



**Vishwa Yuvak Kendra**

*(A Unit of Indian Youth Centres Trust)*

*Empowering Youth for Sustainable Development*



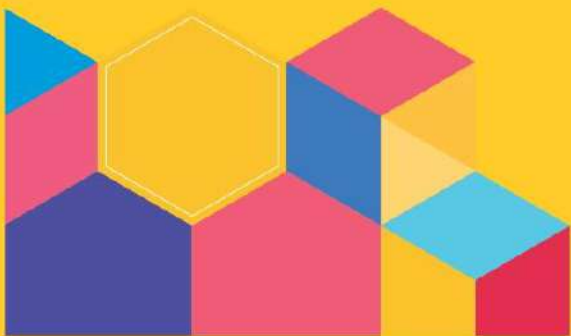
**ANNUAL REVIEW**  
**2020-21**



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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Over the past one and a half years, Kendra's programme activities have had to adopt a different approach, necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic. With direct participation in seminars, workshops and conferences being restricted owing to health considerations, VYK organised numerous webinars and online events on various important themes. The programmes were lauded by the beneficiaries, who appreciated VYK's efforts to adapt to the changed scenario.

Apart from online programmes, VYK also carried out many field level interventions to support the needy and the underprivileged sections of the society who bore the brunt of the financial, social and health effects caused by COVID-19. It is heartening to note that VYK designed its activities in such a manner that not only did the attendees join the programme sitting in their homes, but the content-driven VYK programmes enabled them to gain knowledge on the themes which they could replicate in their respective operational areas.

Important topics like Livelihood Generation, CSO Governance and Compliance, Agri Entrepreneurship Development, Role of Youth in Nation Building, Women Empowerment and many other themes were covered during the year. The Kendra also strengthened its partnership network across the country by organising events in collaborative manner. VYK also managed to significantly improve its digital presence during the year.

I sincerely hope that the situation improves soon and the world is freed from the clutches of this deadly pandemic. My best wishes to the VYK Team for a highly successful and productive year ahead.



**Rajat Narain**  
Chairman



## MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGING TRUSTEE



Past six decades of experience of working with youth has made Vishwa Yuvak Kendra (VYK) one of the biggest youth development organisations in the country. VYK has been actively and successfully organising workshops, seminars and training programmes for youth and CSOs aimed at their capacity enhancement. However, the COVID-19 pandemic that has afflicted the world compelled the Kendra to change its way of functioning, and adopt a more “digital” mode. Though a major part of last financial year was lost on account of the nation-wide lockdown, VYK organised more than 50 virtual programmes on various important themes. The programmes were widely attended by participants from across the country.

Apart from the programmatic activities, VYK also carried out its field level interventions in its adopted slum communities, and helped the community residents by providing them with dry ration, sanitary kits and financial aid during these difficult times. The Kendra extended its support to the COVID-19 relief efforts of the government by providing its campus for running an “Isolation Centre” and also made contribution to the PM Care Fund.

The webinars organised by VYK were highly appreciated by the participants for their in-depth coverage of the themes and also involvement of renowned subject experts who, through their address, helped participants understand the topics in a better manner. VYK followed its partnership model and organised a number of these webinars in collaboration with partner NGOs. The “Samarthyha Pariyojana” project organised with Bosch, one of the most renowned engineering and technology giants in the world, was so much appreciated by all trainees that the programme is being carried out in the next financial year also. All these have been made possible with the support of the eminent resource persons, partner organisations and the enthusiastic attendees of VYK programmes. Thank you all!

I convey my best wishes to the VYK team for their earnest efforts and sincerely hope that they would keep up the good work.



**Shishir Bajaj**  
Managing Trustee



## FOREWORD



This Annual Report focuses on a number of activities organised by Vishwa Yuvak Kendra (VYK) during the 2020-21 financial year. Owing to the restrictions on physical programmes due to the dreaded pandemic, our team concentrated its efforts on its digital activities, and organised a number of webinars on relevant topics. The webinars obviated the need to be physically present during the training programmes, thereby allowing participation from far flung areas of the country. At the time when the country was facing one of the largest health crises it has ever encountered, VYK online programmes provided people with an opportunity to enhance their learning and knowledge, sitting in the safety of their houses.

The Kendra's activities were seriously hampered by the nationwide lockdown and the pandemic. However, even during this pandemic period, VYK did not forget its social responsibilities and contributed to the relief efforts by providing financial as well as infrastructural support to the government's COVID relief activities.

The flagship programme during the year was "Samarthya Pariyojana," a collaborative effort of VYK and Bosch, which was aimed at capacity enhancement of NGO workers. The programme was a resounding success which prompted Bosch to renew the project for a second consecutive year. VYK is also hopeful of organising similar unique events in the coming years to support the nation and its citizens.

At this juncture, I would like to convey my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who supported us in our endeavours. First and foremost on the list come our Board of Trustees who inspired us to strive for success and glory through our activities. I would also like to thank our regional partners for accepting the change in the working scenario, and for joining us in our webinar events. Our programmes would not have been successful, had it not received support of our resource persons, participants and well-wishers. Thank you all very much!

We are hopeful of overcoming the challenges posed by the pandemic and work for the betterment of the country through our initiatives.



**Uday Shankar Singh**  
Chief Controller



## VYK AT A GLANCE



*The Founder Trustees (Clockwise): Founder Chairman Shri Morarji Desai, Smt. Indira Gandhi, Shri V J Shah, Shri Naval H Tata, Shri Ravindra Varma and Shri Ramkrishna Bajaj, Founder Managing Trustee*



*Prime Minister Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru discussing project Vishwa Yuvak Kendra with (L-R) Prof. Ram Lal Parikh, Shri Ramkrishna Bajaj and Shri P. T. Kuriakose*



*Dr. Zakir Husain, the then President of India, inaugurating the building of Vishwa Yuvak Kendra*

Vishwa Yuvak Kendra (VYK) has a unique history. In 1959, the executive committee of the Indian Assembly of Youth came to the conclusion that if youth work has to be developed in the country on scientific lines, a national youth centre should be established, which would provide training in youth work to the workers of youth organizations on a continuous basis. The committee also visualized the centre as an international meeting place for young people from all over the world. Since a centre of this type had to have a certain permanency, it was decided to set up an independent trust, which would command the necessary respect and support. Thus, the Indian Youth Centres Trust was set up on 10 August, 1961.

With the active support of Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru, a decision was taken to build a youth centre named Vishwa Yuvak Kendra. The first phase comprised of mainly the hostel and the central hall was completed and inaugurated by Dr. Zakir Husain, the then President of India on 22 December, 1968. In order to facilitate the smooth running of various workshops, seminars and training programmes, the Kendra provides economical boarding and lodging facilities to its member sand the participants. To conduct various programmes, the Kendra also has conference and training halls.

### Vision

- Orient the youth to the developmental process and enable them to participate in the process of nation building.
- Foster initiatives for unfolding the potential of youth through a constant process of self-evaluation and self-exploration.
- Enable youth to acquire such knowledge, skills and techniques which will help them in their personal and social growth as well as foster in them sensitivity towards problems in the community.
- Promote national integration and international understanding by developing youth leadership and providing a forum for youth from diverse backgrounds.
- Promote regional cooperation and cultural exchange between people of various countries.
- Promote research in youth work.



### Objectives

- Training in youth work
- Research and documentation
- Promotion of international understanding
- Towards these objectives, VYK conducts workshops, seminars and training programmes for the NGOs from all over India and youth exchange programmes internationally

### Founder Members

#### Indian Youth Centres Trust

**Shri Morarji Desai** : Former Prime Minister of India

**Smt. Indira Gandhi** : Former Prime Minister of India

**Shri Naval H. Tata** : Industrialist and Philanthropist

**Shri Ravindra Varma** : Former Member of Parliament and President of the World Assembly of Youth

**Shri V. J. Shah** : Business Executive

**Shri Ramkrishna Bajaj** : Industrialist and Former Member of the Central Advisory Board of the Indian Youth Congress

**Shri Morarji Desai was founder Chairman and Shri Ramkrishna Bajaj was founder Managing Trustee.**

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### Indian Youth Centres Trust



**Rajat Narain**  
Chairman



**Shishir Bajaj**  
Managing Trustee



**S.R Halbe**  
Trustee



**Hemant Panpalia**  
Trustee



**Kushagra Nayan Bajaj**  
Trustee



**Nirad Mehta**  
Trustee



## ROLE OF YOUTH IN NATION BUILDING

Vishwa Yuvak Kendra is determined to reach out to the young population to become agents of socio-economic transformation. In view of the pandemic, Vishwa Yuvak Kendra organized various orientations via webinars to reach out to the public. Digital platforms were utilized to impart knowledge and information to people living in every corner of the country.

The webinars were aimed at educating the young force on social cohesion, economic prosperity, political stability and moral responsibility.

It also helped individuals become enablers and catalysts in these times of dilemma. The webinars aimed to enable youth and make them aware about the needs and requirements of the most vulnerable and most affected sections, strategy to reach out to them and help generate livelihood for the same. Renowned speakers and social activists equipped and oriented the youth about their role and responsibility for the betterment of the country.

“The youth are not just leaders of tomorrow  
but are also partners of the present.”

India comprises of 1334 million of young population. Indian youth have great potential but limited opportunities. The Indian youth is capable of transforming the face of the nation if adequate education, skills and job opportunities are provided to them. The youth are storehouses of immense strength, talent and intelligence. Once empowered, they gain a better insight of what skills they have, and how they can be utilized for the benefit of the nation. They don't just contribute to the economic development of the nation, but the cultural and social development too. So, it is important to provide them with avenues, skills and training that can be translated to employment opportunities.



The summary of the events organized during the year are being presented in the following table:

S.No.	Topic of discussion	Date	Collaborating Organization	Speakers
1	Role and Responsibility of Youth in Response to COVID-19	6 <sup>th</sup> June, 2020	In House Programme	Ms. Meenakshi Lekhi (Honourable Minister of State for External Affairs and Minister of Culture, Government of India); Dr. SN Subbarao (Founder, National Youth Project); Prof. Anand Kumar (Retd. Senior Professor, JNU); Prof. SV Eswaran (visiting Scientist Regional Centre for Biotechnology, DBT-UNESCO)
2	Role of Youth in Response, Resilience and Recovery amidst COVID-19	27 <sup>th</sup> November, 2020	Mewar University, Ghaziabad	Prof. SV Eswaran (visiting Scientist Regional Centre for Biotechnology, DBT-UNESCO); Dr. Dipanjan Sujit Roy (Team Lead, Strengthening CPHC in Urban Areas, PwC-ADB); Mr. Rishi Pathania (Head, CSR, UPL Ltd.)
3	India of Swami Vivekananda's Dream: Role of Youth	12 <sup>th</sup> January, 2021	In House Programme	Prof. Anand Kumar (Senior Professor (Retd.)); Dr. S. N. Subbarao (Founder, National Youth Project); Didi BK Anusuya (Senior Rajyoga Meditation Teacher, Brahma Kumaris); Prof NK Chaudhary (Retd. Senior Professor, Patna University)

### Highlights and Key Reflections

## India of Swami Vivekananda's Dream

### Role of Youth

Speakers at the webinar focused to encourage the youth for social, economic and political development of the Nation. Life instances and learnings from the life of Swami Vivekananda were shared to enthral the young minds with inspiration. Speakers informed the gathering that Swami Vivekananda believed that an individual was alive if he/she lived for others. Swamiji further believed that Indian youth could be leaders of tomorrow and was capable of escalating the development of the country. Swami Vivekananda preached spirituality and believed that God lived within all of us. To gain 'Moksha' one should provide his/her services to protect the society and humanity. Youth were encouraged to read Upanishads and Vedas to connect deeply with Indian heritage and imbibe from the teachings of Gautam Buddha and Ramakrishna Paramhans.

### Role of Youth amid COVID-19

During the webinars, the role of youth in combating the spread of Coronavirus was discussed. The speakers encouraged the participating youth to hold the baton of progress and prosperity so that they could brighten up the houses of those who were shockingly affected by COVID-19. The world is experiencing the worst global crisis since World War 2. Nearly 7% of working class, i.e., roughly 195 million jobs were wiped out globally. Worldwide, 2 billion people working in the informal sector were at a risk of losing jobs. 81% of the world's job force was affected partially or fully due to COVID-19. According to a report of ILO, 4 million youth lost jobs, especially in the informal sector. It was added that there would exist 5 dynamic shifts that would help create jobs in future. They would be – Agriculture (it has evinced more opportunities than just food security); Energy (the future will have converted the coal-based energy to renewable energy); IT and Start-up (there has been 165 billion dollars of investment in IT in a year); Supply chain (the global supply chain is moving to India) and Infrastructure. In this changing context, the webinars organised by VYK helped the youth to understand the need of learning and sharpening new skills that would be required in the future to remain engaged and productive.

There are 3 pillars of strength to development – Knowledge, Support and Morals. The youth should have strong foundation of knowledge. They should associate themselves with agencies and organizations working for the society and they should be morally correct i.e., their words should match their actions. The participating youth were motivated to support economic regeneration, economic nationalism and spiritual regeneration. Indians should believe in their culture and spread the same in every part of the country. The young generation was made to understand about the growing tension in the nation. The youth can act as right and accurate information mediums so that they can sensitize their localities, neighbours and friends about the pernicious effects of coronavirus. They can make people aware about the existing health facilities available by the Government. The young generation has to take the baton of responsibility in their hand to overcome the pandemic situation.

### Summing Up

The speakers equipped and oriented the youth about their role and responsibility in amelioration of the country. The webinar educated the young force about social cohesion, economic prosperity and political stability. It also helped the attendees to learn to become enablers and catalysts in these times of dilemma. The need of social action to be taken forward by the youth in order to restore lost livelihood and declining socio-economic conditions were discussed in detail. Speakers made the youth aware about the needs and requirements of the most vulnerable and most affected by the consequence of this global pandemic

with also giving strategies to reach out to them and techniques to generate livelihood for the same. VYK reached out to a large young population through these webinars that helped them learn about the role and importance of continued commitment and leadership of youth in dealing with the pandemic, generating employment opportunities and fighting challenges. The webinar filled the young Indian generation with a feeling of passion and compassion to become change makers and enablers.





**Dr. S. N. Subbarao**  
*Founder, National Youth Project*



**Didi BK. Anusuya**  
*Senior Rajyoga Meditation Teacher, Brahma Kumaris*



**Prof. Anand Kumar**  
*Senior Professor Retd., JNU*



*Group Photograph of Esteemed Speakers along with VYK Team*

## LIVELIHOOD GENERATION

According to World Bank data, the global poverty rate has fallen steadily over the last 25 years. However, India is still grappling with the critical challenge of rural poverty that impacts millions of Indians. Poverty and its causes are related to multiple factors ranging from social to political to economic.

**According to 2011 statistics from Asia Development Bank 21.9% of India's population (approximately 363 million) lived below the poverty line out of which the rural poor account for nearly 260 million (Rangarajan Committee Report, 2014)**

The world of work has been severely and seriously affected by the global pandemic. In addition to the threat to public health, the economic and social disruption threatens the long-term livelihoods and wellbeing of millions. With escalating job uncertainty and challenges being faced by the youth, the pandemic has also provided us with opportunities as well. It has allowed to shift our focus to digital education, soft skill training and vocational education. Government agencies, NGOs and Corporates have an opportunity to rebuild and reimagine the collapsing employment environment. A survey by The Economic Times demonstrated that 82% of the people believe that pandemic will lead to generation of new kinds of jobs. Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises,

NIESBUD and Quality Council of India are playing crucial roles in combating the outbreak and ensuring the sustainability of businesses and jobs.

The outbreak of COVID-19 has created a wave of distress and tension among masses. It has affected the educational institutions, healthcare system and most importantly the job market. Masses, young or old have lost sources of income generation. It is high time that we start talking about generating employment opportunities. Both challenges and opportunities should be discussed on open platforms so that efficient jobs be developed. Creation of jobs should include every kind of sector and focus upon the most vulnerable population.

### VYK Intervention

Vishwa Yuvak Kendra organized various webinars to orient the participants about integrated and inclusive approach to anticipate and determine the available livelihood opportunities. The objective was to build employment generation strategies for inclusive growth and development. Unemployment was already a serious issue and which has now exacerbated by the outbreak of COVID-19. The social, political and economic situation has been affected. Keeping in mind the adverse effects of pandemic, webinars were organized to lay emphasis to generate income for those who are deprived of employment.



