

A big Bonjour and Namaste to everyone present here.



**This is Sachin Usha Vlias Joshi from India.
It's my honour to be the part of World Forum Democracy.**



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Education.. at Door Step..



In my view any nation's destiny is shaped in classroom.

It's a general belief that, "The values imparted in schools make students as democratic citizens."

But there are many children who cannot reach to schools.

Let me tell you in my country, more than 80 million children are not going to schools.



The childhood of these children is not blossoming in school but getting staled either in begging or garbage collection or they are forced to work in houses as servants or , some are labouring in farms and factories, some are pressurised to take care of their siblings at home as both the parents are labours.



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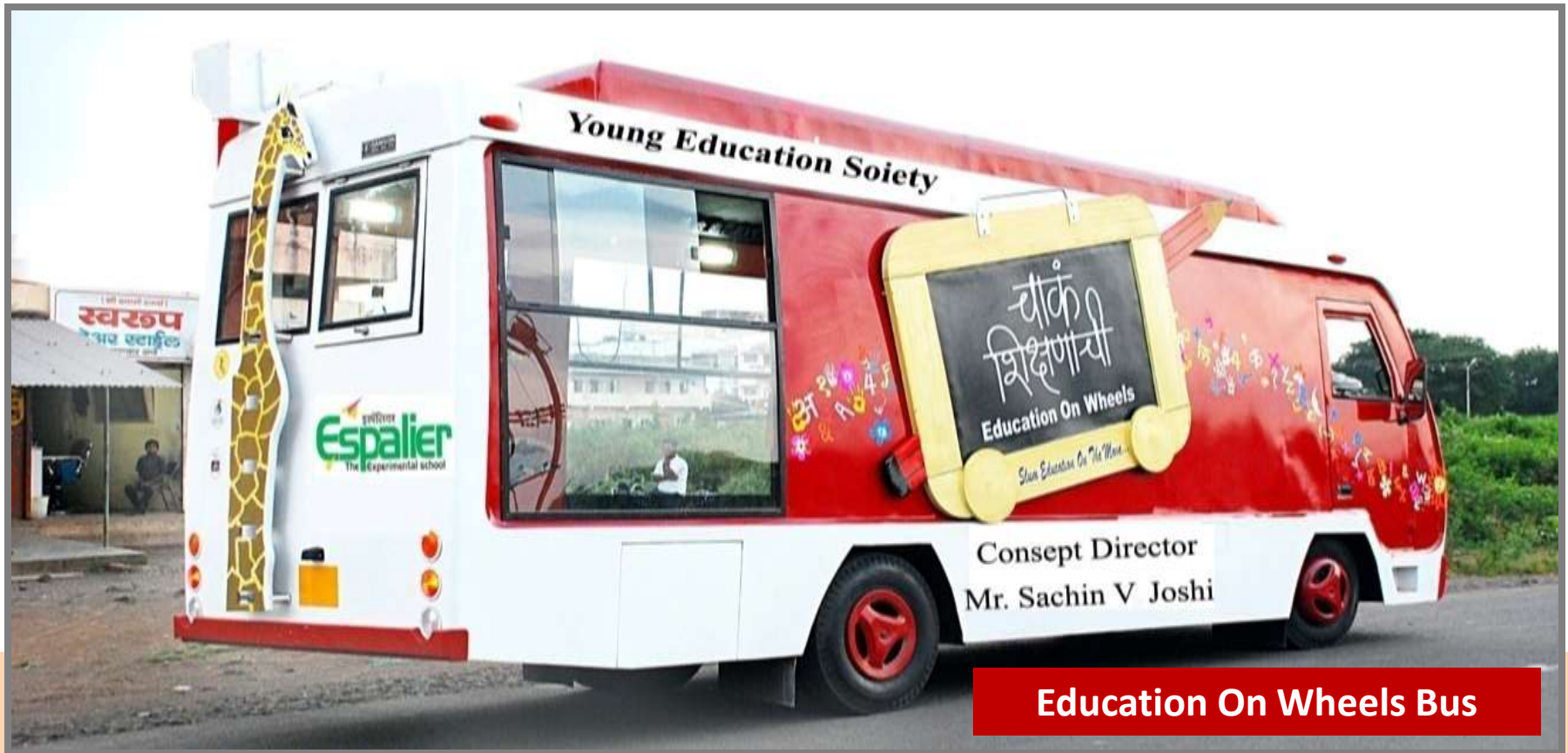
Education.. at Door Step..



