

LIVES IMPACTED

51,200
NCR

1,33,500
West Bengal

66,700
Maharashtra

11,800
AP/Telangana

2,13,300
Karnataka

69,500
Tamil Nadu

12,400
Kerala



Cognizant Foundation has always strived to enable and empower the under-privileged sections of the society by facilitating access to quality healthcare, education and livelihood opportunities. For us, it is imperative that the contributions we make and the steps we take matter. Our development mantra for this year, “Make it Matter”, is a thought that goes deep into the soul of both Cognizant and Cognizant Foundation. In this Annual Report for 2017-18, we invite you to explore the initiatives that we undertook, and how each of them mattered to those who deserved it the most.

MAKE *it* MATTER



our vision

To be a model social organisation that enables and facilitates the under-privileged sections of the society to access quality education, healthcare and livelihood opportunities.



To work towards fulfilling the education, healthcare and livelihood needs of the under-privileged sections of the society.

To design and implement programmes aimed at quality improvements in education, livelihood and access to healthcare.

our mission

To provide financial and technical support to institutions for improving the quality of education, livelihood and healthcare.

To partner with NGOs, educational and healthcare institutions, government and other corporates for achieving the vision.

MESSAGES FROM OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

“Our Foundation has completed yet another fulfilling year with all-round progress. Progress in the level of funding, the magnitude of impact and the breadth of our reach.

This year has also been a year of transformation for Cognizant Foundation. First and foremost, the secretariat of CF has reinvented itself to a higher order and has demonstrated the ability to lead in a programme mode. Our strategic focus is also moving towards larger projects and programmes. And above all the community has understood our way of working and only those requests that are aligned with our vision appear to be coming to the Foundation.

The board has also been strengthened with some specialist talent in the form of committed leaders with acknowledged philanthropic work and a desire to manage larger grants and lead in the areas of our focused interest. I am proud to be part of the board which has acted very objectively, without playing favourites and with utmost integrity.

It has been a very satisfying year of progress with greater impact than ever before and a newly energised board of directors that is rearing to go after bolder initiatives, deeper impact and sharper focus.”

N. LAKSHMI NARAYANAN



This year has been a year of transformation... our strategic focus is moving towards larger projects and programmes.

N. Lakshmi Narayanan

MESSAGES FROM OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

“Year 2018 brings with it a load of good news. In appreciation of its work, CF is poised to receive much higher grants than before for disbursement. Credit for this happy turn of events should, undoubtedly, go to the Cognizant Associates. Their commitment to CF’s cause has been steadfast ever since CF began its work thirteen years ago.

With more funds, comes more work and more responsibility. The Programme Approach to identify areas of interest to the Foundation and sourcing projects under each programme area for extending assistance has now become the accepted model for utilising the grants made available to the Foundation. This has worked well leading to a coherence in the nature of projects funded in various geographies and evaluation of results and a step-up in project financing.

This has also helped in enlisting the assistance of credible NGOs to source projects and spot executing agencies. There has thus been cut a new path in establishing contact with the executing agencies in addition to the earlier followed model of dealing directly with them. This has two advantages, one, it enables encouraging new executing agencies and, two, in stepping up the volume of grants disbursed.

So far, our activities had been restricted mostly to the states where Cognizant has its offices. The time has come to foray into other states, particularly those that are identified as chronically backward. The strategy to achieve this objective is on the anvil. We are not one of the big boys in the CSR league. Yet, we have a reason to exist. Did not someone say

*“They might not need me; but they might,
I’ll let my head be just in sight;
A smile as small as mine might be
Precisely their necessity.”*

N. R. KRISHNAN, I.A.S. (RETD.)



*The time has come to
foray into other states,
particularly those that are
identified as chronically
backward.*

N. R. Krishnan
I.A.S. (RETD.)

MESSAGES FROM OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

“By present demographic trends India’s population would have exceeded that of China by the year 2025 with young people in India constituting 30% of the population.

In order to reap the demographic dividend, considerable investment should be devoted to education and public health (both for enhancement of standards and reaching out to many more). This would mean allocation of substantial resources by the Union and State governments to these sectors besides livelihood issues.

