Infosys Foundation

Report 2014 - 15

Journey of the helping hand

Never worry about numbers.
Help one person at a time, and start
with the person nearest to you.

– Mother Teresa

Journey of the helping hand

A little help goes a long way. The story of the Infosys Foundation stands as proof of this. Since 1996, the helping hand of the Foundation has been trying to make communities and individuals stand on their feet. We started with a humble purse of ₹30 lakh, which gradually increased as the company grew in size and revenue. From helping communities affected by natural disasters, constructing toilets and building libraries for village schools, to providing succor to Devadasi women and donating funds for cancer treatment, scientific research and midday meals — if there is a worthy cause in sight, the Foundation is always there to support it. The helping hand has traveled from Karnataka to Kashmir and from Kutch to Arunachal Pradesh, answering calls of the distressed, identifying projects, monitoring their progress, and carrying the collective goodwill of the Infosys family. This is our first independent report, which gives us an opportunity to look back on our work over the years and renew our commitment to our dictum, '*Bahujana hitaya, bahujana sukhaya*' (for the benefit of many, for the happiness of many).

Transforming societies for the better

As the year draws to a close, it is time for us to look back on our work here at the Infosys Foundation — another year filled with unique challenges and rare experiences that still reveal new facets of our country.

The team at the Foundation interacts closely with people during the execution of projects, and most of our counterparts have worked in tandem with us to reach the beneficiaries. With our budget allocation going up several folds this year, we consciously reached out further than we had ever done before. During our various site visits, we found our commitments to the fields of education and healthcare being strongly reinforced all over India, and along the way, we discovered the untouched beauty and the difficulties of the north-eastern terrain of India.

The ecstatic smile on the faces of children when they go to school and eat a meal, the joy of an elderly man who has learnt to walk again with a prosthetic limb years after losing his own, or the hope on the face of a patient when he is told that the doctor will treat his life-threatening illness in spite of his inability to pay — no words can ever be enough to describe the intensity of these emotions unless they are right in front of you.

We invite you to come into our world for a brief while and browse through the work we have been blessed to accomplish in the last twelve months. We have reached people and places far away from us and managed to touch their lives. And yet, when I mentally review the year that has passed, elation accompanies a sense of sadness the moment I think of our country and realize humbly that the work we do is but a drop in the ocean. We still have so many more drops to go. With that task at hand, the team at the Foundation, along with me, efficiently chugs along.

Until next year.

– Sudha Murty
Chairperson, Infosys Foundation

If you're in the luckiest one per cent of humanity, you owe it to the rest of humanity to think about the other 99 per cent.

– Warren Buffett

Contents

The journey so far...

Here are some of the highlights of the Infosys Foundation journey from 1996 till date.

1996

The Infosys Foundation was instituted to fulfill the social responsibilities of Infosys Limited. Sudha Murty, N. S. Raghavan and G. R. Nayak were the first Trustees of the Foundation.

1997 - 98

The *Shalegondu Granthalaya* (a library for every school) program was launched to help schools in rural areas set up their own libraries. The aim of this initiative was to ensure that every school in the country had a library of its own.

1998 - 99

The Foundation initiated several programs to improve computer literacy among students and teachers in rural areas. Infosys, with the help of the Foundation, launched the 'Computers@Classrooms' initiative, wherein used computers were given away to needy educational institutions.

2001

For its commitment to developmental activities and social welfare, the Foundation was awarded the Economic Times Corporate Citizenship Award 2001 for outstanding philanthropic work — National Level. It also won the prestigious Computer World Corporate Citizen Award 2001 — International Level.

2002 - 03

The Foundation sponsored the construction of a pediatric block in the Capital Hospital at Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

2003 - 04

The Foundation's association with Akshaya Patra began, with funds being released for the midday meal program, which now covers 10 states of India.

2004 - 05

After a devastating tsunami hit the south-eastern coast of India, the Infosys Foundation sponsored and conducted aid work in Tamil Nadu and the Andaman islands. Besides providing financial aid, the volunteers of the Foundation also put together a unique survival kit that included essential supplies and medicines for the affected families.

2006 - 07

Sponsored a folk festival in Bengaluru to provide direct market opportunities for rural artisans and help sustain their traditional arts and crafts. Over 100 artisans from 20 states participated in this festival.

The journey so far...

2007 - 08

Completed the construction of an advanced pediatric block at Wenlock Hospital in Mangaluru and a community eye centre at the Sankara Nethralaya, Bengaluru.

2008 - 09

Provided a grant to the Vidya Poshak program in Dharwad for offering financial assistance to poor meritorious students of the year.

2009 - 10

Donated funds to the Sri Chayadevi Anathashrama Trust for efficient running of their orphanage in Mysuru.

2010 - 11

Actively participated in extensive flood relief work across five districts of North Karnataka. The volunteering efforts of Infosys employees and NGO partners resulted in the construction of 2,262 houses in a record time of 18 months.

2011 - 12

Funded the construction of a school building in Konappana Agrahara, Bengaluru, in association with the Electronics City Industries' Association (ELCIA).

2012 - 13

Constructed more than 10,000 toilets through the Parishudh initiative in a large number of rural districts across India and in the backward districts of Karnataka.

2013 - 14

Launched the Jnanavikasa program covering the districts of Dharwad, Haveri, Gadag and Belagavi. This initiative was launched with the objective of increasing awareness in rural areas regarding issues such as hygiene, HIV, alcoholism, and women's empowerment.

2014 - 15

Provided funds to be used in improving amenities at the Bannerghatta National Park, Bengaluru. The development plans include the construction of a new enclosure for tigers, and an overhead tank, bore wells and pump sets to alleviate the long-standing water problem for animals in the national park.

How we work

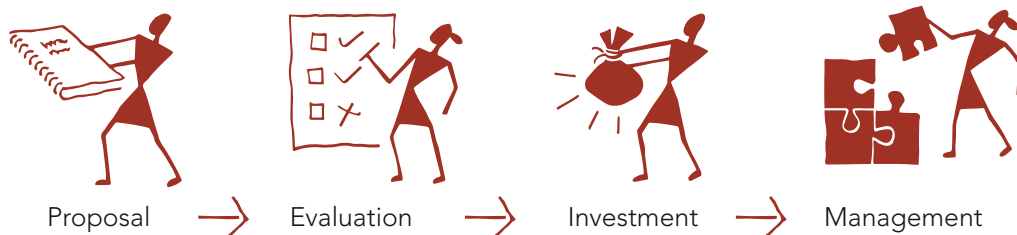*Bahujana hitaya, bahujana sukhaya* — for the benefit of many, for the happiness of many.

