



Technology - A Crucial Aspect for Social Impact





Deshpande Foundation A Step Towards Rural Transformation

RURAL INDIA: THE HEART OF TRANSFORMATION

Rural India is the cornerstone of the nation's progress, and fostering its socio-economic growth is key to India's holistic development. Since 2007, Deshpande Foundation (DF) has been leading the charge in addressing the pressing challenges in rural and semi-urban India through innovative, impactful interventions. Our mission spans critical areas such as livelihood, healthcare, education, and policy advocacy.

We are reshaping the rural landscape through a blend of innovation, sustainability, and scale. DF's initiatives across Agriculture, Micro-Entrepreneurship, Skilling, and Startups are designed to create inclusive, faster, and economically sustainable solutions. These programs empower communities, ensuring that transformation is not only driven by innovation but also grounded in practical, scalable impact.

THE DF APPROACH: EMPOWERING RURAL INDIA

At DF, we follow a people centric approach where the community is at the heart of every solution. Our pillars of success include:

Sustainability First, Scalability Next: Solutions are designed for long-term impact, while constantly exploring avenues for growth and replication.

Technology as an Enabler: From leveraging AI and IoT in agriculture to digitizing education and healthcare, technology amplifies our ability to scale solutions.

Entrepreneurship as the Engine: By fostering a demand driven, cost sharing ecosystem, we nurture micro-entrepreneurs, positioning them as the catalysts of change.

Partnerships Rooted in Trust: Collaboration with local communities and stakeholders ensures that our efforts resonate with their needs.



OUR VISION

We envision a rural India where entrepreneurial mindsets flourish, tackling grassroots challenges through innovation, collaboration, and sustainability.



OUR MISSION

To scale impactful, practical solutions that address the deep-rooted social and economic challenges of rural and semi-urban India.



MAKING IMPACT TANGIBLE

Over the years, DF has directly impacted the lives of more than 100,000 farmers by introducing sustainable agricultural practices and transformed 14,000 youth through skilling initiatives. We've catalysed 450 startups, empowering entrepreneurs across sectors to thrive in India's fast-growing economy. From building water-harvesting farm ponds to launching community-driven micro-enterprises, DF's programs are not just alleviating poverty—they are laying the foundation for self-reliant, prosperous communities.

OUR THEME @2022-23 | The Role of Technology in Rural Transformation

Technology is increasingly becoming the backbone of rural transformation, particularly in sectors like agriculture and education, which are central to the socio-economic development of rural India.

Agriculture employs more than 50% of India's workforce, contributing significantly to GDP and exports. However, the sector faces persistent challenges: low technological penetration, limited market access, and a fragmented value chain dominated by intermediaries. Notably, 86% of Indian farmers are smallholders, often unable to access modern technologies or financial resources, which further limits their productivity and economic potential.

The widespread adoption of digital platforms, artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), and Internet of Things (IoT) can unlock tremendous potential. For example, IoT-driven precision farming helps monitor soil quality and water levels, enabling farmers to make data-driven decisions. AI-powered predictive analytics can forecast weather conditions and crop diseases, reducing the risks associated with climate variability. These innovations not only improve productivity but also enhance access to credit and markets, allowing small farmers to participate in a broader economic ecosystem.

Startups focused on aggrotech solutions are playing a crucial role in driving this change. By providing mobile-based platforms that connect farmers directly with buyers or lenders, these tech ventures are removing traditional barriers and reducing dependency on middlemen. This technological evolution ensures that rural farmers are equipped to meet the growing demands of the global market, thereby contributing to both national and international agricultural exports.

India's aspiration to become a \$5 trillion economy by 2025 hinges on empowering its rural youth, who constitute a significant portion of the nation's population. Yet, youth unemployment in rural areas remains alarmingly high, exacerbated by a lack of employable skills and exposure to modern industries. Rural unemployment hit 8% by mid-2022, a figure that underscores the urgent need for skill development.

Organizations like the Deshpande Educational Trust (DET) are addressing this challenge by focusing on skill-building initiatives that align with India's "Viksit Bharat" mission. Operating across more than 300 villages in key states, DET uses a combination of formal education and hands-on training in emerging technologies. The goal is to prepare rural youth for jobs in high-growth sectors like IT, renewable energy, and advanced manufacturing.

Moreover, DET integrates technological learning into its curricula, ensuring that students are not only equipped with theoretical knowledge but also with the digital literacy and practical skills needed in the modern economy. By leveraging technology in skill development, rural youth are transformed into a workforce capable of driving India's economic ambitions forward.

In both agriculture and skilling, technology acts as a vital enabler of rural transformation. By bridging gaps in access to markets, education, and employment opportunities, it empowers rural communities to rise above the structural challenges that have long constrained their growth. The fusion of technology and grassroots development is not just a pathway to economic prosperity but a cornerstone for building a more inclusive and resilient rural India.



Message From Founders

Humankind has always been endowed with innovative minds that identify problems and create solutions. In the well-developed sector, this system has been almost perfected, supported by an entire ecosystem aimed at those with sufficient disposable income.

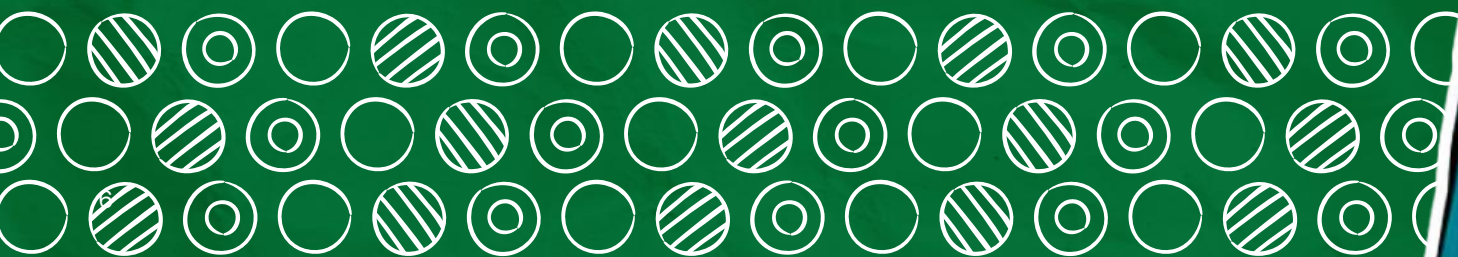
In contrast, customers in the social sector lack such disposable income, and their problems are multi-faceted and complex. The nonprofit sector, operating on compassion, often tackles issues one person at a time. This approach does not allow for scaling, as solutions are complex and handcrafted.

The opportunity has now arrived to bring a product engineering approach to the social sector, enabling us to solve problems on a large scale. We are confident that two of our solutions-Farm Pond and SkillPlus-are ready for large-scale replication. We have helped close to 3000 farmers with water security by helping them construct farm ponds. Our SkillPlus program expanded to over 100 colleges.

We have developed a new approach, atypical in the nonprofit sector, to achieve this-identifying problems and creating scalable interventions for large sections of the rural population. For example, farm ponds solve water problems for farmers, increasing their income, while our skill development programs bridge the gap for educated but unemployed rural youth, improving their standard of living and growth opportunities.

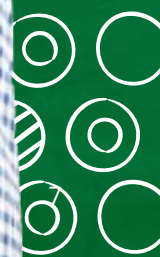
Technology can play a pivotal role for program Impact and its Scale to reach. We believe that using sophisticated technology along with innovative financial engineering will help build economical, better, and faster solutions for rural transformation. Technology is now advanced enough to truly simplify benefits in the social sector. Additionally, customers in this sector have better access to technology, such as smartphones, to receive these solutions.

The role of technology in transforming Indian mainstay of agriculture cannot be overstated. Our farm ponds and other agricultural interventions are a clearer example of this. Furthermore, Edu-Skilling with the involvement of technology is creating employability by democratizing learning opportunities, making a significant difference in rural education and employment.



Given the vastness of the rural Indian population, every solution we find can significantly impact the nation's development. Ours is a humble beginning—a small step towards rural transformation. Partnering with like-minded organizations to scale the impact is crucial. We sincerely believe that if successful, these efforts promise to bring about a transformation in rural India that we can all champion. Our call is to all our partners and funders to join our journey by replicating and improving our solutions, assessing how we can deliver them across India. This will require time, resources, and most importantly, deep compassion and commitment.

Gururaj Deshpande & Jaishree Deshpande



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DESHPANDE FOUNDATION INDIA

Rural India is the heartbeat of our nation, and driving its socio-economic growth is key to achieving holistic national development. Since 2007, Deshpande Foundation (DF) has been at the forefront of this mission, tackling the unique challenges faced by rural and semi-urban communities. Our interventions span across crucial sectors such as agriculture focused on water availability, livelihood, Education Skilling & Training, and Policy-making.

DF's innovative approach to rural transformation centers on enhancing livelihoods and fostering sustainable economic prosperity. We specialize in delivering impactful, inclusive, and cost-effective solutions in agriculture, micro-entrepreneurship, skills development, and startups. By merging business acumen with the compassionate ethos of not-for-profits, we navigate a distinctive path as a social enterprise.

Our ultimate aim is to generate significant national impact, but our journey begins with grassroots rural transformation. Our strategy emphasizes on the point that we naively say "A STEP towards Rural Transformation."

- **Sustainability First, Scalability Next: Ensuring long-term viability before expanding.**
- **Technology as an Enabler: Leveraging tech to scale solutions efficiently.**
- **Entrepreneurial Approach: Crafting a demand-driven, cost-sharing ecosystem.**
- **Community Partnerships: Building trust-based collaborations with rural stakeholders.**

By empowering rural India, we are paving the way for a brighter, more inclusive future for the entire nation.

Whom we serve

Farmers
Youth
Startups
Students
Teachers
Women entrepreneurs

Our Values

Collaboration
Openness
Pride with Humility
Respect

Our Purpose

Rural India forms the backbone of the nation. Focusing on its socio-economic growth would ensure holistic development. Since 2007, Deshpande Foundation (DF) has constantly worked towards recognizing and addressing the challenges of rural and semi-urban India.

Our Programmes

Interventions in rural India are largely made in the areas of livelihood, healthcare, education, and policy-making. Our approach to rural transformation involves enhancing livelihoods and creating sustainable economic prosperity for rural communities. DF focuses on creating better, faster, inclusive and economical solutions in the areas of agriculture, microentrepreneurship, skilling, and startups.



OUR IMPACT AT A GLANCE | PIONEERING RURAL TRANSFORMATION

Deshpande Foundation (DF) continues to lead the charge in transforming rural India, leveraging innovation and collaboration to drive socio-economic growth. Over the past year, we have sharpened our focus on several key areas, making strides towards our vision of holistic development. Here's a closer look at our impactful initiatives:

MEDP: Individual & Cluster MEs

4,900 micro-
entrepreneurs
supported

3 OFPOS
established

Agriculture: Farm Ponds, BCI and FPO

1,00,000+
Farmers
benefitted

Skilling: Skilling for Youth; Skill in Village; EarlySpark

9,500+ students
impacted

Startups: Yuva, Edge, Incubator, Sandbox for Bharat

300+ Startups
supported

Rs. 220 + Crores to
the economy



Transforming Indian Agriculture

Technology's role in revolutionizing Indian agriculture has been a cornerstone of our efforts. By introducing water availability, innovative farming techniques, precision agriculture, and digital tools, we have empowered farmers to increase productivity, reduce costs, and access wider markets. These advancements not only enhance food security but also uplift the economic conditions of rural households.

Democratizing Learning Opportunities

Education and skill are fundamental to employment and economic growth. Our initiatives aim to democratize learning, making high-quality education and vocational training accessible to all. Through partnerships with educational institutions and tech-driven learning platforms, we are equipping the youth with the skills necessary to thrive in a dynamic job market.

Collaborative Partnerships

Scaling impact requires a collective effort. DF has forged strong partnerships with like-minded organizations, businesses, and individuals who share our vision of sustainable development. These collaborations amplify our reach and effectiveness, enabling us to implement large-scale projects that bring lasting change to rural communities.

Deshpande Foundation remains committed to its mission of rural transformation, guided by principles of sustainability, technological enablement, and entrepreneurial innovation. By nurturing trust-based partnerships and creating a demand-driven, cost-sharing ecosystem, we are not just envisioning a better future—we are actively building it. Through our unwavering dedication and strategic initiatives, we are paving the way for a more prosperous and inclusive India.



