

# india reading olympiad<sup>®</sup>

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2020

*Srinivasa  
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amadeus **ADP**



# india reading olympiad<sup>®</sup>

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2020

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# india reading olympiad®

# MESSAGE

We at Food4Thought Foundation are extremely excited and humbled in carrying forward **india reading olympiad®**

The response from the last year has been overwhelming from all walks of life. We also received feedback from the participants and associated partners and we have incorporated the same and built this years framework.

India has always had rich tradition of reading, but the past few decades have seen an alarming drop in reading habits and this has become more accute with the advent of new distractions like Television, Computers, Mobiles etc. We believe a developed nation without enlightened citizens is a dangerous proposition and we need to create access to books and encourage reading habits.

**india reading olympiad®** is a platform which enables, encourages, endorses an ecosystem which creates active reading spaces & joy of reading and appreciates the efforts towards igniting a reading revolution across 13 categories. The three broad objectives of the **india reading olympiad®** are to Encourage reading habits and enable Joy of Reading, Encourage and appreciate individuals, groups and institutions which promote reading and inspire citizens to become lifelong readers & book lovers

**india reading olympiad® – 2020** has 13 categories wherein we received 75 entries under 12 categories and in Joy of Reflection category, 70 schools participated with 3,748 entries (in 7 Languages: English, Hindi, Marathi, Bengali, Kannada ,Telugu and Urdu).

A special note of gratitude to the organizing committee at Hyderabad Literary Festival for providing a platform to propagate this idea. Special thanks to Dr. Kinnera Murthy, Mr. Ajay Gandhi and Mr. Srinivas Murthy G for encouraging us from time to time. A very special thanks to Srinivasa Farms under the leadership of Mr. C . Suresh Rayudu, who whole heartedly supported us by encouraging to think big. A big note of appreciation to Amadeus, Signode, ADP India and GreenGold Animation for supporting us and giving us confidence.

Special thanks to our esteemed Jury members who in spite of their busy schedules took time off to go through each and every entry and judge based on its merit.

An initiative of this scale wouldn't be possible without the efforts of large number of volunteers across India who selflessly contributed in various forms, a note of our sincere gratitude to them. Hats off to the organising team from the Foundation consisting of Ms Madhavi Sharma, Ms Shefali Rao, Mr. Megh Risaldar .Ms Rhythm Pandey, Ms Sirishia Chilukuri Ms Swati Purohit and Mr Bhanu Prakash and students of NMIMS.

We hope you will find value in what we are doing and bless us with your feedback, encouragement and support.

Happy Reading

K Srinivas Rao (Srini)  
Founder & Vice President  
Food4Thought Foundation

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**india reading Olympiad<sup>®</sup> - 2020**

# WHAT IS

## **india reading olympiad**

**India reading olympiad**<sup>®</sup> is a platform which enables, encourages, endorses an ecosystem which create active reading spaces & joy of reading and appreciates the efforts towards igniting a reading revolution across 13 categories. The three broad objectives of the **india reading olympiad**<sup>®</sup> are Encourage reading habits and enable Joy of Reading, Encourage and appreciate individuals, groups and institutions which promote reading and Inspire citizens to become lifelong readers & book lovers.

**india reading olympiad**<sup>®</sup> is promoted by Food4Thought Foundation and supported by Srinivasa Farms and Hyderabad Literary Festival.





# ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

Food4Thought Foundation is a not for profit organisation which believes that a developed nation without enlighten citizens is a dangerous proposition.

The Foundation aims at building an enlightened nation by universalising access to books and creating joy for reading by igniting a reading revolution.

The Foundation has opened and operates over 303 Libraries across 22 States and 81 Cities in India, with more than 89,000+ books which are tracked on Real Time basis across 11 Library Formats ranging from Schools to Communities to Jails to Hospitals to Temples.

[www.food4thoughtfoundation.org](http://www.food4thoughtfoundation.org)

# ABOUT THE

*Srinivasa<sup>®</sup>  
Farms*



**amaDEUS**



# PARTNERS

Srinivasa Farms is a leader in the Indian Poultry industry since five decades. The areas of operations include Poultry Production, Poultry Breeding, Animal Feed Production, Agriculture, Goat Breeding and Food Retailing, with a diverse portfolio of products and services. The purpose of the organization is to provide Quality and affordable Nutrition.

Hyderabad Literary Festival (HLF) is an annual event that celebrates creativity in all its forms. HLF is a multi-disciplinary, multi-lingual event that draws over a hundred writers, artistes, academics, scholars, publishers from India and abroad each year. It represents the rich and cosmopolitan ethos of the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad, now Cyberabad.

Amadeus as a travel technology company we build the critical solutions that help airlines and airports, hotels and railways, search engines, travel agencies, tour operators and other travel players to run their operations and improve the travel experience, billions of times a year, all over the world.

Signode Industrial Group is a leading global manufacturer of strap, stretch, and protective packaging consumables, tools and equipment. The company's products protect goods during manufacturing, transport and warehousing.

ADP India is India's leading provider of compliance expertise across every state. We are a subsidiary of ADP Inc., the leading Human Capital Management solution provider in the world with the most advanced leasing solutions available anywhere.

Green Gold Animation is a pioneer in creating original Indian animation content and has been entertaining the young generation for over a decade. The shows produced by Green Gold have been hugely popular across all leading kids TV channels .

# ABOUT THE



# JURY

Mr. Prabhakar is an Executive Vice President - Human Resources (Agri-business Division) at ITC Limited. He actively supports multiple agencies which are dedicated towards art, culture and literature.

Parth Sarwate is leading the CSR efforts of RPG foundation. A Harvard alumni who is passionately working towards reforming education and development sector in order to develop independence and thinking abilities among the new generation.

Ms. Shefali Rao is the co-founder of 'Food4Thought' foundation, she handles corporate liasoning, operations and media relations. In addition to that, she is also a part of 'The Strategist', a Global People Advisory Firm. She is an avid reader and spends time in curating endangered stories.

Mr. Nanda Kumar is the founder of 'First Principles' which specialises in the domain of Industrial Relations. Prior to founding 'First Principles', he had a solid 36 years of work experience in companies ranging across various industry sectors. He is an avid reader and curator of his personal collection of over 5,000 books.

Mr Sridhar is CSR & HR Analystic at ADP. A 13+ years of IT experience along with over 5 years of CSR programs journey has resulted in multidimensional, unique combination of thinking to impact business and society at large. Currently, working to create models around social projects, programs, and NGOs sustainability areas.

# ABOUT THE



# JURY

Ms Archana Naidu is Chief People Officer, Archana is accountable for Human Resources , Corporate Communications and Corporate Social Responsibility. Her focus at Srinivasa, is to build the culture trifecta – people, value and capacity, thereby facilitating an environment that enables performance. and literature.

Mr Ajit Jain is Platform HR Director ( APAC & MEA ) at Signode Industrial Group. A right blend of `Passion for growth` and `Value Systems makes a complete and distinct professional in the field of Indian Industrial Business. .

Ms Shalini Nair is Senior Director -HR, Communications & Branding and Facilities at Amadeus Software Labs India Pvt Ltd.

Dr. Kiranmai, is currently the Head of Human Resource's and Site Administration, Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) India, the parent company of New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), starting its Data Services operations in India in 2019. Kiranmai Pendyala is also the Governing Body Member on several Higher Education Institutions/ Deemed Universities as well as on United Way, Hyderabad.

Ms Rekha Srinivasan is Chief Executive Officer at United way of Hyderabad. Experienced CEO with a demonstrated history of working in the non-profit organization management. Skilled in Nonprofit Organizations, Corporate Social Responsibility, Program design, Program Execution, Program Evaluation, and System Monitoring.



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## Categories



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# Role Models

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# Lifetime Achievement

## Igniting Reading Habits

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HYDERABAD  
LITERARY  
FESTIVAL

amadeus ADP

SIGNODE

GREEN GOLD  
Animation Pvt Ltd

Recognises Individuals/Institutions  
who/which devoted their life for igniting reading habits  
and left a lasting legacy



# **Late Shri Anant Pai**



# ONCE UPON A TIME...

Started with the aim of bringing generations of children closer to stories from Indian mythologies, Amar Chitra Katha has been the late Anant Pai's greatest creation. The 'father of Indian comics' began his career as a journalist in Times of India newspaper but went on to start his own comic series in 1967.

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Amar Chitra Katha has released hundreds of titles and sold million copies. It still sells 3 million copies annually, with a total of more than 100 million copies sold till date.

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There are a total of 440 titles in the much loved comic series of Amar Chitra Katha. Apart from this, 'Uncle pai' also devoted his life in the making of the well-known children's magazine, Tinkle comics. The magazine includes short stories, quizzes, contests, factoids, non-fiction and fictional articles on Indian history, science and geography. For almost every kid born before 2000s, Tinkle and Amar Chitra Katha were an essential part of their childhood.

