



India - Driving Education Empowerment & Development (IN-DEED) Foundation



Annual Report 2019-20



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1. Introduction

IN-DEED Foundation is a registered Trust that engages youth volunteers and harnesses technology tools with a vision to enable provision of quality education to every child in India.

The purpose is to improve learning levels, academic performance, awareness, exposure, confidence, capabilities and employability of students and youth in rural India.

Since its inception in May 2014, the Foundation has been running following programs for students of rural government schools in several districts of Rajasthan:

- i. 'Adhyayan' focusing on greater understanding of curriculum subject
- ii. 'Sambhavna' involving co-curricular activities, student exchange, peer-learning, edutainment and exposure
- iii. 'Jigyasa' fostering curiosity and enhancing interest in STEM, Robotics & Automation
- iv. 'Samiksha' conducting regular assessments
- v. Digital Empowerment – bridging the rural-urban digital divide by providing practical computer training, Digital and MS Office skills

Objectives:

The objectives of IN-DEED Foundation are to enable every child:

- i. To achieve grade level learning
- ii. Complete at least 12 years of formal schooling with good grades in the first attempt
- iii. Develop confidence to work on computers with basic understanding of IT and MS Office skills
- iv. Gain functional command of the English language

All of these will enable students and youth to development confidence, gain skills and capabilities to enhance their employability.



NOTE

Response to Coronavirus Crisis:

In these difficult times when the whole country is grappling with multiple health and economic challenges posed by the Corona Virus, IN-DEED is partnering with several organisations to provide relief materials including food packets (*Vadodara, Gujarat*) and protective gear like masks (*Delhi, Rajasthan and Gujarat*) to those in need.



2. Program Updates 2019-20

2.1 Digital Empowerment

In 2018, a Digital Resource Centre (DRC) had been set up by IN-DEED Foundation in nodal village (Rajola Kalan) in Pali district of Rajasthan, with CSR support from the Aditya Birla Group. The DRC, equipped with 8 computers and a smartboard, is a novel initiative established for the first time in rural Western Rajasthan. To provide training and for onsite coordination of programs a full-time trainer is based permanently at the Centre where rural students and youth are provided digital literacy, practical computer and MS Office skills training.

In 2018-19, 452 students were trained at the Digital Resource Centre.



Status of Computer education & Internet Use in Rural Schools

Information gathered from intervention schools as well as from students and youth who received computer, MS Office skills and digital literacy training at the Digital Resource Centre in rural Pali reveals the following:

- i. Computers are available in most senior secondary schools; however, they are either not in working conditions or mainly used by teachers for administration and record-keeping purposes. Use of computers by students is severely limited, almost non-existent.
- ii. Around 90% of students do not have access to a computer at their homes and do not know how to switch on and switch off a desktop PC.
- iii. Over 80% have never worked on a computer; even among those who used laptops/ computers, a majority used them only for listening to songs, watching movies or playing games.
- iv. Just 10% of the students had ever used the Internet on computers/ laptops before taking training at the Digital Resource Centre.
- v. Only 4% of the students reported having viewed videos related to course subjects on YouTube.
- vi. Fewer than 5% students had ever searched for useful information on popular search engines like Google.
- vii. Almost no one knew how to send or receive emails or use MS Office applications.

Our partners Bhoruka Charitable Trust and Team Computers, very generously donated additional e-infrastructure for the DRC including desktops, laptops and LCD projectors in 2018 and 2019. With the help of laptops, IN-DEED was able to expand the ongoing Digital Empowerment program, taking the training to several villages in the vicinity of the DRC.

In 2019-20, another 500+ students from the following rural areas were covered under the Digital Empowerment program:

State	District	Blocks	Total villages
Rajasthan	Pali	Sojat	08 (Rajola Kalan, Bhaniya, Bhato ki Dhani, Dhurasni, Lanera, Sardar Samand, Sohan Nagar, Vishnoi ki Dhani)
	Jodhpur	Luni	04 (Bhatinda, Lolawas, Mortuka, Sajada)
1 State	02 Districts	02 Blocks	12 villages



The 35-hour Digital Empowerment includes the following:

- i. Computer basics - theory and practical learning
- ii. Each student gets a chance to practice on individual desktop PCs/ laptops
- iii. Training on MS Office skills (Word, PowerPoint and Excel)
- iv. Opening and using email accounts
- v. Accessing useful information through the Internet and staying safe online