OUR OUTREACH

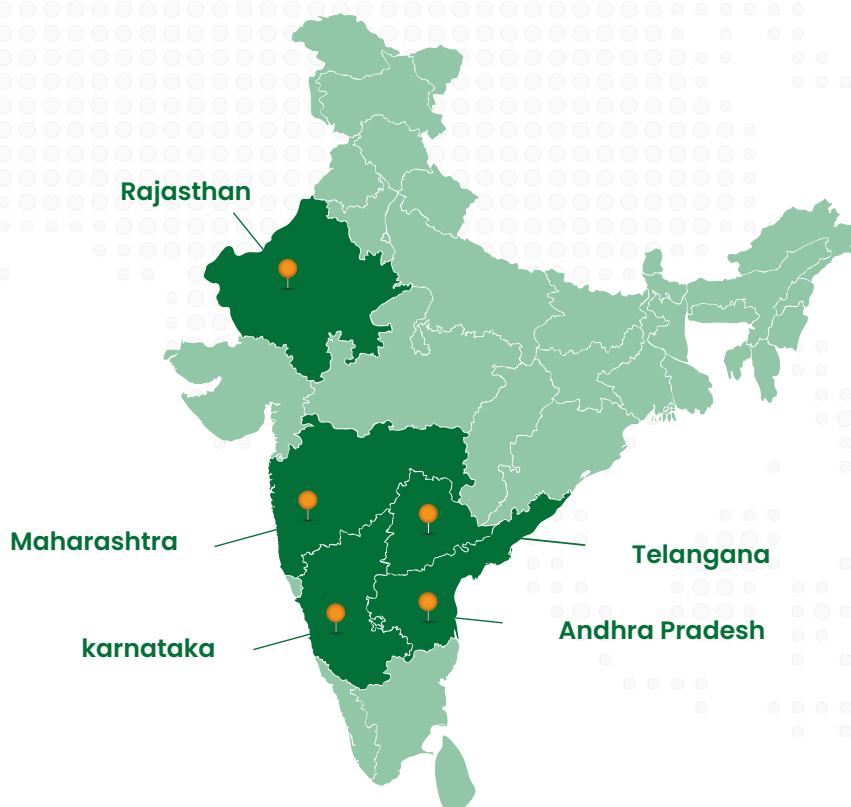
Deshpande Foundation operates out of two major centres in India:

Hubballi Sandbox (Hubballi, Karnataka): This flagship sandbox was launched in 2007. It nurtures programs in agriculture, micro-entrepreneurship, skilling, and startups.



Kakatiya Sandbox (Nizamabad, Telangana): The Kakatiya Sandbox ecosystem allows for sharing, networking, collaborating and deliberating ideas with other catalysts in rural Telangana.

We also work in the geographies in Maharashtra and Rajasthan through different partners.





Karnataka

Districts:

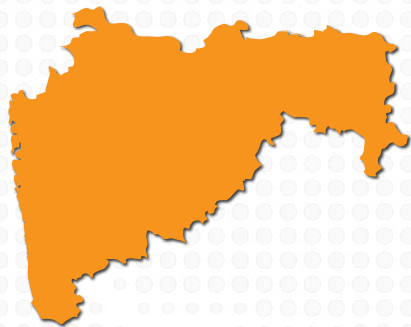
Bagalkote | Ballari | Belagavi
Dharwad | *Gadag | Haveri
Koppal | Davanagere | Uttara Kannada
Bidar | Gulbarga | Shivamogga



Telangana

Districts:

Siddipet | Nizamabad | Sangareddy
Jangaon | Nalgonda | Yadadri Bhuvangiri
Warangal Urban | *Adilabad | Kamareddy
Jagtial | Nirmal | Peddapalli
Karimnagar



Maharashtra

Districts:

Aurangabad | *Nanded
Osmanabad | Ambejogai



Rajasthan

Districts:

Jaipur Rural



Andhra Pradesh

Districts:

Nandyal

* Aspirational Districts

LEGAL ENTITIES

Deshpande Foundation

Deshpande Foundation, a charitable trust incorporated under the Indian Trusts Act 1882. The Trust Deed will be made available upon request.

(Reg. No.: JPN-4-00133-2007-08)

Deshpande Foundation is registered under 11-Clause (i) of first proviso to Sub-section (5) of section 80G of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

(Reg. No.: AABTD0867DF20214)

Deshpande Foundation is registered under Section 12AB of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

(Reg. No: AABTD0867DE20214)



Deshpande Foundation is registered under Section 6 (1) (a) of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010.

(FCRA Reg. No. 094520067)

Deshpande Foundation is registered with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs for undertaking CSR activities.

(CSR Reg. No: CSR00004646)



Board of Trustees

Deshpande Foundation



**Gururaj Desh
Deshpande**
Founding Trustee

“

Desh has pursued an entrepreneurial career for the last three decades and has built several companies. He pursued a B.Tech. degree in Electrical Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology – Madras (IIT-M), a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of New Brunswick in Canada, and a Ph.D. in Data Communications from Queen's University, Canada. Desh serves as a life-member of the MIT Corporation. He is President and Chairman of Sparta Group LLC, a family investment office. He co-chaired a National Council to support President Obama's innovation and entrepreneurship strategy. His extensive knowledge, experience and efforts have helped Deshpande Foundation to create an environment that fosters social entrepreneurship and innovation.

“

Jaishree is the Treasurer of Sparta Group LLC and serves as a Trustee for the Museum of Science. She is involved with HESTIA Fund, an initiative that supports quality afterschool programs for children from low-income families. She worked for the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) in Bengaluru until 1980, before moving to Canada. Jaishree has worked for several companies in Massachusetts and taught courses in Computer Science. She holds a Master of Science degree in Physics from the Indian Institute of Technology - Madras (IIT-M) and a Master in Computer Science from Boston University. Together with Desh, Jaishree has been a thought leader at Deshpande Foundation for creating significant social and economic impact.



Jaishree Deshpande
Founding Trustee



Sanjay Nayak
Trustee

“

Sanjay Nayak is a Co-Chairman of India's Telecom Equipment and Services Export Promotion Council and has many feathers in his cap, like the 'Technovation Sarabhai' Award from India Electronics and Semiconductor Association and the 'Electronics Man of the Year' from ELCINA in 2011. He is also inducted as a Fellow of the Indian National Academy of Engineering for his dynamic leadership in building great scientific institutions that have immensely contributed to the faster development of the country. Sanjay holds substantial experience in telecommunication and networking and is also a member of the FICCI Start-Up Committee. Prior to Tejas Networks, Sanjay was the Managing Director for Synopsys (India) Private Limited and has a Master of Science degree from North Carolina State University, U.S.A.

“

Arnob Roy, the Chief Operating Officer at Tejas Networks, comes with an experience of over 30 years of research & development, operations, and sales in the high-technology industry. He holds a Master of Science degree from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, U.S.A., and a Bachelor of Technology (Honors) degree in Electronics and Electrical Communication Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur. He has served as the Manager for Research and Development in Synopsys Private Limited (India) before joining Deshpande Foundation as an Executive Director. His leadership is invaluable and provides the Deshpande Foundation with the right kind of direction.



Arnob Roy
Trustee



Kumar R. Sivarajan
Trustee

“

Kumar has co-authored a textbook titled ‘Optical Networks: A Practical Perspective’ and has served as an Associate Professor in the Department of Electrical Communication Engineering at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru. His core responsibilities as the Chief Technology Officer at Tejas Networks include setting the technology and product direction, along with serving as a Trustee and guiding on technology at Deshpande Foundation. He has several accolades, such as ‘Fellow of the Indian National Academy of Engineering’ and the ‘Global Indus Technovator’ Award – 2004, from India Business Club, among others. He holds a Bachelor’s degree in Electrical Engineering from IIT-Madras, and a Ph.D. from the California Institute of Technology.

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Vivek Pawar is the Chairman Emeritus & Founder of Sankalp semiconductor, the largest independent analog semiconductor design service provider company in the world, which has been acquired by HCL. Prior to Sankalp, Vivek worked in Texas Instruments, India and U.S.A. for 15 years and has developed global innovative chip products which have received many awards and recognitions. He has three patents and multiple international publications to his credit. Vivek is passionate about creating a sustainable and scalable framework for rural transformation. In this quest for transformation, he strongly believes that startups play a crucial role in solving the long-standing problems of rural India. Vivek has completed B.E. (E&T/C) from the College of Engineering Pune (COEP) and M. Tech from IIT-Kharagpur.



Vivek Pawar
Trustee

Deshpande Education Trust aka Deshpande Skilling

Deshpande Educational Trust aka Deshpande Skilling

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(Reg. No.: AABTD4450GE2021401)

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(Reg. No.: AABTD4450GF2021401)

Deshpande Educational Trust is registered under Section 6 (1) (a) of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010.
(FCRA Reg. No. 094520082)

Deshpande Educational Trust is registered with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs for undertaking CSR activities.
(CSR Reg. No.: CSR00001647)



Trustees of DET



P N Nayak
Managing Trustee and
CEO

“

Nayak is an engineer by training from NIT-K, with over 28 years of experience in the corporate sector in the areas of customer support, sales, relationship management, quality and HR. The past 15 years of his career were in talent acquisition and talent development for a leading IT/ITES company in India. He has been leading the Skilling impact unit of DF – Deshpande Educational Trust, since 2019, steering its programs to be sustainable, while scaling them to more centers to create a larger impact.

“

Shreekant is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Management Studies at Christ University, Bengaluru, and is associated with Deshpande Foundation. He has also worked as a Project Manager with Tata Consultancy Services before teaching and shaping students' future. His service to the Foundation is immense, and he forms an irreplaceable force to reckon with, in the Foundation.



Shrikant Deshpande
Founding Trustee



Serge Bhachu
Trustee

“

Serge Bhachu's association with Deshpande Foundation (DF) began in 2008, and he now serves as Managing Director of Sparta Group LLC, the investment office of Desh and Jaishree Deshpande. In his journey with DF spanning more than a decade, he has been instrumental in managing different fronts, bringing extensive knowledge and the quality of excellence to his work. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Clark University and a Juris Doctor degree from Boston University School of Law.

Deshpande Startups

Foundation for SandboxStartup Initiative, a section 8 (1) company incorporated under the Companies Act, 2013.

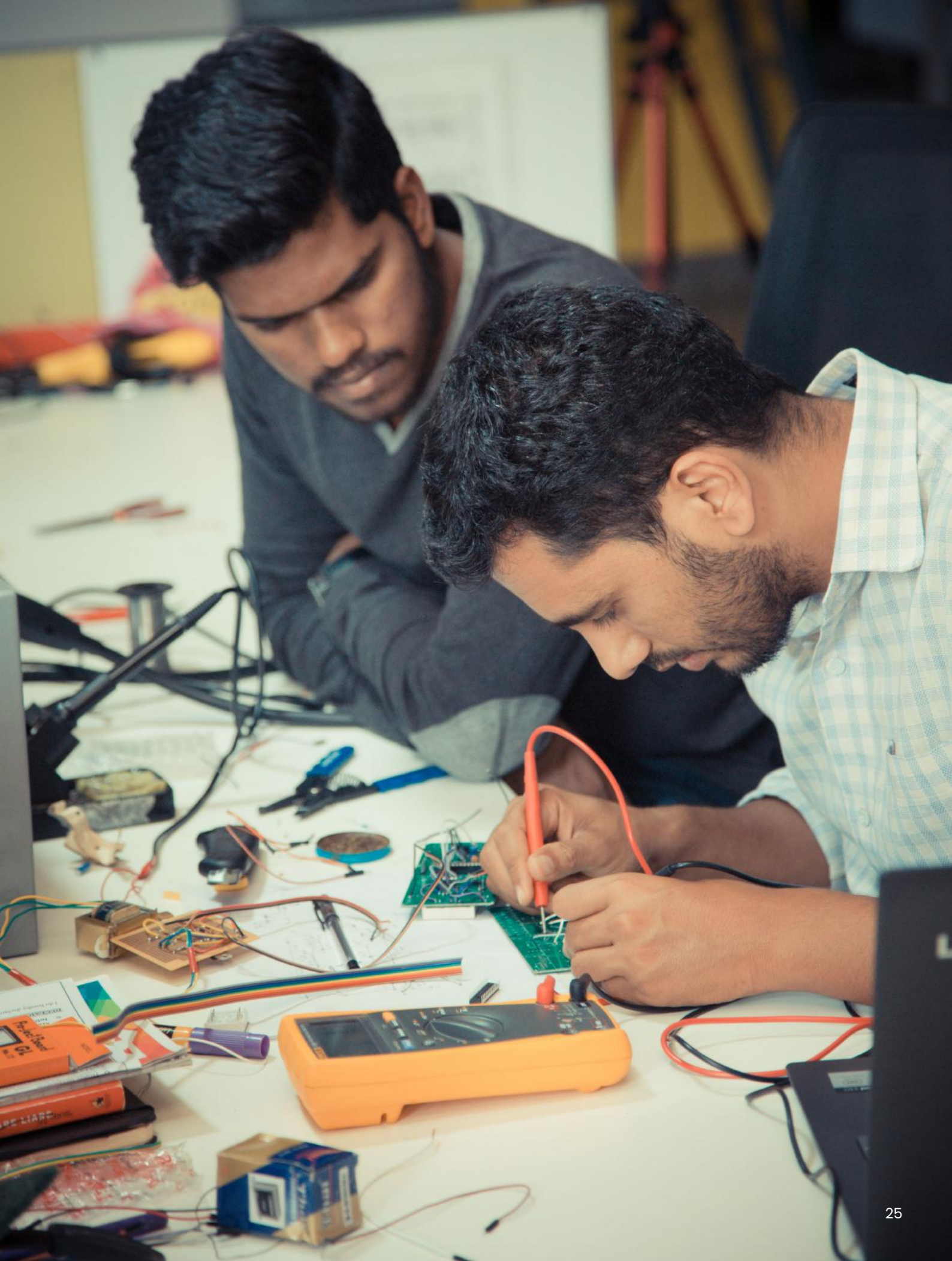
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Foundation for SandboxStartup Initiative is registered under Section 6 (1) (a) of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010.

