



Everybody has the capacity to be remarkable

SOCIAL
ENTERPRISE
PROFILES



school for
social
entrepreneurs
india

Chhattisgarh Social Start-up Fellowship Programme 2018





SKILLS SHALA FOUNDATION

Choose to Shine

Abhinav Satpathi

KEY FACTS:

Project Location Mahasamund

Year Founded 2017

Sector Education

Legal Structure Section 8

Investment ₹10 lakhs

Type(s) of Funds: Grant/Debt

THE STORY: Although I was always a science student and did well in technical subjects, I cultivated a secret love for creative writing. Many would call it a gift, but I was never able to share it with others, simply because I am an introvert and suffered great difficulty in communicating. It was only when I was rejected 11 times during personal interviews that I decided to seek help for myself.

There are millions of others who are part of this education system that is very much content-driven and focuses primarily on acquiring subject matter expertise. This amplified focus on content gives Indian professionals an edge for domain expertise. Even with this advantage, their development, success, and sense of wellbeing is stunted because they are unable to express and articulate their thoughts and ideas effectively.

Skills Shala Foundation was born in 2017 as a platform to give other children (like me) the tools and techniques to identify their talents and gifts, and develop essential capabilities and life skills.

THE ASK: With Rs 10 lac, we aim to build an inclusive and enabling learning space to host workshops and events.

ABOUT THE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

Skills Shala Foundation's vision is to empower children to overcome adversity and flourish in this fast-changing world. Our aim is to have 1000 children across Chhattisgarh participate in our programmes by 2020.

We have designed a programme for young learners, between the ages of 14 and 19, to equip them with essential information, skills, and access to opportunities to make a healthy transition to adulthood. Our main objective is that these young people are able to master life skills—a collection of psychosocial capabilities and interpersonal skills that enhance decision making and managing one's life and relationships. The goal is that they are able to think critically, enhance their creativity, communicate well, build solid connections by understanding others, and lead their lives in a sound and productive way.

BUSINESS MODEL & MARKET

Currently, Skills Shala offers the following programmes:

1. **Masterclass:** Full-day workshop facilitated by an expert/influencer to enable the enhancement of various skills. We are currently partnering with organisations to deliver these masterclasses under a co-branded label.
2. **Short term Courses:** We design and customise these programmes according to the unique needs of a particular school or group, and work with students to develop their socio-emotional, linguistic, and overall communication skills to improve their access to higher education and employment opportunities.
3. **Train the Trainer:** Customised curriculum and content to enhance the English language teaching methodology of volunteers. After undergoing this training for three months, these volunteers, in turn, deliver a 120-hour course to learners. We are currently developing and deploying a customised 'English for Employability' course with curriculum, content, and learning materials for students.

Our model for sustainability includes revenue from the above programmes. The Skills Shala team recently completed a 25-day long project (during January and February 2019), in which we conducted life skills workshops for over 150 students from 8 schools in Saraipali and 7 villages of Takhatpur, Bilha region. We observed a marked improvement in their reading and pronunciation, along with positive changes in their socio-emotional behaviour and interactions.

THE TEAM

Abhinav Satpathi, Founder: IIIT- Bangalore alumnus; digital services developer who has also been associated with various literary organisations and conducted various literary events in Chhattisgarh.

Nasir Bhati, Co-Founder: RIT alumnus with 7+ years running an IT firm; good track record in leading projects and creating strategic partnerships.





FEEL PARMARTHAM

The Reason behind Billion Dollar Smiles

Amit Raj

KEY FACTS:

Project Location Bhilai
Year Founded 2018
Sector Community Welfare
Legal Structure Society
Investment ₹1 CR
Type(s) of Funds: Grant

THE STORY: Our team encountered two distressing incidents on the same day, which made us pledge to work towards zero hunger in our community. We first came across a lady, mentally challenged and homeless, who had been sexually abused by someone offering her a packet of food. In the second instance, we witnessed a mentally challenged man, eating rotten food from a dustbin. According to the UN Hunger index, approximately 1 in every 9 people suffer from hunger in the country. A 2011 census shows that there were 1.7 million homeless or wandering persons in India and that half of these most likely have a mental illness. We are also ranked 71st out of 96 countries in the Global Age Watch Index 2014 as one of the worst countries to grow old in.

