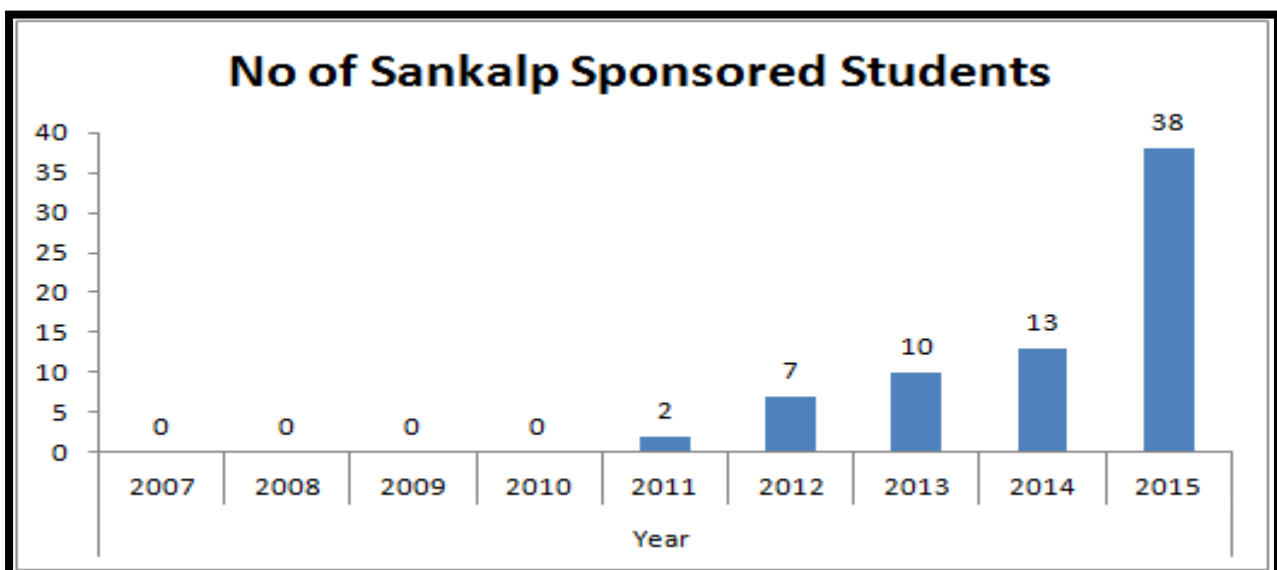
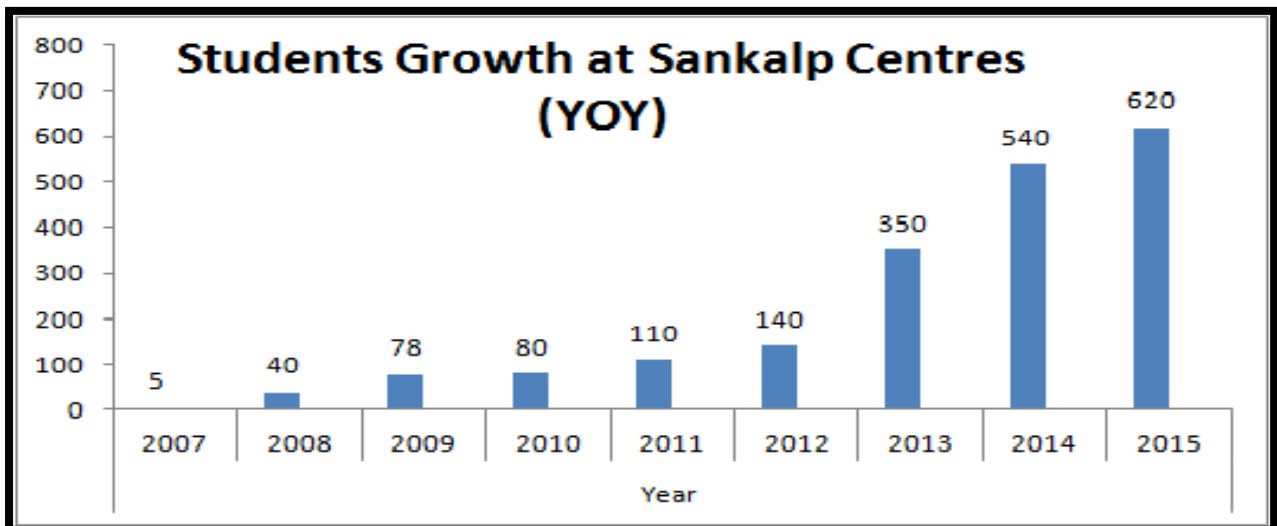
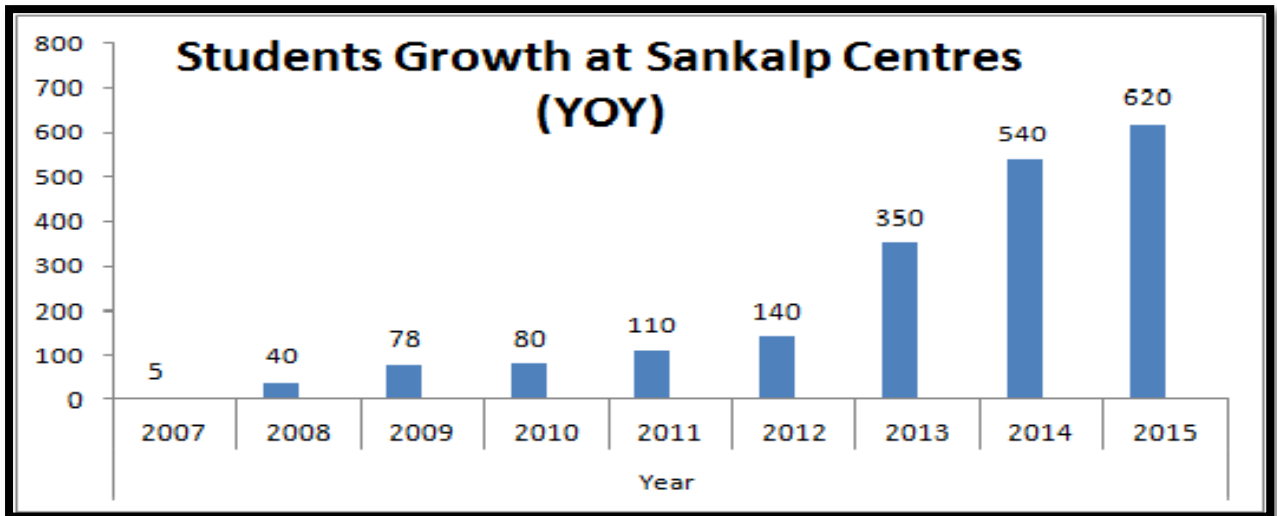


