

UMEED

Umeed Social And Economic Development

Annual Report 2021-22











Contents

- 1.BIHAR FLOOD RELIEF
- 2.COVID FOOD DISTRIBUTION
- **3.STITCHING CENTRE IN DHANBAD**
- 4.EDU-FIESTA
- **5.HELPING RANJITHA, A PARALYSED GIRL**
- 6.SCHOLARSHIPS
- 7.UMEED SEED TABLE TENNIS ACADEMY
- **8.SHELTER SCHOOL FOR STREET CHILDREN**
- 9.SKILL TRAINING BOOTCAMP
- **10.WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY**
- 11.TRIBAL CHILDREN GURUKUL



BIHAR FLOOD RELIEF

PROBLEM: Bihar saw devastating floods in the month of July and August 2021-22 which led the people to leave their homes. One of the difficulties which people were facing after getting rescued from those devastating floods was of basic food and water.

ACTION: UMEED launched a food distribution program for those flood affected people. Nearly 30 volunteers of UMEED not only rescued more than 100 people, but also distributed food packets to more than 800 people by opening various small centres of food distribution.

IMPACT: Food which was provided to those flood affected people proved to be life saving support for them. Our volunteers were the first ones to reach the flood affected people. Our volunteers went for food distribution on a daily basis until the situation got normal. The support provided by UMEED not only provided immediate relief by addressing the pressing issue of hunger but also infused a sense of hope and resilience within the flood-affected communities.









COVID FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Umeed Social and Economic Development, in a meaningful collaboration with ISKCON, embarked on an impactful food distribution campaign to support vulnerable families across multiple cities, including Varanasi, Prayagraj, Mirzapur, Pune, Bangalore, and Hyderabad.

The campaign's primary goal was to address the pressing issue of food insecurity exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, which left many families struggling to meet their basic nutritional needs. Over the course of the campaign, an awe-inspiring one lakh food plates were distributed, bringing much-needed relief and sustenance to more than 100 vulnerable families in these cities.

The success of the food distribution campaign was not only due to the sheer quantity of food plates distributed but also because of the meticulous attention paid to hygiene and safety.

Understanding the importance of adhering to COVID-19 protocols, the food was prepared under strict hygienic conditions, ensuring that the recipients received safe and nutritious meals.

Lasting from April 2020 to August 2021, the campaign showcased the dedication and compassion of Umeed Social and Economic Development and ISKCON in reaching out to those in dire need during unprecedented times. Beyond just fulfilling immediate hunger, the initiative aimed to bring hope and assurance to vulnerable families, letting them know that they were not alone in their struggles and that the community stood in solidarity with them during these challenging times.









STITCHING CENTRE IN DHANBAD

UMMED Social and Economic Development, with its unwavering commitment to creating positive change, established a Stitching Centre in Dhanbad that serves as a haven for women from underprivileged sections of society seeking employment opportunities.

The Genesis of UMMED's Stitching CentreIn Dhanbad, the need for uplifting underprivileged women was evident. Many women found themselves trapped in a cycle of poverty and limited opportunities. UMMED conceptualised the Stitching Centre as a means to empower these women by providing them with sustainable employment opportunities.

Skills Training for Economic IndependenceThe centre's curriculum was designed to cater to women of varying backgrounds, including those with little or no prior experience in the craft. Under the guidance of skilled instructors, the women were taught the art of cutting, stitching, and embellishing fabrics to create exquisite garments and textiles.

Nurturing Creativity and Entrepreneurship: Beyond just learning the technicalities of stitching, the Stitching Centre encouraged creativity and entrepreneurial spirit among its students. UMMED believed that fostering innovation and initiative was crucial in preparing these women to thrive in a competitive market. As a result, the women were encouraged to design and produce their own creations, instilling in them a sense of ownership and pride in their work.

Economic Empowerment and Financial IndependenceOne of the most significant impacts of the Stitching Centre was the economic empowerment it bestowed upon the women. Armed with newfound skills, the women began creating a range of products, from clothing to home furnishings, which were sold at local markets and even online platforms. The steady income from their craftsmanship allowed them to contribute to their households, breaking the cycle of financial dependency.









