

Sar-La Education Trust

*Planting the seeds
of tomorrow*

Annual Report | 2018-19



“Sometimes we exist long enough to lead the next generation; other times, only to plant a seed and let its resonations of our time here on Earth ripple into new waves.”

A.J. Darkholme

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Sar-La Education Trust

Built on the bedrock of Gandhian principles, Sar-La Education Trust, was founded by philanthropic couple and social workers, Smt Saroj Mehrotra and Shri Lalji Mehrotra in the 1980s. The couple was passionate about education, and particularly on the issue of girls' education. They believed that patriarchal norms needed to be challenged to educate girls.

The Trust adopts a two-pronged approach



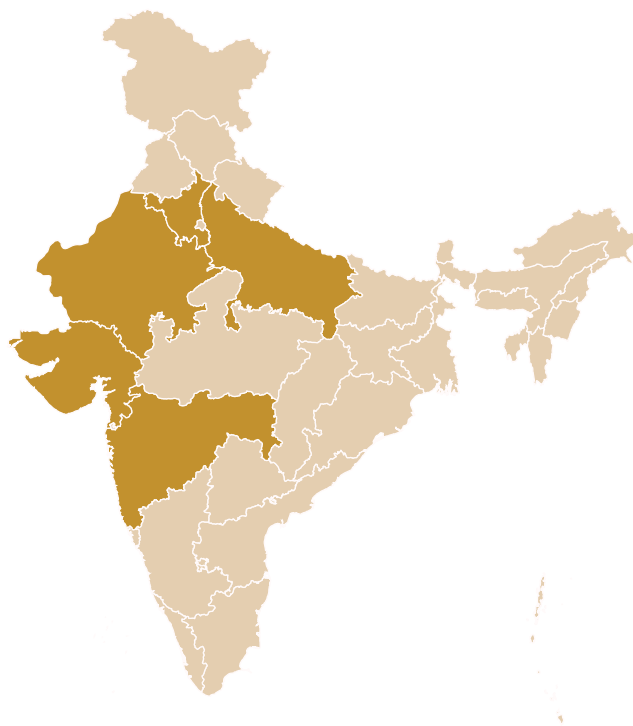
1 by setting up its own institutions and...



2 providing direction, guidance and resources to new and existing institutions.

The Trust's approach to education is holistic and covers the entire gamut of learning: formal education, vocational education, technical education and skill development. The Trust believes that education is a powerful tool to achieve integration, social equity and cohesion at the macro-level, enabling participation in governance and democratic processes as well as social reformation and economic growth. At the micro-level, education is empowering and can equip individuals with the skills and resources for well-being.

WORKING HAND IN HAND WITH PEOPLE WHO NEED IT MOST



Sar-La Education Trust is active in 5 states : Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra.

The Leadership Team

Mr. Rohit Mehta, Chairman

Mrs. Saral Tandon, Managing Trustee

Mr. Vinaya Mehrotra, Trustee

Mrs. Lata Mehrotra, Trustee

Mr. Bharat Tandon, Trustee

Mr. Rajesh Mehta, Trustee

Mr. Chetan Mehrotra, Executive Trustee

Governing Councils

Lalji Mehrotra Technical Institute

Mr. J. K. Tandon, Chairman

Mr. Bharat Tandon, Trustee

Mr. Chetan Mehrotra, Executive Trustee

Mr. J. D. Bhutange, Director

Mr. P.S. Wagh, Principal

Mr. R. V. Joshi, HOD, Life & Escalator

Ms. Punam Sah, Member

Aspire International School

Mrs. Nirmala Tandon, Chairperson

Mr. Bharat Tandon, Trustee

Mr. Chetan Mehrotra, Executive Trustee

Mrs. Rashmi Shendre, Principal

Capt. Unni Gopala Krishnan, Member

Letter from the Executive Trustee

At Sar-La Education Trust, we have always believed in investing in youth from underprivileged backgrounds.

We believe that sound opportunities for early childhood development and education can go a long way in nurturing and scaling human potential. Education can not only help individuals beat poverty, but can also offer greater economic opportunities for the entire family and it can pave the way for building a more vibrant, peaceful and equal nation.

Young adults, from lower socio-economic backgrounds, need to be upskilled and motivated to contribute to India's economic engine. I meet many of these bright young men and women who have the spark and potential to be leaders in their chosen fields, who simply need to be invested in and given the opportunity to learn and train under experts.

As a third generation family member involved in philanthropic initiatives in education, I am a strong believer in building institutions that can serve as models of excellence for others to replicate and learn from. In the past year, at Sar-La Education Trust, we have engaged with the brightest minds in the development and education sector. In order for us to mould our institutions into world-class institutions, we have created Governing Councils with eminent persons with expertise in niche fields such as school education, pedagogy, curriculum development, skill development and vocational training, who engage with our institutions strategically and tactically to work towards a vision of excellence and innovation.