# ABOUT SANKALP



## About:

Sankalp is a Non-Government Organization (NGO) founded by the alumni of NIT Jamshedpur to provide free and quality education to underprivileged children living in slums and villages near the college campus.

We lay emphasis on the upliftment of people in the slums by free education, adult literacy classes, self-help groups, organizing free medical camps and cleanliness drive.

Currently Sankalp is operational in the areas located at the outskirts of NIT JSR campus. The families residing here are daily workers and cannot afford proper education for their children as their major sources of income is from the industrial hub in Adityapur, Jamshedpur. Students of NIT Jamshedpur along with some hired professionals provide these children with free elementary education in accordance to a standard syllabus.

## Vision & Mission:

The best way to ensure a better future for these children is by educating them. It empowers them and enables them to emerge as better citizens. Thus Sankalp emerged with the vision to inspire the privileged sections of society to work for the poor and present a model that can be replicated elsewhere.

Sankalp is spreading the light of knowledge to these children with an aim to explore their hidden talents and channelize it for the betterment of our nation by providing them with quality education.

The flame of selfless service keeps us motivated to work towards improvement & educational enrichment of young children of India.

We reach out to the most disadvantaged and neglected children and their families and help them towards development.

We not only provide them education but also ensure that they indulge themselves into various extra-curricular activities for their overall development.

## Operating Methodology:

Sankalp since its inception in 2007 has been engaged in the educational upliftment of tribal children in the areas around NIT Jamshedpur, a premier engineering institute of the country. Under RTE Act of GOI, thousands of schools have been opened in the nook and corner of the country. However a school and teaching is judged by the learning outcomes and not by the physical dimensions of the buildings.

Sankalp, instead of investing in running parallel schools has opened centres in different clusters offering free of cost tuition to the students of nearby government schools. The classes are running since 2007, daily 3 PM to 7 PM and caters to the educational requirements of around 650 children nationwide. Also more than 2000+ children have passed from the centers over the years and are currently pursuing graduation and other vocational courses in different streams.

Sankalp operates at 3 levels.

1. Admitting out of school children in some nearby government schools after counselling of ignorant parents and making arrangements for documents required
2. Running free of cost tuition centres in clusters catering around 60-80 children at each such centre.

3. Identifying bright children out of them, train them and help them clear the entrance examination of premier city schools. Their total expenditure is borne by Sankalp .

