



Educate | Empower | Transform

ANNUAL REPORT
2019

Who we are

VIDYA is a non-profit NGO. Over 34 years, we've impacted the lives of 3,75,000 people, more than half of which include girls and women. Founded in 1985 by Ms. Rashmi Misra, it began with her teaching a class of five girls in her home on the campus of IIT Delhi. Today, we have 78 projects, spread across Delhi, Gurugram, Bangalore, Mumbai & Pune. We build capacity to surmount limitations, achieve goals and become leaders of social change. Our method is to address literacy as multifaceted—encompassing academics, vocations, mental and physical wellbeing, life skills, communication skills, values and awareness to a fast-evolving global society.



We dream of seeing an India where every child gets a quality education, every youth an opportunity to succeed, and every woman achieves economic and social independence.

OUR VISION

To be the fountainhead for empowering and transforming lives through education.

OUR MISSION

To optimize the potential of children, youth and women by providing holistic education through schools, collaborations and community programs.

OUR VALUES

Excellence Every Day

We believe in going above and beyond what's expected by taking ownership of the task and seeing it through till the end

People Matter

We believe in people and their power to create change

Act with Integrity

We believe in doing the right thing under all circumstances

Think Forward

We strive to recognize and act on every opportunity for progress, self-improvement and inclusion. We need to use our power of anticipation to start creating a positive future which will transform lives.

Global Citizenship

We believe we are citizens of the world, and everything we do is driven by a desire to see betterment for humanity





Vision 2023

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“What a great contribution to the Society and to the Country! To put the sparkle of dreams in the eyes of these in the society who need it the most, empowering them to becoming good citizens of the world! What a blessing for these children & their families, and joy of so many. May you continue to do the good work for many years to come.”

Mr Pradeep Kapoor,
IFS 1979 (IIT Delhi)
"Former Ambassador
and Secretary, Govt. of
India"

For the next few years, we're focusing on refining and scaling our successful programs so that they are second-to-none in the country. Our Vision for 2023 is:

- Running VIDYA Schools in all three cities
- Supporting every VIDYA student from childhood to adulthood into employability
- Creating a network of people who can mentor every student in VIDYA (Mitr program)
- Scaling our vocational training programs for youth and women, and partnering with industry leaders to ensure employability
- A digital lecture library for VIDYA to share our know-how and methods with the world
- Partners to support our pan-VIDYA Tech fests, STEAM fests, Robotics training programs and Tinkering Labs
- Partnerships with universities, schools and NGOs all over the world to raise the bar for our beneficiaries
- Integrating technology-assisted learning in all our projects
- Introducing arts, music, theatre, sports in each project across VIDYA
- Implementing data-driven improvements to our organization and workflow



VIDYA's distinguishing ethos is to stand by a person's side from childhood to adulthood till they break the cycle of poverty and dare to dream big. VIDYA inculcates the foundation that knowledge and behaviour are built upon. So, at the core of every VIDYA child is their values and principles, guiding them and making them stand out wherever they go. A VIDYA student exhibits:

- Confidence
- Compassion
- Sincerity
- Tolerance
- Resilience
- Enthusiasm
- Maturity
- Pride in being Indian

VIDYA India

Our students dream of going back to their communities and leading social change. We are immensely proud of all our VIDYA students we've worked with over these three decades. They inspire us to keep going and do better every day. Every annual report we make is an ode to their ability to strive against all odds.

Founder's Note

Dear Friend of VIDYA,

I hope and pray that you and your family are safe and well through these very difficult time of COVID19.

On behalf of the VIDYA family I extend our warmest wishes and special thanks for your loving support, guidance and engagement to make the dream of every VIDYA student a reality.

It's VIDYA 35th year and we're on track with every goal we've set for our Vision 2023. A huge congratulations and thanks to our dear students, beneficiaries, teachers, team, donors, partners and volunteers for coming together to make this happen!

As VIDYA begins another year with an ever-increasing passion for our mission and a louder, united voice, we are channelling our focus fully on an ethos that has repeatedly shown remarkable results for those we serve. That ethos is that education requires continuity. That's why VIDYA believes in supporting individuals from childhood to adulthood into employability.

With the VIDYA School Gurugram proving itself to be an incredible model school, and the success and interest in the communities for our NIOS, IT, Life skills, Spoken English and

vocational programs, we now have a clear mandate from those we serve on how we can best assist them: schools and skills.

In this annual report, you will see the triumphs of some of our past alumni and the unique, inspiring and moving stories of our current students and team. We want to see a VIDYA School in every city, we're looking for partners who will help us make our vocational programs one of the best in the country, and we need donors who will be the pillars of our cause, supporting our brilliant scholars and helping VIDYA scale. VIDYA's heart comes from the power of people working together, so we also seek a dedicated mentor for each and every VIDYA student, and as always, volunteers who expand the minds of our students and teams to new possibilities. Through VIDYA, you can create a lasting impact on thousands of lives, discover great solutions, build experiences, and create a powerful, successful and prosperous India.

I want you to become a part of the VIDYA family, and I hope this report is able to convey why it's an opportunity you should not miss!

With Love,
Rashmi Misra



Educating Children

The VIDYA School

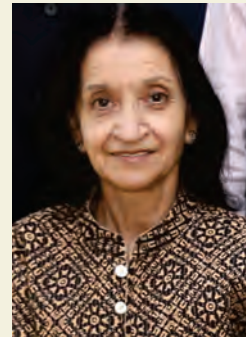
The VIDYA experience is unique, challenging, exhilarating and sometimes even euphoric. Housed in an idyllic environment the VIDYA School is not an ordinary brick and mortar school. The entire educational ecosystem has been reimagined and redefined to foster a love for learning for the sake of learning. so that our students become lifelong learners and productive members of a fast evolving global society. We believe that true learning is intrinsically motivated and the reward is knowledge. We foster divergent thinking and encourage our students to be out of the box constructive thinkers inspired, to explore their world, ponder over their thoughts, develop a spirit of enquiry and follow their dreams The curriculum has been redesigned to make it experiential and stimulate autodidactic learning.

At VIDYA we believe that learning is about collaborating with others, solving complex problems, critical thinking and developing different forms of communication and leadership skills to prepare for life.

The COVID-19 pandemic, possibly, the worst existential crisis after the Spanish Flu, in the history of mankind, galvanised the academic team into reinventing the teaching-learning process. In a short span of time classroom transactions were digitised and e-learning platforms created. Going forward, we expect artificial intelligence to alter education tools and change what the future might look like in education. Since the students of today will need to work in a future where A.I. is a reality it's important that we expose our students to the technology. I would like to believe that at VIDYA we put our faith in freedom-the freedom to work, think and innovate in a liberal environment. Our focus is on turning out new generations of students not only more comprehensively informed but better able to process information, fully aware of their own social reality, history and cultural evolution. The future always remains unseen, but, whatever the future unfurls the one factor that will remain constant will be the value of sound education based on knowledge as well as values. This epitomises the philosophy of schooling at VIDYA

Dilruba Kalsi

Executive Director - VIDYA



'VIDYA', a Sanskrit word, means "knowledge which is true and cannot be contradicted". The VIDYA School goes beyond that: it's a demonstration that you can enable individuals to educate themselves and embrace challenges to shape a better world. VIDYA stands strong, not because of cement and mortar, a contrast to the huge makeshift slum it overlooks, but for the visionary institution it is and values it upholds. We create learners, nurture a generation of empowered, driven individuals who pull their parents and community out of poverty. We encourage them to be job givers, and not just the job seekers, of the future. This is accomplished by a holistic synthesis of academics, personality development, life skills, co-curricular activities and counselling to assist our young children to help bridge the gaps between the home, school and community, thus extending education beyond just the student. Mothers of our children are encouraged to learn various skills under the VIDYA skill development program which builds their capacity and confidence in being earning members for their families. Our goal at VIDYA identifies with the following when families leave school:

*'We came as strangers, we left as friends.
We came expecting, we left remembering.
We came as many, we left as one.
We came empty, we left fulfilled.'*

As much as I care about education, VIDYA has taught me to care about lives more.

Ila Sarin

Principal - VIDYA School, Gurugram



The VIDYA School, Gurugram

VIDYA SCHOOL, GURUGRAM, located in the small village of Nathupur, a place where dreams really come true and one does get wings to fly.

'Educate, Empower, Transform' the school's motto is actually the clarion call for all the world leaders. Engagement with the community, uplifting the local women, and metamorphosing the lives of the underprivileged children have been some important challenges that VIDYA family has undertaken beautifully. Founded in 2009, today VIDYA has enrolled 1000+ students from primary to 12th standard and there 68 scholars from MENSA, in VIDYA. As per Mr. Asthana, the President+ of MENSA group says - 'at a National Level 2% students qualify MENSA tests and the percentage of VIDYA students qualifying MENSA stands out the highest (10%).

We are also witnessing a steady growth in the academics with a student scoring a perfect CGPA score and three students qualifying IIT-JEE. Our success tales are increasing and inspiring many others to be a part of the VIDYA group.

The recent result declaration compels us to take a glance at our students' performance over the years and thereby creates a need for looking out for them even more by creating a support system for them which would ensure their sustenance

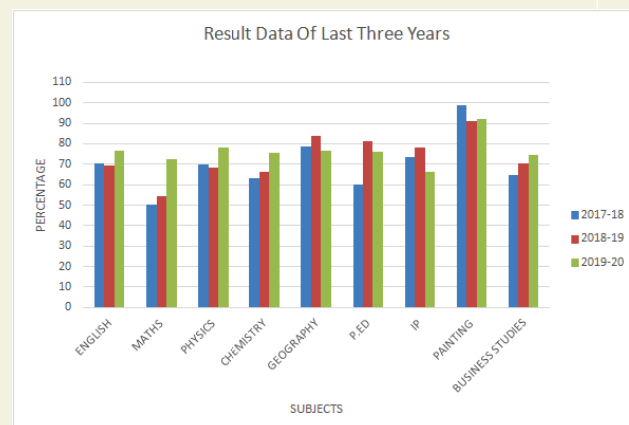
Aspiring Vidyans had taken the school to new zeniths, our 2018-2019 result had a 100% clearance with only one compartment. Our toppers were Anshul scoring 95%, (Science), Shivani scoring 86% (Commerce), Aniket scoring 84% (Humanities). Out of 29 students, 13 were awarded scholarships. All our students made it to good colleges like Lady Shri Ram, Aurobindo, Delhi college of Arts and Commerce and others. Some of the students also made it to private universities as well.

The 2019-2020 batch made us extremely proud, with 57 students appearing for the exams with a 100%

clearance rate. Some names that stand out are Monu scoring 95% (Science), Shreya scoring 90.4% (Commerce) and Ankush scoring 89% (Humanities).

Out of 57 students, 25 of them have been awarded scholarships and now 32 of them are in a dire need of our support. Our attempts to make their future bright can be ensured only with the constant support of our donors. Below is a tabular and a graphical representation, comparing the subject wise growth of our students.

VIDYA SCHOOL SESSION 2018-19			
SUBJECT	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
ENGLISH	70.3	69.6	76.6
MATHS	50	54.5	72.2
PHYSICS	69.8	68.2	78.1
CHEMISTRY	63.4	66.2	75.6
GEOGRAPHY	78.4	83.7	76.8
P.ED	60.1	81.3	76.3
IP	73.5	78	66
PAINTING	99	91.2	92.2
BUSINESS STUDIES	64.8	70.4	74.6



As per our analysis, on an average a student requires approximately 50k to further apply in the discipline of his choice after his 12th standard and the school provides the necessary aids and funds. We require more funds to support more students to help them seek the best higher education possible and hence the appeal for funds becomes inevitable. Moving forward to the occasions that marked the school calendar, some of them are mentioned below. These events always set a new benchmark for progress, fun and creativity. They add color and vigour to our academic session and are a source of joy for our VIDYA team.

THE INDEPENDENCE DAY, a national event celebrated at the school level not with ostentation, but with a lot of patriotism and genuine love for the country. Senior wing students put up a play, that not only taught us about the various facets of discrimination but also how as a society we need to fight it off at all levels. The play sought to redefine freedom and voiced out the issue of equal opportunities for all. The event was graced by the presence of Ms. Sangeeta Behl who talked about the importance of careers with our dear students.

Various other important personalities have visited the school and interacted with our students. They have encouraged the pupils and the staff to step forward in future with higher hopes. Mr Vineet Joshi honored the school on Saraswati Pooja and spoke to our kids about the importance of a meticulous approach to studies and importance of discipline and time table.

Others that visited the school were - Mr Ashok Pratap Singh and the international team of our donors- KPMG, FIDELITY, to name a few.

Amidst the rendezvous with our guests we organized various events that added to the enrichment of our students. THE LITERARY FEST took place in

November, saw participation from the entire school. The primary wing, middle wing, senior wing showcased their enthusiasm and talent by bringing to our 'rang manch' quotes, poetry, quizzes, biographical fun facts from author's lives, skits, and a first time depiction of a poem as a play - Shakespeare's 'The Seven Ages'. The fest not only celebrated English literature but also saw students reciting Sanskrit shlokas, Hindi and Punjabi poems and discussions on the importance of literature in our society. The event enthralled us all!

The Commerce department under the guidance and support of our school coordinator - Ms. Purna Oberoi, saw the victorious event of a school fete. A unique concept and event created by her to make the students more aware about the concepts of business and the importance of handling money in daily life.

