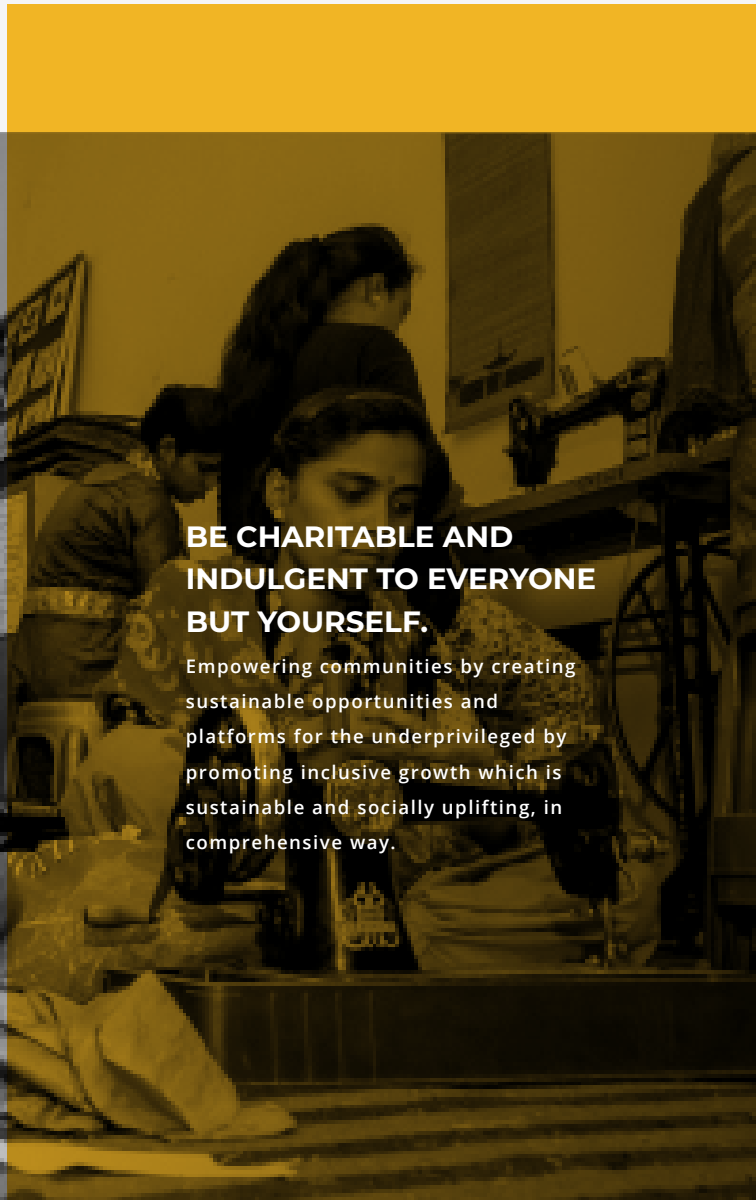


VICTORA FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19



**BE CHARITABLE AND
INDULGENT TO EVERYONE
BUT YOURSELF.**

Empowering communities by creating sustainable opportunities and platforms for the underprivileged by promoting inclusive growth which is sustainable and socially uplifting, in comprehensive way.

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Friends,

As the year closes, it gives me immense pleasure to present THE VICTORA FOUNDATION Annual Report for 2018-19, which provides a glimpse of our achievements this year, through our synergised effort.

And as, we march ahead on the path of development, we believe, investing in children is a step forward towards nation building. It is our responsibility to ensure that children of migrant parents are not left behind in the process. They must be provided with opportunities to grow in a stimulating environment. Keeping that in mind, we continued to upkeep our commitments towards the development of those children, who have lost many opportunities due to the non-stability in their lives. We achieved this objective through collaborative approach working alongside grass roots level NGOs, whose services and activities have benefited the lives of approximately 10,000 children, living in the slums of Faridabad.

Further heading into the new year, we aim to reach more than 500 children through our direct intervention under Victora Foundation.

Besides Education, providing training for Sustainable Livelihood is our paramount important program, Since June 2016 to March 2019, we trained 349 women in basic cutting, tailoring, stitching and embroidery for them to become self-reliant. They have also been assisted in getting the knowledge and training to start their own small business. As the global economic scenario continues to change, we cannot afford half of our work force to remain unproductive. So, it is even more important that we make the most of a women's business potential. We feel motivated to announce that we have been able to transform 87 such poor women into business women, in just a three-year period.

