

INDIA LITERACY PROJECT

Annual Report 2003



History

India Literacy Project (ILP) was established in 1991, in USA, by a group of young Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) interested in participating in literacy initiatives in India. ILP's first initiative was in the form of a small grant to an adult literacy program of the Bhagavatula Charitable Trust (BCT) in Vishakapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. ILP has supported over 100,000 under-privileged children and women in over 12 States. We have over 200 patrons and over 60 volunteers in USA and India, helping mobilize funds and raising awareness for education.

Through experience gained at the grassroots level, we have expanded our program to cover education initiatives for 'out of school' children and literacy-cum-income generation programs. We have also included capacity building programs, such as teacher training and dissemination of best practices in our goals. More recently, we have supported projects that strengthen mainstream education provided by the Government.

The India initiative was established in January 2000. ILP is registered as a Charitable Trust under the Sections 12A and 80G of the Income Tax in India, and facilitates assessment and evaluation of projects and the overall administration of its operation. ILP India's unique on-site participatory evaluation and monitoring program, has helped strengthen, sustain and improve the success rates of programs funded.

Goals

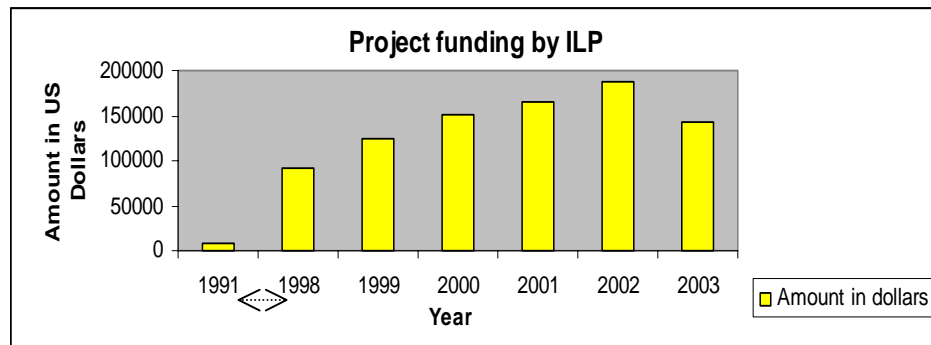
The primary goals of India Literacy Project, USA are to:

- Raise funds to support literacy and education initiatives in India for the under-privileged population
- Raise awareness on the importance of relevant education as a key economic indicator for the progress of India
- Raise awareness on the importance of literacy as a key social indicator that helps empower the under-privileged section of society to raise their economic and social standard of living
- Work closely with ILP-India to review, identify and monitor projects funded by ILP and to research, plan and implement initiatives that will help increase the momentum towards a 100% literate India.

The primary goals of the India Literacy Project, India are to:

- Play a consultative role in identifying and reviewing programs of existing and potential partners in India.
- Establish a resource center of research material, teaching/learning kits, innovative tools, data and documentation.
- Build capacity of our partners in furthering the cause of literacy.
- Cross-pollinate best practices, innovative ideas and methodology in literacy and education between NGOs.
- Network with Government departments and formal institutions working in the area of literacy, education, women and child development.
- Build a pool of volunteers who could supplement the skills and resources of grassroots NGOs and field workers.

Funds Disbursed



Approach

Innovative, Holistic approach to literacy: We understand that there is a need for integration at all levels of education from pre-primary to adult. One cannot look at literacy as fragmented, disjointed parts, but instead we need to take a holistic view in supporting programs that help provide the necessary resources to cater to the needs of all sections of society such as:

- Non-literate adults through functional literacy combined with skill orientation
- Out of school and child labor through short term residential and day bridge camps which have a definite focus on preparing children with the necessary competencies for admissions to mainstream schools
- School going children and potential drop-outs by strengthening mainstream schools, enhancing community participation and supplementing initiatives run by the Government to reach basic education to all children from disadvantaged sections.

We support organizations that create and run innovative programs that help in developing the overall individual and in the long term leads to a strong society of individuals.

We are currently analyzing the need and scope of Life Skills Education – education that imparts skills for economic growth and social psychological growth to the youth in the age group of 15-35 years, with not only skills to earn income (livelihood skills) but also civic rights and responsibilities, health care, local governance, etc.

Flexibility: We review and revise approaches, programs and activities to make them more relevant to the changing face of fast growing India.

With our network of volunteers, consultants and partners, we have the ability to learn from the realities in the field and adapt quickly to change. We are appreciated by our partners for Capacity Building Programs by involving the government, other donor agencies to achieve synergy, better quality.