'Uncle Pai' was the nick name given to him by his audiences. The legacy of Amar Chitra Katha was carefully curated and created through months of research about the stories. For his timeless contribution to Indian storytelling, Anant Pai (posthumously) was awarded with the 'Lifetime Achievement Award' at India's first comic convention in 2011.



# Best Reading Club

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india reading olympiad - 2020 <sup>®</sup>

Recognises Volunteer driven book clubs  
for their contribution, innovation and membership drive



# **Bring Your Own Book**



# my my our LOVE BOOK CONVERSATIONS

Bring Your Own Book is a volunteer-led club with a twist! Members carry their favourite book (e-book), talk / discuss about it, make new friends, and can exchange books as well. Its an initiative started by Nidhi Srivastava and Jayanthi Jha in year 2015. The club has 1500 subscribed since its inception.

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BYOB provides a platform to the shy readers and writers to express their creative minds and encourages non-readers to start exploring the world of books.

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BYOB has chapters in Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Surat Hyderabad and Pune. In the meetings, the club members come up with specific themes or discuss one book or author. They meet at cafes, parks or homes twice or thrice a month. Age is no bar in this club. People can start a chapter in their own city. The club also has a 'Writers' Group' on Facebook which aims to keep the budding writers determined and motivated throughout their first draft. Along with this, the club even has its own library.

The club's main focus is on creating a safe and healthy environment for open discussions about books and literature, and help participants gain new perspectives through this. They also help participants meet deadlines and complete their book-reading goals.

The club also plans to conduct sessions for children in near future in order to diversify the reading audiences.



# **Shut Up and Read**



# READING IS SOCIALISING n MEDITATING

Shut Up and Read is a club for book lovers in the city of Pune where all book nerds read and socialize! It has created a local group for reading enthusiasts, budding writers and readers to come together and form a community. Shut Up and Read began in the year April 2017 by two engineering students, Chaitanya Gubbala and Arish Shaikh. The club currently has 1000 subscribed members.

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The club encourages members to read their own books, hold discussions, participate in games, quizzes and charades which is all about books! They even organize literary fests and book donation drives.

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Every Sunday morning Shut up and Read organizes meet-ups and has around 15-20 regular attendees. This book club is a unique initiative, as the members gather at a café, grab a drink at their reserved table and for two hours don't talk, cut off from any gadgets, and just read. They normally discuss around 40 new books in one session belonging to 8-10 different genres. They don't restrict themselves to one language and instead discuss literature written in Hindi, English, Punjabi, Tamil, Telegu and more. Foreign literature like French & Japanese is also discussed.

The club's core members also motivate the enthusiastic readers on social media with catchy slogans like "Petition to add an extra day between Sunday and Monday devoted to reading". Their innovations led them to the success of conducting two Literature & Arts Festivals named "Books & Beyond" in 2017 and 2018. The first fest saw the eager participation from three famous authors and eight new writers.



# The Readers' Tribe



# WALK IN WITH A BOOK, WALK OUT WITH ANOTHER

The Readers' Tribe is a recent initiative, by Mumbai based Divya Mehta, which was launched in March 2019. It is their dream to popularize the notion that being a book geek or a nerd is fun! At present, this growing tribe of readers has 500 subscribed members which is increasing everyday.

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The club holds literature and language based games, provides book recommendations, conducts discussions, book swap sessions and author interactions.

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Among the plethora of books clubs functioning in the city, The Readers' Tribe sets itself apart due to its lack of formality. Their typical meet constitutes of 20-30 people who gather to discuss about their latest reading obsession, their story behind choosing that book, and ways it impacted them. They believe that the tribe members only need a will to learn and listen. Therefore, they welcome readers of all languages and age groups, irrespective of their preferred genre/s of literature.

The club refers to their meetings as "Book Nook"- a series of book meets which allows friends and fellow readers to connect across the city for their love of books. They have even collaborated with publishing houses like HarperCollins India to conduct interactive sessions for their members with various authors. They had recently participated in a Readers' Festival called 'Twice Read'.





# **Business Book Readers' Club**



# WHEN READING LEADS TO, EARNING AS WELL

Business Book Readers Club (BBRC), as the name suggests is a club meant for reading and discussing business / entrepreneurial books only. Located in Pune, it was initiated by Sachin Bhide, a management consultant and teacher, in January 2010. Its aim is to create a platform for individuals interested in expanding their business knowledge by spreading the habit of reading.

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The club focuses on the exchange of business and management books, conducts book reviews, allows exchange of entrepreneurial ideas and helps in networking.

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The objective of this club is to share the learnings from different business books, which otherwise are often expensive and not readily available in markets. In the meetings, the members come prepared to share their views about the book chosen. This activity helps all members to get an in-depth analysis of a book through the various perspectives. It enables them to make an informed decision to buy / read a book or not. Bibliophiles also sell and buy books during these meets. It is a truly effective platform to find and socialize with like-minded people.

The club's meet-up are held once a month for two hours. In every session one or two books are usually discussed. The created space allows exchange of several original ideas, inputs and solutions, for businesses, concepts and entrepreneurial dilemmas. Many club members also use the platform to find new business ideas and connect with partners for their startups. Currently, there are over 400 members who have benefitted from this initiative.



# Bookoholics



# CHAT, MEET, READ, REPEAT

Book”O”holics was co-founded by Jigna and Neh Akansha in year 2016. Jigna, who was not much of a reader earlier, had initially started this club with 10 of her friends but today, it has grown into a group of 250 subscribed members with 1500 online participants. The purpose of this group is to socialize with the fellow book lovers, explore libraries and exchange books of various genres.

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They have their own book-borrowing policy, aim to spread knowledge about variety of genres, and facilitate connections between authors and readers. The

Founder was nominated for #MePadvidhar Award 2019 in the Literature Category.

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The idea behind the club is to create a sense of belonging for community of readers where they share their mutual interest of reading. Meetings are held monthly (physical / virtual) in different parts of the city where people come together to share their love of books through discussions & debates, and by lending & borrowing books. To further encourage the readers, they hold Whatsapp contests and a lucky lottery where the winner gets a book or a voucher.

Another initiative is the ‘**Author Connects**’, which is an extended platform for upcoming writers from the club. The group now consists of some talented published writers as its regular members. The community has made it easier for people to exchange books and to explore different genres before buying them. Club also plans to spread awareness programs about the benefits of reading among parents and kids in preschools and societies.



# Hyderabad Book Club



# THE THIRD SUNDAY, MAGIC

Established in 2016, the Hyderabad Book Club has since become a popular club for its book-loving residents. Presently, with 1731 members, the club is open to both writers and readers. The members meet regularly to discuss and exchange interesting reads of up-and-coming authors.

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The club motivates new readers, gives exposure to writers, provides a space to discuss, debate and exchange books as well as the reading experiences.

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It was the founder, Sagar's, realization that there is a lot to read and that he must interact with other readers in the city, which led to the launching of his book club at Phoenix Arena's library. The club meets every third Sunday of the month where members not only discuss the books they are reading, but also have profound conversations about literary personalities of all genres. They host book exchange meetups to help members explore literature.

One of the main objectives of the club is to motivate people to take up the habit of reading by exposing members to different genres of books through book discussions. The club has no age-restriction and welcomes anyone who loves the literary art form. This has become a socializing platform for meeting like-minded and passionate readers and writers of different backgrounds. The club plans to organize meetups at multiple locations in the city in order to reach more audiences.



# **Book Exchange Club Of Mumbai**



# TAKE A BOOK, LEAVE A BOOK, AND FRIENDS FOR LIFE

The Book Exchange Club of Mumbai was founded in August 2012. The club began with the idea to create a platform in Mumbai for book enthusiasts to interact, exchange old books with new ones and share their ideas about the same. The membership doesn't cost anything and readers from age 20 to 65 years old participate here. The club, at present, has 2034 subscribed members.

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They promote their concept of 'Take a Book – Leave a Book' by setting up small book shelves in café's, co-working spaces and organizations.

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The club functions as a de-centralised group of people with no head administration. The regular members of the club represent the club at the reading events. The dedicated bibliophiles of the group organize interactive sessions and club meetups across the city. They even attend literature festivals and conduct book donation drives as a part of their dream to spread the love for books. This initiative has also inspired other members to start their own such book clubs.

The club has helped members to come out of their secluded spaces and made possible the socializing of curious minds. They aim to constructively demolish the notion that readers are nerds, which is prevalent in the society. The group focuses on inviting authors and bridging the author – reader gap through interactive sessions. They even help new authors launch their first book.





# **The Book Club, Kolkata - La Maison de Livres**



# CATCH THEM, YOUNG

Diva conceptualized the idea of a book club in year 2014 which will help bridge the gap in a child's overall development. The objective is not only to make kids read books, but to make them believe that reading books can be an enjoyable activity, even more than the other leisure activities. They aim to convert them in to 'life long learning machines' (to quote Warren Buffet). The club currently has 45 children as its subscribed members.

