

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR INDIA AWARD 2017

Jubilant Bhartia Foundation, in partnership with the Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship, a sister organization of the World Economic Forum, announced **Ms Urvashi Sahni of Study Hall Educational Foundation (SHEF) as the winner of the Social Entrepreneur of the Year India 2017 Award (SEOY).**

The award was conferred by **Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu, Minister of Commerce & Industry, Government of India** in the presence of over 300 participants at a high-level celebration in New Delhi. The award ceremony also served as the welcome dinner of the India Economic Summit organized by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and the World Economic Forum (WEF).

Applauding the work of all the three finalists of this year SEOY award, **Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu, Minister of Commerce & Industry, Government of India** said "Social Entrepreneurs deal with different aspects and challenges that exists in the society. They are bringing technology with their commitment and passion to transform lives of many people. I firmly believe that changing lives is far more important than anything else and hence to have a happier society we need many more social entrepreneurs like we have seen today."

"This year's 3 finalists are all working to address different aspects of the education ecosystem – mid-day meals to help students focus in school, increasing girls' enrolment in marginalized areas, and helping to change attitudes and culture around gender roles through schools. Our three finalists are operating at significant scale across India, pioneering advances in technology, community engagement, and learning methodology to build a



Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award Ceremony

strong educational foundation that will enable India's future as a prosperous, innovative, and inclusive society", said **Ms Hilde Schwab, Chairperson & Co-founder, Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship.**

Congratulating the winner, **Mr Shyam S Bhartia, Chairman & Founder and Mr Hari S Bhartia, Co-Chairman & Founder, Jubilant Bhartia Group and Founder Directors of Jubilant Bhartia Foundation**, said, "We feel inspired by the passion of all the three finalists. High technology can brighten potential of India's social entrepreneurs

and this has been proved by this year's finalists by their use of modern technology in implementing change. The last eight years of organising the SEOY India Award has been an insightful and enriching experience for us. Even for the winners, the SEOY India platform has offered several opportunities to network, identify new avenues for funding and enhancement in their learning curve. We are glad to see that the platform of SEOY India Award has evolved to become one of the most distinguished honour for social entrepreneurs in our country."

Social entrepreneurs drive social innovation and transformation in various fields including education, health, environment and enterprise development. They pursue poverty alleviation goals with entrepreneurial zeal, business methods and the courage to innovate and overcome traditional practices.

Social entrepreneurship is about applying practical, innovative and sustainable approaches to benefit society in general, with an emphasis on those who are marginalized and poor. In India, the Social Entrepreneurs are bringing solutions for the bottom of the pyramid communities with sustainable business approach and strategies.

Celebrating such role models will motivate newcomers in this field and enhance the

efforts of those working to reach deprived segments of society in a sustainable and inclusive way.

The main criteria for selection includes:

- **Innovation**
- **Sustainability**
- **Direct Social Impact**
- **Reach & Scope**
- **Replicability**

For the eighth year in a row, the Social Entrepreneur of Year Awards received over 100 applications from all across India. The outreach process began on March 1st and ended on April 30th 2017. After several stages of rigorous assessment, five finalists were chosen. An independent panel of pre-eminent jury members met on 4th October to select the winner amongst the finalists.

Winner



Ms Urvashi Sahni of SHEF, The Social Entrepreneur of the Year India-2017

Ms Urvashi Sahni

Study Hall Educational Foundation (SHEF)

Headquartered in: Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

Year Established: 1994

Area of Activity: Education

www.studyhallfoundation.org



Ms Urvashi Sahni speaking the award ceremony

Ms Urvashi Sahni of Study Hall Educational Foundation (SHEF) was awarded for her exceptional contribution in the field of education that includes, empowers and builds leaders among India's most disadvantaged girls. Aided by technology, policy push and partnerships with the state governments of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, SHEF has scaled its model of education to 900 government schools, trained 5000 government teachers and impacted 1,50,000 girls directly and 2,70,000 girls indirectly in the hotbeds of poverty and gender discrimination.

Schwab Foundation and Jubilant Bhartia Foundation warmly congratulated the Winner and finalists and for their outstanding contributions. This year's SEOY India Award winner, Ms Urvashi Sahni of Study Hall Educational Foundation (SHEF) will be invited to join the Schwab Foundation's global community of over 300 socialinnovators.

An independent panel of distinguished jury selected the winner. This year's jury members included **Ms Hilde Schwab**, Chairperson & Co founder, Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship; **Ms Shobhana Bhartia**, Chairperson & Editorial Director, HT Media Ltd; **Ms Sudha Pillai**, Board Member, Jubilant Life Sciences Ltd & Former Member Secretary, Planning Commission, Government of India; **Mr Amitabh Kant**, CEO, NITI Aayog, Government of India; **Mr Sunil Kant Munjal**, Chairman, Hero Enterprise; **Mr Paul Basil**, Founder & CEO, Villgro Innovation Foundation; **Mr Neichute Doulo**, Founder, Entrepreneur Associates & Winner SEOY 2016 and **Ms Neelam Chhiber**, Founder, Industree Crafts Foundation & Winner SEOY 2011.



