

**Alohomora**

In today's edition, we highlight the impactful work of the Alohomora Education Foundation, which has reached over 70,000 students from underserved communities. Through creative, student-centered tools like interactive workbooks and career videos, Alohomora enables students to explore their potential and make informed decisions about their futures. Their teacher-driven model ensures the sustainability of their programs, providing scalable support for students across Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttarakhand.

**Samarpan Welfare Association**

In today's edition, we also feature Samarpan Welfare Association, founded by Rajesh in 2011. Focused on tribal regions of Jharkhand, Samarpan has made significant strides in providing education and healthcare to marginalized communities. Their evening schools and healthcare camps have improved the quality of life for many, with a long-term vision to eliminate dropout rates and expand their reach to even more children and families in need.

Learn more about these stories on page number 3 & 6.

**Empowering Education in India Through Thoughtful AI Integration**

In India, failing to embrace AI in school education risks widening the global knowledge and skills gap. Globally, AI is revolutionizing education by enabling personalized learning, bridging language barriers, and providing real-time feedback. Countries like the U.S., China, and Finland are leveraging AI to enhance educational equity and innovation. In contrast, India's reluctance to integrate AI into its schools could leave its students ill-prepared for future job markets, where AI literacy will be essential.

**India's Challenges**

Low 4G penetration, a significant digital divide, and poor rural connectivity—exacerbate this gap. Students in underserved areas risk falling further behind, unable to access resources or adaptive AI-driven tools that could cater to their unique learning needs. This perpetuates the cycle of inequality, as urban students with better access gain a competitive edge.

**Empowering Kids in Low-Connectivity Environments**

To empower children despite these constraints, India can adopt offline AI tools preloaded with adaptive learning materials tailored to the curriculum. Solar-powered smart classrooms and community-based digital hubs can ensure access in rural areas. Low-cost AI devices, supported by vernacular content, can help bridge the language barrier. Government and private partnerships should prioritize infrastructure improvements, while teachers must be trained to integrate AI tools effectively.



## 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.



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**Scalable Action Plans** : Addressing the AI revolution in education in a resource-poor country like India does not require billion-dollar investments. Instead, well-thought-out, scalable, and sustainable actions can make a significant impact. Here are key steps:

1. **Leveraging Existing Infrastructure:** Repurpose community spaces like libraries, schools, and panchayat halls into digital learning hubs with minimal investment. Deploy low-cost, solar-powered devices preloaded with AI-enabled adaptive learning tools, especially in rural and low-connectivity areas.
2. **Content Localization and Accessibility:** Develop vernacular AI-powered learning platforms to cater to diverse linguistic groups. Partner with edtech firms to create lightweight, offline-first AI applications that require minimal internet bandwidth.
3. **Teacher Training and Capacity Building:** Empower teachers through AI literacy programs and toolkits, enabling them to integrate AI into teaching methods. Use AI for teacher support, such as grading and creating personalized lesson plans.
4. **Partnership Models:** Encourage public-private collaborations to share resources and expertise in AI-enabled education. NGOs and local enterprises can be mobilized to facilitate digital literacy and infrastructure in underserved areas.
5. **Innovative Connectivity Solutions:** Use satellite internet solutions like Starlink for remote regions. Implement community-based models like mobile digital labs and Wi-Fi hotspots in villages.
6. **Policy and Regulation:** Focus on AI adoption in government schools by integrating AI modules into existing e-learning platforms like DIKSHA. Ensure policies promote equitable AI access rather than large-scale hardware purchases.
7. **India's challenges call for strategic prioritization over massive expenditure.** By scaling these pragmatic solutions, the country can embrace AI in education effectively and equitably.

## ***Towards Achieving School Excellence: A Webinar Series on Leadership, Pedagogy, and Assessments***

Muktangan is hosting a series of insightful webinars in 2025 aimed at transforming education and driving school excellence. Titled "Towards Achieving School Excellence," the series will cover three key themes: Leadership – Empowering Communities for Sustained School Excellence on 28th January, Shaping Learning Environments – Where Pedagogy Meets Excellence on 25th February, and Assessments for Excellence – Enhancing Assessments Towards Fine-Tuning Pedagogy on 18th March. These sessions feature distinguished speakers such as Elizabeth Mehta, founder of Muktangan Education Trust, and other prominent leaders in education. Participants will gain strategies for leadership, innovative pedagogy, and assessment improvements to create inclusive and future-ready schools.