We partner with non-government organizations (NGOs) to make a difference among local communities.

The Infosys Foundation receives requests for funding of projects through the calendar year. Our panel of experts evaluates proposals in the areas of culture, destitute care, education, healthcare, and rural development.

We prioritize projects by assessing their impact, and match funding requirement with availability of funds in our corpus.

The Foundation collaborates with stakeholders to monitor the status of each project. We adopt the build-operate-transfer (BOT) model of project financing to develop self-sustainable communities.

Note : The Infosys Corporate Social Responsibility Policy and financial details of the Infosys Foundation are included in the Annual Report of Infosys Limited, available on the company website, www.infosys.com

Proposal $\longrightarrow$ Evaluation $\longrightarrow$ Investment $\longrightarrow$ Management

Focus areas

Healthcare

Access to primary healthcare, diagnostics, medicines, and awareness of hygiene and sanitation are some of the basic needs of the poor that are not met even today. Since its inception in 1996, the Infosys Foundation has funded healthcare projects involving the construction of hospital wards, rest houses, buying of medical equipment and transport vehicles, sponsoring medicines and organizing health camps across both remote and urban areas of India.

Education

Education offers underprivileged children an opportunity to pursue gainful employment and improve their quality of life. However, millions of children drop out of schools for financial reasons. The Infosys Foundation promotes primary education through global partnerships. The Foundation sponsors midday meals, scholarships, teacher training programs, construction of schools and development of infrastructure such as libraries and laboratories. The Foundation also works with higher institutes of learning to make the pursuit of learning and research viable and competitive. Some of the significant investments in higher and specialized education are in the areas of sponsoring chairs and courses.

Art and Culture

The Infosys Foundation promotes traditional art and craft, as well as the performing arts. Ancient art forms can be preserved and passed down from generation to generation by showcasing the skills of artists. The Foundation identifies and promotes underprivileged artists who do not have access to promoters. These include writers, painters, poets, and musicians. The Foundation assists them on a need basis by offering financial support, encouraging their art, or helping them receive much-deserved recognition.

Destitute Care

Support and vocational training help the destitute to live with dignity and earn a livelihood. The Infosys Foundation partners with non-government organizations (NGOs) to support destitute children and women, and funds programs that provide specialized training.

Rural Development

The well-being of people living in rural areas ensures sustainable development. The Infosys Foundation works with local administrations across the country to achieve community development goals. The Foundation funds projects that involve infrastructural development such as the construction of roads and drainage systems and providing electricity. It also works towards rehabilitating victims of natural and national calamities especially in rural areas and encourages projects that create awareness about hygiene, sanitation, vocational training and entrepreneurship.

For he who has health has hope; and
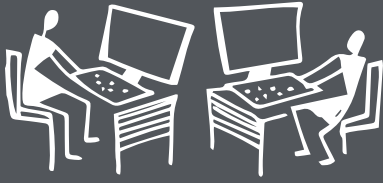he who has hope, has everything.

— Owen Arthur

Healthcare

The year that was

The Infosys Foundation works towards providing access to primary healthcare, especially for patients from poor and disadvantaged backgrounds, meeting infrastructure needs of institutions, and creating awareness about basic health and hygiene in backward areas. Some of the significant contributions of the Foundation in Healthcare during 2014-15 are as follows :

- Sponsored the purchase of a new CT scan machine for the Ramakrishna Mission Hospital in Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh.

- Granted a corpus fund to the Public Health Foundation of India, New Delhi. The fund will be used to strengthen education, research, training, technology development, public communication and practice in the area of public health in India.

- Granted funds to the Medical Research Foundation, Chennai for the construction of a new building to serve as a community center for performing free cataract surgeries on the poor.

- Granted funds to the Cancer Institute (WIA), Chennai, towards the setting up of a cancer registry and screening project — the HPV vaccination program.

- Granted a corpus fund to the Institute of Bioinformatics and Applied Biotechnology, Bengaluru to set up an Infosys Chair, and for research in new drug target discovery, and drug targeting in parasitic infections and cancer.

- Granted funds to the Schizophrenia Research Foundation (I), Chennai, towards establishing a dementia care and resource center and for promoting positive mental health in schools and colleges.

- Granted a corpus fund to the Vittala International Institute of Ophthalmology, Bengaluru. The interest from the fund is being used to provide eye care and related surgeries for the poor.

- Funded the BMCDT Bone Marrow Registry, Bengaluru to establish a global bone marrow donor registry in India to help patients of South Asian origin.

- Granted a corpus fund to the Bengaluru Kidney Foundation. The interest from the fund is being used for providing free dialysis to the poor.

- Granted a corpus fund to the Bengaluru Hospice Trust — Karunashraya. The interest from the fund is being used to provide free palliative care to patients with serious life-limiting illnesses.

- Granted funds to the Sangini Mahila Sewa Cooperative Society, Mumbai, for covering medical expenses of sex workers.

Inauguration of the Bone Marrow Donor Registry in Bengaluru

Free eye checkup for the poor, Pavagada

Patients after surgery at the Sri Sharadadevi Hospital, Pavagada

Ambulance donated by the Foundation to Sri Jayachamarajendra Ayurvedic Hospital, Bengaluru

Medical equipment sponsored by the Foundation at the Cancer Institute, Chennai

Dharmashala sponsored by the foundation at the KIMS Hospital, Hubballi

Surgery being performed at the Jaslok Community Ophthalmic Centre of Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai

Dreaming of a blindness-free India

When Sankara Nethralaya was started in 1978, the organization's founders had three objectives:

- World-class eyecare for everyone, irrespective of the patient's economic standing;

- Training in all areas of healthcare, in order to create an army of professionals to battle against blindness; and

- India-centric research in the area of preventive medicine.

The Infosys Foundation, with a view to making healthcare affordable to the economically backward groups, joined hands with Sankara Nethralaya in 1999-2000. The Foundation extended monetary support in converting the Lady Willingdon Hospital into the Jaslok Community Ophthalmic Centre, which went on to become the community wing of Sankara Nethralaya in Chennai.