Further, the laptops and LCD projectors were used in rural government schools to conduct the following programs:

- i. ADHYAYAN - foundational skills (basic reading & arithmetic), curriculum subject based E-classes (courtesy AAS Vidyalaya), online lectures (freely accessible resources on the Internet in Hindi)
- ii. DIGITAL EMPOWERMENT - practical computer learning, Digital skills and MS Office (Word, PPT, Excel) training
- iii. SAMBHAVNA - exposure to inspirational and motivational videos such as Josh Talks, TEDx lectures, speeches by prominent scientists, teachers and other successful persons



2.2 Quality Education

IN-DEED Foundation has been working on improving student performance in rural areas through volunteer led interventions since 2014. Following a detailed Baseline survey conducted by the Foundation in 2014, results of class X Rajasthan Board exams are assessed in the intervention schools every year.

The subjects in which students fail to clear exams are Mathematics, Science and English. As evident from the chart below summarising examination results, the failure rates have gone down significantly since IN-DEED started its education improvement intervention. However, a lot needs to be done to consistently improve grades. Majority of the students still clear the exam with IInd division.

With sustained and continuous support, many more students could perform better to secure higher grades, achieving Ist division and distinction, along with 100% pass percentage.

2.2.1 Academics – extra classes

The impact and value of youth volunteer led extra classes was proven once again by IN-DEED Foundation volunteers when rural students of Rajasthan successfully improved their academic performance in Class X RBSE Board exams 2019.

Statistics Academic Session 2018-2019:

- 89.5% (419 out of 468) students in intervention schools cleared the exams
- 100% students in the orphanage in Kota cleared their exams

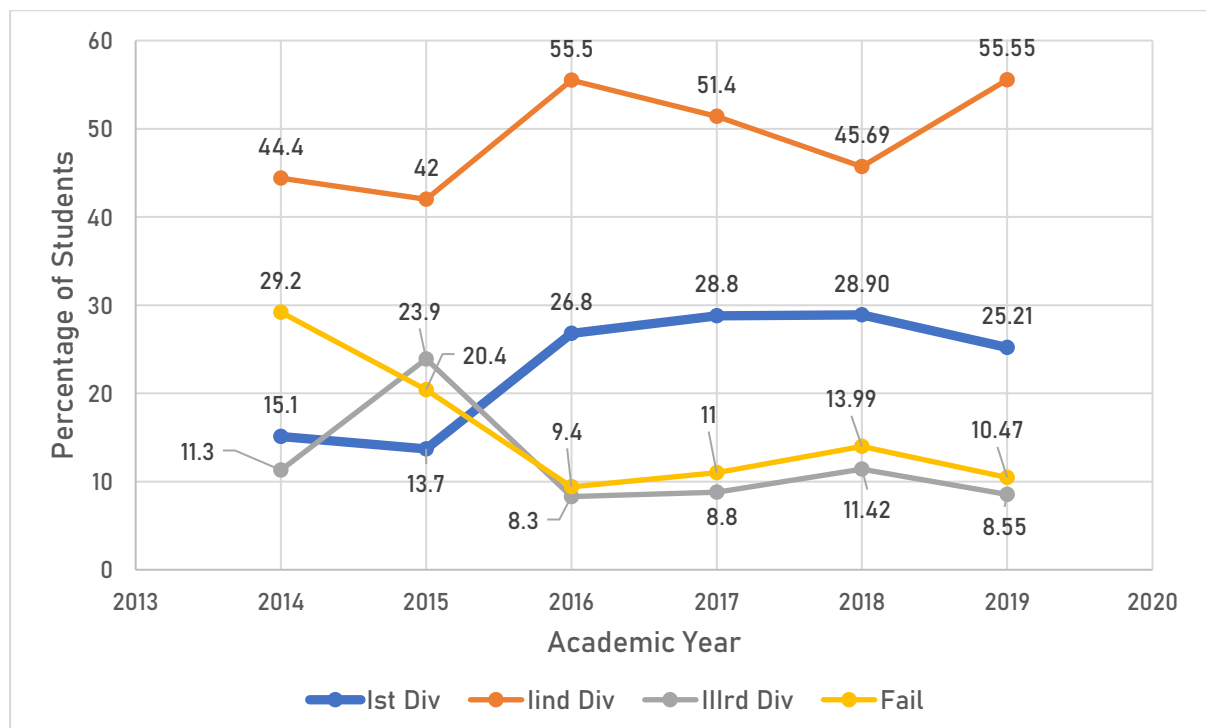


Chart – RBSE Board Class X results in intervention schools from 2014 to 2019

The chart above shows the improvements in results for the fifth year in a row (starting 2015), in terms of the total pass percentage as well as grades achieved by students appearing for their class X RBSE Board Examinations.