Feel Parmartham is an initiative focused on the senior and mentally challenged people in our community who are unable to meet their basic needs of food and shelter. We believe in compassionately serving food to them and then providing rehabilitation care for their safety, comfort, and happiness.

THE ASK: We need approximately INR 1 Cr for one year of operations, as well as setting up a well-furnished rehabilitation centre with a capacity of 20 persons. The centre will include a mental care unit, physiotherapy unit, skill development training unit, and an ambulance/rescue van.

ABOUT THE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

We are inspired by a vision of a dignified and blissful life for our beneficiaries: socially isolated elderly and mentally ill citizens of Chhattisgarh. At present, we are addressing the problem of hunger among this community by serving them fresh, hot meals daily. Our next target is to set up a rehabilitation home for these people, who are currently homeless and staying on roadsides. The home will consist of a mental care unit, skill development centre, physiotherapy unit, and counselling unit.

By 2021, we aim to provide food daily to 200 beneficiaries; by 2022, Feel Parmartham will rescue and rehabilitate 20 of them with proper living conditions, medical care, and provide them with an opportunity for skill development.

BUSINESS MODEL & MARKET

At present, we identify the mentally ill and elderly persons who are food insecure. We then partner with nearby hotels to secure for them one meal a day. Our volunteers collect the food, and feed our beneficiaries with love and compassion. From March 2018 to February 2019, we have served over 7,500 plates of free meals to these socially isolated people. No longer do they sleep on an empty stomach, or need to feed themselves from dustbins.

We are aiming to integrate the general public into our work by conducting various events and celebrating festivals with them. Through weekly interactions between children (from different backgrounds) and our beneficiaries, moral values can be transferred to the younger generation.

Within our current business model, we will charge a small fee for these events. In addition, we plan to open up the mental care unit and physiotherapy unit to paying customers, to enable our beneficiaries to be treated for free.

THE TEAM

Amit Raj, Founder: Social entrepreneur, social activist and social worker, Former President Student Union ITM University, Raipur, B.Tech graduate, Pursuing Masters in social work.

Hemlata Bhattacharya, Advisor: Retired from SAIL as DGM and part of many social organizations.



KEY FACTS:

Project Location Raipur

Year Founded 2018

Sector Tribal Welfare; Arts

Legal Structure Private Ltd

Investment ₹25 lakhs

Type(s) of Funds: Debt/Equity



COSHAL

Discover. Develop. Deliver.

Ankesh Banjare

THE STORY: We come from the state of Chhattisgarh where a large number of people are still struggling to make their livelihood.

Many people are involved in creating ancient tribal art forms, such as *dhokra* art. While there is adequate infrastructural support for this from the government, not all artisans and groups are receiving equal attention and benefits.

On the other hand, I have witnessed my friends who were experts in different domains of art having to pursue unrelated jobs because of no platform to enable them to earn a livelihood from their artistic talents.

Ideally, students and young people should have the freedom to choose their career domain—whether art, commerce or science—so that their talents do not get wasted due to societal peer pressure.

THE ASK: We plan to set up an office and workshop, and are seeking an initial investment of INR 25,00,000.

ABOUT THE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

Coshal seeks to provide a platform in which artists can earn a respectable livelihood from their skills. In the first phase, we are working towards reducing the pay parity between large-scale and small-scale artisans in Chhattisgarh, so that they get both the financial returns and recognition which they deserve. We believe that tribal artisans' earnings should reflect their skill level and the hard work they have put into their creations, and plan to work with artisans producing diverse handicrafts such as *dhokra* (metal casting technique) and from bamboo and iron. By earning a good profit margin from their work, the artisans will be encouraged to maintain their productivity and create quality pieces, so that they can earn a comfortable life for their families and improve their standard of living. The dependency on mainstream jobs will also be lessened when artisans can earn well from their craft. In upcoming phases, we plan to create an online art marketplace and a platform where artists can learn and freelance, in addition to selling their work.

