



# VOICE OF VIDYA

MUMBAI

JUNE AND JULY 2020



## INTEGRATED APPROACH

Urban slum and the social/educational structures which sustain it must be addressed locally. Our integrated bottom-up approach offers training in teamwork and community skills via programs focusing on education, life skills, skill training and digital empowerment program. Empowering women is a core element, as is fostering education and critical thinking. The community-based model provides a path upward from subsistence, and at the same time supports the development of civil and democratic institutions.

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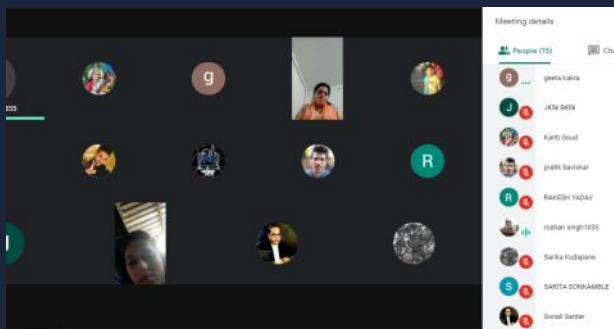
# MARGAM

As the pandemic continues, all the regular classes have gone online despite the lockdown & closing of the centre. We have introduced the new initiative of adult literacy classes. New beneficiaries are being added with the help of Digital Empowerment and Youth programs.

We are creating unique fabric face masks with hand embroidery, madhubani and mehendi designs and meeting delivery as per order. Orders of bright wool Rakhis created using crochet techniques have been met. To celebrate the Rakhi festival, a class on Rakhi making was conducted in all batches, from available material at home and the Spoken English class was also asked to write ten points about Raksha Bandhan and draw a picture.

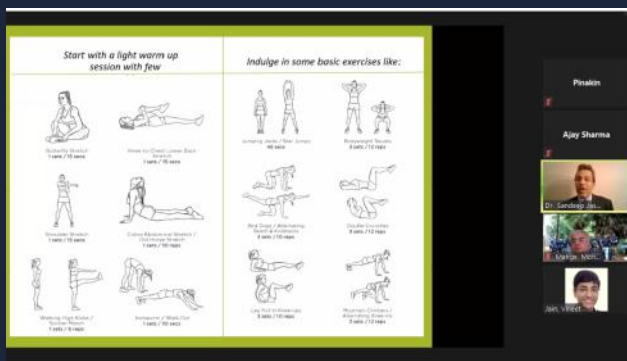


# YOUTH PROGRAM



Virtual classes continued for NIOS students followed by quizzes and worksheets. Since exams have been cancelled, all students will be promoted. Spoken English sessions and Financial Literacy classes are also being regularly conducted. In Spoken English classes, sessions were focused on introducing oneself in formal and informal situations, common mistakes to avoid, conversation when meeting for the first time etc.

In order to ease stress and anxiety, an exam motivation session was conducted. Other sessions to motivate the students included 'Leadership Coaching', 'Sustainability and Growth in new normal', 'Presentation Skill', Sunday interactive session focusing on public speaking etc. Informative sessions such as 'Covid 19 Safety Webinar' and C programming session have also been conducted.



Assistance in filling Mumbai University applications to graduated and currently graduating 12th standard students is being provided. Career counselling was provided for 10th standard students. All major fields were discussed along with non conventional careers such as Animation, Photography, Veterinary science. Data of four prospective scholarship students was sent to United way for college admissions.

Groceries were provided to needy youth by VIDYA

# BEYOND SCHOOL PROGRAM

In light of the global pandemic, home-based work continued till mid-July. To further support the students during these difficult times, we distributed grocery kits to those still in Mumbai, and even tried to reach out to students who have returned to their villages for online lessons.

The online lectures were designed to cater to students of three different levels: beginners, moderate, and quick learners. There were some hurdles that came along with online education, such as training teachers on online teaching methods and teaching parents how to operate zoom for their children. However, the design of the online lectures proved beneficial due to the categorisation of students into different levels of learning. While we managed to organise online lectures, the challenge of unavailability of internet access or network problems did affect the attendance of some students.



From mid-July onwards we have begun carrying out centre-based learning. Teachers have resumed conducting classes for students from their centres, which include evening classes for those who have school earlier in the day.

To further enhance teaching skills, we attended different webinars organised by VIDYA Mumbai and VIDYA India. Teacher training continues, with Usha Rajesh Sharma conducting training on effective teaching techniques in Mathematics, Science and English. Internal training of teachers by other teachers is also in effect for those who need help teaching their subjects.

We have also resumed Life Skills sessions with the students and had organised a career session for the tenth standard students to expand on their career prospects. The students of grade 10 passed with flying colours, with the highest percentage of both Milind Nagar and Chaitanya Nagar centers being 86%. Students observed Guru Purnima by writing letters of appreciation to the teachers.