Social Entrepreneur of the Year 2017, Ms Urvashi Sahni from Study Hall Educational Foundation awarded by Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

Award Benefits

Ms Urvashi Sahni will join Schwab Foundation's global network of social entrepreneurs. She will have the opportunity to participate in relevant regional summits and the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos, as well as contribute to the Global Agenda Councils of WEF. These provide unprecedented access to global decision makers from the public, corporate, media, academic, and civil society sectors.

Other finalists



Shri Madhu Pandit Dasa, Finalist, SEOY 2017

Shri Madhu Pandit Dasa

The Akshaya Patra Foundation (TAPF)

Headquartered in: Bangalore, Karnataka

Year Established: 2000

Area of Activity: Health and Education

www.akshayapatra.org

Shri Madhu Pandit Dasa of The Akshaya Patra Foundation, founded it in 2000, with a mission that "no child in India should be deprived of education because of hunger", Akshaya Patra (Sanskrit for 'inexhaustible vessel') provides nutritious, and hygienic meals to children in government schools through India's ambitious mid-day meal scheme (MDM). In less than a decade, it has established itself as the world's largest MDM provider – feeding 1.6 million children a day across 12 states.

To deliver meals on time with the highest quality of hygiene, nutrition and culinary preferences across urban geographies, The Akshaya Patra Foundation has designed kitchen that operate on the backbone of technology to produce 100,000 meals per day, with minimum human handling. 13 out of 26 urban kitchens are ISO 22000:2005 certified for excellence in Food Safety Management System (FSMS). Improvement strategies like Kaizen, Continual Improvement Projects and Six Sigma are constantly being implemented in its kitchens to ensure food safety, efficiency and cost reduction. For its founder Shri Madhu Pandit Dasa, every child in school is a child free from labour. Under his leadership it has scaled rapidly, setting an ambitious target to feed 5 million children by 2020.



Ms Safeena Husain, Finalist, SEOY 2017

Ms Safeena Husain

Educate Girls (EG)

Headquartered in: Mumbai, Maharashtra

Year Established: 2007

Area of Activity: Education

www.educategirls.ngo

Ms Safeena Husain and her venture, Educate Girls are working indefatigably to address the gender inequality in education. At the heart, the model is a highly motivated, mission driven cadre of 10,000 volunteers called 'Team Balika'. Drawn from the village community, they are local role models, going door-to-door to identify out of school girls and convincing parents through multiple strategies to send them to school. Tackling the issue of poor infrastructure, they work with School Management Committees to prepare school improvement plans, including building toilets for girls. Trained by educate girls to deliver its creative

learning and life skills kits, they promote girls leadership through lifeskills training.

From a pilot project in Pali and Jalore districts in Rajasthan, it has grown in ten years into a 16000+ schools program, with over 1,50,000 girls enrolled in school till date (with 90% retention), and reaching over 3.8 million total beneficiaries. Safeena is also piloting the Development Impact Bond – an innovation that has the power to transform how government, business and civil society invest in the long-term to ensure that no girl is out of school in India.



Glimpses of the Award Ceremony



Minister Prabhu with Mr Hari S Bhartia



Mrs Hilde Schwab welcoming the Minister



Mr Shyam S Bhartia interacting with Minister Prabhu



Minister Prabhu meeting the finalists



Participants at the award ceremony



Minister Prabhu addressing at the Award ceremony



Ms Hilde Schwab at the award ceremony



Jury meeting in progress

ABOUT US

The Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship provides unparalleled platforms at the regional and global level to highlight and advance leading models of sustainable social innovation. It identifies a select community of social entrepreneurs and engages it in shaping global, regional and industry agendas that improve the state of the world in close collaboration with the other stakeholders of the World Economic Forum.

www.schwabfound.org

Jubilant Bhartia Foundation, established in 2007, is a not-for-profit organisation of the Jubilant Bhartia Group. It focuses on conceptualizing and implementing the corporate social responsibility initiatives of the Jubilant Bhartia Group. The Foundation's activities include various community development work, healthcare programs, cultural and sports events, environmental preservation initiatives, vocational training, women empowerment, educational activities and promotion of social entrepreneurship.

www.jubilantbhartiafoundation.com



For further details get in touch with:

Vivek Prakash

Jubilant Bhartia Foundation

1A, Institutional Area, Sec 16A, NOIDA - 201301

Phone: 0120- 4361957 | Email: jbf@jubl.com | Website: www.jubilantbhartiafoundation.com

Media Partners: **hindustantimes**