BUSINESS MODEL & MARKET

Since October 2018, we have been collecting data about artisans in different areas. We have begun working with *dhokra* artisans located mainly in Bastar, a red corridor region of Chhattisgarh, and are selling their products to B2B clients across the country.

The crafts are customised to customers' specifications, which we then deliver, PAN India. Shortly, we will expand our product range to offer handicrafts made using other tribal techniques. Alongside this, we are also working to identify additional customers and channels. We plan to launch our online store within one year and reach retail customers across the country.

THE TEAM

Ankesh Banjare, Founder: B. Tech in Electronics and telecommunications from NIT Raipur. Has worked with various startups, and is responsible for designing new products, working with artisans, and creating new customer channels.

Abhinav Satpathi, Co-Founder: IIT Bangalore Alumnus; has been associated with various literary organizations and conducted various literary events in Chhattisgarh.



KEY FACTS:

Project Location

Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh

Year Founded 2018

Sector Technology

Legal Structure Private Ltd

Investment N/A

Type(s) of Funds: N/A



VOICEDECK TECHNOLOGIES

Gamifying Social Awareness

Devansh Mehta

ABOUT THE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

Although only about 40% of India has Internet access, the tele-density rate (number of people having a cellular subscription) is 85%. Our team thus created Learn2Earn, a technology that enables content to go viral over a cellular network. This is done by using novel financial incentives delivered via basic mobile phones to users.

The concept behind Learn2Earn was first validated during a Microsoft Research experiment conducted in March 2016. About 200 users in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh were seeded and told about how they could earn mobile talk time by listening to a tutorial on the Forest Rights Act and answering a quiz.

Those who answered the questions correctly were automatically credited with Rs. 10 in mobile talktime, and another Rs. 10 for referring a friend. In a span of 45 days, 15,270 people listened to the message and answered all the questions correctly. This growth occurred as 1,278 people referred other users, with an average of 5.8 people referred per referrer.

BUSINESS MODEL & MARKET

Our team has been selected by Microsoft Research India to recreate and commercialize Learn2Earn. We have successfully conducted one pilot in Solapur, where Learn2Earn was deployed to raise awareness on HIV.

The pilot was funded by Columbia University, Ford Foundation and Microsoft Research India. A second deployment of Learn2Earn is currently ongoing in Surajpur, Chhattisgarh, funded by SECL.

THE TEAM

Devansh Mehta, CEO: Leading Learn2Earn deployments. In parallel, his company helps host and configure IVR services. Dual Master's Degree, Columbia University.

Alok Sharma: Software engineer for Learn2Earn deployments. Masters in Mathematics from IIT Kharagpur and has worked at the Indian Statistical Institute and University of Wisconsin.

Bill Thies, Principal researcher at Microsoft Research India: Has conceptualized and led the first pilot of the Learn2Earn system in 2016. B.S., M.Eng., and Ph.D. degrees in Computer Science from MIT.

THE STORY: In times of pandemics and other crises, it is necessary for governments and public agencies to quickly disseminate important announcements.

However, due to the dearth of technologies allowing for targeted advertisements in developing areas without internet, Liberia spent \$3.33 per person during the Ebola outbreak in awareness campaigns. This is more than the daily wage of most Liberians.

Our team thus saw an opportunity to create a technology that pays people to learn essential information; works in areas without internet and on basic feature phones; and has a mechanism to track which users have understood the announcement and do not need further targeting.

THE ASK: As Voicedeck has been selected for incubation at Microsoft Research India's social impact accelerator, for which \$50,000 is being provided, funding requirements for at least the next 6 months are taken care of. We are thus looking for long term strategic partners that believe in our vision and can provide value beyond mere funding.



