

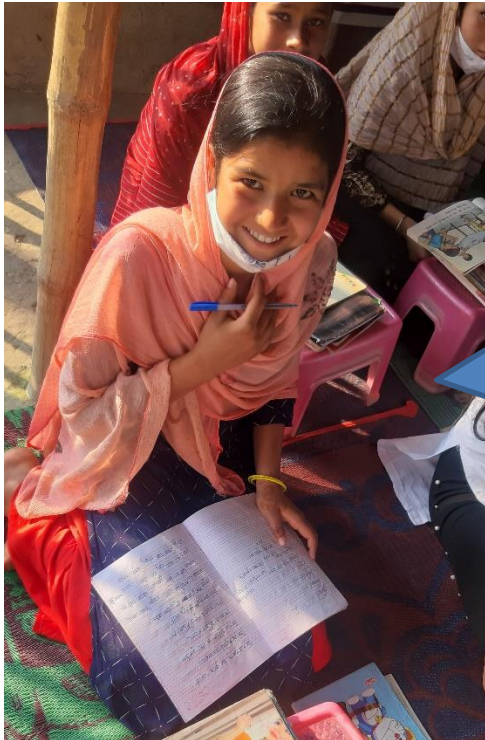
IIMPULSE

IIMPACT's Quarterly Newsletter

January - March 2022



**The future belongs to those who believe in the
beauty of their dreams**



“My name is Nazakat and my dream is to be an astronaut”

IIMPACT is a non-profit organisation established in 2003 by the IIM-Ahmedabad alumni batch of 1978. The organisation, through its Girl Child Education Program identifies out-of-school, irregular to school, and dropout girls between the ages of 6 to 14 in marginalized villages of India and provides them with quality primary education. The objective of the program is to empower and mobilize young girls from rural disadvantaged and socially backward communities, provide them with holistic education, focused on skills and competencies which enable children to be self-reliant, confident learners and become active change agents for their communities.

The vision of IIMPACT is to transform the lives of women, families and entire communities in India by educating and empowering the girl child.

IIMPACT started with just 450 girls across 15 Learning Centres in 2004, Today IIMPACT has its presence in 11 states and supports close to 60,000 girls across 1936 Learning Centres.

The IIMPACT Learning Centre model establishes single-teacher led Learning Centres imparting Primary-level education using a Multi-Grade Multi-Level approach. IIMPACT runs this project for about 5-6 years in one locality, up to the time when each girl enrolled in the Learning Centre has received a firm grounding in primary education.

To know more visit www.iimpact.org



From the Executive Director's Desk



Dear Friends,

I am happy to share that as I write to you, all our Learning Centres are functional with full strength of students. It has been a difficult start to the quarter and the year 2022. With the outbreak of the third wave of Covid in the country, in the first two months, all our Learning Centres operated with a very small group of students in ALA mode. However, from February onwards the situation stabilized as the intensity of the omicron wave started to reduce. The student numbers at the Learning Centres were increased slowly and by 15th March all our Learning Centres started operating fully.

Loss of learning among students has been the predominant challenge with which IIMPACT has been faced post covid and attempts have been made constantly to address this issue. To inculcate the culture of reading, and to promote creativity and language skills IIMPACT started its own 100 Days Reading campaign in January drawing inspiration from the Government of India's Padhe Bharat campaign. In this quarter we also connected with our partners through two Partner Dialogues – one in Patna and the other in Delhi. These dialogues were the last two among the 3 Partner Dialogues planned at various locations this year. This platform helped in discussions, raising common issues, fostering dialogue about the challenges and reach consensus on actions required that can lead us to a clearer path moving ahead.

As we start a new financial year with new hopes, new learnings and new ideas, we know this year will also have its own challenges and difficulties. We look forward to your continuous support in our journey, the support which will make us stronger and help us grow

Sincere regards,

Dr. Shubhangi Sharma

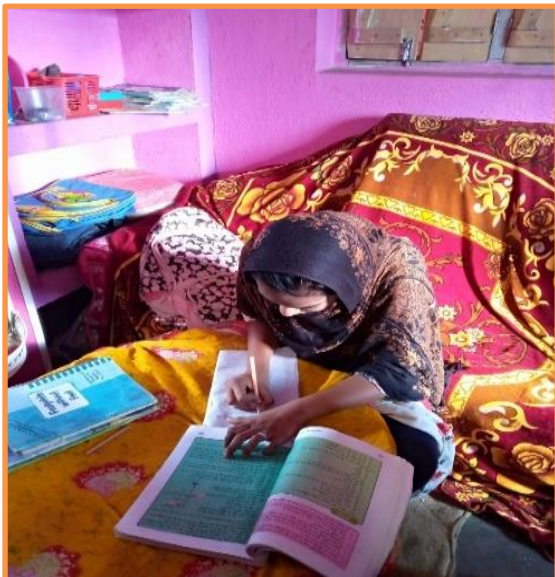


“Success is not final, failure is not fatal; it is the courage to continue that counts “Winston Churchill

Perseverance takes you closer to your dreams: Sabeda’s Story

It’s a long 5 km bicycle ride each way for Sabeda as she goes to school every day. Fourteen-year-old Sabeda Khatun is an alumna of the Sangrampur Learning Centre which is sponsored by Sarojini Trilok Nath Trust and facilitated by FACE.