(FCRA Reg. No. 094520085)





Board of Directors



Raju Reddy
Chairman

“

Raju Reddy is the Founder of Sierra Atlantic, an IT services company headquartered in California, U.S.A.. He has provided his wholehearted support to co-founding DF's operations in Telangana – 'Kakatiya Sandbox'.

The initiative started when Raju Reddy visited the Hubballi Sandbox, Karnataka, and saw its impact. He wanted to replicate it in Telangana, and took it upon himself to activate similar operations there. It was with his initiative and support that Kakatiya Sandbox has been successfully implemented and continues to run smoothly and efficiently.

“

Rajiv sees Bharat as the real India, which is over a billion strong, made up of rural, semi-urban, and small city (tier III-IV cities) communities. He believes this economy has its distinct needs, culture, and capabilities; entrepreneurship into and from Bharat is key to sustainable development for all of India. He is the Founder of Next In Advisory – a growth platform for entrepreneurs. He was earlier the CEO at Future eCommerce/futurebazaar.com and co-founded India's leading retail technology and business services firm. He completed his PGDM/MBA from the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad in Finance & Systems after completing his Bachelor of Commerce from R.A. Podar College.



Rajiv Prakash
Director

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**Ramanathan
Narayanan**
Director

Ramanathan Narayanan is a highly experienced professional and a significant figure in both the Deshpande Startups and broader entrepreneurial ecosystem. He serves as a Board Director at Deshpande Startups, where he mentors and guides early-stage entrepreneurs, helping them scale their innovative ideas into sustainable businesses. His work focuses on fostering innovation in sectors like Agri-Tech, Edu-Tech, and Sustainable Entrepreneurship. Beyond his role at Deshpande Startups, he is also involved in the 4R Recycling initiative, where he serves as the CEO and Managing Director, promoting eco-friendly waste management solutions. With over 27 years of experience across sectors like supply chain management, finance, and operations, Ramanathan has also held senior leadership positions, including at Tejas Networks, where he was instrumental in the company's growth. His expertise in building strong, efficient systems for product delivery and scaling technology-driven solutions has made him a key figure in both technology incubation and sustainable business practices.

“

Dr. Aravind Chinchure is a distinguished academician, innovation leader, and corporate strategist with over 25 years of experience in R&D, intellectual property, startup incubation, and social development. He holds a PhD in Physics and has worked across various prestigious organizations, including Reliance Innovation Leadership Centre, Honeywell Technology Solutions, and General Electric Global Research Center. Dr. Chinchure has held research positions at top institutions like Oxford University, Max Planck Institute, and Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), where he has made significant contributions to condensed matter physics and fuel cell technology, having filed multiple patents. His extensive global academic experience includes being a visiting researcher at various institutions across Europe and the United States. As the Founder and CEO of QLeap Academy, Dr. Chinchure focuses on developing 21st-century professionals in the fields of innovation and entrepreneurship. He has also been instrumental in developing India's first two-year MBA program in Innovation and Entrepreneurship at Symbiosis International University.



**Dr. Aravind
Chinchure**

Board of Advisors



Sushil Vachani
Advisor, Deshpande
Foundation

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Sushil Vachani serves on the Board of Trustees and takes the lead in developing strategies for promoting economic and social development in the U.S.A. and India through entrepreneurship. He has a keen interest in the global institutional environment of business, multinational-government relations, CSR, climate change, strategy and innovation at the pyramid's base, and NGOs' impact on international businesses. As a global researcher, leader, and educator, he edifies students, executives, and policymakers in the U.S.A., Japan, China, and India, apart from being a Professor of Strategy and Innovation at Boston University since 28 years.

“

Raj drives Deshpande Foundation's strategy and efforts to encourage entrepreneurship and innovation. He helped launch three Foundation-supported centers and, as a former Board Chair, helped direct the strategic direction of entrepreneurship for all. He launched the Deshpande Symposium, an international conference on entrepreneurship in higher education. Raj has organized and participated as mentor, judge and panellist at numerous panels, workshops and accelerators and guided several startups that address key social issues. He currently serves on the Advisory Boards of two university entrepreneurship centers. He has over 25 years of product management, marketing and consulting experience, including at two mobile technology spinoffs from MIT. He has a doctorate and two masters degrees from MIT, and a B.Tech from IIT-Bombay.



Raj Melville
Advisor, Deshpande
Foundation

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Hemang Dave is an investor, founder & CEO of many startups, and mentor to new entrepreneurs, along with being involved at the Board level with Deshpande Foundation, and the MIT Deshpande Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. He holds a BS EE/CS in Electrical Engineering from the University of Connecticut and he prefers to invest globally in the energy, metal, and agriculture sectors. His enthusiasm towards entrepreneurship, and vast leadership experience with organizations like CMGI, Lotus Development, and Prime/ComputerVision work as an asset for Deshpande Foundation.



Hemang Dave
Advisor, Deshpande
Foundation



Smita Deshpande
Advisor & Founder,
EarlySpark

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Smita Deshpande has an Electronics and Communications degree in engineering and a graduate degree in Computer Science from Boston University. She has previously held roles in several start-ups in the food services, supply chain analytics, fashion, and gaming industries, including the MIT Media Lab. She is passionate about finding ways to advance the lives of children. She has invented a patented mixing and anti-spoilage monitoring device for baby formula. She founded EarlySpark to enable access to highquality education for all children, irrespective of their backgrounds.

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Phanindra Sama is the founder and former CEO of Redbus, India's largest bus ticketing company. He and Raju Reddy are the founding patrons of 'Kakatiya Sandbox' based out of Telangana. Together, they decided that the Sandbox concept should be replicated. He believes in the philosophy: "The greatest good you can do for another is not just to share your riches, but to reveal to him his own" – Benjamin Disraeli. Kakatiya Sandbox is set up with the idea that it works as a sandbox for people to work on solutions to local problems. The aim is to support people with viable ideas to implement them. Phanindra, with his vast experience in the corporate and social world, brings immense strength to the Sandbox in terms of support, motivation, and inspiration.



Phanindra Sama
Advisor, Kakatiya
Sandbox



Audit Committee

Statutory Auditors

Suresh & Co., Chartered Accountants
1st Floor, No. 43/61, "Srinidhi" Surveyors Street,
Basavangudi, Bengaluru - 560004

Internal Auditors

Sighvi Dev & Unni LLP, Chartered Accountants (SDU)
29/4, Trade Center, Race Course Road,
Bengaluru - 560001

Our Main Bankers:

- State Bank of India
- Kotak Mahindra Bank
- ICICI Bank Limited
- RBL Bank Limited
- Axis Bank Limited
- HDFC Bank Limited
- Bank of Baroda



INITIATIVES

Agricultural Initiatives – Farm Pond

India's rain-fed agriculture faces significant challenges due to unpredictable rainfall and groundwater depletion. Approximately 60% of the country's cultivated land relies on rain-fed farming, making efficient water management crucial. The Farm Ponds Project seeks to mitigate these challenges by constructing farm ponds, which help farmers store rainwater for irrigation during dry periods. This approach supports resilient agricultural practices and improves crop yields.

Strategic Partnerships:

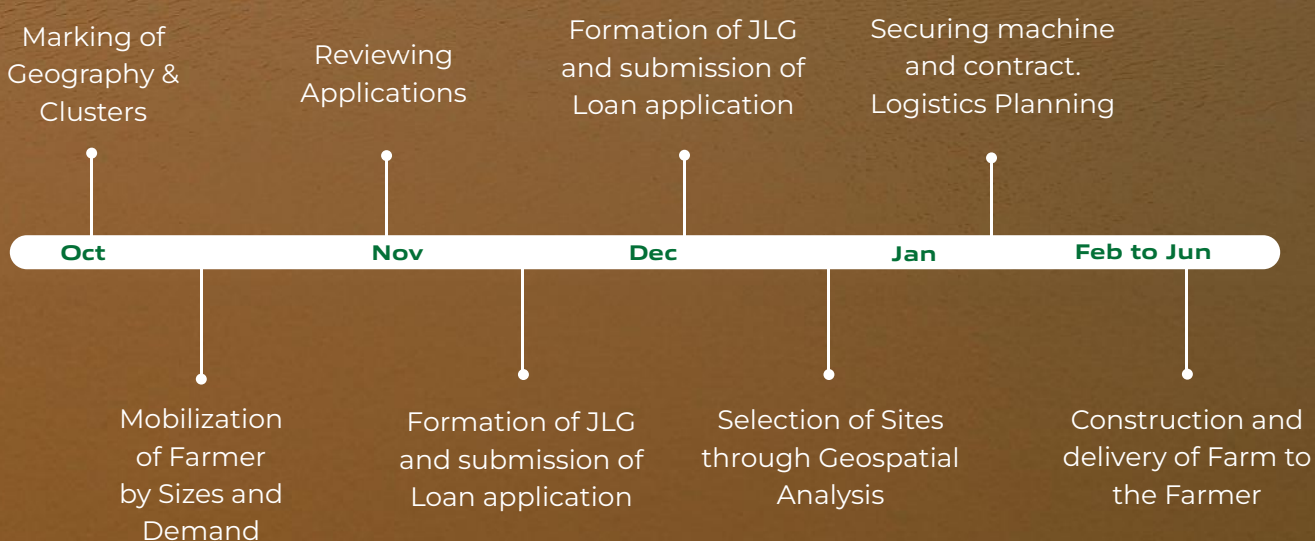
The success of the Farm Ponds Project is bolstered by strategic partnerships with entities such as the State Bank of India (SBI), NABARD, and other corporate stakeholders. These collaborations have enabled the creation of an innovative and replicable model that leverages technology

The Farm Ponds Project, initiated by the Deshpande Foundation in 2014, aims to address water scarcity in drought-prone regions of Karnataka and Telangana through the construction of personalized water harvesting structures. The initiative focuses on creating farm ponds that serve as reservoirs for rainwater, providing a sustainable solution for irrigation and enhancing agricultural productivity.

and financial support through Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) of farmers. This model addresses water security concerns in drought-affected regions and aims to expand the program to benefit one lakh farmers in the near future.



Project Design and Implementation



The Farm Ponds Project is a powerful intervention aimed at combating water scarcity by constructing farm ponds tailored to the needs of individual farmers. These ponds are strategically built during the critical summer months (February to May),

following a meticulous preparatory phase from June to January. This phase includes mobilizing farmers, screening applications, forming Joint Liability Groups (JLGs), securing loan approvals, and pinpointing optimal sites using geospatial analytics.

Technological Edge

The Deshpande Foundation's Rural Transformation Technology Centre (RTTC) elevates the project with cutting-edge technologies like Machine Learning (ML) and geospatial analytics. These innovations enable precise site selection, seamless construction monitoring, and impactful assessment of outcomes. Cloud-based applications, mobile apps, interactive dashboards, and satellite imagery ensure the process is systematic, data-driven, and highly scalable.

Impact and Vision

The Farm Ponds Project is a shining example of the Deshpande Foundation's mission to drive rural transformation through sustainable, tech-enabled solutions.

By addressing water shortages and revolutionizing agricultural practices, it has uplifted thousands of farmers, significantly enhancing their livelihoods. The ongoing expansion of the initiative, backed by robust technological integration, promises to create lasting change in the drought-prone regions of Karnataka and Telangana.

Key Achievements

Since its inception, the Farm Ponds Project has achieved the following milestones:

- Over 7,000 farm ponds were constructed.
- Effective irrigation of more than 28,000 acres of land.
- Benefitting over 36,000 individuals across Karnataka and Telangana.
- Expansion to seven districts in Karnataka and two districts in Telangana.

Our partners



Transformation of Agriculture through Farm Pond Program

Introduction:

This case study spotlights Mr. Manikanta Mandal, a young farmer from RH Camp-5 in Sindhanur Taluk, Raichur District, Karnataka. His remarkable journey from hardship to prosperity underscores the profound impact of the Deshpande Foundation's Farm Pond Program, combined with strategic financial backing from the State Bank of India (SBI).

Mr. Mandal hails from a family of third-generation farmers who migrated from West Bengal in 1971, resettling under a government rehabilitation program following the independence of Bangladesh. Despite completing his 12th grade, he was burdened by a severe two-year drought that crippled his family's farming operations. Until 2023, Mr. Mandal cultivated sorghum on his 2-acre plot, barely earning an annual income of ₹30,000.

The year 2023 marked a decisive shift for Mr. Mandal when he met Mr. Srinivash, Cluster Head of the Deshpande Foundation's Farm Pond Program. Through this connection, Mr. Mandal gained access to the program and secured a loan from SBI under the Joint Liability Group (JLG) model. With financial backing, he constructed a farm pond, allowing him to capture and store rainwater, an essential resource in drought-prone regions.

The farm pond transformed Mr. Mandal's agricultural landscape. He expanded from sorghum to high-value crops like cotton, diversified into coconut plantations, planted 200 Mahogany trees, and began cultivating vegetables. Beyond crops, he tapped into

fisheries, using the pond to rear fish, creating a multi-layered source of income. His annual earnings soared to over ₹230,000—more than a seven-fold increase—and he has already repaid half of his loan.

Mr. Mandal's success has had a ripple effect. Inspired by his progress, 30 farmers in his village have built farm ponds, drastically boosting their agricultural productivity and financial resilience.

