

NEWS UPDATE

MAY 2023



“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically.”

- MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.



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INTRODUCTION

HISTORY OF M S INTERNATIONAL, INC.

Manu and Rika Shah founded MSI in 1975, in the basement of their home in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. MSI is now the largest importer and distributor in the world of Premium Surfaces including granite, marble, porcelain and ceramic tiles, slate, travertine, limestone and other natural stone products from 37 countries. Most notably, MSI provided the granite for the Vietnam Memorial in DC.

Manu and Rika Shah established Sarva Mangal Family Trust (Sarva Mangal means 'let all be happy' in Sanskrit) over 20 years ago with compassion as their driving force for philanthropy. Manu's vision for SMFT is to act as a catalyst, challenge status quo, nurture passionate change-makers and support leapfrogging ideas that are scalable and sustainable. Today, all members from the Shah family are involved in social impact initiatives that are undertaken by SMFT. Manu supports VOSAP – Voice of Specially Abled People, which has created over 10,000 change makers and rated over 18,000 buildings rated for accessibility. He also supports Lend a hand India, which provides digital vocational training to over 300,000 students in 20,000 schools.

In 2007, Mr. Manu Shah was named Ernst & Young's national "Entrepreneur of the Year" in the distribution, manufacturing, and security category.

ABOUT SARVA MANGAL FAMILY TRUST

Established in 1994 by the Founders of M S International, Inc. The mission of the Sarva Mangal Family Trust is to improve and strengthen the health, education and wellness of communities and help them prepare for global jobs of the 21st century. Sarva Mangal is a Sanskrit word which means "Goodness to All."

To advance this mission, the Sarva Mangal Family Trust has donated to and is continuing to work with various organizations and programs in health promotion and prevention, assisting victims of domestic violence, empowering seniors, entrepreneurship, technological literacy, community activism, and children's education.

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS



SMFT ANCHORED NONPROFIT, ROCKET LEARNING, SUPPORTS MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT'S "POSHAN BHI PADHAI BHI" PROGRAM AS ECCE TASKFORCE MEMBER AND CIVIL SOCIETY PARTNER
SMFT supported nonprofit Rocket Learning, a mission-driven nonprofit announced its collaboration with the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD) as a civil society partner for the implementation of the "Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi (Education Along with Nutrition)" program, under the Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0. (Continued on Page 6)

PHILANTHROPY IN MAY'23 – KARMA JUNCTION

May 2023 – With the support of Sarva Mangal Family Trust, Karma Junction successfully built a water well in Pay Center School, Gujarat, ensuring a sustainable water source for the entire community.

This initiative has brought about a transformative change. The students now have access to clean water for drinking, sanitation, and maintaining personal hygiene. It has created a healthier and more conducive learning environment, enabling the students to focus on their education and reach their full potential.

The availability of well water has not only fulfilled the basic need for hydration and maintaining hygiene but has also enabled students and teachers to utilize restroom facilities comfortably. Previously, lack of water posed numerous challenges, but now, the school community can access clean water.

The positive changes resulting from this project have been immeasurable. Students, who were once limited by the scarcity of water, now have an improved learning environment that promotes health and well-being. The teachers and staff are also relieved, knowing that they have a reliable source of water for their daily needs.

The school has 745 Students and 18 Staff. With the support of Sarva Mangal Family Trust, Karma Junction was able to install a water well which extracted water from 200 feet under the ground. The well water is not only used for hydration and maintaining hygiene, but also enables students and teachers to utilize the restroom facilities and drink clean water during mid-day meals.

The impact of this project on the school cannot be overstated. Through this initiative, SMFT's aim was to address the pressing need for clean and accessible water in the region. The Pay Center School serves as a beacon of hope for the local community, educating and nurturing young minds.



Water Well Digging



Water Well at Pay Center School, Gujarat



School Assembly to Thank SMFT



Water Well Site Visit by the Students

PHILANTHROPY IN MAY'23 – KARMA JUNCTION (Cont.)



Water Well Digging



School Students Thanking SMFT for the Donation

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION – ROCKET LEARNING

SMFT Anchored Nonprofit, Rocket Learning, Supports Ministry of Women & Child Development's "Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi" Program As ECCE Taskforce Member and Civil Society Partner

Rocket Learning, a mission-driven nonprofit supported by Sarva Mangal Family Trust, is excited to announce its collaboration with the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD) as a civil society partner for the implementation of the "Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi (Education Along with Nutrition)" program, under the Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0. With this, Rocket Learning is now a major partner of the central government and seven state governments, making significant strides towards transforming the lives of low income household children across the country.



The "Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi" program, launched under the leadership of the Ministry of Women & Child Development, recognizes the importance of providing comprehensive early childhood care and education (ECCE) for all children under age of 6 years, with focus on building skills in key development domains identified under the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP) - physical/motor, cognitive, socio-emotional-ethical, cultural/artistic, and the development of communication and early language, literacy and numeracy. The Ministry has extended additional support to the 1.3 MM Anganwadi workers (day-care center workers) through a three-day, play-based pedagogy based training program led by NIPCCD.