EDU-FIESTA

UMEED, recently organized a spectacular event called "EDU-FIESTA." Spanning three days, this groundbreaking initiative aimed to empower young minds by providing a platform for comprehensive growth. The event featured a diverse range of sessions on mental wellness, physical health, skill training, career guidance, and industry-endorsed live projects handling, alongside various extra-curricular activities. With participation from 300 students representing prestigious institutions like BHU, IIT BHU Varanasi, AU, and MNNIT Allahabad, the event became a vibrant celebration of knowledge, skills, and creativity.

Sessions on Mental Wellness and Physical Health: Understanding the importance of mental well-being, EDU-FIESTA commenced with insightful sessions on mental wellness. Experts and psychologists shared effective coping mechanisms and stress management techniques, equipping the participants with the tools to maintain a healthy and balanced mindset. Concurrently, yoga and physical health sessions were held to promote physical fitness, instilling a sense of discipline and encouraging a healthy lifestyle.

Skill Training Sessions: The event offered a plethora of skill training sessions aimed at honing the participants' abilities and broadening their horizons. Expert trainers facilitated workshops on communication, leadership, entrepreneurship, coding, and more. These skill-building endeavors were designed to enhance their employability prospects and foster a sense of confidence in their abilities.

The event featured a wide range of technical workshops, including coding, digital marketing, MS EXCEL, programming, and artificial intelligence and machine learning (AIML). With a team of more than 50 dedicated volunteers and over 10 industry mentors, the students were provided with an invaluable opportunity to delve into real-world applications and gain hands-on expertise in their chosen domains.

Extra-Curricular Activities: At EDU-FIESTA, the stage came alive with a vibrant display of cultural activities like music, dance, dramas, and more, creating an enchanting atmosphere of creativity and expression. Participants showcased their artistic talents and passions through soulful music performances, graceful dance showcases, and captivating drama presentations. The event provided a platform for young talents to shine, allowing them to explore and share their diverse cultural backgrounds and artistic expressions. From classical to contemporary, traditional to modern, the cultural activities at EDU-FIESTA celebrated the rich tapestry of India's cultural heritage, promoting unity and appreciation for the arts. Attendees were immersed in a world of creativity and inspiration, making EDU-FIESTA an unforgettable celebration of culture and talent.

Sessions on Career Guidance: Understanding the significance of making informed career choices, the event featured comprehensive career guidance sessions. Seasoned professionals from diverse industries shared valuable insights into different career paths, providing the participants with a clearer vision of their future prospects.

Industry-Endorsed Live Projects Handling:One of the highlights of EDU-FIESTA was the opportunity for participants to engage in industry-endorsed live projects. Collaborating with established organizations, the event facilitated hands-on experiences in real-world scenarios. This allowed the participants to apply their theoretical knowledge in practical situations, fostering experiential learning and professional development.









HELPING RANJITHA, A PARALYSED GIRL

Ranjitha, a young girl from Varanasi got affected by a paralysis attack. Living in a dilapidated condition, her family struggled to meet both household expenses and the costly medical needs of their beloved daughter. With UMEED's continuous dedicated efforts, leading to a betterment in her life. UMEED extended its support by arranging essential ration supplies for two months to Ranjitha's family and ensured that she could receive much-needed medical care.

The Plight of Ranjitha and Her Family Due to Ranjitha's weak physical condition, she was dependent on others for even the simplest tasks, making it challenging for her parents to provide for her needs while balancing household expenses. Her father, a daily wage labourer, battled against the odds to sustain the family, but the mounting medical expenses left them in a state of helplessness.

Nourishing Bodies and Souls: Ration Support Understanding the immediate needs of Ranjitha's family, UMEED acted swiftly to provide much-needed relief. For two months, the initiative supplied essential ration items, including rice, pulses, wheat flour, and other nutritional essentials. This generous support lifted a significant burden from the family's shoulders, allowing them to focus on the well-being of their daughter.

A Path to Healing: Arranging Medical Care Beyond providing ration supplies, UMEED recognized the urgency of addressing Ranjitha's medical condition. Collaborating with local healthcare experts, the UMEED team arranged comprehensive medical evaluations and consultations for her. The assessments revealed the potential for improvement through dedicated treatment and therapy.

An Empowering Transformation As time passed, Ranjitha's life underwent a remarkable transformation. Her improved physical abilities offered her newfound independence and opened doors to opportunities she had never imagined possible. Encouraged by the support of UMEED as well as her family, she embraced life with renewed vigour, showing that even in the face of adversity, hope and determination could conquer all.