The summary of the events organized during the year are being presented in the following table:

S.No.	Topic of discussion	Date	Collaborating Organization	Speakers
1	Livelihood Generation amid COVID-19: Challenges and Opportunities	16 <sup>th</sup> June, 2020	In House Programme	Prof. NK Chaudhary (Retd Prof. Patna University, Senior Economist); Ms. Vishpala Nayak Hundekari (Director and Founder, Ekibeki Association); Mr. Niraj Kumar Lal (CSR Head, Arvind Limited); Dr. Sanjaya Kumar Pradhan (Lead Affirmative Action at National Skill Development Corporation-NSDC)
2	Exploring Employment Opportunities: COVID-19 and Beyond	25 <sup>th</sup> August, 2020	Gramin Vikas Parishad	Shri Charan Das Mahant, (Honorable Speaker of Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly); Mr. Niraj Kumar Lal (CSR Head, Arvind Limited); Mr. Ravi Nayse, (GM Vocational Training, Ambuja Cement); Mrs. Usha Mishra (Managing Trustee, NABET); Mr. S. Syed Kazi (Deputy Director, DEF)
3	Re-Strategizing Employment Opportunities and Exploring Avenues: COVID-19 and Beyond	11 <sup>th</sup> September, 2020	In House Programme	Prof. NK Chaudhary (Retd. Professor Patna University, Senior Economist); Dr. Poonam Sinha (Director, NIESBUD Entrepreneurship Education); Mr. Gopal Krishan Choudhary (Under Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship); Mr. Alok Jain (Director & Head – Training and Capacity Building Cell, Quality Council of India)
4	Livelihood Promotion and Entrepreneurship Development	26 <sup>th</sup> September, 2020	Prem Youth Foundation	Mr. Vikas Vaibhav (D.I.G. of Police, A.T.S., Patna, Bihar), Dr. Poonam Sinha (Director, NIESBUD – Entrepreneurship Education), Dr. O. P. Goel (Head, Bosch India Foundation, CSR and Skill Development)

## Highlights and Key Reflections

India is a country with diverse and rich natural resources. Sustainable utilization of these resources can lead to growth and development of the country. The Government plays a significant role in the generation of employment through schemes to increase the employment rate in the country. Some schemes offered by the government are - Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGREGS) and Deendayal Upadhyay Grameen Kaushalya Yojna (DDUGKY). Participants were also provided a piece of new information about PMEGP. Earlier, the individual had to go to the DIC/KVIB office to apply, but now the application could be filled online. The participants were briefed about the various government schemes and how such schemes helped various industries, businesses or services to establish their foundation and boost the employment rate. Livelihood should be promoted by doing a job market survey, conducting career counselling, planning a systematic skill development programme, forming skill-net groups and providing skill-oriented training which would then promote self-employment.

## Conclusion

The livelihoods of marginalized and vulnerable community have always been under threat and the outbreak of COVID-19 has worsened the situation. The subject experts provided physical and feasible solutions and the related schemes available for income generation activities. Livelihood generation opportunity is one of the most important and relevant issues to talk about. Each speaker provided the participants with simple and doable suggestions and solutions to generate livelihood opportunities and income generating activities.

The esteemed speakers helped the participants understand about the growing need of entrepreneurs. They motivated the participants towards skill learning & training and therefore utilising the same to become entrepreneurs. Representatives from the leading employment generating and skill training organizations like NIESBUD, QCI, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship enthralled the participants with the plethora of knowledge.

The Speakers talked about 'Future Proof Employment' wherein through continuous upgradation of skills one could ensure double income in each family. Individual skills should be linked to specific jobs. Training shall take place, of not only employees but also employers so that specific skills can be enhanced and promoted. Identification of geography, industry and local employment opportunities shall be linked to appropriate skill set. Vocational training is the most suitable means for promoting economic growth and social inclusion as it introduces an individual to employment opportunities. It has direct effect on productivity and economic development. There is the need to promote 'Effective Employment related Skill Training.' It requires aligning job opportunities with market demands, i.e., developing skill set and professional ethics that matches the labour market and helps an individual to get employed. It was also suggested that schools and other education institutions should shift their focus from Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) to soft skill training, critical problem solving and innovation.

The influx of digital technology and innovation has harboured the growth of entrepreneurship in the country. Entrepreneurs are widely considered as national assets and with right skill, training and support they can bring innovations. Speakers shared some very relevant schemes including, Pradhan Mantri Kalyan Garib Rojgar Yojana; National Urban Livelihood Mission (DAY-NULM), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs; Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY). Government for facilitating self-employment; Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme Act; Pradhan Mantri Employment Generation Program, Ministry of small, micro and medium enterprises; Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana, Government for facilitating self-employment.

Speakers also appreciated the activities being performed by Corporates and CSOs to address the subject.





*Shri Charan Das Mahant, Hon. Speaker of Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly addressing the participants*



**Mr. Vikas Vaibhav**  
*Special Secretary to Home Department, Govt. of Bihar*



**Mr. Niraj Kumar Lal**  
*CSR Head, Arvind Limited*



**Prof. NK Chaudhary**  
*Retd Professor, Patna University, Senior Economist*



**Ms. Vishpala Nayak Hundekari**  
*Director & Founder, Ekibeki Association*





**Mr. Gopal Krishan Choudhary**  
*Under Secretary, Ministry of Skill  
Development & Entrepreneurship*



**Dr. Syed S. Kazi**  
*Deputy Director, DEF*



**Mr. Ravi Nayse**  
*GM, Vocational Training, Ambuja Cement*



**Dr. Poonam Sinha**  
*Director, NIESBUD Entrepreneurship Education*



**Mr. Alok Jain**  
*Director & Head – Training & Capacity Building Cell,  
Quality Council of India*



**Prof. Prem Kumar**  
*Founder, Prem Youth Foundation*



## EDUCATION



Education is an essential prerequisite of development and modernization. It enables people to know the world beyond their own surroundings and transforms them to become rationalist and humanist in outlook and world view. The modern education is change-oriented; therefore, the National Education Policy 2020 consists of courses that are modified corresponding to the changes taking place in society at large so as to keep pace with the needs of the changing situations in the wake of fast-changing industrial society.

The New Education Policy seeks rectification of poor literacy and numeracy outcomes associated with primary

### VYK Intervention

The Indian education system for a long time has faced the problem of inaccessibility, poor infrastructure and lack of conducive learning environment. Due to this, India is not able to efficiently utilize the potential of its human capital. So, education is one of the vital tools that helps a nation to develop.

With a literacy rate of 77 percent, India lags behind other BRICS nations, which have literacy rates above 90 percent. Education plays a major role in our country's social and economic growth so we need to understand where do we stand today in terms of quality education of the people in our country.

schools such as reduction in dropout levels in middle and secondary schools; adoption of the multi-disciplinary approach in the higher education system; early childhood care; restructuring curriculum and pedagogy; reforming assessments and exams; investing in teacher training and broad-basing their appraisal.

The changing education dynamics is calling out for new policies and regulations. It becomes our responsibility to discuss in detail about the policies and amendments. It is important to promote and make people aware about the New Education Policy. It is also vital to look into different stakeholder engagements and quality contribution of CSOs and NPOs in promoting the New Education Policy.

We should tend to focus more and more on quality and the wide coverage of the students to make India a literate nation in the world in the coming years.

It's high time for India to plant the seeds of quality education in its growing population. In order to taste the fruit of the best workforce ample amount of time must be given to them to bloom.

Vishwa Yuvak Kendra in collaboration with different organizations and institutions organized webinars and also welcome young minds, education specialists, parents and teachers to gain knowledge about the New Education Policy. New amendments were shared in detail.

The summary of the events organized during the year are being presented in the following table:

S.No.	Topic of discussion	Date	Collaborating Organization	Speakers
1	Understanding New Education Policy	1 <sup>st</sup> September, 2020	Stella Maris Institute of Development Studies	Padma Shri Dr. JS Rajput, (Former Director, NCERT); Dr. Jebamalai Vinanchiarachi, (Former Principal Advisor to DG, United Nations Industrial Development Organisation); Dr. Selvam Jesiah, ( Professor, Shri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education & Research, Tamilnadu); Dr. S Lakshmi Devi, (Founder Principal, Shaheed Rajguru College of Applied Sciences for Women, Dehli);
2	Education in 21st Century and New Education Policy 2020	8 <sup>th</sup> September, 2020	Nitishwar Mahavidyalaya and Social Research and Development Foundation	Dr. Ranjana Sinha (Associate Professor, Head-PG Department of Sociology, BR Ambedkar Bihar University); Dr. Sanjeev Rai (Adjunct Professor, Ambedkar University, Delhi and TISS-Mumbai); Prof. Raghu Nandan Sharma (Professor, Deptt. of Sociology, Patna University); Dr. Kavita Sharma (Former President, South Asia University)



**Padma Shri Dr. JS Rajput**  
Former Director, NCERT



**Dr. S Lakshmi Devi, Founder Principal**  
Shaheed Rajguru College of Applied Science for Women, Delhi



**Dr. Jebamalai Vinanchiarachi**  
Former Principal Advisor to DG  
United Nations Industrial Development Organisation



**Dr. Selvam Jesiah**  
Professor Shri Ramachandra Institute of Higher  
Education & Research, Tamil Nadu



**Dr. Kavita Sharma**  
Former President, South Asia University



**Dr. Ranjana Sinha**  
Associate Professor, Head-PG Department of Sociology  
BR Ambedkar Bihar University



**Prof. Raghu Nandan Sharma**  
*Professor, Deptt. of Sociology, Patna University*



**Dr. Sanjeev Rai**  
*Adjunct Professor, Ambedkar University, Delhi & TISS-Mumbai*

### Highlights and Key Reflections

The Speakers appreciated the National Education Policy, 2020 as ambitious and as a transformation from conventional to contemporary. They laid emphasis on the importance of higher education, as it grows and expands career opportunities. Institutes for higher education should be established in both rural and urban areas which should be bilingual in nature. More inclusive curriculum should be developed, faculty and students should be sensitized about the importance of higher education via outreach programs. scholarship should be made available to rural children so that education becomes accessible to them.

The speakers talked in length about the scope for improvement in existing structure and length of degree programs. It added that a good institution is a place where students feel welcomed and acknowledged. They expect safe and stimulating environment where their aspirations are taken care of. The infrastructure should be able to provide resources to the students.

### Summing Up

The education system of any country is expected to lay emphasis on subjects like freedom, nationality, law, human rights, democracy and scientific world view. The policy is aimed at transforming the Indian education system to meet the needs of the 21st Century. The discussions in the webinars gave peculiar insights about the existing education schemes and policies. It allowed the participants to create a perspective of modern education system. The

21st century youth are required to be creative, enlightened, socially conscious, knowledgeable and skilled. National Education Policy 2020 focuses on holistic and multi-disciplinary education that would develop aesthetic, emotional, social, physical and moral capacities of human beings.

The changing education dynamics after outbreak of COVID-19 has resulted in a shift of education medium. Only 30% of the school going population in India have gadgets to attend online classes. It was suggested that three aspects should be worked upon for including technology in education system: technology in education; technology of education (a new environment of education where learning and assessment is technology friendly); technology and education (updating along with changing technology).

new National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 is a comprehensive policy that aims at making the education system holistic, flexible, multi-disciplinary, aligned to the needs of the 21st century and the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. The intent of policy seems to be ideal in many ways but it is the implementation where lies the key to success.



## DESIGN FOR CHANGE



FEEL



IMAGINE



DO



SHARE

Design for Change is an initiative at international level to transform education by 'Design' that is being supported by Bajaj Foundation in India. VYK associated with the campaign to develop shared understanding of this concept and approach to transform education with various stakeholders. Design for Change is a purposeful and planned initiative to help children learn better so as to

create an impact on Indian education system. The webinar focused upon orienting the participants about skill-based education and its future prospects.

Its objective was to encourage the participating children and youth to pursue their passion and follow their inclinations in life.

The summary of the event organized during the year is being presented in the following table:

S.No.	Topic of discussion	Date	Collaborating Organization	Speakers
1	Design for Change	28 <sup>th</sup> July, 2020	Bajaj Foundation	Shri Shishir Bajaj (Managing Trustee, IYCT), Mr. Apoorv Nayan Bajaj (Trustee- Kamalnayan Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation & Jamnalal Kaniram Bajaj Trust), Ms. Nandini Sood (CEO- Design for Change)

### Highlights and Key Reflections

Mr. Apoorv Nayan Bajaj shared his experiences as the Trustee of Kamalnayan Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation. He shared his set of reasons that persuaded him to promote these special causes. He discussed about the idea behind 'Design for Change' and the role of Bajaj Foundation in promoting the same. He suggested that children today require skill-based learning and exposure for their holistic growth and development. Required skills for the future include aspects like complex problem solving; critical thinking; creativity; people management; emotional intelligence and cognitive flexibility. He informed that Bajaj Foundation was helping children to not only become Future Change Makers but to also become Wise Decision Makers.

Mr. Bajaj added some very relevant concepts related to Design for Change. He discussed about the Problem (missing 21st century skills); Belief (21st century skills include communication, collaboration, critical thinking and creativity. These skills must be developed quickly to help children become creative, proactive and responsive citizens); Solution (Design thinking is the solution. It is a structured framework to teach and learn 21st Century skills. It will help promote awareness of the world, develop skills to take action and empower students to design a more desirable and sustainable future); Role (it encourages all to become a part of the change. Students use this process and are immediately able to apply their learnings in real world environment).

Ms. Nandini Sood encouraged the participants to help children become Master of Skills than Master of Grades. She rued that we were failing to concentrate on children's moral, emotional and psychological development and was glad that Bajaj Foundation has come out with a solution to this in the form of 'Design for Change.' This initiative was helping children to express themselves better, she said.

She suggested simple steps that can help in escalation of holistic growth of children. These include Feel (communication, empathy); Imagine (creativity and critical thinking); Do (planning, teamwork, leadership); Share (documentation and digital literacy). She added that education was a very important part of life but needed the addition of right and appropriate skills to it make it better.

### Summing Up

The idea of Design for Change allowed holistic growth of children and to empower them to transform the world as they envision it. It will enable them to create a more inclusive, empathetic and compassionate world. The webinar gave an opportunity to the participants to express their own ideas for a better world and put those ideas into action.

Its objective of creating a common platform of learning and sharing ideas, to transform education was achieved. The webinar helped the children come forth and share their brilliant ideas that overcome the traditional approach to education.



**Shri. Shishir Bajaj**  
*Managing Trustee, IYCT addressing and motivating the participants*



**Mr. Apoorv Nayan Bajaj**  
Trustee- Kamalnayan Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation & Jamnalal Kaniram Bajaj Trust



**Ms. Nandini Sood**  
CEO- Design for Change



## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

Environmental Conservation is the protection of the existing natural resources and prevention of exploitation of the same. It is a regular practice of improving and maintaining the health of natural environment. It is a life-long practice that includes solutions and alternatives that could help in rebuilding and reviving the damaged environment. It is a sum total of conservation of water, soil, fossil fuels, animals and other natural resources.

The matter of environmental protection is of utmost urgency because of the danger that the environment is in right now. Owing to various man-made activities, the situation is under a dire threat. The damage is tremendous and has reached a point of no return. However much we try, we cannot undo the destruction that has already been inflicted. We need to lessen the human impact on the environment as much as possible.

For this very purpose, the concept of Citizen Science is being highly promoted. It is one of the largest human communities for environment conservation. It involves public participation for protection and preservation of diverse flora and fauna. It is the direct contribution of citizens into research, enhancing scientific understanding followed by action plan.

Environmental protection and conservation is linked to SDG agenda 2030. In this age of Artificial Intelligence and modern technology, we need youth to come forward to



protect the climate and environment. The environmental issues before us like climate change, global warming, waste disposal, ozone layer depletion, acid rains, plastic waste and loss of forest cover, are detrimental to harmonious existence of mankind. Impact of climate threat can disrupt human populations. The anthropogenic factors like urbanization, industrialization poverty, pesticide and wildfires have to be controlled.

### VYK Intervention

Environmental conservation has become one of the core issues that need to be addressed to battle climate change and global warming. Sustainable development is the need of the hour which can save mother earth from the repercussions of industrialization. Vishwa Yuvak Kendra, realising its responsibility to protect mother earth organized various webinars to discuss about the possible measures for environment conservation and protection

with the collaborative efforts of CSOs and youth. It focused upon the challenges and opportunities available for the CSOs and the young brigade for protecting the environment from degradation. In this context, VYK along with different organizations held webinars for discussing role and responsibility of citizens towards the environment.