Further, volunteers from National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) Jodhpur have adopted 3 village schools in the vicinity of their campus for education and learning interventions. They regularly visited these schools during weekends to conduct following programs to help students improve their academic performance, gain confidence and achieve learning appropriate to their grade level:

- i. Extra classes on curriculum subjects
- ii. Spoken English and personality development
- iii. Co-curricular activities



2.2.2 Foundational Skills

Several reports and surveys conducted year-on-year indicate that while enrolment has become almost universal, there is little or negligible improvement in learning outcomes. The Annual Status of Education Reports (ASER) compiled each year by the NGO Pratham highlight the large deficits in basic reading and math capabilities.

These poor learning levels during primary classes coupled with below par understanding of course subjects in senior school leads to dismal performance of students particularly in the crucial Board Examinations conducted for students in Class X, that primarily determines what stream (Arts, Science or Commerce) a student will pursue from class XI.



IN-DEED Foundation conducted Assessment of Grade-level Learning of 322 primary level students (*Class I – 51, Class II – 53, Class III - 69, Class IV - 79, Class V - 70*) from five villages that were covered in the survey, using standardised survey tools developed by Pratham Education Foundation for the ASER survey, edited to reflect questions from books as per Rajasthan Board curriculum.

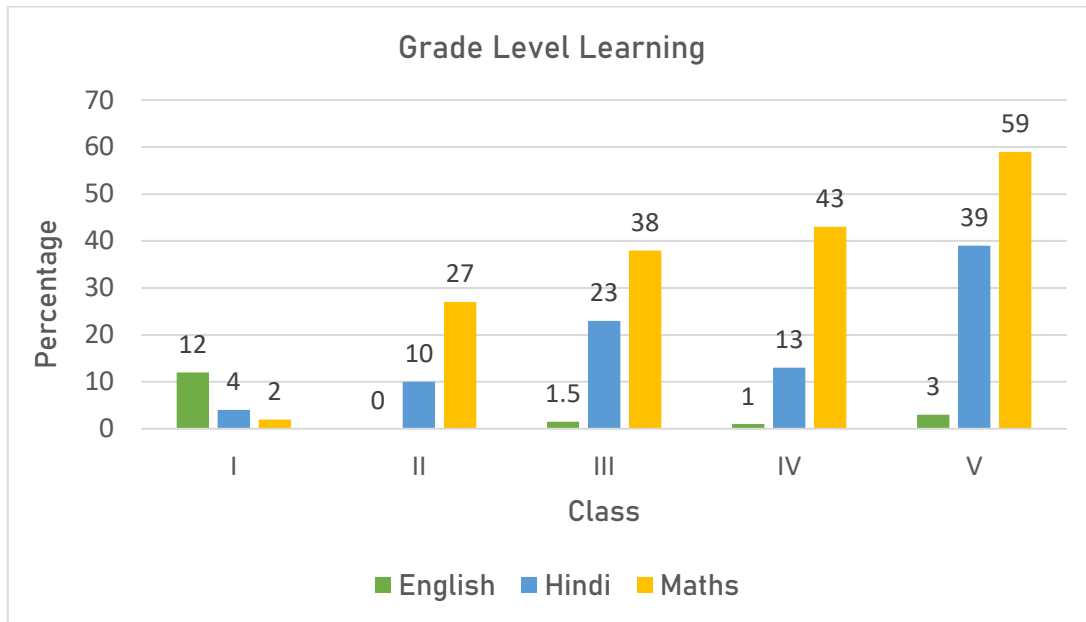
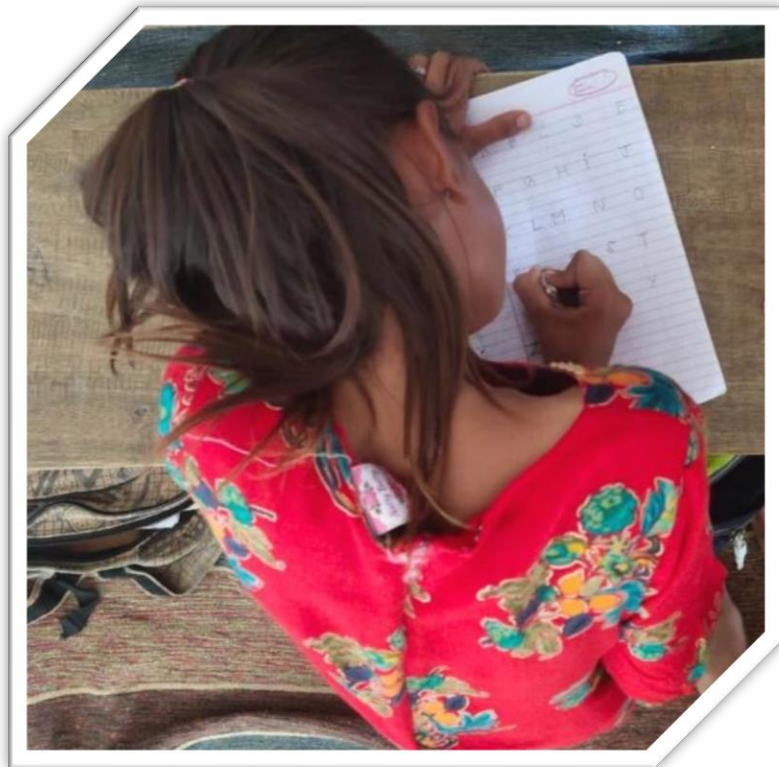


