



swa**taleem**

NEWSLETTER

Volume 9. October 2021.

Educate your girl child,
So that she can fight her right,
Make her very strong,
So that she can distinguish right and wrong.

- Women and Education, Farheen Zehra

We successfully continue our fight for Girls and their rights by providing them support, guidance, and power. Every day we discuss multiple options and opportunities for them to overcome their obstacles and pave the way forward to a better world. In the last three months (July-September 2021), we focused on enabling them with better access to technology and the digital world. Educating Girls and making them independent is the best way to support their growth and

Getting Back To Field: Our Feet In Haryana

We started field visits in early August and planned for the next in-person session with the Teachers for October. We have forged a combination of in-person and digital workshops this academic year until the functioning of Schools and Hostels return to normalcy. SwaTaleem, with the Government of Haryana is also partnering to assess loss in Language Learning due to COVID-19, in order to plan for Remedial Education for the state's KGBVs. In addition, Self-Learning Kits are being assembled and IVRS stories are to be extended to all KGBVs to nullify any pauses that may accompany the third wave.



Our Programs on Field

Digital Engagement

Program: This program engages Girls through a digital platform to support them continue their studies,

IVRS (Interactive Voice Response

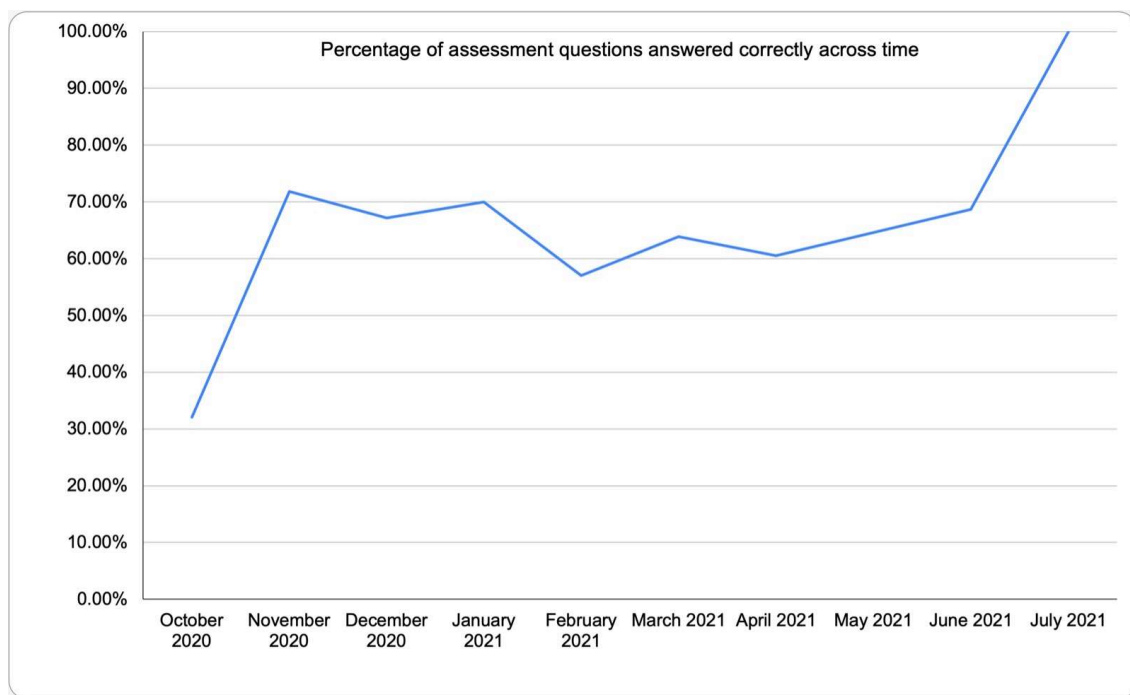
System) Program: Through our chosen medium of IVRS, we continue sharing educational content

open platform for the Girls, from Grades 6 to 9, to come together and participate in sessions meant to improve critical thinking.