The summary of the events organized during the year are being presented in the following table:

S. No.	Topic of discussion	Date	Collaborating Organization	Speakers
1	Existing Environmental Challenges and Eco-friendly Agriculture: COVID-19 and Beyond	1 <sup>st</sup> September, 2020	Gramium	Dr. N. Krishnakumar-IFS (Retd) (President, OISCA International, South India), Mr. Haribhai Mori (President CSR, Bajaj Group), Dr. J. Diraviam (Senior Scientist and Head, ICAR Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Karur), Dr. S. Jeyaraman (Retd. Dean, Anbil Dharmalingam Agricultural College and Research Institute, Trichy).
2	Role of CSOs and Youth in Environment Protection and Conservation	15 <sup>th</sup> September, 2020	OISCA International, South India	Dr. N Krishnakumar-IFS (Retd) (President, OISCA International, South India), Dr. Khaleel Chovva (Executive Director, State Council for Open and Lifelong Education), Mr. Ganesan Viswanathan (Environmental Health Safety Specialist, Inmaa Solutions), Dr. Livleen K Kahlon (Associate Director, Environmental Education and Awareness, TERI).

### Highlights and Key Reflections

Conservation of environment simply indicates the sustainable use as well as management of natural resources which include wildlife, water, air, and earth deposits. There are renewable and non-renewable natural resources. Conservation of natural resources generally focuses on the needs and interests of human beings, for instance the biological, economic, cultural and recreational values. The exploitation of natural resources and adding artificial elements to the environment has led to serious damage of flora and fauna. The continual news of erratic weather, global warming, extinction of flora & fauna and

disruption of natural habitats have forced the human population to talk about this and promote 'Environment Conservation' at a larger platform.

By now, all of us have realized how important it is to protect the environment for our own survival. We know that natural resources are getting depleted and environmental problems are increasing. It is, therefore, necessary to conserve and protect our environment. Following practices were encouraged to be adopted to help in protecting our environment which are as follows-

- Reuse carry bags.
- Start a compost heap or use a compost bin. This can be used to recycle waste food and other biodegradable materials.
- Dispose the waste after separating them into biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste material.
- Plant trees. They will help to absorb excess carbon dioxide.
- Never put any left-over chemicals, used oils down the drain, toilet or dump them on the ground or in water or burn them in the garden. If you do so, it will cause pollution.
- Don't burn any waste, especially plastics as the smoke may contain polluting gases.
- Use unleaded petrol and alternate sources of energy.
- Walk or cycle where it is safe to do so – walking is free; cycling can help to keep you fit. Treatment of sewage, so that it does not pollute the rivers and other water bodies.
- Judicious use of fertilizers, intensive cropping, proper drainage and irrigation.
- Rotation of crops.
- Composting organic solid waste for use as manure.
- Rain water harvesting.
- Planting trees in place of those removed for various purposes.

Emphasis was also made on eco-friendly agriculture. The practices suggested by the speakers will help in reduction of chemical pesticides and therefore conservation of the environment. It was also suggested that the digital revolution can add advantage to the agricultural sector as well. The use of technology for developing soil health index and forming an expert system for farmers to choose right crop based on soil health can help escalate the economic

growth of farmers. Also, ecological agriculture should be promoted, post pandemic, to help generate livelihood for the farmers. It was suggested that CSOs and government agencies should play a vital role in educating and training the farmers about sustainable agricultural practices. Models have to be created at the block level for the farmers to gain more exposure on sustainable farming.

### Summing Up

In such busy, crowded and advanced life we must take care of such types of small bad habits on daily basis. It is true that a small effort by everyone can bring a major positive change towards our declining environment. Speakers encouraged the participants to grow and develop interest in science and technology for the betterment of our lives but it should be ensured that it would not ruin our

environment in future in any way possible. We should be sure that new technologies would never disturb the ecological balance. It is a major worldwide issue which should be solved by the continuous efforts of everyone. We should participate in the World Environment Day campaign to actively participate in the environment safety event.



*Group Photo of Esteemed Speakers along with VYK Team*



**Dr. Livleen K Kahlon**  
Associate Director, Environmental Education  
and Awareness, TERI



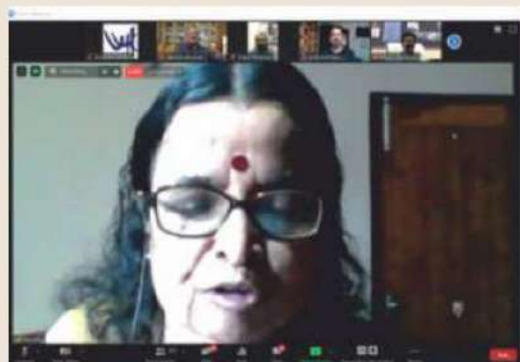
**Dr. N Krishnakumar**  
IFS Retd. President, OISCA International, South India



**Mr. M. Aravind Babu**  
Secretary General, Oisca International  
South India Chapter



**Dr. Khaleel Chowva**  
Executive Director, State Council for Open  
and Lifelong Education



**Dr. Parvathi Warriar**  
Vice President, Oisca International  
South India Chapter



**Mr. Haribhai Mori**  
President CSR, Bajaj Group



## CSO GOVERNANCE AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE



Civil Society refers to the sum of individuals, groups, organizations and institutions that express and work on behalf of a variety of interests and initiate various activities and debates in society in support of those interests. The voluntary sector in India is noted for its vibrancy, innovation and research-based advocacy. It has played an important role in supporting government as a partner in nation-building. Voluntary groups work for marginalized communities by providing them access to basic services, their modus operandi primarily being education and empowerment of community regarding their entitlements and review government plans and policies for their efficacy.

### VYK Intervention

The outbreak of COVID-19 has led to various social and economic problems globally. It has changed the dimensions of community problems and hence has drastically affected the ongoing and future development programs of the voluntary organizations as they have exhausted the existing resources. To meet the changing needs and to provide the welfare services through adoption of better methods to help people, there is an urgent need of resources.

Recent years have witnessed lots of social, economic and political scenarios. The impact of which was seen in different sectors of industry.

Civil Society in India has played an important role in supporting government as a partner in nation-building. Civil Society has a particularly powerful role to play as an enabler and constructive challenger, creating the political and social space for collaborations that are based on the core values of trust, service and the collective good. Both government and Civil Society urgently need to work together to build institutional relationships based on mutual trust and a shared vision.

Civil Society organizations are playing an increasingly active role in social, economic and political spheres. Laws and policies affecting civil society are highly dynamic and volatile and are often subject to change. Sometimes such revisions and changes are favourable to Civil Society and sometimes they are constraining as well.

Keeping in view the virtues of voluntary organizations, their dedication, flexibility and nearness to the community; Vishwa Yuvak Kendra comes forward to equip and enhance their skills and knowledge respectively, which would help in their sustainable growth and development.

The summary of the events organized during the year are being presented in the following table:

S. No.	Topic of discussion	Date	Collaborating Organization	Speakers
1	Resource Mobilization for the Sustainability of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) amid COVID-19	3 <sup>rd</sup> July, 2020	In House Programme	Mr. Vishal Bhardwaj (Group Head-CSR, Dalmia Bharat Group & CEO-Dalmia Bharat Foundation); Dr. Harish Vasishth, (Executive Director, Credibility Alliance); Mr. Pankaj Anand (Director of Programme & Advocacy, Oxfam India); Mr. Kunal Verma, (Founder & Managing Director, Centre for Fundraising)
2	NPO Governance, Legal Environment and Corporate Engagement: Practices & Prospects	28 <sup>th</sup> August, 2020	Credibility Alliance	Dr. Yogesh Kumar (Founder Member & Executive Director, Centre for Development Support); CA Anjani Kumar Sharma (Co-Founder & Director, SAGA); Ms. Gayatri Subramaniam (Director, Association for Women in Business, India); Mr. Dola Mohapatra (Executive Director, Rise Against Hunger India)
3	FCRA Amendments 2020: Implications & Way Forward	21 <sup>st</sup> October, 2020	RAHI	Dr. Harish Vasishth (Executive Director, Credibility Alliance); CA Subhajit Sahoo (Founder & Principal Partner S. Sahoo & Co.); CA Anjani Kumar Sharma (Co-Founder & Director, SAGA)
	Recent Amendments in Regulatory Framework in the Voluntary Sector	17 <sup>th</sup> November, 2020	In House Programme	Mr. Sanjay Agarwal (Founder, Sanjay Aditya & Associates); Mr. Harsh Jaitli (CEO, Voluntary Action Network India-VANI)

### Highlights and Key Reflections

Historically, Indian voluntary development organizations played three significant roles: first, in filling gaps in the government's welfare systems, such as delivering basic services like health care, education, water and sanitation to the most remote locations in the country; second, in research-based advocacy, such as analysing the efficacy and reach of various government projects to provide guidance to the government for policy change; and third, in working on a rights-based approach and entitlements.

Civil society is often described as the "social basis of democracy." It encompasses a growing diversity of groups, organisations, networks and movements that play a major role in strengthening the common good.

#### Resource Mobilisation

Organizations do not emerge spontaneously; rather they gradually grow and mature with the help of mobilization of resources. Resource Mobilization includes sophisticated



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#### **Resource Mobilisation**

Organizations do not emerge spontaneously; rather they gradually grow and mature with the help of mobilization of resources. Resource Mobilisation includes sophisticated skills and strategies that work towards creating an organization structure, forging alliances and attracting supporters and donors. The outbreak of COVID-19 has led to various social and economic problems globally. It has changed the dimensions of community problems and has affected drastically the ongoing and future development programs of the voluntary organizations as they have exhausted the existing resources. As the diversification of resources and donors are scaling, the participating organizations were encouraged to think beyond monetary funds. The speakers discussed about major domains important for institutional evolution, i.e. Organization – governance, management and compliance (ethical and legal); Portfolio – organization's history, mission, vision, theory of change, footprint of impact, available resources (human, technical, infrastructure); Proposal – articulation of problem and solution, understanding of donor to avoid mismatch of perspectives.

#### **Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA)**

The Foreign Contribution Regulation Act, 2010 was enacted with a view to regulate the acceptance and utilization of foreign contribution or foreign hospitality by individuals, associations or companies.

It also helped to prohibit the acceptance and utilization of foreign hospitality or foreign contribution for any activities unfavourable to national interest and for matters related therewith or incidental thereto. The effect on NPOs due to amendments in FCRA was equivalent to the effects of the pandemic on Indian economy.

Speakers added to the knowledge of participants that under the Act, a registered person must accept foreign contribution only in a single branch of a scheduled bank specified by the authorities. However, they may open more accounts in other banks for utilisation of the contribution. No funds other than the foreign contribution should be received or deposited in this account. Further, the amendment act has revised the number of days for which the central government may suspend a person's registration certificate if they violate FCRA. The limit has been increased to a maximum of 360 days from the earlier cap of a maximum of 180 days.

#### **NPO Governance, Legal Environment and Corporate Engagement**

Like corporates, a voluntary sector also has a well-defined governing system. It has rules and regulations which are set by the governing body. The speakers explained that good governance is the ability of the Board to support the organization in crisis, meet the legal compliance, regulate internal audits and if necessary, hold the founder accountable and answerable so that public money vested with the organization is spent in the best possible way.

CSR law and the role of NPOs in CSR engagement and implementation were also discussed. CSR is an opportunity and an open forum for resource generation. Giving facts about work sectors in India, the speaker said that 75% of the market is covered by unorganized sector. There exists a total of 20,14,969 companies out of which only 12,15,973 are active and running. Discussing about the evolution of CSR, the speakers talked in detail about the beginning of industrialization and the inception of CSR in India. They unfolded the CSR law and its relation with the government.



### Summing Up

The speakers aimed at discussing about the practices, policies and challenges of NPO governance, CSR laws & engagements and FCRA amendments & implications. Detailed discussions were undertaken to help participants understand about the changing legal environment.

The webinars focused upon the different and relevant methodologies to be adopted by the voluntary organizations, for effective resource mobilization, legal

governance and management. Institutional fund-raising strategies, skills and techniques for running organization successfully for successful resource mobilization were also discussed. Keeping in mind the barrier of COVID-19, speakers helped the participants know about the available opportunities and generation of new ideas for resource mobilization and fund raising. Digital fund-raising strategies were also discussed.



**Mr. Vishal Bhardwaj**  
Group Head-CSR, Dalmia Bharat Group &  
CEO-Dalmia & Bharat Foundation



**Mr. Harsh Jaitli**  
CEO, Voluntary Action Network India-VANI



**Mr. Sanjay Agarwal**  
Founder, Sanjay Aditya & Associates



**Mr. Kunal Verma**  
Founder & Managing Director, Centre for Fundraising

## AGRI-ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT



India is predominantly a rural country with two-third population and 70% workforce residing in rural areas. Rural economy constitutes 46 per cent of national income. Entrepreneurship development in rural industries appear to be the best potential alternative to find employment avenues for the rural population. Agri-entrepreneurship constitutes marketing as well as manufacturing of different agricultural products and inputs. The concept of agri-entrepreneurship was introduced to support the farmers, group of farmers as well as agricultural industries by improving the methods of production and increase the market engagements. An agripreneur is a person who supports and manages a business venture by focusing on the agricultural sector only.

The art and science of cultivating crops and plants has made great strides in development and innovation. A more

productive, competitive, diversified and sustainable agricultural sector has emerged with opportunities for farmers and rural India. Despite these notable achievements, challenges like prevalence of large number of small land holdings, low productivity, climate change, pressure on natural resources such as water, persistent food insecurity, an under-developed food processing and retail sector etc. still persist. The farmers are lacking employment opportunities, access to decision making and policy development for agricultural activities and accessibility in the production-consumption market.

The outbreak of Coronavirus has decreased employment opportunities. Agriculture, being the largest job creating sector in India is providing new employment avenues. Discussing about the upcoming opportunities and existing challenges in the agricultural sector is important.

### VYK Intervention

Vishwa Yuvak Kendra has been a constant supporter of rural India and has promoted Indian agricultural practices on larger platforms. Kendra played its role in encouraging and promoting agri-entrepreneurship among the youth and other population by organizing webinars.

Keeping in mind the rapid changes in agricultural sector, Vishwa Yuvak Kendra, in collaboration with various CSOs organized webinars to discuss the growing opportunities in agri-entrepreneurship.



The summary of the events organized during the year are being presented in the following table:

S.No.	Topic of discussion	Date	Collaborating Organization	Speakers
1	Agri-Entrepreneurship Development	24 <sup>th</sup> November, 2020	OISCA International, South India	Dr. J. Diraviam (Senior Scientist and Head ICAR, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Karur); Dr. PK Abdul Jabbar (Assistant Professor, Kerala Agricultural University); Mrs. C. Poongothai (Deputy Director, Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business, Govt. of Tamil Nadu)
2	Agri-Entrepreneurship Development	4 <sup>th</sup> December, 2020	READS	Dr. S. Elain Apshara (Principal Scientist, Indian Council for Agriculture Research-CPCRI); Dr. Cuba (Assistant Professor, VIT school for Agricultural Innovations and advanced learning); Mr. Ranjith Kumar A (Master Resource Person, SIRD, TERI).
3	Agri-Entrepreneurship and Youth: Challenges and Opportunities	30 <sup>th</sup> December, 2020	Antyodaya Chetna Mandal	Dr. Praveen Kumar Dwivedi (Sr. Scientist and Head, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ara, Bihar); Mr. Chandrakant Kumbhani (Head, Community Development Programs, Ambuja Cement Foundation); Mrs. Sneha Sheetal (Manager, Farm JEEVIKA, Bhojpur, Bihar); Mr. Ranjit Sinha (DDM NABARD, Bhojpur, Bihar)

### Highlights and Key Reflections

Agriculture sector provides food for 1.3 million people in India as well as supports over 60 percent of the population for their livelihood and plays a crucial role in sustainable growth of the country's economy. The growing challenges in the agricultural sector motivated Vishwa Yuvak Kendra to organized webinars to discuss about the existing challenges and upcoming opportunities in the field of agri-entrepreneurship. There is a dire need to bring about transformational changes in the agriculture sector by making farmers to change their outlook toward farming.

The Government of India envisions to promote, boost and encourage agri-business in terms of storage, marketing, export-import and value addition. Agro-entrepreneurship

helps in increasing farmer's income and generates employment. The speakers explained in detail about agro-entrepreneurship, challenges and opportunities attached to it and the current status of the agricultural sector in India.. Traditional practices are limited to crop production, protection, processing and storing. They talked about the farmers' struggle of earning a livelihood and effect of natural calamities, the effects of digital disorder (Lifestyle disease) and Nomophobia (no mobile phone phobia), the importance of 12th Sustainable Development Goal and Sunday farming. Major domains of traditional practices of crop management are – soil and water management, preparatory cultivation, seeds and sowing, weed management, manures, pest and disease management.