Chart – Grade Level learning of 322 students from Class I - V

From academic session 2020-21, Foundation will work with each student helping them progress to the next higher level to ultimately achieve the age and grade appropriate learning level.





3. Activities & Events

3.1 Boot Camp

In 2019 In-Deed Foundation celebrated its fifth birthday; having been founded 5 years ago on 01st May 2014. It has been an eventful and incredible journey with the usual ups and downs, challenges and small victories, and a lot of lessons learnt along the way. A few extraordinary individuals and organisations have joined the movement as patrons, supporters, volunteers and Friends of IN-DEED.

A Boot Camp was held on 29th April 2019 where the staff, trustees, volunteer coordinators, mentors and advisory board members joined to review the journey thus far and to decide on the strategy for the future. Going forward, it was decided that quality education and digital empowerment were the core areas of focus to achieve the goals of Reducing the Education Deficit and Bridging the Digital Divide.



3.2 TEDx Talk on Volunteerism

Vikram Rajola, Founder and Chairman of IN-DEED Foundation delivered a Talk at the TEDxRTU event organised in Kota on 14 April 2019. He spoke about the urgent need to promote volunteerism among students and youth of India, the benefits of which include:

- i. Personal satisfaction and feeling of contentment by doing good
- ii. Develops virtues like empathy, humility & patience
- iii. Provides a human touch and opportunities to network
- iv. Enhances confidence, public speaking, management, organisational & Leadership skills
- v. Increases adaptability & sense of responsibility along with the ability to think critically and act independently
- vi. Acts as a powerful coping mechanism to counter stress due to increased competition and intense gaze of social media that highlights setbacks & failures.



3.3 Career Counselling

IN-DEED Foundation was involved as social partner for the Careers Unplugged event organised in Jodhpur by Remarkable Education Pvt. Ltd. on 02 June 2019. Itinerary included expert sessions, career guidance, counselling, exhibition stalls put up by several leading universities, and awarding of academic and exchange program scholarships to students.

In collaboration with Remarkable Education, IN-DEED Foundation conducted a Session on What to do After Class 12th, helping to answer questions such as which course to pursue, what examinations to sit for, which college/ institute to consider joining and who to turn to for help and guidance. This much needed and timely event was organised at such a grand scale for the first time in Western Rajasthan and would go a long way in providing proper counsel and career guidance to children from the Region.



3.4 Robotics Workshops (July & October 2019)

Robotics workshops were conducted by IN-DEED Foundation volunteers Pradeep Giri and Jivant Sharma in July and October 2019 respectively. The beneficiaries were senior school students from villages of Bhatinda, Lolawas and Rajola Kalan and those of Mahatma Gandhi Senior Secondary School Chainpura in Jodhpur city.

Training sessions were conducted at the Digital Resource Centre in rural Pali as well as the school in Jodhpur. Overall, some 380 students gained awareness and basic information on the concepts of Robotics through discussion, PowerPoint presentations and live demonstrations.