SCHOLARSHIPS



UMEED Social and Economic Development took a remarkable step towards fostering education and supporting deserving students through their initiative, SamarthBharat.com. This innovative platform has been instrumental in providing merit-based scholarships to students in need of academic assistance. With a strong belief in the transformative power of education, UMEED aims to ensure that financial constraints do not hinder the pursuit of knowledge and excellence among young minds.

Through SamarthBharat.com, UMEED has opened doors of opportunity for countless students, enabling them to continue their education and achieve their academic goals. The students to whom, scholarship was provided were very meritorious but due to their hailing from poor family background, those students were not able to bear the expense of their higher studies further. By offering financial support, UMEED seeks to alleviate the burden of educational expenses and enable students to focus on their studies and personal growth. Some of the students who received financial assistance through UMEED's scholarship program are:-

1.AAINA:A meritorious student from Sriganganagar district of Rajasthan, was unable to continue her further studies. Since, she belongs to a poor family background where his parents run a small grocery shop in the village. This was not enough to meet the expense incurred on the studies. In order to do something for Aaina, UMEED tried to help her by providing her a scholarship to continue her higher studies.

2.TAMANNA: A brilliant student from Sriganganagar district, Raujasthan was also facing the same grim situation like Aaina. Both of her parents are daily wages labourer, who fail to afford all household expenses. Her studies were also going to be affected due to inability to bear the fees of higher studies. Here also, UMEED tired to minimize this by arranging scholarship to Tamanna to let her studies continue.

3.UPENDRA: A bright student who belongs to Karnataka, currently he is pursuing MBA from a reputed college of Mumbai. He comes from a middle class family and afford such higher study was not possible for his family. In order to support Upendra's higher studies, UMEED helped him to get scholarship to continue his higher studies.

4.SUDHANSHU DUTT: A studious student from Darbhanga district of Bihar, was not in a position to meet all the financial requirements to carry out higher studies in medical science field. He also comes from a middle class family. UMEED decided to help and support Sudhanshu to get him scholarship to continue his higher studies.

The merit-based scholarships provided by UMEED through SamarthBharat.com are a testament to the organisation's commitment to empowering the youth and building a brighter future for our nation. By nurturing talent and supporting academic excellence, UMEED is fostering a generation of leaders who will contribute to the socio-economic development of the country and create a positive impact on society as a whole. Through this noble initiative, UMEED continues to inspire hope and transform lives, emphasising the transformative power of education in shaping a more inclusive and prosperous nation.



UMEED SEED TABLE TENNIS ACADEMY

PROBLEM: - Varanasi has many talented people in different fields like academics, writing, singing, music, dancing, painting, and drawing. Table tennis is a popular sport among the people of Varanasi, especially children. However, the city lacks proper facilities and coaching centres for table tennis. Children struggle to perform well in competitions and often get eliminated in district, state, or national championships.

ACTION: - The UMEED social and economic development established a modern table tennis academy in Varanasi. The academy offers year-round training and a customised curriculum for students of all ages and skill levels. Ten dedicated UMEED volunteers worked tirelessly to establish this unique centre.

IMPACT: - UMEED's cutting-edge table tennis academy for the children is intended to give a thorough and enriching experience. Students will sharpen their table tennis talents under the supervision of qualified coaches through customized training programs, ensuring holistic skill development. The table tennis academy also understands the need of providing several possibilities for progress, allowing talented players to demonstrate their abilities in regional and national competitions. Some of the table tennis academy's students have competed at the state, district, and national levels, earning numerous accolades for their unrivaled gaming talent and skill.









SHELTER SCHOOL FOR STREET CHILDREN

Problem: Children of beggars are often found in various public places such as roads, footpaths, railway stations, and bus stands. They can be seen either begging alongside their parents or wandering around engaging in mischievous activities with other children. Unfortunately, these circumstances can lead them down a path of becoming anti-social elements, largely attributed to the absence of education in their lives. The lack of access to education perpetuates this cycle, leaving them without proper guidance and opportunities to shape a brighter future.

Action: UMEED partnered with Urmila Devi Society to provide education and two daily meals to 25 children from beggar families. Our Volunteers from Banaras Hindu University assist in teaching and distributing food. Additionally, many volunteers help in organising multiple festivals at Urmila Devi Society School. Over 40 children are getting educated, and are given healthy meals.

