

OCTOBER 2014

Quarterly Report



Diwali is one of the most colourful, sacred and enjoyable festivals celebrated in our country. During the festival, people light up their homes and shops. Children specially enjoy Diwali. Girls at IIMPACT always look forward to Diwali. This year some girls collectively created beautiful cards for the festive season using a variety of vibrant colours.

Our Latest Initiatives

20 Learning Centres Started in Banswara (Rajasthan)

Banswara is a district in south Rajasthan. It is named after the 'bans' or bamboo forests in the area. The district is predominantly inhabited by tribals mainly Bhils, Bhil Meenas, Damor, Charpotas, Ninamas etc. The main occupation of the people, especially of tribals, is agriculture. Since the rural population is largely tribal, exposure from the outer world has been an issue with the girls of this community. IIMPACT started work here with an informal survey in May 2014. In that survey we found that a large number of villages are backward in the context of girl child education and development standards. So, strongly realising the need, we decided to work in this area. We have decided to start with 20 learning centres with the help of a benevolent industrial house – The Bhilwara Goup. The work of village mapping, door-to-door surveys, selection and training of teachers and staff members, community mobilization, etc. has been completed. Soon, the learning centres will be established and the girls of Banswara village will start getting a good education.



20 Learning Centres Started in Khargone (Madhya Pradesh)



Khargone, formerly known as West Nimar, is a district of Madhya Pradesh which lies in the Nimar region and is part of Indore Division. Tribal culture is still very evident here. Villagers are more interested in agriculture than in any other profession. The condition of education is very poor. Villagers are not interested in sending their children to school, especially their female child who is involved in various household chores. The trend of early marriage is very common and widely accepted. In 2006, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj named Khargone as one of the country's 250 most backward districts. Our team visited interior areas of block Bhagwanpura and observed that the Aadiwasi community lives far away from the main district. Our team held a number of meetings at the villages, at the end of which, local people were convinced and became involved in our initiative for girl child education. As a result, we were able to open 20 new learning centres at Bhagwanpura block. Teachers have been hired and their training has been completed. The list of out-of-school girls has been prepared and more than 600 girls in 20 villages are ready to join the learning centres soon. These 20 learning centres are being established with the help of Maral Overseas Limited.

Activities During the Quarter

Independence Day Celebrations

The Girls across all the learning centres of IIMPACT celebrated the 68th Independence Day on 15th August 2014. Various functions were held across all the learning centres. In most of the places flags were hoisted either by a Panchayat member or by the headmaster of the nearby school. Children at the centres celebrated the day by singing patriotic songs, dancing to patriotic songs, reciting patriotic poems etc. Apart from this, community leaders and stakeholders gave speeches emphasising the importance of education in children's and women's lives, child protection etc. To our surprise, in various villages, land was donated to IIMPACT by community people and Gram Panchayat members. We were overwhelmed by the community response and conveyed our heartiest thanks for their gratitude.



Activities During the Quarter

Teachers Day Celebrations

Since 1962, India has been celebrating Teacher's Day on 5th September. The day commemorates the birthday of Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan - a philosopher and a teacher, and our country's second President - in recognition of his contribution to the field of education. We, too, celebrated Teacher's Day with lot of enthusiasm across all our Hubs. This day was meant for thanking the teachers for their selfless support to children in making them an educated, responsible citizen of this society. The day was celebrated by the children of the centres for their teachers. Along with the learning centre teachers, Panchayat members and other important community leaders were also invited to join the celebrations. Children performed songs and dances, recited poems from their text books, and enacted plays on issues related to child protection etc. The community stakeholders gave speeches on the importance of girls' education and its impact on improving our lives and our society. Our head office staff also became a part of the celebrations at Alwar and Mewat. They interacted with teachers as well as with our girls.



Activities During the Quarter

Expansion in Uttarakhand

IIMPACT now runs 130 learning centres in Uttarakhand. Here, the teachers' selection process has been done via written tests as well as interviews. It is because IIMPACT has been appreciated in these areas that a huge number of candidates came for the job, but only few quality people got selected. The overall selection process was healthy and competition free. The process of training of teachers at the new learning centres is in full swing. They are given training in batches, so that both old as well as new teachers, will be benefitted. Our Project Director, Junned Khan, also attended the Haridwar training sessions and gave a boost to the morale of both IIMPACT trainers and teachers.



