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From the National Co-ordinator's Desk

It is that time of the year again, when I am gifted with the most fulfilling, yet tremendously difficult task of recording our annual journey in words. While it is highly satiating to lend my pen to throw light on our accomplishments in the past year, it also puts on my shoulders the major responsibility of being able to do justice to the amazing efforts by our committed team of volunteers.

"My hope of the future lies in the youths of character — intelligent, renouncing all for the service of others, and obedient — who can sacrifice their lives in working out my ideas and thereby do good to themselves and the country at large. If I get ten or twelve youth with such faith, I can turn the thoughts and pursuits of this country in a new channel."

Spearheading this tide of change prophesized by our ideal Swami Vivekananda, are our young men and women, who are no longer happy being passive onlookers, but wish to devote their time and skills towards empowering the community. The trend reflects a deeper desire amongst the youth to participate in the developmental work of the nation, that goes way beyond opportunities of instant gratification.

While it is delightful to see young professionals quit their lucrative jobs to choose ‘Seva’ as their career, or join us full-time immediately after their studies, it is equally motivating to see thousands of students, professionals, homemakers and retired fraternity donate time to volunteer, despite demanding commitments on other fronts.

Our focus this year has been on consistent efforts and innovative methods, channelized towards generating huge impact and sustainability. Every program has been carefully designed to cater to the prevalent needs, while optimally utilizing each volunteer’s strength. The progressive success rate in terms of more number of students trained by our volunteers winning the National Means-cum- Merit Scholarship and a 95+ percentage fulfillment of scribe requests received, speak volumes about the persistent efforts by volunteers.

The corporate sector has proved to be the wind beneath our wings, yet again. We have been able to facilitate a stupendous increase in the number of employees engaged in volunteering, bringing in more transparency and accountability to the process. We have also ventured into newer, deeper horizons by aiding the reconstruction of a government school in Hyderabad with our corporate partner Wells Fargo, running computer centres in rural areas like Jagalur and Shirahatti (Karnataka) in collaboration with Intercall, and constructing toilets in various
schools in Bengaluru with Texas Instruments, and in Sira (Tumkur district, Karnataka) in partnership with Dell.

YFS is largely supported by the generous contribution from individual donors, who believe in the power of positive change agents. This has given us the much needed boost and freedom, to think and grow big. Every drop matters, and we look forward to your continued support.

I also take this opportunity to convey my heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to our trustees, advisors, colleges and universities, NGOs and other partners, and the various departments, all of whom form an integral part of the whole. We are overwhelmed with the wonderful feedback received from all these stakeholders.

We believe in continual improvement, by ensuring that our programs are fine-tuned, their fallacies worked upon, and being open to new ideas, so that the beneficiaries truly reap the fruits of our relentless efforts. We look forward to that leap from good to great in the forthcoming year, and also towards making our collaborations more synergistic and symbiotic.

Victor Hugo stated it best that "Nothing is more powerful than an idea whose time has come." As we step into our 10th year of service, we are more confident than ever that the idea of donating time forms the backbone of national development. I take this opportunity to invite all of you to join hands with us, and tread the path towards taking India to the pinnacle of glory, where she actually belongs.

Vande Mataram!

Swathi Ram
National Coordinator, Youth for Seva
About Youth for Seva

Youth for Seva (YFS), founded in April 2007, is a nation-wide volunteering movement that inspires youth to volunteer, and provides them with meaningful opportunities to serve the community.

The goal of YFS is to support schools, destitute shelters, government hospitals and other organizations in the social sector through volunteers who can help them mitigate some of their shortcomings and challenges. Volunteering is made easy and customized to the individual’s interests, time availability and skill sets. YFS aims to create positive change agents in the society, through the culture of volunteering.

VISION

A self-reliant and happy society where there is harmony and where most of the developmental needs are addressed locally through individuals who act without vested interest.

