

Saturday, 24-02-24



Deepalaya

In this edition, our spotlight shines on Deepalaya, an unwavering force in the battle against illiteracy for over four decades. Beyond traditional education, Deepalaya's commitment extends to the holistic development of individuals, with a special emphasis on the girl child, street child, and disabled child. Engaging in projects spanning education, women empowerment, vocational training, healthcare, and more, Deepalaya emerges not just as an organization but as a catalyst for societal transformation. Collaborating with governmental and non-governmental entities, Deepalaya actively participates in shaping policies, advocating for a society founded on legitimate rights, equity, justice, and social sensitivity.

VidyaPoshak

In this edition, our focus turns to the impactful endeavors of Vidya Poshak, an organization that stands as a beacon of hope for meritorious youth striving for higher education. With a dedicated mission to break the shackles of financial constraints, Vidya Poshak's Nurture Merit Program provides crucial financial assistance to deserving students, fostering not just academic growth but also a community of empowered individuals poised to make a meaningful impact on society.

Learn more about these stories on page number 3 & 5.

Unlocking the Potential: A Peek into India's Education Budget Dynamics

In the intricate dance of budgets and allocations, India's education sector finds itself under scrutiny, especially with the recent news of a 7% reduction in the Ministry of Education's budget for the fiscal year 2024-25. Amidst this financial juggling act, the allocation for school education takes center stage, witnessing an increase, while the higher education sector faces a 16% cut.

As the figures play out on the budgetary stage, questions arise about the intricacies of how these allocations work, particularly for primary school education in rural areas. How is the budget distributed, and what about the crucial component of infrastructure development? How can schools in these areas take control of their financial destinies, ensuring sustainable growth and development?

The Budgetary Ballet: A Closer Look

While the Ministry of Education juggles figures, the Department of School Education secures ₹73,000 crore, signaling a commitment to the foundational levels of learning. On the flip side, higher education faces a reduction, prompting introspection on how the nation balances its educational priorities.

The National Education Policy 2020 set the ambitious goal of dedicating 6% of the GDP to education. However, the current fiscal landscape poses challenges to this vision. Ramanand Nand, a former adviser at the Ministry of Education, suggests that achieving this allocation may hinge on the country's economic trajectory, possibly requiring exponential growth.

Prince Gajendra Babu, General Secretary of the State Platform for Common School System, voices concerns over the government's allocation, especially in light of the National Education Policy's implementation. Babu advocates for a substantial increase in government-funded education, emphasizing the pivotal role it plays in shaping the educational landscape.

Building Blocks: The Infrastructure Quandary

In the grand scheme of education, infrastructure forms the foundation upon which quality learning stands. With the increasing allocation for school education, there arises a critical question—how can schools, particularly those in rural areas, address their infrastructure needs?

The rise in the number of higher education institutions, as highlighted in Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's Budget speech, is undoubtedly



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a positive stride. However, experts emphasize the need to move beyond mere numbers. Sahil Gupta, Partner at Deloitte India, suggests a shift in focus towards increasing both the quantity and quality of educational institutions. To double the Gross Enrollment Ratio, Gupta advocates for doubling the number of universities within the next decade.

Empowering Schools: The Path to Sustainable Growth

In the quest for sustainable growth, rural schools must not merely wait for budgetary benevolence but seize control of their financial destinies. The key lies in empowering schools at their level to allocate budgets effectively.

1. Localized Budget Allocation:

Schools, as the frontline warriors in education, can benefit from localized budget allocation strategies. Recognizing the unique needs and challenges of each school, a decentralized approach ensures that funds are directed where they are needed the most.

2. Infrastructure Focus:

Schools can advocate for a dedicated portion of their budgets to be allocated to infrastructure development. This includes building and repairing classrooms, ensuring access to clean water through installations like RO water filters, and providing necessary amenities for a conducive learning environment.

3. Community Engagement:

Schools can involve local communities in the budget allocation process. This not only fosters a sense of ownership but also ensures that community needs align with the school's priorities. Jointly deciding on budgetary allocations can lead to more effective resource utilization.