In 2019, we have kept a target to further train 200 women in basic livelihood training. In our successful endeavour, I appreciate and recognize the efforts of everyone associated with our Trust. I would also like to thank the recipient communities who consume, appropriate and change to depict a model.

Our efforts will be, more than ever before, to enhance the quality of life in the communities we touch.

Thanks, and with best wishes.

MR. H.S BANGA

Chairman, The Victora Foundation



THE VICTORA FOUNDATION

ABOUT US



Victoria Foundation (VF) established in August 2015, is a registered public charitable trust which provides support to non-profit organizations for development programs in the areas of **health, education, and livelihoods also have its own implantation**. These programs are aimed at improving the quality of life of the underprivileged communities.

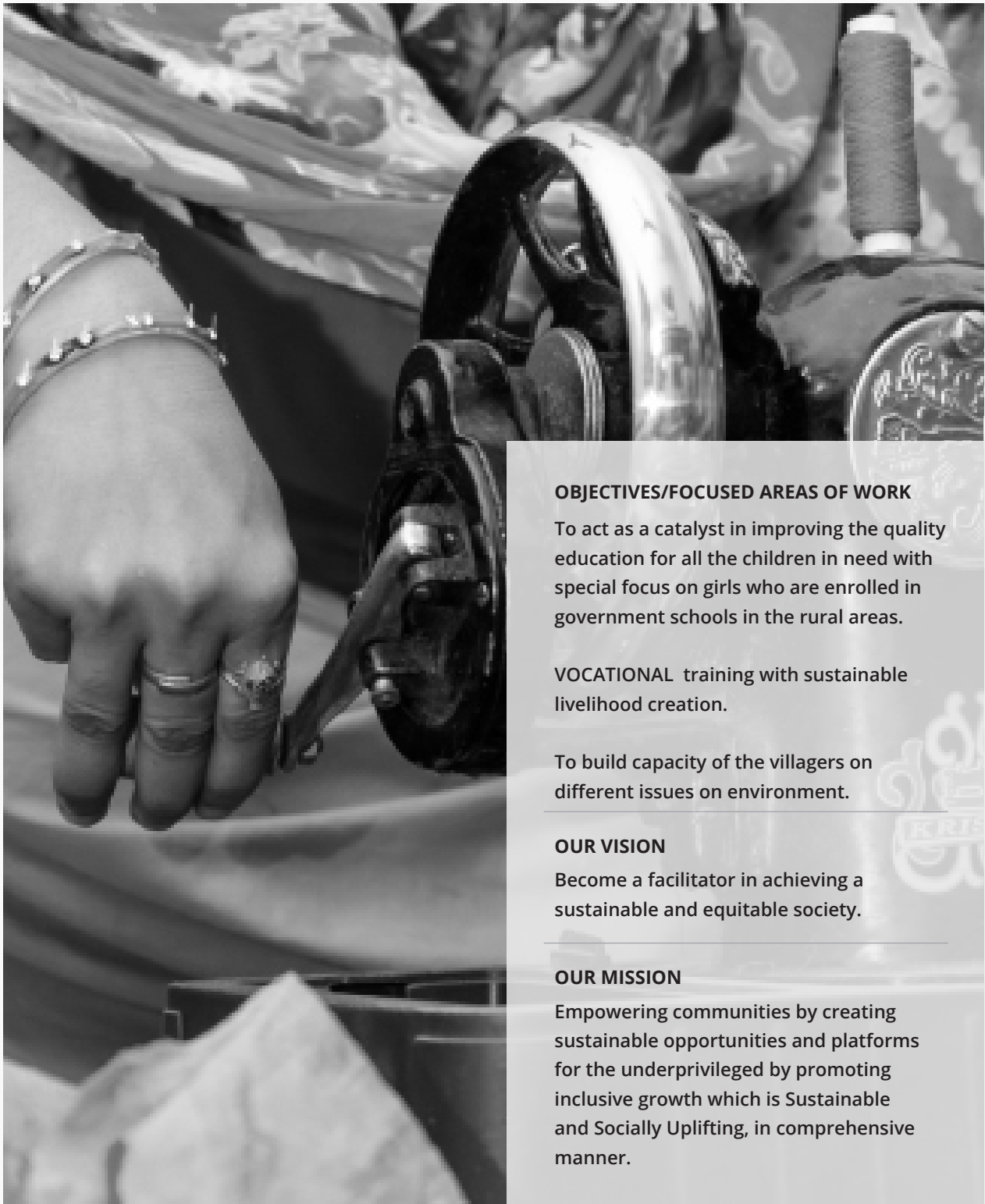
The interventions implemented by The Foundation range from grassroots level projects to national level programmes. The Victoria Foundation has so far supported over 5 NGOs in 2 states in the past 10 years, benefitting more than 10,000 poor children in the country directly or indirectly.