In 2007, the Foundation donated money for the purchase of the Heidelberg Retinal Angiogram II, which has been used regularly since then to diagnose retinal problems in diabetic patients, including those treated free of cost at the Jaslok Community Ophthalmic Centre.

In 2014-15, the Foundation gave a grant to Sankara Nethralaya to be used as seed funding for building a new hospital for community ophthalmology. The new community hospital would be able to offer 12,000 free surgeries each year, and set up training programs in ophthalmology, optometry, nursing, operation theater technology and medical laboratory technology.

Sterilization room for preparing instruments for surgery

Till the construction begins in the second quarter of 2015, the interest from the fund is being used to perform cataract surgery free of charge on rural patients. The treatment will cover the entire cost of the patients' stay at the hospital, medicines before and after surgery, as well as lens and spectacles post-surgery.

Together, the Foundation and Sankara Nethralaya hope to turn the idea of a blindness-free India into reality.

Patient being prepared for surgery outside the operation theater

Sri Sharadadevi Institute of Vision Management, Pavagada

Nursing the ailing back to health

Pavagada *taluk* is an extremely backward region in the Tumakuru district of Karnataka, located about 160 kms north of Bengaluru. Since it is a drought-prone and poverty-stricken area, Pavagada had a high incidence of diseases such as leprosy, tuberculosis and vision deficiencies. The Ramakrishna Sevashrama started the Swami Vivekananda Integrated Rural Health Centre (SVIRHC) in the area in 1991 and one of its first programs was towards the eradication of leprosy.

The Infosys Foundation became one of the first donor-partners of SVIRHC, when it offered financial aid to the leprosy eradication program in 1998. Since then, the Foundation has been involved in a number of projects undertaken by SVIRHC. Among these are the Food for Patients program, reconstructive surgery and economic rehabilitation for cured leprosy victims, and Vatsalya Sudha, a breakfast scheme to prevent malnutrition in children between one and 12 years. Grants from the Foundation have also helped SVIRHC buy equipment and building infrastructure for the Sri Sharadadevi Eye Hospital & Research Centre, and extend the services of the Swami Vivekananda mobile hospital. In addition, a water tanker service has been introduced in the water-scarce region.

SVIRHC has recently started a new project to help the blind children of the area. The Sri Sharadadevi Institute of Vision Management, funded entirely by the Infosys Foundation, is equipped to help around 150 blind children with basic education, food and other amenities. The institution started its operations in December, 2014 with 30 blind children.

Donation of wheelchairs and other equipment by the Infosys Foundation to children with special needs in Pavagada

The Foundation also sponsors SVIRHC's 'Food for Patients' program

Water tanker sponsored by the Foundation

Over the years, SVIRHC has treated 3,747 leprosy patients and 11,083 tuberculosis patients, conducted 408 reconstructive surgeries on leprosy patients, and free eye operations on 16,869 patients. In 2014, the number of registered cases of leprosy in the area was a mere 20.

In addition to the financial help, the association with the Infosys Foundation has helped SVIRHC put systems in place to improve its functioning, especially in the areas of documentation and accountability.

The Infosys Foundation Dharmashala at NIMHANS, Bengaluru

Providing patients a home away from home

The National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) is India's frontier multi-disciplinary institution for curative R&D in the areas of mental health and neurosciences. NIMHANS' comprehensive patient care service is benchmarked for its impeccable quality, primarily reaching out to the less privileged sections of the society. Every year, nearly five lakh patients seek care for psychiatric and neurological problems and nearly 75% of them are provided with quality services at no cost or at highly subsidized costs.

The treatment for mental, neurological and substance use disorders is a prolonged one and requires patients and their family members to stay for durations ranging from a few days to a few weeks. The cost of stay for those coming from outside Bengaluru, particularly those from the middle and lower income sections of society, is usually exorbitant.

To alleviate this added burden on the families, a 'relative's rest home' was started at NIMHANS. But over the years, the increasing patient load soon rendered this inadequate, which prompted the Infosys Foundation to fund the construction of another dharmashala to supplement the existing rest home. The construction began in March 2011 and was completed in just nine months. The Infosys Foundation Dharmashala has 27 studio rooms that can accommodate 2-3 individuals, and five dormitories that can house up to 20 people. Round-the-clock electricity and water supply is ensured.

In addition, the Foundation donated a seven-seater utility vehicle that helps NIMHANS' faculty and staff to travel to its public health observatory under the Centre for Public Health in Kolar (Karnataka) and neighboring districts for different health-related activities.

Being the only public sector institution that provides high quality, affordable mental healthcare for people, NIMHANS' collaboration with the Infosys Foundation has had an undeniable positive impact on those who are in need of these services, but cannot afford them.

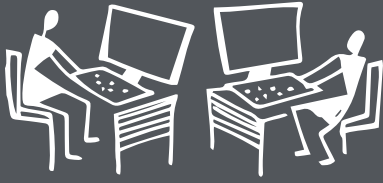S. Gopalakrishnan, co-founder, Infosys, on a tour of the Infosys Foundation Dharmashala

We want that education by which
character is formed, strength of mind is
increased, the intellect is expanded, and
by which one can stand on one's own feet.

– Swami Vivekananda

Education

The year that was

The Infosys Foundation believes in empowering the economically backward sections of society through education. Some of the significant contributions of the Foundation in Education during 2014-15 are as follows :
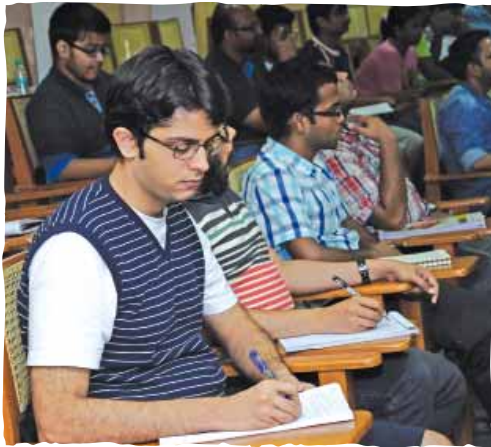
- Granted a corpus fund to the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, for instituting Chair professorships.

- Granted a corpus fund to the International Institute of Information Technology (IIIT), Bengaluru, for setting up two Chair professorships and a Special Training Program for 100 students.