The Deshpande Foundation's support was crucial. Their Rural Transformation Technology Center (RTTC) played a pivotal role, leveraging technology to provide farmers like Mr. Mandal with 12-year land histories. This data enabled precise farm pond placement, maximizing rainwater collection. In addition, the use of advanced engineering techniques, including well-placed inlets and outlets, optimized the quality, speed, and cost-effectiveness of pond construction.

Mr. Manikanta Mandal's transformation from a struggling farmer to a thriving agripreneur illustrates the power of strategic intervention. The Deshpande Foundation's innovative Farm Pond Program, paired with SBI's financial backing, not only revitalized Mr. Mandal's farm but also inspired an entire community of farmers to adopt sustainable, profitable agricultural practices. Mr. Mandal attributes his success to the unwavering support from both organizations, which have given him the tools to not just survive but flourish, setting a precedent for rural innovation and sustainability in Karnataka.

Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)

Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) serve as crucial intermediaries, connecting agricultural producers to essential resources such as investment, technology, and market opportunities. The Deshpande Foundation (DF) empowers FPOs to optimize crop yield and farmer income. Through its APEX FPO, DF supports a network of 32 FPOs encompassing over 12,000 members. By addressing compliance, governance, capacity building, and business development, the program equips farmers to reduce costs and access lucrative markets. Demonstrated successes include enhanced water and crop management, sustainable farming practices, improved soil health, increased crop yield, higher farmer incomes, and robust farmer-market partnerships.

Transactional Value of Federated FPO's

Name of FPO	Commodity	Quantity (Q)	Worth (₹)
Kalmeshwara Farmer Producers Company Ltd	Input output, Seed production, Value addition	-	231868484.29
Benakapati Farmer Producer Co. Ltd, Kalghatgi, Dharwad	Soybean	337	1838601.00
	Bengal gram	45.98	231619.00
Jagadjanani Farmer Producer Co. Ltd, Savadatti, Belagavi	Soybean	972.039	3090096.00
	Bengal gram	183.17	948269.00
Kon-Melkunda Krishi Vikas Producer Co. Ltd, Kon-Melkunda, Bhalki	Soybean	226.05	1219825.61
	Red gram	135.59	925840.60
Narinja Farmer Producer Co. Ltd, Zaheerabad, Telangana	Soybean	5290	24555295.00
	Bengal gram	163.5	727195.00
	Red gram	126	858401.00
Kadambavanch Farmer Producer Co. Ltd	Soybean	921.2	3699162.00
Hebbal Farmer Producer Co. Ltd, Kalaburgi	Red gram	351.68	2795069.50
Total	-	8752.21	272757858.00

Success Stories and Testimonials

Over the years, KFPCL has been able to work in 9 districts in North Karnataka and 2 districts in Telangana, covering 20 FPOs. During this effort, KFPCL has linked with financial institutions, producers, processors, VLEs (Village Level Entrepreneurs), institutional buyers, and consumers for market linkage. KFPCL is working with more than 42 vendors, covering both inputs and output market linkages.

Farm Gate Trade

Farm gate trade (total output business) was carried out for eight commodities, and the Collection Centers (CCs) were distributed among seven FPOs. The CCs were placed strategically to facilitate concerned farmers and allow the Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs) to deliver effectively while concentrating on decreasing the cost of labor and logistics. KFPCL stood with its value propositions—transparency in trade, upfront payment, quality, and commitment to supply—while serving both farmers and buyers.

Collection Centres

Over the years, KFPCL has managed 11 collection centers and inaugurated 3 new CCs, making a total of 14 CCs, each placed in strategic locations. They vary in storage capacities from 45-175 Mt. The CCs are market infrastructure facilities at the village level near their farm gate for market linkage.

Key Highlights and Achievements

1. FPO Establishment and Farmer Involvement

- Total FPOs Established: 32
- Total Farmers Involved: 12,000

2. Geographical Reach

- States Covered: 2 (Karnataka, Telangana)
- Districts Covered: 10

Karnataka - Bidar, Belagavi, Dharwad, Gadag, Gulbarga, Haveri, Shivamogga, Bellari
Telangana- Sangareddy, Nizamabad

New CC Formations

- Districts: Dharwad, Annigere, Ballarwada, Hirekoppa
- The centers provide alternate markets for small and medium-scale farmers to sell their farm produce and connect with large institutional buyers.

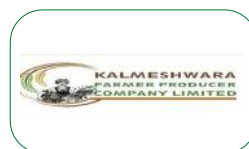
Inauguration of Low-Cost Model Processing Unit

- Location: Navalgund
- A Resource Centre in Navalgund for storage, value addition, packaging, training, and other market strategy activities.
- The processing & packing unit was inaugurated by Dr. G.R. Chintala, CGM NABARD, and Dr. Gururaj Deshpande, Co-Founder of Deshpande Foundation. This initiative is a model for small & medium farmers to undertake value addition.
- Website Launch: KFPCL launched its website - kalmeshwarafpo.com.

Pick & Pay Corner at DF Hubli

- A pilot initiative where processed and packed products of KFPCL are stored in an organized display in the Deshpande Foundation Office, allowing employees to pick the products they need and pay online 24/7.

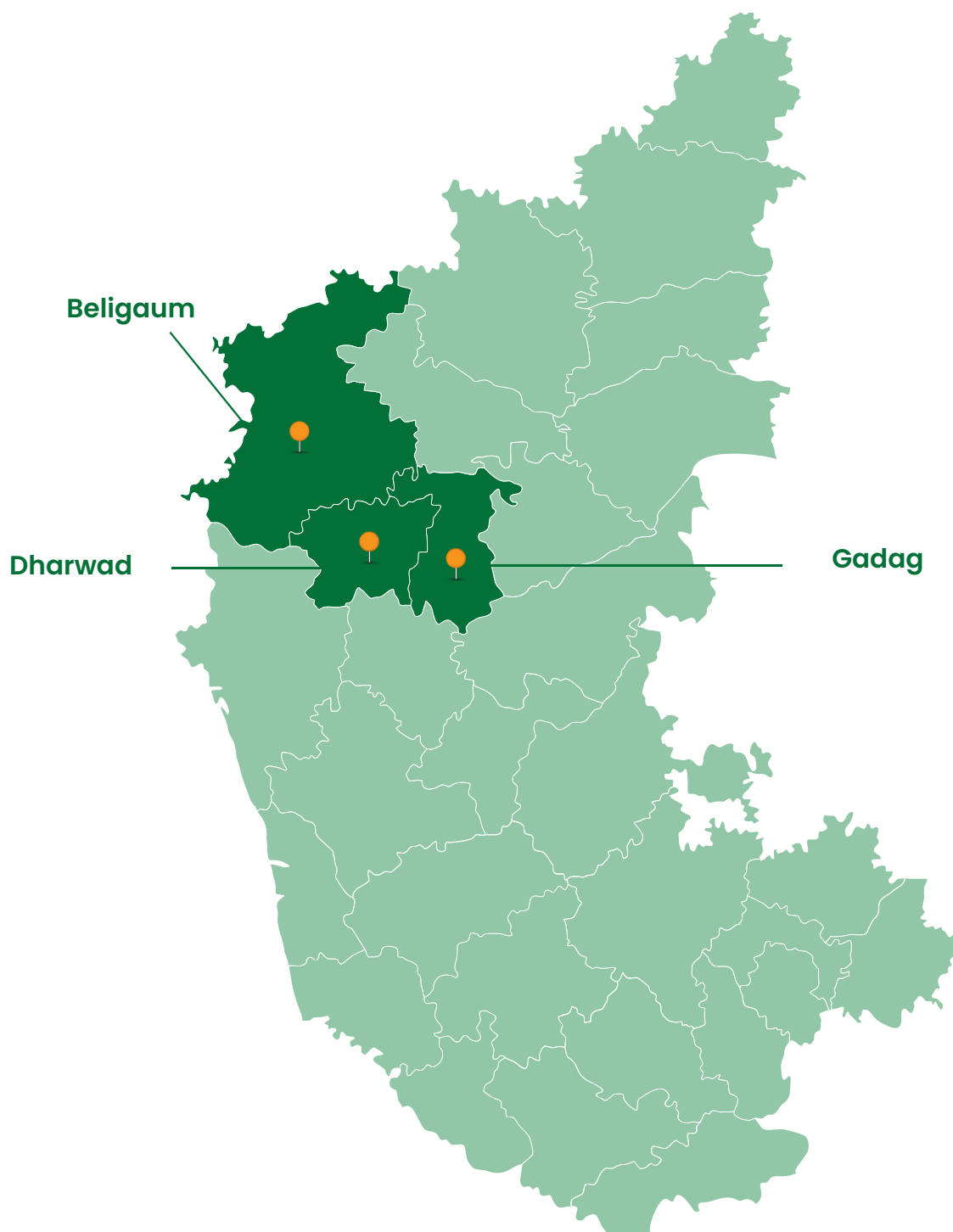
Our Partners

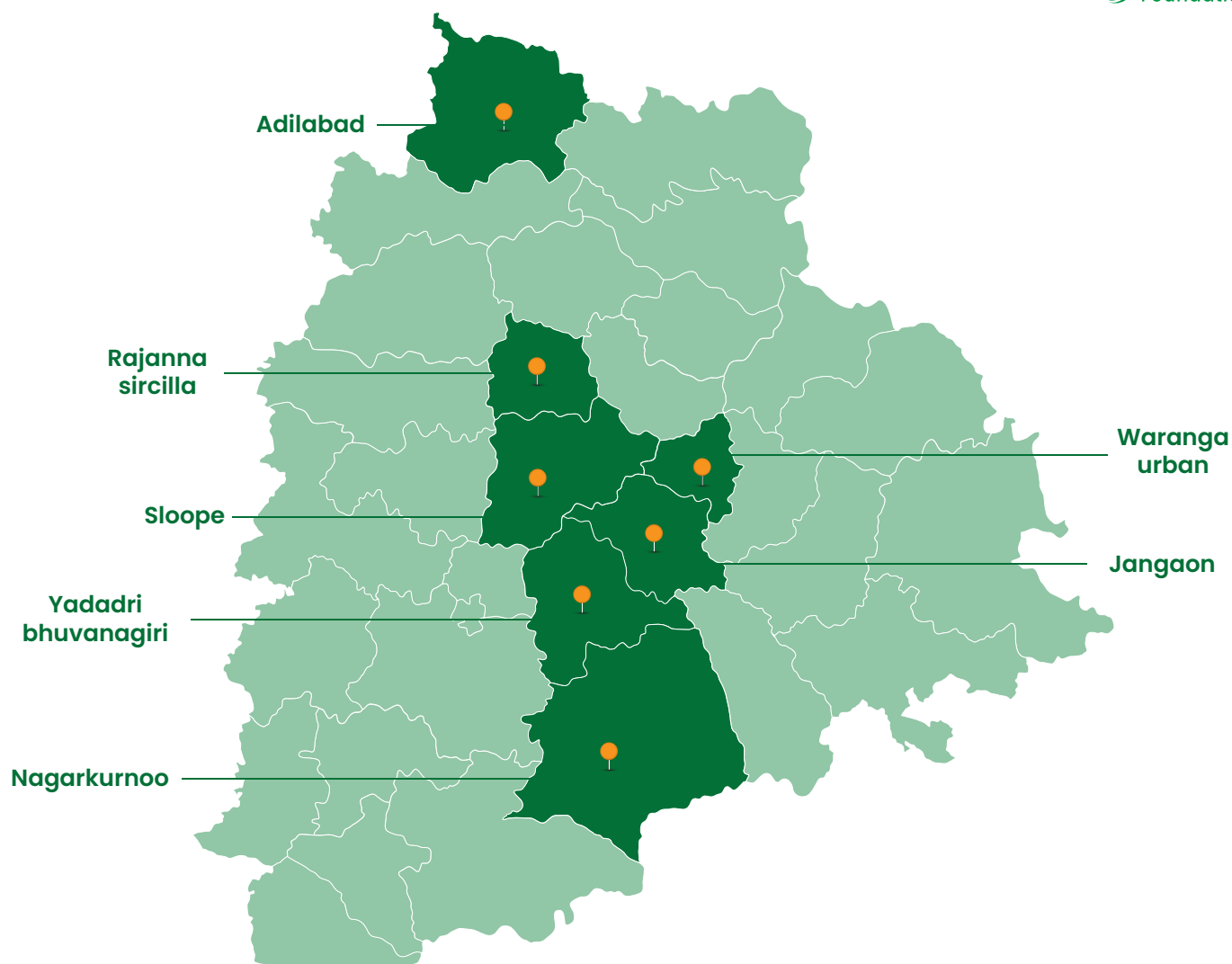


BETTER COTTON INITIATIVE

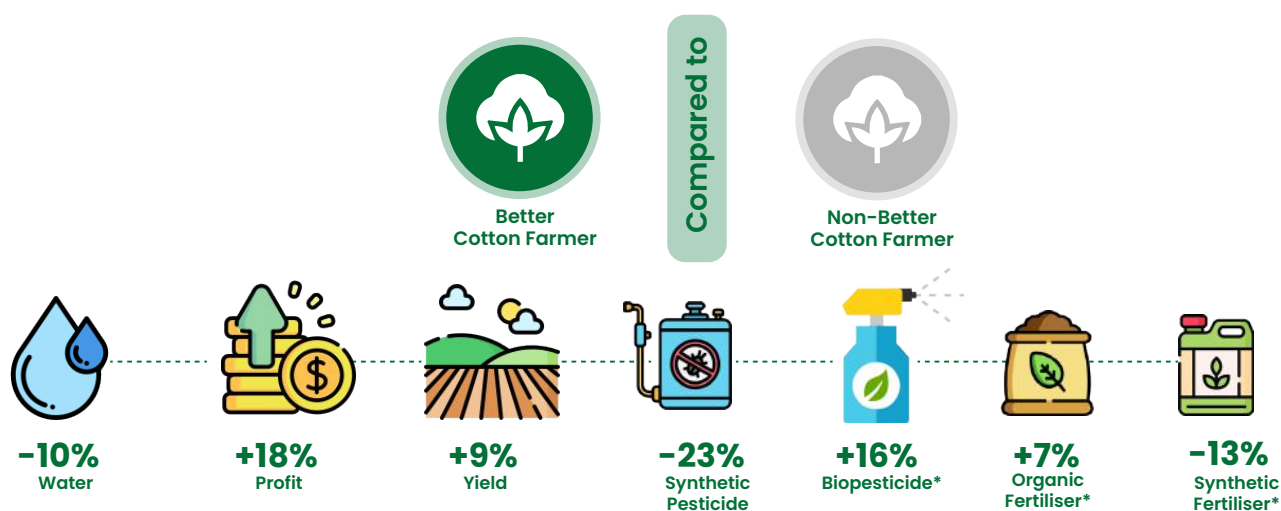
The Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) is a global non-profit organization dedicated to improving cotton farming practices worldwide. It aims to make global cotton production better for the people who produce it, better for the environment it grows in, and better for the sector's future. BCI provides training on sustainable farming techniques, emphasizing efficient water use, reducing harmful chemicals, and protecting soil health. By promoting