However, the Union Budget 2018 with expected revenue growth of 14.63% over the last year, has allocated only 5% more than the 2017/18 revised estimate to public health and 4% hike for education. The budget provisions fall short of the goal to reach the level of investment demand required over the next few years. Lack of fiscal space in the Union Budget cannot be made good by the States given their level of public debt and parlous state of their economy generally.

We in the Foundation are doing our best to assist the institutions in these sectors fill the gap by efficiently making use of the resources transferred to it by Cognizant. We are also getting ready to face new challenges and plan for wider reach within the country to areas that we could not serve earlier, using additional funding expected from Cognizant.”

DR. S. RAMAMURTHY



We are also getting ready to face new challenges and plan for wider reach within the country to areas that we could not serve earlier.

Dr. S. Ramamurthy

MESSAGES FROM OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

“Transforming lives by reaching out to the most deserving communities in India and supporting them in education, healthcare and livelihood skills – this is the principle that guides the work of the Cognizant Foundation.

As a new member of the Board I am struck by the fact that the Foundation is not merely a passive donor of funds. Its approach is characterised by a disciplined and organised effort to identify NGOs and partners with credibility, and incubate, nurture, sponsor, and mentor them; look for long-term relationships; help build scale; and enable technology innovation to maximise impact.

With the tremendous support of Cognizant Management and Associates, the Core Committees in Cognizant offices in India, and the Outreach team, the Cognizant Foundation continues to chip away at India’s inexhaustible needs in the areas of education, healthcare and livelihood skilling.”

K. BALAJI



The Foundation is not merely a passive donor of funds.

K. Balaji

MESSAGES FROM OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

“When I agreed to accept the gracious invitation to join the Board of the Cognizant Foundation it was with a clear view, after a lifetime spent in government, that the resources available in private industry and business must be used to support government’s efforts in healthcare, primary education, skill development and women’s empowerment. This is precisely what the Cognizant Foundation does.

We are aware of the tremendous potential represented by India’s people. We take great pride when Indians make a mark in their chosen fields, and even more so when persons of Indian origin are recognized elsewhere for their abilities; but if every child born in India, and there are over 26 million being born every year, is to be given the opportunity to live and be reared in a happy and secure environment, to study and develop her mind and to travel and push frontiers, then we must invest more, and more meaningfully, in healthcare and education. Government must take the lead, frame the appropriate policies, enact the necessary legislation and raise the resources required, but the Cognizant Foundation has shown through its work that it can be a worthy partner.”

KESHAV DESIRAJU, I.A.S. (RETD.)



...the resources available in private industry and business must be used to support government’s efforts in healthcare, primary education, skill development and women’s empowerment. This is precisely what the Cognizant Foundation does.

Keshav Desiraju
I.A.S. (RETD.)

MESSAGES FROM OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

“Cognizant’s guiding purpose is to shape a better world using technology and talent.

With newer technologies presenting ever greater opportunities to transform lives, redefine the future of work, and reimagine businesses and societies, Cognizant Foundation in India is helping unlock the potential of these technologies in the areas of education, healthcare and livelihood to create positive change and contribute to the greater good.

Driven by the belief that disruptive technologies have the power to solve some of the world’s pressing challenges, Cognizant Foundation has, by and large, harnessed technology to impact lives at scale - be it improving access, equity and quality of education; enhancing quality of care; or creating newer forms of livelihood among the underrepresented.

With enviable growth rates, rich demographic dividend, and improving human indices, India today enjoys a unique position to play an ever bigger role in the global ecosystem. Cognizant Foundation endeavors to be a catalyst in this journey and help shape a brighter future for our people, businesses and the planet.”

RAMKUMAR RAMAMOORTHY



Cognizant Foundation has, by and large, harnessed technology to impact lives at scale.

*Ramkumar
Ramamoorthy*

“It is with immense pleasure that I present to you the Cognizant Foundation’s report for 2017-18. It has been a year of significant progress towards achieving our vision of improving access to education, healthcare and livelihood opportunities for under-privileged sections of the society.

In the year under review, we strengthened our efforts in each of our focus areas by facilitating the implementation of various development programmes designed to address key societal issues such as equitable access to quality education, making quality healthcare affordable and enabling inclusive development. Together with our NGO partners, we have enabled over 3 lakh people, in various parts of our country, to significantly improve their quality of life.

