

# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

JULY-SEPTEMBER 2024

PARDADA PARDADI EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY



## Virendra (Sam) Singh's Legacy

**Dear PPES family,**

As we cope with the loss of our beloved founder, Virendra 'Sam' Singh, we reaffirm our commitment to carrying his mission forward and empowering rural communities. For 24 years, Sam's dedication to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities has touched thousands of lives.

From humble beginnings with 31 students and 2 classrooms, PPES now serves over 3,500 girls, supports 10,400+ women through Self-Help Groups, and celebrates 215+ girls in higher education and 186+ financially independent women.

These achievements are a testament to Sam's vision. The movement he initiated in a small village continues to inspire and create opportunities for girls across India, solidifying his reputation as a true visionary and changemaker.

With your continued support, we will honour Sam's vision and take PPES to even greater heights, transforming more lives and creating a brighter future for future generations. Thank you for standing with us during this time.

As we navigate this transition, we want to assure you that our commitment to advancing Sam's mission remains stronger than ever. With your continued support, we will take PPES to new heights.

Your trust in the PPES mission and belief in the power of education and empowerment have been instrumental in our journey. As we move forward, your support will be even more crucial. Together, we will ensure that Sam's legacy lives on through the continued success and growth of PPES.

With heartfelt gratitude and unwavering commitment.

**Team, PPES**



## PPES Founder Receives Bulandshahr Ratnam Award

We are proud to share that Late Mr. Virendra Sam Singh was honored with the Bulandshahr Ratnam Award at Bulandshahr Mahotsav 2024. The award celebrates his impactful work in girls' education and women's empowerment in Uttar Pradesh.

The award, was received by Principal Krishna Kumar Sharma on 14th July.



# HIGHLIGHTS

## 8th Annual PPES Rural Half Marathon: Racing to Empower Girls!

On 8th September, over 4,500 participants from 45+ schools and communities joined the 8th Annual Pardada Pardadi Rural Half Marathon.

Since 2014, the event has promoted girls' right to play and get the education.

We were honoured to host Ms. Anita Shah Akela, CEO of IEPFA as the chief guest and Ms. Sushma Singh as the sports icon. Some of the sponsors for the event were IEPFA, Jaypee Hospital, Bisleri, Catch Foods, Blackberrys Menswear, and PNB Bank.



## Lilly Singh and the Unicorn Island Team Make a Comeback



We had the pleasure of welcoming Ms. Lilly Singh, an acclaimed author, actress, and YouTuber back to PPES for her second visit along with her team.

During her time with the students, Ms. Singh conducted a workshop focused on building self-confidence, resilience, and the importance of education. She also engaged the girls in a fun and creative vision board activity, followed by an exciting basketball match that brought everyone together.

## Launch of PPES Students' Own Gratitude Journal & Gratitude Week Celebration

On World Gratitude Day on 21st September, PPES launched Gratitude Journals for our students to help them recognise and appreciate the beauty in their daily lives.

These journals encourage reflection and foster a daily gratitude practice. A special thank you to our dedicated volunteer, Ms. Nia Singh, for leading this initiative.





# HIGHLIGHTS

## Rickshaw Run: A 3,500 KM Adventure for Change!



Five adventurous supporters from the UK recently completed a 3500 km Rickshaw Run across India, from Kerala to Rajasthan, to support the education of PPES girls. Zak Mehta Hodges, Will Green, Harry Brown, Hari Mavani, and Adam Bonney embarked on this journey. We want to thank the iPartner team for facilitating the same and their relentless support.

**"I am hugely thrilled to report that WE DID IT!!**

**After two weeks and over 3,500 kilometres travelled, in our tiny little rickshaw, we have finally completed our epic expedition across India.**

**It has been an incredible journey, pushing ourselves out of our comfort zones and leaping at the challenges put in front of us. It is with great pride that we can announce that we have raised funds for a truly wonderful charity. This would not have been possible without the amazing support from all of you incredible people.**

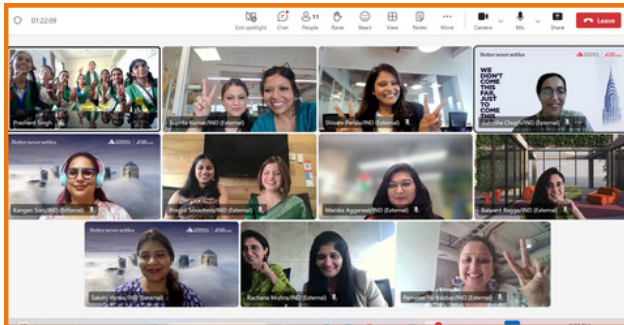
**Thank you all so very much!**

**We spent an amazing day at PPES where we were welcomed with open arms and incredible hospitality. It was heartwarming to see how appreciative the girls are of our fundraising support and even more inspirational at how hard they work."**