Education On Wheels Bus

And here I took the initiative that if a poor child cannot come to education then education must go to him.

For that I decided to implement an innovative idea that is India's first mobile school **"Education On Wheels"**.



Education On Wheels Bus

Now you must be wondering what the mobile school is all about?
 This school is established with the motto to literate out of school children, also children attending the government school but dwelling in slums.



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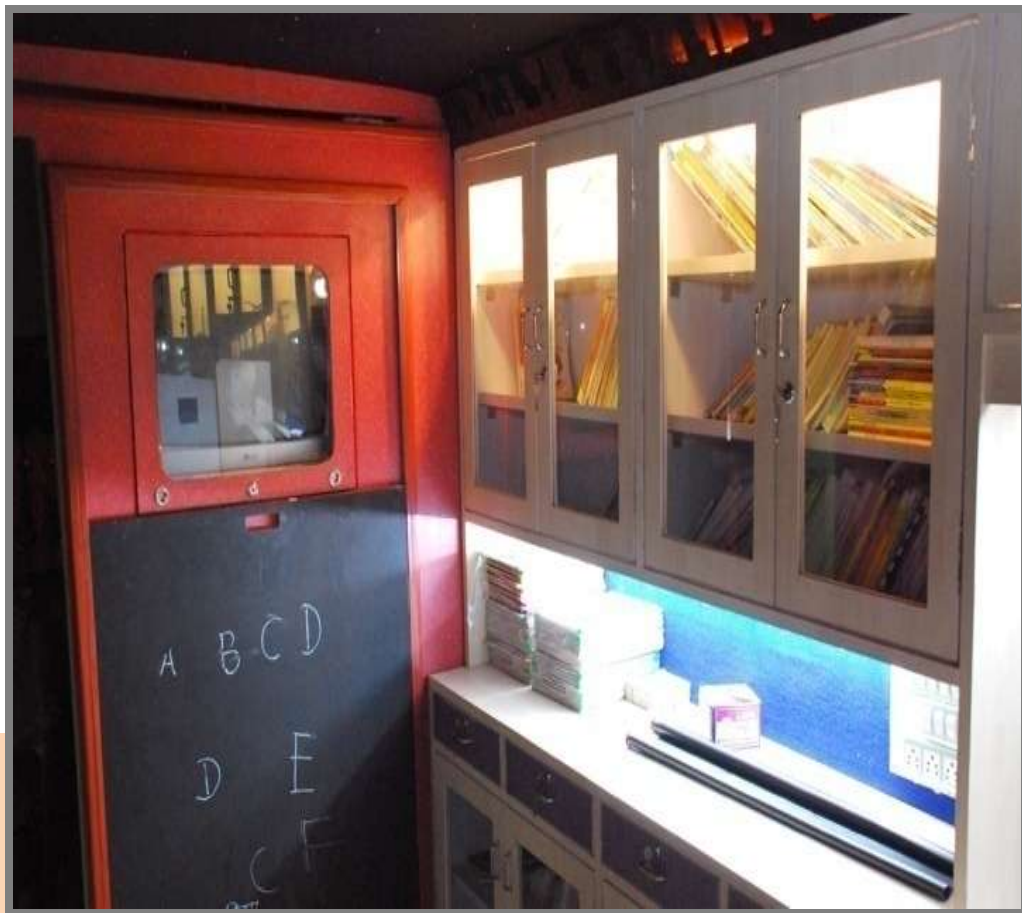
This bus , you can see here is a replica of an actual classroom.