3.5 Learning Camps

Several Learning Camps were organised by IN-DEED volunteers during the year.

Activities Conducted:

- i. Interactive games, poem recitation, singing and dancing
- ii. Drawing and painting
- iii. Child focused movie screening – such as *Taare Zameen Par*
- iv. Motivational videos - Josh Talks
- v. Quiz for small children conducted on Smartboard
- vi. Online classes and tutorials



3.6 Orientation Program @ RTU Kota

On 06th August 2019, an Interactive Session promoting Volunteerism was conducted by IN-DEED Foundation during the induction of incoming batch of Ist Year engineering undergraduates at Rajasthan Technical University (RTU Kota). As always it was a pleasure to address and interact with bright young students talking to them about the virtues of volunteerism and stressing the need to adopt this habit early in life.



3.7 Meeting with DEO Pali

Staff and volunteers of IN-DEED Foundation met with District Education Officer (DEO) Pali, Sh. Jagdish Chandra Rathore on 29th August 2019, to share details of the various programs, activities and interventions that In-Deed Foundation is implementing in government schools of Rajasthan. Had a very fruitful and engaging discussion.

Jagdish sir was very keen and positively excited to hear about the idea of Computer Based Examinations for government school students to test their preparedness in curriculum subjects. In-Deed Foundation is developing appropriate software that it hopes to roll it out in the near future. DEO Pali kindly offered to extend all possible support for this program.



3.8 Certification of Volunteers RTU & MBM

Celebrating the spirit of volunteerism, Final year students (2015-19) from MBM Engineering College Jodhpur and Rajasthan Technical University (RTU) Kota were felicitated in separate certificate distribution events, for the time, effort and energy dedicated selflessly to lead and coordinate activities and programs of IN-DEED Foundation.

These volunteers were instrumental in coordinating curriculum subject extra classes and other capacity building interventions in schools of Jodhpur and Pali districts from 2015 onwards to help improve access to quality education for children studying in rural and government schools.

The Foundation wishes them a bright and brilliant future.



3.9 Motivation Sessions

Several motivations sessions were conducted for rural and government school students by IN-DEED Foundation during the year.

- i. Govt. Sr. Secondary School Sardar Samand (Sojat Tehsil, Pali):
on 31st August 2019, a pep talk was delivered by the Chairman addressing the assembled students in a bid to motivate them towards pursuing higher education and grabbing all opportunities in life to constantly learn and grow.

The staff of IN-DEED also had the good luck to meet with and apprise HH Maharaja Gaj Singh and other members of the erstwhile Royal Family of Jodhpur about the education and digital empowerment interventions of the Foundation.



- ii. Govt. Sr. Secondary School Lolawas (Luni Tehsil, Jodhpur):
on 27th February 2020 during the *Aashirvaad Samorah* at the school Principal Jyoti Sharma Ma'am acknowledged IN-DEED Foundation's contribution to improving education quality, providing computer training and enhancing foundational skills in reading and arithmetic among the school children. IN-DEED Chairman also addressed the students to motivate them for the upcoming Board and Final exams of the academic year 2019-20.



3.10 Tech4Seva

A paper on IN-DEED Foundation's Digital Empowerment initiatives in Rajasthan was presented during the workshop on Illiteracy to E-Literacy at the Tech4Seva 2019 event organised at IIT Delhi from 10-12 August under the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan program of the Government of India.

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan is among the flagship schemes of the Government of India started with a vision to bring about transformational change in rural development processes by leveraging knowledge institutions across the nation. IIT Delhi is the Coordinating Institute for the program.



3.11 Entrepreneurship Sessions @ RTU Kota

On 15th September 2019 Entrepreneurship sessions were organised for volunteers and students of RTU Kota. Alumni of RTU Kota from Civil, Production & Industrial and Computer engineering backgrounds shared the challenges and triumphs of their entrepreneurial journey with the 100+ participants who attended the sessions.



3.12 Daan Utsav – Joy of Giving

For the first time since its inception, IN-DEED Foundation celebrated the Daan Utsav - Joy of Giving Week from 02 - 08 October 2019 by partnering with **AU Small Finance Bank** to fulfil wishes of 60 school children from two villages of Rajasthan.

A Wish Tree was planted at AU Small Finance Bank in Jodhpur (PWD branch) mentioning children's little wishes (for e.g. bat & ball, school bags, water bottles, lunchboxes, watches, and guide books), which were then fulfilled by the Bank's customers and staff.