The debating society of our school represented the school at MUNJAL UNIVERSITY and gained accolades for their wit, communication skills and reasoning abilities. They can truly shine brighter if we put a proper mechanism in place for honing their skills.

The sports club organized an inter school competition within our school - a football tournament match where VIDYA beat the Pine Crest School, Gurugram. The triumph was unbelievable as it had many edge-of-the-seat moments.

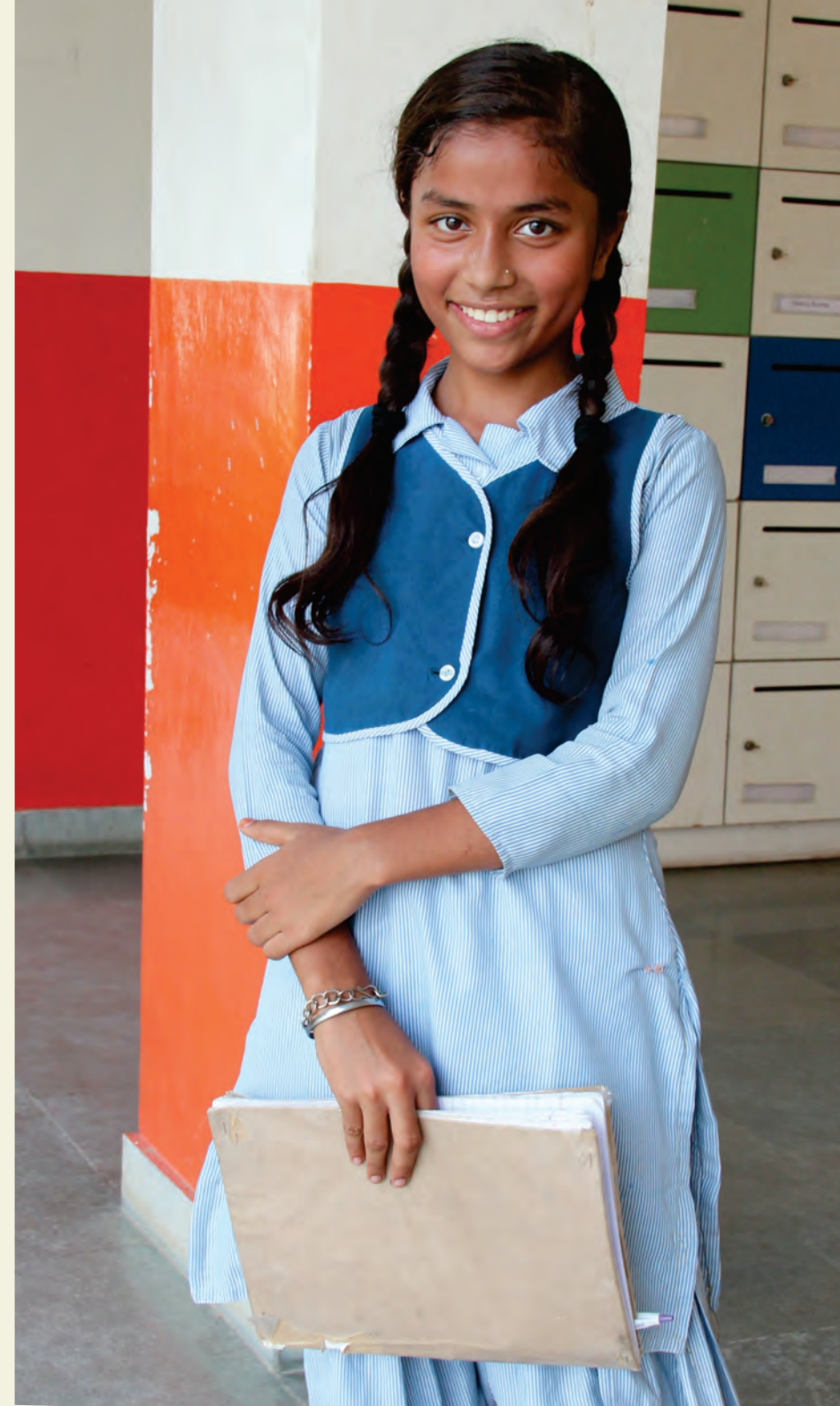
Vidya cements its bond with art even more strongly this year when we announced our Brand Ambassador none other than - Ms. Sonam Kalra. A serene soul who helped us organize a concert in the chilled evening of December to raise funds and help the students. The event was a mesmerizing one

that helped us connect with Sonam's vision of the divine and for each of us, brought a soul-stirring voice home.

At VIDYA we believe in connecting with nature, and being a nurturer to our planet which is in ever more need of our support. Under the mission to have clean energy sources and being a nurturer of the environment, VIDYA saw the collaboration of ReNew Power. They installed solar panels on our roof tops to help us cut down the electricity cost and grow a consciousness about the value of renewable energy sources like that of the sun.

VIDYA students paid a visit to the banks of river Yamuna under the YAMUNA CLEANLINESS PROJECT and helped clear the banks of it. They learned to segregate dry waste and wet waste. Such activities not only bring us closer to our mother Earth, but also helps us grow a consciousness towards our environment.

Not just holistic development of the student, but a complete guidance to his/her family has always been the mindset of VIDYA team. We also take up necessary plans for personal interaction with the families either through workshops, or through some planned activities that help them understand their milieu better. We wish to create not a utopian society but at least a society where there are leaders in each family that would reflect the future of India. Our impact is far-reaching and we are almost becoming a wave of change. We deeply desire to multiply joy and abundance in the hearts of students by making them self-sufficient in the journey of their life.





"I've had four surgeries since the age of three because of Polio, and VIDYA has supported me through the whole thing. For everything from getting into the bus to school life itself, the teachers and students made sure I was comfortable and never left out of anything.

My 4th surgery was a major one. It required 7 months of bed rest. But even then, my teachers and classmates helped me study from home! I will never forget this school that gave me not just a high-quality education but also gave me such friendship and support, and taught me how to overcome challenges in life." - **Kuldeep**



VIDYA is the root of my success. It's a temple which changed my life. My parents are not too educated, but VIDYA took the pains to persuade them that in today's world education is the most important and precious asset. That has turned out to be true! Today, I'm confident, I'm independent, and I'm doing well enough to support my family and they are proud of me!

- **Varsha Varma**, Executive in the Finance Department of Indigo Airlines, B. Com, Delhi University

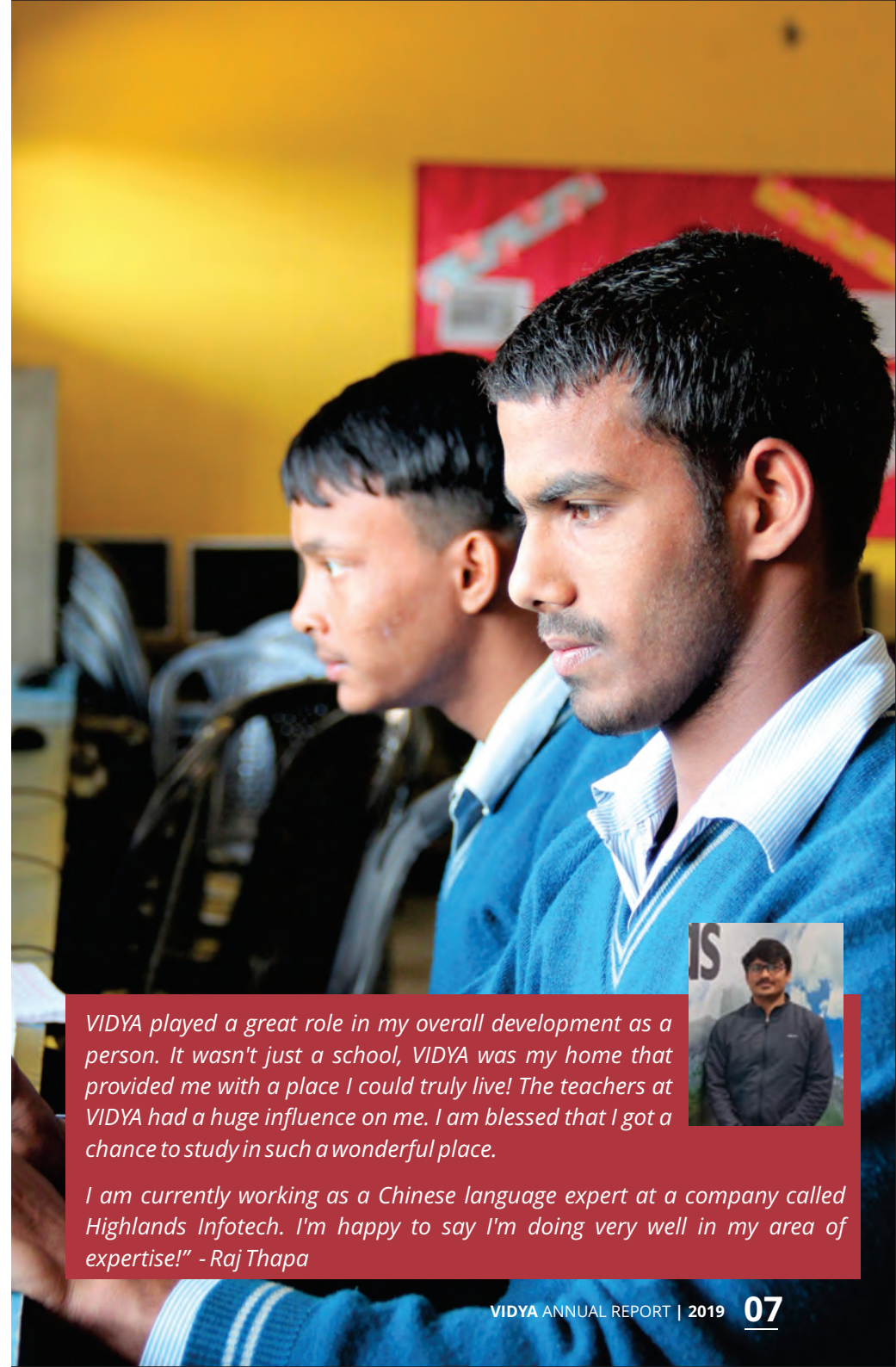
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"VIDYA gave me a perfect atmosphere of both support and independence, and that helped me achieve things I never thought were possible.

I scored 90% in my 12th standard, then graduated in English honours from Delhi University and IGNOU, and now I'm doing a B.Ed from Rajasthan University.

Thanks to VIDYA, I truly believe in my ability to pursue my dreams."

- **Pinky Meena**



VIDYA played a great role in my overall development as a person. It wasn't just a school, VIDYA was my home that provided me with a place I could truly live! The teachers at VIDYA had a huge influence on me. I am blessed that I got a chance to study in such a wonderful place.

I am currently working as a Chinese language expert at a company called Highlands Infotech. I'm happy to say I'm doing very well in my area of expertise!" - **Raj Thapa**

Bal Vihar

Bal Vihar is the very root of the VIDYA movement as it stands today. It is VIDYA's first program, started 34 years ago. Since then, it has provided education to more than 12,000 children! Bal Vihar currently provides holistic primary education to 311 first-generation learners living in the surrounding slum communities of Panchsheel Park, Delhi.



VIDYA has stood by me just as I have stood by them. Even through the most tumultuous times over 15 years, they entrusted me with the responsibility for their oldest program, Bal Vihar, and they expanded my role even further to three SDMC schools among VIDYA's ever-expanding portfolio!

I have seen myself grow because of VIDYA, pushing myself far beyond my comfort zone and making me appreciate the value of kindness and patience. The children I have nurtured come from the most marginalised sections and it's humbling to witness their drive to grow.

I consider VIDYA my extended family. The inspiration provided by my seniors at VIDYA has always made me strive to become the best version of myself and I can only hope to be as selfless and caring as they are. I could really not have hoped for better colleagues and friends. Abraham Lincoln said, "In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."

And to have spent these years with the staff of VIDYA is the greatest honour I could have received.

Gaytri Kapani



Public-Private Partnerships

VIDYA has entered into public-private partnerships with the local governments and adopted government schools to improve to maximize their quality, functioning and impact. We are currently in talks to expand to many more government schools in Delhi, Mumbai and Bangalore.

Delhi

In April 2016, South Delhi Municipal Corporation, Education Alliance and VIDYA signed a Private Public Partnership which enabled VIDYA to run an SDMC primary school located at the Police Training Station under the School Quality Enhancement Program (SQEP). While the infrastructure and mid-day meal are given by SDMC, the expense of books, the honorarium of the teachers, teaching aid, curriculum and day to day functioning are handled by VIDYA. We are managing three government schools (200+ students, in all): Police Training School, Hauz Khas and Sarvapriya Vihar. Our goal here is to bring underprivileged children into the formal education system and rekindle a love for learning and achievement.

Mumbai

School Partnerships (BMC & VIDYA) - VIDYA has partnered with BMC authorities under a Public-Private Partnership model as the education partner teaching academics in two BMC Schools.

VIDYA Mumbai's newest intervention uses the PPP model, in two BMC schools

In-School Programs - We have in-school programs in 18 low-income schools impacting 5600 students out of which 5 schools come under the Digital Empowerment Program, 8 Schools under Bhavishyaan program and rest have the Spoken English program.



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“What's your name?”

