

# The Initiatives - A step forward

One of the surest ways of inspiring others is to document our own journey and share these updates with our friends, family and supporters. This is not to just show our progress but to encourage others to join us in our mission of creating a fair and just society. If it inspires others to take up the cause and create their own initiatives and mirror our efforts then that can only be a good thing.

Central to the PPES ethos and work is the aim to develop a sustainable model of livelihood and social justice that can be replicated across the country and the world. This newsletter brings forth the various undertakings, accolades, recognitions and efforts of the organisation and its people.

Dear PPES family,

Thankfully what seems to be the longest year in our 20 years with all of its challenges is now over. The darkness that descended in 2020 seemed to go on forever but thankfully there is light at the end of the

tunnel. We enter 2021 with optimism and confidence that this light will bring a renewed hope to those that most need it.

Throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic we believe that PPES has embodied the characteristics of empathy, compassion and spirit of service during the last nine months. We have worked tirelessly to address the many issues faced by a population of 1,20,000 people from within our community, where none were unaffected by COVID-19.



As a team we reacted and developed out of the box solutions to reach

out to the community. We set up mobile classrooms to deliver lessons to our girls' doorstep. Initiated a safety attendance outreach program in order to ensure that each and every member of our society be it women of the SHGs or our students were healthy and safe. This Initiative ensured that we maintained contact with those who were most vulnerable none more so that young girls at risk of child marriage, we intervened in over 6 cases and are proud to report that they are safe and still in education.

Towards the end of last year PPES celebrated a milestone in our journey, we turned 20 years old. It has been an amazing journey and since our first baby steps we have learnt a lot and taken lots of lessons to carry us forward into the future. It is only with your support that we can carry on our mission of RURAL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF GIRLS AND WOMEN, we are very thankful for support from all of you.

Wishing you all a very happy and healthy life ahead. Renuka

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#### Welcoming Girls Back to School



We are so pleased to announce that after 7 long months after shutting the school down due to COVID-19, PPES have welcomed back students from class 10th to 12th to the school. In order to protect our students and members of staff, we regularly sanitise the classrooms, buses and administer random temperature checks whilst they are on school premises.

We are also adhering to the social distancing and COVID-19 protocols where possible and ensure that our students are wearing masks at all times.

#### Education on Wheels.

In difficult times there is a call for innovation to overcome any obstacle. One such innovation has been implemented in Anupshahar, where our girls can't attend their classes at the school due to the ongoing pandemic.

We decided to take advantage of the situation utilising our infrastructure to take the classroom to the girls so that they can continue their education. Instead of the buses that normally bring the girls to the school sitting idle, we have taken the decision to take the classrooms to them.



#### Health Service at Doorsteps

We started at the beginning of the year with the help of the HCL foundation, a mobile health van that is delivering medical services to the local communities surrounding Anupshahar. We are providing a free health service to the doorstep of those that we support, specifically those women who are members of our Self Help Groups to help them to stay healthy. Testing for malaria, dengue, and pneumonia to name a few. One key tool to make this a success is education and so in addition to its routine functions we are also delivering awareness programs, teaching health and hygiene best practices to reduce the risk of infections and diseases.



**Education Outreach** 

Recently we started our mobile classroom facility for our girls, but we can't accommodate every one of them, whilst maintaining protocols. So we adapted yet again and started outdoor classrooms, where we can continue to deliver quality education to every girl in our community, in order to give them the tools to fulfil their dreams.





# Learning Through Play

Teaching does not always take place in classrooms or focus on academia. Sometimes students can learn valuable life lessons, skills, or independance whilst playing sports and having fun. That is why we, as an educational society work towards a holistic education by creating a program that includes games, sports, and other topics such as debating.



## Global Run

On the occasion of completing two decades of our efforts to improve the lives of the unprivileged we organized our Global PPES Run Event, a virtual run where people can run anytime, anyplace on any day.

On November 21<sup>st</sup> our school staff and students actively participated in the Global PPES Run Event.

#### PPES Turns Twenty!

Education is the cornerstone to the organization's goal to alleviate poverty and to create a fair and just society. We started with this dream 20 years ago intending to provide education to the underprivileged girls from the village Anupshahar. Two decades later we are proud to say that our school and graduates are competing on par with private schools and alumni from wealthier tehsils. On this occasion of 20 year of PPES, a virtual get together was organized to reminisce and share stories from the last 20 years.



