



INDIA'S REVOLUTIONARY **NGOs** 2021

The series of disasters and quick changes in the last two years continue to disrupt education. From the fast-spreading delta-variant of coronavirus to internet issues and financial troubles, every strike on humans has been severe and wrecking. And none other than the destitute face more difficulties. Lending a helping hand to needy students, several NGOs have started innovating to create safe and seamless education for the underprivileged and marginalized. The charities are upping the ante by feeding the

With Innovation, Efforts, and Research-based Advocacy, these Indian NGOs are Designing Novel Approaches to Revive Education and Resume Learning

hungry and offering everything for today's digital education. In the recent past, they are making agile actions and strategic strides for ensuring that the kids don't drift apart from lore.

Appreciating their efforts for promoting a literate and educated future for India, Scopup Education presents a list of "10 India's Revolutionary NGOs". The panel of judges and Scopup's editorial board extends whole-hearted gratitude to each one of these organizations for helping children sail through the tough times.



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10 INDIA'S REVOLUTIONARY NGOs - 2021

ORGANIZATION	MANAGEMENT	DESCRIPTION
Bhumi Chennai, Tamil Nadu bhumi.ngo	Ayyanar Elumalai, Harishankar Namasivayam, and Prahalathan Karunakaran, Co-Founders	The largest volunteer organization empowering over 30,000 volunteers every year for education and civic issues while practicing collaboration, ownership, and nurturing care
Deepalaya Janakpuri, Delhi deepalaya.org	Jaswant Kaur, Executive Director	An ISO 9001:2008 certified NGO that believes in enabling self-reliance and is committed to working on issues affecting the urban and rural poor, especially women and children
Educate Girls Mumbai, Maharashtra educategirls.ngo	Safeena Husain, Founder and Executive Director	Committed to bridging the gender and literacy gap by creating equal opportunity in education
Goa Outreach Mapusa, Goa goaoutreach.org	Robert Lyon, Founder Ishita Godinho, Managing Trustee Rahul Faria, Trustee	Works with local slum communities to ensure they have access to good education, hygiene and medical support
Lakshyam South Delhi, Delhi lakshyam.co.in	Raashi Anand, Founder	Contributes a great change in education, people development, and women empowerment
Nalvazhikatti Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu nalvazhikatti.org	Arunbalaji Selvaraj, Founder and Management Trustee	Supports social upliftment and education of tribal children
RightWalk Foundation Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh rightwalk.org	Samina Bano, Founder and CEO	Driving Equity, Inclusion, and Social Justice at scale by unlocking the potential of social policies and public finance through advocacy, eGovernance, capacity building, and distributed delivery
Sikshasandhan Bhubaneswar, Odisha sikshasandhan.org	Anil Pradhan, Member-Secretary	Aspires for a society that exercises freedom, right to learn and grow with dignity and self-esteem
Swechha Hyderabad, Telangana swechha.org	Sneha Raj, Director and Founder Shanker Raj Vijaya Surya, Co-Founder and Advisory Board Member	Creating the privileged society with well-thought proven strategies to provide education, health, and financial freedom
Teach For India Mumbai, Maharashtra teachforindia.org	Shaheen Mistri, CEO and Founder Trustee	While believing that leadership for education is the solution, TFI is building a movement of leaders who will eliminate educational inequity in India

Listing as per alphabetical order*



Goa Outreach

Endowing a Childhood
Worth-Remembering



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Our main goal is to support children to study well and as long as they want. We strive to provide a consistent base for them to reach their dreams

holds the place of pride as one of the most literate states of the country, with around 89 percent literacy rate. Although attaining this feat is not easy,

Robert knows how much the rest 11 percent matters too. He says, "It's saddening to see some children who don't get a chance to study

Summer is a symbol of happiness to many. Apparently, most of us plan a short tour to Goa with family and friends almost every summer. While all that we see is a charming state with aesthetic beaches, Robert Lyon

saw the other side of this paradise. He saw families struggling to send their children to schools and to buy their requisites. The same summer that we love turns into a season of trouble with the back-to-school shopping list, which is not affordable to some. Indeed, Goa



The Highlights



Goa Outreach helps around **150 children with their education, health, and other general support**

Provided a **few dozens of smartphones, tablets, and other devices** to the needy, as and when possible

Robert was awarded by **Childline Caritas Goa** in appreciation of the selfless services

Distributed **football shirts** to thousands of school children in 2018

Most of the children receive **support to continue their education** at the college level as well



due to financial burden. We aim to take away this burden and make education available to all."

Despite hailing from a technological background in the UK, Robert ensured to stay in India and help people here. It's been 17 long years, and his contribution still continues.



DESTINED TO SERVE THE NEEDY

Goa Outreach is not the first non-profit founded by Robert. He had previously launched a daycare center for children in 2004. The initiative received overwhelming support from families. After seven years of managing the charity, he handed it over to Indian staff to manage.

He took a well-earned break and traveled a little. Starting another NGO was not in his plan at all. A year passed by, and one of his old students asked him to help a few new children next door.



ROBERT LYON, FOUNDER, GOA OUTREACH

An experienced computer programmer and social worker, Robert has been supporting social upliftment in Goa through education, health, and hygiene for the last 17 years. He pursued his education at Nottingham University.

ISHITA GODINHO, MANAGING TRUSTEE

Ishita is involved in supporting underprivileged children and has done a post-graduation in "Community for Development". She also works with a sports-focused NGO using football as a tool for positive development from high-risk communities.



The compassionate man admitted those kids to school and sorted out all their educational needs. This small gesture opened the floodgates to more requests for help. A few turned into 10, 20, and then 40!

Robert kick-started the journey by helping from his pocket and with the support of family and a few friends. It almost became impossible to keep this going without dedicated fundraising to support the increasing costs. He joined hands with Ishita Godinho and Rhys D'Souza to take the vision forward. The long-time friends were interested and brought in Rahul Faria, the third trustee. Finally, the trust was formed and registered on the 3rd of November 2016, and Goa Outreach was officially born.



OFFERING SUPPORT IN EVERY POSSIBLE WAY

Providing books, bags, uniforms, and stationery is just a small part of Goa Outreach's works. Apart from drifting the education crisis away, the organization takes care of health & hygiene as well. "We encourage good health and hygiene among the economically weaker section. We support children with basic needs such as soaps, toothpaste, brushes, mosquito protection, and sanitary pads. We also ensure free medicine and health check-ups for them," informs Robert.

He further adds, "Prior to the COVID-19 outbreak, we used to organize

During the pandemic, we received support from Nestle, Coca-Cola, No Nasties, and others who were willing to donate towards feeding the families who were struggling for food

everything for children before the schools reopen in June. We went around taking measurements for uniforms and shoe sizes. The children belong to 30 different schools and colleges, so lots of different styles are required. Rainy day sandals were purchased during the monsoon season and a second set of school sports shoes were bought by October. We help children from grade 1 to College level, extending to a couple of Master's Students this year. We also provide clothing and food for Diwali/Eid, presents during Christmas, and give out extras throughout the year depending on donations and funds raised." □