“I am Tanuja!”

“How old are you, Tanuja?”

“I am seven!”

“Do you like coming to school?”

“Yes.. but when I came here it was 1st standard with my five-year-old sister. It was the first time going to any proper school. And I was also very embarrassed to be in the same class with my sister so I always wanted a reason to skip my class.”

“Tanuja, do you skip classes now?”

“Ma'am, never! I want to come EVERY DAY and I also keep telling my sister to study hard!”



There's one very sweet girl in my class who's from Nepal and 'Nanna' was the only word she could speak. I thought it might simply be a language issue, so I decided to explore how I could help her. But after a few deeper interactions, I realized that she had a hearing impairment and that was the reason for her not speaking. I don't think even she fully realized it! She is now under treatment and doing really well in her studies. And we also found out she's an amazing singer. It pains me to think of other children like her who have simply been dismissed because of their 'handicap'. I hope to help many more like her.”

- Vinita Kumar, Coordinator Hauz Khas Branch



“I joined PTS School in 1st standard and was unable to understand any language properly. I have 3 siblings in this school. Being the eldest, I had the responsibility of taking care of them, too. My mother works as a helper and spends most of the time at her workplace. But my teachers really helped me improve. Now, I am in grade 5 and have learned the skill of balancing between academics, extracurriculars and household chores, though it is a little difficult! My friends, teachers and family have told me they have seen tremendous transformation in my personality.”

- Kamini

A photograph of three young girls in white dresses and traditional jewelry, holding Indian flags. They are standing outdoors on a dirt path next to a large tree. In the background, a yellow bus and a silver car are visible. The text 'VIDYA School Bengaluru' is overlaid in the top right corner.

VIDYA School Bengaluru

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In June 2019, VIDYA achieved another milestone by inaugurating our very own VIDYA school at DRIK Viveka Campus, Chikkaballapur, about 65 kilometres from Bengaluru on a 5-acre campus. This school is VIDYA Bengaluru's newest and most ambitious program, and it is our first project set in a rural area catering to the less privileged children from 10 villages nearby. We started with the youngest students, 60 students in the age group of 3 to 6 years were enrolled in Nursery, LKG & UKG.



Going Beyond School

India has made great strides in education since independence, but there is still lacunae and the time to address them is now! Std 1 children at governments schools tend to be at least two years younger than at private schools. Consequently, 47% of Std III children could not read a Std I text, 30% couldn't recognize 2-digit numbers. It is well known that Class 5 is foundational for a student, yet the average score in many states is still at around 50% for language and mathematics. In Class 8, the performance for many states is in the low-40s and 50s for those subjects.

VIDYA's Bhavishya Yaan and Beyond School programs work from inside these government schools with programs that augment and optimize the education that they already receive. We rekindle a love for learning, and create students with the capacity to excel at their subjects and aim for higher education and skilled vocations. These classes include spoken English, digital literacy, life skills, and remedial education.

"The spirit of VIDYA- to educate, empower and transform helps me realise that this is more than just a job. You never know how we might turn someone's entire life around. Take Adi Narayana and Sthuthi, for example. A few simple classes were all it took to pique their interest in computers and graphics, and now that enthusiasm and drive has built up and they are working on becoming graphic designers!"

The transformation from the initial days of the Beyond School Programme to the current day has taught me the meaning behind Mother Teresa's words, "Not all of us can do great things but we can do small things with great love."

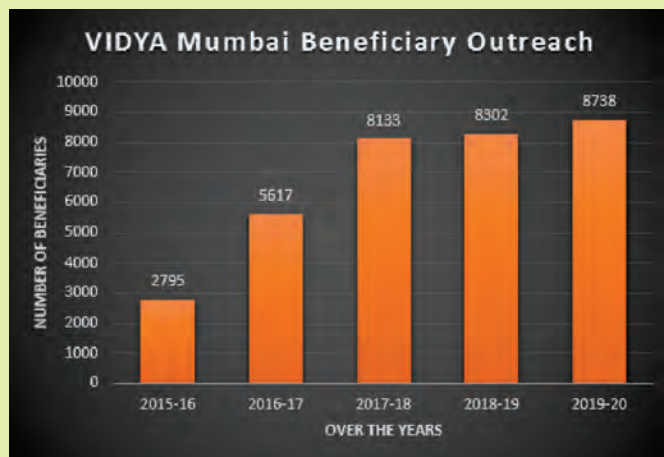
Kavitha Nair,
Broadcom Beyond School Project

VIDYA Mumbai

Overcoming poverty is not just a matter of getting economic policies right — it is also about promoting social development, which empowers people by creating more inclusive, cohesive, resilient, and accountable institutions and societies.

Sustainable development requires balancing the needs of present and future generations, it is also a critical aspect of achieving long-term development that significantly improves the lives of the poorest people across the world. To meet the challenges it is important to build a greater understanding of the resilience of our communities.

Keeping in mind with the above vision VIDYA started its operations in Mumbai in the year 2000. VIDYA opened its centres on the campus of IIT Mumbai and began implementing decades of experience in the field of education and community development initiatives. The core management team decided to settle within the community itself to reach more children, youth, and women and serve the community at large.



Our outreach increased in the community as VIDYA Mumbai expanded its interventions over the past 5 years. VIDYA Mumbai partnered with 2 low-income private schools to impart Digital Literacy in the year 2016-17 and with 4 more schools in the year 2017-18 for Digital and Spoken English Programs. This intervention happens during the school hours to bridge the digital divide as well as the gap in English learning with comprehension among the lesser privileged students. In the year 2019-20, VIDYA partnered with 2 Maharashtra Government schools under the Private Public Partnership program.

These interventions are aimed at making the students' future ready with the 21st century learning skills required to face the competitive higher education and job environment.



The VIDYA Mumbai family has worked on the mission and values of VIDYA, which inspires everyone. The Mumbai team has taken each of its programmes to the next level by providing state of the art educational training. The two BMC schools as the education partner under PPP model is another important program for VIDYA Mumbai in providing holistic education. The enthusiasm of VIDYA team is exceptional and its efforts are untiring. This was only possible due to our strong presence in the community at large, where we are running programmes for children, youth and women, as well as the exemplary support, extended wholeheartedly by our patrons & volunteers.

Dr. Nayan Dabholkar
Vice-President, VIDYA Mumbai



Beyond School Program

- Beyond School Mumbai program supports 610 students from class 1 to 10 across 7 community centres.
- Beyond School Bangalore currently supports 1600 children.
- Beyond School Delhi program supports more than 190 children. Along with the Lotus Club, we teach life skills and personality development through fun activities like yoga, music, and dance. At IIT Delhi, we run a remedial after school program for students from classes 2 to 10 to make sure that they don't drop out. From 30 students in 2019-20, we're expanding to 50 students, and want to do much more. Besides academics, we facilitate life skills workshops, sports & other extracurriculars.

"I am Aarya, studying in the 4th grade in Sandesh Vidyalaya at Surya Nagar. My father is a labourer and my mother is a housemaid and my little brother is starting grade 1. We are new to Mumbai. I soon started attending the Digital Literacy classes at VIDYA Beyond School. I struggled and I didn't feel good when I saw my other classmates working so easily. But my teacher Ms. Rekha Gacche was so nice to me. With her help, step-by-step I learned the Fundamentals of Computers, Wordpad and Storyweaver. I love storytelling. There was this one story about a mouse and rat which was always very amusing to me so I always tried to write my own version in my notebook! Then, I learnt 'Scratch' which is like programming but it makes you use your imagination. I started scoring well in my exams and even participated in the Tech Fest and I was really proud. Nowadays my group always comes to me for help with any software. VIDYA really helped me realize I can do so many things."





This is **Rohan**, he's eight years old and studying in 3rd standard at a Government School. He joined the Beyond School program in Class 1. He's very shy, and he went from not being able to read a single letter and getting frustrated with himself to confidently reading and writing, even coming second in his class. And boy, can he swing a bat! Rohan tells us he dreams of becoming a cricketer. Apart from studies and cricket, he loves taking part in our storytelling, dance and yoga classes.

Aayesha Siddique – Discovering the Wonder box of Life

"I think I have always been curious, but I did not know where to find out more and whether I was capable. My father could provide for my family but could not afford to send me to middle school. When I started at VIDYA, I used to stutter out of fear. Despite that, I pushed myself to take part in extracurricular activities such as Curio box and Wonder box. The faculty at VIDYA counselled my parents and me. Both my parents and teachers always encouraged me to do better, appreciated my efforts and gave me responsibilities that helped build my confidence. After a few months, I was surprised to see myself acing all the tests and exams, coming first in class. My English has improved so much I can speak in front of everyone. I have also learnt how to use the internet and found fascinating websites such as Pinterest and other sites to explore my many interests. For example, I'm learning Korean online! My teachers help & support me with my research which was one of the things that led to such a drastic improvement in my academics. I am so grateful to VIDYA for getting me here."

- **Aayesha Siddique, 7th grade, St. Lawrence High School.**



"From my father not being able to afford my schooling, to him losing his job, and my extremely poor performance in all subjects— VIDYA was there to help and support me at every step. I performed against all odds and managed to get into the 'Pratibha' section- an exclusive class section for bright girl students in the Government schools!"

- **Kanchan**



"My journey with VIDYA started in 3rd standard. I immersed myself in academics and extracurriculars, and I was so proud that I'm now head girl in my 9th standard. And I'm also a professional dancer, because they facilitated my interest in it. VIDYA has honed my leadership and communication skills, and I want to use that for the good of my community. I've created a self-help group for menstrual hygiene, child rights, educational rights and gender issues. I want to take that further. I want to be a social activist." - **Nuzhat Parveen**



"My name is **Ananda**, he's **Paramananda**. We're twins! Our parents are daily wage earners. No one in our family has ever used a smartphone. Last year, we could not even use a PC to access the Internet. It was an achievement that we were even in School every day. We felt sad seeing other students discussing things they saw on YouTube, or listening to songs and all that. But VIDYA's new Computer lab changed everything. Our teacher devoted extra time for us: teaching us all the essentials from MS Office and printing, organizing, transferring data etc., to how computers work, to how to use the internet. We never felt left out even though we lagged behind for a while in the beginning. Everyone encouraged us by clapping whenever we presented. Now we're just as comfortable with technology as everyone else and it's changed our lives!"





Mrs Neeta Pradhan, Bhavishya-Yaan Founder member along with Bhavishya-Yaan Team and Mrs Preeti, President RCB

Bhavishya- Yaan (BY)

Ten years ago India launched Chandrayaan, a vehicle to the Moon, while Rotary club of Mumbai with VIDYA launched Bhavishya Yaan — a vehicle for uplifting the future of underprivileged children!

The Mumbai Bhavishya-Yaan program collaborates with Rotary in 8 Municipal Schools for Spoken English, Life Skills, and Digital Literacy. BY was started in February 2009 at the Dr. Ambedkar School in Worli with just 40 students and is now in its 11th successful year improving the lives of 1600 students in eight BMC schools!

We celebrated its annual day and 10th anniversary with much pomp and fanfare at the ISME Campus in Lower Parel, Mumbai.



BY students performing skits on the occasion of 10 years celebration

The Student Becomes the Teacher!

"I am Adil Arif Khan and I was a student of VIDYA In Banganga, Kavale Math Municipal School. While in school, after hearing of VIDYA I enrolled in the Bhavishya-yaan program. Under the guidance of Mrs. Jhanvi Vissanji and Mrs. Vinuta Shirgopikar I learnt the importance of education. I even used to wait after classes and read books and enquire endlessly about improving my vocabulary while speaking. No one ever turned down a question. My father is a government worker and I, being a middle child out of four children, was a great burden for my parents. With hard work I became the topper of my class, achieved 78% in SSC boards, and in my HSC Board Exam I procured the highest with 82% from Lala Lajpat Rai College. I received an award from the Rotary Club, which felt great!



While in college I had decided to volunteer at VIDYA with the Banganga centre to teach computing. That led to me becoming a volunteer of the BY youth forum and president of the committee. As my teachers guided me, now I guide younger students with their education. I really love where my journey has brought me!"



Young Change-Makers

Five VIDYA students from Colaba initiated a project inspired by the tragedy that took the life of Dr. Amrapurkar, a famous gastroenterologist of Mumbai, who fell in an open manhole and tragically lost his life during the heavy rains of 2017.

The project made recommendations for the road transportation network to avert accidents and tragedies in the future. Two of the students, Dyaneshwar Subhash Jadhav and Vitthal Popat Gund presented their project at VJTI, after which they had to go and compete in the competition hosted by Atal Tinkering Lab in Bengaluru. Canadian Global Information Technology (CGI Inc.) is willing to sponsor the entire education of these two students!

The five students on the team were:

1. Dyaneshwar Subhash Jadhav
2. Vitthal Popat Gund
3. Yash Sunil Jagdale
4. Rohan Santosh Mhaske
5. Devendra Chetan Chalke

Dipika Shankar Pawar

"I'm Dipika Shankar Pawar. I was an active B-Y student right from my earlier grades. Through it, I became fluent in English, computers and learned a whole bunch of essential life skills. Then the Rotary Scholarship helped me do my BSc, Information Technology, after which I was able to do a Masters in Tourism Management and now I have secured a job that I love at 'Veena World', in the domestic tourism department!"