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They conduct Young Leaders' workshop, promote interactive learning and storytelling, encourage word games and riddles.

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When Diva researched on how children can benefit from peer to peer learning, she reached out to like minded parents for collaboration. This led to the formation of a not-for-profit venture which aims to reach to a wide group of children for participation. Therefore, to keep it affordable for all, workshops and sessions are held in the office or house. The Book Club aims to transform budding readers into fluent, self-aware, literary readers.

They even help children to develop creative writing skills and convert their ideas in to stories to publish them. They motivate children to share their skills and reading resources with other children from lesser privileged backgrounds.

The founder has initiated recently conceptualized "Young Leaders' Workshop." It is an intensive boot camp for 8-14 year olds, designed to equip the precocious minds of today with the skills of visionary leaders of tomorrow.

# Reading 4

# Pleasure

# School

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india reading olympiad - 2020 <sup>®</sup>

Recognises Schools for Promoting Reading Habits / Joy of Reading  
based on innovation, members subscribed / covered etc



# The Genius



# A BOOK IS A DREAM THAT YOU HOLD IN YOUR HAND

The Genius is an Indore, MP based learning center that began in 1990 as a small reading club and gradually turned into a school which claims that, "the idea of learning here is that learning can happen without teaching".

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They provide a curated library, exposure to great literature, drama, poetry, famous speeches, music, and art. **Bookshelf** initiative for parents - gift of **Reading**.

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The Genius has been introducing the habit of reading to thousands of children since its inception. There are carefully curated libraries at all of their centres for children of all ages. The purpose of the institution is to help in the cognitive and creative development of children from ages 3 to 18 through an after-school program. In school, every activity is aimed at feeding the curious minds, which in turn leads students to read more books.

Children here are frequently quizzed on a variety of topics. They even get to choose a topic for research and write a thesis on the same. The research enables them to spend a considerable amount of time reading. Children are also encouraged to make their own personal libraries with the books that are gifted to them as prizes.



# **Kalol Primary School no. 9**



# LITTLE LIBRARY AT

# myHOME

Kalol school is located in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. The School has the innovative and sustainable style of encouraging reading habits among its students. There are 11 members /teachers in the team.

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Reading projects are named as Samay dan Vachan project, Vachan parab, Granth Mandir and Sivangi Vachan Shivir. School's library projects are also presented in Rashtrapati Bhavan (in the Innovators Gallery)

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To promote reading among students Ms. Priti, a teacher in the School, initiated a project named, **'Little Library at my home'** or **'Movable Library'**. The main objective is to improve reading difficulties of the students and encourage the habit of meaningful reading among the students. The initiative began with 30 movable libraries, with the support of IFFCO. One library includes one aluminum box that contains 20 books.

At present, the creative idea has grown to 224 libraries with the support of various national and international donors. Ms. Priti had not only helped her own school, but donated 55 libraries to support other schools as well. The School plans to spread its initiative in all the schools of Gujarat.





# **Ananda Siksha Niketan**



# SHAPING THE FUTURE, YOUNG LEAD THE BATTLE

Ananda Siksha Niketan was established by Mr. Babar Ali in year 2002. He is the world's youngest Head-Teacher in Murshidabad, West Bengal.

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School has only female teachers today, who were students of Mr. Barbar a few years ago.

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Since 2002, nearly 5000 children have benefited from the learning processes followed in this school. The majority of the young minds here are girls. The teachers in this School teach on a proprietary based salary. Now, the school is trying to develop 'Library Culture' not only amongst the students but also within the society at large. The school is trying to develop an 'eternal book library' along with an E-Library. They believe that it is most essential to become self-sufficient for any citizen.

The school is also planning to conduct 'Popular Scientific Talks' for the general public to encourage curiosity among children and teach them to be ambitious. The school is able to reach around 6000 children, which includes kids from under-privileged families. They aim to make these kids eligible for higher education so that one day they can support their families better.



# **Kendriya Vidyalaya, Pattom**



# IGNITING INTEREST THROUGH, INNOVATIONS

The KV School, Pattom, Kerala has set outstanding example for all the schools to run a library and develop reading among students as a true passion. The library and its reading programs helped the school to rank as the 'Best Govt Day School in the country' in 2015, 2016 & 2017 Education World Survey.

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Unique reading initiatives like Face a book challenge has been conducted, 'Gift a Book & Get a Friend' was initiated where 4500 books were donated which helped in building 6 libraries and benefitting 2500 kids.

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The Library at KV Pattom has been leading the reading revolution that took place in Kendriya Vidyalayas around the country during the last decade. A number of first of its kind initiatives which promote reading habits and support teaching and learning activities have made this library a dynamic, happening place in the school.

Some of the innovations and experiments carried out by the library to promote reading throughout the year include the 'Library Junction' which is an academic online social network with special groups focussing on books, characters and authors. E-Reading Hub is another such platform with 10 Kindle e-readers and thousands of e-books. 'Drop Everything And Read (DEAR)' and 'Infobreak' are programs that aim to develop students' general knowledge.



# **The Elisabeth Gauba School**



# READING IS BEYOND, SYLLABUS BOOKS

The Elisabeth Gauba School is an 81 year old school in New Delhi which believes that each child is born with his /her own potential and reading helps them achieve it. Here students are encouraged to read all age appropriate topics and discuss the same with teachers and peers. Stories are also enacted by the students in their own way.

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Some of the activities conducted here include, creating comic strips and unique story books, exchange of books and have review sessions in the classes. Students from class 3 onwards are inculcated with the habit of reading newspapers.

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The created comic strips and story books are exchanged in the class rooms for all the students to read. 'Reading Drive' is an initiative where students are encouraged to select a book and read it at home. 'Reading Report' is a project where students have to read 5 pages a day (any language, any genre). The parent and the teacher sign on the report and the teacher's use emoticons as remarks.

The '**Reader of the Month**' badge is given to a child from each class who reads the most in a month. Authors' birthdays are celebrated by making posters and students of class V have an interactive session about the author. Teachers read out to the students with actions and later encourage students to do the same in their own ways.

# Innovation 4 Reading

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india reading olympiad - 2020 <sup>®</sup>

Recognises Innovations  
which encourage reading among individuals / groups / communities





# **Bibliotherapy**



# READING IS, THERAPEUTIC . . .

Bibliotherapy is a unique entrepreneurial venture by Apurupa. It focuses on mental health wellness through reading books and discussing about it.. “We think reading and writing can inherently be therapeutic – words can be an escape, they can be soothing and healing, they can help articulate abstract things that don’t make sense (and more!).”

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They promote reading a self-help books, sharing and reflecting on personal experiences within a supportive community.

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A unique reading club with a library introduced the concept of Bibliotherapy – ‘healing through books in a community’, for the first time in India. They have touched the lives of over 200 people in just 8 months.

Strong support system and sense of community has been proven to be integral for a good mental health, and ‘Bibliotherapy’ provides this setting.

Monthly book club meets for self-help & mental health-related books is conducted. They provide a non-judgmental and supportive space for growth & self-improvement of all the members. They even encourage thoughtful reading, discussions, self-reflection activities to help put their theory into practice.



# **MultiStory Learning Pvt. Ltd.**



# READING REVOLUTION, by STORY TELLING n MORE

Chennai-based education company, Multistory Learning Ltd, was started in 2011 by two IITians - Amrut and Naresh. They work to promote books, stories, and the art of storytelling. Their mission is to spread the love of reading.

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"Book Lovers' Program for Schools" (BLPS), is a structured "plug and play" program for classes 1 to 8 which has been created with the guidance of an IIT, Madras professor. The establishment also publishes books about Indian tales and folklore.

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Multistory Learning Ltd., over the last 10 years, has partnered with over 200 schools. 'The Book Lovers Program for Schools' aims to influence children to become avid readers and improve the '3 Cs' which are - Communication skills, Comprehension and Creative thinking. In the last 18 months, there has been an increase in the number of readers from 15 per cent of students in patron schools to over 80 per cent.

They work on popularizing the publishing of books related to Indian context through their initiative 'MsMoochie Publications.'

Some of the many Multistory's initiatives include, 'Lilbi kindergarten curriculum', 'Best of Indian Children's Writing (BICW) Awards' and 'Bilbios Children's Literature Festival'.

The organization has trained 10,000 teachers on the methods to promote stories, storytelling, reading, activity based language learning and theatre with the students.



# **The Free School Under The Bridge**



# BRIDGE THE DREAMS THROUGH, READING

Rajesh Kumar Sharma, a grocery store owner in Delhi, has been teaching poor children in his open-air and free school, situated under the Metro bridge near the Yamuna Bank since 2006. It was a self motivated initiative to help the kids who cannot afford fees for a formal school. He has a team of 7 teachers.

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This is a free school under a metro bridge which has grown from 2 students to more than 300 in last 13 years. The area is decorated by students themselves where volunteers take out time from their full day job to work as teachers in 2 shifts.