Activities During the Quarter

Shahjahanpur – Gandhi Jayanti Celebrated in a Big Way

Gandhi Jayanti was celebrated with lot of enthusiasm at our Shahjahanpur hub. Teachers across all learning centres at Shahjahanpur attended the Gandhi Jayanti Celebrations. Teachers sang songs showcasing the value system that Gandhiji promoted. Individual speeches by various speakers were carefully listened to by the teachers. The focus of all these speeches was on truth and non-violence. The Chief Guest was also shown various Teacher Learning Materials (TLMs) that we use for girls at our various learning centres.



Science Van Project Making an Impact at Shahjahanpur



The Science Van Project has been highly appreciated by the community people. It intends to develop a scientific temper in children. Since superstition has been rampant in our country, it very important to make children aware of various scientific laws from the very beginning. Our Science Van is a repertoire of various materials on science. It has various science projects, charts and materials with the help of which they show experiments to girls. Instead of the girls reaching the van, our van reaches the girls. The process of learning is done via discussions. The overall environment of learning is motivating and healthy.



Activities During the Quarter

Computer Education at the Doorsteps of Rural Girls (Thanks to Concern India)

With a goal of ensuring overall development opportunities to girls, providing them exposure to computers has been an important objective of IIMPACT. For the first time, in the year 2009, IIMPACT overcame challenges of reach, power and technology and went ahead to establish 10 solar powered computer aided education centres in Rajasthan. These centres depended on Laptop Computers. Since then, IIMPACT's experience and methodology in this area has greatly evolved. Keeping in mind the limitations of technology, trained resources, power and administration, IIMPACT has now devised a methodology of establishing computer education at the village level through our learning centres for girls, training the learning centre teacher, using desktops run through inverters in villages where power is available. In this context, Concern India Foundation, has joined hands to support IIMPACT. With the help of Concern India Foundation, IIMPACT has been successful in establishing 30 computer aided learning centres at 30 different locations of the country. For the successful implementation of the project, proper training and orientation have been given to the concerned teachers, because of which, they are imparting computer knowledge to girls with clarity and full confidence.



Cyclone Hudhud Hits India's East Coast with Monstrous Ferocity

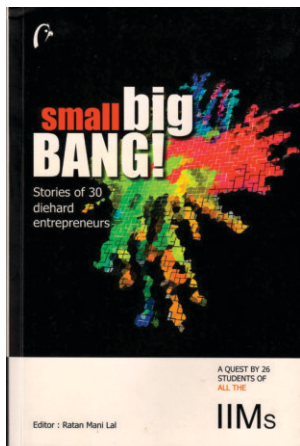
Cyclone Hudhud reached the eastern coast of our country. The monstrous Hudhud cyclone wrought a lot of destruction and damage. In Gajapati (Odisha) alone, more than 15,000 kutcha houses have been damaged. Human loss has also been reported. Lot of cattle including cows and buffaloes have died. Crops have been severely damaged. All this has directly impacted the lives of the tribal people. They are left with damaged houses and almost no cattle.

In these villages IIMPACT had distributed 600 solar lanterns with the help of ING Vysya Foundation, a couple of months ago. These solar lanterns have come in very handy for the people of Gajapati District and helped them a lot during the rainy and dark nights. IIMPACT's team has been helping over 2000 families overcome the aftermath of the Cyclone.



Activities During the Quarter

IIMPACT Covered Among 30 Entrepreneurs Story (Small Big Bang)



Small Big Bang! is a book containing stories of 30 diehard entrepreneurs written by 26 students of 13 IIMs across India. Vision and hard work made these 30 gritty entrepreneurs create ventures that have changed the ways of the world a little bit. Small Big Bang! edited by Mr. Ratan Mani Lal is a tribute to this undying spirit of entrepreneurship. IIMPACT CEO Mrs. Nirmala Tandon's inspirational story has also been incorporated in this book by the young IIM student Amrita Mathew. A comprehensive account of her professional and personal work life has been discussed in detail.

IIMPACT's earliest donors Mr. Rakesh Jhunjhunwala of the R. Jhunjhunwala Foundation and Mr. Chetan Mehrotra of the Sar-La Education Trust's respective role in providing the initial thrust to IIMPACT as it started its journey are highlighted as is the importance of several Corporates, Trusts and individuals who have helped bring joy to the faces of those girls benefitting from the greatest gift – education!



Art Exhibition at Epicentre – Proceeds go to IIMPACT

Rukshaan Krishna, a Mumbai-based art curator, organised an exhibition of Soumen Das's (a landscape artist from the Baroda Art School) works in Gurgaon and Delhi in early August. She graciously offered to donate 15% of sales towards funding one IIMPACT learning centre. A special preview of the artist's work was held on 3rd August, 2014 to highlight the exemplary work being done by IIMPACT.



*Happy Diwali and
Season's Best Wishes*

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