They suggested some major and important technology interventions that can be utilised in escalating the farmer's growth and crop production. Enhanced market access (geo-tagging), advisory services (web portals/apps/ SMS), decision support (risk management), Remote sensing (optimization of farm inputs) and Sensors (sustainable farming practices) are some of the technology interventions.

They enriched the participants with the knowledge of ongoing work of ICAR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research) and CPCRI (Central Plantation Crops Research Institute). An ABI (Agri-Business Incubator) called KALPA is established at the ICAR-CPCRI. ABI provides hand-holding support to start-ups, promotes commercialization of technology and promotes agro-entrepreneurs. Outreach programs, being run at ABI, were also discussed. Some of which are – Dream Big KALPA, Rural India Business Conclave, Export Trade Facilitation measures, KALPA Graduate Readiness program, KALPA Green Video Chat series (YAWA) and other skill development programs were also discussed.

A brief description about some of the major government policies i.e., Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) focuses upon developing integrated cold chain and value-addition infrastructure; creation of forward and backward linkages and developing infrastructure for agro-processing clusters. Other government schemes include Agri-clinic and Agri-business centre; Udyami Yojana; One

District One Production Scheme (ODOP); PM Mudra Yojana; NEEDS Scheme; PM Employment Generation Program and Formation and Promotion of Farmers Producer Organisation (FPO). Some Apps available for farmers are – UDYAMI, UZHAVAN and SILP. Some of the schemes offered by NABARD are like Dairy Entrepreneur Development Scheme, Interest Subsidy Scheme, New Agriculture Marketing Infrastructure and National Livestock Scheme.

To become an agri-entrepreneur, the individual should produce best quality products and fulfill conditions of packaging, grading and government accreditations. There are various windows of opportunity available i.e., through Government led institutes and organizations. To become an agri-entrepreneur one can be trained at institutions such as District Krishi Vigyan Kendra's, Krishi University and support from government organizations related with agriculture.

The participating youth was encouraged to join agricultural or allied sector as it has huge scope of growth. Government has taken several initiatives in the form of policies like AARYA to attract and retain the youth in agriculture. Participation and inclusion of youth in the agricultural sector will help to replicate and reproduce. It has also opened minimum 2 Krishi Vigyan Kendras in each district of the country. Krishi Vigyan Kendra has the potential to provide youth with the confidence about agriculture and allied sector.

## Conclusion

The speakers at the webinar helped the participating youth understand their vital role & responsibility towards growth and development of rural India. Their discussion concluded that agro-entrepreneurship is an amalgam of gender equality and social inclusion that leads to sustainable development of rural areas.

The role of youth has always been central to nation-building and therefore their responsibility increases when entrepreneurship development comes into picture. The speakers encouraged the participants to be a part of India's largest market, i.e., agriculture.





**Mr. Chandrakant Kumbhani**  
Head, Community Development Programs,  
Ambuja Cement Foundation



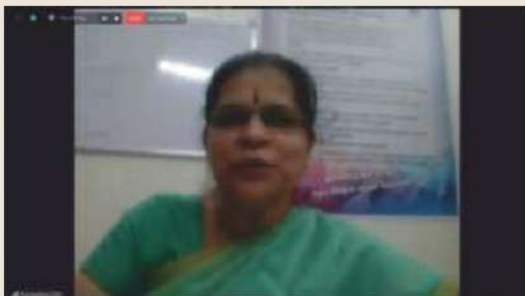
**Dr. PK Abdul Jabbar**  
Assistant Professor- Kerala Agricultural University



**Dr. Cuba**  
Assistant Professor, VIT School



**Dr. S. Elain Apshara**  
Principal Scientist- Indian Council for Agriculture  
Research (ICAR)



**Mrs. C. Poongothai**  
Deputy Director, Agricultural Marketing &  
Agri-Business, Govt of Tamil Nadu



**Mr. Ranjith Kumar A**  
Master Resource Person, SIRD



**Ms. Dharani Muralidharan**  
CEO- READS, Tamil Nadu



**Mr. Sridharan**  
President- READS, Tamil Nadu



## STRESS MANAGEMENT



Stress management is a wide spectrum of techniques and psychotherapies aimed at controlling a person's level of stress, especially chronic stress, usually for the purpose of and for the motive of improving everyday functioning. Stress management has been chosen as a topic of relevance, especially during the outbreak of COVID-19, as emotional health is the least stressed upon issue and the trauma caused due to this pandemic has sabotaged the mental and emotional peace of many.

The outbreak of coronavirus has devastated physical and social lives of people. Of all the heart-breaking effects of COVID-19, its impact on young people has resulted to be

### VYK Intervention

Stress and tension have been a part of our day to day life. The outbreak of coronavirus and lockdown has added to the exiting stressful situation. Vishwa Yuvak Kendra made

the most damaging. Education sector, health services and employment has been hit by the pandemic. Social and emotional distancing has affected the young generation the most. A report by UNICEF has indicated that 27% of the young people experienced anxiety, 15% experienced depression and 46% has reported less motivation.

These times anticipate collective efforts and strategies. Psychologists, Motivational Speakers and others are helping people to cope with the stress and tension due to the pandemic. It is time to become listeners and listen to the problems, thoughts and feelings of those suffering from depression.

an effort to reach out to people via webinars.

Webinars carried information about techniques and exercises that can help ease effects of stress on an individual.

The summary of the events organized during the year are being presented in the following table:

S.No.	Topic of discussion	Date	Collaborating Organization	Speakers
1	Minimize Stress, Maximize Success: Amid COVID-19	10 <sup>th</sup> June, 2020	In House Programme	Mr. Suneel Keswani (Motivational Speaker, Consultant); Dr. Jayanti Dutta (Clinical Psychologist); Mr. Sanjay Anand (Co-Founder & Partner Shanvi Infotech); Didi BK Anusuya (Senior Rajyog Meditation Teacher)
2	Stress Management amid COVID-19: Recover, Revive and Rejuvenate	23 <sup>rd</sup> June, 2020	Mewar University, Chittorgarh	Mr. Surinder Narain Ahuja (Management Consultant); Dr. Aradhana Sharma (Consultant Psychologist)

## Highlights and Key Reflections

Stress has evinced escalation, especially during pandemic, also making it one of the causes. The ultimate goal of a human is to lead a healthy and balanced life-with time for work, relationships, relaxation, fun, to have resilience to hold up under pressure and meet challenges head on.

They provided some practical tips on building mental health. She emphasized on the importance of Yoga as a tool to overcome stressful situations. Information around the physiological and psychological challenges the body undergoes while under depression and anxiety were also discussed in detail. Techniques to overcome stress like exercising daily, engaging on-self into activities they like, setting short term goals and taking short breaks for recreation were shared with the participants. It is important to maintain calm with inner and outer peace. Changing scenarios and their ill-effects on the mental and emotional stability of people especially younger generation is escalating. Emphasis upon spiritual health was made.

Stress in the process of adjusting to or dealing with circumstances that disrupt or threaten to disrupt a person's physical and psychological functioning. Stress can be in the form of tension that forces a person to develop coping skills against a situation. Stress can either be distress (negative stress) or eustress (positive stress). Eustress is needed to get the work done. It allows alertness, gives strength to complete a task and boosts confidence.

Physiological stress can either be positive or negative. It is any external or internal condition that destabilizes the homeostasis of an individual leading to physiological stress.

In such times of stress and depressing days, the webinars added positivity in the participants. The speakers inspired the participants to achieve their dreams along with keeping happy and healthy. Strategies, exercises and examples helped the participants to find ways to the path of happiness. Stress management was chosen as a topic of relevance, especially during the outbreak of COVID-19, as emotional health is the least stressed upon issue and the

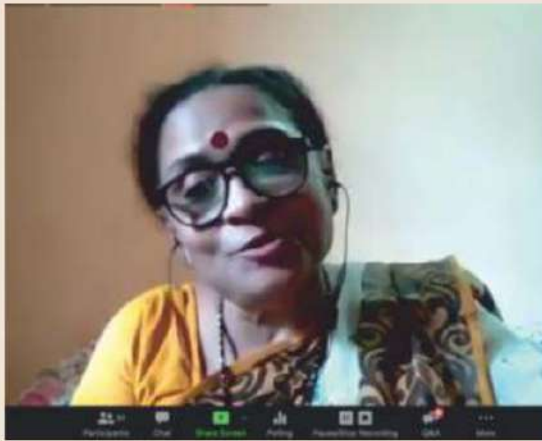
Psychological stress can be caused due to emotional or psychological reaction experienced when the demands of a situation go beyond the coping capacity. Difficulty in breathing, shaking, spasm, nausea, compulsive eating, muscle tension, anxiety, skin eruptions, heart palpitation and rapid or variable heartbeat can be indicators of stress. COVID-19 has shocked and forced people to live life on a halt, stopping their regular and usual activities. This has led to severe stress conditions like self-consciousness, anger, lack in concentration and tiredness.

Speakers suggested some easy and do-able exercises to cope up with stress like – Autogenic Training (to meditate and think about all the positivity to have in your life) and Fractional Training (a method of releasing muscular tension in one small of the body). They also encouraged the participants to be aware of their own stress meter and know when to step back and cool down. A positive outlook will influence outcomes and the way others treat you. She also suggested the participants to be empathetic towards other people.

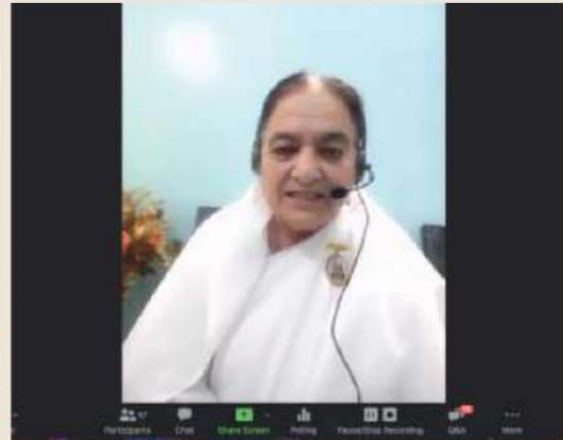
They motivated the participants to focus upon service over self. One should not compare self with others – you are unique in your own beautiful ways. They added, all humans are sailing in the same boat of challenges, but the one with a positive attitude will reach the shore of happiness. Each day is a gift, smile and be thankful that you are a part of it. It was concluded by encouraging the participants to love yourself, love your family, have faith and believe in yourself.

trauma caused due to this pandemic has sabotaged the mental and emotional peace of many. The objective of the webinars were achieved by empowering the stressed and depressed population mentally, emotionally and spiritually. The renowned speakers helped the participants by providing them with solutions and techniques to overcome stressful situations, both by addressing their questions and through webinar discussion.





**Dr. Jayanti Dutta**  
Clinical Psychologist



**Didi BK Anusuya**  
Senior Rajyog Meditation Teacher



**Mr. Sanjay Anand**  
Co-Founder & Partner Shanvi Infotech



**Mr. Suneel Keswani**  
Motivational Speaker, Consultant



## WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

The position and status of women all over the world has risen incredibly in the 21st century. In Empowering women, the world would definitely witness gender equality and help women from every stratum of society stand on their own and steer their lives as per their own wishes. Sustainable Development Goal 5 aims to achieve gender equality and empower women from all backgrounds and ethnicities. SDG 11.7 aims to impart worldwide access to secure and safe public spaces especially for females, children and differently abled.

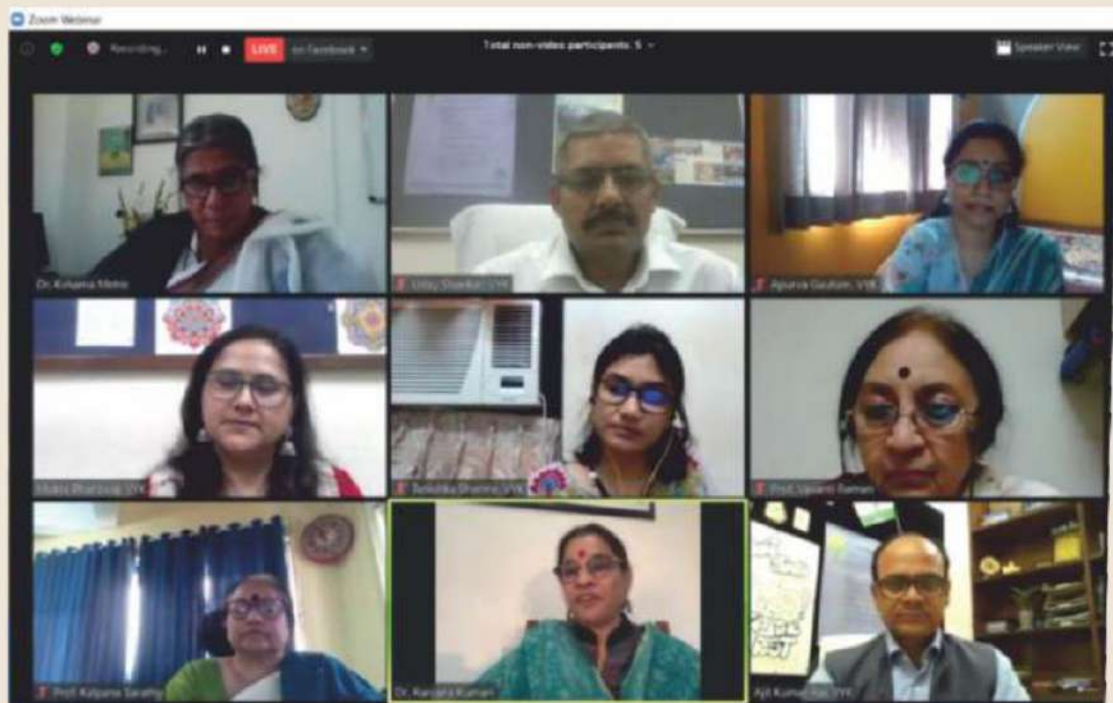
Women empowerment is all about giving them the power to take their own decision and letting them lead an

independent life. Apart from this, it also uplifts their contribution towards the society and equal importance in every point of life and the community. Women empowerment is undoubtedly the ultimate solution to most of the problems faced by the developing countries. Women empowerment is not just about resolving the challenges faced by women, but also an issue that is affecting most of the countries in different areas like social, economic and political. Encouraging women for participating in health, career, education, and other responsibilities can bring a positive change with guaranteed results.

### VYK Intervention

Vishwa Yuvak Kendra organized webinars to recognize and appreciate the hardships and accomplishments of women around the globe. It focused to discuss and find solutions about the spread differences in various fields- the pay difference between men and women, discrimination of women seats in parliament around the world, lack of

awareness for women education and many more. The eminent speakers made efforts to make the voices of various women heard, on local issues and influence the outcome of decisions that affect themselves and their communities.



*Group Photo of Distinguished Speakers along with VYK Team*

The summary of the events organized during the year are being presented in the following table:

S.No.	Topic of discussion	Date	Collaborating Organization	Speakers
1	Menstruation: Before, After and During Pandemic	28 <sup>th</sup> May, 2020	Inosculation Hub	Mr. Anshu Gupta (Founder and Director, GOONJ); Ms. Reshma Prasad (Transgender Rights Activist); Ms. Charu Malhotra (Co-Founder, Primus Partners)
2	Women in Leadership: Achieving an Equal Future in a COVID-19 world	8 <sup>th</sup> March, 2021	In House Programme	Dr. Ranjana Kumari (Director, Centre for Social Research); Prof. Kalpana Sarathy (Deputy Director, TISS, Guwahati); Padma Shri Dr. Kshama Metre (Director, Chinmaya Organization for Rural Development); Prof. Vasanthi Raman (Chairperson, Centre for Women's Development Studies); Smt. Anita Gupta (Secretary, Bhojpur Mahila Kala Kendra)
3	Digitally Empowered Women: Need of the Hour	22 <sup>nd</sup> March, 2021	DSSW, Delhi University	Smt. Anita Gupta (Secretary, Bhojpur Mahila Kala Kendra); Ms. Barsha Chakraborty (Lead- Digital Engagement, Partnerships and Advocacy, Breakthrough); Dr. Shahid Siddiqui (General Manager, Digital Empowerment Foundation); Ms. Aparna Atish Chavan (Founder, CEO Kalapuri, Adhar Samajik Sanstha)

### Highlights and Key Reflections

Women empowerment in India is the most effective tool for development as these days women across the world are actively working as leaders. As the entire world is praying for an escape from the COVID-19 Pandemic, it is the women governors and nations steered by these amazing figures who are taking over the responsibility and marching ahead in the battle alone wherever required. Women today are needed in every sphere of life. Spanning from education to leading digital world, women are everywhere.