fair labor practices and enhancing market access, BCI helps farmers achieve higher yields and better incomes while fostering environmental stewardship. In regions like Telangana and Karnataka, the Deshpande Foundation serves as the implementing agency for BCI, facilitating the adoption of sustainable practices and supporting farmers in transforming cotton production into a more sustainable, responsible, and economically viable industry.





Key Highlights



State	Farmers	Villages covered	Staff	Cotton Area (Ha)
Telangana	50141	876	172	57055.7
Karnataka	6717	105	25	6150

A Model Farmer Through Deshpande Foundation's Intervention

Narendar, a distinguished farmer associated with the Deshpande Foundation (ID: INTL30-O81-006), resides in Anukunta Village, Adilabad Rural Mandal, Adilabad District. Narendar's agricultural interest was nurtured by his family's farming background. After completing his intermediate education, he learned extensively from his father, an experienced farmer and former sarpanch. The support from his family, including his mother, elder brother, wife, and two children, has been crucial in his agricultural pursuits. His success in managing 25 acres of cultivated land with sustainable farming practices is largely attributed to the support and intervention from the Deshpande Foundation and the Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) projects.

Farming Practices and Contributions

Narendar has effectively diversified his farming operation with the guidance and resources provided by the Deshpande Foundation and BCI,

Cotton Cultivation: On 8 acres, he adheres to BCI guidelines, promoting sustainable cotton farming.

Organic Farming: With 12 acres dedicated to organic practices, he follows best practices for soil health and crop management.

Greenhouse Vegetable Production: The remaining 5 acres are utilized for controlled-environment agriculture.

Narendar's role as a community influencer in promoting organic and natural farming, livestock management, and vermicomposting has been significantly bolstered by the training and support received from these initiatives.

Commitment to Sustainable Farming

With the backing of the Deshpande Foundation and BCI, Narendar prioritizes soil health and strictly opposes child labor. His farming methods emphasize:

Cost-Effective, High-Yield Farming:
Ensuring good income for local farmers.

Organic Practices: Implementing crop rotation, diversified farming, and organic vegetable production.

Self-Sufficiency: Producing his own pesticides and fertilizers using vermicompost from crop residues and livestock dung.

He also supplies vermicompost and seeds across the district, contributing to local agricultural sustainability.

Training, Achievements, and Recognition
The extensive training provided by the Deshpande Foundation and other local government organizations has been instrumental in Narendar's agricultural expertise. Recognized as an IDEAL FARMER by KVK and the government agricultural department, he has also participated in BCI training as a lead farmer in PU INTL30 Adilabad. His achievements include:

Best Farmer Award: From the Deshpande Foundation.

Media Recognition: Featured in local newspapers and media channels.

Future Visions:

Narendar has trained over 500 farmers and 1400 Gram Panchayats, and currently supports more than 100 local farmers, thanks to the resources and training provided by these initiatives. Building on the foundation laid by the Deshpande Foundation and BCI, Narendar plans to expand his support to farmers at the Mandal and district levels. His vision includes:

Enhancing Farmer Welfare: Improving the economic conditions and personal well-being of farmers.

Promoting Soil Health: Advocating for sustainable soil management practices.

Increasing Farmers' Incomes: Implementing innovative farming techniques to boost profitability.

Narendar's success story highlights the transformative impact of the Deshpande Foundation's intervention and the support from Better Cotton Initiative projects. His journey serves as a case study in the successful implementation of sustainable agriculture, setting a benchmark for farmers in the region.





SKILLING INITIATIVES

India's path to becoming a \$5 trillion economy hinges on its villages, home to over 65% of its population. For the “Viksit Bharat” mission to succeed, rural youth must play an active role in driving this economic transformation. Yet, despite their aspirations, many young graduates from rural areas find themselves unequipped for employment, lacking the necessary skills, exposure, and opportunities. The absence of a robust ecosystem to bridge this gap has led to a concerning rise in rural unemployment, with youth unemployment reaching a staggering 28.26% in 2021 and rural unemployment at 8% by mid-2022.

India's demographic dividend is both a tremendous opportunity and a potential liability. By 2027, India will have the largest workforce in the world, but without future-ready skills, particularly in emerging technologies, this demographic advantage could turn into a crisis. Currently, fewer than 50% of arts, science, and commerce graduates are employed, highlighting a growing skills gap. Traditional education systems are failing to keep pace with the evolving demands of the modern economy.

For over a decade, the Deshpande Skilling has recognized this gap and has been at the forefront of transforming rural education. They've pinpointed key issues, including the lack of technological integration in skill

development, a dearth of quality trainers, and limited access to job opportunities. By focusing on contemporary, employable skills, DET is empowering rural youth to contribute meaningfully to India's economic ambitions, turning them into assets rather than missed opportunities for the nation.

SkillPlus & SkillPlus-R

These two skill development programs are designed to bridge the education-employment skill gap through demand driven, industry-specific programs to transform unemployed rural youth into skilled intrapreneurs, possessing relevant skills for evolving job roles. The rural youth is trained in real-world scenarios and given hands-on experience in their chosen fields.

SkillPlus-R engages students in our residential Hubballi campus who have completed their graduation whereas SkillPlus partners and collaborates with Govt Colleges in tier II/III towns to impact the lives of students who are in their last year of graduation.

Through these two models of Skilling, we reach out to more than 5,000 youth every year.

SkillPlus-R Impact Numbers

2022-23	2048	1862	1796	96%
Year of Impact	No of Students Onboarded	No. of Students Graduated	No. of Students Placed	Student Placement Rate

SkillPlus Impact Numbers

2022-23	2964	2118	1481	70%
Year of Impact	No of Students Onboarded	No. of Students Graduated	No. of Students Placed	Student Placement Rate

Combined Impact

2022-23	5012	3980	3277	82%
Year of Impact	No of Students Onboarded	No. of Students Graduated	No. of Students Placed	Student Placement Rate

Key Beneficiaries	Entry Remuneration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 85% of students come from Below Poverty Line (BPL) families 75% students are from rural areas 	Between 18K – 20K / Per Month 2.00 – 2.40 Lacs Per Annum

SUMMAIYA NAAZ | SkillPlus

Summaiya Naaz, the eldest daughter from Mudhol village in Kalaburgi District, faced mounting financial pressures. With her younger sister still in school, a mother managing the household, and a farmer father barely making ends meet, Summaiya knew she had to step up. After completing her B.Com from G.F.G.C. College in Sedam, where she stayed in a hostel, she was determined to change her family's circumstances.

In February 2022, Summaiya joined Deshpande Skilling, despite facing resistance from her family. With the help of encouraging trainers, she overcame their doubts and threw herself into the program. What stood out to her was the focus on communication, English language skills, and critical thinking—skills that would transform her future. The peaceful campus and relentless support from trainers gave her the confidence to push her limits.

Though hesitant at first, within two months, Summaiya was actively participating in group discussions, building her confidence, and tackling mock interviews. Her hard work paid off when she secured a position as a Claims Associate at Careloan in Bengaluru—a life-changing moment for her and her family.

Today, Summaiya is thriving in a major city, working for a reputable company, and proudly supporting her family back home. Her journey from financial struggle to corporate success is a testament to her resilience and the life-changing impact of Deshpande Skilling. Summaiya's story is one of pride, independence, and a future full of promise.





Skill in Village

Deshpande Educational Trust's Skill in Village (SiV) program is a transformative force for rural government school children in classes 5 to 8. This after-school, activity-driven initiative equips students with critical English communication and life skills, empowering them not just to excel academically but to approach life's challenges with confidence.

The SiV program has a bold mission: to arm rural communities with 21st-century skills and inspire the next generation of leaders capable of solving local challenges. The impact is clear—schools involved in SiV have seen increased enrollment, a sharp drop in dropouts, and significantly improved SSLC exam results. Students, once bound by limited opportunities, are now better prepared to pursue their dreams with renewed confidence and capability.

What sets SiV apart is its deep integration within communities. By embedding the program directly into the lives of students, parents, school committees, and local panchayats, SiV becomes a part of the community fabric, creating lasting change. The program's strength lies in its comprehensive teacher training model, grounded in extensive research and global educational frameworks. These trained educators are deployed to government schools, delivering 400 hours of high-quality content over the academic year, resulting in measurable improvements in students' life skills and LSRW (Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing) scores, tracked meticulously through a robust monitoring and evaluation system.

SiV isn't just teaching; it's building a future where rural students lead with confidence, equipped with the skills to transform their communities and their own lives.



States

Karnataka
Telangana
Maharashtra



Students

9536



Schools

135

Key Highlights

IMPACT THROUGH PARTNERSHIP:

With the help of partner organizations like Cherysh in Karnataka, Marathawada Sikshna Prasarak Mandali in Maharashtra we can reach hundreds of more kids. In these partnerships we provide our support as 'Knowledge Partners' (providing our tools of curriculum, training, assessments and tech-platform) while it is these organizations that implement it in their target areas.

SiV APP:

To track real time data from the field, we piloted our internally built SiV app. Each of our teachers had to download this app on their phones to regularly upload data related to student attendance, performance, dropouts, progression in content delivery etc.

Spell Bee Competition:

For the first time in the history of the Skill in Village program, we have conducted the Spelling Bee competition for the students enrolled in SiV classes across 100+ centers across Karnataka and Telengana.

YUVA UNSTOPPABLE:

We have collaborated with the Yuva unstoppable organization to ensure Toilets, Handwas and dishwash facilities for the students. Yuva Unstoppable is a non-governmental organization based in India. It works to provide underprivileged children with access to education, sanitation, drinking water, youth affairs, cleanliness and various non-curricular activities.



Meet Bhavya: A Journey of Confidence and Transformation

When asked if the SiV program is truly making a difference, Suma, one of our passionate SiV teachers, didn't hesitate. She immediately said, "Bhavya!" and with good reason. Bhavya's story is one of incredible growth, and it perfectly illustrates the transformative power of the SiV program.

Bhavya, an 11-year-old girl, comes from a humble background. Her father works in a canteen to support the family, while her mother is a homemaker. Education wasn't a priority in their household, yet Bhavya had an eagerness to learn that couldn't be ignored. Suma recalls their first encounter, "It was a Saturday morning, and as I headed to introduce the SiV program to the 5th-grade class, I heard a voice from the corner of the building. A little girl in a green dress, giggling as she ate breakfast, called out, 'Akka, I know you! You're here to make us play and teach English!' She asked for ten minutes to run home and bring her mother, determined to secure a seat in the English class. I was shocked and delighted—this little girl was introducing the program to me!"

From that moment, Bhavya's enthusiasm was undeniable. Coming from a lower-middle-class family, she had big dreams of landing a good job and providing her parents with a better life. But like many children, she initially struggled with fear—afraid to speak up in class, worried about making mistakes, and fearing ridicule or punishment. However, the SiV program quickly changed that. Bhavya learned that in SiV, mistakes are stepping stones to growth. Encouragement, not criticism, is the foundation, and every small effort is celebrated.

Within just five months, Bhavya's transformation was remarkable. She went from being a shy, hesitant student to confidently performing on stage, without a trace of fear. As she puts it, "I am very confident now. I don't worry about making mistakes because I know my SiV teacher will correct me when needed. I'm no longer afraid to express my thoughts. I've performed two dramas in English, learned to introduce myself, my friends, and my family. And I've realized that respect and equality are important. I know I'll learn everything I need in my SiV class."

Bhavya even jokes that if a foreigner ever got lost in her village, she'd happily give them directions in English! Suma beams with pride as she reflects on Bhavya's progress, "Like Bhavya, many of my students are growing, and I can see such positive changes in them. It makes me so proud." Bhavya's journey from hesitation to confidence is a testament to the life-changing impact of the SiV program. It's not just about learning English—it's about empowering children to believe in themselves and their potential to shape a better future.