MISSION

- To facilitate a movement of volunteering.
- To empower and enable individuals to become positive change agents in the society.
- To enable institutions to effectively engage community to deliver services.
- To create models to address developmental needs through the culture of volunteering.
- To promote sustainable lifestyles among individuals and strengthen the required social institutions to sustain communities.
Flagship Event – School Kit Drive

While poverty is known to be due to lack of education, it is again the same poverty that acts as a barrier to education too, since children are likely to drop out of school, due to unaffordability of educational materials. It is well-known that schemes such as mid-day meals have actually improved enrolment and retention, proving how major a role incentives play in pushing children not to drop out of school.

For Youth for Seva, as numbers for 2015-16 stood, 44000 School Kits were disbursed under the aegis of School Kit Drive (SKD), addressing student retention at government and other needy schools, by gifting them school bags consisting of note books, pens, water bottles, labels etc., fulfilling their basic need for resources for the entire year.

YFS Hyderabad had 300 volunteers gathering at one location, to pack 6000 school kits within 2 hours, a festive ritual being observed every year. About 100 seva vacation volunteers took part in packing during weekend and weekdays at YFS office in Konanakunte, Bengaluru. More than 100 corporate volunteers from Intuit, Ericsson, JDA took school kit packing to their office campuses for in-house volunteering.
Reach out of school Kits led our volunteers to unraveled places within and beyond cities into the countryside. Some of the corporates looked upon kit distribution as a team bonding opportunity, cherry-picking schools where they wanted to reach out to. As the School Kit Drive culminated, volunteer numbers tallied up to 750+ with 3151 volunteering hours, marking yet another successful year.

School kits were distributed in slums and rural areas around Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Delhi, Chennai and Bhubaneswar. 6000 school kits were also distributed to the children affected by the Nepal earthquake.

KPIT has been supporting Youth for Seva’s school kit drive successfully for the last 5 years. Youth for Seva is always set to walk that extra mile and meet the objectives agreed upon. As a partner NGO, we have always experienced the best with Youth for Seva. Their main strength lies in understanding the community needs at the ground level. They also have multiple impactful volunteering opportunities to offer. We would recommend YFS as one organization on whom any company can rely upon to implement impactful projects.

—Tushar Juvekar, Head, CSR team at KPIT
Flagship Event – Chiguru

Can we call it a trilogy? Chiguru of December 2015, followed by the next ones in January and February 2016, kept YFS busy across 3 cities for over 3 months each. Chiguru held on 6th December 2015 in Bengaluru, witnessed a record-breaking participation of 2500+ children from 96 centres. The venue was set on fire by the students, fierce in competition across 22 different categories such as arts and crafts, street play, dance, singing, mad ads, quiz, origami, working model, clay modelling, memory test, pick and speak among others. 400 volunteers from colleges, corporates and home-makers alike, ensured the event unfolded without any hiccups.

Rendering in a very short time, Chiguru 2016 in Mysuru was kicked off. Though the event focused on a relatively smaller number of 230 children, the high spirit of 115 volunteers kept the novelty of Chiguru alive. It was delightful to watch these quick-witted tutees participate in Chess, Kabaddi, Rangoli, Working Models, Folk Dance, Light Music, Patriotic Song, Elocution, Clay Modelling, Carrom, and Sketching. The cordial support from the local companies made the day livelier.
It didn’t stop there. On 7 February 2016, we marched towards the city of pearls - Hyderabad, to host our star event again. We witnessed more than 3600 children from 120 centres in participation. 800 volunteers from 15 companies and colleges poured in and made this occasion a grand success. All the events went on with utmost enthusiasm, with students outperforming and appreciating each other’s talent. With faces painted with Indian flags, children felt welcomed into the day long fiesta, competing hard, making friends and reveling in their blissful innocence.

“Through Chiguru, we got this wonderful opportunity of getting to meet some incredibly talented kids from various schools and tuition centres run by YFS and its partner NGOs. Our hearts swelled with pride when we saw kids trained by us perform and win. We kept meeting them regularly we became good friends.

Thanks YFS for giving us this wonderful platform and I’m definitely looking forward to more such activities and meeting some of the purest souls across the city.

—Aiswarya, Hyderabad
Flagship Event - Sphoorthi/Enable Day

In driving inclusiveness among the specially-abled communities, it becomes essential to identify and leverage a multitude of platforms, as an astute measure.