Women in India, especially from rural areas, do not have access to the digital world. Neither are they literate about it nor are they equipped. The social and cultural barriers stop females to grow as digitally empowered individuals. Many regions in India are still deprived of electricity and internet connections rather many people do not own phones or laptops. He encouraged participants to

efficiently use digital platforms to disseminate right information. It was concluded that the larger goal of digitalising the world is to reduce the gender gap and end patriarchy.

Education is a complete development in terms of sensibility, knowledge and personality. A report by UNESCO indicated that 3 months lockdown can lead to 1.5 years of education loss. The girls from marginalized areas were affected the most as they did not have access to electronic gadgets. Not just education, but the health services were also disrupted and access to safe places was also restricted. Speakers suggested that policies should be framed for improving the education infrastructure for girls keeping in mind their needs and requirements.

Speakers also talked about the safety and security of women in India and how laws and legislatures are existing in the country but are not implemented.



## Summing Up

Women today are seen in every domain of work. They are the leaders both in space and on land. The programs organized focused to empower women who are deprived of will power. The empowerment and improvement of women's social, economic and political status is essential for the achievement of sustainable development. Women's sense of self-worth, their ability to determine their own choices and the right to influence social change is women empowerment. Promoting women's rights is a global movement and is being continuing to break new ground in the modern world.

It's time to journey women from digital inclusion to women empowerment. Digital empowerment starts with access to the digital world. It includes the ability to confidently participate in the digital world and reaching its desired goal when citizens can voluntarily, proactively, and creatively use the existing knowledge, as well as build on it. If we revisit the vision of Digital India, in particular the first two aspects—digital infrastructure as a core utility service to citizens, and governance and services on demand—it would appear that the project serves the primary role of improving efficiency, reducing misdirection of resources, and improving speed. While entirely desirable, these are values that are external to citizens.



*Group Photo of Esteemed Speakers along with VYK Team*



**Prof. M. Pamela Singla**  
HOD, Dept of Social Work, Delhi University



**Dr. Shahid Siddiqui**  
General Manager, Digital Empowerment Foundation



**Padma Shri Dr. Kshama Metre**  
Director, Chinmaya Organization for  
Rural Development



**Prof. Vasanthi Raman**  
Chairperson, Centre for  
Women's Development Studies



**Dr. Ranjana Kumari**  
Director, Centre for Social Research



**Ms. Barsha Chakraborty**  
Lead- Digital Engagement, Partnerships and  
Advocacy, Breakthrough



**Ms. Aparna Atish Chavan**  
Founder, CEO Kalapuri, Adhar Samajik Sanstha



**Ms. Parmita Gautam,**  
Senior Campaign Associate, Haiiya



## LOCAL SELF GOVERNANCE

No nation can get into the category of developed nation unless it empowers people at grassroots/village level. Development of villages depend mainly on Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and their effective functioning, which includes measures to strengthen the democratic structure of society. PRIs are units of local government and have been in existence in India for a long time, in one form or another.

Panchayati Raj Institutions are local governments at rural level that is responsible for managing local affairs. PRI was constitutionalized by the 73rd Amendment Act, 1992. It was established with an objective of developing democracy at grassroots level and enhancing rural development at large. It plays a major role in the socio-economic development of people at the grassroots/village level. It gives significant growth in the fields of primary and secondary education, communication, agricultural extension, cooperation, health camp, safety mechanisms, etc.

### VYK Intervention

Keeping this in mind, Vishwa Yuvak Kendra organized discussions on the role of Panchayati Raj Institutions amid COVID-19. The objective of the discussion was to orient, train and provide support to elected panchayat

representatives (EPRs) with special focus on women and marginalized communities to create an interactive platform for the flow of information and knowledge sharing that improves the systematic accountability and bottom-up participation of citizens in local self-governance.

However, the effective functioning of the Panchayati Raj Institutions for both institutional performance and participation depends on the good working relationship between panchayat representatives and panchayat officials.

The wave of Coronavirus is growing fast in rural areas. About 40% of the total cases are being reported from rural areas and infected villagers living in the peripheral areas of cities are reaching hospitals in large numbers. India's rural local government has to take the central stage in the fight against COVID-19. Panchayats are very important institutions to trace and stop the spread of the virus in the rural locality and the responsibility of panchayats has even increased during this critical wave of pandemic, since a large number of labourers from cities have returned to villages. The crisis has certainly established the critical and the most important role of panchayats in mobilising resources, managing intricate tasks and shouldering responsibilities which no other institution can replace.

The details of the event organized during the year is being presented in the following table:

S. No.	Topic of discussion	Date	Collaborating Organization	Speakers
1	Role of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) During and Post COVID-19	10 <sup>th</sup> July, 2020	Manthan Yuva Kendra	Dr. Chandrashekhar Pran (Founder, Teesari Sarkar Abhiyan); Mr. Rajeev Ranjan (Assistant Director, State Institute of Rural Development); Mr. Laxman Yadav (Tamay Gram Panchayat, Jainagar Block, Jharkhand)

### Highlights and Key Reflections

Panchayati Raj Institutions promote democratic representation, increases cooperation among people and decentralization. It ensures good governance, effective and efficient planning. The speakers discussed various challenges being faced by PRIs with insufficiency of grants or funds being one of the major challenges. Issue of Sarpanch Pati, lack of effective & efficient devolution of power and lack of convergence of various government programs are some of the other challenges.

Some of the Gram Panchayats do not have their own building and they share space with schools, anganwadi centre and other places. Some have their own building but without basic facilities like toilets, drinking water and electricity connection. There is a severe lack of support staff and personnel in panchayats, such as secretary, junior engineers, computer operators, and data entry operators. This affects their functioning and delivery of services by them.



Speakers added PRIs are nearest to the people and are trusted by communities. Gram panchayats are also essential to ensure that the response against the crisis includes consultations with stakeholders and participatory decision-making at the local-level. Across India, more than 2,60,000 Gram Panchayats will have to be prepared and mobilised for grassroots action against COVID-19. They will work closely with primary health centers, ASHA workers, local health volunteers and district administrations in the coming months. Following suggestions were given by the speakers to strengthen the Panchayati Raj system in times of pandemic:

- Setting up of quarantine centres - Gram panchayats should take the initiative to set up local quarantine centres with arrangements for food, drinking water and sanitation facilities. This will also prevent migrants from hiding in their houses.
- Enabling safe operations of local markets - Gram panchayats should meet with local vendors and shopkeepers selling essential items and ask them to follow the guidelines to ensure physical distancing at local haats and mandis.
- Generating awareness among communities - Gram panchayats, along with local volunteers, non-profits, SHGs and other community-based organisations should undertake awareness generation drives on the symptoms of and preventive measures for COVID-19.
- Ensuring food and livelihood security - Gram panchayats can support farmers in this process by collaborating with Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) which are agricultural extension centres that can train farmers on the latest farming methods and technologies.
- Forming trust between health workers and communities - Gram panchayats will have a key role in monitoring the health of villagers along with ANMs, ASHA workers, doctors from primary health centres and local health volunteers. Communities tend to trust gram panchayat members more and if they accompany health workers, they are likely to see less resistance.
- Partnering with local NGOs - Gram panchayats can partner with non-profits wherever there is synergy between their areas of work, such as arranging PPE kits for local health workers and public health centres, organising chemical sprays to disinfect public spaces, or holding informal classes for students who are out-of-school.

### Summing Up

The webinar helped the participants understand the roles and responsibilities of Panchayats during COVID-19. Challenges and hardships being faced by gram panchayats were also discussed. Special address was given to the needs of elected panchayati raj assuming an increasing urgency in the face of the mounting demands placed on

them in view of increasing financial allocations and work responsibilities of the PRIs. Emphasis was given on the scope of growth in the fields of primary and secondary education, communication, agricultural extension, cooperation, health camps, safety mechanisms, etc.



**Dr. Chandrashekhhar Pran**  
 Founder, Teesari Sarkar Abhiyan



**Mr. Laxman Yadav**  
 Tamay Gram Panchayat, Jainagar Block, Jharkhand

# LEADERSHIP AND MOTIVATION FOR YOUTH



Leaders can either be born or be made with knowledge and experiences. A great leader is one who can encourage other people to work together to achieve a common goal. A leader is a speaker, a listener, a motivator, an advocate, an enabler and a promoter. Leaders are inherently role models. They're goal-oriented, they're decisive, they build others around them up and they embrace change & contrast. Leaders must be multi-dimensional and their effectiveness depends on certain traits that are proven to engender success. They help build a direction for others to follow. A strong leadership is the driving force behind the success of every organisation.

## VYK Intervention

Vishwa Yuvak Kendra made efforts to build leaders for tomorrow and motivate the growing buds of present. VYK along with educational institutions reached out to the youth of the nation, since VYK believes in the young generation and make consistent efforts to groom them as leaders.

To be a great leader one should be flexible and adapt easily to changing circumstances. A leader is one who is passionate and ambitious to bring positive changes to the life of its people. He/she should be people-centric and goal oriented rather being self-centred. He/she should focus on growth and development of people and society at large. A good leader builds a long-term relationship with his/her followers. They focus on honest and open communication and also welcome suggestion and feedback. A leader allows others to lead, provide people with a space for learning and a platform to express their thoughts, views, ideas & emotions.

As youth is the future of India, it is our responsibility to motivate and encourage them with right knowledge & information.

The summary of the events organized during the year are being presented in the following table:

S. No.	Topic of discussion	Date	Collaborating Organization	Speakers
1	Leadership and Motivation Talk	7 <sup>th</sup> October, 2020	Sri Akilandeswari Women's College	Mr. Suneel Keswani Motivational Speaker, Consultant
		8 <sup>th</sup> October, 2020		Mr. Surinder Narain Ahuja Management Consultant
		9 <sup>th</sup> October, 2020		Mr. Suneel Keswani Motivational Speaker, Consultant

### Highlights and Key Reflections:

An individual is a lifelong learner and this quality can keep him or her young at heart irrespective of their age. Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam exhibited immense sincerity, discipline, commitment and motivation to inspire the youth of the country. We should be positive and determined enough to achieve our goals. As it is said, where there is a will, there is a way!

Some people are born leaders i.e., they have those qualities inbuilt which make them a leader. Some people try to learn those qualities to become a true leader. Participants were encouraged to adopt a winning attitude along with confidence. A leader must never be static in their working or thinking process. He/she should engage in innovative thinking process and be creative while going about their work. Innovation ensures that the group can stand out among the competition and even emerge better than the others. Examples of Sir Winston Churchill, Abraham Lincoln, Mahatma Gandhi and other great leaders who displayed the aforesaid qualities of leadership were shared with the participants.

A good leader fosters trust and loyalty amongst its people. Following are the characteristics of a good leader:

**Strategic Thinking** – A leader is visionary. He/she has a unique and authentic vision. One must be equipped with right knowledge, audience having common interests and who could be helpful in achieving the goal.

**Planning and Delivery** – He/she must know the right method to achieve their vision. Leader must have adequate resources for the goal to be fulfilled. One should also be prepared for the upcoming challenges during the journey to achieve the goal.

**Change Management** – A good leader should recognise, respond and manage changes to the vision or goal.

**People Management** – A leader should target the right type of audience, having common goals and interests. One should know the expectations of its audience. People involved should be highly motivated towards a common goal.

**Communication** – Leaders are known for their communication skills. A leader is always applauded when he/she makes other group of people think equally and on same lines of development.

**Persuasion and Influence** – A leader should be encouraging and should motivate people to think alike and work together to achieve a common purpose.

Young minds were encouraged to become creative & innovative and find solutions to every problem. Another point brought to light by speakers was to become self-reliant. If an individual becomes self-sufficient, then people around him or her also become mentally, physically and emotionally healthy. Being self-reliant is not only in a person's interest but also in the interest of everyone around them. It was also suggested that students should adopt innovation. Innovation is seeking a new approach to solve a problem or to face a challenge. Any individual we come across is a work in progress and has a chance of improving or learning.

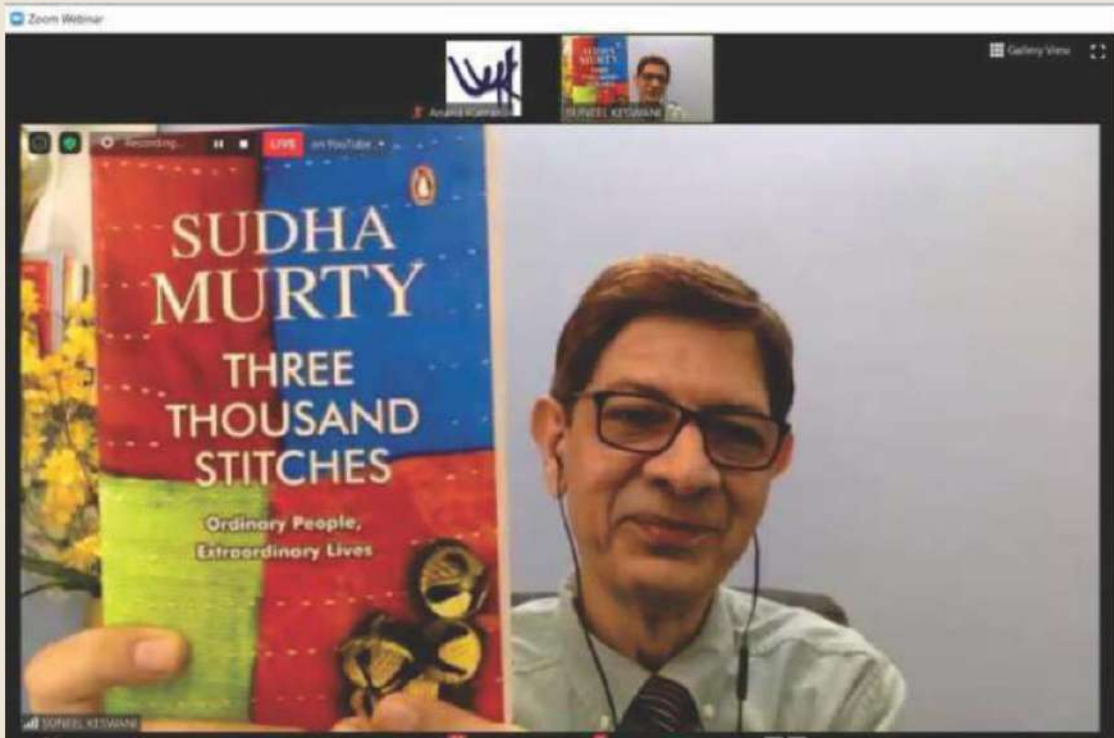
Speakers encouraged students to avoid procrastination and suggested a self-help book – 'The Power of Now' by Eckart Tolle. 'Three Thousand Stitches' by Sudha Murty, 'The Secret of Leadership' by Prakash Iyer and 'The Leader Who Had No Title' by Robin Sharma were some other motivational books suggested by the speakers.

### Conclusion

The trainings helped the participants build their communication skills and develop personality. The types of leadership and measures to become one great leader were also discussed. Examples and life stories of well-known leaders were discussed with the youth. It equipped the

youth with small, easy and doable steps to become a great leader in life. It encouraged them to adopt specific traits of a leader that would help them in the journey of becoming a successful leader.





**Mr. Suneel Keswani**  
*Motivational Speaker, Consultant*



**Mr. Surinder Narain Ahuja**  
*Management Consultant*



**Dr. S. Mythili**  
*Principal, Sri Akilandeswari Women's College*



## PREVENTION OF DRUG ABUSE

Due to industrialization, urbanization & migration, the traditional method of social control has also lost its relevance and exposed individual to the stress and strains of modern life, which weakens the individual and attracts him towards the usage of drugs. Drug dependence is a gradual process. The lingering time span from one's first drug use to becoming entirely dependent varies from individual to individual, but more or less, it follows a certain pattern. The process of de-addiction requires awareness programs for juveniles to help them realise their self-efficacy and to overcome environmental determinants of risk.

In 1988, Drug De-addiction Programme (DDAP) under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare was initiated. Under DDAP Nasha Mukti Kendras were established in government hospitals. Three broad approaches are used to reduce drug abuse - supply reduction, demand reduction and harm reduction.

### VYK Intervention

The process of de-addiction requires awareness programs for juveniles to help them realise their self-efficacy and to overcome environmental determinants of risk. Vishwa

Under these 3 approaches government have set up laws to curb the trade and illicit use of drugs. Government has set-up rehabilitation centres for affected individuals, conduct programmes to control the no. of HIV/AIDS cases. MoHFW has also established "Drug Abuse Monitoring System" to track the pattern of drug abuse and profile of treatment seekers.