Early Spark

“EarlySpark”, is an initiative of the Deshpande Foundation aimed towards primary school teachers and students. Our goal is to contribute to the NIPUN Bharat mission by improving the foundational literacy (primarily English) and social-emotional skills of students across Karnataka’s Nali-Kali classes. We do this in a unique way by providing well-researched, locally relevant, and demonstration-based training to NaliKali teachers, **both inside and outside the classroom.**

We believe that by improving the teaching environment and empowering teachers, we contribute significantly to the overall educational experience of the students. Our impact program focuses mainly **on three core areas: English NaliKali curriculum, Social and Emotional Learning for students, and Classroom Management for teachers.**

Highlights

Teacher Learning Lab

20 hours of Teacher Learning Lab was organised for both the cycles of intervention. These were 3-day workshops spread across the 80 day in-class intervention. The teachers from selected schools participated in numerous fun-filled and engaging activities while also learning the best practices as an early childhood educator. The workshop presented them with the opportunity to learn English as well as discuss classroom and behavioural management techniques.

Social Emotional Learning (Fun Friday)

The modules of Fun Friday inculcate values of self-awareness, self-management, social-awareness, relationship skills, decision making skills, and positive reinforcements. In addition to this to reduce corporal punishment, control behavioural issues in children, an environment of positive learning has been created using Nali Kali stories

Renuka’s Journey: Transforming Rural Education with EarlySpark

Renuka’s life took a hard turn at the age of seven when she lost her father. Determined to break the cycle of illiteracy, her mother sent her to Raichur, the nearest city, so Renuka wouldn’t share her fate of being uneducated. That dream was realized when Renuka not only excelled in her studies but went on to become a teacher, shaping the lives of generations of rural students. Today, after more than 30 years of dedicated service, Renuka stands as one of the senior-most teachers at the Government Higher Kannada Girls School in Mantur village.

Despite her long career, Renuka was curious when she first encountered the EarlySpark intervention. What made this program different? Her curiosity turned to admiration when she saw the instructor skillfully persuade an unwilling child to come to school. But it wasn’t just the child’s engagement that impressed her—it was the program’s innovative approach. Picture cards, flowcharts, and creatively designed worksheets for English literacy, numeracy, and science replaced the outdated textbooks and limited resources she had worked with for decades. Even something as simple as writing the English alphabet on 4-line paper felt like a drawing class, making learning both interactive and fun.

For Renuka, the magic of EarlySpark was in its approach—every lesson was tailored to the child’s needs, and the instructor

Impact Numbers



kept the students engaged for two periods daily with immersive learning activities. The practical, hands-on techniques were a stark contrast to the rigid methods she had known. She saw firsthand how the program's goal of adapting teaching to the child's needs and the potential to revolutionize her classroom.

Over her career, Renuka has witnessed the vast divide between public and private education. While cities galloped ahead with private schools boasting state-of-the-art infrastructure, public schools, especially in rural areas, remained stuck in time. She knew her students—children from

impoverished backgrounds—were full of potential, resourceful and resilient, yet unable to contribute fully as nation-builders due to the lack of opportunities.

What gave Renuka the greatest satisfaction was that EarlySpark brought high-quality, innovative education to rural public schools, right when it mattered most—during the formative years. Now, her students could not only dare to dream big but had the tools to achieve those dreams. And for Renuka, that was the ultimate reward.

Smt. Renuka Mahesh Kalasapur / Mantur village



STARTUPS INITIATIVE

Deshpande Startups, launched in 2016 is a Technology Business Incubator by the Government of India. Based in Hubballi, Karnataka, it has supported over 440 startups with grants and investments exceeding ₹66 crores, focusing on rural and semi-urban India's unique challenges.

What Sets Us Apart

1. Ground-Connect: Located in Hubli, we understand rural India's needs, shaping our approach to fostering a vibrant startup ecosystem.
2. Founder Focus: We are back innovative ideas that solve real problems for common people, providing support throughout the entrepreneurial journey—from ideation to market scaling.
3. Market Focus: We help startups tap into underserved markets in Tier II and III cities, ensuring they reach the right customers.

Our Infrastructure

Our 6-acre Hubli campus is an incubator for innovation, featuring coworking spaces, meeting rooms, and a lab-rich environment. Designed for experimentation, especially for agri-startups, it provides entrepreneurs with all the resources they need to turn their ideas into sustainable businesses.

Infinity Studio: Where Ideas Take Shape

In partnership with IESA, the Government of Karnataka, and the Department of Science & Technology (DST) through Nidhi PRAYAS, Infinity Studio is a cutting-edge hub designed for students, startups, MSMEs, and innovators, particularly in the mechatronics sector. Offering world-class tech infrastructure and in-house expertise, it serves as a one-stop solution for every stage of product development from ideation and prototyping to testing and validation.

Infinity Studio provides a range of services, including skill development, technical consultation, and prototyping support. With three state-of-the-art labs 3D Lab, Smart Lab, and Mechanical Lab entrepreneurs can build precise, affordable prototypes and transform their ideas into reality.



68

Startups Supported



104

Prototypes Built



433

Community of Innovators

A Dehydration Machine was designed & built in-house within a mere 45 days, using a proof of concept initially developed by students from a Tier 2 college.

Innovative Labs at Infinity Studio

Infinity Studio offers three high-tech labs designed to accelerate innovation and product development:



Smart Lab:

Equipped with IoT and electronics tools, this lab supports quick testing and development of IoT and robotic prototypes. It also offers workshops to boost technological skills.

3D Lab:

Enables rapid prototyping with cutting-edge 3D printing, allowing users to design, experiment, and create accurate prototypes.



Mechanical Lab:

Provides advanced tools like CNC machines, laser cutters, and mills for rapid prototyping and custom fabrication, ensuring startups can build and test mechanical components with precision.



ESDM Cluster:

An 8,500sq ft electronics manufacturing facility with an automated SMT line for PCB assembly and batch production.



12,050
PCB's Assembled



74
Prototypes Built

Our Programs

At Deshpande Startups, we have designed and put in place a range of programs that aim at nurturing potential entrepreneurs and then supporting their venture through every stage of its life cycle from conceptualization and pre-incubation to incubation and acceleration.

YUVA Entrepreneurship

Yuva, as the name suggests, is a program specifically designed to cater to young minds and student communities in colleges.

We believe that everyone has the potential for creative problem-solving to address the pressing issues facing people in our society. The YUVA Entrepreneurship Program aims at the early harnessing of this potential.

We conduct the YUVA program in higher educational institutions across the country and especially focus on STEM colleges. The program nurtures the entrepreneurial skills and mindset of the youth and is envisaged as a bridge between entrepreneurship and the student community. The program is run by a dedicated team of mentors. It is well structured and begins with a host of

2022-23	14,230	213	33
Year of Impact	Students Outreach	Students in Bootcamp	Early Student Startups

awareness sessions, events, and workshops designed to help students recognize opportunities and orient them toward problem-solving and design thinking.

JSW Project closed with 100% Success rate: Overall 4250 Students received Awareness, 357 Students engaged, 82 students nurtured on Entrepreneurship Abilities, 3 Startups Identified and given grant upto Rs.25,000 and 33 Future Entrepreneurs of Kalyana Karnataka are felicitated during Startup Gravity as encouragement

EDGE

EDGE is a 12-week pre-incubation program to support early-stage startup founders to help them create sustainable ventures by focusing on problem validation, market research, and customer discovery. The program helps startups understand the market need and validate their ideas with real-time customer insights. Recent graduates, working individuals, idea and prototype-stage startups, and entrepreneurs willing to create social impact, benefit from EDGE.

Cohorts & Impact

Seven startup founders of Cohort 15 have conducted more than 250 stakeholder interactions.	A patent was granted for a device to curtail residual ridge resorption being developed by one of the NIDHI-EIR founders.	Introduced a new program design in EDGE led by the Jobs-To-Be-Done philosophy.	Engaged 5 new Subject Matter Experts to address the startups for Learning Sessions.	110 Startups Supported in this FY
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Incubation

Our incubation program is a specially curated, 12-month-long, lab-to-market program where innovations get implemented, knowledge meets experience, social issues find solutions and efforts create impact. It helps bridge the gap between an idea and a full-fledged business and serves to accelerate development.

Dedicated and domain-specific mentors and experts provide founders with

specially curated training, guidance, and research. Startup events and dialogues with all stakeholders enable connections and provide networking opportunities with potential partners, knowledge aggregators, talent pools, and markets. Our sophisticated labs facilitate prototyping and batch production. Finally, to give our founders early access to prototyping grants and seed funding, we connect them with investors, financial institutions, and banking systems.

Cohorts & Impact

A new cohort of NIDHI – Accelerator Program	A new cohort of WeEnable Bharat Women Accelerator	55 Startups supported in the current FY	Portfolio Startup “Rapture” Crowdfunding Oversubscribed by 269%	Pequel Technologies Pvt. Ltd. and Temperate Technologies are this year’s winners of Tectonic: Innovations Towards Zero Food Waste, a joint initiative by DBS Bank and Social Alpha
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Accelerator

Our Accelerator program is a market and investment-focused, seed-to-scale program specifically for early-revenue stage and market-ready startups. A 16-week structured program, Accelerator essentially serves as a roadmap that provides founders with a unique combination of immersive business training and mentorship. Our business training modules help entrepreneurs expand their business plans. The focus is on rapid and exponential growth, high productivity, increased profitability, and long-term sustainability.

Our forum of experts and mentors’ trains founders in both online and offline business promotion methods. Founders learn how

to increase business visibility and build new market connections. They also draw up their marketing strategies, set targets, and evaluate the scope for future expansion.

Finally, we have also partnered and forged credit linkages with various banks, MFIs, financial institutions, and venture capital firms. HNIs regularly visit our ecosystem too and through the Accelerator program, founders are encouraged to interface with them, showcase their ideas, and find new funding opportunities.

Highlights & Cohorts

- Cohort - Nidhi Accelerator Program - 15 Startups onboarded
- WeEnable Bharat Women accelerator

Micro-Entrepreneurship Development Program (MEDP)

The Micro-Entrepreneurship Development Program (MEDP) is dedicated to empowering local micro-entrepreneurs to build and grow sustainable businesses. Through comprehensive training, mentorship, monitoring, and the implementation of best practices, MEDP supports both individual entrepreneurs and clusters of micro-entrepreneurs in achieving their aspirations. Entering its second decade, MEDP continues to drive rural transformation through its multifaceted efforts.

I-MEDP (Individual Micro-Entrepreneurs)

I-MEDP focuses on supporting individual entrepreneurs by providing networking opportunities, exhibitions, business planning, and scaling assistance. This year, I-MEDP provided significant marketing support, organizing the largest number of Santhes (exhibitions) to date, which has greatly boosted the revenue for participating micro-entrepreneurs.

C-MEDP (Collectives)

C-MEDP establishes collective enterprises of artisans and primary producers, offering assistance in mobilization, company formation, design development, production, and marketing. This initiative has successfully formed two Collectives: Swavalambi Sakhi Producers Co. Ltd. (SSPCL) and Santh Haralayya Leather Producers Co. Ltd. (SHLPCL), both supported by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). Additionally, C-MEDP has developed one food cluster and is providing support to horticulture farmers.

Trainings and Workshops

Pragathi: This skill-building initiative enables micro-entrepreneurs to enhance their creative skills and learn from experienced trainers, with an option for certification.

- Courses organized: 11
- Number of participants: 112



Marketing and Sales

Total sales through all market channels:
₹3.51 Crores

Marketing Channels

1. Udyami Santhe: A marketing platform facilitating exhibitions and direct customer engagement, helping micro-entrepreneurs reach a larger audience and understand market demands.
2. Mega Utsav: A large-scale sales event organized by MEDP, providing a significant income boost for micro-entrepreneurs.
3. Canopy Santhe: A mobile marketplace where products are sold from a canopy setup in high footfall locations.
4. Corporate Santhe: Exhibitions held in corporate spaces, with formal agreements allowing micro-entrepreneurs to set up stalls in workplaces and campuses.

Other Services

Mentorship:

Connecting micro-entrepreneurs with industry experts for personalized support and guidance.

Number of sessions: 55

Exposure Visits:

Organized industrial or institutional visits for micro-entrepreneurs to learn best practices.

Number of visits: 6

Number of participants: 127

Pilots, Experiments and the Way forward

Our focus is on the first one which translates to an attempt to look at interventions in the rural space with the lens of sustainable economic or market led transformation deriving enhancement the income. At this moment it may be said that this is quite a lofty goal for any organization to achieve, however we believe that we are taking a step towards rural transformation. Rural Transformation and Innovation Knowledge Center is central theme to everything that we do at Deshpande Foundation. Each of our programs aims to deliver some economic value to our customers, and we aspire to scale these programs to enhance the economic and social impact envisaged by our founders.