Youth for Seva in Hyderabad conceptualized ENABLE DAY, as a step towards the same. In this year’s version of providing a platform for the special kids to exhibit their talents, 320 children and 80 volunteers got together under one roof, on the 5th of December, 2015.

Bengaluru wasn’t left behind in seeking inspiration. In it's debut event partnered with Sakshama Foundation, YFS hosted 220 children with special abilities from across 24 NGOs. The event aptly titled ‘SPHOORTI’, left 260 odd volunteers jostling around hosting the various events.

As among all of the cultural events, folk dance took the center stage around other competitions such as clay modelling, braille reading, recitation competition and six other events.

Both the versions of the concept have now was find a permanent schedule in YFS’s annual calendar of events.
Flagship Event – Warriors of Change

The Warriors of Change campaign 2016 to recognize and reward college students doing their bit for the community was a runaway success. Going pan India for the first time since it’s inception in 2013, this year saw 8 individuals and 3 groups from across India, felicitated for their continuing noteworthy service to the society. Winners took away Rs. 15,000 (Individual) and Rs. 25,000 (Group), to be utilized in their work for the society.

105 nominations were received, having reached out to 200+ colleges, over a three-month period. First stage of screening involved telephonic interviews of the nominees that led to
short listing of 43 applicants for the second round. Subsequent panel interviews organized in Bengaluru on 21 February 2016 and 6 March 2016 saw a list of 11 winners emerge. The awardees this year were identified as Most Impactful, Most Consistent, Most Innovative, Best Visionary and Best Organized group of Volunteers.

Working with cancer affected children, lighting up unelectrified households and villages, massive sapling planting and awareness drives, mass education drives and protection of Indian heritage, were some of the areas of service that got highlighted this year.

The concluding award ceremony of Warriors of Change campaign was held in Bengaluru on 19 March 2016. The event, which saw a crowd of 600 gather, was presided over by former DRDO director, Padmashri Awardee, Dr. Prahlada Rama Rao.

When we look at this huge population of youth in the country, the young achievers, the change makers, winners in several competitions, volunteers in NGOs, individual champions etc, this is a different Tribe. They stand out in their Convictions, Contributions and Competencies. Youth for Seva is one such organization which has provided a stage, means, mentoring, support and encouragement for this Tribe and is ensuring growth of the same. India’s biggest asset its human resource, majority being young. We need to build the Nation by building the capabilities of our youth, their skills, professional competence, team work, understanding of science and technology, entrepreneurship and appreciation of our art and culture.

Youth for Seva has brought paradigm change in thinking of our youth. The youth have been made to see differently, understand the issues, evolve solutions, work in teams and implement effectively.

—Padmashri Dr. Prahlada Rama Rao
Former Vice Chancellor of Defence Institute of Advanced Technology &
Former Director of DRDO
Education for All

Youth for Seva (YFS), since inception, has been conscientiously working in delivering holistic education at government schools and other learning centres.

In 2015-16, we had 435 volunteers facilitating Spoken English, Basic Computers, Basic Math and Science Experiments, apart from values-based education at learning centres across chapters.

National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship scheme (NMMS) is a centrally sponsored scheme, to award scholarships to meritorious students hailing from low income backgrounds. Our Hyderabad team has marked its prominence in mentoring students and helping them achieve the scholarship. 125 students have secured scholarships this year, with 80 volunteers involved in training them.

While Spoken English, Basic Math and Computers go on through the year, summer breaks are meant for summer camps! Volunteers string together activities like storytelling, art and crafts, jewelry making, drawing and painting, robotics, vedic mathematics and sports. Goal of these summer camps is to complement the literary and arithmetic skills of the children, by lending ways to think outside-the-box, be creative, function as a team, and develop into leaders. In all, 330 volunteers engaged 735 children across 43 locations in Bengaluru, Chennai, Hyderabad and Delhi meaningfully, and left them eagerly waiting for the next summer camp.
Youth for Seva recruited volunteers to coach around 80 kids from 4th grade to 7th grade for a period of 15 days during the summer, in basketball. It was a very memorable experience from hearing the kids calling me “Anna/Sir” to them telling me what they liked best in the camp. Personally even I got to learn a lot from this camp. I sincerely hope to see some Michael Jordans and Kobe Bryants come out of this effort. I would like to wish Youth for Seva all the luck in their future projects, and hope to give in my inputs whenever I can.