This report attempts to provide an overview of our achievements during the year. All this was made possible thanks to the encouragement and support of our Board, the Cognizant Management and Associates, Cognizant Foundation Core Committees and Outreach Teams in various Cognizant Offices across India, our committed NGO partners and my dedicated team at the Foundation Secretariat. I am indebted to each and every one of them for their continued and enthusiastic support and encouragement for all our initiatives to address the basic needs of education, healthcare and livelihood of the weaker sections of our society.

As we move forward, it will be Cognizant Foundation’s endeavour to reach out to more number of needy and underserved people across the country with a helping hand and seek to empower them for a better future. It is also our commitment to be a valuable resource in all of Cognizant’s programmes to serve the Society beyond Business.”



2017-18

It has been a year of significant progress towards achieving our vision...

LETTER
FROM

S. Madhavan

C.E.O.

S. MADHAVAN



With our focus on
EDUCATION,
the Foundation was able to make learning more accessible and affordable to the rural and urban poor. We helped develop a vibrant learning environment that fosters a passion of learning, kindles scientific curiosity and nurtures creativity. We also supported the differently-abled with technology aids, enabling inclusive education.

With our focus on
HEALTHCARE,
the Foundation worked on initiatives that aimed to prevent avoidable blindness, and also to improve access to quality healthcare for under-served women and children.

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

In 2017-18, Cognizant Foundation continued to focus on improving access to education, healthcare and livelihood for the under-privileged sections of society. Our strong partnerships with credible NGOs and support from Cognizant Outreach helps us make each contribution matter.

With our focus on
LIVELIHOOD
initiatives, the Foundation enabled inclusive development by skilling disadvantaged youth and women, thus making them employable.

With our focus on the
REBUILDING COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME,
the Foundation worked towards the upliftment of communities which had been gravely affected by natural calamities.

Formula Sheet for 4th

Numbers

Rational Nos: all fractions

Integers: whole

Four Operations

LBOD

Large

kit

Algebraic Expansions:

$$(a+b)^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$$
$$(a-b)^2 = a^2 - 2ab + b^2$$
$$(a-b)(a+b) = a^2 - b^2$$

Factorisation

$$a^2 - b^2 = (a-b)(a+b)$$


EDUCATION
*Enabling equitable
access to quality
education*

focus area
#1





SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMMES

for meritorious students
from disadvantaged
backgrounds

LIVES IMPACTED

380+

each year

The *Cognizant Foundation Scholarship Programme* helps academically bright students with limited financial means to help pursue their undergraduate education. The scholarship is administered directly, in partnership with

31 Engineering Institutions across the country. Additionally, we have a second scholarship programme, in partnership with *Foundation For Excellence India Trust*.

voice of

NETHAJI. A

ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING
SRI VENKATESWARA COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, SRIPERUMBUDUR

“I am pursuing the Bachelor of Engineering degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering at Sri Venkateswara College of Engineering, Sriperumbudur. I have been a recipient of the Cognizant Foundation Scholarship during the academic years 2014-15 to 2017-18.

The financial assistance the Foundation has provided has been a great help in paying my educational expenses, and has allowed me to concentrate more of my time for studying. I have already gotten job offers from two companies, and

thanks to the scholarship, I am one step closer to my goal of becoming an engineer.

I will always be grateful for the opportunity that was afforded to me through the scholarship, and I would like to thank everyone involved for the confidence that they placed in me.

I pledge to do my part in giving back to society and, in the future, support those who are less fortunate than I.”

story of
SILLA PUJA

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
VEER SURENDRA SAI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, BURLA

Hailing from the small town of Berhampur in Ganjam, Orissa, Silla Puja dared to dream bigger than what society demanded. Now, her dream is slowly becoming a reality.

Silla's family of four survives on a meagre annual income of Rs. 70,000 that her father brings in from his ration card business. It is barely enough to make ends meet, let alone afford a professional education. However, her parents wanted their two children to have a better future for themselves, no matter what the cost. The common vision shared by her parents gave Silla a drive and confidence to excel in life.