- Completed 18 sessions in 4 months (May 2021 - August 2021), on topics such as career guidance, gender, and self-awareness.
- 100% participants felt they learned how to use Zoom and made new friends.

learning content during COVID-19.

- Completed 74,500+ calls in the first year from 14th August 2020 to 31st August 2021.
- Facilitated educational sessions aggregating more than 10,600+ hours in the first year.
- Learning trends are mapped on English, Hindi, Maths, Science, Socio-emotional skills, and Social Studies.



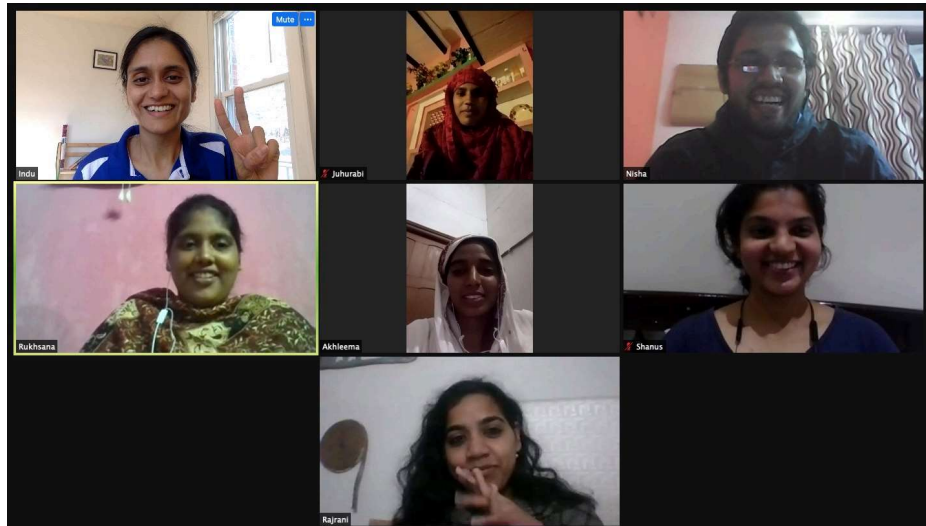
The learning levels of Girls in Social Studies from October 2020 to July 2021.

Half-Year Value Check-in Session with the Team

On 5th August 2021, we had our half-year Value check-in session as a Team. In the session, we discussed and reflected on topics like commitment, creativity in

“It is always easier to fight for one’s principles than to live up to them”.

- Alfred Adler



Vaibhav Kumar speaks at NCERT Webinar

On 30th July 2021, the Department of School Education & Literacy (DSE&L), the Ministry of Education (MoE), and the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), conducted a National Webinar on ‘Towards an Equitable and Inclusive Society: Realizing the Goals of NEP 2020’. In this webinar, Vaibhav Kumar, our Team Member, shared the relevance of SwaTaleem's efforts aligned to the realization of NEP's vision on Girls Education. Link to the [Webinar](#).



Ashly Gopalakrishnan inducted as Youth Ki Awaaz Action Fellow

Our Team Member Ashly Gopalakrishnan has been selected as the Youth Ki Awaaz (YKA) Action Network Fellow for Girls Education in August 2021. As an Action Network Fellow, she joined a group of powerful advocates for Girls' education. This movement is rooted in the voices and visions of leaders to amplify the ability to drive change in their community and beyond. YKA will support SwaTaleem in an upcoming campaign addressing digital divide.

started their journey as
campaigners for a better
education system
this weekend!



EdTech Partnership with University of Illinois - The TIER-Ed Grant

How do contextually appropriate role model stories impact the self-esteem, sense of belonging, and self-efficacy of adolescent Girls? What kind of specific design features facilitate the sharing of contextually appropriate role model stories with the Girls through the IVRS technology?

SwaTaleem recently began its partnership with Technology Innovation in Educational Research and Design (Tier-Ed) Division affiliated to the University of Illinois under the project 'Supporting Emotional Wellbeing in times of COVID-19: Promoting self-esteem, sense of belonging and self-efficacy among adolescent Girls in rural India through Interactive Voice Response System'.