NEW INITIATIVES - PILOTS, EXPERIMENTS AND THE WAY FORWARD

RTIKC

RTIKC is currently engaged in:

1. Partnership for Impact: DF is working towards creating a larger impact by replicating its programs that have matured to scale, in other parts of the country. Towards this end, the organization is looking to partner with other players in the non-profit ecosystem. RTIKC is therefore experimenting with the critical criteria of the suitability of DF's programs in regions it aspires to reach. The Farm Pond program has seen a clear demand in Marathwada, Maharashtra. Similarly, SkillPlus and Skill in Village (SiV) have seen a demand in these regions. RTIKC is currently focused on the scouting and selecting potential partners for executing these programs in these regions.
2. Economic Opportunities for Impact: RTIKC is implementing a pilot of Integrated Farming System (IFS) – an agriculture-allied intervention, to add to the economic value delivered to our customers. Some significant steps taken are:
 - Allied Services: Addition of milk and other value-add products, largely focused on households with women's participation.
 - Vermicomposting: The next plan is to gradually move these households into vermicomposting, to create a sustainable agriculture ecosystem.
 - Entrepreneurship: Engaging customers in the field of entrepreneurship, to deliver various services such as soil-testing, selling agricultural inputs, custom hiring, etc.
3. Product Augmentation: RTIKC has recommended two additional product designs (75x75 ft. and 50x 50 ft.) in the Farm Pond program.
 - Water management: Deploying drip or sprinkler systems for efficient and effective use of Farm Pond water, currently involving 1000 farmers.
 - Horticulture: Increasing the resilience of income, through diversification of crops, leading to more income in farming households.



Rural Transformation Technology Center

Deshpande Foundation (DF) strongly believes that technology is an enabler for change to empower communities and create positive outcomes. With the establishment of the Rural Transformation Technology Center (RTTC), DF aims to continuously harness technological innovations to deliver its services for rural India in a better, faster, and economical manner. RTTC is equipped with customized software that is used to extract geospatial intelligence to inform, guide and monitor rural activities. It has computation and communication devices that display operational data, dashboards, infographics, and telemetry data from various sources (satellites, government data, IoT sensors, drones, etc.).

RTTC leverages Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) to strengthen DF's efficiency and sustainability. Deshpande Foundation aspires to scale its solutions using technology with relevance, so that it can make bigger strides towards rural transformation. RTTC will be supporting all programs of DF in the long run. It is already being deployed to carry out its functions for Agriculture Initiatives' Farm Pond program and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs).

RTTC will significantly streamline the operational and logistical management of the Farm Pond program using satellite imagery to offer near real-time visibility of on-ground situations. It deploys technological solutions during all stages of Farm Ponds



Events, Awards, Recognitions and Media

Events

Startup Dialogue 2022

To ensure that the ventures we back are marketable, profitable, scalable, and sustainable, we offer our founders access to a forum that allows startup dialogues with all stakeholders of the startup ecosystem.

Startup Dialogue intends to celebrate the journey of entrepreneurship and brings together all stakeholders of the growing startup ecosystem in Bharat. We plan to host the 5th edition of Startup Dialogue in early June and intend to bring together 500+ participants constituting startup founders, micro-entrepreneurs, student innovators, investors, mentors, and ecosystem enablers and influencers. The dialogue will be unique as it will encompass micro- to scalable technology entrepreneurs.

The theme for Startup Dialogue, 2022 – 5th Edition. The dialogue will revolve around promoting the spirit of entrepreneurship

and will focus on the theme - BHARAT & BEYOND. We aim to create a platform for entrepreneurs to address Bharat's problem, particularly in agriculture, healthcare, and education in non-metro markets. Focused on the theme of "Bharat & Beyond", we aim to build on the limitless possibilities and opportunities for entrepreneurs irrespective of where they develop their ventures.

Visit of Global Tech Advocates | Delegation

GlobalTechAdvocates is a network of 18 sibling organizations comprising over 18,000 tech leaders, experts, and investors worldwide. Multiple cities, each with its working groups dedicated to specific initiatives and verticals, Global Tech Advocates inspires tech leaders to volunteer their time to support each other, make connections, and campaign for change.

Global Tech Advocates that finds solutions to the challenges faced by tech companies internationally. And unify the private tech sector and speak with a consistent voice to influence policy and inspire change.

Tejasvi Surya visit | Delegation

Deshpande Startups is proud to host Tejasvi Surya, Member of Parliament, GOI. As part



of the visit, he visited our comprehensive 3D Printing and IOT labs at Infinity Studios and ESDM to understand how we support startups in mentoring and at all stages of product and prototype development.

Agriculture Day

Deshpande Foundation, in collaboration with NABARD, held the first Agriculture Day, in Bengaluru. The theme of the event revolved around 'Indian Agriculture: Creating value through Technology'. The core focus of this event is exploring various ways in which technology can address critical challenges in Indian agriculture. It explored how technology can help create efficient production systems, enhance agri-value chains, and aggregate market connections for different agricultural products.

The event was chaired by Mr Narayana Murthy, and our founder Desh Deshpande. Dr. Chintala, Chairman NABARD to set the context of the discussions. Dr. Angamuthu - Chairman APEDA graced us with his closing remarks.

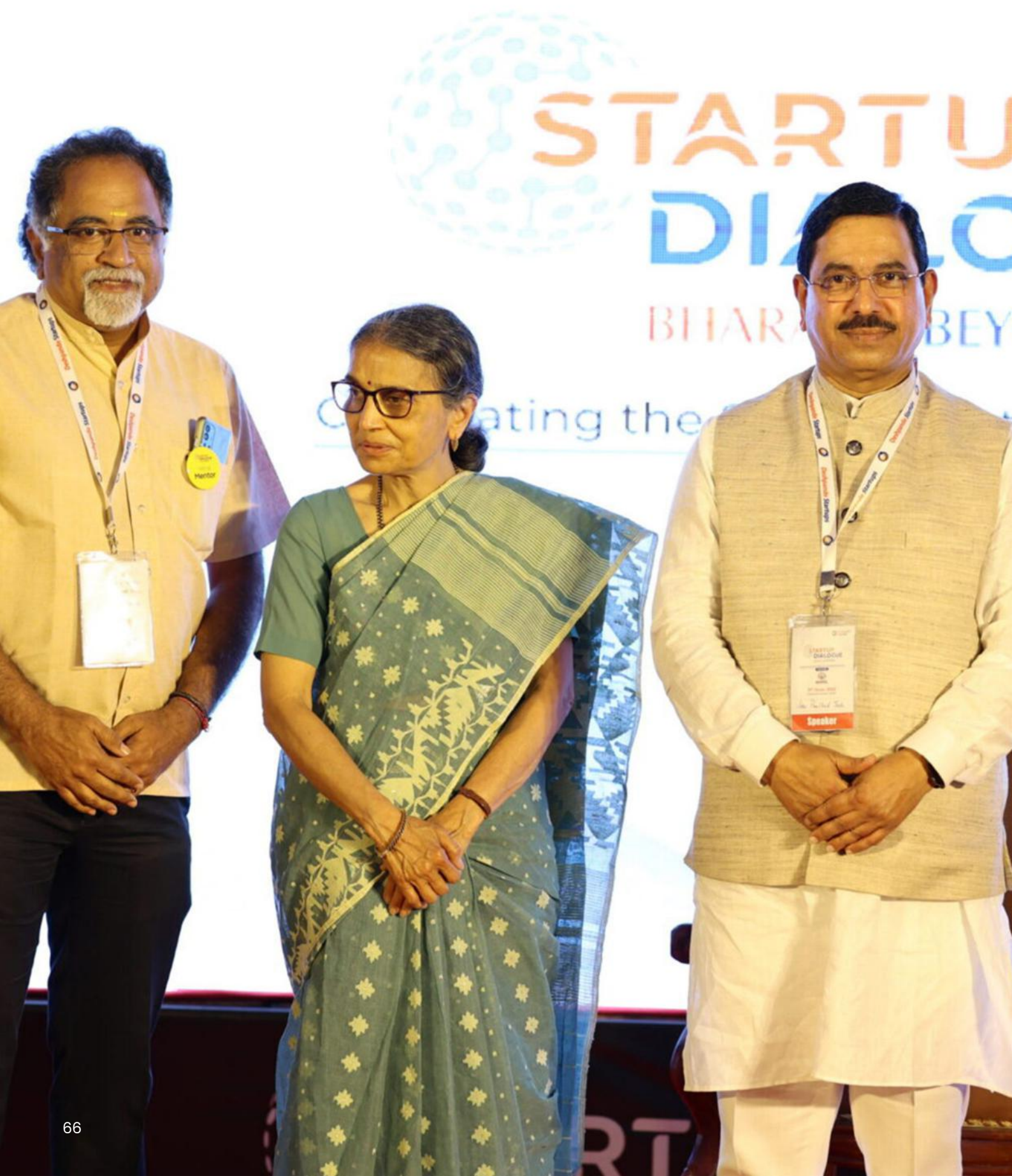
Innovation + Relevance = Impact ,
A conversation between two tech entrepreneurs

Desh Deshpande, and Anand Deshpande, Founder, Chairman, and Managing Director of Persistent Systems, two stalwarts in the field of tech, in an exclusive conversation, discussed on how technology could create a positive impact for those who were left behind in the first wave of India's economic liberalization. They discussed how technology can help India's rural poor through appropriate initiatives and how it can be a significant enabler for social impact in the 21st century.

Development Dialogue

The Development Dialogue(DD) is the flagship two day event of Deshpande Foundation India. DD kicks off with immersive field visits that showcases the various transformative programs that the foundation has undertaken. On the 2nd day, we will commence our annual conference with 2023's Keynote Session on 'Technology for Scale'. It focused on a vision of the future where technology enables rural transformation by providing key capabilities to enable faster, cheaper and better services for rural India.







Startup Gravity

<https://startupsgravity.dsevent.org/>

Deshpande Startups organized 'Startup Gravity' a unique event attended by over 1000 budding entrepreneurs, industry leaders, and VOS. It comprised keynote sessions, panel discussions, and three events Startup Expo, Startup Showdown, and Launch Fest. Narayana Murthy, Founder, Infosys; Gururaj Desh Deshpande. Co-Fcunder, Deshpande Foundation; and N.C. Murthy, Serial

-
- Startup Showdown
- Launch Fest
- Panel Discussion
- Founder Talk

Startup Gravity was a huge PR Success with 29 print & digital media impressions

Product Launches

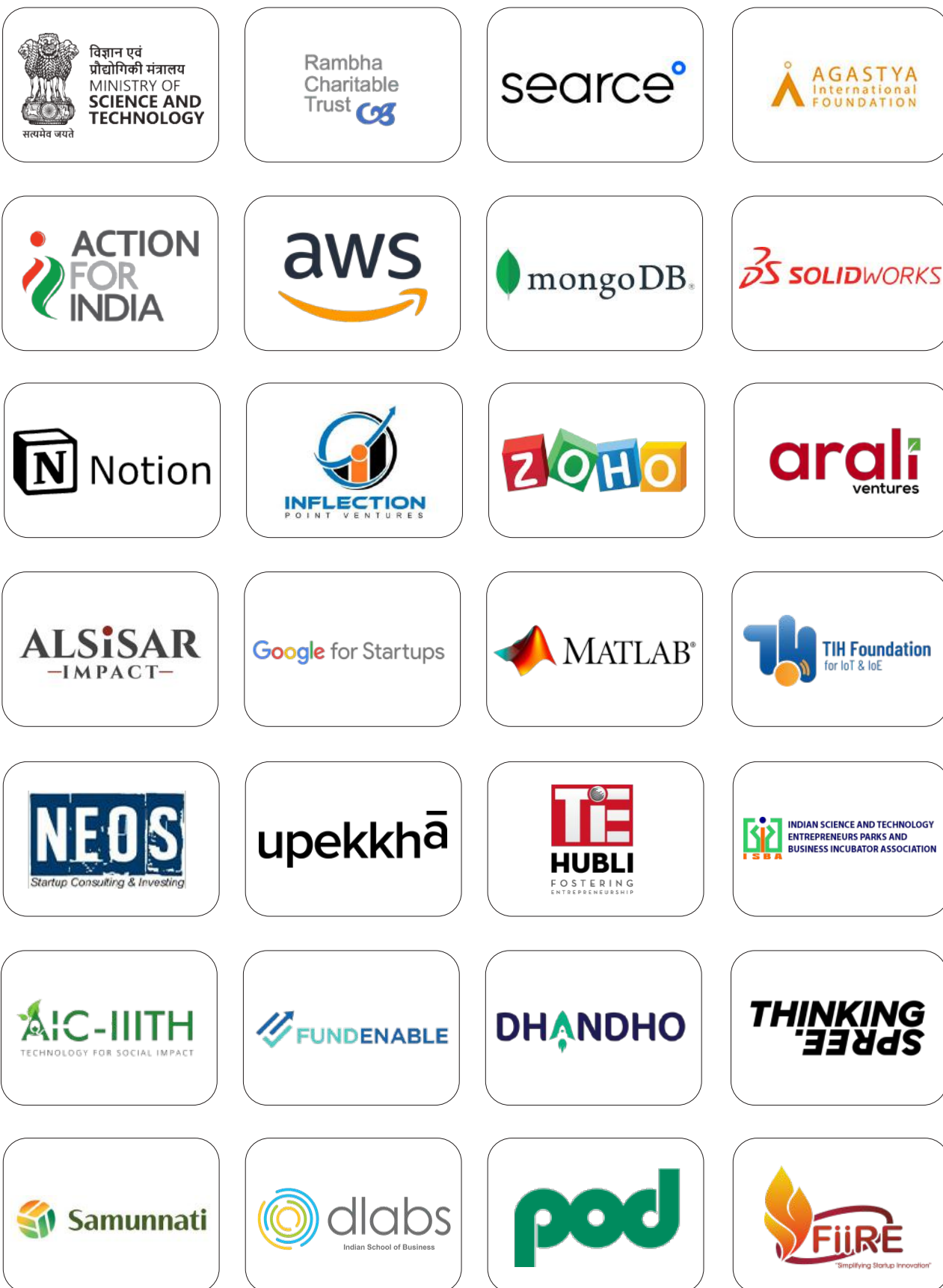
- Airbound
- Debound
- Serri
- Walnut

Recognition and Awards

- NABARD Recognition: KFPCL was recognized for good performance during the 41st Foundation Day of NABARD.
- Government Recognition: KFPCL was felicitated with an award for being one of the best performers by the Government of Karnataka and NABARD during the State Credit Seminar.

