



**Safeena Husain**  
Founder and Board Member  
Educate Girls

Safeena is the Founder and Board Member of Educate Girls (EG), an Indian non-profit working towards empowering communities for girls' education in some of the hardest-to-reach villages. Under Safeena's guidance, EG has mobilised 1.2 million+ girls for enrolment to date, supporting over 17.5 million+ children.

Most recently, when the global pandemic hit India in 2020, EG under Safeena's leadership distributed ration to poverty-struck households in rural India. With the second-wave creating a massive loss of livelihood in India, EG restarted its Covid Relief Initiative to distribute ration and hygiene kits 200,000+ households to date benefitting over 1 million individuals, while running awareness campaigns and amplifying the use of government learning applications. To combat the impact of Covid19 on children's education, especially girls, EG started Camp Vidya – a community-based learning initiative. Piloted by Safeena, 17,000+ camps were completed, reaching 340,000+ children.



A London School of Economics graduate, Safeena worked extensively with underserved communities in South America, Africa and Asia, before returning to India. Her efforts to bridge the gender gap in education in India has been instrumental in EG achieving a major global milestone – the world's first Development Impact Bond in education. On its completion, the bond surpassed both its target outcomes by achieving 160% of its learning target and 116% of its enrolment target. These results are testimony to the commitment of EG to deliver quality at scale (the organisation currently has 2,262 full time employees and 20,000+ community volunteers) and value to every single child in the program. She has also been instrumental in EG becoming the first Audacious project in Asia, a first-of-its-kind coalition that surfaces and funds critical projects with the potential to create global change.

In 2020, EG's solution to empower 1.5M girls to go to school was selected at [MIT Solve's Learning for Girls & Women Challenge](#). EG also became one of [world's 100 most inspiring innovations in K12 education twice in a row in 2021](#). Safeena has been conferred with [many accolades](#) for her work at grassroots which includes the 2017 NITI Aayog's Women Transforming India Award, the 2016 NDTV-L'Oréal Paris Women of Worth Award.

**ABOUT EDUCATE GIRLS:** Educate Girls is a non-profit organisation that focuses on mobilising communities for girls' education in India's rural and educationally backward areas. Working in partnership with the Government, Educate Girls currently operates successfully in over 21,000 villages of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. By engaging with a huge base of community volunteers, using predictive analytics and machine learning, Educate Girls helps to identify, enrol, and retain out-of-school girls, and improves foundational skills in literacy and numeracy for all children.

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