- Granted funds to the Akshaya Patra Foundation midday meal program to cover capital expenses for its kitchens in Hyderabad.

- Granted a corpus towards a drinking water project, Jaldhara, in Jaipur, along with funds for health checkups and sanitation interventions for girls in Jaipur schools.

- Instituted a corpus fund whose interest will be used for the midday meal schemes in several schools in Salem, Kadapa, Mylapore and Chapra.

- Granted a corpus fund to the Bangalore Association for Science Education, which will be used for the welfare of its employees.

- Granted a corpus fund to the Ushas Centre for Exceptional Children, Hubballi. The interest accrued will be used to provide physiotherapy for special children and to increase the salary of the teachers at the center.

- Granted a corpus fund to the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, for the 'Infosys Award' which carries cash awards for the winners of science Olympiads.

- Granted funds to Akanksha, the employee-led CSR initiative of the Bhubaneswar development center. The funds will be used to manage the scholarship program called Prathibha Poshak for needy students.

- Granted a corpus fund to the Karnataka Sanskrit University, Bengaluru. The interest on it will be used for rewarding meritorious students.

- Granted funds to Sneham for distributing stationery to students in government schools in and around Chennai through its Notebook Drive program.

Midday meal program sponsored by the Foundation at the Deenabandhu Children's Home, Chamarajanagar

Shiksha Day celebrations organized by Sneham at the Government High School, Kandigai, Tamil Nadu

Students attending a lecture at the Chennai Mathematical Institute

Mobile van sponsored by the Foundation for Akshaya Patra to carry midday meals to schools

Sudha Murty with students of a government school in Jaipur, where the Foundation, in collaboration with Akshaya Patra, supplies safe drinking water for underprivileged children

Infosys scholarship being awarded to a Science Olympiad winner at TIFR, Mumbai

The entrance of the Chennai Mathematical Institute, Tamil Nadu

Encouraging future Aryabhattas of our country

The Chennai Mathematical Institute (CMI) and the Infosys Foundation came together in September 2014, to achieve one objective : Enriching higher education and research across disciplines, especially in mathematics and science.

CMI in Tamil Nadu is a deemed university with a difference. What started as a research center in the mathematical sciences in 1989 is today home to some of the best mathematicians in the country. Over the last 15 years, about 75% of CMI graduates have either completed or are pursuing a PhD program either at CMI or at globally-renowned institutions like Caltech, Harvard and MIT. Many of those who have completed their PhD have even returned to India as faculty members or researchers in institutions such as IIT, IISER, as well as in R&D wings of corporate organizations. Although it boasts of a highly qualified faculty, the compensation and welfare available to CMI's team, particularly to the younger

faculty members, was lower than those at comparable institutions. This is why the corpus released by the Infosys Foundation last year is regarded as invaluable.

The Infosys grant has helped construct an auditorium in the CMI campus and institute two Chairs for internationally-renowned professors. It has also enabled CMI to provide its faculty with top-up salaries, apart from an increase in scholarships at the Masters and Doctoral levels to attract more deserving applicants.

The support from the Foundation aids in strengthening CMI's position as a premier institution for research and teaching in mathematical sciences. More importantly, it instills confidence among the faculty that the institution enjoys significant goodwill in the private sector.

A lecture by Prof. Krishna Athreya, Professor, Iowa State University in progress at CMI

Students and faculty members attending a guest lecture

The CMI library

Infosys Foundation Chairperson, Sudha Murty, at the launch of the SPARK-IT program

Enhancing employability of engineering graduates

Infosys' Spark program is aimed at raising the aspiration levels of engineering graduates of the country and spreading awareness about the role of IT in the world around them. This three-month program — a blend of both technology and communication skills training — has successfully enhanced the engineering talent pool, which has in turn raised the quality of competition in the IT space.

To ensure that this privilege is accessible to a larger pool of graduates who find it difficult to gain meaningful employment due to inadequate skills, the Infosys Foundation introduced the Spark-IT program in September 2014. The primary aim of the program is to develop the employability of fresh and unemployed graduates, including students who have graduated in specific engineering disciplines and consistently performed well academically.

Students attending the Spark-IT program

Sudha Murty and S. R. Patil, IT Minister, Karnataka, interacting with the participants at the launch of the SPARK-IT program

The training program is available for the students free of cost and the Foundation also gives the candidates a monthly stipend. On successful completion of the program, they get a certificate of participation. Since its launch, the program has received tremendous response, with applications flowing in from colleges in small towns across the country. The Foundation has a target to train around 3,000 deserving students by the end of this fiscal and is already on its way to achieving this goal. It has also partnered with a few training institutions in major cities like Delhi, Hyderabad, and Pune, apart from Bengaluru, to ensure that the program has a wider reach.

Several of these students, who would not have otherwise considered undergoing this training, have now successfully completed the course and left as confident and capable individuals ready to compete with their peers.

S. R. Patil, IT Minister, Karnataka, inaugurates the SPARK-IT program as Sudha Murty and Srikantan Moorthy look on

Midday meal in progress at Sri Ramakrishna Vidya Kendra, Shivanahalli

Feeding the need for education

With a fervent belief that children cannot learn when hungry, the Infosys Foundation has set out to address their basic needs to nurture active learners. Learners, who not only grasp the syllabus but also hold dear the right value system and treasure their creativity and imagination. This objective resonated with the vision of the Ramakrishna Mission School in Shivanahalli.

Nestled in the Bannerghatta Forest area of Bengaluru, Sri Ramakrishna Vidya Kendra caters to children coming from below-poverty-line families and the local tribal community. One of the major challenges the administration faces is to contain the dropout rate because these children are expected to first earn a meal for themselves. Providing them this basic need assures that these children willingly attend school every day.

In early 2014, when the administration ran out of funds to provide midday meals for the children, the Infosys

Foundation provided immediate help in the form of a grant. Later, in May 2014, the Foundation further proposed an endowment amount to be set aside to make sure that this essential supply is never interrupted. The Foundation also gave a scholarship grant for the higher education of girls studying at Vidya Kendra. In addition, the Foundation has donated UPS batteries for the school's computer room, released a donation for a water purifier and for setting up a tailoring unit.

The school's latest records show that it has achieved a 99% literacy rate in the area. While the Foundation's corpus makes sure these children are never hungry, the teachers hope to spread the light of education and self-reliance among the community.