HISTORY OF THE ORGANISATION

Having successfully built Victora Tools to be a business leader, our chairperson felt the need to address the various developmental challenges and contribute to a social cause prevalent in our country. He felt that quality education, nutrition, healthcare and providing sustainable livelihood training to empower the needy are the most crucial areas to be worked on. Further through subsequent discussions, the Foundation's focus of work was narrowed down to providing education and skill development cum sustainable livelihood as because they are critical factors that significantly impact other issues in the country.

This history of the Foundation of nearly ten years can be divided into two major phases. The first phase was from 2010-2015, the second from 2016 onwards till now. In the first phase a decision was taken to work in the area of education and was done by supporting the various other NGOs who are working in the same field. The learnings from the past six years of working on the ground were consolidated to form the organizing principles of the current entity of Victora Foundation. Firstly, if education has to fulfil its transformative power in the society, then it has to be a constant and continuous endeavour. Secondly, any education becomes meaningful only when it converts into sustainable livelihood and thus, must be brought to life in a deeply contextual manner. The most important implication of these learnings was that the work of the Foundation had to be organized into institutions and since institutions are permanent in nature, in August 2015 Victora registered itself as a trust.

OUR VISION AND MISSION



OBJECTIVES/FOCUSED AREAS OF WORK

To act as a catalyst in improving the quality education for all the children in need with special focus on girls who are enrolled in government schools in the rural areas.

VOCATIONAL training with sustainable livelihood creation.

To build capacity of the villagers on different issues on environment.

OUR VISION

Become a facilitator in achieving a sustainable and equitable society.

OUR MISSION

Empowering communities by creating sustainable opportunities and platforms for the underprivileged by promoting inclusive growth which is Sustainable and Socially Uplifting, in comprehensive manner.

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT



PROGRAM NAME: SAKSHAM

The program Saksham was started in June-2016 at Auto Pin Colony Sec-24, Faridabad with only 25 women. Up until March 2019, total 349 women have been trained in stitching cutting, tailoring and embroidery with the opening of three more centers at different locations at Faridabad.

Objective: The aim of this program is to provide Cutting & Tailoring Skill, stitching, embroidery and basic knowledge of machine to the underprivileged girls as well as women with a view to help them earn a living by stitching clothes from their homes (self-employment) or get a job at a boutique or export house to supplement the family income and to improve their quality of life. We have trained over 349 women in the three years journey so far!

After the training, Victora Foundation gives a completion certificate to them, helping the beneficiaries open their own tailoring shop individually or as a collective. Trainees are also taken for exposure visits and counselled on the marketing aspects of a tailoring unit such as sampling and quality control. We also provide awareness about Self Help Groups and management of SHGs.

They are also encouraged to set up shops with the help of an interest free loan from the Government or Self-Help Group. Besides the prescribed syllabus, the women are also taught to make fancy bags, purses, laptop bags which are sold at Diwali Melas and other forums.

GLIMPSE OF OUR YEARLY JOURNEY

NEW CENTER OPENING AT BUPANI

On October 1st, 2019, a centre with 50 women was started in Bupani village for a 6-month stitching, cutting, tailoring and embroidery course with two batches. Since we believe in partnership, the place to run the center was given by Bupani village Panchyat



GLIMPSE OF OUR YEARLY JOURNEY

CERTIFICATE DISTRIBUTION AT BUPANI CENTER

On 19th March 2019 total 31 women and young girls received their completion certificate. Since we do not believe in charity and our strategy is not to give any hand out but enable those in need to build their own skills socially and economically. Awarding them a certificate after completion the course is done to achieve the same from them as now, they can start their own work, get the skilled worker job and take the job work also.



