

TECH MAHINDRA FOUNDATION



Have feet.....can learn!!

MONTHLY REPORT

DECEMBER 2011

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The Tech Mahindra Foundation works through NGO partners across themes and regions. Each year the month of December is one where our executives initiate their annual assessment of NGO work carried out through the year. This is done with much diligence – with focus on both the process adopted and outcomes achieved. During December key community impact from these NGO interventions over the years was also compiled through intensive field visits.

This year we also went into communities to look for new NGO partners matching our aims and objectives as many of our existing partners are being phased out. Many new partners were identified through this process – their names would be firmed up during January 2012.

A summary of other activities for the month that were carried out is as follows:

Yuva Academy valedictory ---

Valedictory program was held for the first batch of Yuva Academy students at TechM Sharda Center in Pune. Thirteen students passed out successfully. Yuva Academy has enabled TMF to reach out to and assist under privileged students acquire proficiency in English language using **Yuva English (YE)**. The course not only helped them improve their English speaking skills but instilled confidence in them while significantly improving their employment opportunities. Students are now being mobilized for the second batch at Yuva Academy.



A process of YE validation was initiated to assess how effective this programme can be to achieve its objectives. This validation will also present recommendations as regards scaling and sustainability.

A YE Task Force meeting Chaired by Mr Vinod C Khanna was held in Pune on 15 December 2011. This was an exhaustive discussion and brainstorming on the way forward that was attended by TMF, Tech Mahindra & CLR representatives. Indraneel Ganguly, Sr VP, Msat was the special invitee who shall be assisting TMF-CLR set up the proposed Tech Mahindra Management Organization for Yuva rollout 2012 onwards. Specific Work Groups were set up that will take the process forward.



A **study circle for the Shikshak Samman Awardees (SSA)** was organized on 10 December 2011 at in- service Teacher Training Institute Shakti Nagar, Delhi to build upon what the awardees had learnt in Naukuchiya Taal about relevance of moral values in today's world and the role of education. The session was facilitated by Ex- Mayor Mr. Mahesh Chand Sharma, who is also an authority on value education and Mr. Vinod C. Khanna, Head of the Foundation.

A screening session was organized from 27 -29 December 2011 for SSA 2012. We received 215 application forms this year, including applications for the awards for special Teachers (Music, CWSN and Physical Education).

During the month TMF compiled key community impacts through its NGO partners since they joined hands with us. Some of these are as follows ---

Katha (FY07-08 onwards) – **Mapping The Future**. Katha works with about 1300 children at the Katha Lab School (KLS). It seamlessly connects grassroots work in education & urban resurgence with storytelling. The innovative curriculum/story pedagogy developed at KLS with TMF support has been introduced in Government and MCD schools of Delhi and Katha’s community schools – impacting many children. This has important implications in support of the RTE Act with regard to quality of teaching-learning, reading ability of children, enrollments, absenteeism etc.



Sarthak (FY10-11 onwards) – **Sarthak Sustainable Employment programme for persons with disabilities**. Job Fairs & Roundtables play an important role. Through this intervention Visually Impaired (VIs) getting placed has raised their confidence tremendously. They have also become economically self reliant. About 250 jobs were provided in companies like IBM Daksh, Wipro, Lemon Tree, Netambit, Tata Steel, Aegis, Genpact, ITC Welcome Group, Bank of America, KFC, Costa Coffee etc.



Saksham (Sept 2009 onwards) – **Digital Talking Book (DTB) production as part of the DAISY Forum of India (DFI)**. Recordings = 7000hrs of DTBs; reach 30,000 VI end users through DFI. Any VI student from Class IX – XII (NCERT, Open School) now has ready access to DTBs through DFI network right from day 1 due to this intervention. The catalogue of DTBs is being uploaded online at www.oblindia.org in partnership with the National Institute of the Visually Handicapped (NIVH). This is a watershed intervention enabling and empowering the VI students and learners.



Bal Sahyog (FY11-12 onwards) – **Integrated**

Community Organisation and Support Program. It was founded in 1954 by

Late Smt. Indira Gandhi to look after the needs and safety of the helpless, orphan and neglected children. TMF supports disadvantaged children and women through 2 centers at Rithala & Naharpur, Delhi. Non Formal Education (NFE) = 60 children being prepared for mainstreaming to Govt Schools as per RTE Act; Vocational Training (VT) = 82 women from conservative disadvantaged communities are shedding their inhibition to get economically empowered and self reliant. TMF support has played an important role in this NGO regaining its confidence and effectiveness to make

a meaningful impact on disadvantaged communities.

NGO events that made a difference ---- Association of People With Disability (APD), Bangalore -



Adalat - Public Hearing: Children and adults with disability are often left out in the cold because they are unaware of or unable to claim their rightful entitlements. On 21 December, 2011, thirty six such cases relating to denial of education, health and employment for persons with disability were presented before the District collector at a Public Hearing- *adalat*- in Chikkaballapur, Karnataka. APD undertook the necessary lobbying and research to provide this platform for PWDs from economically marginalized families, to voice their grievances before a panel of concerned government officials. Public

hearings such as this provide a forum for meaningful, focused dialogue and direct, result-oriented action and represents APDs ability to influence and impact bureaucratic systems & structures as well as federations of Persons with Disability.

Raza, Bangalore - Christmas was celebrated at Raza in Bangalore with the students singing carols. A “**Raza MasterChef**” competition was held for the women from the Tailoring course. These women have no exposure to the outside world and this event gave them an opportunity to showcase their talent. They grabbed the opportunity and came up with delicious dishes. This was followed by more celebration in the form of singing and dancing.



Score Foundation, Delhi - The Eyeway Blind Cricket Challenger tournament for blind school children was organised at New Delhi between the 29th of November and the 4th of December, 2011. Four of the top blind schools of Delhi participated in this 20x20 tournament that was held at the Frank Anthony Public School. Every day after the matches, **Score Foundation** the organisers of the tournament arranged short interactive sessions with the 64 participants on issues such as career opportunities, higher education, personal skills, personality development and so on. On the whole, the school children found the event enjoyable, motivational and informative. Score Foundation runs "Eyeway", a single stop knowledge resource on life with blindness which is supported by the TMF. We believe that blind people are as much a resource to our country as anyone else and have the right to enjoyment, education and career opportunities.



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Fashion Show organized by **SPRJ Kanyashala Trust’s** Fashion Designing students on 13th Dec 2011 in Mumbai. It was a very professionally organized event with the students from different courses at the college walking the ramp. The girls had been working on the designs for almost 6 months. It was a very proud moment for the parents of these young designers. The event was attended by some well known Fashion Designers who really



appreciated the collections. TMF started supporting these vocational courses at SPRJK in 2008 through a loan scheme which has now become self sustainable.

TMF Volunteering Programme –

The Tech M **volunteering and cross volunteering** program with M Sat in Pune continued to grow with NGOs like Sarvesham Seva Sangh, Door Step, India Sponsorship Committee, Sahasee, Pune Municipal School and Swadhar. Associates took active interest activities like - improving English speaking skills, conduct of computer classes, volunteering for NGO events like sports day, understanding how NGO schools run etc.



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Kindly mail us your comments and feedback to tmf@techmahindra.com.

Compiled by Team TMF; Dated – 12 January 2012