It is crucial to discuss about the problem of drug addiction in youth on a large platform. The issue is resonating and escalating at a high pace. Youth being the powerhouse of a nation needs special attention and resources to develop into efficient citizens. The problem of drug addiction is serious, and people should be made aware of its consequences. Various CSOs, NPOs and NGOs should come forward and discuss about the problem and also search for solutions for the same.

Yuvak Kendra therefore organised a webinar for sensitizing the youth about the consequences of drug and alcohol abuse.

The summary of the event organized during the year is being presented in the following table:

S. No.	Topic of discussion	Date	Collaborating Organization	Speakers
1	Prevention of Drug Abuse	29 <sup>th</sup> September, 2020	Society for Promotion of Youth and Masses (SPYM)	Dr. Rajesh Kumar (Executive Director, SPYM) Ms. Kalyani (Consultant, SPYM and Action Aid).

### Highlights and Key Reflections

Drug usage is initiated and scaled thereafter in three stages: Dependence, Tolerance and Withdrawal. Dependence on a particular drug, i.e., becoming comfortable in taking it, is the initial stage. It then leads to tolerance, i.e., the quantity of the drug is increased. Withdrawal is the stage where the individual is unable to quit drug intake. From the phase of use to abuse, the family is unaware about the individual's habits. They finally recognize them at the stage of addiction.

Speakers suggested that the focus should be made on demand reduction. Downfall in demand will lead to decrease in supply and hence, accessibility to illegal drugs will be ceased. Explaining about the types of drugs, the speakers discussed about Narcotic (natural) drug that is derived directly from the nature. This includes Marijuana, Opium and Psychotropic substances. The most dangerous and easily accessible to children are the volatile solvents. They are not a drug but fulfils the same purpose and is misused by the children. According to Juvenile Justice Act, a person is bound to be jailed if he/she provides any child with any kind of drug or tobacco.



The treatment of drug addiction is possible and feasible. Various different strategies are being adopted by government agencies and NGOs to promote drug deaddiction. The speakers discussed about the treatment and prevention of drug abuse. Early prevention includes life skill training wherein children are pulled away from substance abuse.

**Women intervention** – Community women are made part of this program. Their close association with the community people and strong willpower can be helpful in making violence free homes. This help link drug users with the treatment centres. They equipped with the techniques to reduce and avoid relapse of drug abuse.

**Young brigade as change makers** – Early prevention program is run with the young generation. They are averted to use drugs. The youth is made understood by activities like sports for development, art and craft, life skill training, and creating a safe place within a community called Child-friendly Mohalla.

Early intervention phase involves recognition of addiction and drug dependency. Early treatment motivates and encourages the addicted to attend the treatment programmes.

**Some community interventions were shared by the speakers that can be utilized to combat drug addiction and abuse. Following were the interventions:**

**Peer Educators** – They are youth who are observant, innovative, responsible and educated with good communication skills. They are trained and made understood about the ill-effects of drugs via stories, case studies, comics, theatre, videos, games and activities. They are given art therapy, yoga sessions and life skill training, Provision of library is especially done for the school drop-out children so that they do not remain deprived of education.

### Summing Up

The webinar helped the youth understand about the changing dynamics of drug dependency, conquering it, and integration into mainstream life again. It made the participants understand about the types of drugs and substance abuse, their harmful effects on mental, physical, emotional and social well-being and the serious

consequences attached to it.

Government schemes, campaigns and programs available for rehabilitation and re-integration were also discussed with the youth like, Nasha Mukta Bharat would run across school, colleges and universities to stop the growing menace of drug use disorder.



*Group Photo of Dignitaries along with VYK Team*

## WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

WASH is an acronym used globally for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene. It comprises of innovative measures adopted to promote safe drinking water for all, sanitation in every part of the society and healthy hygiene practices. Disruption in any of the domains of WASH leads to serious health consequences. The core activity of WASH emphasizes the teaching of basic sanitation, hygiene to communities and school children with a particular focus on girls' education & gender equality, as a necessary complement to the success of water and sanitation infrastructure projects. Sustainable Development Goal 6 focuses upon clean drinking water and sanitation. Water scarcity has affected more than 2.9 billion people, globally,

### VYK Intervention

Less than 50 per cent of the population has access to safely managed drinking water. Chemical contamination of water, mainly through fluoride and arsenic, is present in 1.96 million dwellings. Moreover, two-third of India's 718 districts are affected by extreme water depletion, and the

with 2.3 billion people lacking basic sanitation. 892 million people practiced open defecation.

Where there is proper sanitation, there will be better health. In other words, people living in poor sanitary conditions often suffer from various health ailments that would affect their social, economic, cultural and personal development. Children, adolescents and women are the most affected because of such sanitation challenges. In order to ensure sustainable development in all departments, sanitation standards should be ensured at all levels during this COVID-19 situation. Integrated approach is needed to ensure sanitation and good health at all levels.

current lack of planning for water safety & security is a major concern. Understanding the growing concerns, VYK along with different NGOs and CSOs organized a webinar to impart information about WASH.

The summary of the event organized during the year is being presented in the following table:

S. No.	Topic of discussion	Date	Collaborating Organization	Speakers
1	Major Challenges in WASH during COVID-19	26 <sup>th</sup> June, 2020	Vaigai Trust and FANSA India Network	Mr. PC Misra (Director, IIYD, Odisha); Mr. Ramiseti Murali (Convener, FANSA, South Asia); Ms. Mekala Snehalatha (Regional Coordinator, FANSA, South Asia); Dr. Sujatha (Director, Karupa Institute of Development Initiatives); Mr. Puteri Babu KY (GM, Environment Hand in Hand, India)

### Highlights and Key Reflections

Water scarcity affects more than 40 percent of people, an alarming figure that is projected to rise as temperature does. More and more countries are experiencing water stress, and increasing drought and desertification is already worsening these trends. By 2050, it is projected that at least one in four people will suffer recurring water shortages. Safe and affordable drinking water for all by 2030 requires that we invest in adequate infrastructure, provide sanitation facilities and encourage hygiene.

Protecting and restoring water-related ecosystems is essential. Ensuring universal safe and affordable drinking water involves reaching over 800 million people who lack basic services and improving accessibility and safety of services for over two billion people. In 2015, 4.5 billion people lacked safely managed sanitation services (with adequately disposed or treated excreta) and 2.3 billion lacked even basic sanitation.

Speakers discussed in detail about the lack of hygiene facilities for migrant workers, women, adolescent children and elderly, especially the ones living in slums and on streets. They discussed about the dense and congested population residing in slums and lack of health facilities and resources available to them.

The issue of declining amount of water and the amount of money being spent on accessing it was also highlighted. Poor sanitation can also have a ripple effect when it hinders national development because workers are suffering from illnesses and living shorter lives, thereby worsening the trends. The speakers highlighted the efforts and achievements of India in attaining healthy sanitation practices.

### Summing Up

The discussion during webinar focused on the sanitation and hygiene practices being followed and promoted, especially in the marginalized areas. The speakers talked about the lack of services and unavailability of resources at local level and its severe effect on the poor population. Situational analysis of what the government has done and what it is looking forward to do in future, was done by the panelists.

India has made rapid progress towards ending open defecation across the country which is having a huge positive impact on improving water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH).

Just a few years ago, in 2015, nearly half of India's population of around 568 million people suffered the indignity of defecating in fields, forests, bodies of water, or other public spaces due to lack of access to toilets. By 2019, according to the latest estimates, the number of people without access to toilets has reduced significantly by an estimated 450 million people. This was a tremendous achievement, made possible because of the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) (Clean India Campaign) led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The overall objective of spreading awareness at various levels, leaving no one behind (LNOB), was achieved by this webinar, as it included attendees from different field of work both geographically and methodologically.



**Dr. Sujatha**  
Director, Karupa Institute of Development Initiatives



**Ms. Mekala Snehalatha**  
Regional Coordinator, FANSA, South Asia



**Mr. Ramiseti Murali**  
Convener, FANSA, South Asia

## WORLD FOOD DAY

World Food Day is celebrated annually on 16th October to promote global awareness about extreme hunger and food security. It calls for affirmative action for those who suffer from hunger and highlight the need to ensure healthy diet for all. Sustainable Development Goal 2 focusses upon ZERO HUNGER and promotion of food availability, accessibility and utilization. Extreme hunger and malnutrition are barriers to global development. 821 million people are chronically undernourished. Over 90 million children under the age of 5 years are dangerously underweight.

### VYK Intervention

Vishwa Yuvak Kendra, in collaboration with Rise Against Hunger India (RAHI), celebrated World Food Day. The day focused to celebrate and appreciate the efforts of

In 2017, 63% of the Asian population was reported under extreme hunger conditions. 1 in every 3 women of reproductive age were found anaemic. Global actions should take place to improve and combat food scarcity and hunger. Boosting agricultural sector and having control on food prices can help in containing malnutrition. Better and improved health conditions can escalate economic growth, create job opportunities, increase trade opportunities, increase global security and stability and improve healthcare system.

individuals who have been in forefront to provide food to the needy. The title 'Hunger Heroes' was dedicated to these people who shared their experiences with the participants.

The summary of the event organized during the year is being presented in the following table:

S.No.	Topic of discussion	Date	Collaborating Organization	Speakers
1	World Food Day	16 <sup>th</sup> October, 2020	Rise Against Hunger India (RAHI)	Dr. Sujeet Ranjan (Executive Director, The Coalition for Food and Nutrition), Prof. Amrita Dhiman (Asst. Professor, Development Management Institute), Ms. Shreelekha Kulkarni (Head, Talent Management Team, Zomato Feeding India), Dr. Deepali Jain (Senior VP, Food Security Sync Inc.), Mr. Barry Mattson, (CEO Rise Against Hunger US) Mr. Dola Mohapatra, (Executive Director- RAHI) Dr. Harish Vasishth, (Executive Director, Credibility Alliance), Mr. Rajiv Mehta, Consultant

### Highlights and Key Reflections

Increased hunger situations are a consequence of environmental degradation, drought and biodiversity loss. High level of inequality and social exclusion also leads to food scarcity. India adds 1/4th undernourished people to the global hunger index and is now striving to tackle hunger.

Vishwa Yuvak Kendra in collaboration with RAHI celebrated the 75th World Food Day promoting the theme "Grow, Nourish, Sustain Together. Our actions are our future." The webinar was organized with the aim to recognise the Hunger Heroes by facilitating them with Award, Certificate and highlighting their stories in organization's journals, e-books ad social media platforms as they have played a vital role in providing food to the needy during pandemic. VYK and RISE jointly announced National Award of Excellence to Food Heroes for their unbeatable services and commitment.

Hunger Heroes are the individuals who made personal sacrifices during COVID-19 pandemic to support the distressed. The event focused to bring together Hunger Heroes and leaders from food industry to come together on a common platform of learning.

Speakers shared the statistical data with the participants. 6.5% of Indian children, less than 2 years of age, do not receive minimum acceptable diet. World Food Day 2020 is calling out for our solidarity towards this vulnerable population to recover from pandemic and develop a more robust and resilient food system. 1/4th of Indian children are born with low birth weight and every second child is affected by some form of malnutrition. Speakers motivated the participants by saying that zero hunger & good nutrition has the power to transform & empower the present and future generation.

Hunger is not merely missing a meal, but it takes toll on people's livelihood, health and well-being. The issue is not just scarcity of food but inaccessibility to correct information and paying capacity. India is ranked 102 out of 117 indicating the severity of hunger. Malnutrition rate is very high in India. Speakers recommended that policy making should focus upon Recognise, Align and Act. Learnings should be utilized in monitoring. Key areas requiring urgent action include: uninterrupted universal and high-quality coverage, adequate finances, retain nutrition as a development indicator, collective multisectoral approach and strengthening the holistic system of nutrition.

### Summing Up

Compassion and determination can help India to eradicate hunger on a global scale. Progress is being made towards creating a zero-hunger world by 2030. Small initiatives, programs and projects are being undertaken to improve the conditions of the undernourished and anaemic

Speakers encouraged the participants about creating a wave of innovation, practices and technology which are sustainable in nature and help in prevention of farmer suicide, improve livelihood of farmers, emit less greenhouse gases and prevent deforestation. Low-cost portable technology should be created so that it increases the shelf life thereby escalating farmers' income. They suggested that data analysis should be done about when, where, and what crop should be grown, which soil should be suitable for a particular crop, techniques to detect early signs of pest in crop. Many such information is available but is not accessible to the farmers. It should be made tangible to them so that they can fulfil their needs and requirements.

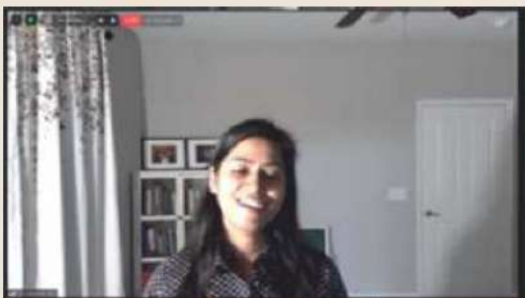
individuals. The speakers helped the participants understand about the existing data of food scarcity. Ideas and suggestions from participants were welcomed and discussed in detail.



**Dr. Sujeet Ranjan**  
Executive Director, The Coalition for  
Food and Nutrition



**Mr. Dola Mohapatra**  
Executive Director, Rise Against Hunger India



**Dr. Deepali Jain**  
Senior VP, Food Security Sync Inc.



**Mr. Rajiv Mehta**  
Consultant



## GANDHIAN MODEL FOR RE-BUILDING NATION AMID COVID-19

Mahatma Gandhi is not only Father of the Nation, but a pioneer of one of the largest historical non-violent independence movements. His ideology has been a collective of moral, social, religious, economic and political ideas that focus on universal upliftment and harmony. Being rooted in Indian culture, Gandhian philosophy harnesses the Indian democracy and universal principles. Gandhian philosophy has been focused upon practical idealism and has been development oriented, homogenous and democratic in nature. The ongoing breakdown of social, economic and political pillars of our country in times of pandemic has pushed us to re-look and revise the lessons from Mahatma Gandhi. The idea of

### VYK Intervention

The modern concept of 'Leave No One Behind' has its origin in Gandhian philosophy of social inclusion. Keeping Gandhian values in mind, VYK organized webinars to impart those values to the youth. The webinars focussed on the issues of growing pandemic distress and the role of

Satyagraha, promotion of Swadeshi products, communal harmony and trusteeship have become modern tools to overcome the crisis situation.

With the idea of believing in the learnings of Mahatma Gandhi, Vishwa Yuvak Kendra organised webinars to spread the theme among common masses. The experiences from the life of Bapu has a lot to give. The modern times are facing challenges that have never been seen before – collapsing healthcare system, disrupting economy, pandemic, etc., are some of them. It is important to look back into the lives and experiences of our great leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, to fight back the problematic situation.

Gandhian philosophy to combat the same. Real life incidences from life of Bapu, where he promoted communal harmony, brotherhood and inclusive growth of society were discussed in details with the participating youth.

The summary of the events organized during the year are being presented in the following table:

S.No.	Topic of discussion	Date	Collaborating Organization	Speakers
1	COVID-19 Pandemic and Mahatma Gandhi	17 <sup>th</sup> July, 2020	In House Programme	Dr. S.N. Subbarao (Bhaji) (Founder, National Youth Project, India); Padma Shri Ram Bahadur Rai (Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts); Prof. Anand Kumar (Retd. Senior Professor, JNU); Dr. RC Pradhan (Resident Faculty, Institute of Gandhian Studies); Mr. Dipanker Shri Gyan (Director, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti)
2	COVID-19 Pandemic and Mahatma Gandhi	24 <sup>th</sup> July, 2020	In House Programme	Dr. Ashok Bhagat (Founder Secretary, Vikas Bharti); Mr. Bajrang Singh (Founder Secretary, Badlao Foundation); Dr. Shobhana Radhakrishna (Chief Functionary, SCOPE Gandhian Forum for Ethical Corporate Governance); Mr. Surendra Kumar (General Secretary, Association of Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development); Mr. A. Annamalai- (Director, National Gandhi Museum)

## Highlights and Key Reflections

The Speakers discussed the importance of Gandhian philosophy in the present scenario. Spread of COVID-19 has made us realize the importance of Ayurveda and Swadeshi products, which has been one of the pillars of Mahatma Gandhi. They guided the participants to learn from the lessons of Mahatma Gandhi, that can be utilized to overcome pandemic situation, like promotion of Swaraj; empathy, i.e., paying attention to commonalities instead of differences; Swacchta (cleanliness) and Swastha Suidha (health care facilities); paying special attention and encouraging researchers; increase services for the needy; connect with each other as fellow human beings and form a global force to fight against Coronavirus.

