



Voice of Change

Issue 6: December '08- January '09

Special Edition

A Bharti Foundation Program Update

The Journey Till Now...

2008 has been a landmark year for Bharti Foundation in more ways than one. The Satya Bharti School Program touched new heights in 2008, reaching out to over thousands of children in rural India. Set up as the flagship program of the Foundation in 2006 as "temples of learning radiating knowledge and excellence", the programs looks at "nation building beyond the call of business." Reaching out to underprivileged children in the deepest corners of the country, this program is Bharti's contribution to nation building through transformational projects.

The program was launched in 2006. The last two years have seen significant enhancements to the program to make it one of India's truly remarkable and outstanding efforts.

Here's a look at the journey of the Satya Bharti Schools in 2008:

Important Highlights:

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Official launch of the Satya Bharti School Program in Punjab, Rajasthan and Haryana

Remedial Learning Program launched to bridge gaps in learning levels of children

Stringent performance parameters and methodologies have been implemented to help School Co-ordinators monitor and assess impact of the program

Satya Bharti School Program extended to South India with 10 schools set to start in Sivaganga, Tamil Nadu with effect from June 2009

Satya Bharti Senior Secondary School Program launched in 2008

Intense training on quality processes and school operation procedures to ensure smooth implementation of program

Remedial Learning Program:

Two months after the Remedial Learning Program was launched as a part of the Bharti Curriculum, the program was assessed on basic parameters of effectiveness and how it has helped students and teachers understand and deliver learning concepts better. It was also important to speak to parents about their understanding of the program since it was a deviation from the regular curriculum. Thus it was imperative that parents also understand the core essence of the program and what it has set out to achieve.

The feedback of teachers, students and parents after Phase I of implementation has been encapsulated below:

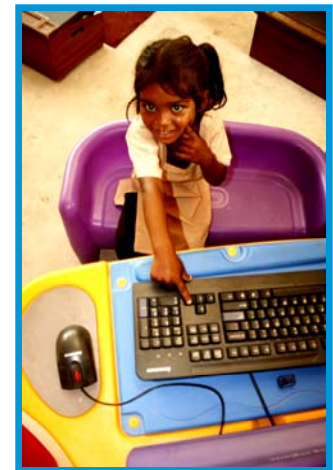


STUDENTS:

- The RLP allows children enough time to form a better understanding of concepts
- It also helps bridge conceptual gaps in their learning and gives it more relevance
- The program has also made students start analyzing and thinking
- There is also an increase in interest and confidence levels of children
- The lab approach is fun and less burdening since it decreases the monotony of classroom learning

TEACHERS:

- For the teachers, the program is a perfect solution to their problem of varying learning levels of children
- It helps in focused teaching strategies
- The RLP has also helped teachers gain a better insight about learning capacities of individual students
- Thus they are now able to approach each student with a clear understanding of their learning level
- Teaching a particular subject/lab helps teachers deliver better, thereby improving quality of teaching



PARENTS:

- There is a gradual acceptance of a different approach of learning among parents of children at our schools
- In most cases parents are generally happy with their child's progress and teacher's feedback
- However, in certain pockets of implementation, some parents insist on conventional methods of teaching

Community Linkages at Satya Bharti Schools

The community has played a very important role in the Satya Bharti School Program since its inception in 2006. Thus while the Satya Bharti School Program imparts education to children in remote villages of the country, the community has always come forward with open arms to express their support for the program.

Some of the highlights of community interaction and participation in 2008:



Financial Support

Community sponsored

- Mid-day Meals
- Construction of roads
- Boundary walls of schools
- Transportation costs for children



Skill/Labour Support

Community participated in

- Shramdaan at schools
- Plantation Drives
- Labour for school construction



Material Support

Community provided in

- Water tanks
- Utensils for mid-day meals
- Stationery, books and bags for children
- Clothes for children

Material and monetary donations worth Rs 8.8 lakh have been resourced from the community as donations towards Satya Bharti Schools in the first quarter of the 2008-09

Celebrations at Satya Bharti Schools



SPORTS DAY



STUDENT EXCURSIONS



DIWALI



CHRISTMAS

Being Recognized: Awards for Bharti Foundation



Social and Corporate Governance award for Best Corporate Social Responsibility Practice, 2008

Asian CSR Award for Support and Improvement in Education, 2008



Highest Pledge Raising NGO at the Airtel Delhi Half Marathon, 2008



Soul Engaging: Employee Engagement Programs



Volunteering for a noble cause like this makes me want to devote my life to these children and ensure these gems shine out in this world.

Dinesh Kumar Jain
Head, National Sales & Indirect Taxation
Beetel

While Bharti employees have always come forward to help and support the Satya Bharti School Program, it is only in 2008 that a formal Volunteering Policy has been launched across all Bharti Group Companies. Employees are encouraged to spend a day at a Satya Bharti School or at the Bharti Foundation office, volunteering their skills or donating materials and money for the children.

Some of them shared their thoughts with us after having spent time our children at Satya Bharti Schools:



Interacting with the children and seeing the joy it gave them reminded me of the more important things in life.

Mr. Sanjeev Duggal
CEO and Executive Director
Bharti Resources Ltd.

I was touched by their (children) eagerness to learn, their responsiveness, their sincerity and their innocence. Those few hours certainly carried me back several years. Someone has rightly said - Children do make you want to start life over.

Rupesh Tripathi
Bharti Retail



Bharti Foundation also ran several Employee Engagement Campaigns as a part of ACT- the Employee Philanthropy Program. All campaigns received overwhelming responses with employees donating materials and money and volunteering to adopt children at Satya Bharti Schools...

"Freedom to Learn"

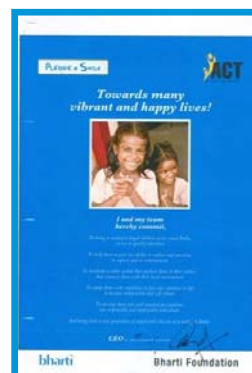
campaign launched in August '08 across all Bharti Group Employees, Corporate Donors and Partners



Over 8,000 signatures
1144 Donors

PLEDGE A SMILE

campaign launched by Mr. Sunil B. Mittal, in November '08, across all Bharti Group Employees



Pledge signed by 13 CEOs
Over 150 Volunteers



Please send us your feedback at communication.foundation@bhartifoundation.org

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Bharti Foundation