The Infosys Foundation awards scholarships for higher education of girls studying at Sri Ramakrishna Vidya Kendra

A people without the knowledge of
their past history, origin and culture
is like a tree without roots.

– Marcus Garvey

Art and Culture

The year that was

With the homogenization of societies as part of globalization, traditional art and crafts, cultural diversity and ways of life are fast disappearing. Promoting art and culture has been one of the Foundation's focus areas and over the years, many organizations and individuals associated with art and culture have been given funds to support their cause. Some of the significant contributions of the Foundation to art and culture during 2014-15 are as follows:

- Increased the corpus fund for sponsoring various activities at different branches of the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan — Trichy, Agartala, Bengaluru and Kolkata.

- Contributed towards the creation of a corpus fund for instituting an award in the memory of Ustad Bale Khan Saheb by the Ustad Bale Khan Memorial Trust, Dharwad.

- Donated to the corpus fund of the Sanket Trust, Ranga Shankara, Bengaluru, for the management and sponsorship of its theatre activities. The Foundation has been supporting the Sanket Trust for the past six years.

- Provided a grant to the Gokhale Institute of Public Affairs, Bengaluru, for documentation of the works of the ancient Kannada poet, Kumaravyasa, and introducing them to the next generation.

- Provided a grant to the Sree Ramaseva Mandali, Bengaluru for organizing classical music festivals.

- Sponsored the screening of the play, Maya Bazaar, at Ranga Shankara by Surabhi — Sri Venkateshwara Natya Mandali, Hyderabad.

- Granted funds to Manohar Grantha Mala, Dharwad, for publishing and reprinting Galaganath's complete works in Kannada, spanning six volumes.

- Provided funds to the Sneham Social Welfare Foundation, Chennai, for conducting cultural programs that promote the arts, especially the local arts, in Tamil Nadu.

An Uppinakudru Yakshagana puppet show

Ranga Shankara theater, Bengaluru

Library and reading room, Gokhale Institute of Public Affairs, Bengaluru

Students of the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan performing a Kathak recital

Ramanavami music festival, organized by Sree Ramaseva Mandali, Bengaluru

Yakshagana puppet, Uppinakudru

Gallery of traditional Indian toiletries, figurines of deities and ornate wooden artifacts

Making room for the past in the present

Born out of one man's lifelong passion for antiquities, the Raja Dinkar Kelkar Museum stands today not only as a pride of the city of Pune but also of India. Dr. D. G. Kelkar (1896-1990) single-handedly amassed a priceless collection, which showcases the everyday life of common Indians over the centuries, and gradually built up the Museum. In the last decade, the Museum has undertaken overall improvement, digital documentation and collection management exercise, instituted permanent galleries, produced a number of publications, established a graphic art and multimedia studio, expanded its souvenir shop, and modernized its conservation laboratory within its limited financial and human resources. The Infosys Foundation has been a prominent partner in these efforts.

One of the projects initiated with the Foundation's grant is the modernization of the computing infrastructure in the Museum's Kamalnayan Bajaj Graphic Art and Multimedia Studio by installing the latest upgraded version of the 'Jatan' software that is used by the Museum to digitize its collections.

Repair and renovation of the Museum buildings, including the historic Mastani Mahal, and installation of LED lighting systems have also been funded by grants from the Foundation. The Infosys family keeps in constant touch with the Museum's activities through its development center in Pune.

Recognizing that the administration and upkeep of the Museum is critically dependent on its staff, the Foundation has provided funds for improving the pay and perquisites of the employees.

The Foundation has also announced a grant to be given over a period of five years from 2015 to 2019, for further development, maintenance and expansion of the Museum. The ultimate objective is to build a 'Museum City' of international standard that will house not only the entire Kelkar collection but also other exhibits and offer cultural, educational and recreational facilities under one roof.

Wood and ivory inlay ornamental elephant

Gallery of musical instruments played by legendary Indian musicians

Display of decorative kitchen utensils and metal cart

The Infosys Foundation has sponsored many tours of the Uppinakudru Yakshagana puppetry troupe

Preserving India's distinguished art forms

Uppinakudru Yakshagana puppetry is a famous form of folk art with a glorious history of 350 years spanning six generations of artistes. The Uppinakudru Sri Devanna Padmanabha Kamath Memorial Yakshagana Gombeyata Trust was established in 1995 to provide a platform for the revival of this unique folk art and to its many struggling artists. This *mandali* (or troupe) has twice bagged the National Award, besides receiving state and Tulsi Samman awards for their contribution in promoting Yakshagana puppetry. Over the years, the troupe has traveled across India participating in many cultural events, and to countries like Pakistan, France, Japan, and Switzerland. Numerous translations, souvenirs, and records have been released to create awareness of the existence of this illustrious art form.

In January 2000, the *mandali* got the opportunity to participate at the Infosys Bengaluru Puppet Festival. Since then, the Infosys Foundation has been a constant source of support and encouragement, ensuring that the art survives the trials of changing times.

Apart from gifting a fully equipped bus to ease the troupe's movement, and grants to support the puppet artists, the Foundation has sponsored its tours across Karnataka and to Singapore and London. A pamphlet, titled *The String Tradition*, was also brought out by the Foundation.

While the trust has been struggling over the years to stay relevant and entertain its audience, it is because of institutions like the Infosys Foundation that the team continues to go on tours and conduct its programs. It was a dream for the trust to set up a puppet academy. This dream finally came true thanks to the corpus donated by the Foundation. The Uppinakudru Puppet Academy was formally inaugurated in March 2015. The trust's goal is to sustain this center and organize various events to spread the joy of Uppinakudru Yakshagana puppetry, and keep the art alive for the present and future generations.

The Uppinakudru Puppet Academy was formally inaugurated in March 2015

One of the intricately created Uppinakudru Yakshagana puppets

Bus donated by the Foundation for the traveling puppet artists

Restoration work underway at Lakshmeshwara

Restoring the glory of our ancient monuments

Conserving and restoring ancient monuments is an important responsibility of our generation because it helps us to understand our rich cultural history and leaves a legacy for future generations. Lakshmeshwara, near Gadag, is a historic town with over 50 stone inscriptions, several temples and unique edifices that showcase the finest architecture from the Chalukyan, Rashtrakuta and Vijayanagara periods. These cultural representatives were neglected with the passage of time due to various reasons. The Someshwara archeological complex is one among them, which is a state protected monument by the Department of Archaeology, Museums and Heritage, Government of Karnataka.