Amrapali Bawaskar

Amrapali and her mentor, Deepa Shetiya, at the Vile Parle Center

I am Amrapali Bawaskar and I joined VIDYA in class 6 at Vileparle centre. Deepa ma'am has a real talent for bringing out her students' true potential and I was no exception. She gave me counsel and advice whenever

I was unsure of my path, like the diploma I studied for at SNDT. I was then taken in as a VIDYA scholarship student. After a lot of hard work, I was able to complete my diploma in Administrative Services in first class. I plan to do an MBA next and work and help my parents at the same time. When I found a well-paying job after the diploma, the first thing I did was to buy a saree for my mother and one more for Ms Deepa ma'am. I also surprised her in school on her birthday with chocolate cake! When I did that, she said to me and everyone there, 'Today is a day that I will never ever forget. God bless Amrapali and let her go on achieving her dreams' ".



"How did I master English to the point it became my strength, ace all my exams to become an electronics engineer, graduate first class, get a job at Technovision right out of college, and change my life and get my dream to buy my family a new home within my sights? Hard work, and VIDYA!"

- Kunal Waghe, VIDYA Mumbai Student



Creating Opportunity

The ambitions and values of our youth define the immediate future of our nation. However, the unemployment rate of youth in India is nearly 10%. The expected skilled workforce shortfall in major sectors by 2022 is thought to be 119 million. Only about one in every four women are working or looking for work.

VIDYA believes that education requires continuity. Every student, whether they graduated through VIDYA or another school, needs to have clear information and opportunities to explore for their path forward in life. If they don't have that, it leads to disillusionment, unemployment and in the worst case, delinquency.

The primary goal of our community, youth and women programs is to build capability, capacity and confidence and enable them to break the cycle of poverty. We conduct classes for employability, IT skills, Spoken English, Vocational training (with certification, especially for women and dropouts),

entrepreneurship, adult literacy (reading, numeracy), second chances for Graduation (NIOS), life skills, financial awareness, career counselling and we run scholarship programs in each city.

“

*“My name's **Rani**. VIDYA has instilled confidence, courage, strength and positivity spirit in my attitude. The weekend classes at VIDYA have helped to alleviate any doubts I have in my subjects. VIDYA has taught me to be confident in facing even the toughest challenges. Having studied all through in Kannada medium, VIDYA's support in English has definitely helped me to achieve what I am today. I owe my gratitude to VIDYA for the financial aid that I received from VIDYA. Because of all this and VIDYA's support right from I PUC, I have completed B.Sc(Bio tech) with distinction from Vijaya college. Right through my I PUC, VIDYA has supported my education fully and I proudly say I am now doing my MSc.”*

Youth

NIOS

National Institute of Open Schooling is an education board that has greatly impacted school dropouts and students belonging to economically-weaker sections of society. We have an accredited NIOS centre at Gurugram, and run NIOS programs at Mumbai and Bengaluru too.

We are working on incorporating vocational training options for our students that will empower them to earn while they learn. VIDYA seeks to maximize the potential in lesser privileged youth by providing them avenues to continue and complete their education and gain employability skills. Each student is required to register for at least five subjects over two years. This relaxed schedule is adopted keeping in mind their calibre and socio-economic conditions. Individual attention is given to each student to help them combat their specific weaknesses. Apart from this, extra-curricular activities like life skill classes, yoga, healthcare camps, spoken English sessions that focus on overall personality development of these students.

The program currently impacts 60 beneficiaries in Mumbai, 200 beneficiaries in Delhi/ NCR and 10 in Bengaluru. We now have the capacity to expand this program much further and provide value over and above the NIOS syllabus.





*"There isn't a single student here that doesn't inspire me in some way. There are just so many. So, why don't I tell you about just two of my current students that come to mind? First, there's **Jayanthi**. She's doing her Sr. Secondary course with us, because so many things conspired to keep her from finishing her*

education before. Every day she completes her household chores and travels almost 15 km in the infamous Bengaluru traffic to reach VIDYA. Not only is she sincere with classes and notes, she also takes orders for Margam, finishes all extra-curriculars on time, and then goes back home again to more chores. She dreams of being a teacher.

*Then there's **Gayathri**, here for her Secondary course, and when she first got here she only knew Telugu. In just a few months, she did what even many Bangalorean immigrants who've been here for years often can't do: she learned both English and Kannada, the local language, with impressive proficiency. Then she went on to pass her secondary exam with 68%. She wants to get into IAS, and we think the IAS would be extremely lucky to have her. It gives me great pride to support students like this who dare to dream and work hard to fulfil those dreams despite all the obstacles in their way"*

- A VIDYA Bengaluru Teacher



*"I'm **Manisha**. At VIDYA, I found strength and confidence. I'm doing BA at IGNOU, the NTT/PTT from Vogue and I'm teaching at a school at the same time. I'm on a path to a good career and a better life."*



Sarita Sonkamble

"I'm married with two young sons, and always wanted to complete my education. Financial and family issues constantly got in the way. And how could I earn for my family if I went back to school?"

But VIDYA's NIOS program's pace was perfect for me. In fact, in a few months I realized I was a quick learner and had vastly underestimated myself. In those few months I was ready to complete my 10th boards and I passed on my first attempt at 61%. I'm quite sure I'll score above 70% in the upcoming 12th boards. And I have plans for many things after that. Because now I know I should never be scared of following my dreams! There's so much to do!"

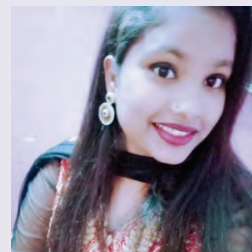


"I always dreamed big. But after quitting studies for almost 6 years due to so many constraints, I had lost my ability to concentrate and had low self-confidence.

And I had lost that ability to dream big.

When I finally joined VIDYA, my teachers helped me build myself back up, and transform even further. I'm doing my B.Com, 2nd year from the College of Vocational Studies and also preparing for B.Ed. I'm excited to see where my studies and interests will take me!"

Chanchal Gehlot



"Students like Chanchal and Manisha make us proud of the VIDYA NIOS programs. Our NIOS students use this program to open up a better world for themselves. For example, two girls,

***Komal and Kalash** also come from challenging backgrounds and a place of deep uncertainty, but they quickly grasped the opportunity given to them with determination and hard work. They scored 70+ on their boards, and are doing really well in their academics. It really inspires us how hard our students work!"*



Scholarship Programs

VIDYA runs scholarship programs in Delhi, Gurugram, Mumbai and Bengaluru. The scholarship programs facilitate scholarships from generous donors for less-privileged students to continue all levels of higher education or vocational training courses. It is designed to do more than just enable an education, we also mentor and mould our students to be happy, productive citizens of a fast-evolving society.

Additionally, the VIDYA School has special scholarships depending on the donor and the students. There are four scholarship programs of this type.

- The **Shiksha Daan** Scholarship has been given to 11 students.
- The **Nathalie Comfort-Radhika Relan Merit Scholarship Program** has been provided to 4 students till date.
- **KPMG** provides scholarships to various girls in their **ASPIRE program** and under this 21 students have received benefits.
- A new scholarship, **Jay Dayal Leelavati**, has been given to 2 students.

VIDYA has also mentored two students to avail the benefits of full scholarship under Navgurukul, an NGO that welcomes students from all walks of life and trains them in software engineering as a vocation.



"I am so happy VIDYA is supporting the higher education of the less privileged and marginalized students of our society. This service rendered by the trust which includes sponsorship of fees, skill development and industry exposure really reaches to them. The screening to select candidates is done with a professional touch. I am proud of VIDYA for their great service in empowering the poor, especially the girl students."

- Fr Francis D'Almeida SJ,
Principal - Loyola Degree College, Bengaluru



Mr. Pradeep Despande, Executive Board member, Mumbai, organised the Youth Forum to make students aware of the vision, mission, values and other programs of VIDYA and most importantly to know what they wanted from VIDYA. Students also shared how they can contribute to Youth Forum. The Mumbai Scholarship program supports 102 beneficiaries.

Manoj Gaikwad – Opening my mind to the world

"I am a student at Tirandaj School. When I was young I had to stop at seventh grade as my father passed away and the burden of providing for my family fell completely on my mother. My mother is a cook and could barely make ends meet despite working day and night. I eventually came into contact with VIDYA through their Beyond School program, and enrolling in it was one of the best decisions I ever made. I felt completely re-energized. It felt like a community. A second family.

The word 'computer' was introduced to me there. Computers opened my mind and my world. At the same time, VIDYA built up my confidence. Since my mother couldn't afford higher studies VIDYA put their faith in me and provided me with a scholarship to study engineering, and supported me through the entire 4 years.

Apart from that, after I had completed class 10th, I had become part of the Youth Forum. That enabled me to explore cultural and extra-curricular activities which included cultural programs, NSS street plays & I became the coordinator of the Drama Committee and a member of the Civil Engineering Students Association. I have a lot of happy memories, friends and most importantly this is where I moulded my identity and values. I had started out shy and self-conscious but after 4 years my confidence and self-esteem had skyrocketed and I discovered a talent and love for public speaking. My first job was in Fidesto Projects Pvt Ltd through a campus drive selection. As much as I'm proud of my hard work and achievements, my deepest thanks to VIDYA for helping build me up to where I am today."



*"I am **Devraj** and I am currently pursuing B.E (Mech. Engg) in Dayanand Sagar Academy of technology and Management. I sincerely owe my heartfelt gratitude for being awarded the VIDYA scholarship. This means so much to my family and me. The scholarship I have received will have a great impact on achieving my goals and motivate me to do my best and never give up. Receiving the scholarship has had a deep impact on my way of thinking: now I think of my future as something I can build. I shall forever remember VIDYA's kindness every single day. In the future, I hope to do someone a similar kindness."*



Shilpa R. Shukla

"I'm Shilpa, I aspire to become a pediatrician. Initially, I was scared to go for Science as all the subjects were in English. Due to dedication and hard work and VIDYA's help, I was able to overcome that fear and scored 85% in 11th grade and am currently in standard 12 in RJ College. I have been getting a scholarship from VIDYA since 10th grade and its given me such a boost to know my education and dreams are being supported"



Second Chances

Adult Literacy Program

VIDYA is also teaching underprivileged women communicative English, and Maths at its various centres pan-India. Some of them have joined the NIOS program to clear Class V.

"I am Manju, from Bihar, and I had studied till just class 3. Both my parents were illiterate and quite poor. They got me married at the age of 16 in the hopes that I would be financially more secure. I'm now 35 years old and my eldest daughter is 17. In 2018, I joined VIDYA's Adult Literacy Program and she joined the Beyond School Program. Now, I can read boards, labels, signs, circulars from my children's school, even a bit of the news and I can do bank transactions by myself. That has made me realize that a good education and a good career are within my grasp too, it is not too late!"



*"I am **Mala Singh** (name changed) passed 10th and I love coming to these classes. The computer teacher is very nice and friendly. She heard all my life stories and patiently heard me out when I said I can't continue. But she gently pushed me to finish and now I have a certificate! I am out on bail and am very thankful to VIDYA for this opportunity which will make it easier for me to find a job and get back on my feet"*

*"I am **Prema Naik** (name changed), an MBA by qualification and was an Assistant Manager at a Bank. Even though I know how to use computers, I used to go to the computer class at Jail because I felt that was my only solace. I used to help my peers with their lessons and that made me*

feel productive. Since I worked in the Banking Sector, I have experience in Excel and with the help of the teacher I try to expand my knowledge further. I am very thankful to VIDYA for giving me this wonderful space."

*"I am **Swarna** (name changed), and live with my small son at the Jail, whom I always bring to the class! Since I had never ever been to school before, the computer teacher taught me alphabets, reading and writing and then encouraged me to learn computers. Over the months, I was able to operate computers and got very comfortable using Word and Excel. I'm excited to practice more and learn more about this new world that has opened up in front of me."*

Jail Partnership Program, Mumbai

Many people who are imprisoned are there because of adverse circumstances and complex social issues. They deserve a chance to rebuild their lives and be contributing members of society.

VIDYA has initiated a program at Adharwadi Jail in Kalyan, Mumbai for under-trial prisoners. This section of undertrials also lacked support and respect from society and are



perceived as criminals though their crimes haven't been proved yet. Since most of the female prisoners are illiterate, the program covers spoken English, digital literacy and skills to boost employability once they are released. Sometimes it is simply enough that they feel productive, cared for and have hope in such a

dark place. Our trainers begin with alphabet training and then introduce the basics of computers, using various visual methods. Computer games are used to train the use of the keyboard and mouse. A lot of the women show an interest in graphic art. Once the current batch mastered the foundational courses in MS Word & Excel along with a final assessment, VIDYA provided certificates to them. We consider this program a great start and a template that needs to be refined and replicated.

Women

VIDYA's Mandira & Margam Programs provide vocational training (Tailoring, Beautician, driving, block-printing, handicraft making, crochet, and Aahaar), Health and Wellness (Yoga, Emotional, Mental and Physical Health Camps, Safety, Women and Children's Health Awareness etc.), Basic literacy (Spoken English, Life Skills, Basic computer education from NIIT, continuing education-X, XII from NIOS) and Nursery Teacher Training to less privileged women.

We focus on housewives and mothers, as we have seen they make the maximum impact on both their lives and their family's lives. **Our goal is for them to gain economic and social independence.**

Margam – An entrepreneurship initiative managed by VIDYA Alumni students who engage themselves in making products and selling them through various stalls, individual

orders, online initiatives, and other platforms.