—Akhil Khatri, Chennai

It is definitely an awesome experience to teach kids who are very talented and curious. It is really thoughtful of YFS to focus on a productive and promising aspect that’s been provided by the Central Government (NMMS scholarship). Daily classes were taken covering each topic of every subject and its appreciable that children sat after the school and studied for 1 to 2 hours. Even mock exams were conducted. I am overwhelmed by this year’s results and I am eagerly waiting to kickstart this year’s training.

—Sindhu, Hyderabad
Vidyachetana

Vidyachetana was started in 2009 to provide educational support to children from underprivileged backgrounds. Vidyachetana is carved out with the intention to create community outreach centres assisting in the fields of education, and vocational training in economically backward areas.

Snapshot

- Covering 100 Government schools and 65 Private schools.
- 2035 children educated in 2015-16.
- Running 34 learning centres in Bengaluru and 20 centers in Sira, Tumakuru District, Karnataka.
- Operating 6 computer labs for students and youth.
- Children from Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Assam being supported.

Kalachetana – a platform for children from learning centres to display their talent in cultural activities. 600 children from 29 learning centres participated in Bengaluru. Over 400 children from villages of Sira participated in Tumakuru. The children showcased their artistic skills in Music, Dance, Debate, Rangoli, Drawing, Drama etc., It lent reassurance that it’s our responsibility to nurture their skills.
Kreeda Chetana - a mega sporting event for the children from learning centers at Sira, Tumkur district and Bengaluru. Tumakuru had 400 children from 15 different learning centres participating, while Bengaluru saw 600+ children from 24 centers galloping through eight competitions. 68 CISCO volunteers and 29 others conducted the energizing events that enthralled local villagers watching the children showcase their sporting excellence.

Vignyana Chetana – A first of its kind platform for children to showcase their interest and expertise in science was organized in collaboration with 50 Cisco volunteers, in Bengaluru. 70 children with 35 experiments participated in this event. Around 200 children had the opportunity to watch the exhibits and take part in the fun games that were conducted in parallel. Experiments included demonstrations of Wind Energy, Water Purification and Hydraulic Power Generator, among others.

“
It was wonderful being with YFS for the last 2 years. I got to learn a lot of things in the social sector. I have gained lot more knowledge than I have contributed to school kids! Have got to meet some amazing people from the social sector. Its a pleasure to be a part of YFS and meet like minded people.

—Jagdeesh, Bengaluru”
Promoting Holistic Health

Youth for Seva drove its community health programs, with special focus on rural areas. Health camps were conducted in 12 schools and orphanages covering 2,032 children across Bengaluru and surrounding rural areas and in 7 communities, partnering with Chinmaya Mission and Hejje foundation. Dr. Somashekar, a leading cardiologist volunteering with YFS for the last four years, performed ECG and Echo for 35 children identified with cardiac irregularities.

Menstrual Hygiene (MH) awareness program was successfully conducted in 56 schools, reaching out to over 4500 girls in urban and rural areas (urban - 21 schools and 1916 girls, rural - 35 school and 2601 girls).

The team was also successful in conducting eye prescreening camps in Kolar, Karnataka joining hands with Narayana Nethralaya and 25 corporate volunteers from HP. 800 children were screened and spectacles were distributed for those in need.
Health volunteers were involved in a survey for a government initiative - Indradanush, surveying immunization in certain areas of Bengaluru slums. Community Health and Diabetics survey were also carried out by Seva interns and volunteers as part of SDM / Rangadore Hospitals' Bengaluru initiatives.

YFS volunteers also utilized Ugadi, the festival heralding the onset of the New Year as an outreach opportunity to inmates of seven hospitals across Bengaluru. 92 volunteers interacted with 1920 patients, distributing fruits and spreading the cheer of new year.