KEY FACTS:

Project Location

Chhattisgarh

Year Founded 2018

Sector Sanitation

Legal Structure Private Ltd

Investment ₹40 lakhs

Type(s) of Funds: Equity/Debt



eLOO

Clean highway toilets for everyone, everytime

Diptendu Roy

ABOUT THE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

With a vision of comfortable highway travel for all, eLoo is an initiative to create a self-sustainable branded toilet chain aggregator platform across the country.

Our mission is to create and maintain sustainable highway toilets for travelers along national highways of Chhattisgarh, which would be mapped on existing navigation systems, e.g. Google Maps and Apple Maps.

BUSINESS MODEL & MARKET

As of now, no such concept is being implemented by any organization in India. eLoo is a much-needed service; as per the NHAI, 65% freight and 80% passenger traffic is carried by roads.

eLoo toilet users will pay a small fee, which will go towards upkeep, maintenance, and other operational costs. In addition, the toilet walls can be used for advertisements.

In February 2019, we conducted a pilot along the Jagdalpur-Raipur highway, where 300 cyclists travelled this route over a period of 7 days. eLoo provided sanitation facilities to these travellers.

THE TEAM

Diptendu Roy, Founder & Proprietor

THE STORY: Whenever I used to travel with female relatives and friends, I observed that they refrained from eating or drinking anything because they knew they could not access clean or safe public toilets along the way.

This caused them extreme discomfort and inconvenience, and even put them at risk for developing medical problems as a result.

Their plight drew my attention to the main issue: the unavailability of clean toilets along highways.

THE ASK: We aim to raise funding of INR 40 lakhs for expansion of the project: marketing, training staff, and developing technology.





ACTION FOR TRANSFORMATION AND EQUITY

Sustainable Lives in a Sustainable World

Ravi Sharma

KEY FACTS:

Project Location Korba, Raipur, Bhilai

Year Founded 2019

Sector Environment; Welfare

Legal Structure Trust

Investment ₹5 lakhs

Type(s) of Funds: Grant

THE STORY: The production of red clay fired bricks (for construction) has resulted in land infertility and carbon pollution, as well as severe respiratory illnesses for the people who work in this process.

Alternatively, fly ash—the waste of coal-based thermal power stations—is also used to produce bricks which are as strong as their red counterparts, lightweight, and economical to produce. Moreover, the process is not harmful to the environment, and helps to mitigate soil erosion.

Alongside this opportunity is a need that I had encountered while working with communities in one of the most rain-deprived regions. Residents there are avidly seeking a regular source of income, but are unable to do so currently, and are migrating to other regions in search of jobs.

The idea behind Action for Transformation and Equity (ATE) is to implement a waste-to-wealth concept on a large scale, using local resources and ensuring a sustainable livelihood for tribal and socially challenged communities. We wish to create viable Community Business Enterprises with SHGs in Chhattisgarh using fly ash technology and Carbon Financing Mechanism.

THE ASK: ATE seeks a grant of INR 5 lakhs to conduct training in technological know-how and capacity building.

ABOUT THE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

ATE is a social entity committed to large-scale creation of sustainable livelihoods in rural areas through promotion of appropriate technologies and sound environmental management systems. ATE uses local skills and resources to create jobs and deliver opportunities through environment-friendly technologies, such as green brick production, and the utilization of industrial waste for building products.

Objectives include:

1. Creation of Rural Enterprises - Livelihood opportunities for SHGs in Chhattisgarh, through providing technology know-how and training in setting-up of Community Business Enterprises for producing quality fly ash bricks through adaptation of green and sound technology. This would also help ease the issue of limited availability of good quality clay fired bricks in Maharashtra.
2. Environment Management – Providing a viable opportunity for the utilization of fly ash. Additionally, it would result in the reduction of carbon emissions, enabling the Community Enterprises to avail carbon revenue afforded to Certified Emission Reductions.

