



**Name of Project:** Impart computer literacy to poor children in India

**Project Period:** Ongoing

**Reporting Period:** 1<sup>st</sup> February 2013 to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2013

**Specific Objectives of the Project:**

- To improve access to computers
- To increase computer literacy of the children
- To deliver quality computer education

**Achievements of the Project:**

- Improvements in the grades of the children.
- Innovative teaching methods employed
- One to one individualized attention is given to the students

**Number of beneficiaries:** 80 beneficiaries

**Key Activities:**

The two computer centres currently ongoing are in the following homes:

- Chembur Children's Home (CCH), Mankhurd
- David Sassoon Industrial School (DSIS) Matunga

Each center is well equipped with 10 computers. Each batch consists of 20 students. The computer classes are being carried out on all weekdays (Monday to Friday). The total number of beneficiaries is 80 (40 in DSIS and 40 in CCH).



Sahaara believes that every person has a dream, and our work centers around ensuring that marginalized persons are able to articulate and work towards achieving their dream. Children living in Mumbai juvenile homes are one of the most marginalized children in Mumbai. Institutionalized, these children are most often from highly poverty stricken families.

As a part of the holistic intervention therein, Sahaara imparts computer education to the children between fourteen to eighteen years of age in the juvenile homes. Sahaara's in-house computer course delivers a fitting foundation to the children preparing their skills for the technology-driven world outside the homes. The children attending the computer training get a start which will help them break out of the poverty cycle and fulfill their dreams of a stable future.

Below are the storied of some children who have benefited with the help of the computer training carried out by Sahaara personnel.

### **Pratik has expanded his career prospects!**

15 years old Pratik is the student of Class VIII in the Chembur Children's Home. He used to live in Mumbai with his father, Pradip and his mother, Pratibha. He also had two sisters. His father was a cobbler, but he had to shut down his shop due to loss in business. One day while his father was working on the roof of his house, he fell and died. The trauma of the loss of his father had not ended when Pratik's younger sister died in road accident. His mother became helpless. So she started working as a house maid. Due to financial constraints, she sent her children in the Children's Home.

Pratik came to the Chembur Children's Home seven years ago. When he was promoted to Class VIII, Pratik started coming to Sahaara's computer class. After successfully completing Sahaara's six-month computer course, he likes to spend time on the computer using applications like MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Paint. He now wants to improve his spoken and written English so that he can learn more advanced courses in computers.



Pratik is very good in behaviour, is friendly and respects his elders. He loves dancing and cooking. His mother visits him every three months and is delighted to hear her son speak about computers. His career prospects have now expanded!

### **Akash wants to be a computer engineer!**

15 year old Akash comes from a family living in Panvel, Raigad district. His father, Suriyakant worked as driver and died in a road accident in 2004. His mother, Kavita works as a helper in a hospital. After his father's death, his mother tried managing the household expenses for two years. But due to financial constraints, his mother sent Akash and his brother to the Chembur Children's Home in 2006.

Akash is currently completing his Class VIII and has been attending the Sahaara computer class. From the beginning of the course, he has been very interested and curious about the various functions of the computer. He asks the relevant questions and keeps experimenting all that is taught by the Sahaara teachers. Now Akash has finished the six months course, has given the exam and passed with flying colours. He is not only good in computers, but also good in his academics.

The Sahaara teachers have encouraged Akash to improve his spoken and written English so that he can learn more advanced courses. He wants to become a computer engineer!

### **Choube dreams to be a Graphic Designer!**

15 years old Choube resides at the Chembur Children's Home. When he was very young, his mother died in an accident at home when their cooking gas cylinder exploded. His father, unable to handle the trauma, hanged himself. He and his sister then started staying with his grandmother along with his uncle and aunt. As they were unable to take care of Choube and his sister, they admitted them in separate children homes. Choube was eight years old when he came to Chembur Children's Home.



He came in touch with Sahaara when he started coming Sahaara coaching class from Class 2. Now he has completed Class 8 and has also completed the computer course at Sahaara's computer centre. He was regular to the class and has completed the basic computer course successfully. He has learnt various functions in MS Office and basic applications used in the Windows operating system.

During the summer vacations, Choube returns to his grandmother's house. On his visit to his home this summer vacation, he was excited to share with his grandmother what he had learnt. Choube says, "I have told my granny many of the things I learnt at the computer class and I also try to teach my aunt a few skills I learnt in PowerPoint!"

He is very happy that he has the ability to use the computer. Choube is good in painting so he wants to learn graphics and explore the option of making his career in computer graphics.