Speakers emphasized on the vision of Mahatma Gandhi where every hand is a bread earner. They highlighted Gandhian views on humanity, dignified life, health and atmanirbharta. They also discussed that Gandhian ideology focused upon skill-based learning and promoted skill development and enhancement. It was suggested that, keeping in mind the current situation of global pandemic, India should focus on need-based development. The Government should develop policies that help produce more efficient and responsible citizens. The issues of

## Summing Up

The webinars oriented the participants about Gandhian philosophy, his pillars of Swaraj, Non-violence, Swadeshi and Sarvodaya and adopting his values to overcome pandemic situation. It made efforts to help the participating citizens understand about their rights and duties.

growing communal distress and the role of Gandhian philosophy to combat the same were also discussed. Speakers highlighted real life incidences from life of Bapu, where he promoted communal harmony, brotherhood and inclusive growth of society. Mahatma Gandhi demonstrated to the world the power of love and unity through Satyagraha. The causes of communal distress, its consequences and Gandhian solutions to the same were also discussed.

The youth and other participants were encouraged to become responsible citizens of the country and help revive the nation from the crisis. They guided all by sharing Gandhian philosophy and his ideas of becoming a more constructive and productive human being. Gandhian view of education was also discussed. They shared with the participants that Bapu believed that education is based on ethics and morals. Gandhiji promoted the use of local craft as medium of education for children so that they develop their mind, body and soul in a harmonious way and also meet the needs of their future life. It was added that Gandhian thoughts of education are relevant for development and providing solutions of the current problems like unemployment, poverty, corruption and many others.

It promoted the idea of thinking globally and acting locally. It helped them imbibe and inculcate Gandhian values and demonstrate them in their character and reflect it in their behaviour.





**Padma Shri Dr. Ashok Bhagat**  
Founder Secretary, Vikas Bharti



**Dr. Shobhana Radhakrishna**  
Chief Functionary, SCOPE Gandhian Forum for  
Ethical Corporate Governance



**Mr. A. Annamalai**  
Director, National Gandhi Museum



**Mr. Bajrang Singh**  
Founder Secretary, Badlao Foundation



**Group Photos of Renowned Gandhians along with VYK Team**



## VISHWA YUVAK KENDRA'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19 AND BEYOND



The last year has brought unprecedented times for the world. Nations worldwide have fought against the deadly Coronavirus with strength and determination. Millions have lost their lives while billions have lost stable livelihood and healthy body. COVID-19 has rapidly affected our day-to-day life, businesses, disrupted the world trade and movements. Identification of the disease at an early stage is vital to control the spread of the virus because it very rapidly spreads from person to person.

Vishwa Yuvak Kendra came forward as a supporter of the society and help those who are most affected by the outbreak of COVID-19. Small initiatives and efforts were made to keep up with the needs of the marginalized and vulnerable communities. The virus hit the whole country but being in the heart of India, VYK realised its added responsibility to come forward and help the society overcome the consequences of the coronavirus.

Following initiatives were undertaken to help people in these distressed times:

### COVID-19 Isolation Centre

Vishwa Yuvak Kendra provided its premises to the Delhi Government for utilising it as COVID-19 isolation and care centre. Space from Hostel Building (38 rooms and 135 dormitory beds) were accorded for the isolation centre.

The Kendra premises were used as isolation centre from April, 2020 – December, 2020 during the first wave of pandemic. It was again given from April, 2021 – July, 2021 when the nation was hit with the second wave of pandemic.

### PM Care Fund

Kendra along with its Board and Management contributed to the PM Care Fund for supporting the country in times of

crisis. This donation was a gesture to tell the nation that we all stand united in such stressful times.

### COVID-19 Relief Activities

Kendra carried out a number of relief activities in its adopted communities in Delhi, including providing sanitary

items, masks, sanitisers etc. and providing dry ration and monetary relief to the poorest of the poor.



## COVID-19 VACCINATION DRIVE



It is important to raise awareness about the global health conditions. The outbreak of Coronavirus has devastated lives worldwide. People are scared and unaware about the vaccination process and consequences. India rolled the world's largest vaccination drive on 16th January, 2021 by providing shots to 300 million people. As there is no definitive cure available for COVID-19, vaccines present the world with the best strategy to slow down the virus.

Vaccination also has a vested measure of achieving herd immunity. Vishwa Yuvak Kendra organized these webinars to raise awareness about the vaccination drive being carried out in whole of the nation to contain the spread of Coronavirus. These webinars were aimed at discussing the importance of vaccine and eradicate the prevailing misconceptions.

The summary of the events organized during the year are being presented in the following table:

S.No.	Topic of discussion	Date	Collaborating Organization	Speakers
1	COVID-19 Vaccination: Role of Youth & CSOs for Social Awareness and Mass Mobilisation	28 <sup>th</sup> January, 2021	Sri Akilandeshwari Women's College	Dr. Neelu Shrivastav (MBBS) and Dr. Dipanjan Sujit Roy (Team Lead Strengthening CPHC in Urban Areas, PWC-ADB)
2	COVID-19 Vaccination: Role of Youth & CSOs for Social Awareness and Mass Mobilisation	23 <sup>rd</sup> February, 2021	Sun Arts and Science College	Dr. Dipanjan Sujit Roy (Team Lead Strengthening CPHC in Urban Areas, PWC-ADB) and Dr. Jayanti Dutta (Consultant/ Clinical Psychologist)

The Speakers discussed about the types, availability and accessibility of vaccine. They discussed about role of youth in spreading awareness about COVID-19 vaccine, myths and misconceptions related to the vaccine and strategies for mass mobilization. There are currently two types of vaccines - Covaxin (manufactured by Bharat Biotech) and Covishield (manufactured by Serum Institute). It was added to the knowledge of participants that the vaccine will first

be administered to frontline health workers and labourers as they are prone to illness and vector prone diseases. The process of getting vaccinated - from being registered with the government to final stages of getting vaccinated was discussed. Time and location will be updated by the government. 18 years and above individuals are eligible to vaccine. The individuals who have active symptoms of COVID-19 are temporarily not eligible for the vaccine. Also,

pregnant and lactating women, individuals allergic to previous COVID-19 vaccine dose, or having history of any chronic disease are not eligible for the vaccine. After immunization, an individual might experience swelling at the site of injection, headache, nausea, dizziness or abdominal pain. Speakers assured the participants about importance and safety of vaccine.

India is the largest vaccine manufacturing country as most of the major vaccines are being manufactured in this country. It has also successfully donated vaccines to neighbouring countries. India is the largest country to provide vaccination programs. He added to the knowledge of participants that, 63 candidate vaccines are in pipeline for trials. WHO and collaborating institutions are tracking progress for the vaccines.

**Following myths and misconceptions were shared that are being spread in the society about COVID-19 vaccine:**

- Social/physical distancing, wearing mask in gathering are not needed after vaccination.
- It has long term side effects.
- Fertility of women may be affected.
- Any individual who previously has had COVID-19 does not need vaccination.

### Highlights and Key Reflections

Youth should come up to help the nation to contain the spread of COVID-19 by taking strategic measures. With appropriate and correct knowledge they should help in rolling the wheel of economy back to normal. Speakers also encouraged the participants to implement containment measures. He said that youth and every other individual should visit authentic government websites for procuring correct and reliable information. They

appreciated the extraordinary effort of the global community to develop COVID-19 vaccine. Speakers suggested that mass mobilisation programs should be encouraged. It should focus upon the elderly and others who cannot register or go for vaccine on their own. CSOs should play a role in arranging mass vaccination programs in old age homes. Micro-containment zones should be made. Focus should be made on Test, Track and Treat.



**Dr. Dipanjan Sujit Roy**  
Team Lead Strengthening CPHC in  
Urban Areas, PWC-ADB



**Dr. Neelu Shrivastav (MBBS)**

# SAMARTHYA PARIYOJANA

## An Initiative for NPO Governance, Management & Sustainability

The recent decades have seen significant development and changes in the larger development scenario both nationally and globally. Some of the key important changes that has affected the human life are linked with the economy, environment, technology and realisation of access to basic services. Despite the government initiatives, the gap between rich and poor, have and have nots has increased in various parts of the world including India. Civil Society organisations have been playing an important role in ensuring the reach and access of the most marginalised communities and areas.

There has been paradigm shifts and changes in the overall socio-economic, political, technical and legal environment in which the non-profit organisations operate. The shrinking grant-in-aid funds; the emergence of CSR; the demand for professional management of programmes and organisational affairs and the changes in legal aspects puts

### About the Course

We are living in a VUCA -Volatile, Uncertainty, Complexity and Ambiguity, world. Recent years have witnessed unprecedented changes and have posed many challenges. These testing times call for rapid and swift actions in order to strive and thrive especially in socio-economic, political, technical and legal environment, in which the NGOs, VOs, CSOs and NPOs operate. In the present scenario, wherein these organizations' roles are becoming increasingly complex and demanding, there could be no better time to address the need to strengthen the abilities of these organisations and capacitating them with a view to increase their effectiveness, operational and organizational maturity that result into positive social impacts and position themselves as forward looking organizations. SAMARTHYA PARIYOJANA is an attempt to cope up with these rapid and swift changes and challenges.

The achievement and success of NGOs in various fields and the excellent work done by them in specific areas is no doubt a tremendous task that has helped to meet the changing needs of the social system. There are some challenges which NGOs face in their operations. Difficulty to acquire sufficient and continuous funding for their work

more pressure on non-profit organisations to be more efficient, effective and professional in its managements and operations; the increased demand for good governance; transparency and accountability towards stakeholders. Moreover, it has largely impacted small grassroots civil society organisations to be more capable for accessing the resources, compliance with the changed laws and ability and capacities to deal with new stakeholders in the civil society ecosystem, such as CSR, crowdfunding, Govt. project, etc. In this context there is a need to build capacity of such grass root CSOs to remain relevant and able to compete with other organisations for pursuing their mission and mandate. Therefore, this course is aimed at building capacities of such grassroots civil society organisations on NGO Governance, Management and Sustainability, addressing the capacity issues of the NPOs.

and gaining access to appropriate donors are major components of this challenge. Many NGOs suffer from the lack of a cohesive strategic plan that would facilitate success in their activities and mission. This helps them to effectively raise and capitalize on financial support. A lack of effective governance is also common in NGOs. Poor or disorganized networking is another major challenge, as it can cause duplicated efforts, time inefficiencies, conflicting strategies and an inability to learn from experience.

Many NGOs do not maximize the use of current technologies that could facilitate better communication and networking. As the NGOs have a very vital role in building India and there are areas where NGOs are doing commendable job in serving society, government facilitate the NGOs in many ways.

Summing up, this 4-months E-certificate course helped NGO participants to develop a strong understanding of social, political, economic, and environmental contexts of management towards gaining essential skills to organisational management, human and financial resources management, etc.



S.No.	Module	Date	Faculty
1	Introductory Plenary	8 <sup>th</sup> January, 2021	VYK & BOSCH Team
2	NGO Formation, Governance and Legal Compliances	13 <sup>th</sup> January, 2021	Mr. Anjani Kumar Sharma
3	Programme and Project Development and Management	27 <sup>th</sup> January, 2021	Dr. Harish Vasishth
4	Resource Mobilisation and Fund Raising	10 <sup>th</sup> February, 2021	Dr. Pankaj Anand
5	Overview of CSR Law and NGO Partnership	24 <sup>th</sup> February, 2021	Ms. Gayatri Subramaniam
6	Writing Project Proposal for CSR and Donors	10 <sup>th</sup> March, 2021	Dr. Harish Vasishth
7	Budgeting, Financial Management and Book Keeping	24 <sup>th</sup> March, 2021	CA Subhajit Sahoo
8	Office Management, Documentation and Reporting	14 <sup>th</sup> April, 2021	Ms. Shilpi Agarwal
9	Stakeholder Engagement, Digital Presence and Communication	28 <sup>th</sup> April, 2021	Mr. Anthony Chettri
10	Action Planning and Valedictory	30 <sup>th</sup> April, 2021	VYK & BOSCH Team

## About the Modules:

### Module - 1 Introductory Plenary

This course sets out to explain the key processes that encompass the management of NGOs and covers issues such as scale of operation, accountability, transparency, etc. It helps to analyse NGO roles as project implementers, technical assistance providers, intermediaries, partners and advocates. The course focuses on NGO Formation Guidelines, Governance and its Compliance, Programme and Project Development, Fundraising, Writing Project Proposal, Corporate Social Responsibility, Budgeting and Book Keeping, Reporting and Documentation, Leadership and Communication, Stakeholder Management and Digital Communication.

Dr. OP Goel, Senior General Manager, Head- Bosch India Foundation, CSR & Skill Development, shared about BOSCH

Foundation in detail enthralled the trainees with the huge amount of work done by BOSCH. He emphasized on the fact that youth association and leadership is important for the sustainable development of the country. There is a special need to train these young minds so that they can achieve milestones in their lives.

**He emphasized on the following 5 questions by Peter Drucker, Father of Management:**

1. What is our mission?
2. Who is our customer/participant?
3. What is their need?
4. What is our plan?
5. What is the result?





*Group Photo of Distinguished Guests along with VYK Team at the Inaugural Ceremony*

### Module - 2 NGO Formation, Governance and Legal Compliances

Any NPO, Society, Trust or Company is a private body for public charitable work. Complete control and governance is private in these organizations and the activity performed benefits the beneficiary. Not-for Profit Organizations have a dominating objective of doing work without the intent of profit.

With the help of presentations, Mr. Anjani Kumar Sharma – speaker of the day, touched the key areas that empowered the participants to start a venture of their own. He started his training by giving a brief history of charitable and philanthropic work in India. He added that the history of

charity in India is very old and was inspired and carried out by certain religious groups. Constitution of India allows any charity work without being registered under any particular statute. Nothing can bar an individual to do charity activity nor does he/she require it to be registered. Registration provides an organization with cushion of benefits out of doing charitable activities, like that of tax exemption. NPOs, NGOs and CSOs are interchangeable words which are used for common intention of carrying our charitable activity under the aegis of legal entity or non-legal (oral) for the benefit of public at large.



**Dr. O.P. Goel**  
Head, Bosch India Foundation



**CA Anjani Kumar Sharma**  
Co-founder & Director SAGA Pvt. Ltd.

### Module - 3 Programme and Project Development and Management

Developing domain expertise (core programme areas, i.e., health, education, skills etc.); Project attributes; Project management cycle. Developing thematic areas or programme domain is based on organization identity, competence and expertise, impact profile and stakeholder priority and identification.

Dr. Harish Vasishth, trainer of the day began with his training session. He started by talking about the roots and sources of developing a programme in an organization.

He explained to the participants about vision, mission, and strategy; community needs and aspirations (i.e.,

development problems that needs to be addressed by the organization); resources and opportunities (i.e., human, financial or material); theory of change and impact profile. He explained that in order to develop a programme or project an individual organization needs to prepare contextual analysis, baseline survey, undertake community need assessment report and understand priority intervention areas. He elaborated the difference between programme and project. He said that a programme is long term and it can comprise of various projects. He further said that monitoring and evaluation play a vital role in project implementation and sustainability. It should be regular so that the organisation is able to bring appropriate changes in implementing a plan, he said.



**Dr. Harish Vasishth**

*Executive Director, Credibility Alliance*

### Module - 4 Resource Mobilisation and Fund Raising

Fundraising increases sustainability of the organization. Topics like mapping funding landscape, fund raising strategies and understanding donors; value chain partner to CSR/Donor- problem analysis to solution provider for fund raising, how to approach a donor etc. were covered in this module.

Dr. Pankaj Anand began with his training session by discussing about funding landscape. He added that fundraising is an ever-changing reality. The major funders in the funding landscape are Government, Corporate, Bilateral Funding agencies, INGOs, Trusts and Foundation. Others include, public fund raising, crowd funding, events

or in-kind support. The government focuses on work like rehabilitation after crises, relief, improving employment and income generating opportunities for the poor, research surveys and policy recommendations. Bilateral funding agencies and INGOs focus on initiatives that align with their program, having measurable outcomes and impact, innovative and upscaling in nature. Corporates focus on projects working on abolishing of poverty, rural development, health care, reducing inequality, environment conservation, disaster management, sports, education, safe drinking water, sanitation and vocational training.



He added that there is a growing trend towards decentralization and national NGOs need to create spaces for direct access to missions. Also, CSR funding is expanding more rapidly than ever. Dr. Pankaj Anand gave fact check to the participants about fund raising and resource mobilization. He said that funding is cyclic in nature, i.e., it can go in upward or downward direction at any point of time.

Strategy for resource mobilization can either be reactive or proactive in nature. Reactive strategy is open to call for proposal and proactive strategy includes regular and constant efforts of seeking funds. Organization strategy should be ambitious but yet realistic. No such goals should be made that cannot be fulfilled. Strategy should be created in common consensus with the board, staff and governance.



