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CARING THROUGH SHARING

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Nurturing Minds, Unlocking Potential

Reaching the Unreached: A New Educational Initiative for those in Need



Imagine being a school-going child and having to move with your parents, who are migrant workers searching for work. This means that your education will have to be put on hold, and in some cases, it might even be permanently stopped. It's truly disheartening to see these children prioritizing helping their parents instead of going to school, which they rightfully should. Frequent relocations disrupt their schooling, making it challenging for them to receive a regular education, often leading to them being labelled as school dropouts.

But there is hope shining through the darkness. With your support, we can change the path of these children's lives and provide them with the opportunity they deserve. Our partner organization, the Uddhar Vikas Sanstha operated by the Jesuits of Pune Province, work tirelessly to address the educational needs of migrant children who have relocated from Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Bihar, and Jharkhand.

The Uddhar Vikas Sanstha's goal is to offer preschool education to these children, giving them a solid foundation for a brighter future. Currently, we are providing education to 40 children divided into two age groups: 20 in the nursery (aged 3-4) and 20 in kindergarten (aged 4-5). These children attend the program for a nominal monthly fee, and after two years, with our support, they gain admission to other schools.

Thanks to the generous support of donors like you, we have been able to provide these children with textbooks, stationery, uniforms, and hot nutritious meals. Additionally, we have employed two dedicated teachers who educate the children in both English and Marathi, ensuring that they are on par with their peers in terms of learning and development.

Observing these children growing in confidence and forming bonds with one another is truly remarkable. However, our work is far from over. There are countless more children in similar circumstances who desperately need our help. We humbly request your continuous support to reach these unreached children and provide them with the educational resources they deserve.

Empowering Rural Youth: Unlocking Opportunities through GIS and Remote Sensing Training



The Xavier Institute of Natural Resource Management (XINRM) at Social Centre, Ahmednagar, being run by the Jesuits of Pune Province, has taken a significant stride towards empowering rural youth by introducing a Certificate Course in Geographic Information System (GIS) and Remote Sensing (RS). This innovative initiative aims to provide essential spatial technology skills to youth from rural areas, opening up new opportunities for employment and economic growth.

Largely, rural students have encountered various challenges in accessing GIS training. Limited educational resources and financial constraints have made it difficult for them to pursue such courses. Many have had to bear the burden of high fees and additional expenses by travelling to urban centers like Pune to receive training. However, with the implementation of the GIS & RS course at XINRM in Ahmednagar, these obstacles are being overcome by offering affordable and accessible training directly to the rural youth.

Starting from July to September 2023, this full-time professional course will deliver comprehensive instruction in GIS and RS to a cohort of 30 students. The curriculum covers advanced topics such as RS, Image Processing, GIS, and Navigation Systems, along with an exploration of the underlying spatial data structures used in GIS. Divided into theory sessions (6 credits), practical and fieldwork (6 credits), and a research dissertation (4 credits), this 16-credit course aims to provide students with a well-rounded education in GIS and RS.

By providing this specialized training program, XINRM is not only equipping rural youth with valuable skills but also paving the way for their social and economic advancement. The GIS and RS course has the potential to transform the lives of rural students, enabling them to break free from the cycle of poverty and create a promising future for themselves and their communities.

Being Human & MPSM: Empowering Rural Minds through English & Digital Education



Being Human (established by the Bollywood actor Salman Khan) and MPSM (Maharashtra Prabodhan Seva Manadal), led by the Bombay Jesuits, collaborate to uplift underprivileged children and improve their educational opportunities. Together, they have effectively introduced an English Learning and Digital Language program, which has brought essential resources and assistance to rural communities.

MPSM recognizes the specific obstacles faced by rural communities and tailors its curriculum accordingly, taking into account their respective requirements. The curriculum is thoughtfully designed to be applicable and meaningful in rural settings. In order to create an engaging and interactive learning experience for rural children, a diverse array of resources has been integrated, such as videos, durable flex materials, handbooks, flip charts, and games. These resources serve to enhance the educational journey not only for children attending Learning Centers in villages but also extend their reach to encompass agricultural education for farmers and support women's groups as well.

Building upon their successful foundation in English teaching and learning, Being Human and MPSM have taken their efforts to the next level. They have meticulously scripted, designed, and produced a collection of 19 animated video capsules, accompanied by a facilitator's guide. These educational materials serve multiple objectives: introducing English sentences for speaking and writing, expanding vocabulary for speaking and reading, and enabling learners to apply Basic English in their daily lives. Each video capsule features simple 2-D animation with a voice-over and lasts approximately 5 minutes.

Recognizing the importance of reaching as many children as possible, Being Human and MPSM have produced 500 DVD copies of the video capsules. These DVDs are being distributed to village-level Learning Centers across nine districts of Maharashtra, benefiting thousands of children. Additionally, the program's impact is being extended to a network of primary schools and children's boarding facilities within the same nine districts. By doing so, they are amplifying their efforts and ensuring a wider reach for their educational materials.

To know more click here: <https://beinghumanonline.com/education.html>

Migrant Workers' Children Learn Life Skills in an Innovative Summer Camp



We are excited to share the incredible impact of the camp organized by Kiran Niketan Social Centre (under the Goa Jesuit Province) on April 4, 2023. This camp brought together 54 migrant children from underprivileged families in Zuarinagar, Goa, providing them with a truly life-changing experience.

Our main goal for the camp was to give these children a unique and engaging opportunity to explore their creativity and express themselves through cultural activities. We also aimed to foster new connections among the participants while educating them about internet safety and the importance of making healthy food choices. Ultimately, our objective was to shape their characters and make a positive impact on their lives.

Laximi Lamani, one of our students who had participated in previous sessions, shared her perspective on the camp: "Returning to Kiran Niketan Social Centre filled me with joy. The summer camp provided me with valuable lessons that helped me develop my inner strength and skills. I learned about the dangers of mass media and cybercrimes, as well as the importance of self-acceptance and healthy eating. I'm genuinely thankful for this amazing opportunity."

Geeta, another student, expressed similar sentiments, emphasizing the camp's role in personal growth. She was thrilled to showcase her leadership skills, organize games for fellow participants, and overcome her fear of being on stage. The discussions on healthy lifestyles, responsible internet use, and fraud awareness had a profound impact on her. Furthermore, the group activities taught her the value of teamwork, creating cherished memories.