Policy changes: Our volunteers in India are also part of networks such as CACL-K (Campaign Against Child Labor, Karnataka) and State Alliance for Education- to bring about policy changes.

Project Categories

Functional Adult Literacy

- ✓ Literacy-cum-skill training.
- ✓ Literacy-cum-entrepreneurship development.



Once illiterate, Sumitra from Dakshin Kashipur is now able to write complete sentence and manages a small 'muri' making enterprise

Some of the projects ILP funds:

VARSSA, Orissa

The project covers adult literacy for 500 women in 20 villages. Curriculum includes: legal education, Panchayatraj as well as subjects on health, hygiene and environment.

Chetana Foundation for Social Awareness, Research and Development, West Bengal

The project has integrated literacy classes with entrepreneurship development programs. 30 women in Dakshin Kashipur (South 24 Parganas) have received training in poultry Farming, handling micro-credit and managing small businesses. Five of them have started profitable ventures. Six new centers have been initiated in Birbhum District in 2001-02.

Some of the projects ILP funds:

SIDH, Uttaranchal

This project has a very innovative curriculum where Project work integrates local knowledge such as: festivals, agricultural practices, local history and plant and animal species.

Process of teaching, emphasizes on enhancing understanding and not memorizing. Exams for self-improvement of the student and not competitive.

ISDGEI, Maharashtra

Tejus Mukth Vidyalaya, an elementary school, operates from within the Rajendranagar slum of Kolhapur. Around 330 girl children attend this school. It has been remarkably successful with very low drop-out rates. A girl who completed her 7th std from this school teaches in the crèche.

Innovative and Low Cost Formal Schools

- ✓ Formal schools in tribal areas, slums and catering to certain under-privileged sections of the community, and areas where there are no schools.
- ✓ Schools that experiment with innovative curriculum for the rural and urban poor.
- ✓ Schools moving towards self-sustenance



SIDH, Uttaranchal: The journey from teaching to learning.

An Integrated Education Project: Karuna Trust, Karnataka

A unique project adopted by a donor and co-funded by America India Foundation, supports an integrated education cum literacy program to address illiteracy in the productive age group (15-35 years of age) and prevent future illiteracy through programs for children (0-14 years of age).

The program works closely with District and State level resources, to ensure that the resources allocated by Center and State are utilized towards long-term and sustained education initiatives.

Project Categories

Children, Work and Education

- ✓ Programs that address the needs of school drop-outs and child laborers
- ✓ Programs that assist in early childhood development for the under-privileged



Mahita, Old Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh: Non-formal education center and Balwadis.

Some of the projects ILP funds:

Janachetana, Karnataka

ILP supports a bridge school which provides intensive course to move the children from the labor force into regular Government schools according to their age and level and 5 non-formal education centers for the children in the village. 80 children have been enrolled in regular government schools.

Shiromani: A success story - She worked 12 hours a day before joining the Janachetana NFE center and then the Bridge School. Now, enrolled in a regular school she has topped all 35 schools in the district!

Mahita, Andhra Pradesh

The project conducts Non-formal education centers and Balwadis in Hyderabad slums. The project provides support and education training to school drop-outs, both boys and girls, who are engaged in household work and supplementing family income. The program works with the families to raise awareness on the need for education, and has been very successful.

Over 300 children were mainstreamed to formal schools by August 2003. Drop out rate < 25%. Low absenteeism

Some of the projects ILP funds:

SPREADS, Andhra Pradesh

This project concentrates on strengthening mainstream education in 10 villages, by providing supplementary education, building community organizations that take interest in the functioning of the local schools. The organization is currently working with 557 students in these 10 villages. All children below the age of 10 are in schools in these villages.

Sneha, Karnataka

Working in one of the most backward taluk of Karnataka, the organization has taken up a unique experiment of strengthening the government primary school through community participation. The initiative aims at motivating the villagers to take 'ownership' and responsibility of the school in their village and ensure that every child attend schools.

Strengthening Mainstream Education

- ✓ Ensure that system provides quality education
- ✓ Programs that help with para teachers, supplemental teaching for children
- ✓ Initiatives that mobilize the community to take active ownership of the governmental schools.



SPREADS, Chittor, Andhra Pradesh: Supplemental education center

List of projects funded by ILP- USA in the calendar year Jan 2003- December 2003.