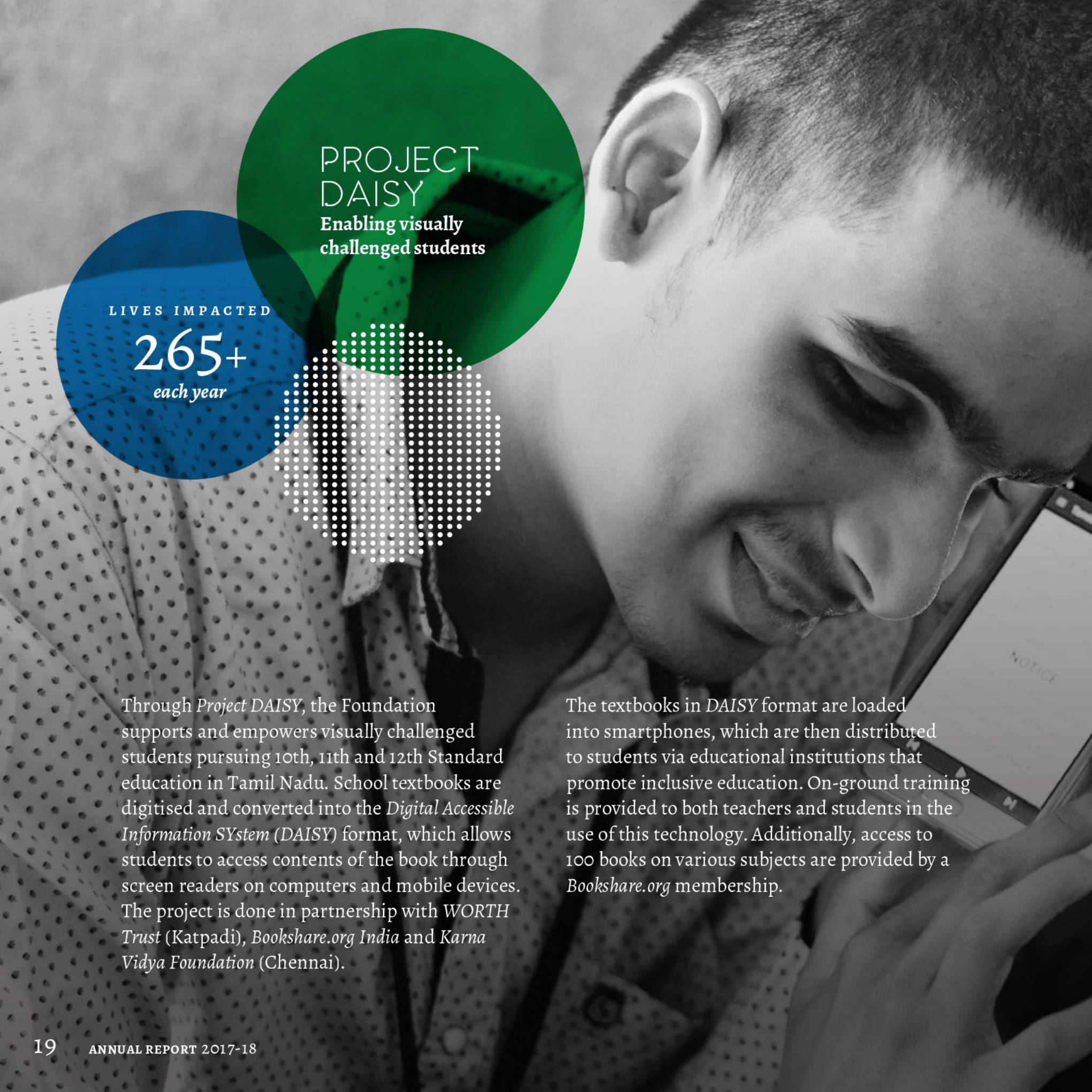
In school, she was a model student - an all-rounder who gained recognition in all the activities she participated in. The fire that her parents lit within her kept

growing and she started to dream bigger. Silla was always fascinated by the way things work, and she knew what she wanted to be - an engineer.

Having secured an All India Rank of 71123 in the JEE Exam (Main), she received admission into the Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology – Burla.

She qualified for the Cognizant Foundation - Foundation For Excellence India (CF-FFE) Scholarship based on merit, which has allowed her to pay the fees necessary to continue her education. An ambitious individual, she plans to study further once her four-year UG course is complete.