Sabeda comes from a rural family that is not only economically destitute, but also had never known



literacy. As a natural consequence of this situation, her father had never thought of enrolling her anywhere for education. So Sabeda was spending her days as an aimless vagrant. She had no craving for education as such and never thought it to be necessary. Fortunately, IIMPACT opened Learning Center under its Girl Child Education Programme in her village

Sangrampur and the teacher was able to convince many parents to send their daughters to study. Thus began Sabeda’s tryst with education. When she started her journey with the Learning Center in 2014, she did not even know alphabets. But being a sharp learner, she began to pick up the concepts quickly and completed class I to class V successfully. She was a keen student, always eager to participate in extra-curricular activities as well. She excelled in dance, theatre and similar other activities showcased during the cultural programs. Especially being good at dance, she also became a role model for the other girls and gave them.

instructions in the discipline. Her father was overjoyed at her progress. He took it upon himself to put in more efforts to be able to provide Sabeda higher and quality education. This single-minded determination helped Sabeda's father to substantially improve his own economic situation and he eventually became an elected ward member in his locality, making his daughter proud.

When the time came for Sabeda to merge into the mainstream government school, she



demonstrated such proficiency that she was directly inducted into Class VII skipping Class VI.

Now Sabeda has progressed to Class X. Her favorite subject is Science and she is already dreaming of higher studies.

Sabeda is a dutiful daughter who also takes time out from school and studies to regularly help out her mother with household chores. She is diligent and makes sure that she never misses her tuition classes. During the lockdown amidst the Covid 19 pandemic, she had proactively assumed the role of a volunteer teacher and had taught village children at their homes and helped them

participate in cultural events by teaching them dance and action songs.

“Had it not been the Learning Centre, I would have been married by now” says Sabeda.

Armed with a strong determination and an unbending will power, Sabeda wants to achieve her dream through education, that of becoming a Nurse and serve her community.

'A good teacher is a determined person'- Chandani Verma's story

Chandani Verma, living in Maghaghai village, situated in Lakmipur district in the state of Uttar Pradesh, teaches at the Rajpurwa centre for IIMPACT.

Born to a poor farming family, she somehow persevered and continued her education to complete her degree. Following this, she started working for a private school and did so for a couple of years in order to support her family. She did not give much thought about the values of teaching and educating children during this period however. This job was simply a form of sustenance for her. But then came an opportunity when she was asked by IIMPACT to educate rural girls in her village. She interviewed for the post and was finally selected after undertaking rigorous selection tests. As she took up her new job, her mindset underwent a radical change. She found that her new job gave her immense satisfaction and a sense of fulfilment which made her realize that teaching could be a life-changer.

IIMPACT made her realize that an education was more than just a degree. It was a means for children to shape their own future and the future of the country as well. After realising this, she took the initiative of enrolling the children of the Rajpurwa district into the local government school. Since, the school and the learning centre were quite far apart, the students were finding it difficult travel to the government school every day. So Chandani tries to ensure that they get support from her the lessons that they miss.



Chandani believes that every girl should have access to education, no matter what the situation or condition that may arise. When the local Sharda dam broke down and flooded the villages which were in its vicinity in October 2021, the centre became inaccessible. Even the villagers were distraught as their belongings were washed away in the flood. Even under those dire circumstances, Chandani did not give up on her students. In order to provide them the education that they deserved,



she personally went to the homes of the students to teach them. It was due to the efforts of dedicated IIMPACT workers like Chandani, that the girls in the village did not face a hiatus in their studies.

Chandani's efforts were further validated by the Uttar Pradesh Vanvasi Seva Sansthan when the head of the organisation met with villages which were associated with IIMPACT and provided them with ration and other supplies which were desperately needed by them.

IIMPACT has helped Chandani imbibe the value of true education and its contribution to the society. Chandani feels grateful to IIMPACT and everyone who has taken the initiative to educate poor girl children.