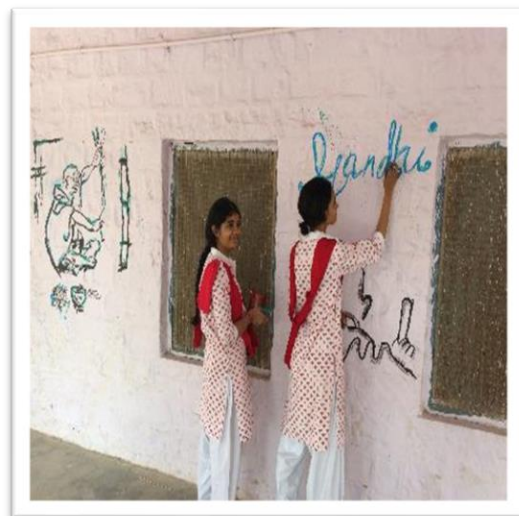


Wish Tree planted by IN-DEED Foundation at AU Small Finance Bank Branch in Jodhpur

3.13 Student Exchange

The objective of encouraging student exchanges under the Sambhavna program is to foster greater interaction between students of rural/ government schools and the best public schools of the country to encourage peer leaning, promote social bonding and cultural integration. As part of the SAMBHAVNA series several Student Exchange Programs were conducted by the Foundation:

- i. *Indian students*: on 21 November 2019 a group of students and teachers under the AFS domestic exchange program (from Amity International School, Pushp Vihar, Sunbeam School Varuna Varanasi & Vantage Hall Girls' Residential School, Dehradun hosted by Rajmata Krishna Kumari Girls Public School Jodhpur), visited Mahatma Gandhi Senior Secondary School Jodhpur (the first and only English-medium Government School in Jodhpur district). During the day they interacted with students from classes III-VIII, exchanged ideas, shared information & knowledge with them - helping improve communication skills through interactive games, edutainment activities to make learning fun and doodling & wall painting.



- ii. *International students*: from 3-8 February 2020, International AFS exchange students (from France and Italy) enrolled at the Rajmata Krishna Kumari Girls School visited Mahatma Gandhi Government School (English Medium) Chainpura, Jodhpur. The purpose was to promote interaction, cultural immersion, exchange of ideas and peer learning.



3.14 Unnat Bharat Abhiyan Workshop IIT Jodhpur

IIT Jodhpur is the Regional Coordinator leading the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan program in 11 districts of Rajasthan and several other prestigious institutions are partners in the program.

IN-DEED Foundation took part in the Regional Workshop held at IIT Jodhpur on 14-15 Nov 2019.

In collaboration with participating academic institutions, IN-DEED endeavours to become the bridge between Campus & Community - acting as an enabler and catalyst for motivating and enrolling student volunteers from participating institutions - in rural development initiatives through outreach programs across targeted districts in Rajasthan.



3.15 Kitaabo-The Blue City Children's Literature Festival

Kitaabo (*The Blue City Children's Literature Festival*) was organised from 17-19 December 2019 at Vidhyashram International School, Jodhpur.

Over 150 students from government schools in the villages of Chainpura, Lolawas, Mortuka, Moklasni Rajola Kalan, Bhatinda and Lolawas got the opportunity to participate in the Kitaabo festival.

The students were absorbing the tremendous knowledge, learning, energy, vivaciousness and vibrant atmosphere that this children's festival brings alive in the desert sands of Western Rajasthan.

Full of enthusiasm, bubbling with energy and extremely pleased just to be there, the students were really grateful to Central Academy Jodhpur, which provided buses to ferry them from distances between 10-50 KMs to attend this event extraordinaire.