The Ministry has also proposed an enhanced budget for ECCE teaching and learning material (TLM) while emphasizing the importance of developing inclusive teaching learning material in collaboration with the Ministry



AWARDS AND RECOGNITION – ROCKET LEARNING (Cont.)

of Social Justice and Empowerment and relevant departments in the States for Divyang (specially-abled) children so that Anganwadi workers (day-care center workers) can counsel parents to send their children to attend Anganwadi centers.

Honourable Union Minister of Women and Child Development and Minority Affairs, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, said, “We launched ‘Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi’ to prioritize the needs of our children today. A trailblazer in the realm of Early Childhood Care & Education, the program, empowered by NEP 2020, manifests the vision of Hon’ble Prime Minister, across 1.3 MM+ Anganwadi centers in the country.”



Rocket Learning's approach revolves around leveraging the existing system and complementing it with high-quality guidance, content, and technology through their teacher and parent-focused models. Azeez Gupta, Co-Founder, said, “Poshan Bhi, Padhai Bhi” (Education and Nutrition Together) envisages Anganwadi community centers as vibrant centers of learning for children under the age of 6. This is a hallmark moment in our journey to ensure 50MM low income household children enter school and life as joyous, confident learners, with the skills and abilities to reach their full developmental potential, stay in school longer, be healthier and earn more in life. We are immensely grateful to SMFT and the Shah Family for instituting the Shah Lab for Early Childhood Development at Rocket Learning, which has been integral to all these efforts.”

Sarva Mangal Family Trust, is excited to support Rocket Learning and its important role in the implementation of the "Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi". SMFT acknowledges the critical impact that quality early childhood education and nutrition can have on a child's overall development.

About Rocket Learning: Rocket Learning is one of India’s leading nonprofits focused on catalyzing early childhood education (ECE) and community engagement. We link the government school and Anganwadi system with parents, using technology, media and social influence techniques. They partner with India’s Ministry of Education, Ministry of Women and Child Development, seven states (Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chandigarh, and Uttarakhand) and MIT-J-PAL to create, measure and scale impact.

NGO IN FOCUS FOR MAY'23 – PRATHAM

Pratham is an innovative learning organization created to improve the quality of education in India. Pratham focuses on high-quality, low-cost and replicable interventions to address gaps in the education system. Working directly with children and youth as well as through large-scale collaborations with government systems, Pratham programs reach millions of lives every year.

PraDigi's Open Learning Program, functions as an accessible backyard community school. With the help of Digital Tools, workshops and programs they provide holistic education to children that covers all aspects of life and academics.

Lately, they have been engaging the cohort towards the 'creativity club' Program. With the help of creativity club, Pratham is hoping to create opportunities for young learners above the age of 10 to think critically and develop creative solutions for real-world problems. They are taking play-based approach to acquaint the cohort with essential skills.



NGO IN FOCUS FOR MAY'23 – PRATHAM (Cont.)

Project Location: 20,000 Villages in 14 states

The PraDigi Creativity Club was launched at scale across all open learning communities. They have been conducting creativity camps that have been focusing on the themes of Science, Music, arts and STEM learning. Most recently, they conducted sports camps for children in partnership with Project Challang.

In addition to Code Clubs, Pratham has also launched Angrezi OK Please, a youth-led foundational English learning program, and School readiness melas within the Open Learning communities.



The PraDigi Creativity clubs have been a massively successful enterprise, with multiple activities, in person workshops and visits. Since its inception, **64,495** children have participated in creativity club interventions, and have trained over **18,000** youth volunteers. The children have submitted over **22,000** projects. Close to **3,000** youth & children have attended the various specialized workshops.



NGO IN FOCUS FOR MAY'23 – PRATHAM (Cont.)



In partnership with Project Challang, Pratham has successfully conducted the Ongoing Sports Camps, emphasizing the benefits of play in promoting physical and mental wellbeing. These camps were part of their larger 'Creativity Club' program, where they engaged children in project-based activities to enhance their overall health. Previously, they also organized Music, Art, and Science camps for the cohort.



With the participation of **279** sports fellows and **1,960** youth volunteers, Pratham reached **1,500** villages, making a significant impact in the lives of countless children. The Sports Camps provided a platform for children to thrive physically and mentally, offering a range of activities designed for holistic growth.

On the 16th of May, a regional newspaper in Sitapur published a report from the self defence camps conducted in the district by Pratham.