4. Skill Development Initiatives:

A portion of the budget can be earmarked for skill development initiatives for both teachers and students. This involves investing in training programs, workshops, and resources that enhance the overall learning experience.

5. Technology Integration:

The digital wave has the potential to revolutionize education. Schools can allocate funds for the integration of technology, ensuring that students have access to modern tools and resources that prepare them for the digital age.

As India navigates the complex waters of budgetary allocations for education, the focus must not waver from the grassroots—our schools, particularly in rural areas. By empowering these institutions to take charge of their financial destinies and strategically allocate budgets, we pave the way for sustainable growth, ensuring that every child, regardless of their geographical location, has access to quality education. In this dynamic dance of budgets and education, the rhythm must resonate with the heartbeat of every eager learner, echoing the promise of a brighter future.



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The Deepalaya Saga of Education, Empowerment, and Resilience

Deepalaya, a beacon of hope for the underprivileged, embarked on its journey in 1979 with a profound mission—to empower the economically and socially deprived, focusing on the holistic development of children, especially the girl child, street child, and disabled child. For over four decades, Deepalaya has tirelessly worked towards this vision, leaving an indelible mark on the landscape of education and social welfare in India.

The organization's footprint spans across Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Telangana, making it the largest operational NGO in the country. Deepalaya's commitment to eradicating illiteracy and fostering self-reliance has manifested through various projects in Education, Women Empowerment, Institutional Care, Community Health, Environmental Sustainability, and support for the Differently Abled.

One of Deepalaya's remarkable achievements is its outreach to nearly two crore beneficiaries through diverse services. The organization's impact is particularly evident in its efforts to educate and empower children, with over 3,78,145 children benefiting from their initiatives. The commitment extends beyond education, as Deepalaya has provided vocational training to 24,870 adults, supported 1,616 Self Help Groups comprising 17,892 women, who, in turn, have established more than 8,431 micro-enterprises.

Deepalaya's growth is not a solitary endeavor; it actively collaborates with the government and other agencies, contributing meaningfully to the policymaking process. In pursuit of its vision, the organization envisions a society based on legitimate rights, equity, justice, honesty, social sensitivity, and a culture of service where all individuals are self-reliant.





DEEPALAYA LEARNING CENTRE, GOLE KUAN, NEW DELHI	Girls: 111	Boys: 90	Total: 201 *The current data from last financial year (2022-23)
DEEPALAYA LEARNING CENTRE, TITRON, SAHARANPUR, UTTAR PRADESH	Girls: 94	Boys: 116	Total: 210 *The current data from the last financial year (2022-23)
DEEPALAYA LEARNING CENTRE, NORTH-WEST DELHI, DELHI	Girls: 319	Boys: 288	Total: 607 *The current data from the last financial year (2022-23)
GIRL CHILD PROJECT, NOIDA, UTTAR PRADESH	Girls: 346	Boys: NA	Total: 346 *The current data from the last financial year (2022-23)
RAINBOW PROJECT, NOIDA, UTTAR PRADESH	Girls: 29	Boys: 36	Total: 65 *The current data from the last financial year (2022-23)
DEEPALAYA LEARNING CENTRE, TILAK NAGAR, DELHI	Girls: 241	Boys: 225	Total: 466 *The current data from the last financial year (2022-23)



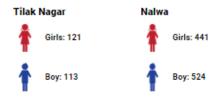


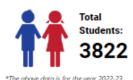


COMMUNITY LIBRARIES



LIBRARIES





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At the core of Deepalaya's mission is the belief that every child deserves a chance. This philosophy is exemplified through the Deepalaya Senior Secondary School in Kalkaji Extension, an unaided, recognized school with CBSE affiliation. Since its inception in 1998, the school has provided affordable education, witnessing a commendable increase in student enrollment over the years. Despite the challenges posed by the global pandemic, the school adapted to the new normal, embracing hybrid learning methods, up-skilling teachers, and ensuring continuous engagement through webinars, workshops, and examinations.