4. Recently we started a centre at Road No 4. Adityapur in a basti inhabited by rickshaw vaalas. The best ones were identified and a teacher has been arranged for preparing students for Navodaya, Netarhat and Sainik Schools entrance exam.

5. Efforts are underway to establish a centre for the coal mine workers in the Kusunda Area of Dhanbad and Keonjhar of Orissa. Preliminary ground work has been done and the centre will commence classes from 1st Nov.

## **Uniqueness of Sankalp**

Considering the poor quality of teaching standards and methodology adopted at Government schools and very little hope of improvement of the same in the next 10 years, India may face a catastrophic situation where the primary education level of millions of children will be weak enough to enroll further in secondary schools. The twin disaster of having aspirations to continue the education and land with a white collar job and a weak academic base till primary level will render them not only unemployed but out of the race with the children of elite schools .

Sankalp has taken a pledge to improve the academic standards of such underprivileged children who cannot afford costly tuitions and private school fee.

At the elementary level, we identified children in Adityapur, Jamshedpur, Madhepura, Varanasi, Delhi and Dhanbad who were out of school and got them enrolled in some nearby government school to ensure their formal school degrees.

At the next level, we opened tuition centers approximating clusters and student strength to make it viable ( cost-wise. Each centre tutors around 60-70 children. Learning skill improvement are ensured thru regular tests, quizzes, and extra curricular activities like essay, drawing competition, annual function, zoo trips etc.

At the final level, we select few bright children from the underprivileged children enrolled at our centres, train them for clearing entrance exam of prestigious schools like DPS, DAV and sponsor their complete education like uniform fee, tuition and stationery fee along with transportation expenses as well. At present Sankalp is fully funding education of 38 such kids across the country.

## **Impact on the community**

1. A new awareness of sending their children regularly to schools
2. Aspirations to admit their children in the best schools of the city
3. Children are seen now not as members to support family incomes but as future investment for the families
4. Girls (approx 220) are giving tough competition to boys in internal tests proving again to their families that they deserve an equal treatment and if given opportunities can set higher standards for other girls in the basti
5. Literacy and enrolment rate of the girls in the areas has almost increased by 400% after Sankalp agreed to finance their complete educational expenditure.
6. With the expenditure of each family declining on their child's education (due to sankalp) they have used it for setting up alternate means of livelihood and enhancing family income.

7. Our nukkad on domestic violence, equality of girls, non-alcoholism, curbing corruption and nationalism etc has drastically reduced the inter conflicts in the communities which were quite regular before
8. Caste barriers which were earlier extremely sharp and deeply embedded in the community have to an extent withered down as children from all castes and communities are made to sit and study together.
9. Superstitions, irrational ideologies and other such unscientific tendencies have been greatly curbed after counselling of local people by our coordinators.
10. As our teachers at centres are selected from the locality itself, it also provides employment to the most educated youth of the area thru Sankalp to engage in community development initiatives.
11. A feeling of oneness, sense of brotherhood and people united for a common cause is the most visible change that Sankalp has witnessed in the communities.
12. Selected Students were given platform to participate in NIT JSR Cult Fest "Utkarsh" and Tech Fest "Ojass". This was unique in the sense that they got to interact with engineers of a premier institution and were awarded by celebrities like Om Puri and Derek O Brian.

## **Innovation in Project/ Initiative/ Programme**

Most of the NGOs have either started running parallel schools or getting the same children admitted in private schools.

Both the steps entails investment and thus limits the number of beneficiaries. Sankalp on the other hand does not wish to create parallel infra or bureaucracy by establishing schools. The children will get their degrees from government school but they will lag behind in quality education imparted thru professionally trained teachers in public schools like DAV, DPS etc. Our investment is on replicating an atmosphere of elite schools in our centres, teaching behavioral changes, hygiene, mannerisms and other etiquette thru our centre coordinators who are paid by us.

Thus our centre act not only as a tuition centre but a focus point of many such hitherto impossible changes in those areas and such group of people. Our centres act as a focal point for carrying sustainable livelihood initiatives like Sewing and Stitching Centre, Adult Literacy Classes etc..

## **Policy relevant angle**

At present, around 1.4 million children are out of school in India. Approx 30 million children are enrolled in government schools across the country. As improving literacy rate is one of the key levers of MDGs, education has to be a key factor in achieving MDGs at the right time. Moreover, other MDG targets like malnutrition eradication, women's participation in decision making at all levels, hygiene, maternal mortality and neo-natal mortality are all directly linked to improved levels of education both quantitatively and qualitatively.

As quality education in government schools is still a distant dream, we cannot afford to let the time pass and see the next generation ruining their prime in paltry jobs, their potentials remaining untapped and the same illiterate mass joining the ranks of politicians in near future wreak havoc on the constitution and its ideals. We need to train right in the cradle.