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The teachers involved spare 2 hours from their full day job to teach the students here. The space under the metro bridge is decorated by paintings made by students themselves and with potted plants. The school has gained significant national and international attention and appreciation. The founder has received support from various donors to keep the school going.

He gained support for his determined belief that, “no kid should miss out on education just because he / she cannot afford it”. Many students even come to the free school under the bridge after their school hours to further understand the curriculum better.

Children clean the area every day before classes and tidy up before going home. This initiative aims to provide equal educational opportunities to all.



# **Books On The Delhi Metro**



# READING ON THE MOVE, METRO n BEYOND

A Public library, on the Delhi Metro was started by a Delhi couple to pass along their undying love for reading. Its an initiative where books are dropped off in metro trains, waiting to be discovered and read. The founders were fascinated by the '*Books on the underground*' campaign by the British actress Emma Watson.

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They have made possible over 2000 books to circulate at present.  
10,000 commuters have access to these books.

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An initiative that aims to spread the love of reading by providing free books on the Delhi metro stations. The concept encourages the daily commuters to read and develop a habit of reading and make their commute enjoyable. This initiative has helped new Indian authors make their way into Indian market by keeping their books on the Delhi metro.

This has provided them the much-needed visibility that they seek. This has also encouraged other cities in India to come up with their respective branches, 'Books on the Move-Pune' and 'Books on the Kolkata Metro' are some examples.





# **Junoon Foundation**



# EMPOWERING UNDER PRIVILEGE, through READING

A volunteer organization, Junoon, based in Mumbai, runs on a foot-over bridge of the railway station, since June 2017. Their vision is tutoring underprivileged kids to help them get into schools.

This is a community of critical and reflective thinkers, who aim to become agents of change .

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They believe that with enough resources the students will be encouraged to pick up reading habit.

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The NGO focuses on teaching through art and craft making to children who otherwise beg on the streets. Individual time and psychological support is provided to every child, along with appropriate guidance and nurturing. They want to make learning fun and want the inquisitive minds of the children to be nurtured. They strongly believe that every child is entitled to education and underprivileged children should not be overlooked.

Haimanti Sen the founder of the NGO won the 'Teacher Warrior' award 2019.

They aim to educate and prepare every child with the goal to eventually get them into schools and to give them an opportunity to bloom into holistic individuals.



# **Kalol Primary School no.9**



# A BOX AT HOME THE OPENS, WORLD TO ANOTHER

Inculcating reading habits with innovation, in sustainable aluminium boxes and 20 books, is an initiative called Movable Library. It was developed on the rational that, 'a child spends only 6 hours in school and 18 hours at home. Hence, it is more valuable to provide them books to take home and read with family members.'

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This project was also awarded with the 'Trend Setter' award by Gujarat Innovation Society.

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The main objective of this project is to bring development in speaking, writing skills and meaningful reading among many students. They try to inculcate a habit of reading with the constant reinforcement. The noticeable changes include students becoming responsible and full of self confidence. They now participate in various competitions like speeches, essay writing, quiz, various plays, poetry and etc.

ILM Ahmedabad brought the project to light by making the the project participate in '3rd International conference on creativity and innovation at grass roots'. Ms. Priti got the opportunity to represent and share her project at different states in India as well as in different countries. Ms. Priti has received 'best teacher award' 2017 at state level.

# #iambond Above 18

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iambond (I AM BOND) are book lovers above 18 years and who work tirelessly to encourage reading habits / joy of reading



# **Happy Children's Library Mrs. Jaya And Atul Shah**



# MASTI KI, PAATHSHAALA

Located in a small village in Uttarakhand called Seem, Happy Children's Library is more than just a library. It was started in June 2016 with 17 books and now is a full fledged library and activity centre with over 1400 books, educational games and a computer lab.

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The conduct storytelling sessions, songs and poems, essay writing, quiz, science exhibition, cultural programs, and even involve parents and grandparents in reading sessions.

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Atul is a civil engineer, and Jaya who has worked for many NGOs, in early 2016 decided to settle in Uttarakhand. Noticing the lack of a wholesome learning experience here, the couple started a library and activity center at their own house. Today, about 60 children come there from four surrounding villages.

The library and activity center has books of different categories, puzzles kits, learning tools, educational games and more. They follow creative teaching methods for children aged 4 – 18 yrs. The library proved to be instrumental in making learning, reading enjoyable and a place to share ideas and thoughts without hesitation.





# **Little Spark**

## **Ms. Anusha Ashok**



# CATCH THEM YOUNG, IGNITE THE SPARK

Little Spark is the largest Children's library in Chennai and is committed to make reading a joyful experience and enable children explore the world through books. Anusha, began collecting these books for her own kids when she was in the US, and her return to Chennai last year inspired her to share these with other children of the same age group.

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They conduct Book Club meets, storytelling and craft sessions to spark the passion for books. They use sturdy cardboard which contains vibrant illustrations, pop-outs and puppets.

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They have an online library for kids aged 0-14 years with the most unique selection of books. Books are chosen online by the members and delivered at homes each month. There is a collection of over 5000 books. The handpicked collection of books are one of a kind comprising of board books, rhymes, big picture books, values, stories and early science. They also have a physical library for kids to drop in and read.

The book club sessions typically have a theme around which activities and crafts are conducted. They work with schools and play schools to spread the love of reading and help jumpstart their library program. They also conduct workshops for parents and teachers about raising readers and instilling a love for books from a young age.



**Veranda**  
**Mr. Shukoor**  
**Pedayangode**



# NUKKAD PE, CHAI n BOOKS n POETRY

In a Pedayangode village, about 35 km from Kannur is a humble tea shop called "Veranda Chayappedika" that proudly hosts a book club run by the shop owner Mr. Shukkur Pedayangode. He recently conferred with 'NRI AWARD for Outstanding Work n Promoting Reading' in Sharjah (UAE).

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His published poetry collections include: Onpathu Pennungal (Nine Women) and Nilavilikalude Bhasha (Language of Screams).

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Mr. Shukoor invited women and encouraged them to take part in these literary discussions. Weeks before the session, he announces the title of the book on Facebook and sells its copies in the neighborhood so that the audience is well prepared to have a meaningful discussion with the author. Not only does he satiate hungry minds, he also serves tapioca and his famous "chukku kaapi" (dried ginger tea) to supplement the flow of ideas.

To further encourage participation, he gives awards, such as "Best Reading Couple" and "Best Book Review". He further plans to extend his book club at school level. Veranda Chayappedika has been an inspiration to many resulting in opening of various book clubs in the state of Kerala. This club has motivated one of the regular female authors (who has stopped writing for a while) to rekindle her passion for creative writing.



**Hasiru Dala  
Ms. Lakshmi  
Karunakaran**



# READ A LOUD and, WALK IN QUIETLY INTO LIVES

Lakshmi lived and worked with government primary schools for over a year. This inspired her to use art as a medium for education. Over the years, she has worked with children experiencing social exclusion in government schools, special needs schools, remedial schools, and in disadvantaged communities. All this assisted her to head this program.

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700 + children of 'waste workers' are enrolled in a daily reading program at three libraries since Jan 2017.

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At Hasiru Dala, an NGO that works with informal waste workers in India, Lakshmi heads the Buguri Children's Program. Buguri Community Library Project works towards creating safe spaces for children of waste pickers, through arts and literature. This space is where the arts like storytelling, music, theatre, dance and play helps bridge learning gaps in children.

Children also have interactions and discussions with people from various backgrounds. The library aims to hone the voices of the children so that they can tell their own stories. They even conducted '**Read Aloud Festival**' across schools and communities reaching over 2300 children in February 2019. They have pioneered a model of organizing children of informal waste pickers through this program.



# **Ananda Siksha Niketan**

## **Mr. Babar Ali**



# YOUNG LEADING, INTO THE FUTURE

Babar Ali named the 'youngest headmaster in the world' by BBC in October 2009, at the age of 16, is from Murshidabad, West Bengal. He started a school, Ananada Siksha Niketan – Home of joyful learning, in his backyard when he was just 9-years-old. There is no tuition fees, thus making it affordable for the poor and thereby helping increase literacy rate there. Moreover the school provides stationary and uniform.

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The present teachers of the school are all women who were once Mr. Ali's students. They teach in this School on a proprietary based salary.

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Initial students were Ali's playmates who were not at all associated with any learning center as they came from the poorest families surrounding his home. Since 2002, about 6000 children have been associated with the learning center and the majority of the students are girls. They have received several awards, including a prize from the program 'Real Heroes' of the Indian English news channel CNN IBN for his work.

He was also awarded the NDTV 'Indian of the Year' award. His story became a part of the syllabus of the CBSE 10th standard English textbook, PUC English textbook for Govt. of Karnataka, and was also included in a curriculum in Luxembourg. He is regularly invited to speak at various conferences and forums all over the world to share the impact of his initiative.