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This mobile school is beautifully equipped with all study material like library, laboratory, computer, projector, teaching aids, AV aids, educational DVD and softwares. etc.



Our teachers conduct support class in the bus itself for the duration of two hours. Street children, construction labours children, rag picker, slum children come and attend the class. Through this bus we are providing education on their door step. After conducting the class in one area the bus leads to the next destination.



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Education.. at Door Step..



You must be knowing the reasons of these children not going to school, like child labour, domestic responsibility, unavailability of a school in near by area, superstition regarding girl's education, unavailability of transport but you know the most important reason is that these socially deprived people do not actually realise the power of education and here actually we play the role of counsellor.



Dear friends!

Socio-economic development occurs when democratic values are inculcated. Education for all is must for socio-economic development and not just for elite groups. And here my NGO education on wheels is trying hard to uplift educationally these socially backward people.



Education.. at Door Step..

IMPACT



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Education.. at Door Step..



1) Literacy is the first step of education and education is the first step towards democracy. Till now more than 500 children are being literate through our NGO.



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2) Through our initiative we have enrolled more than 4000 children in schools by convincing and counselling their parents as they are the first generation getting literate .



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3) Now I am going to share the biggest and influential impact of my work. In my city there is a backward community name as “Sayyad community” who have many superstitions like they neither go to hospitals nor attend any school. Even they deliver babies at the road side. At the third day of baby birth , the infant gets engaged and till the age of twelve the girl stays with parents and as she completes the age 13 she gets married to the guy she was engaged.



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As we started our mobile school in Sayyad community, we had very tough time to convince these rigid people to send their children to our school. More than 300 girls who are under 13 we started school for them. Through education and counselling the grown up girls decided to stay with their parents till the age of 18 which is the legal age of marriage in India. Here I can say that we provided the Weapon of education to these girls to get their democratic rights. This change has come only because we educate them on their door step. Otherwise child marriages are very common tradition of this community.



4) In this Sayyad Community people have been illiterate since last seven generations. It was a big challenge to teach their kids with simple teaching tools like paper and pencil. We gave them tabs having education software like identifying English alphabets. It was a surprise that these kids were able to use tabs within an hour & just in one week they were able to recognize English alphabets. Because of this experience I came to the conclusion that educational technology has major role to play to connect with illiterate children. I feel the power of technology is more useful for poor than elite group and can bring a drastic change in imparting education to the under privileged.



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6) Red light area:

As we say education must reach to the grass root level, but to what extent?

We have reached the unapproachable area like Red light area of our city where the prostitutes and their children are deprived of education. When we started parking our bus in that area we realised that even their small girls are sexually exploited in the trade. Through different programs and recreational activities we tried to kindle interest of education among these girls.

After gaining the confidence of these prostitute mothers we relocated their small girls to Government residential schools where they live normal life.



Inspiration : One of my mentor who is the top commissioner of the country narrated me an incident that when he met a big criminal Don and the commissioner was convincing him to surrender and come back to India that time the Don answered to him that the queue to get the jobs in your government employment office is not as big as the queue in my office to become a shooter.

Commissioner told me that 90% crimes occur in slums and here is my concern!! Why crimes occur in slums ?? Because they don't get opportunities and why they don't get opportunities?? Because they don't take education.

Indian Law !! Right to Education Act, says that it is must for every child to take education but in spite of that millions of children are out of schools.



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Education On Wheels Bus

So here is my initiative that if they don't come to education then I will provide education on their door steps through this mobile school.



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Thank You

It's my honor to present my innovation in the Mother Land of Democracy. I like the religion that teaches Liberty, Equality & Fraternity. And I believe best religion is our Constitution. Thank you Dr. B.R. Ambedkar for that.. Thank You.



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