Realising how helpful monetary assistance has been, Silla wants to, in the future, be the same "help" that Cognizant Foundation has been for her, to others.



PROJECT DAISY

Enabling visually
challenged students

LIVES IMPACTED

265+
each year

Through *Project DAISY*, the Foundation supports and empowers visually challenged students pursuing 10th, 11th and 12th Standard education in Tamil Nadu. School textbooks are digitised and converted into the *Digital Accessible Information SYstem (DAISY)* format, which allows students to access contents of the book through screen readers on computers and mobile devices. The project is done in partnership with *WORTH Trust (Katpadi)*, *Bookshare.org India* and *Karna Vidya Foundation (Chennai)*.

The textbooks in *DAISY* format are loaded into smartphones, which are then distributed to students via educational institutions that promote inclusive education. On-ground training is provided to both teachers and students in the use of this technology. Additionally, access to 100 books on various subjects are provided by a *Bookshare.org* membership.

voice of

M. PARAMASIVAM

11TH STANDARD
GOVERNMENT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR BLIND
THANJAVUR

"In school, we were given a mobile device that plays DAISY books, and we were also given training on how to operate and read our textbooks using the *Go Read* app. Now, I'm able to read my textbooks without anybody's help. Earlier, after the teachers take the class, I would read and revise through Braille books which take time. With this device, reading is much faster and I'm even able to go to the paragraph I want, and start reading. The skills I've picked up, especially that of using a mobile device, will also be useful once I go to college. Thank you!"

voice of

HALIMATHUS SAHIDHIYYA

11TH STANDARD
RANI GOVERNMENT GIRLS HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL
PUDUKOTTAI

"I was using recordings given by others to study earlier. The DAISY mobile device gives me an opportunity to learn my lessons on my own, without being dependent on others. Even though I was using Braille books and recording of notes, I had to depend on my grandmother to clarify things whenever there was a difference. Sometimes, I was learning only by reading questions and answers from the Braille notes I would receive. Now, after getting this mobile device, I am able to read the whole lesson, bookmark important lines and go to different pages. I had wanted to revise my lessons after the teacher conducts the classes. Now, I am able to revise, go through each word and their spellings, and learn more about the topic than just questions and answers."

IMPROVING TEACHING-LEARNING PROCESS WITH ICT TOOLS

Partnering with two NGOs, we helped integrate Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) into the educational system of schools catering to the under-privileged, significantly improving teachers' and learners' performances.

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTERS

We partnered with four NGOs to set up learning resource centres – such as Tribal Education Support Centres, Montessori Centres and Libraries – to benefit students from under-privileged backgrounds.

QUALITY TEACHING INPUT

We continue to sponsor four *Teach for India* fellows to provide additional teaching support in two Chennai Corporation Schools that cater to students from socio-economically disadvantaged families.

SCIENCE EDUCATION

Integrating hands-on science learning into the curriculum of educational institutions serving the socially and economically backward sections of the society has always been a priority. This year, we worked with an NGO to set up a Science Park with Science Laboratory equipment.

OTHER EDUCATION PROJECTS

LIVES IMPACTED

37,000+

each year

when we give
sight to one.

we gift light
to the world.



HEALTHCARE
Bringing quality heathcare
within reach

focus area
#2



PREVENTING AVOIDABLE BLINDNESS

LIVES IMPACTED
2,00,000+
each year

'Eye Care' is one of our flagship programmes in the healthcare sector, and over the years, we have made significant inroads into making quality eye health services accessible to the under-privileged.

This year, we have partnered with *Operation Eyesight India (OEI)* to set up three new Vision Centres in the country. These centres offer consultation, diagnostics, spectacles at subsidised rates, and free cataract surgeries

to the under-privileged. The ultimate aim of a Vision Centre is to make the communities where they operate free of avoidable blindness.

We also partnered with five other NGOs from across the country to fund the acquisition of state-of-the-art medical equipment for use in their programmes for the prevention and control of blindness.



story of
VIMLA

Vimla*, a 57-year-old housewife from Helan, West Bengal, came to the Vision Centre, set up by *Operation Eyesight India* in partnership with *Cognizant Foundation*, complaining of gradually diminishing vision in both eyes. She was unable to continue her daily routine, which was pushing her into depression. She was operated free-of-cost on both eyes, one after the other, for cataract. After the procedure, her vision returned to normal.