# #iambond Under 18

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iambond (I AM BOND) under 18 are book lovers who are below the age of 18 years and work tirelessly to encourage reading habits / joy of reading



**Ayan Gogoi**



# WHEN OTHERS STRUGGLE TO READ, I AUTHOR ALSO

Authored his first book “Honeycomb” for which the India book of records in may 2018, awarded him the title ‘The Youngest author in India’ for getting published at the age 4. Initially, the book was a gift to family and friends but soon readers from different parts of the world started appreciating it. He has been felicitated at various events across India and invited as a special guest speaker in several art and literary festivals in India.

He has exhibited more than 300 paintings, 500 photographs and his book throughout India. Everyday he volunteers for 1 hour to plant trees, gift books or share his joy of reading with others.

The profits he earns from the books go in for planting trees.

People across the world , who loved “Honeycomb” showed their support by planting trees around the globe. In Canada, thousands of school children came in support to plant trees.

In literary festivals, academic and religious institutions people eagerly listened to this success story and gifted books to the unprivileged kids.

The sales from his art exhibitions themed “Gossamer dreams” are being used to gift books and clothes to children.

He wishes to keep writing more books, exhibit more paintings and photographs to inspire people to follow their passions. He is grateful for the opportunities he received and dreams of a world sharing the joy of books and planting trees.



# Pranjal Kumar



# SHAPING FUTURE THROUGH, CLAY PIGGY BANKS

Since 2017, she has been the group leader for the SDMC school's share and care program in association with the Government of India. As an active member of the Interact club, she has taught children from the weaker sections of society. She even undertook story-reading sessions with them.

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Due to their efforts, children attending government schools have access to storybooks and a library. They have provided these children access to storytelling and activity sessions.

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She established PUKKAR, under which she organized book-collection drives in schools and her neighborhood with the help of charity funds and volunteers. She also painted gullaks and placed them in local retail shops to raise money. Through these they were able to collect over 3500 titles and had set up four libraries in various SDMC schools, where children could sit, read, learn and explore.

At PUKKAR they believe that reading is an ongoing process and results can't be achieved overnight. The target students come from economically weaker sections of the society, for whom reading and story books is not easy. They plan to conduct more story telling and activity sessions that not only give them access to books but also spark a never ending love for books. Their next project is setting up library at SDMC school, Rajokri.



# Vidhi Bhartiya



# ASSIST TO CREATE, ACCESS TO BOOKS

She aims at helping the lesser privileged to learn basic English and introduce them to the joy of reading. She has assisted in creating libraries in government schools to provide access to books to everyone.

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She has assisted in the creation and running of libraries. She aims to expand the number of readers in her school, and make the literature club run more effectively. She also wishes to make a blog to reach out to a wider audience.

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She has been volunteering in her school library for the past four years. She has been a volunteer writer for a year at 'teens4teens', an organisation that posts articles and scripts relating to teenage issues on various online portals. For the past year, she also has been working with many of the girls from the slums near her neighborhood and teaching them how to read and write.

She was also a volunteer at the Angelique Foundation, a non-profit organisation that creates libraries for the children in government schools all over India, with around 3000 books in each library. She even has organised many workshops and reading circles for the younger kids and have also created a Literature Club in her school. Along with that, she is also an independent blogger about books and her writings.





# Ayaan Kapadia



# MY WORDS ARE, MY POWER

He has been awarded as the 'Youngest author in India' by the Indian Book of Records in April 2018 and termed as the 'Fastest writer in India and Asia'. He even shared his experience at TEDx Unplugged. He has received media coverage by Zee News & WION, Bombay Times and Mid-Day.

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He is an author who enjoys speaking at various High Schools and other platforms and spread his love for reading and writing.

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He claims that it has always been a dream for him to become a celebrated author like William Shakespeare, whom he admires the most. He credits his teacher, Ms. Sheetal, for enabling him to perfect his craft. She has been instrumental in shaping his writing skills and taught him how to think creatively.

He believes that the process of writing is truly enjoyable. From creating a storyline, to creating numerous scripts, sitting for brainstorming sessions, working on the final manuscript, to editing and re-editing, it has all been an exhilarating roller coaster ride.



# **Anand Goyal - Pustakalaya**



# DELHI KI DIL MEIN, READING AND BOOKS

Pustakalaya is a social initiative aimed at increasing the number of readers in our country. 2500 + books to 6 NDMC Public libraries and 1600+ books to Teach for India volunteer's classroom libraries in 80+ Delhi Government Schools. They even donated to government schools in Leh and Kargil.

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They have started a movement in schools for donating used story books. In 2018-19 over 6000 story books were collected and donated.

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Pustakalaya initiative works to provide functional libraries with specially curated book lists that are relevant to the literacy levels and age group of the students in a given class. All books are contextualized to the beneficiary's environment, well illustrated, catering to all levels of reading, from a variety of publishers and genres. Further, each library is designed to be comfortable and motivating, as easy access to books with little adult intervention allows students to learn independently. They raise volunteers who can conduct workshops that encourage reading in the low-income groups' school libraries.

They are even developing a mobile app to connect students to volunteers in existing libraries, engage with the beneficiaries and ultimately create more libraries! They encourage volunteers who can give motivating presentations to schools in Delhi and spread the movement of creating libraries as an out-reach program. They are also planning to conduct story narration, story writing and more such competitions within schools to encourage the use of the library.

# Reading 4 Pleasure NGO

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Recognises NGO / Not for Profit / Voluntary Groups  
for Promoting Reading Habits / Joy of Reading  
based on innovation, members subscribed / covered etc



# Hasiru Dala



# MOVABLE LIBRARY, GREEN COLLAR WORKERS

Hasiru Dala is a social impact organization that focuses on justice for ragpickers and aims to provide its members with opportunities that will help them claim their much-deserved role in society – as ‘green collar workers’ who quietly work towards keeping our cities clean and mitigating climate change by enhancing recycling.

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They create libraries on wheels that will cater to the children of migrant ragpickers in remote parts of the city. They work with the government bodies to create children’s library.

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They have enrolled over 700 children of ragpickers in a daily reading program at the Buguri Community Libraries across three locations, since Jan 2017.

Aye Reena and Oaatha Aitha have even authored two books. They even conduct ‘Read Aloud Festival’ across schools and communities reaching out to over 2300 children in February 2019.

They work with local Govt bodies to understand the need to have community libraries.

The Buguri community library is not just a regular library. It is a safe space for children to use stories and books as a medium to think, learn and understand the world. It is also a space for children to express their thoughts and is invested in developing their capability to articulate the right emotions in their often-challenging childhood and adolescence.





# **Share A Book India Association**



# SHARE A BOOK, SHAPE A FUTURE

Over the last couple of years, Share A Book India Association has been featured by media houses like India Today, The Logical Indian, The Hindu, Rajasthan Patrika etc. Esteemed Member of Parliament and renowned author, Mr. Shashi Tharoor himself has tweeted about the organisation and commended the work being done.

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Through the #MySaturdayOfChange initiative, around 120 Saturday sessions have been conducted across various partner schools to impart children with various educational and life skills.

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They have reached out to 45 schools in 6 cities with over 5000 children who are benefitting from the reading programs. They aim to bridge the gap between the privileged and under-privileged youth of India by bringing in over 500 volunteers to join the cause and invest their time at partner schools.

So far, they have collected over 25,000 donated books during Annual Book Donation Drives conducted in 2018 and 2019.

We estimate the socio-environmental impact created by reusing the donated books as over 750 trees saved from felling/pulping.

Through their latest project, #Mission, they are striving to achieve educational equality for village children across India. This project aims to provide around 20,000 children with over 10,000 books. Each beneficiary school will be given an average donation of hundred books or more by SABIA. Thus, before the end of year 2019 they would have reached 13 states of India.



# **Bookaroo Trust**



# A LITERARY FESTIVAL, FOR CHILDREN n MORE

Bookaroo is a public charitable trust set up in 2008 to promote the joy of reading among children. So far, the festival has visited 15 cities (including one in Malaysia) with 35 editions and even started an outreach programme that reaches out to under-served children

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Bookaroo is India's first children's literature festival. They have pioneered the concept of bringing children and books together through dramatised reading and theatre

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They have been in 14 Indian cities. The attempt to reclaim public spaces where children can have a free, unrestricted time with books. Through the outreach program, they reach out to underserved children in underserved institutions. They even provide a platform for publishers and authors (both national and international) to meet and develop new books. They train teachers, librarians and storytellers through Masterclasses with an aim to reach out to more children.

Their dream is to bring back the wonder of imagination and reading books through reconnecting children everywhere with the world of literature, thereby helping in their cognitive, emotional and social development.



# Mitra Jyoti



# A VISION OF LIBRARY, FOR EVERYONE

At Mitra Jyothi the focus is on visual disability and the various ways to overcome the associated stigma and social issues around it. They have about 3000 individual members and 80+ institutional members leading to 13500 primary beneficiaries and 54000+ secondary ones across India. The Educational Resource Centre at Mitra Jyothi is a pioneer in the creation of Audio/Digital/Braille Books in South India.

