

ASHA

In this feature, we shine a spotlight on ASHA, a rural-based developmental organization committed to empowering marginalized communities. Through initiatives spanning healthcare, education, and sustainable livelihoods, ASHA is paving the way for socio-economic progress in rural India. With a focus on community engagement and capacity-building, ASHA not only addresses immediate needs but also works towards building resilient communities capable of driving their own development. Join us as we uncover the inspiring story behind ASHA's mission and its transformative impact on communities across the country.

Amcha Ghar

In this edition, we delve into the impactful initiatives of Amcha Ghar, a non-profit organization dedicated to transforming the lives of underprivileged communities. From providing access to quality education to fostering sustainable livelihoods, Amcha Ghar exemplifies the power of grassroots efforts in driving positive change. Through strategic partnerships and innovative programs, Amcha Ghar has become a beacon of hope for marginalized individuals, empowering them to break free from the cycle of poverty and build brighter futures for themselves and their families.

Learn more about these stories on page number 3 & 4.

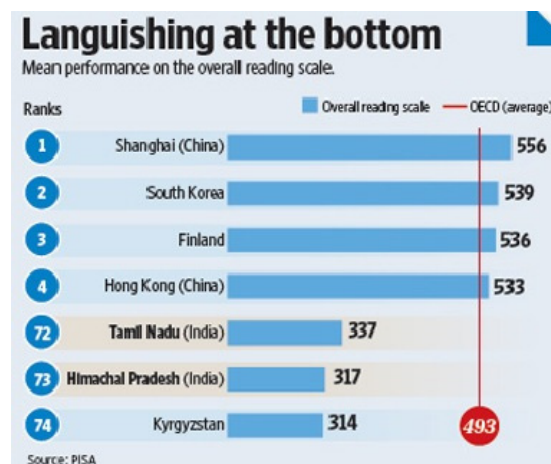
India's rank in the world education index - How to catch up and excel

According to UNESCO education index is a component of Human Development Index and it is measured by combining average years of schooling for adults with expected years of schooling for children and each has 50% weight. In the year 2018, when the Index was published India's rank was 110 out of 161 nations. India's rank was 110 out of 161 nations and our neighbour Sri Lanka was 54th rank.

In 2012 PISA – Program for International Student Assessment, ranked India at 72 (TN) and 73 (HP) out of 74 participating countries in the category of 'Mean Performance in the Overall Reading Scale'. Reading scale is the baseline, and average 81% of the students of the world were above the baseline while only 17% of the students from India had proficiency in reading so as to be productive in future. Similar trends were noticed in Maths and Science proficiency too. After this Government of India decided not to participate in PISA rankings questioning the veracity and neutrality of the survey.

Thus internationally India and its students don't figure in top world rankings. Besides, India is home to the highest illiterate population in the world. The malaise can be eradicated with a few quick steps the Government, Private sector, NGOs, and Civil Society take by working together to eradicate low quality education and low literacy levels in the following ways:

Depend on Best quality teachers: It is proven beyond doubt that good teachers produce great results even from average students. However good teachers are rare to find and hard to retain. Besides a small percent of schools in India are single teacher classrooms. Therefore, we must find viable alternatives.



Join JEET by becoming a member

If you are passionate about making an impact in the education sector, we encourage you to join JEET today and become a member of the movement to transform education in India. As a member, you will have the opportunity to work with a network of NGOs, governments, organizations, institutions, and individuals who are deeply committed to promoting quality education for all.

To become a member of JEET, simply scan the QR Code below.

Join us today and let's work together to eliminate educational inequality and promote quality education for all.



Jeet Edu



jeet_edu



jeet_edu

Train teachers: Train teachers and make them top quality. This needs not only financial resources but non-financial resources like high quality content – offline and digital including videos. Mainstream teachers can be supported by volunteers supplementing their efforts.

Provide high quality content: Top quality content whether online or offline provides a great opportunity for teachers and trainers to scale up performance and produce outstanding results among the marginalised or disadvantaged children.

The private sector has used all these and more to cater to the creamy layer of the society, namely those students who spend big money to obtain good quality education. Thus Government through its inefficiencies has created a 32 Billion Dollar education industry that serves the rich. How about the marginalised? There are 19 crore children out of the 26 crores who study in Government schools and budget schools (low cost). This is the area where NGOs and civil society should support Governments to achieve good results if not world class outcomes. And JEET is committed to providing best digital resources to these marginalised students.

Parivaar Receives Mahavir Excellence Award for Outstanding Contributions

We are thrilled to announce that Parivaar has been honored with the prestigious 'Mahavir Excellence Award,' marking a significant milestone in our journey of service and compassion. This esteemed national award recognizes organizations and individuals for their exceptional contributions to society, and we are deeply humbled to join the ranks of past recipients such as Dr. Badrinath of Sankara Netralaya and Mahatma Gandhi Hospital Sevagram.