The number of people coming together to help serve was an encouraging total of 74 doctors, and 300 non-medical volunteers, including 26 college interns.

“...quite a lot of volunteering options for every weekend, enough followup with volunteers to make sure things are okay and activities are in progress, innovative ideas. All these make me feel motivated and wants me not to give up even if I don't see huge results.”

— Nitya, Bengaluru
Embracing the Environment

Youth for Seva has been raising volunteers together for a multitude of environmental initiatives, embraced around seasons, driving a far reaching impact.

**Sapling planting and adoption**

Though 2015 was declared a drought year, arrival of scattered miserly monsoon led volunteers to rush for planting and adoption of saplings around Bengaluru and Hyderabad. 2750+ saplings were planted for adoption, with more than 95% surviving to flourish. Corporate volunteers from Cisco, KPIT and Wells Fargo among others, got involved in large scale adoption of the planted saplings. YFS engaged corporate volunteers with Kisan Sangha, Karnataka in making 5000 seed balls for dispersal in places where planting wasn’t feasible.

**Swachh Bharat**

With Swachh Bharat campaign gaining enormous popularity among the urbanites, endorsed by the country’s Prime Minister and celebrities alike, newer shoots of the organization swept streets and picked black spots, gaining some much needed volunteering momentum.

YFS teams at Delhi and Bhubaneswar hosted Swachh Bharat campaigns respectively, marking a progress towards the ‘a clean city, a clean country’ notion. Delhi had 80 volunteers clean Gandhi Ashram and its surroundings, while 70 volunteers in Bhubaneswar deemed Master Canteen Bus Stand, which truly called out for a quick fix.
Eco-friendly celebrations

Ganesh Chaturthi has been leaving a mark every year with its environmental impact post the celebrations. To make the festivities eco-friendly and increase green consciousness among people, YFS has been spearheading a mass Clay Ganesha drive year on year, taking it to children at schools, corporate and general public. About 236 volunteers trained through YFS clay Ganesha making workshops, in turn reached out to several schools, colleges, apartments to make families adopt the eco-friendly Ganesh. In addition to this, the Bengaluru team also trained about 400 Infosys employees in making Clay Ganeshas. All in all, YFS drove the adoption of eco-friendly Ganesha theme to a whopping 20,000 families in 2015-16, across Bengaluru and Hyderabad.

200 YFS volunteers in Hyderabad also promoted the practice of playing Holi with eco-friendly colours with 1700 children, raising clouds of organic colours in each other’s faces.

Earth Hour

In a show of solidarity, YFS Bhubaneswar in association with TiE Bhubaneswar, Cleantech SIG and Canyon Consultancy Private Limited, observed the Earth Hour, World Wildlife Fund for Nature’s annual movement to stand against Global Warming and its harmful effects.

The 28 March’s Earth Hour was preceded by a walkathon on 19 March 2016, graced by luminaries from Bhubaneswar. Shri Anant Narayan Jena (Mayor of Bhubaneswar) spearheaded the campaign with a force behind him, majored by 35 YFS volunteers. Odisha Campaign of Earth Hour 2014 could save 460MW of ‘Conventional Power’ on an average which in turn saved over 4.6 lakhs units of electricity costing about Rs.18.5 Lakhs.

Youth for Seva was proved to be a platform for my transformation. Everyone I met, from my teammates to the coordinators helped me grow, both as an intern and a person.”

—Vaishali Panchal, Delhi

“Working with Youth for Seva was an overwhelming experience for me. I would like to continue to work with YFS and contribute to my society through it in the days to come too.”

—Guneet Kaur, Delhi
Empowering the Differently-Abled

Considering our evolving society to have heavily concentrated its attention away from the differently abled, it now is waking up to create a space of equal opportunity, every step gradually accommodating provisions viz. an extra hour during examinations, infrastructure to house such people at workplaces, etc., where co-functioning is becoming a reality.

Volunteering as a scribe in assisting with examinations, has thus emerged as a vital empowerment process. Year 2015 had 626 scribe requests fulfilled, almost a cent percenter, discounting a few last minute lapses.

