



Educate Girls Celebrates 10 Years of Creating Equal Opportunities

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Mumbai, December 5th 2017: Educate Girls, a non-profit that leverages existing community and government resources for girls' education in marginalized communities of India, celebrates its 10th Foundation Day anniversary today. The organisation marks a decade of enrolling out-of-school girls, increasing their retention and improving learning outcomes of all children. Educate Girls is present in 15 districts across Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. Since its inception in 2007, Educate Girls has enrolled over 2,00,000 out-of-school girls, has improved learning outcomes for 6,50,000 children and has over 49 lac beneficiaries of its programmatic interventions.

To acknowledge the impact created in the last decade, Educate Girls along with its 11,000+ community volunteers, known as 'Team Balika', has held over 960 celebratory events in their communities across Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. Team Balika members have taken this opportunity to sign a pledge committing to ensure that every girl is in school and every child has access to quality education in their respective villages.

Elaborating her thoughts on the occasion, Safeena Husain, Founder and Executive Director of Educate Girls said, *"Ten years ago I set out on a very important mission with just a handful of people. It's simply amazing to think how far Educate Girls has reached. From the first school in the first village to working in 21,000 government schools in 12,000 villages today - it has all been a very humbling experience. Educate Girls has the collective strength of the Government, the most invested partners from across the globe and the best team. I am very grateful for the role each one of them has played in the process of the development of India. Together we can achieve our vision of creating an India where all children have equal opportunities to access quality education!"*

Educate Girls is in the process of scaling up their present program, focused on primary education, to newer districts to be able to achieve its goal of reaching 25 lac children annually by 2018. The organization has also initiated the world's very first Development Impact Bond (DIB) in education. The DIB, which is a 3-year pilot project being implemented in Bhilwara district of Rajasthan, has completed 2 successful years of intervention and is on track to achieve targets. The DIB is a pioneering way to tie outcomes to funding thereby encouraging private investors to fund development projects and accelerate achievement of the SDGs.

Educate Girls commenced its operations in 2007 with a 500-school pilot project in Pali district of Rajasthan. Success led to expansion of interventions to other districts and Educate Girls now has its presence in 15 districts across Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. Educate Girls' program model is based on community mobilization and designed specifically for hard to reach geographies where education indicators are fairly low. Educate Girls' cluster approach provides 100% coverage of the district and allows it to leverage its impact to enable grassroots change.



About Educate Girls:

Founded in 2007, Educate Girls is a non-governmental organization that holistically tackles issues at the root of gender inequality in India's educational system. It partners with the government in boosting development in public schools through community ownership and ensures improved enrollment and retention of girls and learning outcomes for all children. Educate Girls has a management and outreach office in Mumbai and operations in 21,000 government-run primary schools in 15 districts across Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.

Educate Girls' programmatic interventions hinge around its Team Balika members. They are trained in leadership skills, community mobilization and outreach and creative teaching methodologies to support Educate Girls' program activities in their respective villages. Most often they are aged between 18 to 30 years' and are among the most educated members of their communities. Presently, 11,000+ Team Balika members are actively working in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.

For further information please visit: www.educategirls.ngo

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