Mali Foundation

VIDYA Bengaluru is grateful for the precious gift of Mali Foundation by Rekha Rao. It has lit the lamp of learning and transformed the lives of thousands of women. We have been conducting our Bhagini Women's Empowerment Program from the Mali Foundation premises since July 2012, with nearly 2000 women registering for training from 2012-2019. More than 50% of those women are now employed and earning, 500 college students have benefitted from our spoken English and computer classes, and more than 1000 certificates were awarded on training completion of literacy and vocational courses during the period 2016-2019. We are very proud to be associated with Mali Foundation in transforming the lives of all these women!



"My family has always been very conservative and they never allowed me to go out of the house. But when I reached the age of 22, I started feeling the need to support my family. After a lot of consideration and convincing, I enrolled in the Margam program for tailoring. It was an eye-opening experience. I learnt so many new skills, met so many new people! Seeing that I was talented and a quick learner my family supported me. I picked up on the skills very quickly and started to make garments every day. Then my garments started having high demand. So I started a business from home, which is doing very well. After seeing the potential of just one skill I have decided to learn painting and advanced tailoring, so I can scale this up further!"

- **Sumera Sheikh**, VIDYA Margam Mumbai



"What does your family think of your success in this program, **Mehrunissa**?"

"Hah! In my household, women have no say. Even stepping out of the house is an issue. Whatever I have done, I have done despite my husband's constant objections. Somehow!"

"How did you get to where you are now?"

"With six children and my husband who contributed very little, I had to do something! So, I decided to enrol at VIDYA's Silai centre. I mastered the art of tailoring ladies' garments, which gave me a really big confidence boost. This netted me a job at a nearby tailoring shop and now I am getting enough orders that I'm supporting my family and hope to earn much more."



Archana Sabale – Daring to Do (Mumbai)

"I am Archana, a mother of two small kids. Tailoring was always a skill I wanted to learn, so I joined the VIDYA Margam. Once I finished the course I started working in a tailoring shop as sewing machines were too expensive for me. After working at the shop for a few weeks I realized I needed to aim much higher. So I decided to take admission for an advanced course to learn how to stitch a greater variety of garments. From being a shy and quiet person VIDYA has helped me in being more communicative with others and finding my own voice. I feel I'm getting closer and closer each day to my dream of running my own business from home."



"My office is right next to VIDYA Shakthi (Weaver's colony branch). Some women come to my office mistakenly to enquire about the program. They used to be so nervous and scared to even start the conversation. But in 6 months VIDYA

trained them so well that they could even perform a street play in their communities! In keeping with the name "Shakthi", the program clearly gives these women strength!

The trend is that women working with powerlooms has reduced as they are moving out to do other unskilled jobs. But this program has revived artistic talents which come naturally to them, as they hail from the weaver's community. VIDYA has done a tremendous job by training these women in many art forms. I am sure they will now move forward with great confidence."

- **Surabhi Deshpande**
Yaana Enterprises, Bengaluru



"Imagine raising three lovely daughters by working as a cook and earning just 8000 rupees a month in the city! If you told me back then that things would be better I may not have believed you. But I joined Margam for the beautician course and also kept my cooking jobs going. Today I am successfully running my own salon in Nathupur, the area where I live. I am earning approximately Rs 20,000 per month from it! I feel good that my daughters have a mother who runs her own business, and I hope I am a role model for them."

- **Geeta**



Harsha Sonawne - Dreaming
a New Reality (Mumbai)

How would I make money to support my two children without ever having had higher education? Whatever my chances, I decided I had to try. That I owed this to myself and my family. After a few months of dedicated hard work with Margam, I started earning around 3000/- per month by stitching three blouses a day while juggling all my other chores. VIDYA inspired me to scale up my business to different areas around Mumbai and open new stores to bring in more revenue. I'm so thankful to VIDYA!



"Now my daughter who is in 8th and I bond over learning computers! VIDYA has made me more self-confident. I got through all the shyness and obstacles to learning and now I don't just desire to work, I know I can actually achieve it. I'm doing the Advanced Computers course and involving myself in everything I can to improve myself."

- **Shashikala**, VIDYA
Bhagini (Bengaluru)



Devika, Center Head, Bengaluru, talks about
Margam

"The benefit of knowledge is in its application. Our guidance does not stop in training, but also extends beyond. VIDYA Margam was established to support, encourage and motivate our women to market their products through a streamlined system, thus providing a platform for sales and scope for further growth in terms of earning the nuances of the trade. This way, Margam women to design, develop, produce and sell handcraft products that can be made in their own homes to provide supplemental income and financial independence. Partnership with Habba, MISU and our participation at the Hundred Hands and the Overseas Women's Community has been a huge encouragement to our women and given them a fresh perspective on maintaining high quality for the products. The women are regularly doing products for the many stalls and are reaping benefits from their leanings."



Digital Empowerment

The internet and new technology offer unprecedented opportunities for students of all ages and backgrounds to learn directly from global experts and significantly scale up their knowledge, skills, and awareness in a way that was simply not possible before.

VIDYA believes that this power is transformative for less privileged communities, for its children, youth and women. They are the ones who need it most. Digital empowerment programs must establish a fine balance between accessibility, practicality, depth, pacing, relevance to real life, and employability. VIDYA has been steadily building up its digital programs at each of its centers with the end goal of transforming each student and community we work with, and creating ripple effects and empowered individuals who take it to its greatest potential.

"I've been excited and honoured to be a part of the DEP (Digital Empowerment Program) since its inception many years ago. What a joy it is to see how instantly technology can change someone's life. This program has such incredible potential and I can't wait to see where we can take it. The DEP has similar components across VIDYA, though there are differences based on the demographic and individuals each center is serving. The components are:

- Foundation: basic computer literacy with the most common applications
- Skill Development: Employability courses in specific applications for children, youth and women through community computer centres, often in partnership with industry leaders like Adobe.

- Khan Academy Integration: Children at our schools and centers supplement math classes using Khan Academy (200 hours minimum) in a positive environment that allows them to move at their own pace and prevents "math-phobia" from developing. Teachers facilitate and monitor progress.
- NIIT: We have partnered with NIIT Foundation for their basic and advanced courses, which culminates in an exam conducted by NIIT and industry-recognized certification. A large number of youth and women have benefitted from this program and are successfully being placed in different organizations.

The most extensive DEP is in Mumbai. Here, it runs in 5 communities around Powai and offers various employability courses like Basic IT, Advanced Excel, Web Design, DTP, Hardware & Networking and Basic & Advanced Tally.

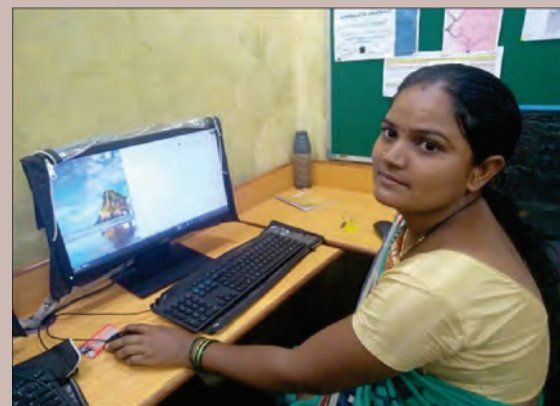
"Career Ready Program" is offered through our partner organization Antarang Foundation and various soft skill sessions are conducted by our corporate partners to make our students job ready.

The DEP also provides classes to a total of 4600 children from 4 communities and 5 schools from Class 1 to 10. The curriculum followed is aligned to UNESCO's Digital Literacy Framework under SDG 4.4.2. The project-based learning approach ensures the enhancement of essential 4 C's (Creativity, Critical Thinking, Collaboration and Communication) required for 21st-century learners along with the digital skill training." - **Mehala Nagarajah**



Deepa Rakesh Raikwar -
Marching Onwards

"VIDYA helped me pursue the higher studies that I wanted. After passing 12th std, I decided to apply for the NIIT-Basic IT and Tally course from the DEP-CN centre in VIDYA. After months of hard work and dedication, I was able to pass the courses. Armed with my newly acquired qualifications I secured a job in Mumbai Public High School & Junior College, Powai as a clerk with a salary of Rs.8000 per month. I realised that I can improve my position much more, so I have decided to apply for more courses at VIDYA to further increase my skill set, knowledge and strive for a better job."



Seema Ganare - Breaking stereotypes

"Like most mothers and wives in my position, I thought technology is out of my reach. Once I passed 12th there was no further education, it was all about family. But that desire to learn never left me. So I decided to do something about it and enrolled with VIDYA's DEP. Yes, it was pretty hard to do it at the same time as all my other

responsibilities. But, as VIDYA promised, it took only a few months for me to realize what I was capable of. I learned quickly and gained a lot of knowledge about Computers which I now use all the time! I have applied to work in an electronics shop which will give me better income too."

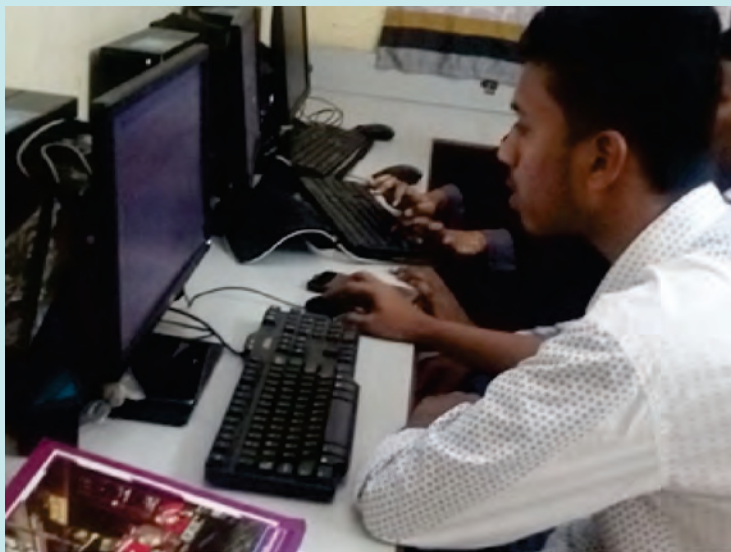
Pallash Jyothi Bora, CLRC Egipura Digital Literacy Center (Bengaluru)

"I'm in 8th Standard and without VIDYA I don't think I would have discovered how much I love computers! I would still be wondering why all my learning and studying seemed pointless. Now that I have discovered computers, I know this is the field I want to be in, and VIDYA is helping me get the right start!"



"I come from very humble circumstances so my confidence and expectations were never very high. But my teachers were right: I had talent and intelligence and I did not even know it. Soon after joining VIDYA, I rapidly completed the 'Career Ready Program' by VIDYA's partner Antarang, which got me a job at Aryan International Packers and Movers as an Office Assistant. After a month of hard work learning Excel and Tally for accounting, I was employed there with a salary of 10000 rupees per month, and I know with determination and a positive attitude I can expand my skills and climb up the ladder. Thank you Dil Se VIDYA! :-)"

- Gayatri Narayan Raikwar



Mehboob Husain Shaikh - Excellence is the way

"I was stuck in a job as a helper at a medical store. I was grateful for having a job, but every day I just felt less and less happy. I wanted to study and do better for myself and my family. The life-changing moment all started as a tiring job search, but one day I found myself at VIDYA's office asking about their courses. I enrolled myself in their NIIT-CCAB employability course and continued working at the store, eventually graduating with an excellent grade. Seeing my drastic "upgrade", the same medical store promoted me to data entry and other IT work, but now I knew I can do even better. I took the Advanced Excel course and Tally courses at VIDYA, and my wonderful teachers encouraged me to continue my studies as an undergraduate at Kalina University. I accepted this offer and am studying as an undergraduate and now I am truly happy— I know that I am finally doing the right thing. I understand now why VIDYA teaches that excellence is the way."

"Being from a very poor family, my only objective was to find a good job and help my father. VIDYA stepped in to train me in computer skills (I had never even touched a computer before) and improve my overall personality and productivity. I'm so happy to say I've got a great new start now working as an agent in an ICCS (Inside Customer Call Solution) and earn Rs. 7000/- per month. I plan to keep adding new useful skills to my resume. I feel hope coming back into my life."

- **Sunil Kumar**, Okhla, Delhi DEP



Satyam Rajbhar – from Confusion to Confidence

"You don't get many opportunities in the small town I'm from Uttar Pradesh. So when an opportunity to go to Mumbai came my way, I did it without thinking. So there I was in Mumbai looking for a job with no job-related skills and no confidence to actually approach anyone. Struggling and stressed about earning for my family, I somehow heard about VIDYA and decided to enrol in their NIIT-CCAB course. I revealed my fears about socializing with people, and the VIDYA team boosted my morale and I started attending all the soft skills and job readiness sessions conducted by them. After I completed my course, I applied for a job in Malik Enterprises as a Data Entry Operator and was able to secure it with the support of VIDYA. I continue to stay connected with VIDYA (it's my second home!) and have tried to further expand and enhance my skill sets with their ongoing courses. Thank you VIDYA!"



VIDYA North America and Canada



VIDYA is overjoyed to announce the founding of our 'Friends of VIDYA' initiative in the North America and Canada region. 'Friends of VIDYA' is based out of an office in New York, and seeks to get volunteers and partners, scholarship support for students, and scale several projects in India including replicating the successful Gurugram model in other cities.

