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Peace, Moral and Value Education-'Mulyavardhan': An Innovation for Social Transformation

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ABSTRACT Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana has developed a syllabus for Peace, Moral and Value Education referred to as 'Mulyavardhan' for standards I to IV. Experience since 1985 in education and social work stimulated BJS in conceptualizing this new subject in view of the present day ethical challenges. Teachers are specially trained for imparting 'Mulyavardhan' through innovative and experiential teaching methods. The syllabus has been approved by the Maharashtra government in Western India. In 2009, 'Mulyavardhan' was implemented for 8288 children from 159 schools of a tehsil in District Beed of the State. The over-whelming response from all members of the community during its first year of operation led to its further fortification. Subsequently its operation area was expanded in 2010 to reach 34527 children from 490 schools and in 2011 for 38,000 children of 500 schools. Impact assessment of 'Mulyavardhan' shows promising, positive changes in the socio-emotional behavior of children as cross-validated by various stakeholders of this innovation.