Efforts to transform the education sector go beyond just teaching children; they focus on creating a comprehensive ecosystem that empowers leaders, teachers, and all stakeholders, ensuring a sustainable and inclusive future for learning.

# Unlocking Potential: The Journey and Impact of Alohomora Education Foundation

Education, when done right, can be transformative. It can light the path for students, enabling them to discover their potential and pursue their dreams with clarity and purpose. Alohomora Education Foundation has been a pioneer in redefining this transformative experience, particularly for students from underserved communities. Since its inception in 2016, the foundation's program has reached more than 70,000 students, empowering them to think critically, explore deeply, and make informed choices about their futures.

Alohomora doesn't merely offer career guidance—it provides a complete toolkit for self-discovery and learning. The organization's emphasis on creativity, context, and student engagement makes its programs stand out.

## Tools That Spark Curiosity

One of Alohomora's most impactful innovations lies in the tools it uses to engage students—beautifully designed workbooks, visually rich career cards, and interactive learning modules. These tools aren't just functional; they're exciting, colorful, and designed to ignite curiosity in young minds.

The workbooks are a standout feature. The career booklets are designed to be bright and engaging, offering industry-specific information to help students explore diverse career opportunities. They are interactive and student-centered, featuring activities and reflective exercises to empower students in their career journey. Unlike traditional, text-heavy materials, these are crafted with vibrant graphics, infographics, and storytelling techniques that resonate with students. Each workbook is a mix of reflective exercises, self-assessment activities, and engaging content that encourages exploration. Students aren't just filling out worksheets; they're building a roadmap for their aspirations.

For instance, one section of the workbook might guide students through identifying their strengths and interests, while another helps them understand how these align with different career opportunities. Interactive elements, such as matchmaking and mind mapping which are interactive.

Beyond workbooks, Alohomora's career videos are a hit among students. Featuring relatable narratives and accessible language, these videos demystify careers in everything from agriculture to animation, ensuring students can see themselves in diverse roles. These tools create an environment where learning feels less like a chore and more like an adventure.

## A Thoughtful Beginning

Alohomora's journey began with a deep desire to create lasting change in the education system. Initially, the foundation worked directly with students through a variety of interventions, helping them understand their potential and connect with opportunities that matched their aspirations. Early on, the organization focused on creating a direct impact by interacting with students and developing programs tailored to their needs.

This phase laid the groundwork for the foundation's core philosophy: students should be empowered to explore their paths rather than simply follow predefined ones. Through trial, iteration, and feedback, Alohomora evolved its approach, shifting from standalone interventions to creating systemic change in collaboration with government schools and communities.





## The Shift to Teacher-Driven Impact

As the foundation grew, it recognized that to reach thousands of students sustainably, it needed to move beyond direct interventions. This realization marked a strategic pivot to a teacher-driven model, which has since become the backbone of Alohomora's work.

By training teachers to deliver career guidance programs, Alohomora ensured that its impact could scale without losing depth. Teachers, with their established relationships and understanding of their students, are uniquely positioned to guide them effectively. The foundation equips these educators with meticulously designed curricula and resources that include lesson plans, activity guides, and multimedia content.

This teacher-driven model, combined with partnerships with district and state governments, allows Alohomora to embed its programs seamlessly into the education system. Today, students and 600+ teachers across Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand benefit from programs that are contextually relevant and sustainable.

## Contextual Relevance: Rooted in Realities

Alohomora's programs stand out for their contextual sensitivity. The organization doesn't take a one-size-fits-all approach. Instead, it designs its content to reflect the socio-economic realities of the regions it serves. For example, in rural districts, career guidance focuses on industries like agriculture, dairy, and small-scale manufacturing, while also introducing students to emerging opportunities in technology and services. This grounding in local realities ensures that students see the guidance as actionable and relevant to their lives.

Collaborating with local NGOs, district administrations, and community leaders, Alohomora ensures that its programs are well-integrated into the local ecosystem. This approach not only makes the programs more effective but also fosters a sense of ownership among stakeholders.

