



# *Enabling Quality Education and Health for the Underprivileged*

**Newsletter: April, 2015**

## ***Vision***

To provide quality education and health-care services to the underprivileged in Uttar Pradesh.

## ***Mission***

To provide free quality education and health-care facilities to 100,000 underprivileged children per year, by 2020, with a special focus on the girl child.

**Background:** E&H Foundation was set up in 2012 end by four founder trustees, with a vision to provide free quality education and health-care services for the underprivileged in Uttar Pradesh (UP), India through ‘corporatizing the giving experience’. The clear intent is to effectively channelize the sincere efforts of a large number of dedicated individuals and organizations in reaching scale with quality. With this mission, the foundation started its journey from Farrukhabad district of UP. Our operational approach has been to identify successful existing models rather than implement a completely new model which may have limitations. So far, we have collaborated with Educational Support Organization (ESO) for the Gyan Shala model for the urban centers and Bharti Foundation for rural, to provide quality education. We are delighted to share that within barely two years of its inception, the E&H Foundation is now supporting about 3,000 children with free quality education, through the two different education models. **Starting this month, the number of children educated by the E&H Foundation will go up to 5,000.**

**Rural Model:** E&H Foundation started its journey by facilitating the Bharti Foundation <http://www.bhartifoundation.org/> in setting up three primary schools in rural areas of Farrukhabad district of UP. These three schools are providing high quality education to 600 children wherein almost 60% are girls. From April, 2015 with addition of a new class in all three schools, number of students will increase to 720. There is a huge demand for admissions to these three schools, reflecting high learning levels



and enthusiasm amongst parents as well as students. Given this kind of demand for quality education, we will facilitate Bharti Foundation to start two new schools in the district.

**Urban Model:** E&H Foundation identified ESO’s Gyan Shala model <http://www.gyanshala.org/> as an appropriate model to provide quality education in urban slums of UP. This model has a proven track record in providing quality education to more

than 45,000 underprivileged children in Gujarat and Bihar. From June, 2013 the E&H Foundation with the support of ESO, has replicated this model in Farrukhabad district of UP. The urban model today provides quality education to 2,400 children wherein almost 55% are girls. From April, 2015 the total coverage under this model will increase to 4,300 students.

**Preparing for the Next Academic Year:** Hectic activity is on to prepare for the new academic year with both the models. Enrolment is on with Gyan Shala in Farrukhabad town for over 70 new classes, adding almost 2,000 more children. With this year's additional enrolment under Gyan Shala program, total number of classes will increase to 143 and total children will increase to over 4,300. Nine new supervisors have been hired, bringing the total number to 17. About 100 potential new teachers would be trained in first fortnight of April and based on performance during training; over 50 would be hired, taking the total no of teachers to 125. All classes in the new academic year will start from April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

In rural Farrukhabad, the three Bharti schools are enrolling another 120 additional children for the new academic year, increasing the total number of children under the rural program to 720. **With this, the total number of children under the two model supported by E&H Foundation would be more than 5,000 before end of April, 2015.**

**Field Visits:** Four friends and donors, Ms. Prity Jaspal, Ms. Mini Vipul, Mr. Ashok Bharadwaj and Ms. Parul Bhardwaj visited both models in February and March 2015. E&H's advisory board member Mr. Arvind Kumar also visited the field program. Key highlights from the visits are mentioned below:

**Urban Model-ESO's Gyan Shala:** Visiting teams met with students in three Gyan Shala classes (of the total 73 existing classes) located at Bheekampura, Bangashpura-kona and Ramlila Maidan. Teams interacted with students to assess their learning levels across all subjects i.e. Hindi, English, Mathematics and Project. Children were enthusiastic in responding, recited poems, solved many mathematical problems of addition/subtraction, and answered many questions in English as well as projects. It was observed by visiting team that children were able to follow the instructions given by the teacher highlighting their level of comfort inside the classroom.



The visiting team also met with the parents of several students in Amethi Jadeed locality. Meetings' main agenda was to understand what parents feel about the Gyan Shala model and to put gentle pressure on them for putting more attention in sending children regularly to classes. Parents were happy with improvement in learning levels since children joined Gyan Shala classes and mentioned that children could write names, recite poems and stories, identify numbers and are able to do basic calculations. One of the parents talked about his child's journey from local high-cost

private school to government school to Gyan Shala classes. He shared that for him the quality of education means the child is learning and not just attending school for mid-day meals or

scholarships. Interaction with supervisors indicated that there is a need to discuss change of class timings in some afternoon classes as class timings coincides with religious class timings in mosques (Sipara). Supervisors assured that discussions with local community leaders and parents would be organized next month to adjust timings.

