

# femail MAGAZINE

# They are creating winners

Using technology and innovative models, four women are helping educate different sections of society

Safeena Husain,  
founder and executive  
director, Educate Girls



## TEACHING GIRLS IS A GREAT SOCIAL INVESTMENT

AFTER A couple of years in the corporate sector, Safeena Husain was sure she "wanted to come up with a programme to alleviate girls' lives, by giving them an equal opportunity to access quality education." Her reasons were clear, "When I look back, I become acutely aware that everything I have achieved is only because of my education."

This is why in 2007 she founded Educate Girls, a non-profit that leverages existing government and community resources for education of the girlchild. Her organisation, along with the help of the government, "has helped over 3,80,000 girls to be enrolled in public schools". It has also partnered with village-based volunteers called 'Team Balika' (about 13,000 now) who work in their villages and try to change the equilibrium in favour of girls' education, counsel families to enrol girls in schools, among other things. Team Balika also helps run a supplementary learning program that uses interactive teaching methodology to build foundational literacy for both girls and boys, benefitting over 8,00,000 children. Ask Husain about the social impact she aims to view through Educate Girls and she concludes, "Educating girls is one of the best investments we can make as country."