

# TECH MAHINDRA FOUNDATION



*TMF honoured outstanding MCD teachers in New Delhi*

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**MONTHLY REPORT**

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**OCTOBER 2011**

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The month of October witnessed the finale of the Shikshak Samman Awards (SSA) programme for the year 2010-11 with a glittering ceremony in New Delhi. The event was well attended and widely covered by the media. Another initiative – Vision For India (VFI) - took form through a 2 day conference of our VI partners in Noida. VFI will work to strengthen TMF work at a national level for the visually impaired.

As the two Foundations – TMF and MSF – move towards eventual merger, the associates from both parent companies set the tone for further collaborative work and integration in an organised manner with volunteering for TMF partner NGO organisations.

### SHIKSHAK SAMMAN AWARDS 2010-11

The highlight of the month was the Award ceremony of the **Shikshak Samman Awards (SSA) 2010-11 programme** held on 13 October 2011 at the India International Centre, New Delhi. The Chief Guest on the occasion was Sri KS Mehra, IAS, Commissioner, MCD. 23 teachers were honored for their outstanding contributions. The SSA Newsletter '*Utkarsh*' was released at the event by the Chief Guest. A documentary on the programme was also shown to the audience. The event was covered by The Hindu and The Hindustan Times newspapers. Doordarshan made a 5 minute film on the ceremony – with interviews of awardees as well as TMF Head Mr Vinod C Khanna. The same was telecast on DD National a few days later.



As part of SSA professional development for teachers a **Study Circle on language teaching** was organized on 8 October 2011 and facilitated by Ms. Sonika Kaushik, one of the team members of India's leading experts on language teaching- Dr. Shobha Sinha (Central Institute of Education, Delhi University).

### LAUNCH OF THE VISION FOR INDIA (VFI) INITIATIVE



Over the years TMF has carved a niche in the country in the domain of empowerment of the Visually Impaired. To take this further, we conducted a 2 day deliberation with our VI (Visually Impaired) NGO partners at TechM Noida on 17-18 October 2011. The session was the culmination of 8-10 months of intense discussions amongst this group to set up a national programme for empowering the VI. This initiative has been christened VISION FOR INDIA (VFI). The VFI mission is to help realize personal independence, economic self reliance and social inclusion for every person with vision impairment in India.

### TMF VOUNTEERING PROGRAMME (TVP)

Over the last 5 months about 450 associates have registered for various TVP activities. Out of these, more than 100 have registered through the online portal of TVP. Volunteering has occurred across regions and various

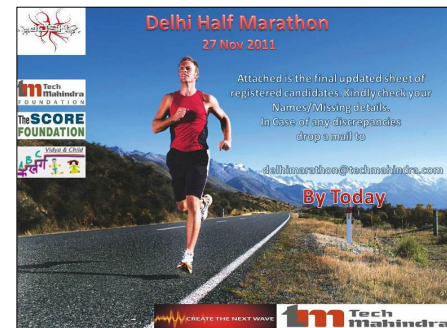


initiatives have been taken up. Cross Volunteering occurred in October with MSF, where TechM and MSat associates came out to visit and interact with our NGO partners. Some genuine efforts were witnessed. At NGO Raza in Bangalore (we support their School and Vocational Training programmes), 42 Entry Level Trainee programmers -ELTP - of MSat visited the school. At NGO Parikrma, also in Bangalore (we



support their education programme for underprivileged children, with special focus on quality of English) volunteering was taken up. At Pune, 2 centres of the NGO Doorstep School (we support various programmes that focus on education of underprivileged children from very vulnerable backgrounds like migrant populations) saw 50 volunteers and more than 120 children enjoying interacting and painting with each other.

Joint efforts were made with Josh Noida to encourage associates to run for TMF NGO partners Vidya & Child (we support their non formal school, after school support and co-curricular activities for underprivileged children) and Score Foundation (we support their informative website [www.eyeway.org](http://www.eyeway.org) and a radio show on All India Radio that enlightens us on life with blindness) at the Airtel Delhi Half Marathon 2011. This synergy culminated in about 300 registrations (out of the approximate 450 registrations for TVP) over a 2 month campaign. The race is on 27 November 2011



Individual/group efforts across regions in October were also taken up by TVP - 10 associates have been helping the staff of the NGO India Sponsorship Committee (ISC), Pune (we support their Education Programme for Children in Brick Kilns in Wakad & Hinjewadi area) with improving their English speaking skills and computer knowledge; TechM Associates are giving basic Computer training to the teachers of NGO Swadhar, Pune (we support their Non Formal Education and Reading classes). We have 5 associates who provide the training for 3 hours here every Saturday afternoon.

### 3 NEW NGO PARTNERS ADDED TO TMF PORTFOLIO

1. Teacher Foundation, TMF - Bangalore, taking the total to 9 partners; 11 projects
2. MUWC (Mahindra United World College) Akshara programme, TMF - Pune, taking the total to 20 partners and 23 projects
3. Don Bosco VT Programme, TMF – Delhi/Noida, taking the total to 21 partners; 26 projects

TMF – Mumbai portfolio remains the same with 10 partners; 10 projects

### **UPDATE ON YUVA ENGLISH**

As part of Yuva English sustainability, following efforts were made:

- Exploration of potential markets - Don Bosco, American India Foundation (AIF) and Smile Foundation have expressed a keen interest to adopt the programme
- NSDC (National Skills Development Corporation) and NASSCOM Foundation have been in talks with us to explore how the programme can benefit their NGO partners
- Ambedkar University, Delhi is keen to take up the programme with Delhi Government Senior Secondary School students from Hindi and Urdu medium
- A potential Yuva Academy location has been identified at TechM Noida
- Directorate General of Employment & Training (DGET), Ministry of Labour & Employment, Government of India is being explored to see how Yuva English can be incorporated as an approved curriculum under the VTP (Vocational Training Provider) Scheme of this Ministry as part of Vocation Training.

### **KKPKP (KAGAD KACH PATRA KASHTAKARI PANCHAYAT), PUNE**

The TMF partner NGO distributed scholarships and awards to children of waste pickers. A function was organised on 18 October 2011 where the children were felicitated in front of 5000 people including members of waste picker union, social activists and representatives of various newspapers.



### **DIWALI FESTIVAL PARTICIPATION BY NGO PARTNERS**

The NGO stalls put up for Diwali in the 3 TechM premises in Pune had amongst them 3 TMF NGO partners which had a collective sale of around Rs. 30-35000. Around 1200 employees of TechM visited the stalls and showed keen interest to understand the work done by these partners. In Delhi, two organizations - National Association for the Blind and Amarjyoti Charitable Trust also organized Diwali Mela.

### **TMF WIKI**

Tech Mahindra Foundation Wiki - [www.tmfpartners.wikidot.com](http://www.tmfpartners.wikidot.com) is an effort to leverage the potential of the Open Source domain on the internet to further our objectives. The wiki is regularly updated with our work for the larger welfare of the community. This edition as well as earlier reports are uploaded at <http://tmfpartners.wikidot.com/monthly-reports>.

Kindly mail us your comments and feedback to [tmf@techmahindra.com](mailto:tmf@techmahindra.com).

**Compiled by Team TMF**

**Dated – 10 November 2011**