Project Name	Location	Description	US\$
Adarsh Seva Sansthan	Bihar	NFE Centers for women and children . Adopted by donor	3,500
Adivasi Vikash Samithi	Orissa	Non-formal literacy centers for children	4,125
Arulu	Karnataka	Strengthening government schools	8,150
Bapu-Ba Godhuli	Delhi	Children's school in slums	2,500
CARPED	AP	NFE centers and balwadis	2,750
Chetana Foundation	WB	Adult literacy cum skill development for women	4,775
People's Science Institute-RIM	Uttaranchal	Integrated development of 6 villages	2,500
Integrated Action Trust	Tamil Nadu	Adult literacy to tribes in Ten hill villages in the Kalrayan hills.	475
ISDGEI	Maharashtra	Formal school for slum girls	2,175
Janachetana	Karnataka	Bridge school for rehabilitating child labor	9,850
Karuna Trust	Karnataka	Integrated literacy initiative in 69 villages to cover all age groups/needs 0-35 years. Adopted by a donor and co-funded by America India Foundation	26,000
Kruthi	AP	Adult literacy and NFE centers for tribal children	6,700
Lion's Adult Literacy Project	Karnataka	Adult literacy encompassing rights/responsibilities in a Harijan colony	2,125
Mahita	AP	NFE Centers for women and children	9,125
Paraspara Trust	Karnataka	Adult Literacy for women in slums	4,250
Prachodana	Karnataka	Bridge school for rehabilitating child laborers	4,025
Prayas	Rajasthan	Non-formal education centers in the Bhil tribal area	4,950
Rural Development Foundation	AP	Formal school for rural children	3,400
Shiksha Mandir	West Bengal	Non-formal school for rural children	1,700
Shikshit Rozgar Kendra Prabhndak Samiti	Rajasthan	NFE centers for children	3,000
Society for Integrated Development of Himalayas	Uttaranchal	Alternative elementary school	2,625
Sneha	Karnataka	Strengthening government schools	3,225
Social Action With Your Assistance	Delhi	NFE centers for slum children	3,250
Social Awareness For Integrated Development	AP	NFE centers with health education for girls	3,350
Social Work & Environment For Rural Advancement	Rajasthan	NFE centers for children	2,625
Society for People's Research, Environmental Affairs and Dev. Services	AP	Strengthening government schools	5,025
Socio Economic Education & Dev. Society	Karnataka	Bridge school for rehabilitating child labor	10,750
Tea Trust	Tamil Nadu	NFE centers for children	1,625
Vivek Chetana	WB	Adult literacy center for women	500
VARRSA	Orissa	Adult Literacy centers for women	2,000
WLARS	Karnataka	Adult Literacy with skill development for women	1,700

In the year 2003 ILP-USA disbursed a total amount of \$142,750 to NGOs in India. These funds were sent directly by the ILP USA office in Milpitas to the NGOs – who have the necessary FCRA permissions

