



# Saksham

EMPOWERMENT THROUGH  
TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT

# सक्षम



The Saksham initiative of Gitanjali Group is focused on empowerment of People with Disabilities (PWD's) through training and employment. The goal of the project is to create conditions for their rehabilitation and integration into society.

Gems and jewellery in one of the industries where there is a huge potential for employment of the underprivileged PWD due to the specific nature of the processes.

A special Saksham training centre operates at the Rajiv Gems Park, Hyderabad SEZ where PWDs as well as rural youth from Andhra Pradesh undergo six months training programme in the basics of jewellery designing and manufacturing.

The Saksham training center has been visited by many Government officials and dignitaries. The centre, which is integrated within the factory premises is fully equipped with latest state of the art equipment and technology, and offers the advantage of acquiring skills within the actual work environment.

During the training period, the trainees from outside Hyderabad are provided free boarding and lodging facilities and the locals receive a stipend in lieu of this. After completion of the training and gaining some work experience in the factory, Gitanjali also aids them in their absorption within and outside the industry. Gitanjali currently employs nearly 200 persons with disabilities and shall be employing more than 1,000 additional disabled workers in the next three years.

The Saksham initiative also aims at creating widespread awareness among the industry and boosting the training facilities so that the recruitment of PWDs can be further enhanced, and at least 5 percent of the workforce in the gem and jewellery industry could be recruited from among PWDs.

In 2009, the Government of India awarded Gitanjali Gems with the "Best Employer" award for its efforts to empower persons with disabilities (PWD), particularly for the company's efforts at its unit in Rajiv Gems Park, Hyderabad, India.

In association with various NGOs and government organizations District Rural Development Authority's (DRDA) Employment Generation Marketing Mission (EGMM) and Rajiv Udyogisri, the employment scheme of Government of AP, Gitanjali has been organizing job melas in the remotest of the



Specially enabled employees of Gitanjali Gems



An inclusive and integrated work culture

villages in AP to identify people for recruitment.

Based on the success of the Hyderabad centre, Gitanjali is now aiming at replicating this model in different cities of India, particularly where there is a huge diamond manufacturing hub.

The new Saksham centers will offer the best of training facilities and provide barrier free infrastructure for the PWD trainees. The goal of this endeavor is to create conditions for the rehabilitation of the PWD's, by making them independent, considering them as assets and helping them reintegrate with the competitive world.

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Under Saakshar, Gitanjali Group provides aid and assistance to agencies and institutions working in the field of education for both rural and urban youth. The educational projects are centred in Palanpur, an economically and educationally backward district of Gujarat where over 70% of the students come from less privileged strata of the society.

A few institutions that the Gitanjali Group has supported are

### **Smt. Geetaben Modi Vidya Sankul**

The only institution of its kind in the region, offering courses in all the major streams and fully equipped with all modern facilities The Trust that manages the Sankul receives regular aid from Gitanjali.

### **K.M. Choksi Higher Secondary School**

The Gitanjali Group assists in the running of this institution which offers a unique system of integrated and inclusive learning by providing education to normal and especially abled children in the same class. Education, food and accommodation are free for the PWD's. Almost 50% of the students are female.



K.M. Choksi Higher Secondary School, Palanpur

### **Shri Keshavlal Maneckchand Choksi Prathmik Shala 1 & 2**

Gitanjali Group along with the Rotary Club of Palanpur City has helped upgrade the infrastructure and provide educational materials to several schools run by the Gram Panchayat and the municipal corporation. Gitanjali provides uniforms, books, slates, pencils, bags, shoes etc to the underprivileged.

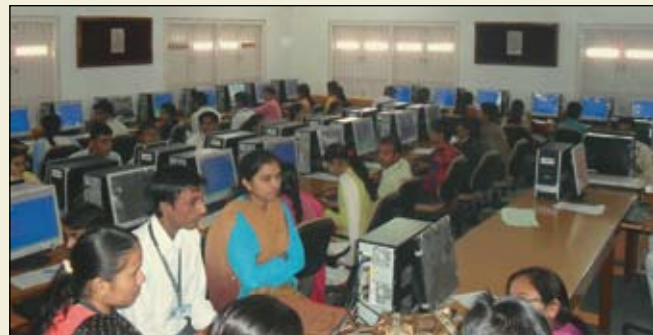
### **Mamtamandir**

Gitanjali supports education of not just normal underprivileged children but also especially abled children Contributions are made towards this school for differently abled children run by the Vidyamandir Trust where they receive education and vocational training.

We also are associated with the Friends of Tribal Society, Image Book Culture Trust and Project Crayons.

*Saakshar* EMPOWERMENT THROUGH EDUCATION

साक्षर



*Sujyat* LIGHTING UP LIVES

सुज्योत



The Gitanjali Group is one of the major donors for the mega eye camps organized each year by the Bhansali Trust in remote areas of Bihar. The project works at the grass root level where every year Gitanjali undertakes to support the camps, which include free diagnosis and operations, cover approximately 2,000 villages. On an average about 45,000 people are examined and close to 10,000 people are operated every year.

The camps are mainly organized between October and March. A team consisting of ophthalmic surgeon, anesthesiologist, physician, para-medicals and volunteers visit villages and perform normal operations, IOL operations with lens and IOL operations for children.

Camps are equipped with the latest medical facilities, tents for the out door patients, dressing wards, kitchens etc. Big dharamshalas are rented with around 125 rooms for patients ward; operation theaters and stay of staff. Follow up camps are also organized to guide people with proper medication.

Gitanjali Group has also been a regular donor to various projects of the Cancer Patients' Aid Association of India, Save the Children India and provided them with various support and assistance



Beneficiaries of the Eye Camp



Eye Camp in Progress

*Sujyat* LIGHTING UP LIVES

सुज्योत



# *Srishti* GREEN DREAM सृष्टी

# *Sneh* SPREADING SMILES स्नेह



**S**rishti is a new CSR initiative of Gitanjali Group aimed at creating awareness regarding the responsible use of limited natural resources and the importance of preserving the ecological and environmental balance.

Under this programme, Gitanjali will be carrying out drives for conserving energy and water resources, organizing tree plantation drives etc. Srishti will also promote reuse and recycling of paper with the aim of ultimately moving towards a paper free office. Awareness drives among employees would also be carried out on issues like saving limited natural resources like fuel and other steps that would help combat problems like global warming. Srishti would work hand in hand with others towards the conservation and preservation of Planet Earth.

**S**neh is a mission undertaken by Gitanjali Group to interact with NGOs and support their initiatives on different fronts. The aim is to build relationships with organisations and individuals who are active in the field and execute projects for the upliftment of society by partnering with them. Sneh helps to reach out to such organizations in a more focused manner. Currently under Sneh the process of creating bonds with various NGOs in Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad and other places is under way.



Gitanjali representative at an NGO in Mumbai

*Srishti* GREEN DREAM  
सृष्टी

*Sneh* SPREADING SMILES  
स्नेह

