



Dear Friends,

Welcome to the September edition of **Samvaad**!

This month, on the 5th of September we celebrated our teachers, educators, trainers and mentors, who have shaped us and continue to inspire us. On this teachers' day, this edition's highlight is our Foundation's flagship teacher training program, **Shikshantar**. For the last 10 years, this program has been instrumental in supporting our teachers to contribute to happier and safer classrooms. Find out more about the program and the inspiring stories of two teachers who are making a difference.

August was a month of some exciting new developments for us! We've launched new **SMART, SMART Technical & ARISE+** centres in Chennai, Mumbai, Hyderabad and Kolkata and have signed exciting new partnerships.

The icing on the August cake was our Hyderabad Entrepreneurship Development Program getting featured in the Confederation of Indian Industry's compilation of industry CSR initiatives.

Join us in celebrating these impactful stories and collaborations!

## Celebrating Our Teachers



### Supporting Teachers to Create Happier & Safer classrooms

How has the Shikshantar program helped the teachers to transform their classrooms for the better and secure a brighter future for curious young learners? [Read More](#)

## Impact Spotlight



**Riya's Resilient Journey as a Special Educator**

Riya has Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva (FOP), a rare connective tissue disease that makes her mobility difficult and restricted. But, the 23-year-old special educator at a Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) school was always determined to work towards an inclusive classroom for her students. Riya's participation in Tech Mahindra Foundation's Special Education Induction Workshop helped her bring about this change. [Read her story here.](#)



**Surendra's Passion for Bringing Innovation in His Classrooms**

As a teacher at a Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) school, Surendra has always been driven to bring creativity into the classroom. In his MCD school, he aimed to introduce innovative teaching methods to keep his students hooked. TMF played a significant role in his journey to make his teaching approach more engaging and interesting. [Know more about his journey!](#)

## TMF Corner



### Heartwarming Scenes from our New ARISE+ Centre in Mumbai

[Watch a child's reaction](#) as he gets to hear for the first time at the Stephen High School For the Deaf and Aphasic, our new ARISE+ (All Round Improvement in School Education for Children with Disabilities) partner in Mumbai.

We are supporting the school's Montfort Care Early Intervention Centre. This new ARISE+ centre will organize screening camps to detect hearing impairment in children from disadvantaged communities and provide them with therapeutic interventions. The launch was attended by our board member, Ms Rajyalakshmi Rao, senior leaders from Tech Mahindra, Mr Riya Mulla, Ms Alamelu Subramanian, and our CEO, Mr Chetan Kapoor.



Teaching & Learning Materials Exhibition at Delhi

Inauguration of New SMART Centre in Chennai

In-Service Teacher Education Institute (ITEI)-North (Shakti Nagar, Delhi) hosted the Teaching & Learning Materials (TLM) exhibition, which saw the enthusiastic participation of more than 150 teachers from the Municipal Corporation of Delhi schools. Mr Vikas Tripathi, the Additional Commissioner of MCD, along with Additional Directors, Deputy Directors, and other officials of the Education Department attended the event.

We have opened a new SMART (Skills for Market Training) centre in Chennai in collaboration with the Valliappa Foundation and The Madras Seva Sadan. Tech Mahindra leaders Mr Sriram K., Mr Manikandan Narayanan, and Mr Yogesh S were present to mark this special occasion. Alumni and parents from our Chennai SMART centres also joined us and shared their remarkable journeys. This is our 11th SMART Centre in Chennai.



**Mumbai gets a New SMART T Centre**

We have launched a new SMART Technical Centre with Grey Sim Learnings Foundation in collaboration with Don Bosco - Nerul & Godrej Appliances. The centre will train students in RACW (Refrigeration/Airconditioning/Washing Machine) courses. The inauguration was done in the presence of our CEO, Mr Chetan Kapoor.



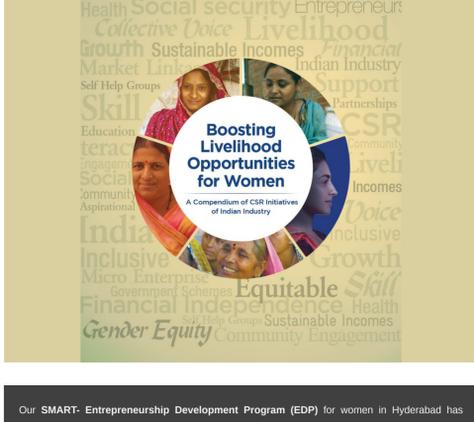
New SMART T Centre in Kolkata

Hyderabad Hosts a New ARISE+ Centre

We now have a new SMART Technical Centre in Kolkata in partnership with Georce College of Management & Science. The inauguration was done by our COO, Mr Sajid Ali. The centre will train students in AC and Refrigeration Field Technician and Automotive Four-wheeler Technician courses.

We have joined forces with the Deaf Enabled Foundation to launch a new ARISE+ Centre in Hyderabad. Senior leaders from Tech Mahindra and SATVEN, Mr BK Mishra and Mr Rao S Vadlamudi, inaugurated the centre, which will support individuals with speech and hearing impairments with higher education opportunities.

## TMF Featured



Our SMART- Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP) for women in Hyderabad has found place in the Confederation of Indian Industry's (CII) compilation of CSR initiatives in the Indian industry. The EDP, in collaboration with the SAFA Society, aims to empower women from marginalized communities in Hyderabad. The program provides aspiring women entrepreneurs with personalized support and resources to establish and expand their businesses.

[Access the complete report](#)

## New Partnerships



### MoU with Odisha Skill Development Authority

Odisha Skill Development Authority (OSDA) & Tech Mahindra Foundation have signed a MoU for creating a talent pool for the logistics sector in the State. This will open up new opportunities for the youth in this sector.



**Partnership with Nayi Disha**

We have partnered with Nayi Disha to create a knowledge repository (both in English & Telugu) for the Unique ID for Persons with Disabilities (UDID) application process, schemes, and rights for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) in Telangana.



**Partnership with CISCO**

TMF is now Cisco's official partner and is offering Cisco Networking Academy courses to our students. The enrolled students can participate in CISCO hiring drives, attend industry sessions, and explore apprenticeships.

**Partnership with LSSC**

TMF has signed a MoU with the Logistics Sector Skill Council (LSSC). All our Logistics Academies are now affiliated with LSSC. This is a significant step towards fostering excellence in logistics education.

## Interesting Reads

- [Where Children Learn to Love](#)
- [Strengthening the Skilling Ecosystem](#)
- [What is Lacking in Life Skills Assessments in India](#)

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Samvaad is a monthly e-newsletter. You can participate by writing an article or sharing your project experiences with us. If you have ideas on what you would like to see included in our newsletter, then we are all ears!

Please e-mail us your thoughts and ideas at [samvaad@techmahindrafoundation.org](mailto:samvaad@techmahindrafoundation.org)

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