BUSINESS MODEL & MARKET

- Technology Package: A notable breakthrough achieved by ATE has been the dissemination of technology packages which makes it possible for largely untrained men/women to produce high quality products in a commercially sustainable manner. One of the recently introduced packages is the fly ash technology. The fly ash package consists of easy to operate semi mechanized equipment for production of composted blocks. It produces high quality fly ash bricks with chamfered edges; with properties that can be engineered to provide the desired performance in diverse markets.
- Community Business Enterprises – The setting up of Community Business Enterprises for production and marketing of fly ash blocks in selected regions of Chhattisgarh would be an effective mechanism for the creation of livelihoods for women groups. It is envisaged that the SHGs would be selected in the districts of Korba, Raipur & Bhilai; which are in proximity to the source of fly ash. Community groups, who have a good track record of savings and motivation to run the enterprise, would be selected.

THE TEAM

Ravi Kumar Sharma, Founder: PGDM Finance & M Com; 7+ years experience in managing the business of a social enterprise of fly ash bricks manufacturing.

Sumit Kumar, Co-founder: MBA with 7+ years experience in fly ash technology dissemination in UP, MP & Uttarakhand.



KEY FACTS:

Project Location

Korba, Raipur

Year Founded 2018

Sector Skill Development

Legal Structure Hybrid

Investment ₹36,50,000

Type(s) of Funds: Equity/Debt



KBTECH

Skills for Life

Sahal Sahu

ABOUT THE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

Our mission is to train youth from economically backward communities and conflict-affected areas in key skill areas. Some of the training services we provide include: computer data entry operator; hardware and networking; basic computer and internet; and electronic item repair.

KBTECH is using technology and data collection as powerful mediums to introduce transparency into the skill development ecosystem and to better connect job seekers with suitable employers.

KBTECH is developing robust systems along the entire skill development value chain by conducting assessments of the candidates undergoing skill development courses, tracking and getting feedback from candidates who have been trained, and ensuring that candidates find suitable placement post-training.

BUSINESS MODEL & MARKET

KBTECH provides quality computer education to low-income students at Rs 250/month, as they can easily pay this amount. At present, we are providing training to approximately 80 students in computer skills, at the lowest rates.

We have also conducted livelihood training for two SHGs.

Till date, we have been able to train 280 students in Korba district, and 60 of these young people have successfully secured jobs in various institutes.

THE TEAM

Sahal Sahu, Founder: M.Sc Computer Science; 5+ years experience working in various skill projects such as Prime Minister Skill Development Plan, Chief Minister Skill Development Scheme, National Urban Skills Development Plan, National Digital Literacy Mission.

Prabha Sahu: B.E. Computer Science, with rich experience in teaching computer education for 3+ years.

THE STORY: I hail from Korba, a tribal area of Chhattisgarh, and had a childhood dream of learning computers. When I was in Class 7, I tried to join a computer centre but the fees were too high for my mother to afford. Knowing that this skill was important, I would take Rs 10 every Friday from her and go to a cybercafé, where I learnt to use a computer. Having this skill changed my life, and I vowed to help children from low-income communities to also get the opportunity to learn computer skills.

Through market research, I realised that though many organisations were providing skill training to young job seekers, they were not able to secure them employment, due to the poor quality of training.

To address this, I started KBTECH, by borrowing Rs 40,000 to buy two computers and rent a space for a centre.

THE ASK: We are seeking equity or debt funds of INR 36,50,000 to set up a two model skill development centres, according to the standards of the National Skill Development Corporation, India.





MATHCLUB FOUNDATION

Learn | Discover | Inspire

Sandeep Verma

KEY FACTS:

Project Location Durg

Year Founded 2017

Sector Education

Legal Structure Section 8

Investment ₹80 lakhs

Type(s) of Funds: Grant

THE STORY: I have always loved teaching and solving students' challenges innovatively. As the head teacher in Saraipali, I handled math remedial classes and encountered the challenges faced by underprivileged students.