Our Founder and President, Ms. Rashmi Misra and Ms. Rekha Srinivasan, COO VIDYA Bengaluru, had taken a tour of the US in the month of October 2019 to spread the VIDYA message and build a concrete connect with interested volunteers and individuals who are keen on supporting the VIDYA cause. They had wonderful VIDYA meetings across the US and created a movement as well as a registered organization called Friends of VIDYA North

America / Friends of VIDYA Canada.

Mr. Eric Meyer, who was a great supporter of VIDYA said in his own words, "Becoming a 'Friend of VIDYA' isn't just a one-time donation or connect with a nonprofit. VIDYA believes in long-term, direct links between those who want to help and those who are being helped, in a way that both learn from the experience."

That's what we hope to achieve here! Friends of VIDYA leaders will take VIDYA's vision and mission across boundaries. With this new link in the western hemisphere, VIDYA hopes to build a strong network of international supporters, partners, volunteers, MITRs and mentors.

It was a great opportunity to travel with Our Founder and President, Ms. Rashmi Misra on a tour to the U.S. in the month of October 2019 to spread the VIDYA message and build connect with interested volunteers and individuals who are keen on supporting the VIDYA cause. The 'Friends of VIDYA' program based out of an office in New York seeks to get volunteers and partners, scholarship support for students, scale several projects in India including replicating the successful Gurugram model in other cities. We had wonderful VIDYA meetings across the US and created a movement as well as a registered organization called "Friends of VIDYA North America/ Friends of VIDYA Canada".



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That's what we achieved through our talks and meetings with students, universities, friends and well wishers of VIDYA Toronto, Boston, New York, Washington DC, Vancouver, Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles & Chicago. With this new link in the western hemisphere, VIDYA hopes to build a strong network of international supporters, partners, volunteers, MITRs and mentors. We are so proud of Friends of VIDYA leaders who are taking VIDYA's vision and mission across boundaries.

Rekha Srinivasan, COO, VIDYA Bangalore



Events

VIDYA India hosted a soul-stirring fundraising concert with the multiple award-winning singer-composer Ms. Sonam Kalra on Sunday, December 8th, 2019, at 6 PM, at Modern School, Vasant Vihar. Known for her mastery and fusion of music, she revealed a universal truth: *"Music is a language - of faith and peace."*

“

"there is one language - the language of faith, which comes from within."

Sonam Kalra,
Singer-Composer



VIDYA Tech Fest 2019-20 Mumbai

VIDYA Tech Fest, Mumbai, was a Talent Search & promotional event which identified "Super 50" talent out of 4600 students addressed by VIDYA Digital Empowerment Program. Competitions were held on Digital Poster making, Web Page Creation, Group Discussion on Digital Ethics for senior students and Technology in the classroom for teachers.

Super 5 students will be sponsored by Speed Labs for their higher education.

Best performance awarded to the School Partner Mohammadi Urdu High School.

The finale of talent search competitions were judged by the professors from IIT, Bombay. With the guidance of the Hon'ble Vice President of VIDYA Mumbai, Dr. Nayan Dabholkar, the event turned huge with eminent educators' participation in various levels and was featured in various Newspaper editions of Mumbai.



Students thrilled to hold drones displayed in the exhibits of Tinkerer's Lab, IIT Bombay at VIDYA Tech Fest



Winner's poster in the Digital Poster Making Competition, created using Inkscape



Tech Fest Inauguration by Prof (Dr) Arun D. Sawant, Chief Education Advisor & Mentor, Former Vice Chancellor, University of Rajasthan and Former Pro Vice Chancellor, University of Mumbai.



Ms. Lata Patil from California, listening to students on their Project Explanation



Students presenting their work at Tech Fest Student Exhibition View during Tech Fest

VIDYA Tech Fest in Bengaluru

The PAN VIDYA Tech Fest was kicked off in Bengaluru based on the theme- Ban on single-use plastic. Wide variety of activities like creation of posters, flyers, street plays conducted by the Shakti women, paper bags and cloth bags were distributed. There were rallies, interactive sessions, quizzes and visits to waste management units. Stalls were put up across Bengaluru.



Recycling is the key to Save Mother Earth



The **BEET Force Volunteer Recognition Award** was given to two of our teachers **Ms Bindu B Nair** and **Ms. Lalitha Kumari** during their 7th Annual Symposium in the month of December 2019. We are proud to have them as part of the Bangalore team.



VIDYA STEAM FAIR

STEAM was a month-long celebration of Science Technology Engineering Art and Math. Generating awareness, curiosity, developing creativity and thinking skills through discussion, presentation and exploration or creation was the objective. The STEAM month brought together a wonderful display of the students' skills. They collaborated, planned, and brainstormed over the topics given which resulted in a varied display of models, questioning skills through debates and sharing of opinions through elocution. The students exhibited their projects on the day of the Finale, which was a resounding success.

A visitor from TCS had this to say: "I am amazed at the application of knowledge and creativity by the kids. The kids have amazing insight into the topics they have worked upon. Great work by the teachers of VIDYA Beyond school programme."

VIDYA School Gurugram goes green!

We at VIDYA constantly endeavor to give back to the environment and do our bit to preserve the planet earth. In our efforts to become a green school and be devoid of the traditional electricity consumption, we collaborated with ReNew Power, India's leading clean energy company to install a solar roof-top system at the VIDYA School Gurugram premises. The project, undertaken by ReNew as a part of its 'Lighting Lives' CSR initiative, will allow VIDYA School to generate electricity for its own consumption, using solar radiation. The installation capacity of the same is 51.2 kW which will provide electricity to the whole school complex will help the school with savings on the electricity bills. The school plans to use the savings for scholarships and financial assistance to its students who will be called the ReNew scholars. The solar roof-top plan was inaugurated on 26 th August by Vaishali Nigam Sinha, Chief Sustainability Officer, ReNew Power.

In order to create awareness, VIDYA School collaborated with SUN Foundation, a technology based advocacy platform through which workshops on energy and environment were organized to sensitize the students on the importance of conserving the environment. The workshop was organized by a group of volunteers from SUN Foundation who also guided the students on various career options in the field of clean energy. Advocacy sessions continue to be organized through both in person engagement and online channels.



VIDYA Literature Festival, Gurugram

VIDYA Literature Festival, a four-day event was good exposure for the students to all kinds of universal literature. It included a repertoire of short plays and poetry recitations. The literature festival saw the celebration of various languages and cultures. There were Sanskrit shlokas, Hindi poetry recitations, skits in Hindi and English and messages on world peace and protection of the environment. The event saw the participation of the entire school, from various classes and was a huge success.



Mumbai Marathon

VIDYA Mumbai team at TATA Mumbai Marathon 2020 garnering support for the dreams of many children through education.



Bal Vihar Annual Day

Bal Vihar School celebrated its Annual Day with great gusto and elation. It was a grand celebration of its achievement and VIDYA's mission. Mr Sanjaya Gupta CEO of PNB Housing Finance Limited graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and Mr Vaish President Panchshila society as the Guest of Honour. The function began with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp followed by a program. The theme of the event was 'Fit hai to Hit hai' i.e. how can we keep our mind and body fit through dance, music, yoga etc.



VIDYA Knowledge Series

In an unprecedented time such as this, VIDYA became a platform for inspiration, innovation, and influence through the VIDYA Knowledge Series. The series, launched in May 2020, hosted eminent personalities from different walks of life. The series kept up the morale and uninterrupted learning for the staff, teachers, leaders, beneficiaries, volunteers as well a large number of well-wishers, donors, and friends of VIDYA across the world to deal and face the 'New Normal' with resilience. The essence of this series has been Holistic Learning, under the verticals of **Skill Building, Wellness, Creativity & Inspiration, and Leadership**. The uniqueness of this series highlighted the importance of the connection of all these areas through various leaders and speakers who are experts in these domains.



Prof. Kannan Moudgalya, an expert in technology-based massive education, took us through Spoken Tutorials and the intricacies of the platform as they are created for everyone to use, helping us identify tutorials for our school-going age group, youth knowledge up-gradation for employment, and empowering the community women in health and nutrition.



In the midst of this restless, uncertain time that we all find ourselves in these days, Manish Pole, Founder of Total Yoga, showed one how to stay calm and not let the stress of it all get to us. The viewers benefitted techniques in Yoga, Pranayama and meditation for one to easily practice in the comfort of one's home became.



Featured in CEO Insights magazine as one of the Top 10 Best Life Coaches in India in Dec 2019, Coach Johncey George brought his 23 years of leadership experience to help the leader in oneself reinvent mindset in the 'new normal', offering wisdom and understanding to thrive steadily.



With Padmashri Geeta Chandran, the Founder-president and Artistic Director of the Natya Vriksha Dance Company, we explored how the pedagogy of dance can bring about holistic development in 21st-century learners and educators. The episode was a riveting, immersive, and illuminative experience in which Geeta's passion came through, in her every word

and gesture bringing the heart, brain, and soul into a single axis of creativity.

With the witness of violence towards women, silent global pandemic growing at an alarming rate, the series, with a collaboration with the women leaders of Bambala, took to the need of the hour, to spread awareness about this pervasive violence against the millions of women who are trapped at home with their abusers, during these tough times. The webinar was empathetically sensitizing, hopeful, and less lonesome to the anonymous audience of women.



The most memorable day for the VIDYA family was having the entrepreneur of the new millennium, Mr. Narayana Murthy on a "Fireside Chat-Building a Successful and Respected India", instilling valuable traits through his journey, resonating with everyone who has ever dared to dream. It was an episode that has inspiring thoughts shared, success models discussed, culture and compassion instilled, enlightening learning experience demonstrated, ideas for creating an equitable society displayed! The VIDYA students had the privilege of having one of the greatest men of our times answer their pertinent questions and be taught to be lifelong learners, proactive, and resilient as they aspire to be leaders and entrepreneurs of multinational companies and trailblazers in their respective professions.



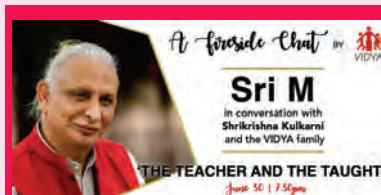
A fundraising concert was hosted with the first Global Ambassador of VIDYA, and award-winning singer and composer, Sonam Kalra 'From Spirituality to Humanity'. The magical evening held everyone mesmerized and spellbound as he took us on a soulful journey through her uplifting music and beautiful voice and reminded each one to 'adapt and evolve' with gratitude.



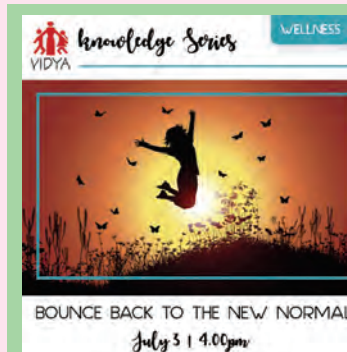
On an episode with the awesome, award-winning trainer, leader, doctor and researcher, Prof. Dr. Ushy Mohan Das, "Your Body Listens to What Your Mind Says". The practical talk on self-esteem, self-love, self-worth and self-compassion gave an insight on protecting our bodies from bearing the brunt of stress created by our mind's constant processing of thoughts.



Mr. Alkazi, a well-known theatre director, educationist, and activist took us into "The world of children's literature". Known for his use of theatre as a medium to give positive experiences to children by allowing them to explore the outside world and voice their opinions, he shared insights through experiences in theatre in education to inspire collaborative and creative thinking, critical appreciation, and problem-solving skills in students.

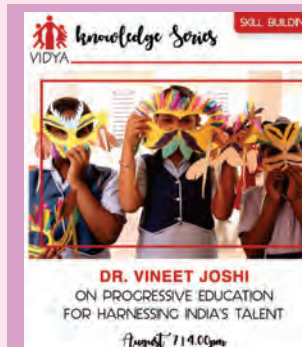


Getting to the core, an episode with Sri M, a spiritual teacher, social reformer, educationist, author, and speaker, shed light on transcending the outer-shell of all religions, by exploring their mystical core to nurture the innate goodness in every human being.



Dr. Rajendra Barve discussed bouncing back to the new normal. His explanation of four phases -Phase of heroism, phase of being with, phase of disillusionment and phase of Innovation and creativity, the motivation to focus on self-awareness, mindfulness, and compassion toward oneself, altogether instilled hope that resilience is not a trait that people either have or do not have and that can be learned and developed in anyone.

Aarushi and Peter Isaac, from Bangalore's Oldest Blues Band, The Chronic Blues Circus, performed LIVE for VIDYA. Making it a lovely evening, setting in a light atmosphere in our homes with the ability of Blues to "speak to the soul" even with the simplest of melodies. Ending on the most hopeful note with the rendition of the most famous VIDYA song "We shall overcome" by Rashmi Misra, founder of VIDYA.



With the introduction of the New Education Policy, we had a timely episode with Dr. Vineet Joshi, Director General of National Testing Agency (NTA) and ex-chairman and secretary of CBSE, sharing his experience, views, and vision on 'Progressive Education for Harnessing India's Talent'. Leaders, teachers, and students in education received wisdom on the ever-evolving career landscape, curriculum, and opportunities to constantly learn, unlearn and relearn with a special acknowledgment of VIDYA's "Joyful learning" atmosphere as the model institution.