Vimla says, “If I was not given this free treatment, I would have died without seeing my family. I thank the hospital for the free treatment given to me and I will thank them my entire life.”

**name changed to protect patient privacy*

story of
BISWAS

Biswas*, a 61-year-old male farmer from Hiyatpur, West Bengal, was identified as having debilitating vision. He was the only earning member in a family of six and was so affected by his failing vision, that he couldn't work properly. At the Vision Centre, set up by *Operation Eyesight India* in partnership with *Cognizant Foundation*, it was discovered that he had a mature cataract in his right eye, which was operated on. His vision was restored in a week, and he's now back to routine work.

“I'm thankful to the donors who supported my surgery and gave me this gift of sight. I also thank the doctor and nurses who treated me,” Biswas says.

**name changed to protect patient privacy*



IMPROVING
ACCESS TO
QUALITY
HEALTHCARE
FOR WOMEN
AND CHILDREN

Quality health facilities for women
and children from disadvantaged
socio-economic backgrounds

LIVES IMPACTED

17,000+
each year

'Women and Child Health' is our second flagship programme in the healthcare sector. This year, partnering with 3 NGOs, we provided grants to procure high-end medical equipment to offer quality health interventions to a demographic that is often ignored.

One of the NGOs we supported is the *Shivanjali Trust*, an organisation that focuses on women and child health. We helped the *Shiva Shantha* hospital, which is run by the trust, to acquire an Ultra Sonogram-Colour Doppler machine. This high-end scan facility helps monitor high-risk pregnancies.

A man in a striped shirt and glasses is looking at a laptop. The laptop screen shows an ultrasound scan of a fetus. The scan is labeled 'Vivid-q' at the bottom. The background is a tiled wall.

story of

KAVITHA PRASATH

For Kavitha*, a 25-year-old mother-to-be, it was her third pregnancy. Due to pregnancy induced hypertension, and numerous other complications, her first two pregnancies were traumatic experiences for her, both physically and emotionally. Coming from a lower social-economic background, her access to quality healthcare was also limited.

She approached the *Shiva Shantha* hospital for assessment by the resident obstetrician. Scans were performed using the Colour Doppler scanner, newly acquired with support from *Cognizant Foundation*, to assess her status as the pregnancy progressed. Routine scans done during the first trimester were normal and showed no cause for concern.

**name changed to protect patient privacy*

On the 20th week, hypertension-related anomalies were detected by the scanner. Kavitha was put on a course of medicines to relieve symptoms and preserve foetus health.

Scans were taken regularly till 32 weeks to ensure that the treatment was effective.

In early April 2018, Kavitha became the proud mother of a beautiful baby girl. Even though the baby was underweight, special care was provided to both mother and child to ensure their health.

The Colour Doppler machine was extremely helpful in detecting uterine and umbilical artery flow. The images from the new scan machine were so clear that the doctors were able to decide on the right treatment at the right time.

BLOOD BANK

Financial support was provided to various Blood Banks to purchase medical equipment.