100 Days Reading Campaign

To promote the culture of reading in communities and drawing inspiration from the Government of India's Padhe Bharat initiative, IIMPACT started its own 100 Days Reading Campaign in all the Learning Centres this quarter

The whole campaign has been designed in such a way that it not only develops reading habits but also helps students in exploring their creativity and imagination. Through this campaign students created their own stories and their own libraries, which have given them a lot of confidence



“Partnership is not a posture but a process-a continuous process that grows stronger each year as we devote ourselves to common tasks” – J.F Kennedy

IIMPACT works in collaboration with local NGOs who have strong roots in the community. Together with the partners IIMPACT imparts high quality education to girls in the Learning Centres through community mobilization and stakeholder involvement. Therefore, it is very important that the IIMPACT and the partner teams meet regularly to update each other on the health and concerns regarding girl child education so far, highlight areas of concern and collaboratively chalk out a way forward.

Partner advisors and Project coordinators along with the IIMPACT team came together in two Partner Dialogues which were held in this quarter - one in Patna and the other in Delhi. These dialogues were the last two among the three Partner Dialogues that had been planned at various locations this year. The IIMPACT board also joined in virtually and had fruitful interactions. Padma Shri Sudha Virghese, eminent social worker and the founder of Nari Gunjan, attended the partner meet in Patna which was an added bonus for all the participants. Learning about her work and commitment was inspiring for the team.

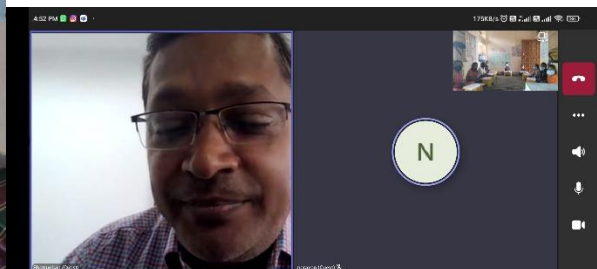


How our Donors connected

Engaging Session by the Indus Towers Volunteers

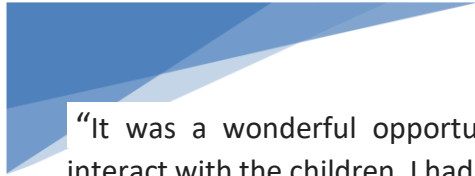
The rewarding journey so far for IIMPACT has been made possible with the support of compassionate people whose generous donations and involvement has helped us grow. Our Donors have been our pillars, they have engaged, supported and connected on a continuous basis.

Apart from the virtual donor visits, this quarter Indus Towers conducted a Volunteering Programme from 18 February to 25 March 2022



Volunteering sessions to enhance the learning of the students were conducted by Indus Towers employees. Our students from Learning Centres Madhupur & Ladadihi in West Bengal, Sameecha, Reechhed, Singhari in Rajasthan & Than in Uttarakhand connected online, in small batches for these interactive and informative sessions.

Some testimonials



“It was a wonderful opportunity for me to interact with the children. I had tried to give my best to motivate them for education and also tried to teach them English, Math, G.K .”

- *Debajyoti Bag, volunteer, Indus Towers*

“I want to thank you for the opportunity you provided me to have such a lovely session as a guide to the students of Laupal Centre in Purulia. I am much elated to have been able to touch the lives of those who are really deprived of the worldly privileges that we get in our lives, which we don't even get to realise.

I am glad to have been able to impart the knowledge and awareness among the little girls about the benefits of educating their selves and the world of opportunities that await a woman in today's times and how bright their lives can be with a bit of self belief. Also, I was able to enrich their general knowledge base of their subjective academia (Geography, English Grammar, Life Science) and General awareness(such as First-Aid, Health and Hygiene, Safety protocols) as well as overall General Knowledge and other effective skills to enhance their cognitive abilities by introducing them to Vedic Maths and Mnemonic Sciences.

Will look forward to contributing more towards such educational and upliftment initiatives.”

- *Sujaya Sharma volunteer from Indus Towers*

An educated girl has direction. She has hope. She will become a mentor to other girls. She will change the world



IIMPACT's journey so far has been extremely rewarding. Starting with a mere 20 girls, today we have 60,000 students in 1500 villages. Another 45000 girls have completed their education

However, there are millions of girls who are still uneducated. Only quality education can help them to come out of poverty and give them a chance to lead a better life. If we can't continue their education, they will be put into child labour, forced into child marriage or even sold off.

We just can't allow that to happen. We look forward to your being part of our journey. Together we can change many lives, make positive transformations in the society and make numerous dreams come true.

Join hands with IIMPACT, together let's make a difference

[DONATE NOW!](#)

IIMPACT

M2/3, DLF Phase 2, Gurgaon 122002

www.iimpact.org

info@iimpact.net

0124-4371141



