

The background of the newsletter cover features a collage of photographs of children. A prominent image shows a young girl in a purple school uniform holding a sign that says "SAVE GIRL CHILD". Other children in the background are holding signs with words like "ENGINEER" and "IAS". The cover is decorated with large, diagonal, semi-transparent geometric shapes in shades of blue, yellow, and light blue.

NEWSLETTER

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The World Bank and the Indian Education System

In an interesting conversation with a World Bank representative regarding “Building Skills of the Future”, we discussed what could the World Bank do to support education in India. Three points seem pertinent to discuss here:

1. Building Life Skills in Students so they can learn to learn:

If they learn to learn then they will be able to create value out of every situation they face. The world is changing so quickly that new types of skills are required every day. What hope do we have to teach skills of the future? But if we can teach them how to learn, they will adapt and learn based on the requirement. That is why life skills are critical. If our students develop confidence in their ability to learn, find answers, solve problems, use technology, and communicate effectively, then we would be equipping them well for the future.

2. Capacity Building of the EcoSystem:

Government’s National Education Policy 2020 is a forward-looking policy that focuses on much-needed reforms in the education system of India. I believe there is a lot of effort by the government to communicate the features of the policy to educational institutions. I am sure the hope is that India’s educational institutes will now produce a different kind of student. However, if a teacher or a principal has never experienced a different kind of education themselves, if their own experience has been about clearing exams and rote learning, then how realistic is it to expect they will create a different kind of student?



Sapna Moudgil
Director, NIIT Foundation

Enough effort in capacity building of the entire Ecosystem is required for the new NEP to yield the results we hope for.

3. Need for a Standardized Assessment at various levels:

While this is meaningful, it is important that the assessment takes into account the diversity of students. To paraphrase a quote from Einstein, if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid. The standardized assessment must measure all kinds of skills and knowledge so that an artist or an engineer both feel valued at the end of it.

These are a few ideas that might act as catalysts toward a more equitable and quality-oriented education system in India. Surely India can benefit from all the support she can get from the World Bank.



COVER STORY

18 Years of NIIT Foundation: Revealing the **Rainbow** Within



It was 18 years ago that NIIT Foundation was set up by the promoters of NIIT Ltd with the mission to create a deep and demonstrable impact in underserved communities. True to its mission, various programs have been undertaken and successfully delivered to over 5.8 million beneficiaries. It has been a journey of learning, recalibrating, and inspiring students, facilitators, and the NF team. Reinvention – whether it be personal, organizational, or professional – is imperative to have continued growth and reach greater heights.

One of the ways is to ensure that we utilize our strengths, which helps to broaden our horizons. To facilitate this, NIIT Foundation shared the theme of the year as “Revealing the Rainbow”. The idea is to help individuals identify and sharpen skills that exist within themselves. We also hope that people let go of their inhibitions and display talents that they have been afraid to share so far.

Why is it essential for NF to help ‘Reveal the Rainbow’? The primary reason is that when we share our skillset and strengths with others, we collectively contribute to a journey of greatness. With an individual’s innate skills, he or she can make an enormous difference to the community and nation. However, we all have inhibitions and fears that prevent us from fully sharing with others and this is where we need to change.

NIIT Foundation has planned multiple sessions and workshops to bring to focus the identification of one’s strengths and weaknesses, how to work on the weaknesses, and how to utilize our strengths for the betterment of ourselves and our families.

We encourage you to think about the talents that you have within yourself. How would you polish them and what is the best way you can utilize them to contribute to society? Are there skills that you believe we need more of? If so, do write to us and let us know.



FEATURED PARTNER

HUAWEI INDIA

Huawei CSR India was keen to undertake an initiative to improve digital literacy across the country, in support of the Prime Minister's vision of a Digital India. Huawei CSR India chose to partner with NIIT Foundation as their implementation and training partner because they hold comprehensive experience and expertise in implementing digital literacy and skilling courses across the country.

They decided that a Digital Bus would be the best mode of delivery to reach remote and underserved communities.



