

Voice of Change

A Bharti Foundation Program Update

Issue 1: July 2008

VISION

To help underprivileged children and young people of our country realize their potential

MISSION

Committed to creating and supporting programs that bring about sustainable changes through education and use of technology



The Hon'ble President at the Satya Bharti Primary School, Lordi Dejgara



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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Dear Reader,

I have great pleasure in introducing to you the inaugural issue of *Voice of Change*. This monthly update from Bharti Foundation would keep you informed about our various programs which are continuously expanding their reach and transforming many young lives.

This issue highlights the inauguration of the Satya Bharti Primary School at Lordi Dejgara, Jodhpur by Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil, the Hon'ble President of India. It also brings to light the success story of Manga Singh, one of our students, who has gone on to achieve educational excellence. The experience of Harvinder, another student at one of our schools is also very heartening.

I hope this makes for an inspiring reading. As always, your suggestions are extremely welcome.

Warm Regards,

Badri Agarwal
President
Bharti Foundation

THE HON'BLE PRESIDENT OF INDIA INAUGURATES THE SATYA BHARTI SCHOOL IN LORDI DEJGARA, JODHPUR

Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil, the Hon'ble President of India inaugurated the Satya Bharti School at Village Lordi Dejgara, Dist. Jodhpur on June 21, 2008, under the aegis of Bharti Foundation's Satya Bharti School Program. Also present at the occasion were Mr. Rajan Bharti Mittal, Managing Director, Bharti Enterprises and Dr. Abhishek Manu Singhvi, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha.

After inaugurating the foundation plaque, Smt. Patil visited the classrooms and interacted with the children and teachers, enquiring about their experiences at school and the innovative methods adopted for teaching-learning processes. Immediately after this a function was held, attended by all the dignitaries at the event. The Hon'ble President, in her speech, highlighted the importance of children attending school and urged all community members present to ensure that their own children, as well as those who lived in the village, attend school regularly. She also spoke at length about the need for empowerment of women and its effect on the dynamic changing economy of the country.

On the occasion, Mr. Rajan Bharti Mittal said "While India makes impressive strides with its rapid economic growth, 300 million children in the age group of seven years and above do not have access to education. At Bharti, we believe that education is the single most important tool to bring about social and economic transformation and children in rural India must get an equal opportunity for education. With the Satya Bharti School Program, we are committed to make a difference and bridge the education divide between the urban and rural pockets of India, taking forward the agenda of inclusive economic growth."

Currently 161 Satya Bharti Primary Schools are operational across the states of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand with close to 15,000 children and over 560 teachers. By 2010 Bharti Foundation aims to reach out to more than 2,00,000 children through 500 Satya Bharti Primary Schools and 50 Satya Bharti Senior Secondary cum Vocational Training Schools across the country.

To know more about the program, please visit www.bhartifoundation.org

bharti foundation



SATYA BHARTI PRIMARY SCHOOL, LORDI DEJARA, JODHPUR

WE STAND AT...

161 £ Close to **15,000**
Satya Bharti Primary Schools children

STORIES OF HOPE: INITIATING A WAVE OF CHANGE

Harvinder is a little girl in Ludhiana and is all of seven. She did not attend any school before 'Satya Bharti School' opened in her village. She came to the school holding her father's hand, very shy, almost hiding behind him. The class teacher took charge of her bag and made her sit along with other children of her age-group. Our teachers have been specially trained to teach children who have never been to school before or are first-generation learners from their family, as they require extra attention. The teaching processes planned in our schools are child-centric and use innovative teaching aids to make education interesting and easy for such children.

After a week of attending the school regularly, Harvinder came to school with her friend, and got her admitted to the school. The little shy girl, who had joined our school just a week ago had found enough confidence to bring her friend also to the school. This is only a reflection of the environment in our schools. We encourage our children to speak out, question, explore.... And to express themselves!

The story does not end here. Last month, Harvinder's mother came to the "Parent Teacher's Meeting". After the meeting ended, all parents were asked to sign a register or put a thumb impression, if illiterate. Harvinder's illiterate mother wrote her name in ENGLISH! Harvinder had taught her how to.

THE SATYA BHARTI DIFFERENCE:



Community members come forward to cook mid-day meals for the children at the Satya Bharti Primary Schools



A child enjoys a nutritious mid-day meal at the Satya Bharti Primary School



Technology is an integral part of the classrooms at the Satya Bharti Primary Schools

The Bharti Foundation
Annual Report
FY '07-'08

To download a pdf
version of the
Annual Report,
please visit

www.bhartifoundation.org



LATEST PUBLICATION



OUR PRIDE

Manga Singh, a student of Satya Bharti School, Khanpur scored 84 % marks and secured the 20th position in the class V Punjab State Board Examinations



ACT – A Caring Touch is a Bharti Group Employee Philanthropy Program. Employees as well as their families are encouraged to donate their time, skills, knowledge, materials and money, to either Bharti Foundation or any other charity empanelled under ACT.

For further details, please write to ACT.foundation@bharti.in