ASER assessments in Chhattisgarh show a steep decline in student performance in math in the state, to the extent that only 30% class 8 students could solve a 3-digit division problem in 2014 as against 50% students in 2011. The NCERT National Achievement Survey (2012-13) shows that Chhattisgarh is ranked last in the country in both language and mathematics.

I saw first-hand the disparity that students found math both boring and overly challenging. Without basic skills in place, children cannot learn higher-level content, but the textbook-based approach leaves many children behind. There was an urgent need for a more student-focused approach.

This led to the birth of Mathclub Foundation: an approach to learning mathematics designed to make students fall in love with the subject through math enhancement activities in an inspiring and stimulating learning space.

THE ASK: As our pilot project gives desired impact, we would like to go ahead with implementing Math Enhancement Program in another 12 government schools of Durg district, Chhattisgarh state. Mathclub Foundation seeks a grant of INR 80 lakhs for the same.

ABOUT THE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

We have developed a Math Enhancement Programme, focused on building the capacity of students, teachers, and school leaders. Through a Math Lab set up in every school, we offer a 2-year integrated learning programme for classes 3 to 8 that makes math meaningful for students. We also aim to empower teachers by increasing their subject teaching expertise through training and mentoring, so that they can build engaging learning experiences for their students. For school leaders, we conduct an orientation programme to familiarise them with the goals and activities, and win their support for implementation.

Through this programme, we also conduct various math enhancement activities, such as 'Math Fashion Show', Math Club, Math Summer Camp, Inter-school quiz competition, and National Mathematics Day. We have also created various learning kits and manipulatives for diverse math topics.

BUSINESS MODEL & MARKET

We propose to implement the Math Enhancement Programme in government schools of Chhattisgarh for classes 3 to 8.

Main activities of the programme include:

- Teachers Training for using Math Lab and supporting resources. All math teachers will be given 2 days training, three times a year.
- Mentoring & Support for Teachers by deploying a School Resource Person (SRP) for schools to guide and support teachers in the effective implementation of Math Enhancement Programme.
- Building Student Participation through creating a Math Club that introduces engaging activities and contest regularly and invites student participation.
- Measuring Impact through a comparison of baseline study with endline study will provide an insight into progress in student learning levels. Baseline Report and Endline Report will be published to communicate the same.
- Creating a Sustainability Plan with the school to guide them in programme implementation in the absence of SRPs. Identified Math Enhancement Programme Lead and Teacher Champions will translate these plans into action.

Mathclub has been operating since November 2017 and has worked with almost 7000 students and 120 teachers across 12 schools. There has been a 25% increase in basic foundational skills and numeracy. Students' interest for the subject has increased, along with an improvement in teachers' techniques. There has been a consistent 95% attendance rate in all intervention schools.

THE TEAM

Sandeep Kumar Verma, Founder & Chairman: Mathematics teacher who has shown excellent results during his 7+ years of teaching. B.E. (Mechanical), M.A. (English Literature), B.Ed., M.Sc. (Mathematics).

Nikita Singhal, Co-Founder & CEO: Served as an education consultant for various nonprofits. B.E. (Electrical & Electronics).





APTITUDE LABS

Restructuring Education

Shahnawaz Rayeen

KEY FACTS:

Project Location
Chhattisgarh & MP
Year Founded 2014
Sector Education
Legal Structure Partnership
Investment ₹50 lakhs
Type(s) of Funds: Equity

THE STORY: I dreamt of studying in one of India's best colleges, but never knew that I needed to write aptitude exams to get in. When I realised that this requirement existed, the only option was to get aptitude training from a private institution. We could not afford it, and my school did not provide this platform either.

From that day, I decided to do something for resolving this issue and thus the concept of 'Aptitude Labs' was born.

There are thousands of students from low-income communities who have the capacity and capability to gain admission into good colleges, but are not given the chance because of the high cost of aptitude training. Till date, no facilities exist for underprivileged students to access this coaching at their schools or elsewhere.

Aptitude Labs undertakes this responsibility and provides the platform for low-income students attending government schools to prepare for aptitude exams and get into their dream college.