DigiBus inaugurated by Hon'ble Dr. Bhagwat Karad, Union Minister of State for Finance, Government of India



The 5G-enabled, solar-powered Digital Bus is a mobile classroom equipped with 16 computers, internet, video, conferencing facilities, e-course software, printing facilities, and trainers. The chosen courses aim to improve digital literacy, empower women with technology, and help the youth be more at par with education in urban while exposing them to opportunities available in IT and ITES fields. The first Digital Bus was flagged off on 16th January 2023. In total, 4 buses will run to serve areas of Delhi-NCR, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan to positively impact the lives of over 1,50,000 men, women, and youth.

Together, NIIT Foundation and Huawei India look forward to bringing a change in people's digital literacy and encouraging employability amongst youth. There is hope that through sessions and Life Skill modules, we can help bring about a cultural change that will be helpful to girls, and women to attain more freedom, independence, and rights.



Mr. Harsh Khurana
Chief - Regulatory,
Corporate Affairs &
Communication
Department, Huawei
Telecommunication, India



Huawei recognizes that access to a high-quality education, including digital skills, is a fundamental right for all individuals. Through technology, we aim to bring learning resources to those who need them most, thus empowering them to unlock their full potential. In line with India's national vision of Digital India, we remain dedicated to supporting social and community welfare in the country.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to the NIIT Foundation for their continued support in our efforts to bridge the digital divide in India. As part of our global outreach, Huawei India is proud to partner and run the Huawei Digibus initiative, that provides digital education to underprivileged communities in the Indian subcontinent. This endeavor leverages advanced technologies such as 5G Communications, Immersive & Virtual Collaboration, Content Management, Security, and Edge AI to provide seamless world-class education facilities to rural areas.

Our partnership with the NIIT Foundation is an ongoing commitment to support the country's last mile digital connectivity, ensuring vital services are accessible to all. We take pride in our collaboration and will continue to explore innovative ways to connect people and make a positive impact on the world. Looking forward, we are confident that our long-term vision and commitment to these initiatives will benefit communities in India and beyond.



STORY OF CHANGE



Name of the Student: Deepanshu Sharma (Kaki)

Age: 27 years

Course: Active Basic IT & Professional Edge, Spoken English & Personality Development

Center Name: NIIT Foundation, Uttam Nagar

Placement: Freelance Make Up artist & Dance Instructor

A young transgender woman, Kaki (Deepanshu Sharma), found acceptance with her family but not with society. She faced a lot of bullying and harassment in school, the scars which she carries to date, leaving her underconfident and in a shell. Her family of 7 faced severe financial hardships because the sole bread earner, her father, was a factory labourer. Kaki had to drop out of school after 8th standard as they couldn't afford further education for her. She still wished to support her family and began singing devotional songs at Jagratas. Kaki also freelanced as a makeup artist to make ends meet.



Unfortunately, though she was good at her work, she would lose out on clients because her communication skills were not up to the mark. Many preferred to communicate in English which Kaki was not comfortable with. She realized she needed to skill herself if she wanted to have a successful career as a makeup artist. However, whenever she thought of joining a course, her childhood trauma of bullying came back to haunt her and she abandoned thoughts of taking up any course. Her fellow LGBTQIA+ friends shared information about the NIIT Foundation and Connecting Dreams Foundation's special batch for members of their community. Hesitantly, Kaki enrolled in the course.

Initially, she felt shy and awkward. However, as the course progressed, she began opening up and felt confident in her own abilities. Kaki learnt how to speak and communicate well in English, enabling her to pick up more freelance makeup assignments. She also learnt how to use MS Office to design flyers, maintain records, send emailers, draft letters to share, and use the internet to find new makeup techniques and dance videos. She also is actively involved in improving the lives of fellow LGBTQIA+ members and encourages them to take up the course to improve their employability chances.

Kaki is happily pursuing her passions and is earning well from them. Her communication skills and professionalism sets her apart. She expressed her heartfelt gratitude to both - NIIT Foundation and Connecting Dreams Foundation for equipping her with skills to have a brighter future!

VOLUNTEER SPEAK

A hands-on learning experience I will always cherish - Richa



Richa Rawat, Delhi

“ I am a student of the PGDM course, from NDIM, and as part of my corporate social responsibility course, I decided to volunteer with NIIT Foundation, Civil Lines. Mr. Anwar (Centre Head) helped me understand the various NF programs being conducted and the awareness raised about them through mobilization and door-to-door campaigns. I was keen to be a part of these campaigns to reach out to beneficiaries and interact with them.