Deepalaya's commitment to education extends beyond formal schooling through its Learning Centres, which play a pivotal role in mainstreaming dropouts back into formal education. These centres provide academic support and bridge courses, ensuring that children are well-prepared for formal schooling. The organization's focus on continuous remedial sessions and co-curricular activities not only prevents dropouts but also nurtures hidden talents among the students. Recognizing the critical importance of early childhood education, Deepalaya's Early Childhood Care & Development (ECCD) program addresses the needs of the 20 million children under six years living in poverty in urban India. By establishing model ECCD Centres, the program aims to achieve Sustainable Development Goals related to health, education, and overall well-being. The initiative also emphasizes parent education and community awareness, creating a comprehensive ecosystem for the optimal development of young minds.

Community Libraries stand as a testament to Deepalaya's commitment to nurturing minds beyond the confines of formal education. These libraries, situated in Sanjay Colony, Gole Kuan, Tilak Nagar, and Nalwa, serve as more than just reading spaces. They are vibrant hubs that facilitate holistic development through workshops, celebrations, storytelling sessions, and various engaging activities. The advent of the digital era did not diminish the significance of physical books in these community libraries, as they continued to play a crucial role in transforming communities. In the face of unprecedented challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, Deepalaya showcased resilience and adaptability. The organization seamlessly transitioned to online platforms, ensuring that its mission of education and empowerment persevered. Librarians reached out to the community through self-recorded story sessions, WhatsApp, conference calls, and personalized interactions, underscoring Deepalaya's unwavering dedication to its cause.

The Deepalaya story is not just about numbers and statistics; it's a narrative of transformation, empowerment, and inclusivity. It teaches us that sustainable change requires a multifaceted approach—one that addresses education, vocational training, women empowerment, community health, and environmental sustainability. Deepalaya's collaboration with the government and other stakeholders sets a precedent for effective partnerships in the social sector. Organizations of all sizes can draw inspiration from Deepalaya's journey. The emphasis on collaboration, adaptability, and a comprehensive approach to social issues can guide other entities in making meaningful contributions to society. Deepalaya's success lies not only in its ability to reach a vast number of beneficiaries but in its commitment to nurturing every aspect of an individual's development.

As we navigate the complexities of the contemporary world, Deepalaya stands as a beacon of positivity, illustrating that change is possible, one empowered individual at a time. The organization's legacy is a testament to the transformative power of education and social welfare, reminding us that the pursuit of a just and equitable society requires persistent effort, collaboration, and a deep-rooted belief in the potential of every individual, regardless of their background or circumstances.

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Follow and support VidyaPoshak's work at https://www.vidyaposhak.ngo//

Vidya Poshak's Journey Breaking Barriers and Building Futures

Vidya Poshak, driven by the vision that "Poverty is not a barrier for education," has emerged as a transformative force in the realm of education in India. With a strong belief that investing in economically challenged but meritorious youth can break the cycle of poverty, Vidya Poshak has implemented impactful programs that nurture talent, provide financial assistance, and improve the educational landscape in the country.

Nurture Merit Program: Empowering Dreams

At the heart of Vidya Poshak's initiatives lies the Nurture Merit Program, a well-structured effort designed to support bright students from economically challenged families in pursuing higher education. This comprehensive program encompasses various components aimed at ensuring that financial constraints do not hinder the educational journey of deserving individuals.

Financial Assistance constitutes a crucial element of the Nurture Merit Program. Vidya Poshak covers college fees, transportation costs, exam fees, and provides additional amounts for coaching, ensuring that financial barriers are dismantled. For extreme need-based cases, additional support is extended to cover room and boarding expenses.

Knowledge Center Services play a pivotal role in the program, offering a spectrum of resources to students. Reference books, career counseling, online webinars, mentoring activities, industry visits, and monthly workshops create an enriching educational environment. The goal is not just academic excellence but the holistic development of each student, nurturing them into sensitive and responsible citizens.