## Beyond Classrooms: Piloting Community Programs

While schools remain the primary focus, Alohomora has also ventured into community-based models to extend its reach. Partnering with organizations like SwaTaleem, the foundation has initiated career exploration programs in community centers. These initiatives aim to reach students who might have dropped out of formal education or face barriers to attending school regularly.

Community programs leverage the enthusiasm of local champions, who act as facilitators and mentors. These champions are trained to deliver guidance in informal yet impactful ways, ensuring that every student, regardless of their circumstances, gets a chance to explore their potential.



## Lessons from Alohomora's Journey

Alohomora's success offers valuable insights for educators, policymakers, and organizations:

**Engagement Through Design:** The visually appealing, interactive tools used by Alohomora highlight the importance of engaging students in creative ways. Aesthetics and design can play a pivotal role in making learning enjoyable.

**Empowering Educators:** Training teachers ensures that programs are not only scalable but also deeply embedded in the education system. Teachers are the key to sustaining long-term impact.

**Local Relevance:** By tailoring content to the local context, Alohomora ensures that its programs resonate with students and are practically applicable.

**Blending Fun with Function:** Tools like workbooks and videos demonstrate that education can be both meaningful and fun, capturing students' imaginations while equipping them with essential skills.

**Collaboration for Scale:** Partnering with governments and community organizations allows Alohomora to scale its programs without losing sight of its core mission.

### A Vision for the Future

As Alohomora continues to expand, its vision remains rooted in unlocking the potential of every student. Its innovative tools, adaptable models, and commitment to self-discovery have redefined what career guidance can look like.

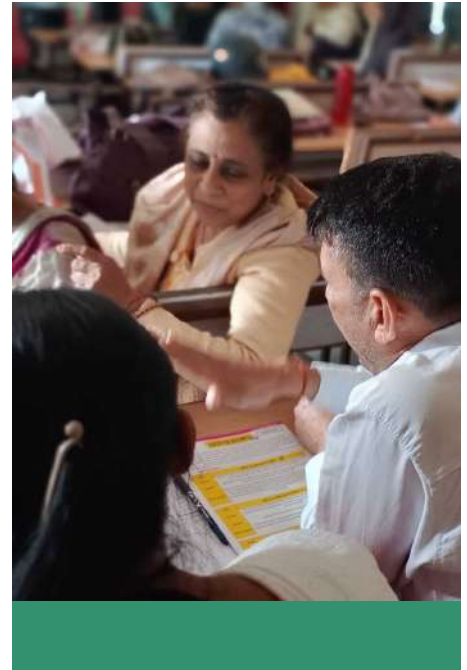
Through its after-school support team, Alohomora connects students across all its projects to real-world opportunities, including courses, jobs, and internships. The team conducts informative sessions about educational institutions, skilling workshops on resume building, LinkedIn profile creation, and leadership development, ensuring students are prepared for their futures. To date, 100 students have successfully completed a skilling course, reflecting the program's tangible impact.

The foundation's journey serves as a reminder that education is not about giving students answers but equipping them to ask the right questions—and empowering them to seek their own answers. By nurturing curiosity, creativity, and confidence, Alohomora is not just shaping careers; it's shaping lives.

In the words of one of their students:

***"I didn't just learn what I want to do; I learned how to think about my future."***

This is the true power of education, and it's what Alohomora delivers every day.



## The Journey of Samarpan Welfare Association: A Vision for Education and Healthcare



In 2011, Rajesh took a leap of faith that would forever change his life and the lives of countless others. A banker in Bhopal, Rajesh's journey into social work was sparked by an encounter with P.V. Rajagopal, the founder of Ekta Parishad. Inspired by Rajagopal's commitment to social justice, Rajesh quit his banking job in 2009 and set out on a path to make a difference. His passion culminated in the formation of Samarpan Trust in 2011, a testament to his dedication to uplift marginalized communities.

Rajesh began his mission in the tribal regions of Jharkhand, where he witnessed stark inequalities in education and healthcare. Despite the challenges of working in these remote districts, including a harrowing experience of being captured by Naxals in December 2012, Rajesh persisted. His resolve remained unshaken, driven by a vision of transformative change.