The Infosys Foundation identified the dire need of preserving Lakshmeshwara's monuments under its art and culture focus area when Sudha Murty saw the dilapidated Someshwara complex during her first visit to the place as a tourist in 2012.

The Foundation wrote to the Department of Archaeology, Museums and Heritage, Government of Karnataka expressing its desire to help restore the archeological complex. The directorate in turn responded positively. Consequent to this, a project report detailing out the steps needed to breathe new life into the archeological structure was prepared. Soon after this, a memorandum of understanding was signed and the Foundation sanctioned grants in November 2012 for restoring the entire complex by May 2015.

Today, the archaeological complex is in the process of regaining some of its lost glory as 14 structures have already been completely restored using the Foundation's grant. The Foundation and the Department of Archaeology will continue to work towards making this complex regain its elegance and strength to withstand a few more centuries.

Open well at Lakshmeshwara
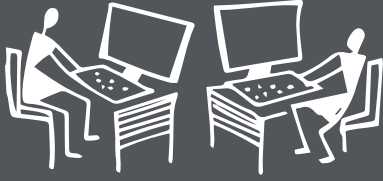

Restoration work underway at Lakshmeshwara

The test of our progress is not whether
we add more to the abundance of those
who have much; it is whether we provide
enough for those who have too little.

– Franklin D. Roosevelt

Destitute Care

The year that was

The Infosys Foundation believes that providing timely help and a means to earn livelihood are the best ways to alleviate the suffering of the destitute poor. Some of the significant contributions of the Foundation for destitute care during 2014-15 are as follows:

- Granted funds for the construction of a hostel for destitute girls to the Parivaar Education Society, Kolkata. Additional funds were also given to provide midday meals for 100 destitute children.

- Funded the renovation of two old-age homes run by the Ramakrishna Math, Belur.

- Granted corpus funds to the Sri Ramakrishna Sevashrama, Pavagada, for buying ophthalmic equipment and musical instruments for its blind school, and to buy fodder for cattle in the drought-hit areas.

- Granted funds to the Ramakrishna Mission, Jammu, towards the repair of an operation theater, free distribution of medicines to the poor, and establishment of a library.

- Granted funds for training tribal people in the use of natural dyes and traditional weaving being promoted by Charaka Society, Heggodu.

- Granted funds for the construction of a tiger enclosure, digging of multiple bore wells, and the construction of overhead water tanks at Bannerghatta National Park.

- Granted a corpus fund to Shakthi Dhama, Mysuru, for feeding abandoned and destitute women.

- Granted funds to the Nirmalya Trust, Pune, for the construction of a residential-cum-therapy center in Parner Taluka, Panoli.

- Granted funds to Cochlea Pune for Hearing and Speech to conduct implant surgeries on underprivileged children.

- Sponsored air tickets for the return to India of Indian women who have been victims of abuse and human trafficking in Bahrain, in collaboration with the Migrant Workers Protection Society.

Children with hearing impairment with trainers at Cochlea Pune for Hearing and Speech

Carrying fodder for drought-affected cattle in Pavagada

Medical camp organized by the Ramakrishna Mission, Jammu

Rescued women at the shelter home provided by the Migrant Workers Protection Society, Bahrain

Bore well and overhead tank under construction at the Bannerghatta National Park, funded by the Foundation

Donation of musical instruments to the blind school, Pavagada

An empowered NJMO member with her daughter

Empowering women to empower a community

The Devadasi tradition, despite finding its roots in ancient Indian culture, has led to the systematic exploitation of women in several parts of South India. The Infosys Foundation has always felt a strong urge to be associated with women's empowerment and work towards the rehabilitation of the Devadasi community.

In 2003, The Nava Jeevana Mahila Okkoota (NJMO) was set up at Raichur with help from the Infosys Foundation. The efforts of NJMO have seen the expansion of its coverage to address a wide range of issues related to community empowerment such as microfinance, education, health and rural development. The NJMO now has 4,000 women members and covers nearly 200 villages, where they not only ensure that no girl is made a devadasi, but also stop child marriages. Appropriate protection is provided to women who face abuse and violence.

NJMO uses the funds granted by the Foundation in many ways such as to start vocational courses that create employment opportunities for the devadasis, and set up healthcare facilities and schools to educate their children.

Several children working as laborers and those who had dropped out of school have been rescued and put back in school. More than 200 children have been provided scholarships to complete their graduation, post-graduation or technical courses such as nursing, engineering and medicine. A bank, SJVSSN, operated only by the Devadasis, has also been set up with help from the Foundation. It has a turnover of around ₹1.2 crore and covers approximately 2,200 families.

In 2005-06, the Foundation's continued efforts prompted the State Government to sanction a pension scheme for the devadasis and houses for 300 families. The Foundation has always believed in community empowerment, and the Raichur Devadasi project is an example of how this can be accomplished. It has taken more than 15 years of continued engagement and support to gain the trust of the Devadasis. The many targeted initiatives have slowly but surely resulted in upgrading the standard of living and putting an end to the exploitation of this community.

NJMO members in a discussion

Members of the SJVSSN Bank in a discussion

The Infosys Foundation helps Sathi rehabilitate runaway children

Rescued children at the Sathi shelter

Helping children find their way back home

The Society for Assistance to Children in Difficult Situation (Sathi) has been working towards rehabilitating runaway children since 1992. The work entails identifying such children at railway stations, initiating a dialog, counseling the children, contacting the families, caring for them till the families arrive and finally, facilitating a reunion.

The Infosys Foundation's association with Sathi goes back to the early years of the NGO's operations. Its Chairperson, Sudha Murty, chanced upon a few runaway children on Raichur's railway platform one night and eventually found out about Sathi's efforts. Soon, the Foundation released a grant which was the beginning of its support for Sathi's activities in Karnataka, and later, in Delhi. The aid extended for Sathi's

operations in Delhi helped initiate the children's rescue work and build a database as well as credibility in India's capital.

In 2007-08, Sathi's staff was taken to the Infosys Mysuru campus for a soft skill training program that enabled them to interact better with children and manage its pan-India operations.

Today, Sathi has shelters in most district railway stations in Karnataka and also in major cities like Pune, Kanpur, Lucknow, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Patna and New Delhi. Over 47,000 children and teenagers have been rehabilitated till date and the Foundation has been a proud partner through most of this journey.