**Dr. Pankaj Anand**  
*Director- Program & Advocacy, Oxfam India*





## Module - 5 Overview of CSR Law and NGO Partnership

Understanding CSR law; Permissible activities under CSR; Understanding CSR perspective and priorities; Mapping CSR landscape. CSR is an opportunity and an open forum for revenue generation.

Discussing about the evolution of CSR, Ms. Gayatri Subramaniam talked in detail about the beginning of industrialization and the inception of CSR in India. She unfolded the CSR law and its relation with the government. The Company's Act, 2013 contains 470 sections out of

which, section 135 highlights about CSR. Section 135 calls attention to CSR law, role and responsibility of CSR committee, functions of the Board and other important details. CSR policy should include a statement containing the approach and direction given by the board of the company; recommendations of its CSR committee; guiding principles for selection, implementation and monitoring of activities; formulation of annual action plan.



**Ms. Gayatri Subramaniam**  
Director, Association of Women in Business



## Module -6 Writing Project Proposal for CSR and Donors

Understanding organization and Donor's requirements- Solution oriented approach; Framework of project proposal – professional approach to proposal writing; Writing Organizational profile.

Dr. Harish Vasishth explained that a project is a planned and deliberate intervention in the given period of time for a desired change. It acts as a tool to transform the reality to desired reality. Monitoring and evaluation, development intervention, terminal evaluation, impact assessment and timeline are some of the vital aspects for project proposal.

The proposal journey spans from articulation of objectives to implementation on ground. It includes research and

analysis, identification of potential donors, developing concept note, establishing communication, negotiate and build agreement, implementation, monitoring and report writing, project evaluation and impact assessment.

There are various methods of approaching and applying proposals to the donor. Some of which are – vendor or partner registration, registering on the company's website or funding portals, bidding or requesting for format, guidelines and template for proposal submission. Proposal could be multi-stage (technical and financial) in nature, designed specifically for large grants or single stage for small amount of grants.



**Dr. Harish Vasishth**  
Executive Director, Credibility Alliance



## Module -7 Budgeting, Financial Management and Book Keeping

The role of legal and ethics in financial management is to balance, protect and preserve stakeholders' interests. Accounting systems of NGOs, understanding budget and its management, book keeping, financial reporting and auditing were covered during this module.

Mr. Subhajt Sahoo discussed about the importance of book keeping and financial management for NGOs and CSOs. Any organization needs to have an accounting system to maintain the expenditure and liabilities. There can be two types of accounting systems – Single Entry and Double Entry. Single Entry is utilized by small organizations, as a form of informal accounting, where each and every transaction is recorded. This type of entry is not recognized by any authority and makes it difficult to find errors in the system.

In double entry system, every transaction has credit and debit sides. It is recognized and accepted by all authorities and is a formal accounting system.

Accounting could be done on Cash basis (entries for payments are made in cash only. No due payments are added) or Accrual basis (entries of committed expenditure is made. Highly recommended to employ this type of accounting to reflect true and fair view of financial position of the organization).

Book keeping is a process of recording and organizing all the business transactions. It focuses on recording day-to-day financial transactions (grants, donations and program expenses) of business. It ensures that the record of financial transactions is up-to-date and accurate.



**CA Subhajt Sahoo**  
 Founder & Principal Partner S. Sahoo & Co. Chartered Accountants

## Module - 8 Office Management, Documentation and Reporting

Office management – Productivity (efficiency and effectiveness); Systems and Policies - Leadership, Human Resources, FM, Procurement, Gender etc. Office Management as the technique of planning, organizing, coordinating and controlling office activities with a view to achieve organization's objectives and is concerned with efficient and effective performance of the office work.

Ms. Shilpi Agarwal explained Office Management as the technique of planning, organizing, coordinating and controlling office activities with a view to achieve organization's objectives and is concerned with efficient and effective performance of the office work. It helps in the achievement of targets, optimum utilisation of resources, smooth flow of work, enhancing leadership, managing change, maintains discipline and controls system.

She explained that an office is generally a building, room or other area where an organization's employee performs administrative work/ desk work in order to support and realize objects and goals of the organization. It can be virtual, home, co-working space, rented or on lease. She also explained about Management Information System (MIS), its importance in office management and documentation. A management information system is an information system used for decision-making, and for the coordination, control, analysis, and visualization of information in an organization. The study of the management information systems involves people, processes and technology in an organizational context..



**Ms. Shilpi Agarwal**  
Executive Director, SAKAR

## Module - 9 Stakeholder Engagement, Digital Presence and Communication

Mapping stakeholders and their interests; Developing stakeholder participation strategy - collaboration with other NGOs, CSR and Government; Effective communication and use of digital communication tools-website, SM tools and digital marketing. Mr. Anthony Chettri started to discuss about stakeholders, their identification and analysis. When it comes to any organizational project, all of the internal & external people as well as teams who the project will involve or affect are called its stakeholders.

To identify a stakeholder, one should keep in mind the following:

**To whom does the organization have legal obligations?**

- Who might be positively or negatively affected by the organization's decisions or activities?
- Who is likely to express concerns about the decisions and activities of the organization?
- Who has been involved in the past when similar concerns needed to be addressed?
- Who can help the organization address specific impacts?

- Who can affect the organization's ability to meet its responsibilities (negatively or positively)?
- Who would be disadvantaged if excluded from the engagement?

A stakeholder analysis is a process of identifying these people before the project begins; grouping them according to their levels of participation, interest, and influence in the project; and determining how best to involve and communicate each of these stakeholder groups throughout managing leadership, managing change, maintains discipline .

He explained in detail about Stakeholder management, its importance, stakeholder mapping and different ways to engage stakeholder in organization's decision making. Stakeholder management begins by identifying individuals and groups the project affects. Effective stakeholder engagement requires identification, effective communication and risk planning, and active collaboration. To identify a comprehensive list of stakeholders, evaluate individuals or groups who contribute to, or receive value from, the project.



**Mr. Anthony Chettri**  
Lead Organization and Program Sustainability, IGSSS.

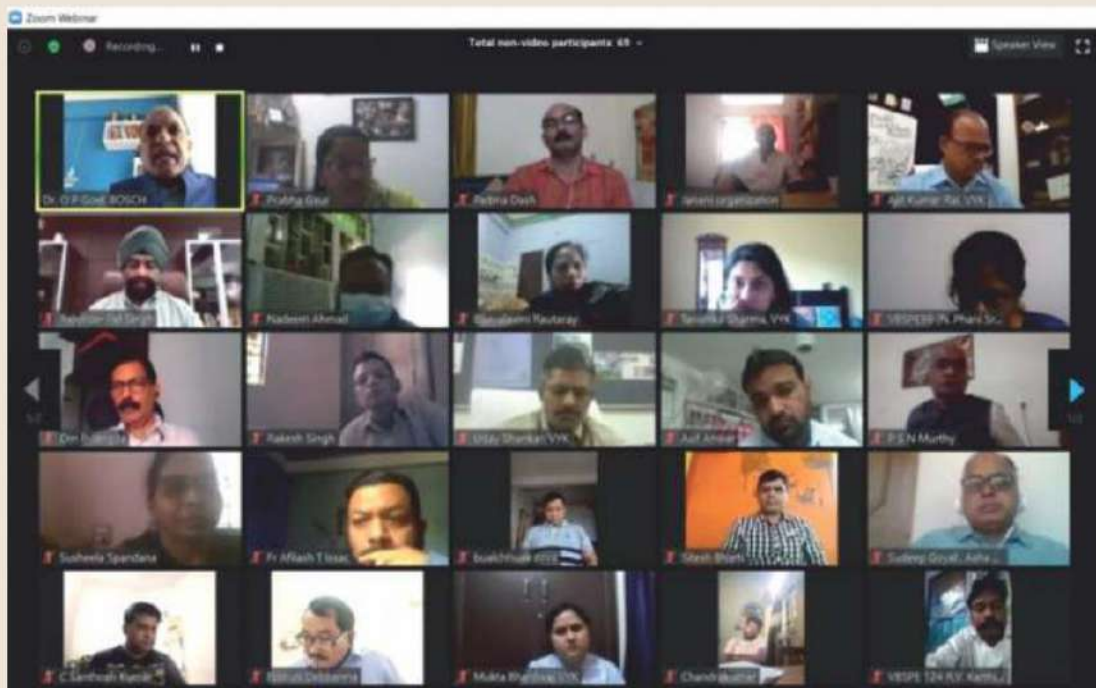
## Module - 10 Action Planning and Valedictory

Dr. OP Goel, Senior General Manager, Head- Bosch India Foundation, CSR & Skill Development, enthralled all the participants with his presence. He congratulated all the participating NGOs for successfully completing the 4-month e-certificate course. He encouraged the participants to put their learnings to use while working on the field. He called the NGOs and CSOs as 'real value adding partner.' He shared some important points that would help the NGOs to utilise the skills acquired via training.

Dr. Goel advised the participants to meticulously go through the amended CSR laws and regulations. He further advised them to compare the same with the previous laws for better understanding. Dr. Goel suggested participants to carefully understand the requirements of both NGO and Corporate and to identify their strengths and present the

same to funding agencies in a precise manner. One must know where one can deliver the most effectively and efficiently, Dr. Goel said.

•NGO must present and display their work on websites and social media platforms. Work done, achievements, financial information and annual reports should be highlighted on the organization's website. Follow transparency of work. Focus on social media campaigns as it is one of the most important tools for marketing for a large audience in less times.



Group Photo of Participants during the Valedictory Session

## INTEGRATED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (ICDP)

Vishwa Yuvak Kendra made efforts to reach to each and every person of the community. The ideology of 'Leave No One Behind' was followed by the Kendra. Children, women, elderly, migrant population, and many other individuals were severely affected by the outbreak of Coronavirus. The unavailability and inaccessibility of resources led to the exclusion of vulnerable communities. From losing livelihood to losing lives, people every day

fought their battle against the pandemic. Understanding about the severe conditions and consequences, Vishwa Yuvak Kendra reached out to the most vulnerable and marginalised communities. Awareness about the disease and vaccine was spread in some areas and food was distributed as well. Medicines were given to some communities and dry ration was also provided.

### Financial Assistance

In view of COVID-19, Vishwa Yuvak Kendra reached out to the elderly, widow and specially abled. Financial assistance was provided to the aforementioned people in addition to

women who were not financially independent. Kendra has its field presence in Vivekananda camp, Shankar camp, Bhaiya Ram camp, Hanuman Majdoor camp and RaviDas camp.

S.No.	Topic	Date	Place	No of Participant
1	Financial Assistance	5 <sup>th</sup> May, 2020	1. Vivekananda Camp 2. Shankar Camp 3. Bhaiya Ram 4. Hanuman Majdoor Camp 5. Ravi Das Camp	181
2	FANSA-Field Data Collection (Sanitation Worker) 1.Data Collection 2.Focus Group Discussion 3.Cause Study	July, 2020 August, 2020	Delhi	200
3	Distribution of Sanitary Pad	30 <sup>th</sup> October, 2020	Vivekananda Camp	75
4	Distribution of Sanitary Pad	11 <sup>th</sup> February, 2021	Bhai Ram Camp	90
5	Distribution of Sanitary Pad	19 <sup>th</sup> February, 2021	Shankar Camp	60



### Distribution Of Nutrition packets

Food, high in iron and other vitamins was distributed among the community people. Children, women, men and elderly were the focus group for distribution. As the communities are deprived of health services and nutritious

food, Kendra took an initiative to provide them with the same. People living in Vivekananda camp, Shankar camp and Bhaiya Ram camp were provided with this service.



*Distribution of Nutrition Packets*

S. No.	Topic	Date	Place	No of Participant
1	Nutrition Packet Distribution	22 <sup>nd</sup> July, 2020	Vivekananda Camp	560
2	Nutrition Packet Distribution	22 <sup>nd</sup> July, 2020	Shankar Camp	440
3	Nutrition Packet Distribution	23 <sup>rd</sup> July, 2020	Bhaiya Ram Camp	770

### FANSA Field Data Collection

Vishwa Yuvak Kendra collected data about the working conditions of the sanitation workers. Sanitation and Hygiene are the two most important aspects in the context of pandemic. VYK along with FANSA undertook the data collection activity to understand about the working

conditions of sanitation warriors. Focus group discussions were used as a tool for extracting information and data. Case studies were also written.



### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Vishwa Yuvak Kendra organized webinars to recognize and appreciate the hardships and accomplishments of women around the globe. It focused to discuss and find solutions about the spread differences in various fields- the pay difference between men and women, discrimination of

women seats in parliament around the world, lack of awareness for women education and many more. The eminent Speakers made efforts to make the voices of various women heard, on local issues and influence the outcome of decisions that affect themselves and their communities.



*FANSA-Field Data Collection in progress*

S. No.	Topic	Date	Place	No of Participant
1	FANSA-Field Data Collection (Sanitation Worker) 1. Data Collection 2. Focus Group Discussion 3. Cause Study	July, 2020 August, 2020	Vivekananda Camp	200



### Menstrual Hygiene Management

Poor menstrual hygiene, lack of access to education and effective Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) measures and stigma devoid millions of menstruators access to safe hygiene practices in India. This further prevents them from realizing their potential, hampering their education and work. During this pandemic it was evident that due to economic crisis, access to Menstrual Hygiene (MH) products has reduced. As affordability and

accessibility become challenges, MH products should become part of essential items in COVID response. The objective of the campaign was to spread awareness on issue of MHM, to engage more menstruators to remove barriers from thoughts and develop good MH habits and to distribute reusable sanitary kits (MoonCatcher Kits) to them.



Distribution of Sanitary Pads

S No.	Topic	Date	Place	No of Participant
1	Distribution of Sanitary Pad	30 <sup>th</sup> October, 2020	Vivekananda Camp	560
2	Distribution of Sanitary Pad	11 <sup>th</sup> February, 2020	Bhai Ram Camp	90
3	Distribution of Sanitary Pad	19 <sup>th</sup> March, 2021	Shankar Camp	60



## DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Vishwa Yuvak Kendra believes that youth are the core constituency of any country. It is important for a nation to create an enabling environment for the youth so that they can become future responsible citizens. An enabling environment requires to focus upon areas that are most vital for the holistic development of the youth. For this very purpose, Vishwa Yuvak Kendra came out with a solution of creating e-platforms for dissemination of information. These e-platforms are being utilised to reach out to a large population of youth, globally, with information, facts, news and policies. These platforms are a hub of knowledge. Reaching out to diverse constituencies with correct and ample knowledge in the motto of VYK's digital platforms.

VYK has been constantly working on fulfilling the upcoming needs of digitalization. The outbreak of COVID-19 has forced the country to peek into the future and prepare for the same. The nation has witnessed high dependency on the digital platforms in all spheres of life; be it education, direct financial transactions, e-healthcare, communication, etc. It has also helped to realise the inadequate capacity of various actors as well as the need for building strong platforms and capacities to handle and manage the digital world. In the context of CSOs, the major compliances and legal obligations are being digitalized. Large number of CSOs, particularly from the grass roots, had difficulties in accessing and managing such digital requirements and presence.

During the pandemic, VYK has helped many CSOs to co-host their events through VYK's digital platforms. VYK has been continuously organizing various learning, training events through different digital platforms. Kendra also emphasised the need of digitalisation of the CSOs in the changing context of CSR, FCRA, ITR and the proposed social stock exchange. Strategically VYK is in the process of developing a Digital Academy, E-Certificate courses, Audio-Visual Documentation Centre, Digital Library, etc to meet the challenges of tomorrow on the one hand and building digital capacities of CSOs on the other.

During the year, Vishwa Yuvak Kendra has made efforts to escalate its digital reach and presence through major social media platforms. Currently, VYK has reached more than 10,000 CSOs. More than 50 video documentaries on various topics like resource mobilisation, role of voluntary sector in response to COVID-19, hunger, stress management, leadership and motivational talk for youth, etc., have been created and shared on the social media platforms of Vishwa Yuvak Kendra. A 4-month e-certificate course namely, Samarthyaa Pariyojana, was created and run successfully by Vishwa Yuvak Kendra in collaboration with Bosch India. The training course focused to capacitate the NPOs with the knowledge of NPO governance and legal compliance. A dedicated team has been formed at VYK which looks after the operation and promotion of the digital platforms. The team creates activities, training, seminars and webinars for the youth that could be reached via e-platforms.





**Vishwa Yuvak Kendra**

*(A Unit of Indian Youth Centres Trust)*

*Empowering Youth for Sustainable Development*

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SCAN TO ACCESS  
THE DIGITAL VERSION

