



Kishalay

READ India Newsletter

Editor's Note

READ India is happy to share the insights for the news and events for this month, notably the Mahila Saksham Samman Seminar which received an overwhelming response.

We are delighted to bring the snapshots for your perusal.

Hope you enjoy reading it and feel free to share your feedback to:

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Happy Reading!

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library, role of ICT in holistic rural development and the importance and relevance of the READ model for building resilient communities.

Ms Shashanka Ala, IAS, Special Secretary, Public Works Department, GNTCD, graced the occasion as Chief Guest and shared valuable insights on women empowerment.

A big thanks to all the women and men who are driving READ India, which has resulted in an effective change impacting over half a million lives in the field of Education, Skilling and Community Development.

MĀHILĀ SĀKSHĀM SĀMMĀN

Celebrating the achievements of inspirational women



On 10th March 2023, coinciding with the International Women's Day, inspirational women and girls from READ India Centres were invited at the India Habitat Centre, Delhi.

Trustees, Board members and other guests interacted with the participants to familiarise themselves with their exciting journey.

Women were awarded with the specially designed Mahila Saksham Samman trophies. It was inspiring to hear their stories of grit and determination.

The event also witnessed special guests sharing their insights and observations on women empowerment, the evolving role of



Launch of Campaign by READ India:



1 Child. 100 Books.

READ India launched a campaign 1 CHILD. 100 BOOKS on 22nd March 2023 at Gyankosh Early Learning Centre (Previously Springwood Preschool), Wazirabad.

The main objective of the initiative is:

- To inculcate reading habits among young kids
- To keep the child's mind active
- Boost imagination and creative ability
- Improve vocabulary and develop communication skills
- Help the children understand the world better

Dr. Geeta Malhotra (READ India, Country Director), Mrs. Smita Rai (Director of Partnerships and Resource Mobilisation, READ India), and Ms. Sadhika Anand (student of The Shri Ram School) shared the importance of reading books.

The launch of reading 100 books in a year is in alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 which emphasizes the promotion of joyful reading for children by ensuring the availability of age-appropriate reading books for children in his/her mother tongue.

All the participants took the pledge to read 100 books in a year. Each child received a story book to start reading.



Interaction with trainees on skills for livelihood

An interaction with trainees who have completed the course on Apparel Making was being conducted on 17th March 2023 in Gurugram. The main objective is to provide youth with skills and employment in apparel sectors to make them feel empowered. Furthermore, to earn a livelihood for themselves and support their families.

Participants were made aware of the importance of quality and employment opportunities available.

Life Skills and Leadership sessions were also conducted to enhance the overall confidence and morale of the participants.



Enthralling visit to Baran, an aspiration district of India



During the visit to Baran, Rajasthan, by Dr. Geeta Malhotra (READ India Country Director) and other team members, met with many girls and married women in Baran. Listened to their stories of change and transformation in rapt attention.

Baran, an aspirational district in Rajasthan, is backward in educational, economic, and social points of view. The only primitive tribe 'Sahariya community' also resides in abundance in Bhanwargarh. Earlier these communities lived in the forests. The meagre forest produce was their only means of livelihood.

People of Bhanwargarh mostly earn their living by doing daily wages, farming and MNREGA work. The condition of women and girls is dismal. Children of 6th and 7th do not know how to read and write properly.

The people of the Sahariya community are exploited and suppressed by influential people for years. Due to snatching of their means of livelihood, they migrate every year in search of work.

READ India has been providing skill trainings to the women/girls on IT Skills, Food Processing, Nursery Teachers Training, Beauty and Wellbeing, Stitching & Sewing and Embroidery skills.

The trainings have impacted the participants in a transformational way. Now, they are in a position to take decisions for themselves and their families.

Let's hear the story of Gunjan (<https://youtu.be/xTOiKMsJfqE>) who have grown up and build her career at the READ Centre.



Health Camp at Irugulam, Sri City

A free Health Camp was organised at READ CLRC in Irugulam, Sri City. Dr Vijaya Kumar addressed the participants and did a general check-up.

The Health Camp focused on Physiotherapy and awareness. Dr Vijay and the team brought the medical equipment and did the check-up. All age groups participated in the camp, with great zeal and enthusiasm.



Skill Training for Self-employment, Baireddipalle, Andhra Pradesh



The READ India Centre in Baireddipalle in Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh was established in 2016. The village is mostly inhabited by tribal people.



As part of the Skill to Succeed programme, the surrounding villages were covered - Kadathalapalli, Vegamavaripalli, Gowtheimeapalli, Kaligutta, Pathapeta, Nagireddipalli, Devadoddi, Kothur, Theertham, Kamanineapalli, Kothaindullu, Metakurapalli, Gunthakurapalli and Kaigal.

The skills programmes covered were - Computer Education, Sewing & Stitching, Embroidery, Handicrafts, High-end Stitching, Entrepreneurship Skills Workshops, Cyber Safety Sessions, and Health Awareness. And the centre also includes a Pre-school to help poor families send their children to primary school.

At the centre, rural youth undergo skill training to pave the way for development through self-employment. Many women are interested in tailoring training but are unable to support themselves. Unemployed young women and women are receiving tailoring and embroidery training in order to improve their handicraft skills and find work.

Those who complete three months of tailoring training receive certificates. Over 700 people have received tailoring training in the last five years. The women and young women who have received training here work in the garment industry. Many people eke out a living by tailoring at home; in the process, supporting their families.



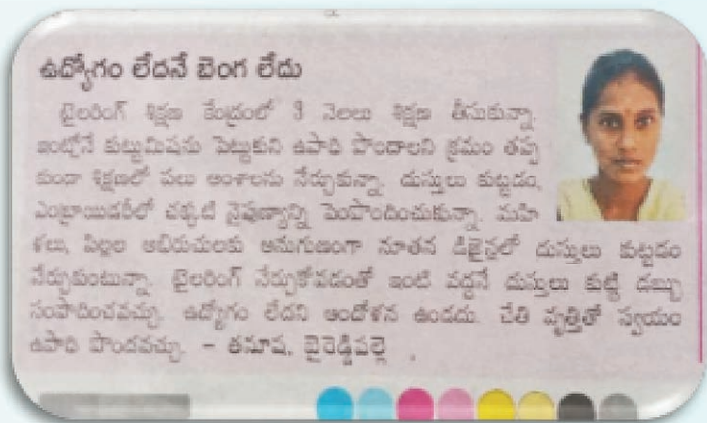
Media Coverage

Stories published in Chittoor Edition, Telugu Newspaper.



Rural Youth are taking skill training and are paving the way for development through self-employment. Many women are interested in apparel making training and working to be self-reliant.

Women have been venturing out for the first time to enrol in handicrafts trainings. The women who have received training are employed in garment factories. Many are earning by doing tailoring at home.



“There is no anxiety about not having a job”. I have learned many things during training to be self-dependent by sewing at home, having developed fine skills in dress making and embroidery. **Tanusha, Baireddipalle**

“Slow down on life”.

During the training period, I’ve developed skills in dressmaking, embroidery and knitting. Tailoring is very helpful and self-supporting to get employment at home even if you don’t have higher education. I have chosen tailoring profession for self-employment.

Suma, Kammanapalle