**Harry Brown, Head of Marketing - The Grieving Pint**

## EDUCATION UPDATES

### Mentorship Session by Cushman & Wakefield



As part of the second phase of the mentorship program by Cushman & Wakefield, a series of individual and group mentoring sessions have been initiated. These sessions provide personalized guidance to the girls on planning their higher education and exploring career options.

Additionally, 35 girls from the senior classes will attend a monthly communication skills session. This initiative aims to enhance their skills, boost their confidence, and better prepare them for future job opportunities.

### Financial Literacy and Investor Education Workshop by IEPFA-NCAER for PPES Faculty and Students

The Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA), Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA), in collaboration with PPES and NCAER, organized a workshop on "Promoting Financial Literacy and Investor Education for Effective Protection" on 19th & 20th July for students and faculty.

Additionally, as part of its 8th Foundation Day celebrations, IEPFA also hosted a conference on "The Role of Financial Education in Promoting Investor Awareness and Protection" on 7th September, attended by around 400 students from grades 10th to 12th, along with teachers.



# EVENTS & CELEBRATIONS

## 78th Independence Day Celebration



On 15th August, PPES celebrated India's 78th Independence Day with the flag hoisting, followed by the national anthem. Students and staff took part in a cultural program with dances, songs, and speeches, celebrating the spirit of freedom and unity.



## Teacher's Day Celebration

On 5th September, we celebrated Teachers' Day with cultural performance by students dedicated to our amazing teachers. Students also showcased their talents and took on the role of teachers for the day, allowing teachers to enjoy the classroom from a different perspective.



## Pathshala Swachhata Poster Competition



On August 8, 2024, our students participated in the Pathshala Swachhata Poster Competition organized by the Anupshahr Municipal Corporation to promote cleanliness.

Our students achieved excellent results, with one student winning first place, and others securing second and third place. The event showcased their creativity and commitment to a cleaner community.

# VISITS

## Visit by Coach Ravinder and His Club



PPES supporter, Coach Ravinder and his friends from running community visited the school. During their visit, they engaged our girls in various activities in the STEM lab, physics lab, sports, and dance, inspiring them to pursue their dreams fearlessly.





## Visit by Mr. Jaiprakash Gaur



On August 16th, Mr. Jaiprakash Gaur, former chairperson of the Jaypee Group and a distinguished industrialist and educationist, visited PPES.

During his visit, he actively engaged with students across a range of activities, including STEM projects, science experiments, computer labs, and sports.

## SPORTS

### Hockey Competitions 2024

- On 16th July, 12 students from PPES participated in the Hockey National Trials held at the Raja Karan Hockey Academy in Karnal, Haryana.
- On 29th August, 15 PPES students participated in a hockey competition at Yamunapuram Stadium in Bulandshahr. PPES team won a remarkable victory against Bulandshahr, securing the 1st position.
- From the 3rd to the 10th of August, three PPES students represented Raja Karan Hockey Academy in the 2nd Hockey India Junior Women Academy National Championship in New Delhi. They participated in several matches, including two draws against Citizen Hockey Academy and Jai Bharat Hockey Academy, as well as a match against Naval Tata Hockey Academy.
- From 5th to 10th August, 2024, three PPES students represented Ritu Rani Hockey Academy in the 2nd Hockey India Sub-Junior Women Academy National Championship in New Delhi.



# SPORTS

## 68th Secondary School Sports Championship

- On 7th August, seven PPES students participated in the 68th Secondary School Badminton Regional Sports Championship at L.D.A.V. Inter College in Anupshahar. The sub-junior PPES team achieved a victory against LDAV, while the junior team also secured a win.
- 22 PPES students participated in the 68th Secondary School Karate Regional Sports Competition at Shivkumar Aggarwal Janta Inter College, Bulandshahr.
- On 8th August, seven PPES students competed in the 68th Secondary School Badminton District Level Sports Competition at Kuber Inter College in Dibai.
- On 8th August, eight PPES students participated in the 68th Secondary School Table Tennis District Level Sports Competition at Kuber Inter College, Dibai.
- 23 PPES students competed in the 68th Secondary School Kabaddi District Level Sports Competition at Amar Singh Janta Inter College, Lakhavati. Our students achieved 1st position, with notable wins in the Sub-Junior and Junior categories.
- 20 students participated in the 68th Secondary School Football Divisional Level Sports Competition at Ordnance Factory Inter College, Muradnagar (Ghaziabad). Our students secured 1st place in the Senior category, with 3 students selected for the State Level Competition.
- Pardada Pardadi students achieved outstanding success at the 68th Uttar Pradesh School Basketball Competition, held in Kanpur from 17th to 20th September. Thirteen athletes represented the school in the under-14, under-17, and under-19 categories. The girls' basketball team secured first place in both the under-14 and under-17 categories, demonstrating their dedication and excellence in sports.



