lockdown in various cities in different continents of the world worked in tandem with the help of technology. Financial support for ART (Assisted Reproductive Techniques), support for childcare and elderly dependents to couples planning a baby in the near future are the core of the Jiyo Parsi programme. Although it was very difficult to work out the logistics to release reimbursements to the applicants, the team managed to make it possible.

Since its inception in 2013, the motto that has been followed by each of the team members is:

Impossible stands for:

Make It Possible

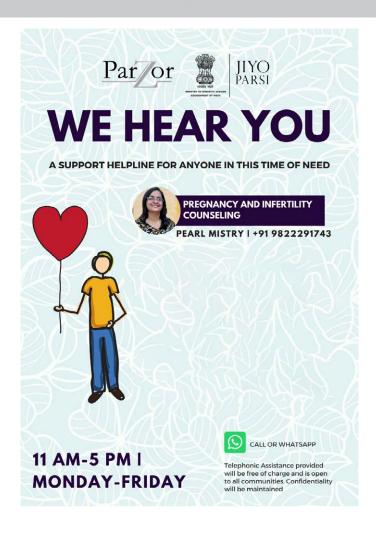
The uncertainty of financial conditions, worries about health of family as well as oneself, children being bored and restless at home, mental health challenges like depression and bipolar disorder ,marital issues, infertility or pregnancy related issues as well as suicidical tendencies were the topics handled by the team of three experienced counsellors working with Jiyo Parsi – Dr Katy Gandevia, Mrs Pearl Mistry and Mrs Shamla Anand.



The team handled numerous calls from people who were anxious about the sudden change in their day to day functioning as well as the health and safety of themselves and their family.

Dr Katy Gandevia handled issues faced by the elderly. Some of her callers were facing health issues like cancer and were concerned about their health and safety during treatment at Hospitals. Some of the callers were facing problems in handling day to day activities as their household help could not come due to the lockdown. Looking after immobile patients, mentally challenged children and facing loneliness were some of the other issues that came up during the counselling sessions undertaken by Dr Katy Gandevia. Professional guidance was given by Dr Katy Gandevia who has decades of experience in the mental health field.

Pearl Mistry handled calls of people facing issues related to infertility and pregnancy. The lockdown was a period of great additional stress for most couples who were undergoing treatment for infertility. There was a sense of hopelessness, uncertainty and fear about the future. It is very difficult to go through this phase even in normal times as any way the couple is already stressed because they do not know when their dream of having a child will come true. Due to the lockdown, the sense of uncertainty increased many folds as they did not know when their ongoing treatment would begin again. Three of the couples called to share the good news that after years of unsuccessfully undergoing ART (Assisted Reproductive treatments) they had conceived naturally. However, their happiness was dampened due to the fear they felt about the safety of their pregnancy during the pandemic. The counselling sessions helped the couples to share their feelings and lessen their anxiety. They were given practical tips on handling stress and important links on the Internet were shared where they could gather information regarding pregnancy and fertility treatments during CoVid -19 crisis worldwide.



One particular caller was extremely anxious and was contemplating suicide. She was suffering from bipolar disorder and had attempted suicide multiple times in the past. This case needed psychiatric treatment but due to the lockdown, medical help was difficult to reach. Family counselling sessions helped to get the situation under control.

Shamla Anand received calls from parents who were worried about the wellbeing of their children. An important issue faced by many families during the lockdown was handling young children trapped at home. Spending extended family time is a dream for most couples. However, spending time forcibly especially with no outside activities being allowed was a nightmare for most families. Counselling sessions with Shamla Anand helped the couples plan activities to engage their kids creatively. Issues such as how to deal with behaviour issues of children rudeness, hitting or kicking parents, not eating nutritious food or spending excessive amounts of time on the Internet were dealt by her. Coping strategies were explained to a single mother who was exhausted due to added burden of looking after a paralytic husband, troubled child and no household help. Mental Health issues faced by the children and young adolescents were also handled by her during the counselling sessions.

The initiative started by the Jiyo Parsi programme was greatly appreciated as it was the need of the hour. It is extremely important to have access to someone who would listen patiently and guide the people facing numerous unexpected challenges. The tele-counselling session were free of cost keeping in mind the financial difficulties faced by people.

The counselees were guided to stay home, stay safe and stay sane. Tips were shared about balancing work, home and health (physical and mental)

Some of the callers were desperate for food or financial aid. They were helped by getting them in touch with NGOs or trusts who could assist them. The counsellors also encouraged a few young couples



to start home based enterprises to help supplement their family income.

The ones who needed urgent psychiatric help were counselled to visit a psychiatrist or nearby public hospital psychiatric department.

Every dark cloud has a silver lining. The CoVId -19 pandemic made us all aware about the importance of so many things we usually took for granted like health, safety of our family, our source of income and the comfort we get by sharing our feelings when we interact with our near and dear ones.

The initiative 'We Hear You' was an endeavour of the Jiyo Parsi team to help bridge the gap citizens felt due to the inability to meet and interact with other people. Sharing your concerns or anxieties to an anonymous person over the telephone may not always be comfortable. However, the situation that people faced during the pandemic was so overwhelming for most that communicating with one person who was calm and listened patiently, did provide a source of relief for many.

Ups and Downs are part of life's journey. They only make us stronger and braver. Together let's hope for a better future ahead.

### Lockdown 2020 Treasure Hunt On Sunday 28th June

# ~ It's time to get together with your close ones and find the treasure...

Zoroastrian Youth for Next Generation (ZYNG 2.0) in collaboration with Adventure Education Tours (Mumbai) Pvt. Ltd. invites Zoroastrians to gather their Family/Cousins/Friends for a unique and enthralling treasure hunt experience, indoors and from their respective homes.

What: Lockdown 2020 Treasure Hunt When: Sunday 28th June at 6.30pm Where: Online, from your respective homes How: Form a team of 4-6 members (family, friends, cousins etc with no age bar)

**Prize Money:** Winning Team - Rs 5000, 1st Runner Up - Rs 3000, 2nd Runner Up - Rs 2000

**Payment & Registration:** Rs 400 per Team-GPay/Paytm +919594060056 (Khurshid Khandadia - Team Adventure) and WhatsApp names and contact details of all team members

**Any Queries:** WhatsApp +919820664262 (Pourushasp Mehta - ZYNG 2.0)

Ahoy Mateys..It's time to get together with your close ones and find the treasure...Gather your shipmates (family/cousins/friends - no age bar) to hunt for a lost virtual treasure (online) and find Gold (1st - Rs 5000), Silver (2nd - Rs 3000) and Bronze (3rd - Rs 2000)

Challenge yourself to reach the final destination and enjoy the journey with your close ones. You don't want to miss this unique experience.....

#### **About ZYNG2.0:**

ZYNG 2.0 is a whole new beginning with new ideas and a new committee to continually provide a platform for bringing the Zoroastrian youth closer.

For more details on ZYNG2.0 and updates on the activities conducted this year and upcoming ones kindly follow:

https://instagram.com/zyng2.0 [instagram.com] [instagram.com [instagram.com]] https://www.facebook.com/groups/zyngyouth [facebook.com] [facebook.com]