We are looking forward to making the power-packed VIDYA Knowledge Series a global platform for leaders & experts from every discipline to "Educate. Empower & Transform".

“

“AIG and its employees have always been proud to work with VIDYA. AIG reckons the decision of partnering with VIDYA for its CSR vision has been worthwhile. AIG in tandem with VIDYA has touched the lives of thousands of people through its programs like Beyond school Program , Scholarship program, Shakthi Livelihood program, & Ejipura Digital literacy program. In fact the partnership with VIDYA to work on these programs, which AIG calls “Project AbhiGna” won AIG an Award at the Community Business (Diversity and Inclusion Asia Network) Forum. I fall short of words to describe the amount of efforts VIDYA puts to bring the change in Society. Kudos and all the best!

- **Lohith Maranna**, President, AIG CSR EG, AIG Analytics and Services Pvt. Ltd. , Bangalore

Donors, Sponsors and Partners

For more than three decades, our donors, sponsors and partners have supported us in our mission and vision to empower India's less privileged. Thanks to you, we grew from a single office in Delhi to a pan-India movement that spans more than 74 projects, a multiple award-winning school and many more milestones to come. You have changed and are changing the lives of thousands of children, youth and women through your contributions to our projects.

We are deeply thankful for your faith in us and we will continue to do our best for those we serve.

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Volunteer With Us

Ever since our inception, at every step of the way, in every department, there has been a volunteer who has led the charge to get us where we are now. From a place of pure passion, willpower and love, they dedicate their time to VIDYA and impact countless lives, from those we serve to our own team.

A single volunteer can expand the minds and awaken the potential of hundreds of our children, youth and women.

We thank all our volunteers for doing what they do. You are irreplaceable to our cause, and every one of you has played a crucial part in the VIDYA story

"VIDYA is one of the most vibrant and cheerful NGOs you'll ever see! There's always something interesting going on, and the women are so excited about acquiring knowledge and experience and learning new skills. It is a very rare opportunity for underprivileged women to get exposure to such diverse ideas and people. And it's wonderful that VIDYA provides this opportunity for young people, who can really benefit from an early start. I wish our entire education system had such a thoughtful and caring approach."

- Harini, a VIDYA Volunteer

"We have to mention Mr. Dinesh Kumar Singh and Mr. Kishore Chaturani when talking about great volunteers! They're from Tata Consultancy Services, under the Tata ProEngage volunteering program. They are currently volunteering for the 3rd term (six months per term) with DEP. They both played a major role in the program standardization and mentoring of DEP's core team. Under their guidance, DEP aligned its homegrown Digital Literacy curriculum to the standards of UNESCO's Digital Literacy Framework SDG 4.4.2. They were instrumental in creating the Data capturing mechanism in Excel to constantly monitor the Digital learning happening across 9 DEP centers with the highest no. of total beneficiaries count of 4600 and above per year."



PAN VIDYA Tech Fest 2019-20 has become a huge memorable event with the strategic planning and execution supported and mentored by Dinesh & Kishore. Every Saturday, the team looks forward to having sessions with both of them and some of the sessions extend for 4 to 5 hours of ideation and creation."

- Mary Dias & Mehala Nagarajah



"I just loved it! I brought all my life experiences to full force to conceptualize, plan, organize a bigger event for VIDYA. We were all united to the central theme of "Super 50", which just came out of an informal discussion about the event with my family. So, this event became more dear to me than ever. I felt so proud and delighted to be part of this event and am thankful to Tata ProEngage to have provided me an opportunity to apply my expertise for such a noble cause, where we identified Top 50 students from 4600 candidates after a rigorous, involved process!"

- Mr. Dinesh Kumar Singh



"One of our best volunteering experiences here in our Mumbai office was from one of our corporate donors. They conducted a succinct and intensive workshop focusing on: the fundamentals of effective communication, interviews skills, mock interviews, meeting senior corporate leaders, email etiquette, CV writing, and presentation skills (which would be demonstrated at the Annual CSR day). 40 youth participated in this workshop and found it incredibly enriching. We would happily do it again!"

- Ankit Bhuptani & Mary Dias



Be a Mentor

A young girl with dark hair, wearing a red and white checkered shirt, is pointing her right index finger at the word 'Sam' written on a chalkboard. She is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. The chalkboard has other words like 'The' and 'jar' written on it, along with some numbers in the top left corner.

Everyone needs a mentor. Our students want to be proud graduates, CEOs, artists, scientists, achievers, athletes and global citizens of tomorrow. We have seen that one of the greatest roadblocks for a less privileged individual breaking the cycle of poverty is a lack of reliable advice and guidance. It is nearly impossible for such an individual to navigate career decisions and protocols the way most of us take for granted.

There is often immense pressure from their families and communities, and many times it is a negative influence. The time after a student has graduated is one of their most vulnerable.

To solve this problem, our innovative VIDYA Mitra program links each student with a mentor who will guide them to success. We want to expand this program to all of VIDYA.

You can help make sure our students' hard work pays off. You can help them reach their goals. Get in touch with us to know how you can apply!

Our Team



Dear VIDYA Family,

VIDYA has been instrumental in bringing a change to the lives of so many underprivileged through education. We have empowered these children with a high-quality holistic education rivalling the country's most elite schools.

As Mahatma Gandhi had famously said, "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others". The management of VIDYA has been following this principle; therefore, our programs have been successful over the years. Our team at VIDYA consisting of teachers, coordinators, facilitators, and trainers have put in hard work and energy to compassionately bring about a change in the lives of these underprivileged children.

These children and their families undergo daily struggles and toil against the vicissitudes in life. VIDYA helps and empowers them to move ahead in life with courage and overcome these challenges with grit. While working for and helping the disadvantaged our teammates also undergo so many personal inconveniences and challenges but have always come out as winners. Selfless service is indeed a unique marriage of the

head, heart, and hands and our team comes out with a lot of good every day.

Our core management teams work in Delhi, Gurugram, Mumbai, Bengaluru, and Pune for the smooth functioning of the VIDYA programs. This team brings passion to work ensuring maintenance of air towards our goals and objectives.

The Head office team, based in Delhi led by Ms. Rashmi Misra (Founder President), Ms. Malavika Goyal (Vice-President), Ms. Dilruba Kalsi (Executive Director), Captain Yashika Dalal (Director Operations and HR), Mr. Sumant Kumar (Finance Manager), Mr. Shyam Gupta (Assistant Manager Accounts) and Ms Meenu Chopra (Volunteering, Fundraising & Donor Management, Head Office) handle the pan-VIDYA administration, Finance, HR and other crucial activities. They make sure VIDYA works as one, and every program's needs pan India are met.

The leadership, determination, and passion we have seen from each other and all those who are and have been a part of this amazing pan-VIDYA family has made us much more than just any other not for profit organisation. With so much already done and so much to do; we cannot relax a bit. This year brings more challenges to be met that we resolve to overcome with zeal. In a gentle way, we can shake the world.

Delhi Leaders

Ms. Ila Sarin, Ms. Gayatri Kapani, Ms. Charu Sangal, Ms. Manju Chauhan, Ms. Sushila Sharma, Ms. Kulsum Farooqui, Ms. Indu Uniyal, Ms. Sheetal Kohli, Ms. Vinita Kumar, Ms. Premalata Verma

Mumbai Leaders

Ms. Priyanka Mathur, Ms. Mary Dias, Mr. Ankit Bhuptani, Ms. Vaishnavi Vaidyanath, Ms. Mehala Nagarajah, Ms. Deepa Shetiya, Ms. Swarali Kharat, Ms. Urmi Mukhopadhyay



Bangalore Leaders

Dr. Deepa Srivastava, Ms. Rekha Srinivasan, Ms. Devika Mathur, Ms. Sunita Menon, Ms. Nandini Natarajan, Ms. Monika, Ms. Jyoti Khare, Ms. Priyanka Kaul, Ms. Kavitha Nair, Ms. Janani Jagannathan, Ms. Savithri Jai Govind, Ms. Nagamani Kumar, Ms. Snehalata Ramachandran





Board Members

VIDYA ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

Prof. Ashok Misra
Mr. Ajay Rehlan
Mr. Mohit Goyal
Ms. Urmila Dongre
Mr. Atul Punj
Mr. Peter Simon
Mr. Jim Lawrence
Mr. William Comfort

FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT

Ms. Rashmi Misra

VICE PRESIDENTS

Ms. Malavika Goyal (Delhi)
Ms. Pratima Goel (Delhi) - TREASURER
Ms. Shoma Bakre (Bangalore)
Dr. Nayan Dabolkar (Mumbai)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & SECRETARY

Ms. Dilruba Kalsi

MEMBERS

Ms. Indu Mahajan
Ms. Bandana Aggarwal
Ms. Meenakshi Roy
Ms. Sarita Sahi
Ms. Prerna Bhargav
Ms. Uma Ramachandran
Ms Nitya Ram

Ms Vaishali Sinha

Prof. Ishtiaque

VIDYA MUMBAI EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Rashmi Misra, Dr Nayan Dabolkar,
Ms. Neeta Pradhan, Ms. Vasudha
Madhavan, Mr. Pradeep Deshpande,
Ms. Jhanvi Visanji, Ms. Geeta Thakar,
Ms. Priyanka Mathur

VIDYA BANGALORE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Rashmi Misra, Ms. Shoma Bakre,
Ms. Vandana Kumar, Ms. Sucheta Kalappa

Srinath, Ms. Praneeta Varadharajan,
Mr. Abhinav Srivastava, Ms. Cammie
Velupalli, Ms. Rekha Rao, Ms. Nivedita
Mukherjee, Ms Pinaz Mehta

VIDYA BANGALORE ADVISORY BOARD

Prof. Ashok Misra, Ms Rashmi Misra,
Ms Shoma Bakre, , Mr Ashok Vohra,
Mr Johnsy George, Mr Hart Singh,
Ms Kathryn Kyle, Ms Aarthi Machangada,
Ms Sashi Rajamane, Ms Pooja Goyal,
Ms Sonal Chawda, Ms Jija Hari Singh



Financials 2019

MALHOTRA & ASSOCIATES
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

309, DELHI CHAMBERS, DELHI
GATE, NEW DELHI - 110002.

FORM NO. - 10 B

[See Rule 17 B]

UDIN No. - 19089905AAAABR9931

Audit Report under section 12 A (b) of the Income Tax Act, 1961, in case of Charitable or religious.

We have examined the Balance Sheet of **VIDYA INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT FOR YOUTH AND ADULTS :: NEW DELHI** as at 31.03.2019 and the Income & Expenditure account for the year ended on that date which are in agreement with the books of account maintained by the said trust or institutions.

We have obtained all the information and explanation which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of the audit. In our opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the head office and the books, and proper returns adequate for the purposes of audit have been received from branches not visited by us subject to the comments given below :-

In our opinion and to the best of our information, and according to information given to us the said accounts given a true and fair view :-

- In the case of the Balance Sheet of the state of the affairs of the above named institution as at 31.03.2019.
- In the case of Income & Expenditure account of the Income or Expenditure of its accounting year ending on 31.03.2019.

The prescribed particulars are annexed hereto.

For and behalf of
MALHOTRA & ASSOCIATES
FIRM REGD. No. - 011338N
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

(Ashok K. Malhotra)
Prop.
M. No. - 089905

PLACE : NEW DELHI
DATED : 18.09.2019

MALHOTRA & ASSOCIATES
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

309, DELHI CHAMBER, DELHI
GATE, NEW DELHI - 110002.

VIDYA INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT FOR YOUTH & ADULTS :: NEW DELHI
CONSOLIDATED SOCIETY ACCOUNT
BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31.03.2019

LIABILITIES	AMOUNT	ASSETS	AMOUNT
CAPITAL FUND		FIXED ASSETS	74,181,529.00
Op. Balance	135,326,219.35	(As per Schedule 'A' Attached)	
Add : Addition During the Yr.	6,630,870.00		
Less : Depreciation	67,775,560.35		
CORPUS-HUMAYUN KABIR-Op.	550,000.00	CURRENT ASSETS	
Addition	500,000.00	Security - Telephone & Advance	96,962.20
		F.D.R. With Bank	123,561,353.90
ENDOWMENT FUND - Op. Bal	2,500,000.00	Fdr Interest Accrued	5,362,241.85
From London women's Clinic		With SBI - Higher Education	464,115.78
		With SBI - IIT Delhi	6,509,029.88
GENERAL FUND : Op. Bal	149,579,372.00	With Yes Bank	3,641,583.00
Add : Excess of Income Over		With Canara Bank - School	4,114,820.05
Expenditure	18,800,925.53	With SBI - School	3,386,464.68
		With City Bank - Building	8,066.18
		With SBI - FCRA A/C	4,711,311.68
CURRENT LIABILITIES		With HDFC Bank	959,722.04
Advance Receipts School	7,778,000.00	With YES Bank NOIS	50,000.00
Retention Money	50,161.00	Security Deposits	1,049,500.00
Security Deposit & Others	123,800.00	Vidya Mumbai - Advance	8,987,539.25
Caution Money	1,037,890.00	Vidya Bangalore Advance	13,770,817.94
		Fee Receivable	1,022,327.00
		Grauity - FDR	932,179.99
		Tds Receivable	2,292,313.11
			180,920,148.53

Total.....Rs. 255,101,677.53 Total.....Rs. 255,101,677.53

FOR MALHOTRA & ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants

(Ashok K. Malhotra)
Prop.
M. No. 089905

PLACE : NEW DELHI
DATED : 18.09.2019

FOR VIDYA INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT FOR YOUTH & ADULTS

Mrs. Rashmi Misra
President - Founder
VIDYA Integrated Development for Youth And Adults

Mrs. Malavika Goyal
Vice - President
VIDYA Integrated Development for Youth And Adults

Financials 2019

MALHOTRA & ASSOCIATES
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

309, DELHI CHAMBER, DELHI
GATE, NEW DELHI - 110002.

