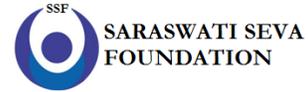


# AGENDA

## TRANSFORMATION

### Saraswati Seva Foundation Newsletter



Quarterly

April 2017

Issue 001



**Prof. Jagdish N Sheth**, Emory University USA, Globally renowned scholar meets leadership of SSF



**Rural Social Entrepreneurs** to be supported by OVO, Belgium

## Social > Business

### SSF Launches Programmes

Foundation has launched its awareness programs in first phase on education, health and skill development and employment opportunities.

### British Council Study

SS Foundation partners Birla Institute of Management Technology to study Mainstreaming of Social Enterprises and University Education and Research.

### SS Foundation Report

Foundation has developed a network of academic-government-business institutions with social innovation purpose for economically sustainable model. Find out more in .....

**Institute of Engineering and Technology, India** supports skill based education programs with SSF



**Vivek Singh** leaves behind life in London and creates Saraswati Seva Foundation with his passion to write a story in India. He brings Allahabad University, DAVV Indore, ISB Hyderabad and Cambridge University learning and networking to build the organization and the concept of social purpose with economic value. SSF has a mission to partner with unprivileged to change their socio-economic status, this is our Goal.



## IET Partners with Saraswati Seva Foundation to Improve Education Among Underprivileged

April 20, 2017

The Institution of Engineering and Technology Services India (IET), one of the world's largest multi-disciplinary professional societies of engineers and technicians, signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Saraswati Seva Foundation, a non-profit organisation committed to serving the under-privileged communities using knowledge tools and networks to support a sustainable foundation of the society.



The agreement is designed to facilitate the exchange of the IET Faraday content as well as technical know-how from the IET to enable the Saraswati Seva Foundation to train and up-skill teachers in schools catering to the under-privileged.

The IET Faraday India Programme aims to create an ecosystem which encourages curiosity, questioning of the status-quo among both students and teachers to fuel passion for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). The IET Faraday project intends to provide teaching resources along with teacher enrichment programs to the school teachers.

The program comprises of curriculum support, resources, information for schools and cross-curricular classroom activities. The teachers will be enabled with the add-on teaching resources and techniques which are relevant to the tech savvy students of today. The project is also intended to engage the school students in fun filled activity based learning, generating love for STEM in the young minds.

“We, at the IET, firmly believe that the skill gap challenge in India cannot be entirely bridged without introducing the school students to the fun of real world applications and love for STEM. The Saraswati Seva Foundation echoes our sentiment in empowering the teachers with modern learning techniques and thereby enabling the students. Hence, we believe that this agreement is a perfect partnership to further a Technology-led transformation in India and develop ambassadors of change among our youth,” said Shekhar Sanyal, Director and Country Head, the IET India.

“I am pleased about the fact that Saraswati Seva Foundation has partnered with IET's Faraday Program to deliver STEM modules to the under-privileged children. We, at SSF, look forward to working with IET to enhance students' scientific temper and make them curious enough to question and explore,” said Vivek Singh, President of Saraswati Seva Foundation.

# AGENDA

## TRANSFORMATION

Saraswati Seva Foundation Newsletter



### Saraswati Seva Foundation Launches the Programmes

India CSR News Network , Apr 24th, 2017

UK CORPORATE LEADER QUILTS LONDON AND DEVELOPS A NEW MODEL FOR RURAL INDIA

NEW DELHI: Saraswati Seva Foundation, a newly established not for profit, has launched its activities with small initiatives, however presents an aspirational plan in education, skill development, health and agriculture. The Foundation has begun its activities in Balia district in UP and Hyderabad under its plan to reach unprivileged in rural and urban regions.



#### Nutrition & Preventive Healthcare Training

Saraswati Seva Foundation organised Nutrition & Preventive Healthcare training & awareness workshop at Sikandarpur on April 20, 2017 to the nursing trainees and aspirants to make career in the healthcare industry. The program was intended to empower and equip the youth to assist the community in spreading awareness about an appropriate diet & preventive plan specifically for the children and women.

This program was orientated to get rural youth's and community's attention to the issue of nutrition & preventive healthcare solutions, and the low-cost ways they should look for in their native food-basket. Dr. Rekha Gupta, certified nutritionist, highlighted the calorific value of different food items and prescribed a consumption model for children of different ages and women in the context of Eastern Uttar Pradesh's weather. She also shared guidelines on how to trace the early symptoms caused by nutritional deficiency and the ways to find nutritional dosage through local crops and home-made solutions. The program was planned as Youth Skilling and Awareness Workshop for Nutrition & Preventive Healthcare Solutions for Children and Women, with a profile of almost 70 nursing trainees in the region.

<http://www.saraswati-seva-foundation.org/>



# AGENDA

## TRANSFORMATION

Saraswati Seva Foundation Newsletter

### Employment and Entrepreneurship opportunities in rural retail/supply chain sector

Saraswati Seva Foundation organised retail and supply chain skilling & training workshop on April 21, 2017 in Bairiya, Ballia to the aspirants who want to make career in the Retail and Supply-chain industry. The program's objective was to inform the aspirants of the current industry trends in India, its penetration in the rural areas and how can they envision their career path in this industry without fleeing the villages.