Bridge Training forms another integral part of the program, focusing on enhancing communication and life skills that broaden employment opportunities. The screening process involves multiple levels, ensuring that support reaches those who need it the most. From evaluating academic performance to telephonic discussions and dwelling unit visits, Vidya Poshak prioritizes merit and dire economic circumstances.

Financial Support Details: Tailored for Impact

Vidya Poshak's commitment to breaking the barriers of poverty through education is exemplified in the nuanced financial support details. Non-professional students (PUC & Degree) receive support up to INR 15,000/20,000, while those pursuing professional education (Engineering & Medical) can benefit from support up to INR 50,000 and above based on donors' generosity. Courses in agriculture and allied fields (Nursing, Horticulture, Fisheries, etc.) receive support up to INR 25,000, with priority given to those facing higher levels of poverty and demonstrating exceptional merit.

School Improvement Program: Building Foundations

Vidya Poshak extends its impact beyond individual students to the broader educational ecosystem through its School Improvement Program. Collaborating closely with rural government schools, the organization addresses infrastructure needs, contributing to the enhancement of learning environments.

From installing RO water filters in North Karnataka schools to supporting smart classes, providing benches, and equipping science labs in various





ವಿದ್ಯಾಪೋಷಕ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಪಿಯುಸಿ ಸಾಧನೆ

ಸಂ.ಕ. ಸಮಾಜಾರ, ಧಾರವಾಡ ನಗರದ ವಿದ್ಯಾಪ್ಷಣಕ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ 2018–19ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ದ್ವಿತೀಯ ಪಿ.ಯು.ಸಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಶೇಷ ಸಾಧನೆಗೈದಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮತ್ತು ಗದಗ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ 27 ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ 9 ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಶೇ. 85 ಹಾಗೂ ಅಧಕ್ಕಂತ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಲಂಕ ಪಡೆದು ಸಾಧನೆ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಕೃಷಿ ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರು, ಮನೆ ಕೆಲಸ, ಕ್ಷೌರಿಕ, ಕಟ್ಟಡ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುವವರು, ಬಡಿಗತನ,

• ಕಮ್ಮಾರಕೆ, ಟೈಲರಿಂಗ್ ಮುಂತಾದ ಕೆಲಸಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತೊಡಗಿರುವ ಕುಟುಂಬದಿಂದ ಬಂದವರಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಚೈತನ್ನಕುಮಾರ ಕೆರಣ್ಣವರ ಶೇ. 94.83, ಪ್ರತೀಕ ನಾರ್ವಕರ ಶೇ. 89, ಸಾನಿಕಾ ವರದಿ

ಶೇ. 85. ಸಾಯಿಪಸಾದ ಶೆಟಿ ಶೇ. 95.16. ಶೇ. 37, ಸಂಖ್ಯಾಸದ ಶಕ್ಷ ಶೇ. 97.10, ಸೌಭಾಗ್ಯ ಕೋಣಿ ಶೇ. 87, ಆಸ್ಮಭಾನು ಬುಲ್ಲಣ್ಣವರ ಶೇ. 95.16, ವೀಣಾ ಹೂಗಾರ ಶೇ. 90, ಪೂರ್ಣಿಮಾ ಪೂಜಾರ ಶೇ. 89.33, ಪೂಜಾ ಸಗರದ ಶೇ. 89.33 ಫಲಿತಾಂಶ ಪಡೆದಿದ್ದಾರೆ. districts, Vidya Poshak's initiatives are strategically targeted to uplift schools in diverse regions. By investing in the physical infrastructure, the organization ensures that students in rural areas have access to quality education.

Knowledge Resource Centers: Empowering Minds

Recognizing that resources are integral to empowering students, Vidya Poshak has established Knowledge Resource Centers and Book Banks. These centers are not just repositories of information but vibrant spaces that facilitate hands-on learning, job skills development, and career guidance.

The objectives of these Knowledge Resource Centers are ambitious and far-reaching. From creating positive energy in youth through free access to information to facilitating hands-on experiences in job skills and preparing for competitive exams, these centers serve as catalysts for positive change. The outcomes are tangible—rural youth gain exposure to industry requirements, stay abreast of current affairs, and receive training in life skills, making them competitive and confident.