Impact: UMEED addresses these obstacles by emphasising the value of education in order to persuade the parents of those children to send their children to school. The provision of food encourages enrollment. Children actively participate, form relationships, and achieve academic success. This effort stops the poverty cycle that exists in beggar societies by providing education and sustenance. UMEED is dedicated to uplifting marginalised children and putting an end to beginning.









SKILL TRAINING BOOTCAMP

PROBLEM: Many students in spite of studying hard and getting a proper degree are feeling difficulty in getting a job, hence students are not able to make their career and fulfil their dreams. This is leading to an increase in unemployment in india. Situation becomes tough when the students do tedious jobs for less wages.

ACTION: In response to industry-academia needs and challenging circumstances, UMEED Social and Economic Development organised a skill training bootcamp in Varanasi. The bootcamp catered to students from diverse professional fields like science, engineering, and management. It comprised two technical training workshops and one industrial training workshop, covering domains such as computer science, management, and digital marketing. Over three days, 150 students from BHU and IIT BHU Varanasi participated in the bootcamp, supported by 15 UMEED volunteers and mentored by ten industry experts.

IMPACT: Students were concerned about attending this bootcamp and had a variety of views and concerns. Understanding their concerns, industry mentors resolved all of their complaints. They felt a type of shift within themselves after three days of bootcamp. They felt confident and exceptional in comparison to others after obtaining a new set of abilities from this bootcamp; all negative views about jobs were cleared from here.









WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

On the auspicious occasion of World Environment Day i.e. 5th June, UMEED took a commendable step towards creating awareness about environmental sustainability and promoting a greener future. UMEED organised a special online seminar called "Green Day," where 80 enthusiastic students from various backgrounds actively participated in this event. The seminar commenced with a thought-provoking presentation on the state of the environment, shedding light on the alarming rate of deforestation, pollution, and climate change.

Keynote Speakers and Their Insights: The keynote speakers for the day were renowned environmentalists and sustainability experts who shared their insights and experiences with the students. They emphasised the urgent need for collective action to combat environmental degradation and the role of young minds in driving positive change. The speakers also stressed the importance of individual actions, such as reducing plastic usage, conserving energy, and promoting eco-friendly practices.

Q&A Session and Guidance from Experts: As part of the seminar, various interactive activities were organised to make the learning experience enjoyable and impactful. Students were encouraged to share their ideas on sustainable projects that can be implemented within their campuses and local communities. During the Q&A session, students actively sought guidance from the experts on how they could take practical steps to lead a more sustainable lifestyle. The panel of speakers responded with valuable advice, motivating the young participants to take proactive steps towards becoming environmentally conscious citizens.









TRIBAL CHILDREN GURUKUL

UMEED Social and Economic Development collaborated with ISKCON Varanasi to establish a transformative Tribal School Gurukul, providing quality education and shelter to 20 underprivileged tribal children from neighboring districts of Varanasi. The Gurukul follows traditional Indian education systems, fostering holistic growth in academics, spirituality, and culture.

Nurturing Environment and Holistic Education: The Tribal School Gurukul stands as a beacon of hope for these underprivileged children, offering them a nurturing and supportive environment where they can thrive academically and emotionally. The curriculum at the Gurukul is carefully crafted to blend modern education with the teachings of Indian heritage and values. Alongside academic subjects, the children are exposed to arts, music, yoga, and moral teachings, creating a well-rounded educational experience that instill a sense of purpose and pride in their cultural identity.

Dedication of Volunteers: Central to the success of this venture are the five dedicated volunteers who wholeheartedly contribute their time and efforts towards the betterment of these young lives. These volunteers, driven by a passion for education and social welfare, serve as mentors, teachers, and caretakers for the children. Their selfless commitment and unwavering dedication ensure that the children receive personalized attention and guidance, allowing them to discover their unique talents and potential.

Empowering Tribal Children and Creating a Ripple Effect: UMEED Social and Economic Development, in collaboration with ISKCON Varanasi, uplifts tribal children through the Tribal School Gurukul. Empowering them to overcome socio-economic barriers, the initiative creates a ripple effect of education, benefiting families and communities. With the joint efforts of UMEED, ISKCON, and volunteers, this compassionate venture transforms lives, making the world a better place.











Looking Forward To a Great Collaboration

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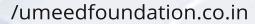
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