NIIT Foundation is working towards two sustainable development goals – Quality Education and Skill Development/Technical Know How. They focus on bridging the digital divide by offering free-of-cost digital literacy courses to the underserved. Their attention to detail and their remarkable ability to connect with beneficiaries have a big impact on the lives of those they serve. The team at Civil Lines worked tirelessly to ensure the efforts focused on making a positive impact. Their professionalism and commitment to the mission are truly inspiring and it was a pleasure working alongside them. I would highly recommend students consider volunteering with NIIT Foundation to understand various aspects that go into ensuring equal educational development for all in a structured manner.”

JOIN US

BE A PARTNER

If you are a corporate and are looking for an organisation to implement your CSR vision in the area of skill development, education and employability, press on the button below for partnership details.

[CLICK HERE](#)



BE A DONOR

If you want to help make a deep impact in the communities we work in, you can support our programs and beneficiaries. To make a donation press on the Click Here icon below

[CLICK HERE](#)



BE A VOLUNTEER

If you have time, a passion to work for the underprivileged and a skill to share, you can be a NF Volunteer. Press on the Click Here icon below to volunteer at NF.

[CLICK HERE](#)



NIITians can also donate through Payroll:

Visit www.iNIITian.com -> My Data -> NIIT Giving in order to donate through payroll or to register yourself for volunteering.



NIIT Foundation invited to be on a Radio Talk Show

Mr. Vikram Kumar, Head of Partnerships & Communications received an opportunity to be part of Gurgaon Community Radio: Gurgaon Ki Awaaz - Aaj Ke Mehmaan. He shared some fantastic information on the inner workings of NF as well as enlightened the audience about specific programs and initiatives that NF offers for various age groups for underserved communities. Some fascinating facts shared by Mr. Kumar about NF initiatives, programs, and projects were also covered in the program.

Industry Visit to Hindustan Coca-Cola Beverages Factory

25 NIIT Foundation students from CDC Ameenpur, a CSR Initiative of Hindustan Coca-Cola Beverages, experienced an insightful industry visit to the HCCB industrial plant in Hyderabad. From understanding the product lifecycle to getting a global perspective and networking with different experts – this visit was the perfect combination of learning and doing! It was an incredible opportunity for our students to learn firsthand about the plant operations, maintenance, and manufacturing of their products.



Sr. officials from Cisco met our students from the LGBTQIA community

Ms. Marcella O'Shea, Corporate Affairs APJC Manager, Cisco, and Mr. Ishvinder Singh, India Lead-Skills & NetAcad, Cisco, visited the LGBTQIA students from Project Transformation and discussed their experiences studying with Cisco NetAcad. Students were felicitated with their certificates for completing their Cyber Security courses. Ms. O'Shea appreciated the strides the students were making towards becoming empowered through various upskilling.

Inauguration of DigiBus by the Minister of State, UP

Huawei and NIIT Foundation's DigiBus was inaugurated and flagged off in HarDOI, Uttar Pradesh by **Hon'ble Minister of State, Shri Nitin Agarwal**. Shri Agarwalji expressed his happiness while dedicating the bus to the residents of the districts and congratulated the team for taking Prime Minister Modi's vision of a Digital India further and imparting digital education, along with vital skills, through the Digi Bus.



Special Job fair for PwD students

NF's NReach team organized a job fair exclusively for persons with disabilities from the Family of Disabled. Top MNC companies, such as Amazon.com, Concentrix, and TaskUs were a part of the Job Fair. Over 45 students appeared for the interviews, out of them, 22 students were selected while some were shortlisted for further rounds of interviews.

Volunteers' visit from Indus Towers

Captn. Jasmeet Chauhan (Head logistics and warehouse - Indus Towers) and Ms. Sakshi Goyal (Circle HR Head - Indus Towers) volunteered at the Digital Transformation Van (DTV) in New Delhi as a part of their Personal Social Responsibility (PSR) activity. Sixty girl students from the DTV were part of various activity sessions over the 3-day-long PSR. On the last day, 126 students were felicitated and provided with their certificates.