Highlight of the year long fulfilling of scribe requests was for the KPSC exams held in October 2015, when 90 volunteers were mobilized, with 60 of them coming from Vijaya Junior College, Bengaluru alone. Scribe requests ranged from across Karnataka and Tamilnadu, fulfilled mostly with locally sourced volunteers.

“OPENING” – a mass reading session for the visually impaired students was held in Chennai, on Sunday, 1 November 2015. Over 240 students and an equal number of readers got together
under one roof, making the world a more informed place about how reading, scribing and audio recording works.

OPENING was held in association with 'Lit The Light' and fully aided by Madras Metro Round Table 95 and Madras Metro Ladies Circle 70.

Reading session for the visually impaired has been an ongoing activity at many centres in Chennai. The objective of the session is to read out the curriculum for the visually impaired. In 2015-16, 31 reading volunteers assisted 200+ blind students with their reading.

Helen Keller day

To commemorate the birth of author, political activist, lecturer and the first deafblind person to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree- Helen Adams Keller, our team at Chennai organized a platform for differently-abled children to exhibit and market handicrafts created by them, on 27 June 2015.

Organizations that participated in the Helen Keller Day Exhibition were- Balavihar School for Special Children, Swabhimaan Trust (Centre for Autism), Maithree Special School, Deepam School for Special Children and Anbalaya Special School among others.
YFS volunteers in Hyderabad visited centres for People with Disabilities (PwD) with Rakhis, sweets and gifts, and celebrated the festival along with the specially abled children. The children were made aware about the importance of the festival in Sign language. Preceding the festival, YFS had organized a mela to showcase handicraft creations by specially abled children which included handmade Rakhis, Diyas (lamps), Candles, Bracelets and Hand Bags. The Rakhi Mela was quite a success with many people coming forward to support and encourage the talents of the special children.

Audio recording of textbooks has been a popular virtual volunteering opportunity, with 70 volunteers contributing audio recordings from their homes and/or offices. Samarthanam Foundation partners with Youth for Seva in cataloging the audio recordings into a digital audio library with open access. 39 students from BMS college of Engineering, Bengaluru have been volunteering in audio recording of text books, growing it into a larger project within the college’s student group.

Volunteers in Delhi also organised a sports day 24 December 2015 for visually impaired, multi-handicapped and deaf-blind children. 15 volunteers and 60 parents were a part of the event, engaging the children in various activities.

“Volunteering helps in discovering me. It gives me a sense of responsibility. I learnt that we have to ensure our children evolve stronger educationally, morally, physically and emotionally. There should be no room for self pity.”

—Chandana, Hyderabad
Nurturing Partnerships

YFS identifies itself as an enabler, in facilitating capacity building among all its important stakeholders including the community, government schools, health institutions, corporates, educational institutions and NGOs.

The workshops held for NGOs on proposal writing and Social Impact Assessment were a step in this direction. NGOs were walked through these important topics theoretically and practically, under the tutelage of in-house and external experts. In all, 48 NGOs and 82 members partook in these workshops. Participation ranged from organic farmers to child counsellors, environmentalists, child abuse aid workers and so forth.

Year 2015-16 accommodated volunteer requests for over 50 events by different NGOs, with 750+ volunteers getting a taste of volunteering opportunities across the board, including sports and annual day celebrations, festivities for Pongal, Raksha Bandhan, Holi, cultural programs at old age homes, taking children for medical check-ups etc..

On behalf of Sri Rajarajeshwari Jayamma Lakshminarayana Memorial Educational Trust, I thank your organization represented at present by Ms Shruti, Ashika and Mr. Pramod for the invaluable help rendered to our students in enriching computer learning skills and spoken English. Over years, your volunteers have involved in our school activity and greatly helped our students better their knowledge. We thank you for this and your volunteer service is highly appreciated. We look forward to your continued patronage.

—Kumar Ajjampur, Headmaster, Bengaluru
Corporate Projects and Volunteering

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) has been pivotal in driving YFS’s initiatives to schools across the horizon, under the umbrella of the School Adoption Program, not only in terms of infrastructural support, but also the time contributed by the volunteers, making a meaningful impact in the society.