**Rural Model-Bharti Foundation:** Visitors managed to visit all three Bharti Schools in the rural areas and interacted intensively with students, teachers and parents. Teachers and parents both mentioned that learning levels in these three Bharti School's is much better as children can read as well as write Hindi and English, enact poems, solve mathematical problems (i.e. addition, subtraction, multiplication as well as division) and are more regular to school. Parents were concerned about continuing this quality education of children especially girls after 5<sup>th</sup> class and requested to extend these schools till 8<sup>th</sup> class.



Overall visiting teams seemed happy with quality of education being imparted in such remote and deprived areas and were impressed that operations have expanded to 3,000 underprivileged children in a short period of two years and agreed with E&H's vision of scaling up operations in next five years.

**Performance Analysis of Gyan Shala in Farrukhabad:** Half yearly examinations of students of Gyan Shala were held in December, 2014 and the results of the performance were analyzed in February, 2015. Class 1 and 2 students were both tested in all their four modules - English, Hindi, Mathematics and Projects (Creative Expression).

<b>Performance Analysis</b>				
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Percentage of students scoring more than 70%</b>		<b>Percentage of students scoring more than 50%</b>	
	<b>Class 1</b>	<b>Class 2</b>	<b>Class 1</b>	<b>Class 2</b>
Mathematics	78%	65%	90%	88%
Hindi	76%	80%	87%	91%
English	59%	87%	80%	96%
Projects	86%	72%	97%	89%
<b>Overall</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>76%</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>91%</b>

Out of 489 children who appeared for examination in Class I, 75% children attained more than 70% marks and 89% children scored more than 50% marks. In Class II out of 1083 children who appeared, 76% children attained more than 70% marks and 91% children scored more than 50% marks. Whilst it is early days, this does show that the innovative Gyan Shala method of teaching has been effective in ensuring higher level of understanding and learning amongst underprivileged children.

In class 1, for mathematics 78% of the children scored more than 70% marks where they were assessed on counting ability, identifying smallest and largest numbers and writing numbers in ascending orders. In class 2, for mathematics 88% of the students scored more than 50% marks



where they were assessed on understanding units and tens, counting additions and subtractions and ranking two digit numbers. In English 87% of the children in class 2 scored more than 70% and 96% of the children scored more than 50% where they were tested on understanding basic English words, completing missing alphabets, matching words with pictures and matching upper and lower case alphabets. **This is significant achievement for first generation learners** who get little support at home for studies and have to be involved in domestic chores.

**Case Study:** As part of measuring learning outcomes through these models, E&H Foundation tracks the progress of students from the inception. Shared here is one of our student's progress, who has been attending the Bharti School for more than a year now. Keerti studies in class 2 in Satya Bharati School run in Sultanganj Khareta. She is living in a joint family consisting of 7 adults and 2 children (i.e. she and her nephew). She also has an elder sister who is married. She is the youngest amongst her siblings. It is fascinating to observe that though her parents are severely financially challenged but still they are aware of the importance of quality education and have tried their best to ensure quality education for their children. Her family owns 4-5 bigha land in which they grow tobacco and sugarcane which is not sufficient to meet the requirements of the family; hence both the parents occasionally take up labor work.



Her mother proudly says “Keerti recites poems and reads us things from her English text book. She is very focused in her studies and she finishes her homework before helping me in regular household chores or taking care of her nephew. I wish my elder daughter could have got this kind of education”. Her mother also highlighted that compared to her cousin who goes to the local private school, Keerti is learning much better and indicated that if children do not get quality education; parents prefer to engage them in work.

**Appeal for Support:** You can support a child for Rs. 5,000/year or multiple children at Rs. 5000 per child and a classroom (25 children) for Rs.100,000/year. To know more about E&H Foundation, please do visit our website <http://www.enhfoundation.in/>. If you wish to support us in this noble endeavor, then please do visit <http://www.enhfoundation.in/how-can-you-support-ehfoundation>.

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