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More than 25 Lakh pages of braille printing have been done and distributed to 40+ special schools across India, especially in Karnataka since 4 years. Mitra Jyothi is considered as main source for textbooks by all special schools in Karnataka.

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They bridge the non-availability of equal opportunities by providing-

- Access to textbooks and all kinds of Books/ magazines/ newspapers/ periodicals in Braille
- Access to other reading material (e-Text, DAISY, Audio Books)
- Access to Audio & Digital accessible Libraries
- Denial of higher level Science and Math education

Mitra Jyothi team is presently working to come up with UPSC exam guidance book which can help many Visually Impaired students to crack UPSC exam. Through this book we aim to make an easy way for the visually impaired to write the UPSC exams. They are also working on a spelling guidance book for the blind students. There are many people, especially visually impaired who find it difficult to learn or talk in English. This book will help people to gain knowledge about basic English through which they can live independently.



# **The Community Library Project**



# HONOURING YOUNG READERS, READ, REWARD, REPEAT

The Community Library Project at Sikanderpur, Gurgaon, is every book lover's dream. Started with the aim of getting more and more people to read books, it is stocked with children's books and fiction novels for adults. Running at NGO Agrasar learning centre, this library is open on all weekdays, from 10am to 5pm.

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The objective is to bring the joy of reading to first generation learners and to those who have no access to books. Hence, the libraries are based in urban villages.

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Apart from issuing books, members and volunteers also hold read-aloud sessions and honor roll programs where a child is rewarded for completing ten books.

They maintain a database on how many books a child has read. The children learn to critically think during the Read Aloud sessions.

When a story is read, the volunteers often pause and ask the students, "Why do you think this has happened?". The more one reads, the more they are able to think.

They are currently busy planning workshops and programs for children, that will encourage learning through stories and games.





# Adhvan Foundation



# BRINGING BOOKS TO NEW HOMES

Adhvan Foundation works to spread the habit of reading among children living in Child Care Institutions like orphanages and shelter homes. They run weekly Library Programmes in these institutions to promote book reading. Each session comprises of free reading, a read aloud session and a vibrancy activity.

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They also train other NGO's and organisations, and help to set up and run their own unique library programmes.

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Their initiative has impacted over 200 children in past 8 months. With a collection of over 600 books, they have conducted more than 100 library sessions. They use activities like book treasure hunts, book auctions and book talks to encourage children's engagement with books and stories.

In the past year they have supported 2 organisations to form their library programs. They aim to expand their reach to 300 more children through the library program and to another 200 through the trainings sessions. They wish to continue to double their reach each year and by 2025 they aim to expand their initiative across India.

# Joy of Reading Reflection

**Schools**

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Recognises children  
for their ability to read and assimilate the essence of books / authors  
ideas  
based on Reflection Journal

# ENGLISH



**Akash Ahirwar**  
**SSGM Indirapuram, U.P, (Category 1 – 4)**



**Zoya Haider**  
**Sophiya Public School, Ghaziabad ,U.P**  
**(Category 5 – 7)**



**Nandini Sharma**  
**Laurels Public School, Gwalior, M.P**  
**(Category 8 – 10)**



**Poonam Ahirwar**  
**Sri Sri Gnan Mandir, Guna, M.P (Category 1 – 4)**



**Shivam Vickey**  
**Sri Sri Gnan Mandir, Betul, M.P (Category 5 – 7)**



**Savita**  
**SOS Children Village, Hararyana (Category 8 – 10)**

# VERNACULAR



**M.Vaishnavi (Telugu)**  
**A.V.Model School, Telangana (Category 1 – 4)**



**Rajmohini Chingde (Marathi)**  
**Sri Sri Gyan Mandir, Chimbali, Maharashtra (Category 5 – 7)**



**T Srishia (Telugu)**  
**ZPHS Thumkunta , Hyderabad (Category 8 – 10)**

# HIGHEST PARTICIPATION



**MPPS Siddiqnagar, Hyderabad  
(Category 1 – 4)**



**Govt. Model Girls Higher Primary School  
Sarjapur, Bengaluru (Category 5 – 7)**



**ZPHS Rudraram, Hyderabad  
(Category 8 – 10)**



# Book Store Of The Year

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Recognises Boutique Book Stores  
which are more than 50 years old and are using creative ways  
Of making books accessible to all and encouraging reading habits & the  
joy of reading



## **Rachna Bookstore**



# BOOKSTORE THAT, PRESERVES LOCAL CULTURE TOO

Rachna Books – an independent bookshop in Gangtok, was founded in 1979. They specialise in literary fiction and have a wide range of titles on poetry, philosophy, biography, travel, art, music and children's books. Apart from this they sell famous works on Sikkim, Tibet, Greater Himalaya and the regional history.

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Open Mic, meeting point for authors, writers, professionals from art culture and literature can be found here visiting. This is Sikkim's first platform where LGBTQ voices are being expressed in the form of poetry. They have initiated their own publishing house.

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The space has evolved for book readings and launches, annual poetry fest, to other events like exhibitions, talks by academics from leading global universities, workshops, installation art shows, theatre, shadow puppetry, premiers of anthropological documentaries, Hindustani, jazz and folk musical performances and much more.

Among their main events are-

Word of Mouth - a series of talks and interactive sessions with scholars on subjects they specialize in.

Small Town Film Club – a film club that offers a platform for local film-makers to connect with wider audiences worldwide, and for filmmakers outside to meet the audiences in this region.

Aperture Culture – they organise regular exhibitions of photography by amateurs and professionals from the region and abroad. This is a part of our ongoing effort to introduce photography as a medium of artistic expression and a career option to the youngsters in the region.



# **Art Book Centre**



# A

## TEMPLE OF BOOKS

A treasure trove of rare Indian art books and special editions, this shop will enchant any book aficionado. The owners, Manharbhai a Connoisseur of art books, started the bookshop in his residence in 1970.

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It attracts booklovers from all over the world for its magnificent collection of rare, out-of-print, and new books on Indian miniature paintings, architecture, and textiles.

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The “Art Book Center” houses some of the rarest books on art from the world, spanning over several centuries. The Book Store is possibly the only store in Gujarat that keeps such a huge collection of books related to Indian art, culture, craft, religion, philosophy, textile design, miniature, painting, photography, architecture etc.

The store has served more than 1000 visitors till date. The founder wishes to maintain the legacy and continue the shop in service of students, professors, researchers, art lovers, existing book lovers and to make others fall in love of books and book reading. The store merited a mention in Lonely Planet's guide to India and other travel guides.



# **Maria Brothers Bookstore**



# TREASURING BOOKS, AND HISTORY

When it comes to rare antiquarian books, there's hardly any other that can replace Maria Brothers. Founded by Sh. Onkar Chand Sud in 1947, but in 1950s it gradually switched to antique books mainly on Western Himalayas, Tibet and North India which include numerous first editions comprising of history and travelogues, lithographs and old maps.

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It is located on Mall Road in Shimla. Some of the antique maps here include map of Rangoon in 1910 as well as one of India drawn in 1931.

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This must be one of the few bookshops in the country, which has these many rare first editions, and many others that have gone out of print. A Sanskrit-English dictionary by Munier Williams (1899 edition), a ten volume English translation of Katha Sarit Sagar, Shimla Past and Present (second edition 1924), Chiang Kai Shaik – Marshal of China (1940 edition) are just some of the many. Maria Brothers is treasuring over 8,000 books including some 16th and 17th editions as well.

It is able to cater a lot of research students over the years. They are listed in almost all International travel guides. Visitors will find that around 10-15 precious books are labelled 'Not For Sale'. One of the rarest in the collection, is an Indian medical text compiled in Tibetan script in around 16th century, but not for sale.





## **Literati Bookshop And Cafe**



# COLONIAL HOUSE, HOME FOR BOOKS n COFFEE

Nestled in a South Calangute Portuguese-style home, Literati is a 100-year old refurbished house. The treasure trove bookcafe was started by a book-loving couple and is now owned and run by Diviya Kapur. Customers are free to curl up with a book on the veranda that overlooks a lush Italian garden. Titles sold here include works by Indian and Goan authors.

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They were the winner of the Publishing Next Industry Bookstore of the Year 2014. The place is known for book launches, authors' book readings, art workshops, screening documentaries and etc.

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Literati has engaged with internationally acclaimed authors and artists in the likes of Amitav Ghosh, Saeed Mirza, Dayanita Singh, Zai Whitaker and Suniti Namjoshi. The bookshop additionally houses a dedicated used-book section. An excellent selection of antiquarian books can be found here.