Students entering their classrooms at a Vishwas School

Building an inclusive society, one step at a time

VISHWAS — Vision for Health, Welfare and Special Needs is a not-for-profit organization working with issues of disability and development in Gurgaon since 2005. Vishwas began in a government primary school in a small village near Gurgaon with a vision to improve the situation of children with disabilities and build inclusive societies. Since then, it has expanded its scope to include people with disabilities in all stages of life. The Infosys Foundation and Vishwas share a common goal of creating opportunities for disadvantaged and marginalized communities.

The Infosys Foundation has contributed grants to Vishwas' corpus fund. Vishwas is using the interest generated from the corpus fund to not only stabilize its operations, but also focus on its long-term expansion plans. The organization is now working on improved and inclusive service delivery under government community initiatives in education, health and early childhood care, and in accessing entitlements for children and people with disabilities.

The support for children with disabilities also includes children below the age of four, who are considered to be at risk. The program has benefited around 70,000 people so far. The Vishwas Community Based Program provides direct services to almost 2,000 people with disabilities, including children, at all villages in the area. The interest from the fund has also been used to provide elementary education for 300 children including children with disabilities.

Vishwas and the Foundation have slowly but surely set on the journey to improve access, support and opportunities for people with disabilities who are one of the most marginalized in any given population, and to ensure education for children with disabilities from low-income families.

Inclusive education with exclusive attention — a class in progress

My idea of an ideal village is that of a complete republic, independent of its neighbors for its own vital wants, and yet dependent for many others in which dependence is a necessity... Such a village will contain intelligent people.
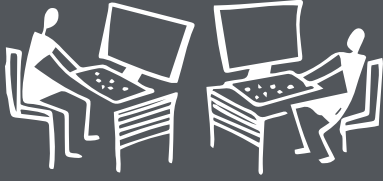
– M. K. Gandhi

Rural Development

The year that was

Investments in rural development ensure an equitable and sustainable development of the society. The Infosys Foundation works with the local administration and grassroots organizations to achieve its community development goals. Some of the significant contributions of the Foundation in rural development during 2014-15 are as follows:

- Granted funds to the Society for Education, Action and Research in Community Health (SEARCH) in Maharashtra for imparting sexual and reproductive health education and creating awareness.

- Granted a corpus fund to the Shree Ramakrishna Ashrama, Odisha, for the development efforts of the tribal people in Kalahandi district.

- Granted a corpus fund to Nehru Seva Sangha, Banpur, Odisha. The interest will be used for expansion of welfare activities of the children.

- Provided financial assistance to the People's Welfare Society, Ankola, Karnataka, towards the maintenance of a hostel for students belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.

- Helped the Ponani Municipal Corporation in Kerala to implement the water supply scheme that will benefit the residents of the coastal town.

- Sponsored the construction of a school building for visually impaired children for Shri Manik Prabhu Shikshan Samiti in Bidar, Karnataka.

- Donated water purifier-cum-cooler, solar water heaters, water tank, and steel cupboards to the Gurukula Anathashram, Chunchanakatte, Mysuru.

- Constructed bore wells at the MM Nagar fire station in Kanchipuram district, Tamil Nadu, through Sneham, the Infosys Chennai CSR wing.

Students in Aalo benefiting from the bore wells sponsored by the Foundation

Water purifier-cum-cooler donated by the Foundation to the Gurukula Anathashram, Chunchanakatte, Mysuru

Sudha Murty with children at Nehru Seva Sangha, Banpur, Odisha

Hostel for SC / ST students sponsored by the Foundation under construction in Ankola, Karnataka

Water purifier donated to a village in Kanipakam, Andhra Pradesh, which will partially alleviate the severe water shortage in the area

Bore well constructed with help from the Foundation at the MM Nagar fire station, Kanchipuram district, Tamil Nadu

Residential rehabilitation center for homeless persons with mental illness near H. D. Kote

Ensuring mental healthcare for all

It is estimated that around 75 lakh people in Karnataka suffer from mental health disorders, out of which an estimated 15 lakh have no access to basic mental healthcare. In order to address this gap, the government began the District Mental Health Program, which aims to decentralize the mental healthcare system using the public health infrastructure to provide specialist care and medication.

However, besides a shortage of qualified doctors, the cost of medication is beyond the reach of most patients from rural areas and they have to often travel great distances to procure them. While several NGOs have been holding free mental health camps for the rural and tribal populations, and several doctors have been volunteering at these camps, the supply of medications has been erratic.

When the Chittaprakasha Charitable Trust (CCT) was established in 2008, it was looking forward to build a residential rehabilitation center for homeless persons with mental illness. In 2010, the Infosys Foundation recognized the need for this residential center and granted funds to build a 7,500 sq. ft. building — the Chittadhama, near H. D. Kote. Since then, the CCT is successfully reintegrating homeless people with mental illness with their families.

The Chittasanjeevini Charitable Trust (CSCT) set up the Manomalige scheme under which mental health camps are organized to provide psychiatric care to the rural and tribal people of Karnataka.

A counselling session in progress

An inside view of Chittadhama

The Foundation granted funds to the CSCT to ensure a steady supply of required psychiatric medication for patients. Together with CCT and CSCT, the Infosys Foundation hopes to ensure that mental healthcare services reach the poorest of the poor from remote and inaccessible parts of the country.

Students attending class at the Ramakrishna Mission school, Aalo

Going the extra mile to bridge the gap

One of the endeavors of the Infosys Foundation has been to extend help to the most remote and neglected parts of the country. Aalo, in the tribal, inaccessible and backward West Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh, is one such area. The Ramakrishna Mission set up a school with only 35 students in Aalo in 1966, answering a call from Indira Gandhi, then the Union Information and Broadcasting Minister. Apart from providing education in the English medium, the school became an agent of development in the area through its introduction of 16 non-formal schools and coaching centers, a dairy, a bakery unit, a small farming facility, a dispensary, a printing press and transportation for the students to and from remote villages.

The Foundation team undertook the arduous journey to Aalo — first by flight to Guwahati, followed by a chopper to Itanagar and then another 11 hours of uphill drive to the school — in November, 2014, and learnt about the school's activities directly from its students and the management. The student strength stands at around 1,900 today, with a hostel accommodation capacity of 235. While maintaining an excellent academic record for decades, the school's main problem today is its crumbling infrastructure. The Foundation offered its help to improve the school's existing infrastructure and develop new facilities in keeping with its present needs.