As we celebrate two decades of dedication to the welfare of underprivileged communities, Parivaar's commitment to holistic development has evolved to encompass a broader spectrum of initiatives, including healthcare and medical services. While our core focus remains on child care, education, and nutrition, the pressing needs observed at the grassroots level prompted us to expand our efforts in the health sector.

In recent years, Parivaar has launched three impactful programs in the health and medical space:

24x7 Ambulance Service: With a fleet of 94 ambulances currently in operation, this life-saving initiative has provided critical assistance to over 2.25 lakh individuals, with a significant percentage of cases resulting in life-saving interventions.

Mobile Health Clinics: Our network of 13 mobile health clinics has been instrumental in delivering essential healthcare services to remote villages, reaching over 10 lakh people and addressing a wide range of medical needs.

Vision Restoration Program: Catering to the needs of poor and vulnerable elderly individuals, this program has made remarkable strides in restoring vision through 4200 camps and 61 thousand eye surgeries, positively impacting the lives of more than 5.5 lakh individuals.

Follow and support Parivaar's work at <https://parivaar.org/>



ASHA: Empowering Rural Communities Through Education

In the heartlands of rural India in Orissa, where opportunities often seem scarce and dreams seem distant, ASHA shines as a beacon of hope and empowerment. Established on 21st June 1988, ASHA – the Autonomous, Secular, Humanitarian Association – stands committed to uplifting underprivileged and marginalized communities through the transformative power of education.

Addressing Educational Disparities: Education lies at the heart of ASHA's mission, recognizing it as a fundamental right and a potent tool for social and economic empowerment. With a deep understanding of the educational disparities plaguing rural and tribal populations, ASHA has embarked on a multifaceted approach to bridge the gap and unlock the potential of every child.

ASHA's primary initiative is the establishment of schools and learning centers in underserved rural areas. These institutions serve as vibrant hubs of learning, providing children with access to quality education right in their communities. By bringing education closer to home, ASHA eliminates barriers such as distance and transportation costs, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to learn and grow. ASHA also prioritizes initiatives aimed at promoting gender equality in education. By providing scholarships, menstrual hygiene education, and advocacy for girls' education rights, ASHA empowers girls to break the cycle of poverty and discrimination, paving the way for a brighter future for themselves and their communities.

Empowering Teachers and Promoting Holistic Development: ASHA understands that the quality of education is directly linked to the caliber of teachers. To this end, the organization invests in the training and professional development of educators, equipping them with the skills and knowledge needed to deliver effective and engaging instruction. Beyond academic learning, ASHA is committed to fostering the holistic development of children. This includes initiatives aimed at promoting physical health, mental well-being, and socio-emotional skills. Through sports programs, health camps, and counseling services, ASHA ensures that children receive the support they need to thrive in all aspects of their lives.

Harnessing Technology for Learning: In today's digital age, ASHA embraces technology as a powerful tool for enhancing learning outcomes. The organization leverages digital resources, such as educational apps, e-learning platforms, and multimedia content, to supplement traditional teaching methods and enrich the educational experience of students.

Community Engagement and Parental Involvement: ASHA understands that education is a collaborative effort that requires the involvement of the entire community. The organization actively engages parents and community members in the education process, fostering a culture of support and accountability. Through parent-teacher associations, community meetings, and outreach programs, ASHA ensures that education remains a priority for all stakeholders.

ASHA's dedication to empowering rural communities through education is both inspiring and impactful. By establishing schools, empowering teachers, promoting holistic development, and harnessing technology, ASHA is transforming the educational landscape in rural India. As we look to the future, let us continue to support ASHA in its mission to build a brighter, more equitable future for all through the power of education.





Empowering Communities: The Inspiring Journey of Amcha Ghar

In the heart of Thane district, amidst the bustling streets and lively communities, lies a beacon of hope and transformation – Amcha Ghar. Founded in 1996 by the visionary Agatha Sushila Anthony Dias, Amcha Ghar, which translates to “Our Home,” stands as a testament to the power of compassion and collective action. Registered as a non-profit organization under the Societies Registration Act 1860 and The Bombay Public Trust Act 1950, Amcha Ghar has been steadfast in its commitment to uplifting the underprivileged sections of society. Since its inception, Amcha Ghar has been on a mission to create a positive impact on a significant scale, aligning its efforts with the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Through strategic partnerships with government bodies, corporations, and fellow non-profits, the organization has championed causes ranging from zero hunger and good health to gender equality and sustainable livelihoods. With a focus on key initiatives, Amcha Ghar has touched the lives of over 14,72,054 individuals directly, fostering sustainable change across diverse geographies and themes.



At the heart of Amcha Ghar’s initiatives lies a profound belief in the transformative power of education. Recognizing that access to quality education is a fundamental right, the organization has pioneered efforts to provide English medium education to the grassroots level of society. In 2002, Amcha Ghar established its own English medium high school, followed by a junior college of Arts, Commerce & Science in 2018. These institutions have become beacons of hope for underprivileged children in villages like Uttan and its neighboring communities. One of the key challenges faced by children in these villages was access to education due to the distance of the school and the associated travel costs. Understanding this barrier, Amcha Ghar embarked on a mission to bring education to their doorstep.