Job Fair at CDC Civil Lines

A placement drive was successfully conducted for students of NIIT Foundation's Career Development Center in Civil Lines. Out of the 59 students who were interviewed, 56 students were selected for multiple positions based on their skill sets. Companies like SMC Insurance Pvt Ltd and Mercury Insurance Pvt Ltd were a part of this job fair. The team of CDC Civil Lines were proud of the accomplishments and efforts of our students.

Cisco and NIIT Foundation celebrate 1 Lakh enrollment in Cyber Suraksha Program

NF and Cisco celebrated the milestone event of completing the training of over 1 lakh individuals in cybersecurity under the Cyber Suraksha program to equip citizens with the knowledge to identify and respond to cyber threats. The event was attended by Sr. dignitaries from the Govt. security Council, Cisco, and NIIT Foundation. And it was telecast live to more than 5000 individuals over YouTube.



Cybersecurity workshop for women in a garment factory

A women-only Cybersecurity session was held for over 40 women in Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh, at JI Apparel - a Garment factory in Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh, under the Cyber Surakshit Program. The Cyber Suraksha program aims at equipping citizens with the knowledge to identify and respond to cyber threats from different ages, gender, and professions.

Career Guidance & placement session especially for Women

A career guidance and placement session was held to empower the girls of Saraswati Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Haryana. The session was held on 10th Feb 2023 in association with SAT Krishna Career Development Centre in Prithla, and over 100 girls were part of this interactive session. The key topics included understanding the insight and vision of digital empowerment, skill development, and employability.



Industry visit at Safe Express for NGO partner

NIIT Foundation's NReach Team organized an enriching and informative industrial visit for the students of our NGO partner, Navjyoti India Foundation. 40 students, completing the logistics course, visited the Safe Express office and processing unit, accompanied by 3 trainers. The Safe Express team shared valuable insight and real-world information about working in the logistics industry. The students understood the various job roles and prospects within the industry.



शांति है। अब तक, 51 जेलों में कर-
दारा बंध किए गए हैं। इन कार्यक्रमों में
दार्जिलिंग शामिल है। केंद्र के खुले पर-
प्रस्तुता व्यक्त करते हुए नाइक ने कहा
कि मैं इन तरफ को देख रहा हूँ और
हीरोसमफ को वास्तव में आभारी हूँ,
जो न केवल स्थानीय जेलों में
कोशिश को उलट करने में मदद करेगा
बल्कि उनको रोजगार क्षमता भी
बढ़ेगा। समाजोपयोगी विकास और पिछड़े
क्षेत्रों के छात्रों के लिए एक स्थायी
प्रशिक्षण-सह-पारामर्श मॉडल का
निष्पत्ति इस हस्तक्षेप के प्रमुख उद्देश्य
है। हीरोसमफ ने आने वाले दिनों में
इस तरह के और हस्तक्षेप को योजना
बनाई है।

PERFORMANCE AREA FY23

Over **189,539** students enrolled in skill programs

Over **15,681** students successfully placed in all projects

Over **164,115** beneficiaries became financially literate

Over **11,308** children benefitted through HiWEL Stations

60 New Centers set up (CDC & DLC)

Over **500** hours of volunteer effort to help students



We Welcome Our New Partners

Sai Life Sciences

Aristo Pharmaceuticals

Ciena

Busy Software

Rotary Club of Delhi Southex

Swarna Vohra Memorial Foundation

We thank our existing partners for their continued support
by granting new projects:

HCCB, Microsoft, Tata Steel Foundation, ST

Microelectronics, CISCO, SONY Software, JM Financial
Foundation, and ATC India

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CENTERS

NF BR Okri, NF MH Vavoshi, NF UP Sahibabad, NF TN Nemam, NF KA Tumakuru, NF MH Nagpur, NF TN Salem, NF MH DTV Pune, NF RJ DTV Neemrana, NF UP DTV Hardoi, NF OR Gual, NF JH Sonari Jamshedpur, NF OR Duburi, NF OR Angul, NF HR DTV Gurugram, NF OR Angul, NF WB Kolkata, NF DLC AP MUNUGODU, NF DLC BR Bal Bharti Road, NF DLC BR Bhovi, NF DLC BR Bikramganj, NF DLC BR Mali, NF DLC MH Nhave Village, NF DLC MP Pithampur, NF DLC MP Takipura, NF DLC OR Aripada, NF DLC OR BADAPOKHARIA, NF DLC OR BALAPUR, NF DLC OR DHINKIA, NF DLC OR Guamal Tihidi, NF DLC OR Haridaspur, NF DLC OR KAPALESWAR, NF DLC OR MAHAKALPADA, NF DLC OR Nasik, NF DLC OR Nuagarh, NF DLC OR PALASINGHA, NF DLC OR Rajkanika, NF DLC PB BIJA, NF DLC PB Rakba, NF DLC TN Achamputhur, NF DLC TN Ammapalayam, NF DLC TN Boothapandi, NF DLC TN Chithode Road, NF DLC TN Kulasekarapattanam, NF DLC TS VELJALA, NF DLC BR Bakhra, NF DLC UP Ramnagar Karanjhala, NF DLC AS Amjuli Udaligiri, NF DLC OR Badapara, NF DLC OR Banguria, NF DLC OR Bijepur SSM, NF DLC WB Bolepur, NF DLC MH Ghosarwad, NF DLC WB Andal, NF DLC WB Chhatna, NF DLC WB Palpara, NF DLC PB Jaswal Lahri, NF DL Nangloi, NF DLC PB Lakha, NF DLC UP Para, NF MH Mokhada, NF BR Dhanimatri, NF DL Rangpuri, NF DLC DL Delhi Cantt, NF OR Bamebari, NF JH West Bokaro, NF BR Jansidih, NF BR Lachhaur, NF BR Nauwadih, NF DL Virtual, NF JH Jamadoba, NF JH Sijua, NF DLC DL Online Center, NF DLC JH ALARGO, NF DLC JH Domkara, NF DLC JH Norhi, NF DLC JH Pandri, NF DLC JH Tau, NF DLC JH Toto, NF DLC UP Anoopganj, NF DLC UP Ariyama, NF DLC UP Khulhan, NF DLC UP Lucknow-Tryasujan_NH28, NF DLC UP Neelgaon - Sitapur, NF OR Sukinda Mines, NF DLC UP Sukrauli, NF DLC UP Vivek Nagar, NF DLC BR Gaurichak, NF DLC BR Machhriyawan, NF DLC UP Behta, NF DLC UP Bhaisa Bazar, NF DLC UP Karampur, NF DLC UP Pachgawan, NF MP DTV Bhopal, NF DL Online Center, NF KA Yelanhanka, NF CDC OR Patia, NF DL Khanpur, NF DL DTV Delhi NCR, NF UK DTV Dehradun, NF TN Gowrivakkam, NF MH Boriwali, NF DLC BR Sonawa, NF DLC UP Allopur Katehar, NF DLC UP Pipraich, NF DLC UP Rajatalab, NF DLC WB Julpia, NF DLC WB Malancha, NF DLC WB Karola, NF DLC UP Sarnath, NF CDC UP Tigri, NF DLC WB Rohini, NF DL Daryaganj, NF DLC OR Keshpur, NF DLC OR Baldhimal, NF DLC OR Karilopatana, NF DLC OR Balipadia, NF DLC OR Chhotraypur, NF DLC BR BANDWAR, NF DLC BR Baruari, NF DLC BR Mohammadpur, NF DLC BR PRATAPPUR, NF DLC BR SHEKHPURA, NF DLC JH Atmii, NF DLC JH Panch Mohli, NF HR Gurgaon, NF DLC BR Bhikhanpur, NF DLC BR GANGAULI, NF DLC BR Upper Tola, NF DLC MH Ruikheri, NF UP Motherson DTV, NF SILF Mp Indore, NF DLC AP Dharmavaram, NF DLC MH Adratgaon, NF DLC MH Panoti, NF DLC MH TELGAON, NF DLC RJ Tateeja, NF DLC TS Vatpally, NF HR Faridabad, NF DLC MH Wardha, NF DLC WB Midnapur, NF DLC GJ Bhetiya, NF DLC GJ Motavadla, NF DLC GJ Vedgam, NF DLC GJ Wankaner, NF DLC CG Chotiya, NF DLC CG Niyandar