# BHAVISHYAYAAN

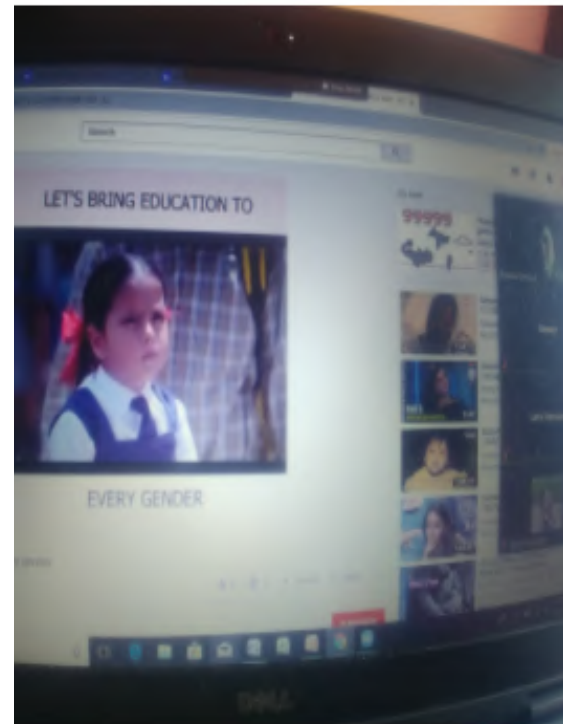
## Bhavishyayaan and School Partnership

Schools are closed but the zeal and enthusiasm of the teachers and staff remains. All the centres are functional online. Teachers and the staff of the centres are helping schools and students in all possible ways.

Class wise WhatsApp groups have been made. Students in these groups are taught through zoom calls, posting assignments, audios and videos. Special theme-wise worksheets are made available for these students. Through special WhatsApp group and regular zoom calls, special attention is being given to 10th standard students with an emphasis on English and Math.

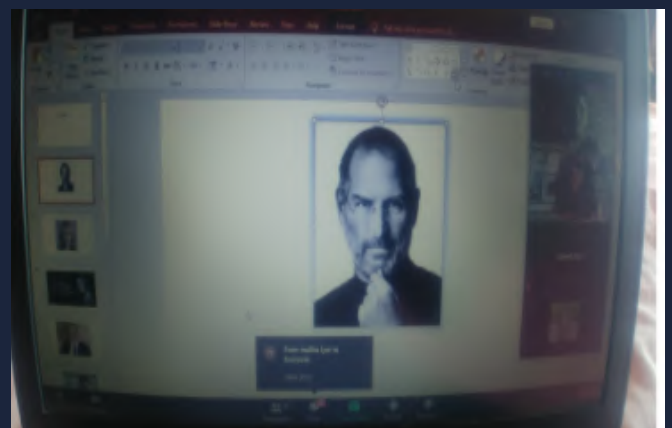
Teachers, program managers and EB members meet online to discuss and plan the activities of the centres. Virtual teachers' training is in progress. Special classes are conducted to improve spoken English of centre managers and center coordinators. Regular spoken English sessions are conducted under the Mothers program.

The centres have also distributed grocery kits to needy student families.



## Finishing school

Finishing School was virtually conducted for the students appearing for SSC examinations for preparing them for college life. Some of the topics covered included Gender sensitisation, Career Guidance, Cyber safety for girls, making a resume etc.



## Teachers training

This year's Teacher training was also conducted virtually. Topics included ;

- How to accept the situation and move forward
- Activate your expressions with 7 chakras
- How to tell a story where students can imagine and visualize the story
- How to develop emotional intelligence.
- Planning and execution of camps and festivals
- Developing creative learning
- Develop reading skills using Café Menu.



## Mothers Program



Regular spoken English sessions are conducted through whatsapp and zoom in both the schools of Govandi and Sarvodaya. Different theme based activities are planned to teach mothers in a novel way.

A Reading competition was conducted for the mothers and their children, during the period of lockdown. Participants shared their recorded reading, which were forwarded to the respective judges. Winners were declared on whatsapp groups and all mothers and children participated and enjoyed this competition.

In the current environment, a feeling of fear, worry and doubt had been prevailing in the minds of the women. To help these Mothers overcome their fear and anxiety, the trainers resorted to discussing positive affirmations regularly. A positive affirmation (for eg; 'My immune system is strong' and ' I am safe') was regularly shared on the groups and the learners were asked to repeat and imbibe these positive affirmations and type again in the groups. They were then asked to record these affirmations and post the audio clips in the groups. The hope is to create conscious and healthy thoughts and release fear and anxiety.

# DIGITAL EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

## Digital Summer Camp 2020-21

VIDYA reached out to students and parents through the partner schools to provide a means of actively engaging the student digitally. It was the first of its kind, an experiment to bring together, the most affected beneficiaries and increase their online awareness as well as ability to use limited available resources to the utmost. Despite their online challenges, like the unavailability of mobile devices, data connectivity, sharing devices with other family members, the inability of students to attend a session at a fixed time, etc, this initiative was more than successful in meeting its goals.