Today, these schools serve as vibrant hubs of learning, nurturing the intellectual curiosity and holistic development of over 400 students. Alongside education, Amcha Ghar recognizes the importance of nutrition in ensuring the well-being of children. Nutritious meals are provided regularly, ensuring that every child has the fuel they need to thrive academically and physically. However, Amcha Ghar’s commitment to education goes beyond bricks and mortar. The organization has identified the need for modern infrastructure to facilitate digital learning and enhance educational outcomes. Recognizing the transformative potential of technology, Amcha Ghar envisions the establishment of digital classrooms equipped with state-of-the-art facilities. These digital classrooms will not only enhance the learning experience but also bridge the gap between urban and rural education standards, empowering students to compete on a level playing field.



Moreover, Amcha Ghar’s impact extends beyond formal education to marginalized communities, such as the Maharashtrian Hindu Warli tribe. These communities face multifaceted challenges, including inadequate access to education, healthcare, and basic amenities. In response, Amcha Ghar has initiated comprehensive programs to provide education, nutrition, clothing, medical care, and other essential support services to these vulnerable populations.

In essence, Amcha Ghar embodies the spirit of compassionate activism, striving to create a more equitable and inclusive society for all. Through its unwavering dedication, innovative programs, and collaborative approach, the organization continues to inspire positive change and transform lives. As we look towards the future, let us stand in solidarity with Amcha Ghar, our home of hope and opportunity.

Follow and support Amcha Ghar’s work at <https://www.amchaghar.org/>

Member organizations of JEET

Vipla Foundation

www.viplafoundation.org

Activities : Education Initiatives, Skill Development Programs, Community Development

VKRCE Trust

YouTube@MathsMadeSweet

Activites : Education, Digital Video Library, Training.

Ramakrishna Sarada Samiti

www.rkssngo.org

Activities : Education, Women's Empowerment and Health Camps

National Association for the Blind

www.nabindia.org.in

Activities : Prevention of blindness and low vision, Education, Talking books, Braille press, Vocational training, etc.

Bombay Community Public Trust

www.bcpt.org.in

Activities : Educational scholarships, medical relief, development of some training manuals and films, conducting NGO development activities and projects through NGOs

Shree Samarth Vyayam Mandir

<https://ssvmdadar.com/>

Activities : Sports Training & Certification and Yoga

MSP Foundation

<http://www.msp-edu.org/>

Activities : Educating, uplifting and strengthening through schools including the villages of Ambavade and Gursale, in Central Maharashtra.

Muktangan Education Trust

<https://muktanganedu.org/>

Activities : Seven Mumbai Municipal schools Integrated with a Teacher Education Center, Outreach through Collaborative Learning, Research and Advocacy

Empowering Women: Rise in Girl Students Pursuing Higher Education in Rural India



More girl students pursuing higher education in state

In the vast expanse of rural India, a profound transformation is taking place as an increasing number of young women defy societal norms and pursue higher education. This shift marks a significant milestone in the journey towards gender equality and empowerment in rural communities across the country. Over the years, rural India has witnessed a notable surge in the enrollment of girl students in colleges and universities, marking a departure from traditional gender roles and expectations. This rise in female participation in higher education holds immense significance for rural communities, where access to education has historically been limited, especially for girls.

The empowerment of women through education in rural India represents a paradigm shift in societal attitudes and values. It challenges long-standing beliefs about the role of women in society and underscores the importance of investing in their potential and aspirations. At the heart of this transformation are concerted efforts by educational institutions, government agencies, and grassroots organizations to promote gender-inclusive policies and programs. Scholarships, financial assistance, and mentorship initiatives have emerged as critical enablers, providing girls from rural backgrounds with the support they need to pursue their educational dreams.

Moreover, the rise of educational institutions offering specialized courses and vocational training tailored to the needs of rural women has opened doors to new opportunities and possibilities. From agriculture and healthcare to entrepreneurship and technology, these educational avenues empower rural women to contribute meaningfully to their communities and the economy at large. Education in rural India goes beyond academic pursuits; it represents a catalyst for social and economic transformation. As more women gain access to education and skills development, the ripple effects are felt across communities, leading to improved livelihoods, enhanced social mobility, and greater gender equality.

However, the journey towards gender equality in rural India is not without its challenges. Deep-rooted patriarchal attitudes, economic disparities, and infrastructural constraints continue to pose obstacles to women's empowerment and educational attainment. Addressing these challenges requires a multifaceted approach, encompassing policy reforms, investment in infrastructure, and community engagement. The rise of girl students pursuing higher education in rural India signifies a momentous shift towards inclusivity and progress. By empowering women through education and opportunity, rural India is not only transforming individual lives but also laying the foundation for a more equitable and prosperous future. As we celebrate these strides, let us redouble our efforts to ensure that every girl in rural India has the chance to fulfill her potential and contribute to the collective advancement of society.