Our activities during the year

California Chapter	<p>a. Patrons & Volunteers</p> <p>ILP-CA chapter focused on increasing the volunteer and supporter base in the area throughout the year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">√ ILP Race for Literacy, May 2003: Attracted a large group of participants from amongst whom 10-15 people indicated a willingness to engage more actively with ILP√ Independence Day Mela, Aug 2003: ILP focused its efforts at the Independence Day Mela stall to spread awareness about ILP's cause and attract more volunteers and supporters to the fold. ILP reached out to more than 250 people and nearly 60 people signed-up to volunteer with/support ILP.√ Open house for new volunteers, May & Sept. 2003: This year ILP conducted an open house with a difference. A picnic in the park coupled with BBQ and games was organized to give the new volunteers a chance to interact with current volunteers and get a first-hand feel for the people that make up ILP.√ ILP Fest 2003, Oct. & Nov. 2003: ILP-CA hosted two fund-raiser concerts this year. A classical vocal concert by the legendary Smt. Lakshmi Shankar who gave a honorary performance for the cause of literacy. And a Diwali mela featuring popular local band Tarang in concert. The diversity in the nature of events helped us to reach out to various target audiences in the Bay Area. <p>In all, ILP-CA has increased active volunteer strength by more than 10 and support base by more than 50 in the year 2003. This new dynamism has also helped to retain and revitalize veteran volunteers leading to better continuity, leadership through experience and momentum as we launch a new year of activities.</p> <p>b. Publicity and Media Outreach</p> <p>ILP-CA activities were prominently featured in several media outlets throughout the year. Most of the features were related to ILP events. A brief synopsis is as follows</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">√ ILP Race for Literacy, 2003: Post-Race article featured on SiliconValleyGuru√ ILP Fest 2003 advertisements on both Bay Area Indian and Bay Area Mainstream newspapers - India Post, India Currents, SJ Mercury News and EastBay Express√ ILP Fest Curtain Raiser feature articles on India Post & SJ Mercury News√ ILP Fest Post event articles featured on India Post√ Radio Advertisements on Garam Chai and Voice of India√ After a hiatus of 6 years, ILP produced and advertised on Television on IPTV network <p>In summary, good relationships have been initiated and maintained with several news publications and Radio/TV media networks. ILP strategic marketing team is focused on harnessing these relationships into event-specific and non-event specific (organization-centric) feature articles, TV & Radio interviews as well as advertisements in the forthcoming year.</p> <p>c. ILP-CA Plans for last quarter of 2003 and for 2004</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">√ Continue outreach efforts to donors and patrons of ILP to raise sufficient funds to continue support of the projects we have undertaken.√ Ongoing improvements to the evaluation, monitoring, review and analysis process of the projects√ Work closely with ILP India to understand new initiatives in the areas of Universalization of Elementary Education, Life Skills Education, Holistic Literacy initiatives.√ Start new chapters in Seattle, Cincinnati, New York/New Jersey areas
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<p>DC Chapter</p>	<p>a. Outreach</p> <p>Fundraising event: August 23, 2003 with the help of the BollyGeet Band'its, a local music band, that helped raise funds as well as bring ILP and its work to the attention of local individuals and groups.</p> <p>Awareness talks: ILP-DC has also hosted talks, the most prominent being the visit by Anuradha and Pawan Gupta of SIDH, Mussoorie. That particular talk was organized jointly with the local chapters of Asha and AID.</p> <p>b. Plans for 2004</p> <p>We have always had an abundance of good ideas. We are now planning for recruiting and retaining volunteers so that we can prioritize and execute on the ideas to increase awareness and raise funds.</p>
<p>Chicago chapter</p>	<p>ILP-Chicago continues to support project activities by raising funds through an indigenous group of donors.</p>
<p>ILP-India</p>	<p>The following is a summary of activities carried out by ILP-India. For more detailed report please contact us.</p> <p>a. Capacity building – Training of Trainers (TOT)</p> <p>ILP joined hands with National Education Group (NEG) and Terre Des Hommes - Germany (TdH (G)) to facilitate two capacity building programs for teachers to ensure better quality teaching and learning at Non Formal Education (NFE), bridge schools and alternate schools in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.</p> <p>Karnataka: Professional trainers from the State's District Primary Education program helped train 46 teachers from 23 partner organizations.</p> <p>Andhra Pradesh: Sadhana, a capacity building organization, helped train 34 teachers from 16 partner organizations.</p> <p>b. Puraskara - <i>An event to facilitate the scholastic achievements of rehabilitated child labor</i></p> <p>This event was a joint effort between ILP and Campaign Against Child Labor (K). It was the first of its kind held in Bangalore. It offered statewide recognition to the achievements of 80 ex-child laborers, who had passed their seventh and tenth standard public examinations. The event helped spread awareness amongst the public, and helped encouraged other "out-of-school" children towards similar attainments.</p> <p>c. Working with BMP Schools in Bangalore through volunteers</p> <p>In keeping with our commitment towards promoting literacy, the ILP- Bangalore chapter has started a volunteer teaching program in the Broadway Municipal High School, together with teachers from Stella Maries Alumni who have formally adopted the school. The initiative started this August and we already have a small group of 8 volunteers, from various IT-companies (IBM, WIPRO and Hewlett-Packard) in Bangalore visiting the school on Saturdays and weekday mornings.</p> <p>d. Pre-Assessment and Monitoring</p> <p>ILP India conducted field visits to organizations in West Bengal, Uttaranchal, Orissa, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh for this purpose.</p>

ILP-India Continued

e. Building Bridges

ILP continued its efforts to create links between those who have resources and would like to contribute to grass roots development and grass roots NGOs who are struggling because of the lack of resources.

- ILP introduced Shristi Special Academy to I-flex Solutions Ltd, Bangalore. The company assisted the school in selling products created by the children and raised funds for the school.
- MAD@HP volunteers, continue to support the crèches in the slums of Yeshwantpura area through Paraspara, an NGO whose program is funded by ILP.
- A group of individuals working at Hughes Software System, Delhi have been assisting us keep in touch with our projects in Delhi. Besides visiting these programs intermittently, the Delhi group is also trying to assist the Godhuli School in Patparganj, to raise local resources.

ILP would like to see that this initiative grows to create a pool of volunteers who could supplement the skills and resources of grassroots NGOs and field workers. It is hoped that through their social contacts these volunteers would assist ILP's partners in raising funds, donations in kind such as computers, books, clothing, and infrastructure. The volunteers would also help facilitate capacity building program, provide expertise in setting up organizational processes, help with documentation, develop web-sites, databases, assist in surveys etc.

f. Networking

ILP is an active participant in three local networks: Campaign Against Child Labor-Karnataka (CACL-K), State Alliance For Education (SAFE) and Rejuvenate India Movement.