Youth for Seva, with funding from Wells Fargo India, constructed a school at Hafeezpet, Hyderabad, with 8 class rooms and all modern amenities, to cater to the primary education requirements of the surrounding areas. 450 students are currently learning at the school with lot more expected to join over due course.

Libraries and computer labs are amongst the major infrastructural support needed by schools. Youth for Seva also collaborated with Rockwell Collins for setting up of a ‘fee–no-barrier’ Skill Development Centre, at Jagathgirigutta, Hyderabad. Aimed at developing basic computer know-how and programming skills of aspirants hailing from under resourced backgrounds, the recent batch included 20 beneficiaries – students, working men & women, and homemakers.

18 schools in Jagalur, Shirahatti and Bengaluru (all in Karnataka) have been provided with libraries by YFS, in coordination with TI, EMC and Intercall.

TI and Dell have also facilitated sanitary infrastructure in Bengaluru and at Sira, Tumkur district, Karnataka respectively.

Places such as schools or community halls in slums of Hyderabad are provisioned with adequate lighting, drinking water and toilets, and students from the locality are invited to these Learning centres (Abhyasikas) every evening, to study and complete their homework with guided assistance. 18 such centres across Hyderabad are being funded by Persistent, Thomson Reuters, Wells Fargo India, Agility, conveniencing 470+ children with their studies.

YFS partnered with GYAN PRO in hosting a science fair at 3 adopted schools in Bengaluru. YFS also delivered personality development sessions to 620 high school students in Bengaluru,
with support from Disha foundation. Class 10 students were also counselled on the career aspect, aiding their blossoming dreams and channelizing their future ambitions.

Through the School Adoption Program in Bengaluru, 43 volunteers of EMC and Cisco delivered short term modules in Spoken English and Computers at adopted schools, and furthered the learning by accompanying children on educational tours to Visvesvaraya Museum and Nehru Planetarium.

17 female volunteers from EMC also raised awareness about Menstrual Hygiene, addressing high school girls about self-conduct and dismissive taboos surrounding the female menstruation and age-old traditions.

“Cisco invests in NGOs through a combination of financial grants, technology and in-kind program contributions, bolstered by employee volunteering and expertise sharing.

Youth for Seva is our strategic NGO partner and we together create resilient communities that will not only benefit people but also help our business to thrive by creating economic stability; giving us access to new markets, customers, and sources of innovation; and together we building a healthy pipeline of well-educated talent for our global operations, as well as those of our customers and partners.

— Archana Sahay, Government and Community Relations Manager, CISCO

“Youth For Seva is an active non profit organization which works closely with Google CSR team for outreach works. The YFS team empowers the youth in the society with diverse projects spanning from education, health, cultural activities & health campaigns.

A few among them were Chiguru, School kit drive & setting up library at schools, technology & health awareness campaigns etc.

We are proud to be associated with YFS and thank the entire team for awesome co-ordination. Our volunteers throughly enjoyed the events and we wish to drive more impactful outreach activities with Youth for Seva.

— Rajeswari C, Product Quality Analyst, Google
Youth for Seva (YFS) partnered with India@75 (CII’s grassroot initiative) to mark and celebrate the 7 days from 18-24 January as National Volunteering week. YFS chapters in Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Delhi jointly hosted about 250 volunteers from corporates like Genpact and CTS, in activities such as drawing and sports competitions, field trips for the underprivileged, health checkup camps and green initiatives like sapling plantation, street cleaning, lake cleaning and pothole filling.

“Writing this mail to formally thank Youth for Seva for all the support during the National Volunteering Week (NVW). The week has been a grand success and a major credit for the YFS team who have conducted such valuable and impactful grass root level activities. I hope our partnership does not end here and we continue to do work that makes a difference throughout the year and also during NVW 2017.

—Shreya Kalra,
India@75, CII’s grassroot initiative, Delhi”
Among other one time volunteering activities, 100 Intuit employees assembled 15 bicycles for children at Nele, a foster home for destitute children.