GLIMPSE OF OUR YEARLY JOURNEY

EXPOSURE VISIT: PRAGATI MAIDAN - 7 MARCH, 2019

Exposure and Trainings have a very important role in lives of women, especially when we want to make them self-reliant. Our women have an exposure to many platforms of learning; they have visited Loan and Micro business Mela at MCF Auditorium being organized by Syndicate Bank Faridabad. In addition, a team of 11 women visited Aajivika Mela at Pragati Madan organized by Govt of India, on 7th March 2019, to gain knowledge about starting own business activities and to get benefits of Microfinance from Govt. Institutions to get recognized with own skills and products.



OUR CENTERS IN FARIDABAD

OUR CENTERS IN FARIDABAD, HARYANA



Our Center at Kalyan Puri, NIT - 3, Faridabad



Our Center at Village Bhupani, Faridabad



Our Center at 36 Gaz Colony, Sector - 3, Faridabad

STORY OF HOPE AND MOTIVATION

With proper support and encouragement, there are millions of women who can stand on their feet. Poonam is a shining example in making a significant difference and establishing our ideology for making lives more meaningful.

Poonam's rented 36 gaz house is a simple dwelling made of mud walls, with one small room. This space included the family sitting area, kitchen as well as a bedroom. She has three children: a 13-year-old daughter, Sanjana, 10-year-old Muskan and 4-year-old son Kesav. Both girls go to a nearby Government school in Faridabad.

Her husband, Mahesh is not a good father and has a habit of drinking. When drunk, he gets into arguments with Poonam and abuses her. The children were not happy with the situation but were helpless. Poonam had no alternative but to tolerate her husband's unacceptable behavior as she could not leave him because she didn't have enough means to support her children. Because of the way in which her husband treated Poonam, she was not respected by her family and society as well.



Besides this, her husband wasted a lot of his earnings in drinking and smoking leaving very few funds for sustaining a normal family life and providing proper nutrition and education for the children. Poonam is 8th passed and was having some basic knowledge of cutting and tailoring which her mother taught her. Getting a proper training with certificate was important for her. Poonam wanted to start a life "If I can earn some money, I will first take care of these children and then work towards normalizing our lives so that we will not have to worry everyday about our next meal," she said.

Poonam is not alone in her pitiable life saga. She represents an estimated 200 million poor women in India whose talents are untapped. VICTORA FOUNDATION firmly believes that this talent not only needs our support but it requires our focused attention to eliminate the gender gap, utilize the talents, provide self-respect and improve the future of millions of children like Sanjana, Muskan and Kesav. Our Vocational Skill development program is specifically designed to encourage millions of more Poonam to either start their own small business or to acquire some skills to become economically independent and stand their own ground.

Now after getting six months training at Victora Vocational Skills center Poonam is a trainer at one of our centres, she is associated with one NGO which provides them work. Since she is a trained teacher now, she gets some work at home also. From all sources she earns approximately 6000/- per month. With the efforts of our foundation her elder daughter got a cycle last year which increased their convenient reaching to school which is 4km far from their house. Now she does not depend on her husband and is raising her children on her own.

EDUCATION



Education is one of the most effective agents of change in society. When a child is able to go to school today, he or she sets off a cycle of positive change. But, thousands of children in India lack access to education and can't even write their own names. Moreover, underprivileged children between the ages of 11 to 14 years are hugely vulnerable to dropping out of schools. Furthermore, their vulnerability increases three-fold when their parents keep moving from one place to another. For getting education, a child also needs a stable place to live.

Addressing this concern, Victora Founadtion started to support few ground level NGOs who work with these children such as Able Charities and Pryass Welfare Social Society, Faridabad.

Since April 2015 ABLE CHARITIES is being supported to further support the 500 children every year in slums of Faridabad to help them in read, write and speak.

Positive outcome of the program shared by the implementing partner is Retention of children in centres have increased by 80%, change in their food habits and other social etiquettes is visible now.

Also, the parents of these children who are themselves illiterate, have been sensitized about the value of education, keeping daughters in school is need of the hour not as to help at home. Also do not treat children to supplement family income. These are a few complex tasks done through awareness sessions.

Since April 2014 we have been supporting the Pryass Welfare society to further support the 200 children every year by providing them free books, bags and regular tuition support in after school program



The equal right of all citizens to health, education, work, food, security, culture, science, and wellbeing - that is, the same rights we proclaimed when we began our struggle, in addition to those which emerge from our dreams of justice and equality for all inhabitants of our world - is what I wish for all.

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