Sankalp has chosen not to invest in creating physical infra like parallel schools or huge buildings. Because " Building a better you is equal to building a better India.. We intend to bridge the gap between literacy and education by running not only academic classes but also holding sessions on moral values, inculcation of socially useful values thru dramatics and nukkad, team spirit thru games and a spirit of rationality and inquiry by conducting quizzes and science fares.

Sankalp wishes to invest on the greatest asset that human civilization ever had; "Children". An all round progress, a balanced growth of underprivileged children who cannot afford modern private schools and a sense of empathy towards the society is all what we wish to teach our children and be proud of..

## **Specific Collaborations & Partnerships**

NGOs running on similar lines, Kartavya-ISM Dhanbad, Sankalp (similar named NGO) -NIT Patna and Prayaas- BIT Sindri have approached us for collaboration.

Other collaborations in progress and making large scale impact on society are:

1. Collaboration with NGO Bagsbooksandblessings for distribution of school related stuff to needy children
2. Collaboration with a Delhi based orphanage to start a full fledged orphanage cum education centre in Delhi
3. Collaboration with Khel Duar, an NGO based in West Bengal and Assam...for promoting poverty stricken talented school girls and boys in tribal areas through professional training in football and full scholarship
4. JV with ministry of Social Welfare, Government of Jharkhand for acting as associate NGO for launch of Gramin Kaushal Vikas Yojana in Adityapur

## **Communities have benefitted from the project**

Since the foundation of Sankalp has been laid, more than 2000 students from class 1-10 have benefitted through our tuition centres. At present the no of students enrolled are 640+ inclusive of the 42 children completely sponsored by Sankalp.

Around 36 teachers have been recruited from within the community in the last 5 years which has not only empowered their families but has given a ray of hope for more such educated but unemployed youth to be associated with our centres through various educational and livelihood and training programmes.

The adult literacy campaign has directly benefitted 22 ladies by imparting basic alphabetical, numeric knowledge apart from behavioural tips related to nutrition, health, women security, government policies awareness like Mahila Matritiva Suraksha Yojana etc.

We have catered to the educational needs of all classes of children irrespective of caste and other considerations which has kindled a feeling of equality and like mindedness in the communities we are working with

Our medical camps for distributing of free medicines to the needy ones in the tribal areas has witnessed a participation of 500-600 such people annually

Counselling session for adolescent girl volunteered by our girl's team has helped more than 200+ girls to come up with their personal, health and psychological issues and seek solutions

## **Sankalp's expansion plan**

1. Sankalp plans to expand both vertically and horizontally
2. At present we are working on Vision 2020 where we aim to establish 1 centre per state. The centre will act as the nodal point for
  - a. Free of Cost tuition centre for 100 kids
  - b. Adult Literacy Classes to be run batches quarterly engaging 50 such adults in each session (focussed towards the needs of women)

- c. Dissemination of information on recently launched government policies on women, children and minority related to education, health and capability development
- d. Legal Awareness on the legal and human rights of various classes of the society like child abuse, women security, tribal rights, caste violence,
- 3. Tie-up with NGOs working similar lines and lay the foundation of Indian Institute of Social reformers, a think tank for collating the efforts of NGOs working in same fields to enhance their impact on the ground level by multiplier effect
- 4. Connect centres with IT interfaces and tools to provide similarity of syllabus and bring children from all the areas at par to remove regional inequalities. The portal will help us to conduct tests across the country in the same format and improve IT literacy of the communities.
- 5. Science Models and analytical methods of teaching to be introduced across the centres to bring them on par with the children of elite schools
- 6. Venture onto areas like Livelihood/Vocational Skills, Art and Craft (Ancient Heritage/Village Crafts), Environment, Women Empowerment

### **Communication of programme outcomes to partners & communities**

1. Seminars with partner NGOs every 6 months for appraisal of our efforts
2. Aam Sabha with communities every month in different localities to aware communities about our programmes
3. Publishing monthly Consolidated Activity and Financial Report on our website and mailing it to all concerned stakeholders and centre coordinators.
4. Feedback sessions with parents of both sponsored and unsponsored children fortnightly to assess their performance and improve teaching standards at centres
5. Cross learning from our various centres and their efforts is shared with all volunteers for effective decision making
6. Interactive session with women from adjoining areas where the centres are run are held monthly to capture their expectations and mode of working
7. Newsletter "Samvaad" is published monthly to showcase our efforts and students achievements in schools and at different centres

<http://www.sankalpnitjamshedpur.org/>

***Thank You***