What is TIER-ED

Projects and Research

People

New technologies have the capacity to empower diverse learners

Supporting Emotional Wellbeing in times of COVID-19: Promoting self-esteem, sense of belonging and efficacy among adolescent girls in rural India through Interactive Voice Response System

Nathan Castillo (Education), Ananya Tiwari (Education), and Shafagh Hadinezhad (Fine + Applied Arts)

SwaTaleem Tales!

Working at the Intersection of Gender and Education



Jaskirat Kaur
April 2, 2020

Having been brought up in an arrangement that not only is devoid of quality education but also structurally reinforces gender biases,

Looking Beyond Learning Outcomes: Building an Idea of Self, Confidence, and Identity



Suganya Sankaran
October 17, 2020

From the very beginning, the induction project faced a number of challenges. Partly due to the strong patriarchal norms present in the

Education. SwaTaleem offered me both and some more. Everything from ELM week to STEM and Gender sessions to designing and facilitating lesson plans involved a plethora of learnings with an equal share of challenges. The workshops conducted by Bharat- making Math fun and easy to learn, and Kavya- locating and breaking gender stereotypes- gave us a new perspective in problem-solving and critical thinking.....[Read More...](#)

partly due to the newness of this COVID-19 world, a certain 'compliance mentality was being built in our field coordinators. For example, when we used to share any learning tasks with them with some questions for them to reflect and share their opinions from a place of personal experience, almost all of these tasks were met with a standard textbook-ish kind of an answer, with 'he/him' being the pronouns.....[Read More...](#)

UPCOMING: Talk at University of Illinois

On 11th October 2021, our Team consisting of Arzoo Shakir, KGBV Warden Ms. Dipti, Vaibhav Kumar, and our Girls, Divya and Habeeba will discuss the role of and challenges faced during COVID-19. Titled "Resilience in the times of COVID-19: SwaTaleem's experience with Rural Adolescent Girls", this seminar will explore how COVID-19 affected Girls from rural India and their Teachers. In particular, we will focus on Girl's education which has been at the forefront of equity discussions in the Global South. We will also understand how Girls and other stakeholders like their Teachers responded during this challenging period.

RESILIENCE IN THE TIMES OF COVID-19: SWATALEEM'S EXPERIENCE WITH RURAL ADOLESCENT GIRLS

DATE: OCTOBER 11, 2021
TIME : 9-10AM (CST)
 Zoom Webinar (Registration Required):-
https://illinois.zoom.us/join/register/WN_uuVGbKsQSNOS1b6wn7uy4g



Divya
10th grade student



Habeeba
10th grade student



Vaibhav
COO at SwaTaleem Foundation



Arzoo
Program Lead at SwaTaleem Foundation



Dipti
Warden School- KGBV Nuh-uh, Mewat

An estimated 10 million girls in India may not return to school when they reopen after the second wave of COVID-19 earlier this year. Furthermore, there will be an increase of more than 30 million child brides in the next decade globally, due to COVID-19 (UNESCO, 2020). Girls aged 12-17 are at particular risk of dropping out of school (India Education Diary, 2021). In this seminar we will speak directly with girls from rural India and their teachers to understand how COVID-19 affected India, and in particular, girls' education which has been at the forefront in the Global South. We will also speak with grassroots team members and co-founder of the non-profit SwaTaleem to understand how girls and other stakeholders responded at this time. This event is part of the Global Intersections project series.

Co-sponsored by Women & Gender in Global Perspectives Program
 The Center for Global Studies is a National Resource Center funded through United States Department of Education Title VI grants.

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CALL TO ACTION - The 2021 SwaTaleem Digital Drive

KGBVs are still operating on partial capacity and 20% of the Girls' families do not have smartphones at home. 78.9% of our Girls reported that it is the brothers/fathers at their home who dominate use mobile phones and they have a lack of access to technology and digital devices. We are running a digital device campaign where you can donate device(s) and/or funds to enable procuring smartphones for the Girls.

Our survey intends to understand your willingness to participate in either or both options available. Do fill it and circulate it in your networks. [Device Collection Link](#).

#GirlsGoDigital



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