



## WELCOME TO OUR FIRST NEWSLETTER OF 2010

This summer, SRF Foundation is undergoing several notable changes in both its programs and its people. We have invited interns from the Singapore Management University to help put SRF Foundation on the Web, generate publicity about its on-going efforts to transform education in Mewat, and finetune the marketing efforts of the Enhancing Early Education Project. Our projects are underway and we'd like to invite you to take a few minutes to know more about them.

### Mewat Rural Education Project (MREP)

A mere 50km away from flourishing Gurgaon, lies a region nearly 50 years behind in development - Mewat. Here, schools are aplenty, yet the facilities are seldom adequate. As such, books are often piled on the floor, mid day meals are prepared in the open, and toilets are seldom equipped with water facilities. Our project is based on a simple premise: We can change the quality of education if we engage partners to contribute their resources or expertise.

The children's boundless enthusiasm can only do so much. Help us help them.



## Bridge School Program | Phase 1

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Dropping out of school is common. It is also a grave concern. On average, less than 10% of students remain in school by the time they reach class 5. There are a variety of reasons for this happening, ranging from work, disapproval from parents, to lack of accessibility. Yet, we believe no reason is good enough to deny a child his or her education. Therefore, as part of the MREP, the Bridge School Program at SRF Foundation seeks to provide short term learning to children who have dropped out, and raise their academic abilities to a level equal their age.

To join us as a facilitator, email [prakash.dutt@srf.com](mailto:prakash.dutt@srf.com).



## Enhancing Early Education Project

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In 2007, the SRF Foundation started the Enhancing Early Education Programme, making use of the same teaching methodology that was successfully implemented in the Shri Ram Schools to develop the skills of women who are passionate about preschool education and child development. Over six months, trainees are exposed to key concepts in childhood education, as well as given opportunities to conduct classes themselves. The comprehensive programme has since seen many graduates securing teaching positions in leading schools in Gurgaon and Delhi.

Intake begins in July 2010. Email [info@shriearlyeducation.com](mailto:info@shriearlyeducation.com) to find out how you can be a part of this exciting journey into the world of our children!

## Spoken English Language Development Programme

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Being able to speak good English will be a stepping-stone for success in the next generation of Indians. However, how can we expect young students to be equipped with English speaking skills unless teachers are able to speak and teach the language effectively?

Therefore, over fifteen weeks from February to May 2010, the SRF Foundation lent its expertise to the Mewat Development Agency to conduct an English Language Development Programme at the Mewat Development Agency school – Nagina, Mewat District, Haryana.

Through a series of learning modules that included skits, poetry reading, word games and formal letter writing, 38 teachers underwent the rigorous programme to emerge more confident and motivated to use English in their daily lives.

Facilitated by the new language laboratory, we hope the programme will inspire the school community to implement their newly acquired knowledge in their daily interaction with other, and work toward the actualization of English as a medium of instruction in the school.



## Armaan 3 Summer Camp

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Under our Shri Sambandh programme, the SRF Foundation recently concluded a month long summer camp for the Aga Khan Foundation at the Nizamuddin Basti, New Delhi. Over 130 participants from class 1 to 5, alumni and teachers, benefitted from the fun-filled curriculum developed uniquely by Shri Sambandh.

Our intervention began with an aim to bridge learning through this summer camp, and the projects have since been hugely successful. Following our involvement, notable changes have been seen in the creation of a print rich environment, adoption of innovation teaching methods, improved administration and most importantly, enhanced student learning and understanding abilities in Math, Hindi and English.



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For enquiries, email to:  
[info@srf-foundation.org](mailto:info@srf-foundation.org)