Initiatives of the Bookcafe include, 'BEBOOK' where they encourage reading and learning from a young age. They run a mobile library, focused on children who may not have access or privilege to purchase a book. They also have a registered trust which conducts fundraisers & fetes annually. LITERATI BOOK CLUB also comprises of a small group of 10-15 individuals who meet frequently for their love of books.



# **Sisters Of The People Under Servants of the people society**



# GOOD DEEDS, REA~D~ONATE

This is a bookstore that runs on donated books. They try to make the books available and within the reach to people of all age groups. The shop was founded by the chairperson late Mrs Krishna Satyanand with the assistance of a few volunteers in 2001.

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This is a cozy charity book shop for pre-owned books' lovers. They sell books at pocket friendly prices here.

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They view this idea as a way of passing knowledge and wisdom through generations. The store aims to preserve the habit of reading printed books. The vast collection of old and new copies collected through donations over the years makes the volunteers very proud as it allows the readers and the books live a thousand lives. The store is promoting the activity of sharing through second hand books.

Recycling and reusing old books results in zero waste. They even focus on encouraging people to give and help the needy through volunteering and donations. Proceeds of books selling goes to a cause - supporting 18 balwadis across Delhi, which also contributes towards education, midday meals, uniforms etc.

# Reading 4 Pleasure Institute

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Recognises Corporates / CSR Platforms  
for Promoting Reading Habits / Joy of Reading  
based on innovation, members subscribed / covered etc



## **Indira Group of Institutes**



# READING CORNERS, MAKE THAT DIFFERENCE

The Indira Group of Institutes (IGI), since its inception in 1994, has been earning considerable appreciation for imparting value-based education in response to demands of the corporate world and imbibing ideals of academic excellence among both, faculty and students alike.

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The Reading Club is held twice in a month is led by Chairperson and a Coordinator. It consists of students in batches of 20. Reading and discussion activity is conducted at one of the designated colleges, twice a month. Till date 500 students have been a member of this club.

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Having a reading club activity here developed a habit amongst participants to complete reading a book in hand within a given deadline.

The book club has given an opportunity to students to discuss at liberty about the subject in hand. By engaging in reading books ranging on different topics, students have learned to see perspectives of different people and cultures.

At Indira, to increase student enrolment and participation, they invite popular authors to reading sessions. They have introduced 'Book Corners' in our libraries, each corner exhibiting books by well-known Entrepreneurs, thinkers and Management Gurus. They aim to take their book club online, which will be a free community for book lovers. What we ultimately aim is for students to talk more about their learning processes than discussing just about the book.





# **St. Joseph's Degree and PG College**



# READING TO BUILD, NATIONAL CONSCIOUSNESS

The English literary club is what makes for a vibrant campus experience, taking learning beyond the classrooms. The sub clubs under the umbrella of JELS include the traditional debaters club, the Quizzers Club, the drama club, apart from Creative Writer's Club, Book Lover's club, Think Tank and Civic Engagement Clubs that conduct various competitions and engage in socio-cultural activities.

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The club plans to have collaborations with external agencies for wider outreach and impact. The Cultural exchange program abroad is one of such attempts to widen the platform for students.

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National integration week is celebrated every year where various literary events and competitions are held. These include, writing a letter to the Prime Minister, wherein they take one initiative like Swatch Bharat, Digital India, etc and review its effectiveness with statistical data and recommend changes. Quizzes, creative writing, photography and poster making contests are conducted on the topic "India through my Eyes".

The language cell initiative aims to foster reading habits among the students for their personal enrichment and professional development. The Department of English, as part of the Book Lover's club, has a cozy room dedicated at keeping a modest collection of books where group discussions are also conducted. Language cell is an innovation in ELT (English Language Teaching)



# **Raja Bahadur Venkat Rama Reddy women's College**



# THE QUILL IS STRONGER THAN, THE SWORD

The Department of English, RBVRR Women's College, Hyderabad has established the Quills Literary Club. The aim of the club is to provide a safe space for students to share their literary and creative ideas. The Club aims to fulfill the vision and mission of the College by enhancing the ability of students to communicate in the larger social and cultural context.

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The Literary Club is named Quills as the quill is an identity marker of English literary which was used by our early writers.

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Presently, there are 81 members in the club. The club operates from June to October and December to February. Each month, they organize a meeting. The meetings include discussions on specific literary texts, authors, cultural issues and even films. The club also organizes, workshops and guest lectures for its members.

They encourage students to participate in various literary and cultural competitions held in the city.

The club also has a writing portal, 'Quills: The World of Words'. The blog was introduced to encourage creative writing among students from both rural and urban areas. The biggest impact of the club is that it has imparted confidence and conversation skills to young girls who come from various backgrounds.



# **Sree Sankara Vidyapeethom College**



# SCHOOL ON WHEELS, BUILDING MOTION FOR READING

The institution gives much importance to activities related to reading. Students are encouraged to take books from the library on a regular basis. They even conduct sessions where students discuss about the books they read.

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School on Wheels – Mobile Library , has impacted more than 1000 students from the nearby rural villages and encouraged them to read books.

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Every year the last week of June is celebrated as the reading week. Students do book review sessions during the time of reading week. Along with this, reading club conducts book reviewing activities every month. Reading quiz is also conducted and eminent literary personalities are invited to the college and students get a chance to interact with them.

They plan to conduct more similar activities as part of the reading club and conduct activities like, story writing competition, elocution, recitation competition, quizzes, and skit competition.



# **Gandhi Institute of Technology and Management, Hyderabad**



# WALK IN WITH A BOOK, LEAVE WITH ANOTHER

To promote reading habits, the college holds events that Kalakriti's Literary & Newsletter Team (a student body) organises, with games, competitions and workshops during the college fests.

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Every year the college hosts a literary fest called Zenith (formerly Lavz-O-Phila) filled with literary events, games and performances that let enthusiasts and newcomers alike explore the world of reading and literature.

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The Literary & Newsletter Team of Kalakriti works year round to organise and host events that lets participants find their zest for reading and literature. The college curriculum also includes library classes that give students the space and encouragement to read. The college fest Zenith is a platform for all those who attend it to explore literature.

In the future, Kalakriti plans to expand its campus-wide fest into a bigger event. The expansion in scale of the event since last year led to the rebranding of the annual event, changing the name from "Lavz-O-Philia" (love of words) to "Zenith".

They plan to keep up this curve while looking into possibilities of events in other categories such as guest lectures and hands-on experiences with the high school students of the local schools.



# Caught Reading

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india reading olympiad - 2020 <sup>®</sup>

Recognises photographs  
which capture the essence of Reading Habits / Joy of Reading



**Mr. Hari .G**



# SIMPLICITY IS THE ESSENCE OF HAPPINESS



HARI.G is a student and social worker. He has opened a library in a BURGUGADDA TANDA near SHAMSHABAD ,HYD. He has started this library with the help of NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME (NSS) and his team. This was inspired by his teacher, Mr. SURYA PRAKASH's initiative of ANDHARI PUSTHAKAM. Photography is his passion and as a student enjoys spending time in that field.



**Ms. Amrutha Laxmi,  
Raja Bahadur Venkat Rama  
Reddy women's College**



# TELLING STORY BY CLICKING



Ms Amrutha Laxmi, is a passionate photographer who enjoys taking photos and spread ideas through her vision. The submitted picture aims to raise more awareness towards book reading in a time when most of us read from phone.



## **Ms. Aditi Sojatia, Creator of Photoblogger**



# CAPTURE WHAT YOU LOVE



Aditi Sojatia, comes from the city called the mini Bombay of Madhya Pradesh - Indore. She teaches Finance, Economics at three different colleges. Aditi started photography as a time engaging hobby but now she invests lot of time in finding inspiration to capture moments. She has an Instagram page dedicated just to the pictures clicked by her. "She believes every picture taken is a story in itself".





**Mr. Alexander Roy**



# THE BUDDING PHOTOGRAPHER



Alexander Roy is a passionate photographer and his shared photos are of the philosophy – “think not of the fragility of life, but of the power of books, when mere words have the ability to change our lives simply by being next to each other.”



**Neha Shree and  
Prgaya Madstwar  
RBVRR Women's College**



# THE BUDDING PHOTOGRAPHER



Ms Neha & Ms Pragya, are passionate photographers who enjoy telling stories through captured pictures. Through this art they wish to make their own bit of contribution towards rekindling the habit of reading.

# Best Library

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india reading olympiad - 2020 <sup>®</sup>

Recognises Schools where the Foundation Libraries are operating  
based on READER index parameters  
which include, how many books are being read, by how many children  
etc

## **MPPS Shamshiguda**

**(South Zone)**



## **MPPS Matoor**

**(South Zone)**



## **A.V.Model School**

**(South Zone)**

Kukatpally in Sangareddy has a school named MPPS Shamshiguda. In 1972, MPPS Shamshiguda, Telangana was launched with the student teacher ratio being 18:1 and the primary medium of instruction being Telugu. Classes from 1st to 5th run in this school and 706 is approximately the current student strength of this school.