Every child and young adult, especially those born to underprivileged and vulnerable families, needs champions to support them and nurture them to become empowered contributing members of society. We are grateful to our staff, partners, faculty and other stakeholders for walking with us on this incredibly challenging but fulfilling journey of creating excellence through building robust institutions.

Gratefully yours,
Chetan Mehrotra





Aspire International School

Both private and public school education in India leaves plenty to be desired in terms of learning outcomes and quality. Curriculum in schools tends to be outdated and based on rote-learning, producing high school diploma holders who lack problem solving and creative thinking skills. There are glaring literacy and numeracy gaps with a national report, ASER, showing that only 44% of Class 5 children are able to read at Class 2-level.

While children in metros have the option of enrolling in international schools that can prepare them for a vibrant, demanding workplace, children in Tier-2 cities may not have that option. If India aspires to be an economic superpower, it must build schools that seek to instill problem solving, creative and critical thinking skills.

Aspire International School, an initiative of Sar-La Education Trust set up in 2015, is Nagpur's first international school.

It offers the ICGSE syllabus and delivers education with a focus on understanding and knowledge retention. The school seeks to produce young adults who actively contribute to society.

The school is set up as a student-centric community with a dedicated set of teachers. It is characterised by small classes with an emphasis on each student as an individual. The school wants to set each child on a life-long journey of learning. It balances academics with music, dance, art and physical education.



152 students in
2018-19



Teachers trained
by XSEED, a
Singapore-
based Education
Company



Respect, integrity
and accountability
are part of
curriculum.



The school is set on a
9-acre state-of-the-
art campus with sport
facilities for basketball,
football, volleyball,
cricket, gymnastics etc.



HIGHLIGHTS IN 2018-19

Students took part in a tree plantation activity in July 2018 to learn about the importance of tree plantation, and vegetable and fruit farming. The activity educates children to stay close to their roots and learn about where their food comes from. In addition, it was hands-on and literally allowed the children to experience and embrace one of the pleasures of life- growing one's food and sustenance.



Independence Day was celebrated on August 15th with great enthusiasm. Captain Unni Gopala Krishnan and School Director, Air Commodore Dilip Mandpe graced the celebration.

The school organises teacher training programs and workshops at regular intervals for the teaching and non-teaching staff. A Personality Development Program facilitated by Swati Naidu was held in November. The program trained staff and teachers on various topics such as free will, image building, effective team work, leadership, positive thinking and good communication skills. The workshop included group discussions, activities and personal interactions.



A free eye camp was organised in October for all students, teachers and staff of the school in the school campus. A team from Reliance Vision Express comprising of an optometrist and a vision expert carried out eye examinations for each individual.



In February 2019, students, teachers and staff went to Makar Dhokra to experience nature in this rawest form. Fun-filled activities such as trekking, rope climbing, and rain dance were organised. Senior students stayed back overnight to go camping and participate in a jungle safari. Life-skills such as determination, perseverance and persistence are learnt during adventure activities. The school organised these to help students develop leadership qualities and react constructively to challenges.



Lalji Mehrotra Technical Institute

Technical education plays a direct role in economic growth and nation building. A skilled workforce is an essential ingredient in the making of a developed economy. India's skilling and vocational education sectors are plagued by a demand-supply mismatch between the education/skilling industries and the labour market.

There are also discrepancies in terms of access to vocational training and skilling opportunities, with gaps that exist within gender, caste and religious groups. A holistic agenda covering technical and vocational training in existing and emerging skills linking participants to lucrative employment opportunities is the need of the day.

Under the auspices of Lalji Mehrotra Technical Institute, Sar-La Education Trust established Lalji Mehrotra Private Industrial Training Institute in 1999 and Lalji Mehrotra Vocational Training Centre (LMVTC) in 2015 in Mumbai.

LMVTC offers courses in Dialysis Technology, Operation Theatre & Radiology Technician, Nursing Care, Medical Record & Health Information Technician, Embedded System, Automation & PLC, Lift & Escalator, Vocational Teacher Training. These programs are

based on a dual system of training which is considered to be one of the best in the world introduced by Germany. Programs are run in collaboration with industries/hospitals partners. Process, professional knowledge, professional skill, core skill and responsibility are integrated to produce quality technicians. The institute has state-of-the-art infrastructure with laboratories

The industrial training institute offers Vocational Training in Electrician, Electronics Mechanic, Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Mechanic, Fitter & Technician in Power Electronics System in 3 shifts.



Success Story

Shubham Kolamkar hails from a family in Nashik. His father is a tailor and his mother is a housewife. He completed a Diploma – Certificate course in Lift and Escalator mechanics from LMTI in 2017-18. Subham underwent practical training in Mumbai and has been selected as a Service Engineer in Thyssenkrupp, in Nashik. He is drawing a salary of Rs.20,000 per month during the training period. The course made him employable and has given him crucial skills to put to use.

Lalji Mehrotra Technical Institute (LMTI)



208 students across five courses



89% pass percentage in 2017-18



89% of the students were placed, 8% students took up higher studies



HIGHLIGHTS IN 2018-19

The industrial training institute has state-of-the-art laboratories and the latest modern technology equipment.