OTHER HEALTHCARE PROJECTS

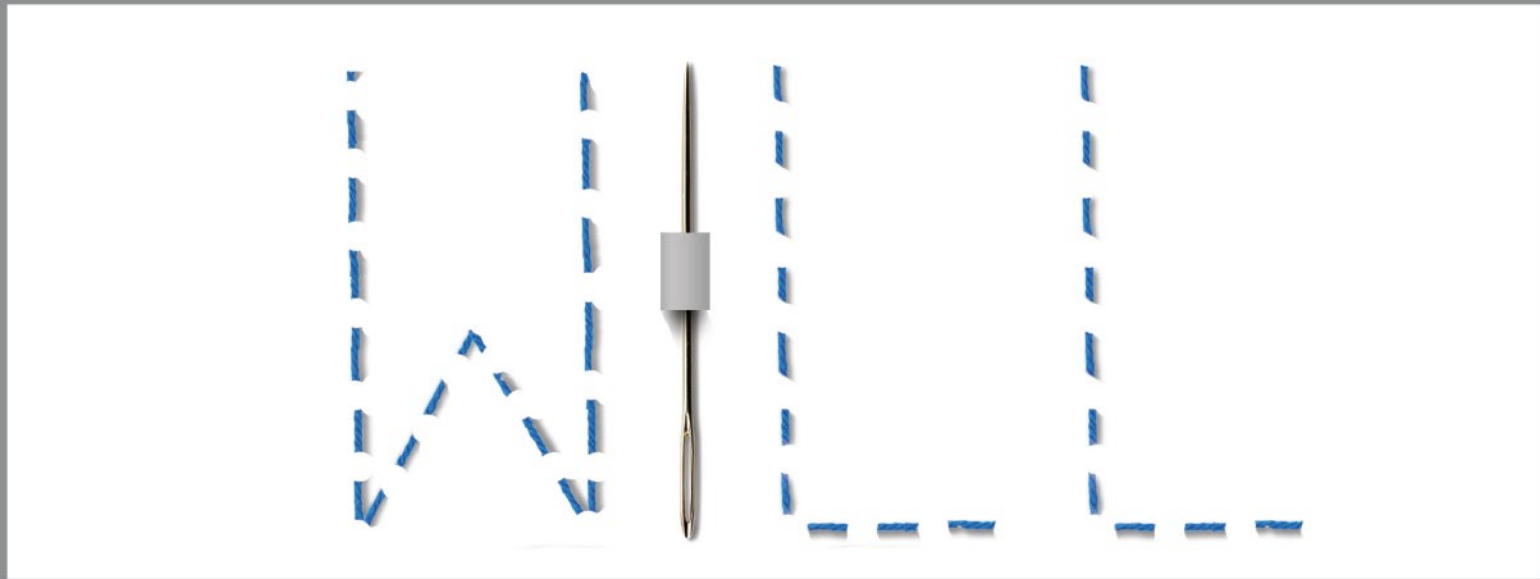
SCAN MACHINE TO MEASURE BONE DENSITY

Assistance was provided to a research institute to procure a pQCT machine that helps measure bone density.

LIVES IMPACTED

16,000+
each year

WHERE THERE'S A



THERE'S A WAY

LIVELIHOOD
Enabling inclusive
development

focus area
#3



GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT FOR DISADVANTAGED YOUTH AND WOMEN

Short-term skill training programmes to make under-privileged youth and women employable

LIVES IMPACTED

7300+

each year

Skill development for youth and women from poor socio-economic backgrounds is our flagship programme in the livelihood sector. Under this programme, short-term skill training courses are offered in various trades, ranging from Electrical and ITeS to CNC Operation and Home Nursing.

In addition to this, they are provided with life skills training, such as English and computer literacy, to help them gain skills that would guarantee them decent jobs leading to economic independence.

story of

DILJITH P.L

The small village of Kumbalam, in the outskirts of Kochi, Kerala is where Diljith calls home. From a young age, it was obvious that he had potential in many areas, but academia was not one of them.

Having finished his schooling, Diljith wanted to find a job which would help him support his family. But a lack of technical exposure was affecting his job prospects. That was when one of his friends guided him to the *iLEAD* Centre, run by *Aide et Action India* which is supported by *Cognizant Foundation*.

At the *iLEAD* Kochi Centre, he signed up for the Automobile Course which gave him valuable technical experience in the repair and maintenance of vehicles. In addition, he was also given training in computer skills, spoken English, and much more. The placement team helped him get placed at the *Cochin TVS* in Edapally, Ernakulam.

“Now I am contributing to the family income and I am feeling proud of myself. I, along with my whole family, take this opportunity to thank *Aide et Action India* and *Cognizant Foundation* for taking such an initiative for the welfare of the society,” Diljit says.

story of

PUSPA KUMARI SHAW

A resident of Adarsh Nagar in Rishra, West Bengal, Puspa Kumari Shaw grew up in a family of six. Her father, an owner of a small shop, struggled to make ends meet with a meagre income of about Rs. 4,000 per month.

Puspa had always dreamt of getting a degree, a good job and supporting her family. Being the eldest child, she also felt the additional responsibility of taking care of her younger siblings. The financial situation was hard at home, and she began to look for jobs in order to contribute financially.