Funders, Donors, HNIs





 CamuTrack

Kanuri Skill
Center

Kannuri
Family

 idh
the sustainable
trade initiative

formulaHR

 UPAYA
SOCIAL VENTURES

 EquityList

 Deshpande
Foundation

 **NSTEDB**
Dept. of Science and Technology,
Government of India
सत्यमेव जयते

Financials

Deshpande Foundation

Deshpande Foundation

DESHPANDE FOUNDATION

C/o. Tejas Networks Limited, Plot No. 25, J.P. Software Park, Electronic City, Phase - I, Hosur Road, Bengaluru - 560 100

Income & Expenditure Account for the Year Ended March 31, 2023

Particulars	Schedule	For the year ended	For the year ended
		March 31, 2023	March 31, 2022
		Rs.	Rs.
Income			
Foreign Currency grants	H	22,84,64,685	5,18,58,463
Voluntary contributions/grants - Non FCRA	I	8,54,01,609	12,48,16,858
Program registrations & other donations	J	12,64,283	54,65,758
Interest earned	K	58,70,084	1,25,38,266
Other incomes	L	47,21,034	24,34,061
Total Income		32,57,21,695	19,71,13,406
Expenditure			
Program expenses - Direct	M	26,61,44,692	28,22,53,939
Employees' cost & benefits	N	3,36,80,318	4,14,72,078
Administration and other operating expenses	O	3,13,57,070	2,40,62,074
Auditor's remuneration	P	5,19,200	4,72,000
Depreciation	B	5,95,99,505	6,34,00,039
Total Expenditure		39,13,00,784	41,16,60,129
Excess of Expenditure Over Income		(6,55,79,090)	(21,45,46,724)
Significant Accounting Policies & Notes on Accounts	1&2		

Schedules 1, 2 and A to P form an Integral part of financial statement

Refer to our Report of Even Date

For **SURESH & CO.**

Chartered Accountants

FRN: 004255S

Udupi Vikram

Partner

Membership No.: 227964

Place: Bengaluru

Date: July 08, 2023



For and on behalf of Board of Trustees of

DESHPANDE FOUNDATION

Gururaj Deshpande

Trustee

Place: Hubballi

Date: July 08, 2023

Jaishree Deshpande

Trustee

Place: Hubballi

Date: July 08, 2023



DESHPANDE FOUNDATION

C/o. Tejas Networks Limited, Plot No. 25, J.P. Software Park, Electronic City, Phase - I, Hosur Road, Bengaluru - 560 100

BALANCE SHEET AS AT MARCH 31, 2023

Particulars	Schedule	AS AT March 31, 2023 Rs.	AS AT March 31, 2022 Rs.
SOURCES OF FUNDS			
Capital fund	A	73,57,62,109	79,40,90,592
TOTAL		73,57,62,109	79,40,90,592
APPLICATION OF FUNDS			
Fixed assets	B		
a) Gross Block		98,29,90,753	96,83,42,619
b) Less: Depreciation		(35,68,96,343)	(29,93,83,111)
c) Capital Work in Progress		2,36,03,719	1,55,67,160
NET BLOCK (a-b+c)		64,96,98,129	68,45,26,668
Current Assets, Loans & Advances	C	1,96,43,843	12,48,79,485
Cash & bank balances	D	9,26,38,310	3,32,37,029
Loans, Advances, Receivables & Deposits		11,22,82,153	15,81,16,514
TOTAL - I			
Less: Current liabilities & provisions	E	1,57,94,103	1,63,59,626
Current liabilities	F	91,68,332	2,97,59,865
Unutilised grants	G	12,55,738	24,33,099
Provisions		2,62,18,173	4,85,52,590
TOTAL - II			
NET CURRENT ASSETS (I - II)		8,60,63,980	10,95,63,924
TOTAL		73,57,62,109	79,40,90,592
Significant Accounting Policies & Notes on Accounts		1&2	

Schedules 1, 2 and A to P form an Integral part of financial statement

Refer to our Report of Even Date
for **SURESH & CO.**

Chartered Accountants
FRN: 0042555

Udupi Vikram

Partner

Membership No.: 227984

Place: Bengaluru

Date: July 08, 2023



For and on behalf of Board of Trustees of
DESHPANDE FOUNDATION

Gururaj Deshpande

Trustee

Place: Hubballi

Date: July 08, 2023



Jaishree Deshpande

Trustee

Place: Hubballi

Date: July 08, 2023

Deshpande Educational Trust

DESHPANDE EDUCATIONAL TRUST DCSE Building, BVB CET Campus, Vidyanagar, Hubli - 580031 <u>Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended March 31, 2023</u>			
Particulars	Schedule	For the year ended	
		March 31, 2023 Rs.	March 31, 2022 Rs.
INCOME			
Revenue from Skill Training Programs	H	5,35,99,204	3,69,90,001
Voluntary Contributions/Sponsorships/Grants	I	7,38,72,586	4,11,06,516
Interest and Other Incomes	J	96,43,816	80,97,603
TOTAL - A		13,71,15,606	8,61,94,120
EXPENDITURE			
Skill development & other programme expenses	K	2,36,81,743	31,91,730
Employee cost and benefits	L	10,72,47,870	4,56,13,185
Administration and other operating expenses	M	3,41,94,350	2,39,13,320
Finance cost	N	10,39,043	9,18,596
Depreciation on fixed assets	C	43,78,205	16,91,912
TOTAL - B		17,05,41,211	7,53,28,743
Excess of Expenditure Over Income Transferred to Capital Fund (A-B) - Surplus/(Deficit)		(3,34,25,605)	1,08,65,377
Significant Accounting Policies & Notes on Accounts	1 & 2		
Schedules 1, 2 and A to N form an Integral part of financial statement			
Refer to our Report of Even Date For SURESH & CO. Chartered Accountants FRN: 0042555  Udupi Vikram Partner Mem No.: 227984 Place: Bengaluru Date: July 04, 2023 		For and on behalf of Trustees of DESHPANDE EDUCATIONAL TRUST  Perampalli Narasimha Nayak Managing Trustee and CEO Place: Hubli Date: July 04, 2023   Shreekant Deshpande Trustee Place: Hubli Date: July 04, 2023	

DESHPANDE EDUCATIONAL TRUST

DCSE Building, BVB CET Campus, Vidyanagar, Hubli - 580031

BALANCE SHEET AS AT MARCH 31, 2023

PARTICULARS	Schedule	As at March 31, 2023 Rs.	As at March 31, 2022 Rs.
<u>SOURCES OF FUNDS</u>			
Capital fund	A	15,31,18,179	18,65,43,784
Un secured loans	B	50,15,333	49,46,770
TOTAL		15,81,33,512	19,14,90,554
<u>APPLICATION OF FUNDS</u>			
<u>Fixed Assets</u>			
a)Gross block	C	3,60,41,083	2,66,80,801
b) Less: Accumulated depreciation		2,55,36,252	2,16,83,526
NET BLOCK (a-b)		1,05,04,831	49,97,275
<u>Current Assets, Loans & Advances</u>			
Loans advances, deposits and current Assets	D	71,88,953	40,76,667
Cash & bank balances	E	17,78,31,793	20,87,43,214
TOTAL - 1		18,50,20,746	21,28,19,881
<u>Less: Current Liabilities</u>			
Current liabilities	F	3,43,56,171	2,32,57,248
Provisions	G	30,35,894	30,69,354
TOTAL - 2		3,73,92,065	2,63,26,602
NET CURRENT ASSETS (1-2)		14,76,28,681	18,64,93,279
TOTAL		15,81,33,512	19,14,90,554
Significant Accounting Policies & Notes on Accounts	1 & 2		

Schedules 1, 2 and A to N form an Integral part of financial statement

Refer to our Report of Even Date

For **SURESH & CO.**

Chartered Accountants

FRN: 0042555



Udupi Vikram

Partner

Membership No.: 227984

Place: Bengaluru

Date: July 04, 2023



For and on behalf of Trustees of

DESHPANDE EDUCATIONAL TRUST



Perampalli Narasimha Nayak

Managing Trustee and CEO

Place: Hubli

Date: July 04, 2023




Shreekant Deshpande

Trustee

Place: Hubli

Date: July 04, 2023




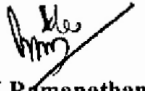
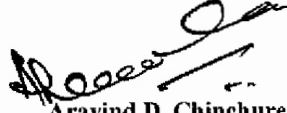
Deshpande Startups

FOUNDATION FOR SANDBOXSTARTUP INITIATIVES

CIN : U74999KA2016NPL092977

Regd. Office: Next to International Airport, Gokul Road Opp to Gokul Village Hubballi Dharwad KA 580030

Statement of Profit and Loss for the year ended March 31, 2023

			Amount in ₹ Lakhs
PARTICULARS	Notes Ref.	Year Ended March 31, 2023	Year Ended March 31, 2022
INCOME			
Revenue from operations	2.14	557.87	136.75
Other income	2.15	24.81	27.94
Transfer from capital grant - depreciation equalisation	2.2	40.07	34.72
TOTAL		622.75	199.41
EXPENSES			
Employee benefits	2.16	320.66	157.86
Finance costs	2.17	0.15	0.12
Depreciation and amortization expenses	2.7	44.75	37.98
Other expenses	2.18	716.09	201.67
TOTAL		1,081.65	397.63
Profit before tax		(458.90)	(198.22)
Tax expenses			
a) Current tax		-	-
b) Deferred tax (income)/expenses		-	-
Profit after tax		(458.90)	(198.22)
Earnings per share (Face value of Rs. 100/- per share)			
- Basic / Diluted (in ₹)	2.20	(45,890.30)	(19,821.83)
Significant Accounting Policies	1		
Notes forming part of financial statements	2		
<p>Refer to our report of even date attached for SURESH & CO. Chartered Accountants Firm Registration No : 004255S</p> <p>for and on behalf of Board of FOUNDATION FOR SANDBOXSTARTUP INITIATIVES</p>			
 Udupi Vikram Partner Membership No : 227984 Bengaluru July 08, 2023			 N Ramanathan Director DIN : 01745689 Bengaluru July 08, 2023
			 Aravind D. Chinchure Director DIN : 06831485 Hubballi July 08, 2023

FOUNDATION FOR SANDBOXSTARTUP INITIATIVES

CIN : U74999KA2016NPL092977

Regd. Office: Next to International Airport, Gokul Road Opp to Gokul Village Hubballi Dharwad KA 580030

Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2023


Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2023

Amount in ₹ Lakhs


PARTICULARS	Notes Ref.	As at March 31, 2023	As at March 31, 2022
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
SHAREHOLDER'S FUNDS			
(a) Share capital	2.1	1.00	1.00
(b) Reserves and surplus	2.2	1,013.48	1,655.53
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
(a) Long-term provision	2.3	105.79	2.78
CURRENT-LIABILITIES			
(a) Short term borrowings	2.4	-	-
(b) Trade payables			
- Total outstanding due to micro & small enterprises		-	-
- Total outstanding due to others		-	-
(c) Other current liabilities	2.5	182.72	92.20
(d) Short-term provisions	2.6	0.66	0.36
Total equity and liabilities		1,303.66	1,751.87
ASSETS			
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
(a) Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangible assets			
(i) Property plant & equipment	2.7	403.47	421.27
(ii) Intangible assets		-	-
(iii) Capital work in progress		-	-
(b) Non-current investments	2.8	505.97	516.60
(c) Non Current Assets	2.9	0.79	1.67
CURRENT ASSETS			
(a) Trade receivables	2.10	31.00	29.21
(b) Cash and bank balances	2.11	276.45	747.57
(c) Short term Loans & Advances	2.12	62.53	25.29
(d) Other current assets	2.13	23.45	10.27
TOTAL		1,303.66	1,751.88


Significant Accounting Policies 1
Notes forming part of financial statements 2

Refer to our report of even date attached
for **SURESH & CO.**
Chartered Accountants
Firm Registration No : 0042558


Udupi Vikram
Partner
Membership No : 227984
Bengaluru
July 08, 2023

for and on behalf of Board of
**FOUNDATION FOR SANDBOXSTARTUP
INITIATIVES**


N Ramanathan
Director
DIN : 01745689
Bengaluru
July 08, 2023


Aravind D. Chinchure
Director
DIN : 06831485
Hubballi
July 08, 2023



**Deshpande
Foundation**

Deshpande Foundation

92 Montvale Ave,
Suite 2500 Stoneham,
MA 02180

info@deshpandefoundation.org