This school library has 200 books and from April 2018 to December 2018 a total of 323 students have read books and of them, 205 are unique readers. The most read books in the library are Badi Brathuku, 3 Korilkalu, Addamlo Simham, Rahasyam and Chadasthapur Mogudu(15)

In MPPS Matoor, Nalgonda, Telangana, the primary medium of instruction is Telugu. Classes from 1st to 5th run in this school with 45 as the current student strength of this school.

This school library has 200 books and from April 2018 to December 2018 a total of 37 students have read books . The most read books in the library are Sarada Sarada Ganitham(18), Magical Stairway Vol 87, Nenu Vastha(20) , Touch of Stone Vol 75.

A.V.Model School is located in the economically backward area of Jeedimetla, Hyderabad. It has the strength of 500 students with 20 teachers with classes from nursery to 10<sup>th</sup> class.

A.V.Model School was established 20 years back and was taken over by new visionary leader Abbu Raja Sekhar who returned from US after 20 years. With a new vision, the new Management School is reaching new heights.



**Sri Sri Gnan Mandir  
Tiyusguda  
(East Zone)**



**Sri Sri Gnan Mandir,  
Chimbali  
(West Zone)**

**Madwang LP  
(North - East Zone)**



Sri Sri Gnan Mandir, Tiyyushduda, Bastar, was established on 7th July, 2009 and the primary medium of instruction is English. Classes from 8th to 10th run in this school with 158 as the current student strength.

This school library has 200 books and from April 2018 to December 2018 a total of 50 students have read books. The most read books in the library are Jaisa Boge , Garidar Bad Ka Naach , Jamana Badal Gaya, and The Hardy Boys.

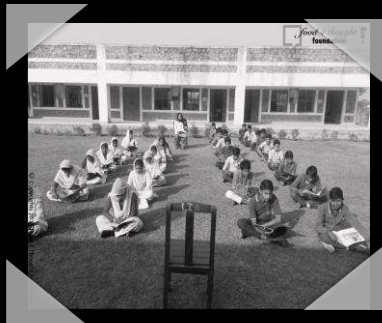
Sri Sri Gnan Mandir, Chimbali, Maharashtra was established in 2011 and the primary medium of instruction is English and Marathi. Classes from 1st to 7th run in this school with 159 as the current student strength.

This school library has 200 books and from April 2018 to December 2018 a total of 160 students have read books. The most read books in the library are Bal Geet 2 , Marathi Su Standard III , Aksharbarsha I , Balvihar Oct 2014 and Rock with Rhymes A.

Mawdang L.P School was established in 1968 from class A (Nursery) to Class III with only one teacher. Only in 1987 the school got one more teacher. Then proceeded to class V in 2007 with 1 more teacher. With the support of the Mawdang village, there is a total of three teachers till date.

The total number of students in 2019 is 95. Each teacher manages two to three classes in a session. Ms. Khiedud Sutnga is the Head Mistress of Mawdang School.

**SOS Children Village,  
Haryana  
(North Zone)**



**Sri Sri Gnan Betul,  
MP  
(Central Zone)**

The school has been established in the village of Palla, in Mewat region of Haryana, by SOS Children's Villages Of India. This is an economically, socially and especially in education the most backward area of the state of Haryana. The motive to establish school here was to promote and prevail education for the community children residing in this region.

The school provides free education to the girl children , and the education for boys is also highly subsidized. The school is running as English medium school in separate wings - one for primary up to 5th standard and second wing for classes 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>. The present total strength of school is 650 out of which boys are 379 and girls are 271.

Sri Sri Gnan Mandir was established on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2014. Our school has classes from Nursery to 7<sup>th</sup> class. All students are served lunch by Mrs.Manju Agarwal and from time to time the school is supported by the members of 'Art of Living' and by eminent people of the city. All these services are achievements for our school.

Our School has to reach a peak where every child of our school has all round development and make 'Vasudev Kutumbakam' of Gurudev's resolve come true.

# Innovative Library Format

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Recognises Innovations  
which are encouraging reading among individuals / groups /  
communities  
Through innovative approach which is a best practice



# Kuhi Paat Library



# A SMALL ACT OF KINDNESS

Kuhi Paat is located about 32 Kms east of Dibrugarh city in a remote village under the Tengakhat block. The village comprises of around 50 families primarily belonging to the Adivasi or Tea Community tribe. The literacy rate of the village is very low. 'Kuhi Paat' (literally meaning 'tender leaf' in Assamese, figuratively meaning 'new beginnings') is the name given to the newly formed children's library.

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Achieving 100% literacy rate for the village, creating self sustainable jobs for the villagers, and making it 100% plastic free is the dream of this initiative.

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An organic village library made out of thatch, mud and bamboos in the Adivasi tea tribe village of Borbari which is under Hatibondha gaon panchayat in Tengakhat block. Kuhi Paat, with help from people living in different parts of the world, now houses around 300 books, including comics, pictorial books and others. So far, 80 to 90 children from the village and its surroundings have accessed this library. Books here are available in Assamese, English and Hindi.

The materials required for building the thatched house were provided by the villagers. They aim to have interactive sessions with people who have excelled in various fields. Books like comics, story books, pictorial books etc. (in Assamese, Hindi & English) are available for kids between 4 years to 15 years. The library will be open for people from across the globe to volunteer, by the end of this year.





# **The Bookshelf - Library and Learning Centre**



# TELL A TALE

The Bookshelf is a cozy, beautifully stacked up library for children and young adults in Hyderabad aiming to revive the Library culture. The journey began with 1500 books and now has close to 7500 exclusive children's literature.

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They aim to raise independent readers by providing access to unique and valuable resources in a space where children exercise a sense of ownership, freedom to choose, experiment and also fuel their creative thinking.

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Children are guided to choose books based on their reading level. Children begin their journey with simple picture books and then followed by chapter books or vocabulary rich books as they level up in their quest for improving their reading habits.

They also conduct sessions on storytelling, art and craft, creative writing, read-aloud sessions, communication and public speaking, puppetry, life-skills, drama and theatre, and early literacy programs for children.

As of now the activities are limited to the children who have access to their resources. They also have conducted sessions and activities in government schools, NGOs etc. In future, they would like to extend the activities on a bigger scale under resourced communities for a greater impact.



# **The Book Thief Open Library**



# SOMETIMES STEALING IS GOOD

In this age of internet where smart phones have taken control of lives, Srijana Subba, decided to help others imbibe this habit of reading through her out of the box 'The Book Thief Open Library.'

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The founder conducts storytelling, book related games, has organized 7 literary fests, and also assists local writers to launch their books. Nepali writers have also been a part of the literary fests among authors from rest of the county.

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The library has an interesting space where an out of service fridge was converted into book shelf. The library is always open and it does not have a door. They believe if someone wants to steal books than other things, it too has a positive outcome. From toddlers to the elderly drop at the library.

The kids themselves work as librarians, keeping records of books borrowed. The youngest member at the library was a three-year-old! But this winter, they had a 1.5-year-old come in with his sister. All he did was sit with her and look at the pictures in a book. This is believed to be one of their most impactful experiences.



## Garung Thak



# EVERY STORY DESERVES A SECOND CHANCE

The organization is based in a valley of Shergaon, West Kameng district, Arunachal Pradesh, India. Coming together of young like minded tribal people from various fields and with vision to work for sustainable village development gave birth to this organization on 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2014.

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The organization believes in the saying that “*if child cannot come to education, education must go to child*”. Thus the organization planned to open a community library for the village children.

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Now, the Library has gathered sufficient books from individuals and other helpful organizations. The NGO plans to establish small library units in every school in the village, specially targeting the Government run schools. The next plan would be to motivate parents to bring their children to the library. It is also planned to motivate people in other nearby villages to open similar community libraries. The NGO has already mentored and helped in forming an NGO called Zagang Depga in neighboring village of Jigaon on similar lines.

The NGO wishes to work on the indigenous language preservation of the tribal community in coming days. The Sherdukpen dialect is one of the vulnerable languages with very small native speakers about 4000. Documentation of cultural festivals, rituals and working towards supplementing rural livelihood will help continue this initiative. The NGO, with permission of Shergaon Village Council is setting up a entho-medicinal plants garden near a monastery.



# **Aatma Anubhuti Manch**



# WALK IN LIBRARY

## FOR ALL

AAM is a free walkin library outside founder's home, Mr. Radheshyam Kabra. This is for both avid readers and those who are in process of beginning their journey in the world of books and reading.

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They promote all kinds of literature in all languages for ages 10 to 75.

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This is a 24x7 open library operating free of cost. Readers are free to pick any book and drop in books with no entry system. The library is placed outside the house, next to the road, without any lock.

This was started in 2017 with one library. In last three years, 6 such street libraries have been created across the city with 6000 donated books.

There are 80-100 people visiting daily at each library.

This initiative have stopped people from throwing books in the waste and rather donate it here. All kinds of books, including school course books are available here.



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