Key Takeaways for Organizations of All Sizes:

- 1. Holistic Approach: Vidya Poshak's success lies in its holistic approach, addressing financial, educational, and infrastructural barriers. Organizations can learn that sustainable impact requires a multifaceted strategy.
- **2. Community Engagement :** By actively involving volunteers in the screening process and conducting dwelling unit visits, Vidya Poshak ensures a community-driven approach. Engaging with the community is crucial for understanding and addressing the nuanced needs of beneficiaries.
- 3. Tailored Support: Vidya Poshak's nuanced approach to financial assistance, considering the type of education and individual circumstances, showcases the importance of tailoring support to maximize impact.
- 4. Infrastructure Investment: Beyond individual support, Vidya Poshak recognizes the importance of investing in school infrastructure for longterm educational impact. Organizations can learn the value of contributing to the broader educational ecosystem.



Image courtesy: Vidya Poshak Website

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Member organizations of JEET

Vipla Foundation

www.viplafoundation.org **Activities:** Education Initiatives, Skill
Development Programs, Community
Development

VKRCE Trust

YouTube@MathsMadeSweet **Activites:** Education, Digital Video Library, Training.

Ramakrishna Sarada Samiti

www.rkssngo.org

Activities : Education, Women's Empowerment and Health Camps

National Association for the Blind

www.nabindia.org.in

Activities: Prevention of blindness and low vision, Education, Talking books, Braille press, Vocational training, etc.

Bombay Community Public Trust

www.bcpt.org.in

Activities: Educational scholarships, medical relief, development of some training manuals and films, conducting NGO development activities and projects through NGOs

Shree Samarth Vyayam Mandir

https://ssvmdadar.com/ Activities: Sports Training & Certification and Yoga

MSP Foundation

http://www.msp-edu.org/ Activities: Educating, uplifting and strengthening through schools including the villages of Ambavade and Gursale, in Central Maharashtra.

Muktangan Education Trust

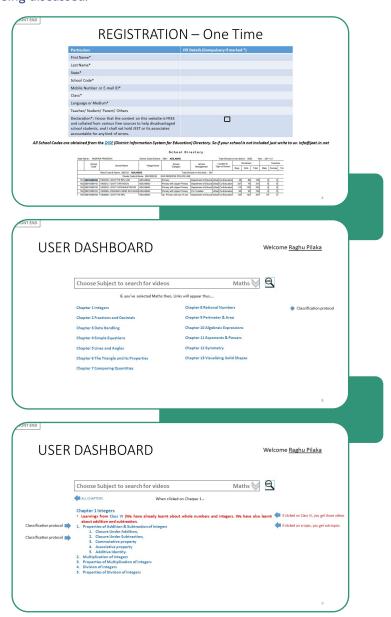
https://muktanganedu.org/ Activities: Seven Mumbai Municipal schools Integrated with a Teacher Education Center, Outreach through Collaborative Learning, Research and Advocacy

A Sneak peak into JEET's upcoming platform.

JEET – Joint Efforts for Educational Transformation, is an all-India alliance of NGOs & Individuals providing FREE educational videos, for Government school children and others who cannot afford to access world class school education videos. The platform is under development and currently requirement specs is under development. In this issue of JEET KI AOR we would like to give you a peek into what is happening.

JEET spearheaded by RKSSNGO was selected by J P Morgan Chase & Co., as one of their projects for development under their Tech for Social Good initiative. JP Morgan Chase Mumbai shall be building a platform for JEET at zero development cost, or at worst, minimum costs. Our vision is to use such a platform for the free distribution of educational videos and digital lessons to the 190 Million disadvantaged students from classes 1-12 who are mostly from Government schools.

Here is a peek into the proposed FRONT END of the platform whose specs are being discussed:



Your input and suggestions are highly valued. Please feel free to share your thoughts on what you believe should be the key features. We encourage you to reach out to us at **membership@jeet.in.net** with your valuable insights and recommendations.

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