Partnering in YFS’s Scribes initiative, VMWare and KPIT have come forward in supporting with infrastructure and volunteering hours for in-house audio recording of text books for the visually challenged.

Deloitte Impact Day emerged as one of the highlights, drawing 878 of its volunteers to 40 schools spread across Bengaluru for a day long engagement. Science Models - explaining the earth, solar system and human anatomy were presented to the children, while learning maths was made easy with the demonstration and distribution of Ramanujan Math Learning Kit. Children were also organized into various competitions, with gifts handed out following scrumptious food.

63 corporate volunteers from DELL visited foster homes and slums in Delhi, interacted with the inmates, surveyed their needs, bonded over cooking and savouring lunch together. Children were taught science through engaging DIY fun experiments, while funds earmarked for the cause ensured provisioning of basic amenities in the locations.

Overall, the past year saw 25,000 volunteering hours being contributed by 3300+ volunteers. With an objective of strengthening existing relationship with corporates and forging newer connections, YFS aligns its focus towards sustainable impact coupled with growing volunteer engagement.

“Impact Day is an event that we all look forward to where we take part in community service simultaneously. We are happy to have associated with Youth for Seva who helped us in conducting this event on such a large scale.” —Manjunath, Deloitte
Corporate Partners

Armstrong  ADP  AMD  BOSCH

Cotiviti  DELL  GLOBAL EDGE  EMC²

where information lives'

Deloitte  HURIX  hurix systems  ERICSSON  intel

InterCall  iSOL  L&T Infotech  CA technologies

NATIONAL INSTRUMENTS  NTT DATA  CISCO

PERSISTENT

technologia  Texas Instruments  KPIT  vmware

Symantec  Rockwell Collins  Tech Mahindra  WELLS FARGO
Overcoming all odds – Bagu’s story

It had always been a dream for Bagu to study for Civil Services. Hailing from Gulbarga part of Karnataka, parents are vagrant construction workers for daily wages. Bagu studied well at school, but never liked going to school. When he was 13 years old, he had to drop out of school due to financial troubles.

Vidya Chetana took notice of him and his abilities, encouraging him to carry on with his studies, notifying a teacher in Veerabhadranagar, where he stayed in Bengaluru, to support him academically and morally. Lack of power seemed no constraint, for streetlight was sufficient with supportive parents.

When the moment arrived, all his hard work has translated in securing him second rank in Common Entrance Test (CET) for engineering admissions. Bagu wants to pursue Bachelor of Engineering from BMS college of Engineering, Bengaluru. He dreams of being an IAS officer one day.
Project Connect - Connecting the dots

In 2015, Youth for Seva initiated 'Project Connect' in Hyderabad with an aim to provide livelihood for the physically disadvantaged. With no minimum qualifications and basic amenities taken care of, training organizations were partnered with, to train the aspirants in landing jobs in the retail and hospitality industries (like Lifestyle, Max, KFC and Holiday Inn). Basic English, Mathematics and Computer Skills being the primary aids of training, five centers - Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Vizag, Rajahmundry and Warangal facilitated job creation for 24 trainees.

Motivating examples like Ramesh Kallepelly, who landed a Google job, started to emerge out of the project. Project Connect secured Rs.1,00,000 as seed funding, to scale the project up for over a year's period from Bain and Co., under their Social B-Plan competition (Bain Seeds of Hope).
**Trustees**

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**Dharmendra Rangain**  
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SAARC region CISCO

**Dr. Santhosh Kumar Kraleti**  
Public Health Specialist
'Our Reach So Far'

23,000+ Volunteers engaged so far

2,50,000 Child Beneficiaries over ten years of YFS

School Health Program
40,077 students screened
6,173 referrals

23,000 Menstrual Hygiene beneficiaries

127 Schools adopted

1,58,000 SCHOOL KITS Distributed across India

6099 Digital Literacy outreach

4853 Children supported

5340 Saplings planted and nurtured

28,500 Clay Ganesha Modelled

4,700 Cloth Bags Distributed

Map of India showing various locations and cities.
Grow...

Lead...

Inspire...