## Children's Day Celebration

On World Children's day, we have an opportunity to speak with our students and ask them what changes they would like to see and what a better future looks like for them through their eyes. It is time to listen to the children and allow them to voice their concerns. They are after all our future. https://www.facebook.com/pardadapardadi.org/videos/3624026290952035

#### Teaching Financial Know How

Our Community Development Department Head, Kamruddin Khan, educates our students on how our SHGs are structured and how the loan process works. Our new initiative of delivering classroom seminars on financial management is all about learning how to manage their money and budgeting.

We believe that having early knowledge of how to manage money and budgeting will be beneficial to them after they fly the nest and go on to fulfil their dreams.

#### https://www.facebook.com/pardadapardadi.org/videos/2857119597849257

## **Inspiring Creativity**



The lives of hundreds of girls in rural Uttar Pradesh are being transformed through quality education at the (PPES) school and we at iPartner India, are proud of our partnership with PPES now spanning 15 years. PPES has always focussed on the Rights of the Child and this weeklong celebration and awareness-building activity as part of the Children's week Campaign was no different. Children participated in various activities including a Poster making competition on Child Rights.

NASA - National Aeronautics and Space Administration

In July, launched a new mission, MARS 2020, to land a new rover on the surface of MARS and try to collect much more scientific data and information about the planet for research purposes. Not everybody has the opportunity to interact with NASA scientists let alone students from PPES school in rural Anupshahar, India, over 8000 miles apart. Our students were very fortunate to have the opportunity to interact with a PPES supporter working on the project. It was a brilliant interactive question and answer session which piqued our girls' curiosity and showed them what they could achieve with hard work, determination, and a never-give-up spirit.



#### STEM EDUCATION – PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

STEM education holds a great significance in our teaching methodology as it enables the students to learn in a scientific, systematic and logical manner, whilst acquiring the skills to become ready for the future after PPES. Our students need to learn, update, explore and continuously enhance their knowledge base by various innovative ways and means. Keeping this in mind we have conducted training for teachers to employ stem focused pedagogy.





## EDUCATION EMPOWERS ONE TO CHANGE PREDETERMINED DESTINY: POOJA



Pooja completed her class 12<sup>th</sup> from Pardada Pardadi School in the year 2019. Meritorious Pooja got a chance to join HCL's one year Early Career Training Program. She has completed her classroom training and will soon begin with her on the job training program and after completing her on job training ,she will be a permanent employee of HCL in August 2020.

Pooja had come from a poverty-stricken family; her father, Mr Kuber Sharma is a shopkeeper with an annual income of 42,000 INR. Her mother Brajesh Devi is a housewife. Pooja is the eldest of the family and she has three younger siblings and all of them are studying.

Pooja joined Pardada Pardadi in 2012. She was admitted in 5<sup>th</sup> class. She scored 1<sup>st</sup> position in school in her class 12<sup>th</sup> Board exam by scoring 77%. Both Pooja and her parents are grateful to Pardada Pardadi Education society for providing her with the best possible education and preparing her for the future.

Pooja believes that it is because of Pardada Pardadi Education society she could complete her education and join HCL's training program despite financial and social challenges destined in her life since her birth.

She is grateful to Pardada Pardadi Education society for providing holistic education that not only covered academic subjects but also inculcated knowledge of life skills which transforms the rural girls into better and confident young women.

Despite being a Hindi medium school, Pardada Pardadi takes utmost care of Spoken English skills and students get an opportunity to learn English by activity method in the English Lab.

Pooja had proved that financial or social difficulties can never stop the one, who is determined to change their predetermined destiny.

*Her mother expresses her sincere gratitude to everyone who has helped her daughter in believing her dreams and thereby established her wings.* 

She says, "We are grateful to the School for providing such excellent education to our girls. Today Pooja's younger cousins are following her footsteps and doing well in their examinations and they also hope to be like her one day."

#### Cost of education of a girl in one year

This year we are focusing on meeting all compliance and further enhancing the quality of education for the girls. We are increasing the number of buses for girls to travel to school and hiring specialist resource

persons. Factoring in inflation and little increase in above-mentioned costs, per girl per year cost towards education, is revised to INR 35,500/- (USD 480, CAD 625, GBP 370) (from 1st April 2020- March 2021)

#### THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

We welcome you to visit us, volunteer for our cause and make donations to educate and empower these rural girls and women and help them in achieving their dreams.

# DO VISIT OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS FOR REGULAR UPDATES!!



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