Education became one of the trust's cornerstones. Rajesh observed how children in slums and tribal areas, often dropouts or neglected by their families, were deprived of opportunities to learn. To address this, he launched the Samarpan Sandhyakalin Pathshala—an evening tuition school aimed at supporting these children. Through his extensive network, Rajesh connected with students and their families, often reaching them via self-help groups (SHGs). This grassroots approach enabled him to create a safe and nurturing space where children could rediscover the joy of learning.



Healthcare, another pressing concern in the tribal districts, also became a focal point of Samarpan's efforts. The absence of nearby hospitals left communities vulnerable to preventable illnesses. Rajesh initiated weekly health camps with the help of local doctors, bringing essential medical services to areas otherwise neglected. These camps provided critical care and built trust within the community, setting the foundation for a long-term impact. Rajesh's work extends beyond immediate relief. His commitment to sustainability and inclusion is reflected in his goals for the future. By 2025, he envisions institutionalizing the evening schools, ensuring that every child in the region has access to education. His ultimate aim is to eradicate dropout rates in these districts entirely by 2030, integrating all children into mainstream education.



The story of Samarpan Trust is not just one of perseverance but also of innovation and hope. Rajesh's journey underscores the power of grassroots efforts to address systemic challenges. From evening schools to healthcare camps, his initiatives demonstrate how targeted interventions can transform lives. For those inspired by Rajesh's work, there are lessons to be learned:

**Persistence in the face of adversity:** Rajesh's ability to overcome personal risks and systemic obstacles exemplifies the resilience required in social work.

**Community-driven solutions:** Engaging with local groups like SHGs and leveraging grassroots networks ensures that interventions are relevant and sustainable.

**Holistic vision:** Tackling interconnected issues, such as education and healthcare, highlights the need for a comprehensive approach to community development.

The journey of Samarpan Trust reminds us that meaningful change often begins with one person's courage and vision. Rajesh's story invites us all to reflect on how we can contribute to building a more equitable society—one step, one school, one community at a time.



## Member organizations of JEET

### Vipla Foundation

[www.viplafoundation.org](http://www.viplafoundation.org)

**Activities :** Education Initiatives, Skill Development Programs, Community Development

### VKRCE Trust

[YouTube@MathsMadeSweet](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvKRCe)

**Activities :** Education, Digital Video Library, Training.

### Ramakrishna Sarada Samiti

[www.rkssngo.org](http://www.rkssngo.org)

**Activities :** Education, Women's Empowerment and Health Camps

### National Association for the Blind

[www.nabindia.org.in](http://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](http://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

## JEET: A Game-Changer for Education in India

The launch of JEET (Joint Efforts for Educational Transformation) represents a significant leap forward in addressing the educational challenges faced by underprivileged students in India. This initiative, created through the collaboration of various NGOs, aims to bridge the gap between private and government schools by providing free, high-quality video-based learning content. Over 1 lakh videos are now available across multiple state boards, allowing students from Class KG to 12 to access a vast range of educational resources.

The vision behind JEET was born out of necessity—recognizing that millions of students in government schools often face limitations in accessing quality education. The digital divide became even more evident during the COVID-19 pandemic, which exacerbated the disparities in learning opportunities. In response, JEET was designed to not only provide free academic content but also to make it accessible, engaging, and tailored to the needs of students across diverse regions and languages.

The platform doesn't just offer videos; it also features tests, quizzes, and assessments to track students' progress, helping them to learn at their own pace. For teachers, JEET is a powerful tool for creating a personalized learning experience for their students, enabling them to monitor performance, give feedback, and enhance engagement. By integrating AI into the platform, we are working to make learning even more effective and scalable.

Looking ahead, our goal is clear: to expand JEET's reach to over 10 lakh students across more than 10,000 government schools in its first phase. With a mobile app and AI-powered curation on the horizon, we're committed to evolving the platform to meet the needs of both educators and students.

But the work doesn't end there. As we continue to partner with government schools and educational institutions, our focus will be on creating a robust ecosystem where every child has the tools to succeed. The impact of this initiative is not just in the resources it provides, but in the lives it touches—empowering underserved children with quality education and creating opportunities for them to overcome socio-economic barriers.

This is just the beginning. We are determined to make JEET a model for inclusive and equitable education that can be replicated and scaled across the country. We are excited about the potential this platform holds in transforming the future of education in India.