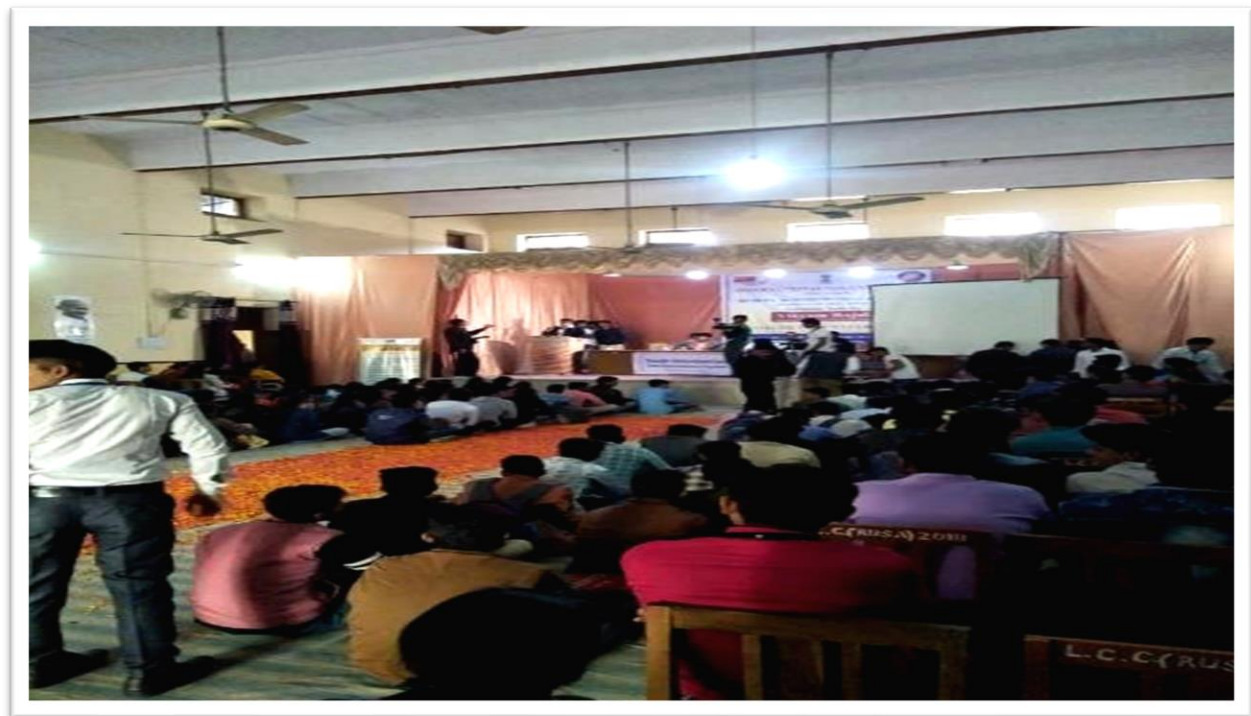


3.16 International Volunteer Day (UN) 05 December

Pursuing its mission to promote volunteerism among Indian youth, IN-DEED Foundation participated in an event at Lohia College, Churu on the occasion of International Volunteer Day 2019 organised by Prof. Shaantanu Dabi.

Attended by over 250 students, several of them expressed a keen interest and desire to take up volunteering activities in the vicinity of the college and within their own communities/ villages. IN-DEED Foundation hopes to kickstart activities very soon in Churu District with the support of these volunteers.

College Principal MDilip Singh Punia, Mr. Mangal Jakhar District Coordinator Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, coordinators of NSS, NCC, and senior faculty members graced the event with their presence.



3.17 Skill Development Centre, Pali

As part of its Skill Development projects in Rajasthan, Head Held High Foundation (HHH) a Bangalore based skill development focused organisation, has partnered with IN-DEED Foundation.

HHH runs its Make India Capable (MIC) program at multiple centres across several states in India where underserved youth are provided soft skills training and employment. IN-DEED will support mobilization activity to help in registering candidates for training at the finalized training locations in Rajasthan. Training duration could range from anywhere from 45 days to 6 months or above.

On 06th February 2020 the first Youth Transformation Centre under this partnership was inaugurated at Pali where a batch of 25 youth (*school dropouts*) started receiving training under the 6-month placement guaranteed training program. The Program is supported by Adani group and IN-DEED Foundation is collaborating as local partner and for sourcing candidates for training.



3.18 ATVC

A few IN-DEED volunteers have successfully launched their start-ups. One of these companies started by Chandresh Sharma, Pavan Tiwari and Pranchal Jain, 2019 batch engineering graduates from RTU Kota is called Infi League Motorsports. It organises events and workshops to teach practical concepts and enable hands-on training around design, fabrication and testing of All-Terrain Vehicle, robotics arms, automation and other industry readiness skills, to enhance employability of students pursuing engineering and polytechnic courses, particularly those from the mechanical engineering branch.

IN-DEED Foundation is a social partner of Infi League Motorsports supporting their skill development programs.