Industrial Visits are organised on regular basis to give industrial environment exposure to trainees related to their trades. Refrigeration & Air Conditioning students learnt about the manufacturing process of ice cubes, HVAC installation, split AC installation on actual sites of industrial partners like Reliance Retail, Hiver, Daikin and more. Electrician students visited Adani Power, Western Railway Power Station to learn about LT and HT line installation, transmission and power substations. In addition to this students visited the exhibition organised by International Precision Instruments Manufacturers at Vashi, New Mumbai, Air Conditioning System Exhibition at Bombay Exhibition Centre Mumbai (ISHRAE), and the ISRO Exhibition at VJTI



The trainees underwent on-the-job training on HT & LT transmission, Solar System Installation, joining of cable at Adani Power substation and Tata Power Training Centre, Shahad. Power Sector Council organised a 3 day training on AC installation and all students are certified by sector skill council. Reliance Digital also organised a 3 day training program on repairing, maintenance and installation of Smart TV, inverter based ACs and Refrigerator.s

Expert lectures were organised through the year to introduce students to expert perspectives in their respective fields. Mr. Kiran Paranjape, a professional in electronics and a management consultant came for a series of lectures in February speaking on themes such as Development of Professional Attitudes, Building a Successful Career, Customer Rapport, Adopting a Learning on the Job Attitude & Self Learning. Mr. Shilash Bharne, Head Business Excellence (DGM) Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. Farm Division delivered a lecture on the relevance of quality in today's world and kaizen in December.



Lalji Mehrotra Vocational Training Centre (LMVTC)



249 students admitted across 10 courses



71% increase in actual admission in comparison to previous year



95% students in the 2017-18 batch passed their courses



85% students in the 2017-18 batch got placed in various jobs



HIGHLIGHTS IN 2018-19

Industrial visits are frequently organised for students across different courses to expose them to real world places of work and gain a deeper understanding of their field of study. Students enrolled to study Elevator and Lift Mechanics were taken to Thyssenkrupp Elevator Plant at Chakan in Pune, in February 2019. Students visited the Escalator and Elevator Training Centre of Johnson Lifts to gain experience and attended a lecture on safety and technology.

Students frequently attend guest lectures delivered by experts. Mr. Vinay Patwardhan, DGM, Application Engineering, Magnet Technology Machines Division, from Bharat Bijlee conducted a session on Permanent Magnet Synchronous Motors for elevator technicians.

The institute has a large, involved alumni-base which frequently holds alumni meets. The alumni suggests additions to the curriculum based on their experience in working in the field and also helps develop contacts in the industry for placements.

The institute, since September 2018, offers a communication skills training program for paramedical students. The course is conducted by the Times of India through their Teach for India program.

A book on Training Methodology was published in April, 2018. Dr. Rajan Welukar, Ex-Vice Chacellor of Mumbai University and YCMOU, Nashik. Mr. Sanjiv Rasal, Director – IDEMI was present on occasion. Vocational Teachers Training is a unique program run by institute in Maharashtra.

To drive placements, internships and industrial visits, LMVTC has tie-ups with Bombay Hospital, Fortis Group of Hospital, S. L. Raheja Hospital, Criticare Hospital, (Andheri East & West), Lifeline Hospital (Goregaon and Kandivali) and Navneet Hospital (Borivali, Nallasopara and Dombivali) for its students in the Radiology, Nursing, Dialysis, Operation Theatre, Medical Record and Health Information System courses.



Partnerships

IIMPACT, Gurugram

IIMPACT is a non-profit organisation dedicated to the empowerment and education of girl children across communities in India that are socially and economically backward. Sar-La Education Trust has been a keen partner and supporter of IIMPACT to create and run learning centres, that offer primary education to girls in Alwar, Rajasthan for over a decade. In addition, the Trust has seeded the Sar-La IIMPACT Resource Centre at Gurugram, in 2013. The Resource Centre imparts teacher training, oversees curriculum standardisation and ensures consistency of learning outcomes.



Saroj Lalji Mehotra Science Faculty, Allahabad

Affiliated to the University of Allahabad, the College introduced various science under-graduate courses in 1994, offering bachelor degrees in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Zoology and Botany. Sar-La Education Trust contributes to the annual operating expenses of the Science departments each year.



Saroj Lalji Mehrotra Global Nursing College, Abu Road

Established in 2011, the Nursing College, currently caters to 101 students, offering a four-year B.Sc program in Nursing awarded by the Rajasthan Health Services University, Jaipur. Sar-La Education Trust supports the Nursing College by funding its capex requirements.



Lalji Mehrotra Lions School, Ahmedabad

The school is affiliated to the ICSE board and believes in fostering a sense of inquiry and a love for life-long learning among all its students. It began operations in 2002. Sar-La Education Trust supports in running and capex costs of the school.



*Education is the passport to
the future,*



*for tomorrow belongs to those
who prepare for it today*

Malcolm X



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