VIDYA INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT FOR YOUTH & ADULTS :: NEW DELHI
CONSOLIDATED SOCIETY ACCOUNT
STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2019

EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT	INCOME	AMOUNT
PROGRAMME		GRANT IN AID/DONATION/BANK INTEREST	
Vidya Programme	3,986,592.33	Received during the Year	913,125.80
Bal Vihar	9,048,063.69	Vidya Programme	9,376,289.00
Monsoon Okhla CDP		Bal Vihar	366,500.00
CDP - Fena Trust Okhla	1,203,352.28	SDMC - PPP	399,779.00
CDP - Pappankalan	1,523,938.00	CDP - Fena Trust Okhla	1,646,632.00
Bridge Course - GGN	1,211,646.00	CDP - Pappankalan	2,514,131.40
Vidya Deep IIT Programme	504,955.40	Bridge Course - GGN	239,270.00
Vidya IIT Remedial	678,707.00	Higher Education	3,514,152.00
SDMC - PPP	155,991.00	SDMC - PTS	500,000.00
Higher Education	213,852.50	Computer Centre - Okhla	2,403,180.00
SDMC - PTS	3,140,678.00	Sikri Trust - SDMC	924,795.40
Computer Centre - Okhla	106,800.00	Vidya Deep IIT Programme	722,419.00
STP-Munirka	336,873.00	STP-Munirka	1,515,190.00
Sikri Trust - SDMC	1,422,374.00	Vidya IIT Remedial	1,880,000.00
STP-Pappankalan	713,810.00	Vidya - Villgro - Hauz Khas	1,362,006.00
Vidya - Villgro Hauz Khas	1,740,527.00	Vidya Vocational Programme	28,518,522.56
Vidya School	39,889,028.39	Vidya School - Grant/Donation	9,167,439.00
Vidya Mumbai	34,646,055.15	Vidya School - Fee For Lution & Transport	29,435,613.00
Vidya Bangalore	16,049,181.70	Vidya Mumbai Programme	23,333,412.96
Vidya Vocational Programme	1,331,325.64	Vidya Bangalore Programme	500,000.00
Corpus Donation	500,000.00	Corpus Donation	814,717.00
		Bank Interest	8,961,905.72
		FDR Interest	
		Interest on IT Refund	
		Recovery Of Administrative Overhead	4,726,562.00
		Membership Fee	
		Misc. Receipts	3,469,034.77
Excess of Income Over Expenditure	18,800,925.53		
Total.....Rs.	137,204,676.61	Total.....Rs.	137,204,676.61

FOR MALHOTRA & ASSOCIATES
FIRM REGD. No. - 011338N
Chartered Accountants

(Signature)
(Ashok K. Malhotra)
Prop.
M. No. 089905
PLACE :: NEW DELHI
DATED :: 18.09.2019

FOR VIDYA INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT FOR YOUTH & ADULTS

(Signature)
Mrs. Rashmi Misra
President - Founder
VIDYA Integrated Development for Youth And Adults

(Signature)
Mrs. Malavika Goyal
Vice - President
VIDYA Integrated Development for Youth And Adults



Wish List

The success of VIDYA and our students is built on the contributions of well-wishers and volunteers, and long-term partnerships with donors, sponsors, and industry leaders. Please find below our wish list for the year 2020.

- Underwriting a VIDYA School in one of the following locations:
 - VIDYA School Gurugram (primary, secondary, and senior)
 - VIDYA School Bengaluru
 - Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru (PPP schools)
- Three school buses (Delhi/Bengaluru)
- Sponsorships for our VIDYA School students
- Scholarships for universities and vocations
- A second-hand car for official visits
- People to help us with documentation and research
- Writing a book on the journey of VIDYA
- Bringing VIDYA to the world stage
- Mitr, volunteering, and internship at VIDYA
- IT Equipment for our beneficiaries (laptops, tablets, projectors, CCTV cameras)
- Fire and safety equipment
- Air conditioners for IT Labs
- UPS for Solar Panel
- Generator 50 KW
- School Painting
- Upgrading the Junior Play Area
- Robotic Training Program Funding
- STEM Program Funding
- Funds for Teacher Training & Recognition
- Instituting Annual Award for Bright Students (both scholastic & co-scholastic)
- Electric Lawn mower
- Portable Projector Screens
- Water purifiers for centres
- Sound Systems
- Office Chairs
- Air conditioners
- Fire and safety equipment
- Scholarship for higher education
- Nutrition for community students
- Healthcamp & check-ups



Penpal World of VIDYA

VIDYA's Spirit travelling with no Borders in the Pen Pal World.....

With VIDYA going global, distance meant so little for our children from VIDYA, connected to various schools across North America and Canada for Pen Paling.

Spreading their wings of friendship across borders and finding common bonds with them.



Visitor's Book

The beautiful world of VIDYA is reflected by its VISITORS' BOOK..... a gift which we all relish to open again and again.

Name & Address	Tel.No.	Remarks
Kalpana Parashetti Island		Being able to see this school and meet the people who have made it what it is today is a true blessing. I was very touched today by everything. Because of people like the VIDYA family the world is becoming a better place. I can not describe how happy these past few days have made me. Thank you so much for all your hard work.
Meethu Jose Bangalore VIDYA		I am so proud to be part of this change. One day, I would like to switch on the TV and say that "That charismatic leader is from my school - The VIDYA School"

Name & Address	Tel.No.	Remarks
Nandana Kumar Bangalore VIDYA		It's the biggest inspiration to come and see these wonderful children who are a part of this amazing school called VIDYA. It's an honour to be part of this movement. These kids are going to change the universe and I will have the pleasure of watching all the action from the front seat!
Rekha Srinivasan Bangalore VIDYA		I am associated with Vidya for the past 4 years. But only after this visit, I could understand like the force of VIDYA does. Kudos to the ever charming, energetic, beautiful, loving woman of this century. "RASHMI" Oo I pray that God should give you more & more blessings & fulfill each & every goal VIDYA undertakes.

Name & Address	Tel.No.	EMAIL	AND	Remarks
Carol plying To spent of sports. Intended with Rishi & Rithu.				
I was here on 'Basant Panchami' day and was lucky to have met four alumni girl students of the School 'Vidya'. A wonderful and memorable way to spend darasim. Bijn day. The students have excellent confidence and motivation, especially the girl the school is doing green service for uplighted of socially. A memorable visit which I will cherish forever.				

Name & Address	Tel.No.	Remarks
Udayling		Always a pleasure to see the fantastic work being done by you!!
jasinababbar@gmail.com		Lovely being a part of Vidya family. Love bhagat with children & hope to contribute meaningfully.
Nandana ADITYA		What - fantastic job!! Answer to Mum!!
Hulash Srivastava + Latha C-482 Defence Colony New Delhi 110024		I am so glad I came here. This is true nation building!! Please keep up the good work.

Name & Address	Tel.No.	Remarks
SHOMA BAKRE Bangalore VIDYA		A very amazing experience! It is amazing to see what one person's vision can do when a bunch of like-minded people join hands to build an unbelievable institution that can change so many lives. I am humbled, privileged, grateful, proud and extremely happy to have the opportunity to be a part of the INCREDIBLE VIDYA FAMILY!
Divak Bhardwaj Zurich		Great atmosphere & a great place for children. Very nice meeting Mrs. Mishra & Mrs. Sukhba. Looking forward to come back again. Thanks a lot!!

Name & Address	Tel.No.	Remarks
What a great contribution to society, and to the country! To put the spark of these dreams in the eye of those in the society who need it the most; contributing and empowering them to becoming good citizens of the world!		What a blessing for these children and their families! To add to the joy of so many.
May you continue to do the good work for many years to come.		Respectfully, Joshi, 1979 (HT-Delhi) Former Ambassador & Secretary Government of India

Name & Address	Tel.No.	Remarks
Katrina Ahuja 41 Atkinson St. Box 7, Portsmouth, NH 03801 Katrina.Laurette.Rowe@gmail.com		I really enjoyed touring the school. It is a beautiful building, a wonderful sanctuary for the children. Especially loved hearing the young children singing poems and singing songs. Keep up the good work! Another inspiring visit to Vidya. Thank you. And it's wonderful to see the children laughing and learning.
Anna Ahuja 6 Gledhow Gardens London SW5 0BL U.K.		Thank you for a great experience and tour of the school. It is a wonderful place and I am very happy to see how it has developed.
Kahujaloe Anna: Anna@gledhow.org gmail.com T. 0044(0)7879 880836		Respectfully, Respectfully,
Jashan Ahuja 41 Atkinson St, Box 7 Portsmouth, NH, 03801 jashan.ahuja.1@gmail.com		Amazing experience interacting with the children. I will like to part of the Vidya family and contribute in some way I can.
Nathalia & Bill Crawford		Respectfully,
V. Ramgopal Rao 11T Delhi vramo@iitd.ac.in		Respectfully,

Name & Address	Tel.No.	Remarks
Nikhil Pant	9801447613	I find Vidya a very good example of attempting to seek out the hidden potential in each child. Education, that helps the child to discover his/her hidden potential, is not easy to impart. The Vidya campus, the vibrations and the energy all seem to converge, to create the momentum of the synergy that is propelling the rigor of teaching-learning. I look at this school and its teachers & children and I am very best in this regard effort! - and I look forward to being a teacher and a coach here - soon! - Nikhil



You can sponsor our students. You can donate funds or resources, give us your time, share your experience or just spread the word to be a part of our movement.

Every little contribution makes a big difference. To make a donation, visit <http://vidya-india.org/how-you-can-help/donate/>. One of our greatest needs is sponsorship for our students. We would greatly appreciate your generous and thoughtful support.

- **Children/ Youth:** We provide high quality education to our students which covers outstanding academics, nutrition, stationery and books, transport, uniform, creative arts and skills. The annual sponsorship cost of children is as follows:
Class I-V Rs.35,500/- per annum per child, Class VI-XII Rs.43,000/- per annum per child. The average cost of sponsorship of a child is hardly Rs120/- per day.
- **Women:** Cost of sponsoring a woman at the Margam Program for holistic development (Spoken English, Computer Literacy, Life-skills, Soft-skills, Yoga, Counselling and a vocational skill) : INR 20,000/- per woman per year.

Your generous contribution will make our dreams come true. What you will always experience with VIDYA is a deep, enriching impact on both you and the people you serve.

Donation Information

Direct Bank Transfers

Name as appears in Bank: Vidya Integrated Development For Youth and Adults

Account No. : 10773571899
Bank Name : State Bank of India
Address : Hauz Khas, New Delhi -110016, India
Branch : IIT Delhi
IFSC/SwiftCode : SBIN0001077

Name as appear in Bank: Vidya Integrated Development For Youth and Adults

Account Type : FCRA
Account No. : 10773571617
Bank Name : State Bank of India
City : Delhi
Branch : IIT Delhi
IFSC/Swift Code : SBININBB547

Donations to VIDYA in the USA and Canada are tax exempted.

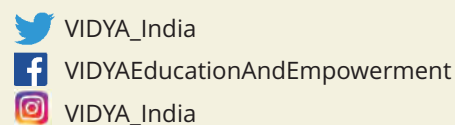
Please send through: Friends of VIDYA office
Indians for Collective Action (ICA)
3838, Mumford Place, Palo Alto CA 94306 USA

or

Ms. Aparna Dave
Law office of Aparna Dave, 107, Alderwood Drive,
Gaithersburg MD 20878 USA
email: aparnadave@immigration2us.com

www.vidya-india.org

Find us on:



VIDYA Awaits Your Visit

VIDYA HEAD OFFICE, DELHI NCR

Block-S, Plot No. 3126, DLF Phase III,
Gurugram - 122002, Haryana, India
Tel.: 0124 - 4049559

Email: office@vidya-india.org

VIDYA MUMBAI / PUNE

Gurukripa, Room No 10,
Hare Krishna Road, Opp Konark Building,
Near Powai English High School, IIT Market,
Powai, Mumbai - 400076
Tel.: 022 - 25787317

Email: mumbai@vidya-india.org

VIDYA BANGALORE

Mali foundation, Navjeevana Nilaya,
Kundanhalli Gate, White Field Road,
Marathahalli Post, Bangalore - 560037, India
Tel.: +91 - 9986422009

Email: bangalore@vidya-india.org

We are registered as a non-profit organization
under Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860.
(Reg. No. S-21626, dated January 1, 1991) with
RoS, Delhi.

Memorandum of Association is available on
request.

We are registered u/s 12A of the Income Tax Act,
1961, and with the DIT (Exemptions), Delhi u/s
80G. Reg. No. DIT (E) 2008-09/V-257A/2138.

We are registered under section 6 (1) (a) of the
Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976
(FCRA Reg. No. 231650839).



A BIG THANK YOU!

We are blessed to have you as a part of the VIDYA family.