ATVC (Aravalli Terrain Vehicle Championship), is an annual event held in February/ March each year since 2018 by Infi League Motorsports. The national level championship attracts participation of hundreds of students from dozens of institutes located across the country. ATVC 2020 was organised from 15-19 February in Vadodara.



3.19 Prakrati – NIFT volunteers @ IIT Jodhpur

On 23rd February 2020 IN-DEED volunteers from NIFT Jodhpur participated in IIT Jodhpur annual fest Ignis 2020 - to share information on social initiatives, activities and programs coordinated by them in government schools in Jodhpur and Pali districts of Rajasthan.

The team representing them included Nayan Kumar, Himangi Sah, Roshni Tilawni and Neha.



3.20 Women power on Women's Day (08 March 2020)

Student volunteers from Lachoo Memorial College of Science & Technology, Jodhpur conducted extra classes at a Girls Hostel in Keru village (around 30 KM from Jodhpur) run by His Highness Maharaja Hanwant Singhji Charitable Trust Jodhpur.

Beneficiary students were rural girls from the region belonging to low-income families and underprivileged sections of society.



3.21 Games & Sports

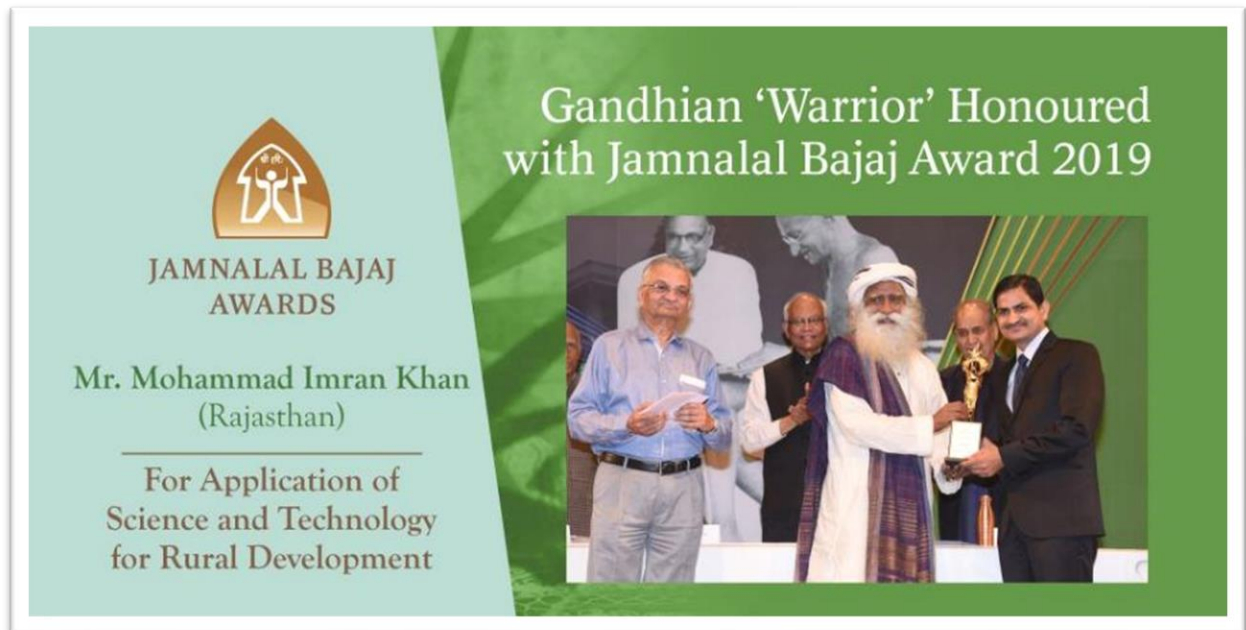
All Work (Study) & No Play – besides focusing on academics, skill development and extra-curricular activities, IN-DEED Foundation also encouraged students to take a break, go outdoors and play to rejuvenate themselves.





4. Additional Information

IN-DEED Foundation's Advisory Board Member Mr. Mohammad Imran Khan has been conferred with the prestigious Jamnalal Bajaj Award 2019 - for Application of Science and Technology for Rural Development



PROUD OF YOU IMRAN SIR!

Imran sir is a Mathematics teacher in a Govt. Sanskrit School in Alwar, Rajasthan. He's a self-taught app developer who has created and voluntarily contributed several educational Apps to provide quality content for learning, access to education, engaging school children to reduce school dropout rate, and bridge the digital gap.



5. Partnerships