ILP-India Plans for last quarter of 2003 and first quarter of 2004

- Follow-up on the teacher's training workshop in AP
- Puraskara event.
- Consultation workshop on the life skill education
- Fund raising in India
- Networking and bridging corporate sector and NGOs.
- Strengthening the Chennai and West Bengal chapters
- Setting up the Pune chapter

ILP India Board: Office bearers

Name	Occupation
Mr. Vijay Kripalani (Chairman)	Information Technology Professional
Mr. Ramakant Jawalkar (Treasurer)	Information Technology Professional
Ms. Sindhu Naik (Secretary)	Development worker
Mr. Vijayraghavan	Information Technology Professional
Mr. Rangarajan	Development worker
Ms. Suchitra Rao	Development worker

None of the trustees draws a salary from the organisation.

Contacts

ILP-USA	National Co-convener Sumita Jayaraman sumitaj@comcast.net Finance coordinator Sandeep Shroff sshroff@haasalum.berkeley.edu
California chapter	Chapter & Projects Padmini Ranganathan pr_personal@yahoo.com Fund-raising & Marketing Nandakumar Krishnan nandakumar_krishnan@yahoo.com Web-site Krishna Achutarao k_achutarao@yahoo.com
Washington DC chapter	Chapter & Projects Srinivas Savaram ssavaram@yahoo.com
ILP-India	Secretary Sindhu Naik sindhunaik@eth.net



India Literacy Project

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Mailing address: P.O.Box 361143, Milpitas, CA 95035-9998

Web-site: www.ilpnet.org

Donation Form

Please copy and mail this form along with your check to:
India Literacy Project, P.O.Box 361143, Milpitas, CA 95035-9998

Or donate online at <http://www.ilpnet.org/donate.html>

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: (W) (____) _____ (H) (____) _____

Email: _____

- I would like to receive your monthly e-mail newsletter, The Beacon.*

The table below will give you an idea of how your dollars will help.

\$5000	Provides non-formal primary education to 240 tribal children in Rajasthan.
\$2500	Supports a school that runs classes 1-7 for 180 slum children.
\$1000	Provides 1 year of pre-school to 100 children in rural India.
\$500	Supports 50 children from slums in mainstream school
\$250	Rehabilitates 1 working child from the cotton fields of Raichur.
\$150	Provides 1 year of schooling to 3 children from the hills of Tehri Garhwal, Uttaranchal

YES. I would like to pledge the following amount to ILP _____

If you would like to adopt a project, please contact us for details.

Note: All donations are tax deductible. ILP Tax ID: 36-3779020

Comments, I/We would like to share:

ILP \$10 Club

Dear Friend,

India Literacy Project needs the valuable support that you have unhesitatingly extended in the past. ILP has committed to supporting our literacy projects to the tune of \$150,000 annually. These projects reach out to people who have little or no access to education and better their lives.

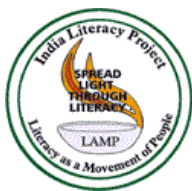
We have started a *continuing donor program* to generate reliable stream of funds which our projects in India can rely upon. We are requesting monthly donations of \$10 a month or more. This can be automatically charged to your credit card and can be renewed annually. Alternatively, one time donations are also welcome.

Average cost of a child's education for one year: \$60

Average cost of a woman's skills training for one year: \$40

At \$10 per month, you are helping make at least 2 children or 3 women literate, thus paving a path for not only their future, but their entire families.

If we band together, each individual contribution will build up to the larger sums needed for our programs. We urge you to send in your contribution using the attached form as soon as possible, so that our projects do not suffer for lack of funds.



India Literacy Project
Ten-Dollar Club Card
Website: www.ilpnet.org
Email: ilp@pobox.com

Name

Address

Phone	(Home)	(Work)	(Other)
<input type="checkbox"/> Donate Via Check			<input type="checkbox"/> Donate Via Credit Card
Credit Card Type:		VISA	MasterCard Amex (circle one)
Deduction Amt: (specify amount in \$)	Monthly	3 months	6 months per year
Credit Card Number			

Income statement for period ending Dec 31, 2003

Income		Expenses	
Donations	53,865	Grants to projects	142,750
Interest/Dividend	2,045	Scripts loss	0
ILPfest 2002	2,057	Run 2002	6,700
Capital gains	583	Operating Expense	858
Total income	58,550	Fund raising dinner	0
		Credit Card fees	269
		PO Box rental	0
		Bank charges	62
		Monitoring	0
		Total expenses	150,640
		Net income	-92,090



India Literacy Project

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