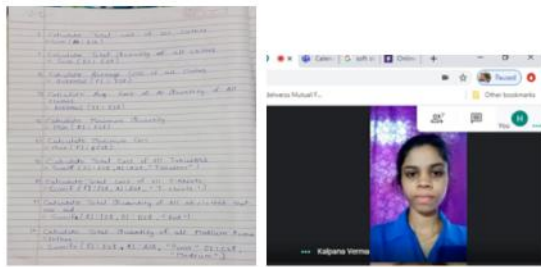
	TOPIC	GUIDELINES
Class 6	Awareness Video on COVID-19	Students created an awareness video on COVID-19, learned to confidently enact, learned to shoot video and edit it using mobile apps
Class 7	Way to Become a YouTuber	Making video of any of the suggested projects like "Creating Masks", "Making decorative items from waste materials at home", "Learning and cooking favourite recipe with your Mother" and upload it in YouTube channel and present it to the audience with video promotion messages like a professional YouTuber
Class 8	New Normal School	Ideate and present, how you look forward to your new normal school, express it through drawings, prepare a budget for the new normal school requirements - using different known digital tools
Class 9	Learn to Create and Market your Product digitally	Create a product of your interest from waste materials at home, Create making a video of the Product, Create marketing video to promote your product and present your product to the audience
Class 10	Presentation on Converting Crisis into opportunities	Students were asked to answer few questions as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is your plan for Board Exam preparation throughout this year?</li> <li>• How will you manage online studies along with your other engagements and expectations?</li> <li>• What is your career plan after Class 10?</li> <li>• What do you think about the financial status of your family in the current situation?</li> <li>• How will you help your parents to cope with it?</li> <li>• What do you think that how will India come out of this crisis?</li> </ul> Students were asked to prepare a presentation on how they will provide solution to the questions asked

## Certification Program:

On 27th June, the first virtual certification program was conducted by DEP where 36 students received their e-certificates. Along with certification, a session on "COVID & CAREERS" was conducted by VIDYA's partner organization 'Antarang Foundation'. The objective was to take a relook at job opportunities considering COVID and how to better prepare for the future. This session was held on Google Meet and 107 students attended.

### Case Study: Overcoming challenges of lockdown

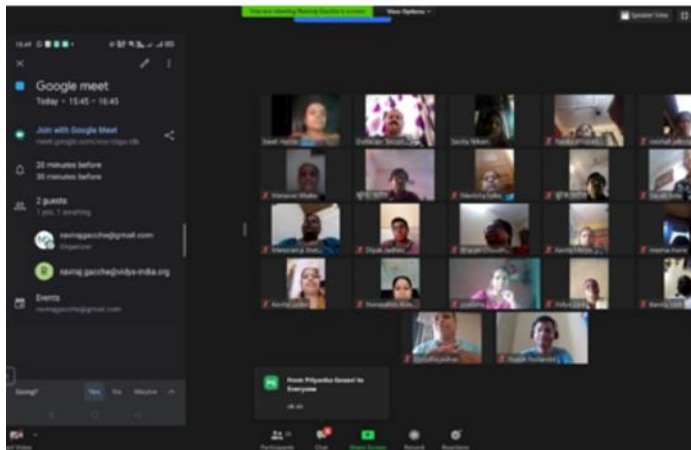
Kalpna Verma is a very talented student from Chaitanya Nagar centre. Though the centre has converted to online classes she is facing problems in attending the DEP classes as her mobile is very old and does not support installation of applications from the play store. She cannot afford to buy a new mobile.



Currently, she is doing an Advanced Excel course online using Google Meet App, as this consumes lesser data and space but Kalpna is unable to practice using mobile as it is not supporting MS Excel. However, she has found a way to circumvent this. She writes all her assignment formulae of Excel in a notebook and shares it with her trainer. She also requests the trainer to evaluate her assignment by doing it on Excel and give her feedback. Hence the trainer takes her separately after the class and does her assignment while she is present and the mistakes and clarifications are discussed. The DEP team is very proud of Kalpna for her dedication, fighting spirit and her desire to learn overcoming all obstacles.

## Digital Enablement for Teachers of School Partnership Schools

Dharmaveer and Nasheman schools are under the School Partnership program of VIDYA and we are conducting Digital Literacy classes for the students from Class 1 to 10. During the Lockdown, all schools are going in for online classes and VIDYA helped these 2 school teachers to get Digital Enablement in Virtual Video Conferencing Platforms like Zoom, Google Meet and digital tools like Google Doc, Sheet, Slides and Forms. Totally 53 teachers of both the schools got trained and they started the online classes for the students for their academic subjects.





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