# HEALTH & HYGIENE

## Key Interventions During the Quarter



- The Prana Health Center treated 3,736 patients.
- Physical check-ups were completed for 1,655 students.
- 103 students received their second dose of the Hepatitis B vaccine.
- Blood group tests were conducted for 396 individuals, expanding our health database.
- Health education classes reached 1,225 students across various grades, covering essential topics such as BMI awareness, tuberculosis prevention and management, oral hygiene, and the importance of dental care.



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION (CDD)

## Empowering Women Entrepreneurs Through Capacity-Building Training



A capacity-building training was held in Anupshahr on 24th August for 35 Self-Help Group (SHG) members, empowering women entrepreneurs running micro-businesses like Kirana shops and beauty parlours. Participants learned valuable skills in bookkeeping, account management, and inventory control to help grow their businesses. The training is done under the project 'Utthan' supported by the EY Foundation.

## Weaving Success: Broom-Making Skills Boost Rural Livelihoods



In collaboration with the Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETI) Bulandshahr, a six-day broom-making skill development training was organized in Bheempur Village, Danpur Block, on 24 September. This initiative brought together 35 enthusiastic SHG members eager to enhance their livelihoods.

Through hands-on workshops, participants learned broom-making techniques and quality control, providing them with a sustainable income source and entrepreneurship opportunities. The training is done under the project 'Utthan' and is supported by the EY Foundation.

## PPES Students Take Center Stage: Street Plays Spark Community Dialogue



PPES students organised an impactful programme in Pota Badshapur village. Our girls highlighted important social issues through engaging street plays and effectively connecting with the local SHG community members.



# DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS POWERING CHANGE

## Welcoming New Volunteers



This quarter, we welcomed a diverse group of new volunteers to PPES. Two volunteers from the Lakshmbai National Institute of Physical Education (LNPE), Gwalior, joined our sports program, while nine international volunteers from Egypt and two from the USA contributed to our education and health divisions.



## Empowering Through Education: Gender Equality Sessions

One of the volunteers from the US, Cassidy, conducted sessions on gender equality for 9th and 11th-grade students. These sessions aimed to raise awareness, challenge gender discrimination, and encourage open discussions among the girls.

**"My time at PPES was truly transformative. I aimed to empower the girls to speak up for their rights and challenge their beliefs about gender. The girls' resilience and enthusiasm for learning were truly inspiring."**

Cassidy Volunteer, USA



## Inspiring Session on the Role of IT in Education and Career Opportunities



On August 10th, Mr. Hari Tripathi, Head of India GCC and Director at Axalta, visited PPES to lead an engaging session on the role of IT in education. The session, attended by 85 girls from 11th grade and 55 teachers from the middle and senior wings, offered valuable insights into how technology can enhance learning and equip students for the digital future.

## Dental Hygiene Awareness Session



A volunteer from the USA, Alex, organised an informative session on dental hygiene for a total of 175 girls from 8th and 9th grades. The session focused on raising awareness about dental care and included a survey to assess the girls' dental hygiene practices.



## PPES International Fundraising Event & Visits



On September 28th, the PPES Canada Gala brought together our wonderful supporters and friends to celebrate and strengthen our shared commitment to empowering rural girls through education. The evening was a heartwarming reminder of the power of collective efforts in advancing our mission.



Also, the PPES team traveled to the UK in September to connect with the PPES UK team, supporters, and friends. We are deeply grateful for their continued support and partnership in driving positive change for the future of rural girls.

## ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

### Showcasing iVillage at the UK Fair: Empowerment on a Global Stage

iVillage participated at the National Exhibition Center (NEC) Birmingham, UK, from 1st to 4th September 2024.

The fair, organised by Source Home & Gift in collaboration with Hyve Group's Spring and Autumn Fair, provided a platform to connect with a diverse audience



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