The workshop was specifically focused on equipping the youth with information and the tools to take informed decision for rural entrepreneurship in agriculture supply-chain which is set to be a booming area. The workshop was completely free-of-cost for the participants. It was organised with objective of Employment and Entrepreneurship opportunities with Entrepreneurial opportunities in rural retail/supply chain sector, and almost 34 participants joined. The program was delivered jointly by Prof. Arindam Deb (Professor – Retail & Marketing, Birla Institute of Management Technology, Greater Noida) and Vivek Singh (President, Saraswati Seva Foundation).

### Health Camp

SSF organised a health camp on April 15, 2017 for security guards for primary health check up and health counseling on World Health Day. This was organised for housekeeping and security staff of few societies keeping in view that this section of the society does not give appropriate attention to the health of the self and the family. The medical tests included Blood Pressure, Blood Sugar, BMI measures and records of Height, Weight, Hip and Waist, followed by consultation with doctor. Urban poor and the unprivileged section have similar concerns and challenges as rural population in some of the regions in the country. This highlights the needs to organize such programs in the cities also. The program also stressed on issues of sanitation and self-hygiene. The program was organised at Hill Ridge Springs with the SSF team, 2 doctors and a volunteer team of 12 people. A total of 40 security guards and housekeeping workers, with almost equal number of male and female, participated in the camp and got the benefit of health profile testing and counseling. The activity engaged many young volunteers and the society residents to create awareness of the health issues. School kids also participated and benefitted from a social bond between the residents and the workers in the society.

## TRANSFORMATION

Saraswati Seva Foundation Newsletter

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### SSF Partners with OVO Belgium for Rural Project Funding

Saraswati Seva Foundation signs agreement with OVO Belgium which is a body supporting sustainable solutions for the under-privileged sections of the society in African nations. OVO signs agreement with SSF to initiate its projects in South Asia starting with India.

Ondernemers voor Ondernemers (OVO) is 'Entrepreneurs for Entrepreneurs', has been established as Corporate Funding Programme in 2000 by Alfons Verplaetse, the former governor of the National Bank and French Bourgeois, professor emeritus at EHSAL. Since 2002, OVO works with volunteer counselors who work selflessly to manage relationships with companies and entrepreneurs. OVO brings broad-based experience of supporting the South (more commonly termed as the Developing countries) by investing in their entrepreneurship and capacity building for larger social good.

The projects are targeted to be in domains of energy, education and health in the first phase of project funding. These projects need not return the funding, however, are obliged to convert the project into a sustainable project.

### SSF Partners with BIMTECH, HUBS and the British Council for Research

Pune, February 15, 2017

SSF partners in survey for the research project being managed by Birla Institute of Management Technology and Hull University Business School, UK on '*Mainstreaming University – Social Enterprise Ecosystem (MUSEE) - Creating socially responsible knowledge, practices and graduates*'.

The survey was a field work of the project and required social enterprises and academic institutions to be interviewed to understand the nuances of the mainstreaming of the social enterprises and academic institutions to produce more responsible cadre of professionals and knowledge in the skewed, capitalist, economic environment.



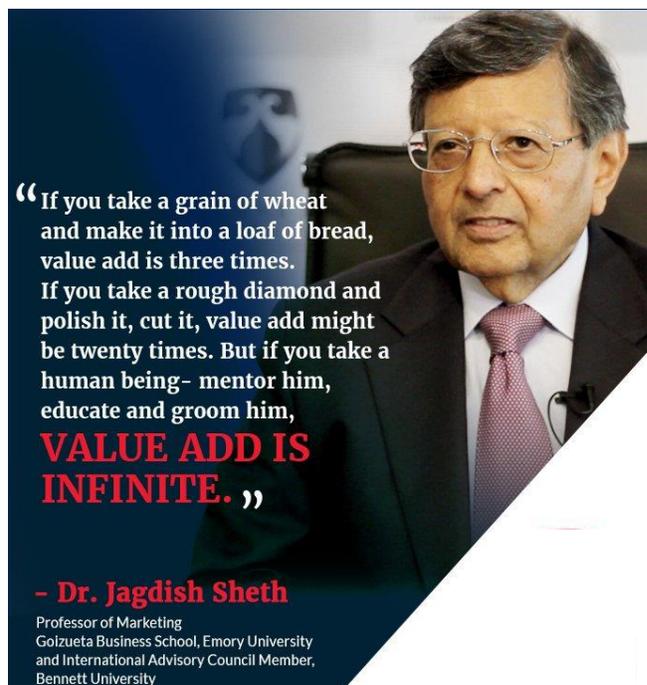
## TRANSFORMATION

Saraswati Seva Foundation Newsletter

### President SSF Meets Global Thinker Professor Jagdish N Sheth

New Delhi, 2016

Professor Jagdish N Sheth is a global thinker in management and the founder of many institutions supporting academics and scholarships. He has developed several models of sustainable business, and supported the institutions for their good work in society. Mr Vivek Singh and Dr Rahul Singh met Professor Sheth, and were mentored on the vision of the institution and how SSF can make a difference in the society (specially being more relevant to the unprivileged section of the society). It is noted that Professor Sheth has contributed more than 300 research papers and 50 books in his academic life and has been an advisor and mentor to many organizations and governments in the world.