It was then that, through her teacher, she got to know about the unique skill development programme offered by *Anudip Foundation*, in partnership with *Cognizant Foundation*. She enrolled for the Diploma in Accounting with Tally ERP (DAT) course, where, apart from Tally ERP, she learned soft skills and English language skills as well.

After her course was complete, the placement team helped her get a job as a Support Service Executive. Her current monthly salary of Rs. 7,000 means a lot to her and her family.

Puspa remarks, “The training faculty has always been a constant source of guidance and motivation for me. The training programme has helped me to stand on my feet and supported me in every step, helping me to reach where I stand today.”

REBUILDING COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME

**Building self-reliant
communities**



*Special
initiative*



INTEGRATED AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITIES

Rehabilitating communities affected by natural calamities

LIVES IMPACTED

25,000+

each year

Cognizant Foundation

HAND IN HAND

COGNIZANT FOUNDATION
HAND IN HAND INDIA

(SUSTAINABLE VILLAGE UPLIFTMENT PROJECT)

தொழில் திறன் பயிற்சி

தொழில் திறன் : தையற் பயிற்சி (Tailoring Training)

நாள் : 18.02.2017

இடம் : முன்னாள் கிராமபரிசீலனை அலுவலகம், கரையூர், கரையூர்.

The devastation caused by the unprecedented floods of 2015, and by Cyclone Vardah in 2016, led to the social and economic deprivation of thousands of families in and around Chennai, Tamil Nadu. We launched our *Rebuilding Communities Programme (RCP)* to execute relief and rehabilitate fifteen communities affected by these natural calamities. RCP is being implemented through two NGO partners – *DHAN Foundation* and *Hand in Hand India*.

Development of Humane Action (DHAN) Foundation is implementing the RCP in nine panchayats of St. Thomas Mount Block, Kanchipuram District, Tamil Nadu. *Hand in Hand India* is implementing the RCP in six panchayats across the Kanchipuram and Villupuram Districts of Tamil Nadu. Main beneficiaries here are daily-wage labourers, construction workers, housewives and petty-shop owners from poor socio-economic backgrounds.

Some of the key interventions in RCP are:

- Women empowerment
- Livelihood restoration
- Education
- Housing
- Healthcare
- Skill building
- Environment management

story of RADHA

VELLAKAL VILLAGE, KANCHIPURAM, TAMIL NADU

Radha's life turned upside-down after her husband was diagnosed with heart disease, and underwent open-heart surgery. He was advised complete rest, and she was finding it hard to make ends meet and provide for her family, all on her own.

That was when she became aware of the activities of the *DHAN Foundation*, run under the auspices of the Rebuilding Communities Programme of *Cognizant Foundation*.

She joined one of the self-help groups where she became aware of the various livelihood opportunities available.

With a livelihood assistance of Rs. 20,000 from the Revolving Fund, she was able to start a small idli shop near her house. Her business has slowly flourished, and with a monthly income of Rs. 7,500, she is able to provide for her family.

“I will be forever thankful to the self-help group for giving me newfound happiness, and allowing me and my family to have a secure future”, says Radha.

story of

KANMANI

PORUR PANCHAYAT, KANCHIPURAM, TAMIL NADU

17-year-old Kanmani* lives with her parents and two younger siblings. Her father, an agricultural labourer, makes Rs. 400 a day, if he gets employment. Since the job of a labourer is seasonal, there is no assured monthly income either. When she began 12th grade, Kanmani started experiencing excruciating pain in her right breast.

The family went to a private hospital in Chengalpet where she was diagnosed with a tumour. The medical expense of Rs. 20,000 was too much for the family, and she continued to endure the pain with no hope of relief.

She attended a health camp conducted at her village by *Hand in Hand India*, supported by *Cognizant Foundation*, in search for medical support. Here, her condition was diagnosed as a benign tumour.

She was referred to *Pondicherry Institute of Medical Sciences* and underwent treatment for three days at the hospital. The tumour was subsequently removed through a free surgery.

“I am grateful to both *Cognizant Foundation* and *Hand in Hand India* for all the support they have given me. Had it not been for them, the tumour might have gotten more serious, even threatening my life. Now I plan to study hard and fulfil my dream of becoming a nurse and help society,” Kanmani says.

**name changed to protect patient privacy*



cognizantfoundation.org
cognizantfoundation@cognizant.com