बिसवां (सीतापुर), मंगलवार 16 मई 2023

सेल्फ डिफेंस प्रशिक्षण में बच्चे सीख रहे आत्मरक्षा के दाव

सीतापुर-राष्ट्र राज्य संवाददाता-प्रथम एजुकेशन फाउंडेशन के तत्ववधान में आयोजित क्रिएटिविटी क्लब के अन्तर्गत बच्चों को बॉक्सिंग ग्लव्स व स्किपिंग रोप प्रदान किये गए जिसमें क्रमशः बिसवां साकारन, खैराबाद व सिधौली के कुल 100 बच्चों व युवाओं ने प्रतिभाग किया। महिला सशक्तिकरण की दिशा में सेल्फ डिफेंस ट्रेनिंग का आयोजन किया गया। जिसमें मुख्य रूप से बिसवां, सकारन, खैराबाद व सिधौली के युवाओं व बच्चों का बप्रतिभाग किये कार्यक्रम का उद्देश्य देश

में बढ़ रहे छेड़छाड़ एवं महिला उत्तपीड़न जैसी गंभीर समस्याओं पर अंकुश लगाना है..जिले की प्रत्येक बेटे को अपने आप को सुरक्षित रखने के लिए आत्मरक्षा के गुर सीखना अति आवश्यक है. ... सेल्फ डिफेंस ट्रेनिंग कार्यशाला बॉक्सिंग वर्कशॉप के अंतर्गत समुदाय में बच्चों को बॉक्सिंग अभ्यास जारी रखने व फिजिकल गतिविधि को बनाये रखने के लिए खेल उपकरण प्रदान किये गए। कार्यक्रम में उपस्थित कार्यक्रम समन्वयक भास्कर तिवारी कहा कि बेटियां ही समाज का निर्माण करती हैं यदि बेटियों को हम

सक्षम बनाये तो आने वाले समय में वह अपने साथ परिवार और समाज को भी मजबूत करेंगी। यह महिला सशक्तिकरण की दिशा में एक मजबूत



कोशिश है। वरिष्ठ समाज सेवी पुनीत सिंह ने कहा की सेल्फ डिफेंस ट्रेनिंग कार्यक्रम बालिका विद्यालय में होने से बालिकाओं में आत्मविश्वास बढ़ता है और वह भविष्य में अपने आप को अपने परिवार को सुरक्षित रखने में भी सक्षम होंगी। मुख्य प्रशिक्षक मनोज कुमार व सुरेंद्र कुमार ने कहा कि क्रिएटिविटी क्लब हमेशा अपने कॉर्पोरेट सामाजिक उत्तरदायित्व के अंतर्गत बेटियों छात्रों व छात्राओं को सक्षम बनाने के लिए कार्य करता रहता है। प्रथम एजुकेशन के साथ मिलकर हमें भी इस मिशन को आगे ले जाने का मौका मिला और अपराध मुक्त समाज

के निर्माण में हमने भी अपना सहयोग दिया। नेशनल कोच मनोज कुमार, सुरेंद्र कुमार, अब्बास असगर, प्रशिक्षकों का कहना था कि संकट

के समय खुद को बचाने के लिए ब्लॉक, पंचिंग और किकिंग की तकनीक के गुर और बारीकियां भी सीखनी चाहिए। जिससे हर छात्रा मुश्किल समय में स्वयं को सुरक्षित रख सकें। प्रथम एजुकेशन फाउंडेशन के कार्यक्रम समन्वयक भास्कर तिवारी ने बताया कि सीतापुर में प्रशासन के सहयोग से पूरे जिले में सेल्फ डिफेंस ट्रेनिंग को हम आगे लेकर बढ़ेंगे कार्यक्रम में प्रथम फाउंडेशन की टीम से कलीम खान, सलमान खान, राजकुमार, शैलेन्द्र सिंह, प्रमोद कुमार और संस्था के सभी शिक्षक और शिक्षिकाएं आदि उपस्थित थे।

SUCCESS STORY – PRATHAM

The creativity club programs have been a great success within the communities. The Goals for Girls program, which was designed as a sports activity exclusively for women within the communities, had a stellar response. A member of the community said the following about the program:

“The girls struggled a bit with the ball at the beginning. But soon the shoes and chappals were off and everyone wanted to have their chance to kicking the ball. Even with no proper ground and no proper shoes, the girls thoroughly enjoyed the game.”

The Youth from these communities have also been actively engaging with the program, which has also contributed to personal growth.



SUCCESS STORY – PRATHAM

Ashish, a youth from the Sitapur District, has been actively engaged with the program, especially the thematic activities. For his support, he was offered a course on the youthnet portal. After learning about video making, he was interested in the process of video making, and learnt skills such as video shooting and editing. He was able to procure a digital camera, and has started professionally shooting events within the community. This has helped him support his family and earn his livelihood.

Name of Beneficiaries: Ashish

Project: YouthNet

Location: Sitapur



SUCCESS STORY – PRATHAM

Payal, from the Khultabad District has been actively engaged with the STEM learning workshops. As soon as she enrolled in Pratham Code Clubs, she exhibited great enthusiasm and quickly began producing

impressive projects under the guidance of her skilled trainer. Payal's response to the course was overwhelmingly positive, and she utilized the knowledge gained to create remarkable projects.

Name of Beneficiaries: Payal

Project: YouthNet

Location: Khultabad

But Payal's journey did not stop there. She was eager to broaden her horizons and continually sought out different coding platforms to tackle diverse projects. Her relentless pursuit of knowledge and proficiency in coding allowed her to excel and create innovative solutions across various platforms, while also pursuing her undergraduate degree.



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