### Professor Kirti Singh Joins Advisory Board of SSF

National Capital Region, 2016



Professor Kirti Singh, Chairperson, WNRF; President, ISNS; Former Chairman, Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board, New Delhi; Former Vice-Chancellor, NDUAT, Faizabad (UP), HPKV – Palampur (HP) & IGKV, Raipur; Former Secretary, National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, New Delhi and a scholar and leader of many other national and global responsibilities, has joined Saraswati Seva Foundation as a Mentor and Advisory Board member. SSF is obliged on his mentorship agreement and commits herself to the vision of such leaders who have contributed to society throughout their life.

# AGENDA

## TRANSFORMATION

Saraswati Seva Foundation Newsletter



### Phase 1- Programmes in Launch in 2017-18

National Capital region

#### **Education**

Rolling out 4 campaigns (Career Counseling, Skilling, Health & Hygiene and STEM) in 6 schools adopted in Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra in phased manner. Consultation with school administration to be over between May – June 2017, followed by program roll out in July 2017. As per the plan, we will cover 10 schools and more than 1500 children aged between 10 – 16 years by the end of financial year 2017-18.

#### **Agriculture**

1. Setting up information gateway for the farmers of 2 clusters - based in Faizabad and Ballia districts. SSF has planned to mobilise farmers and connect them with the leading agriculture scientists / agronomists using electronic media e.g. Skype, Webex etc. Also, SSF plans to take private sector companies in the loop to impart market and input quality related information
2. Setting up Policy Hub – To disseminate Information and facilitation about various government policies, SSF plans to roll out a Government Policy call centre, facilitation and compliance

#### **Energy**

1. SSF Plans to roll out the pilot which enhances and/or preserves the crop moisture and quality to fetch better value to the farmers e.g. solar-heated vegetable dryers, mini refrigeration units, drip irrigation system etc.
2. Working on sustainable and efficient models of solar stove, water heaters etc. for domestic use

#### **Healthcare**

1. Health & nutrition card for the students in underprivileged schools
2. Organise health camps

#### **Provide a platform to grass-root change agents**

In order to promote and encourage the grass-root change leadership, we have started identifying such change agents and take them to the mainstream to inspire other change agents and the youth. We plan to organize webinars, video interviews and speech series of such people to take their message far and wide using the technology. We are launching this program in the last week of May 2017.

#### **Skilling**

SSF is currently in discussion with the corporate and other agencies to skill semi-urban and rural youth in agriculture, energy and SME sectors for local entrepreneurship and employment. This program is intricately linked with the women employment above and the Agriculture and energy tracks.

### SSF Partnering and Discussion in Development

National Capital region

Activity with	Activity Type	Description
IIT Kanpur – DFID, UK	Social enterprise incubation	To promote enterprises in priority sector with a measurable social difference
CSA, Kanpur	Technical Partnership	To grow a fungal production plant (Trichoderma, used to grow soil health at the time of Rabi / Kharif sowing. Currently we are studying the feasibility of running a Trichoderma unit, managed by an FPO (Farmer Producer Organisation)
BIMTECH, Greater Noida	Academic Partner	Seminars, Panel discussions in Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation. We are currently exploring to set up ‘Agarbatti’ making by a women self-help group sponsored by ITC Ltd.
IARI, New Delhi	Technical, Knowledge & Research Partner	Agri business incubation, Support in setting up Information gateway for the farmers and training. Currently in discussion of an incubation of ‘Agri aggregation’ initiative
ADAS, UK	Technical, Knowledge and Project Partner	Provide cutting edge knowledge in Agri, Renewable Energy areas and program manage the projects jointly
IIT BHU	Technology and Research partnership	Support Training, Research and Technology intervention in the projects with social outcomes specifically around Agriculture / Agri Business and Energy
EDI, Gandhinagar	Program Partner	Roll out development projects sponsored by the government or private sector. Currently we are discussing to roll out a project sponsored by Hewlett Packard in the ‘Purvanchal’ areas
FLAME University, Pune	Academic Partner	Seminars, Panel discussions in Social Entrepreneurship specifically based on the Agri Business. Our panel discussion cum webinar is scheduled for 25 March on ‘Agri Business – Next accelerator of Indian Economy and Development’
Private Sector players Zuari Agro, Deepak Fertilizer, Voltas, Bajaj Electricals, Infosys, ITC, Greenfirst, Energiaa	Funding and Implementation partner	Sponsoring the development projects, helping in design of curriculum for skilling and placement of candidates, participate in setting up CoE (Centre of Excellence) and partner in technical implementation / program management. For Example, Bajaj Electrical has agreed to help us design the curriculum, train our trainers to impart skills related to electricians, fitters etc. and provide jobs to the skilled candidates. Greenfirst and Energiaa have agreed to be implementation partners in SSF’s solar projects in the rural clusters.