Students at the playground, Ramakrishna Mission school, Aalo

A beautiful vista of Aalo

After making the journey back to Bengaluru, the Foundation team shared its findings. Acting upon it, the Foundation has provided a corpus fund for the development of the school, and separate funds for the construction and renovation of toilets, bore wells, drinking water facilities, and water purification systems. Two bore wells have already been dug, and were of immense help during a recent water crisis. The Foundation is also sponsoring 28 smart classes (or virtual classrooms) in the school, which will help impart education on par with urban schools elsewhere in the country through computerized, audio-visual mode of teaching.

Agastya Foundation, in collaboration with Infosys Foundation organizes hands-on science teacher training programs

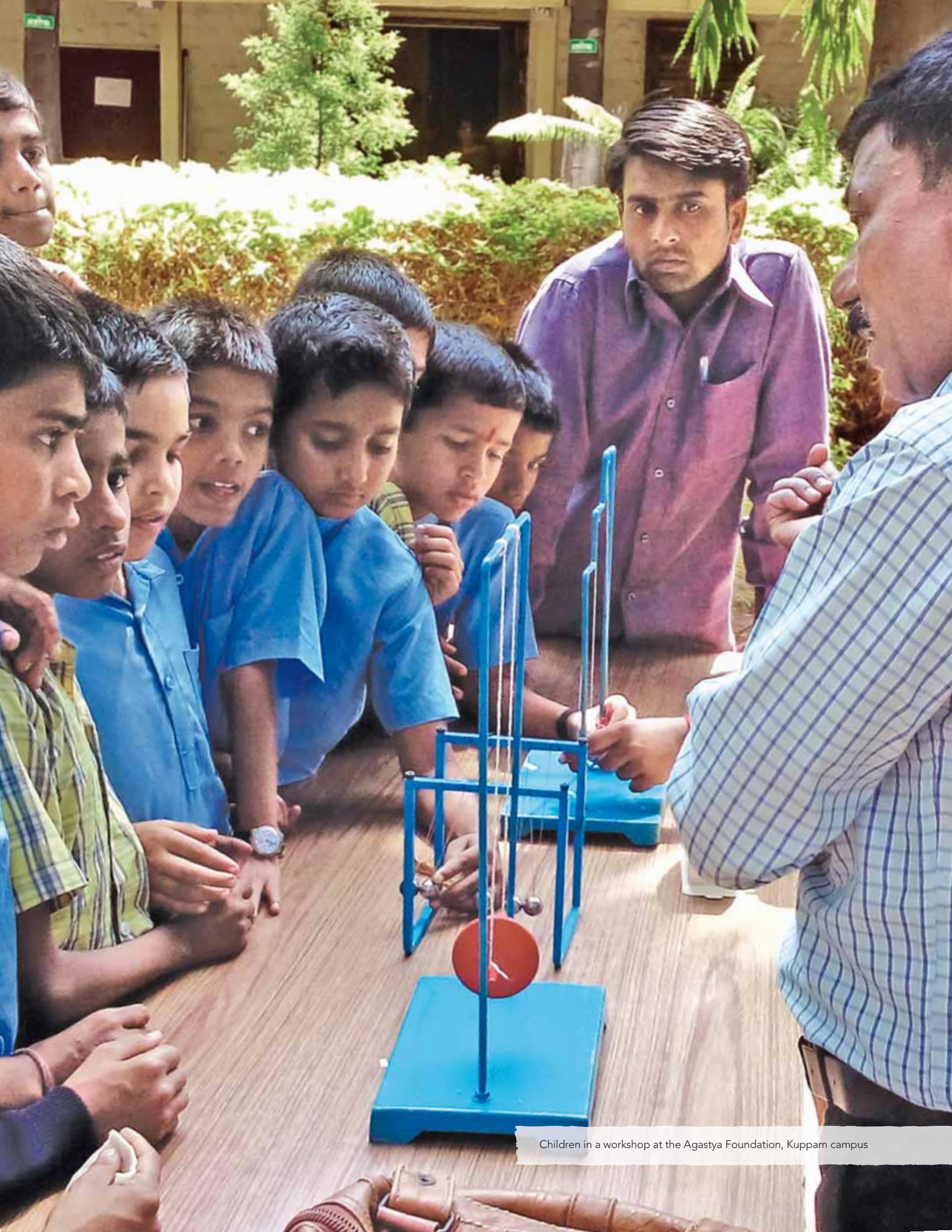# Nurturing the spirit of discovery and creativity

Agastya Foundation, started in 1999 by a group of scientists, educators and executives, aims to propagate a creative, scientific temper among economically disadvantaged children and teachers, through engaging, minds-on, experiential learning methods. Its 172-acre campus located at Kuppam, Andhra Pradesh is a 'factory of ideas', which impacts thousands of children and teachers every year. It has multiple science labs, an astronomy center, a model-making workshop, art and ecology labs, a discovery center, library and media arts center, a teacher education center and a performing arts auditorium.

Agastya has been associated with the Infosys Foundation since May 2014, when the idea of training teachers from Maharashtra was discussed with its Chairperson, Sudha Murty. This meeting resulted in a series of hands-on science training workshops at the creativity lab in the Kuppam campus for government school teachers. These were followed by refresher mobile lab sessions conducted onsite in Maharashtra.

Between October 2014 and January 2015, Agastya conducted four teacher training workshops. The topic was Constructivism in hands-on science teaching, in which 43 District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) faculty members and 85 government high school teachers participated from various districts of Maharashtra. The unique aspect of the workshops is its focus on interactive and hands-on sessions (Do, Reflect, Practice), to ensure that the learning is internalized and practiced.

Partnering with the Foundation has given Agastya a huge push in reaching its goals and also in terms of building the credibility and visibility of the program. Following the successful implementation of these workshops, Agastya proposed more hands-on science interventions in other states through mobile labs. Through these trainings, Agastya hopes to bring about the much required change in the current classroom teaching and learning experience, leading to better equipped children who are creatively abled and skilled.

Children in a workshop at the Agastya Foundation, Kuppam campus

Trustees

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Chairperson

U. B. Pravin Rao
Trustee

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