THE ASK: We are seeking government collaboration and/or equity in the sum of INR 50,00,000 to conduct our pilot in Raipur. This amount will cover all workshops, training, material, and other operational costs.

ABOUT THE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

We envision a society in which everyone has equal facilities to build the career of their dreams. Our aim is to conduct aptitude training for 5000 students from 75 schools across Chhattisgarh by 2025. Our team has been working in the education industry since 2010 in Raipur and Bhopal, and has developed a low-cost model in which underserved students can easily access good quality aptitude training at their school. Starting with Raipur, our goal is to expand this model to government schools in other states of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh.

After getting into good colleges, these students have a better chance of acquiring higher-level educational qualifications, enhancing their chances of securing good employment, and improving their livelihood.

BUSINESS MODEL & MARKET

There are approximately 400-500 students in every school studying in Standards 9 to 12. For the pilot, we will be installing Aptitude Labs in 20 government schools in Raipur, and use them as a hub for conducting workshops and training for these students.

How Aptitude Labs works: we first conduct a Career Counselling Workshop, briefing students about the various career options they have after the 12th standard. Secondly, we conduct a Baseline Aptitude Test for students (between standards 9 to 12), who wish to appear for these aptitude-based entrance exams.

After assessing their performance, we provide them with classroom training sessions and supporting materials and resources (printed and online). At the Aptitude Lab, a dedicated room in their school, students are able to do practice tests, check their grades, and take steps to improve in challenging areas.

After assessing feedback and results of the pilot in Raipur, we will refine the model and activities before expanding into additional areas in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh.

THE TEAM

Shahnawaz Rayeen, Founder: 9+ Years of experience in Reasoning and Corporate GS Aptitude Training

Lokesh, Co-Founder: 9+ Years of experience in General Studies & Legal Aptitude Training

Ritesh Muley, Operations: 5+ Years of experience in educational marketing and operations

Bhagyashree, Operations: Counselling Psychologist with 3 years experience in counselling students



KEY FACTS:

Project Location

Durg, Bhilai

Year Founded 2018

Sector Community Wellbeing

Legal Structure Section 8

Investment ₹1.5 lakhs

Type(s) of Funds: Grant



ROZAAHAR

Food & Jobs for those who need it the most

Yash Sharma

ABOUT THE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

Our vision is a community of empowered people who are well nourished and have secured a means of livelihood to support themselves and their families.

By 2020, we aim to feed and assist 1000 people in Durg and Bhilai to find jobs.

Through this, we can improve both the economic conditions and labour force for the state of Chhattisgarh.

BUSINESS MODEL & MARKET

We identify needy and homeless people who are socially excluded, and provide a meal to them every day. Through having light conversations with them on a regular basis, we help them to develop an awareness of better economic conditions, and work on building their confidence.

Then, we search for appropriate employment opportunities and vacancies in small-scale markets and construction sites, and work with our beneficiaries to develop the skills and attitude in preparation for taking on these new jobs.

THE TEAM

Yash Sharma, Founder – Social entrepreneur, author, poet.

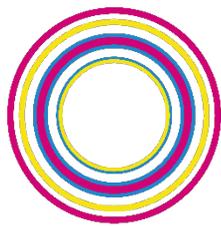
THE STORY: On New Year's Eve in 2017, while most others were planning to attend a party, my friends and I were planning something different: a meal for homeless people living near the Durg railway station. We cooked the food ourselves, and served it to those hungry people that evening.

Only when we saw them accept the food with so much respect, did we realise the value of food. We added more friends to the team and continued this food service for a few months.

One of our neighbours then came forward with a monetary donation to sponsor meals that day. Since then our meals have been funded by well-meaning individuals who want to alleviate others' hunger. We then realised that food was not enough to help our recipients to sustain themselves, so we formed Rozahaar, to help them find jobs as well.

THE ASK: We are requesting a grant in the sum of INR 1.5 lakhs for daily operations and logistics.





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india

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