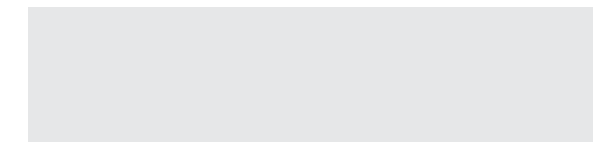
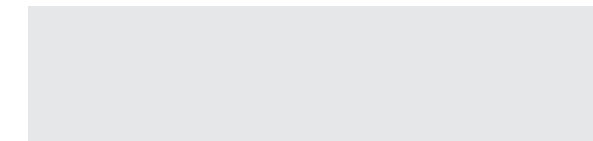


THE FOUNDATION



EQUATION 2013



HOSPITALITY



REACH on the Indo-Pak Line of Control.

More than any other time in our history, the challenge of melding the two Indias occupies the public discourse as it must.

Rich and poor, urban and rural, upper caste and tribal, the idea of India waits to be redefined. The creation of The Foundation seeks to influence this redefinition into one that envisions a totally inclusive India, an India where, through quality education, every Indian starts with the same opportunity. Thus was born our spearhead initiative, **REACH** (Restoring Equality through the Education and Advancement of Children).

The idea of REACH is to have classrooms in the best schools of this country full of children from every region of the land. Children who would otherwise never have the chance to break out of their communities. Locked away by geography, history, politics, or simply, poverty, REACH seeks to give bright, deserving children ten-year scholarships, from Std 6 to graduation.

In 2007, the first area we chose to select students from was the **Andaman and Nicobar Islands**. The immense geographical divide between the mainland and the archipelago has left the islanders with an ingrained sense of separateness at best, a sense of inferiority at worst. Executing a simple plan – selecting five children from the pool eligible for admission into Std 6, proved fiendishly difficult in the 38 inhabited islands of the region.

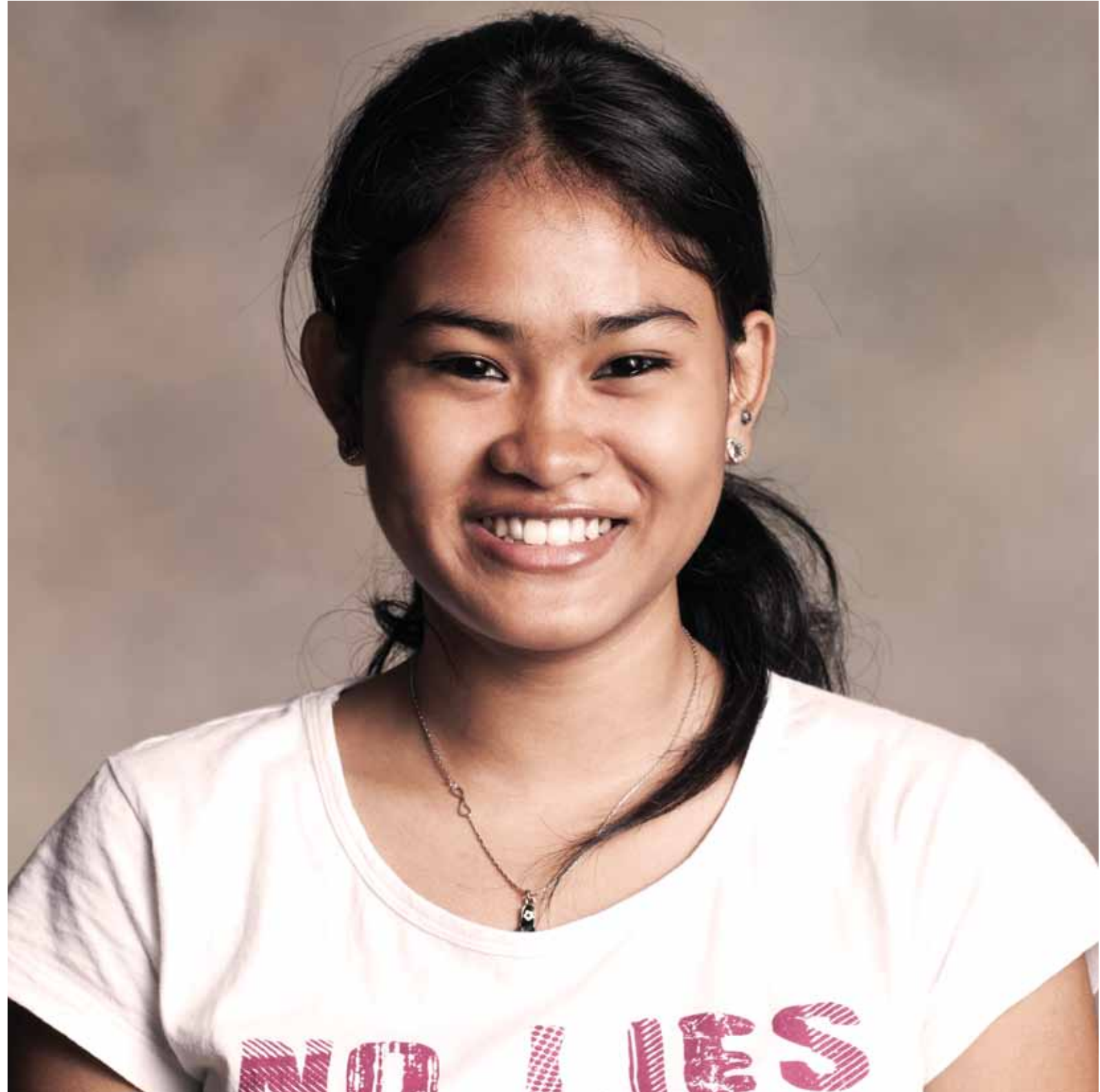
Working with the Directorate of Education, the logistical challenge, from reaching application forms to every island to conducting group sessions, was daunting with 20-hour boat trips, an 8-month monsoon and primitive

communications proving imposing hurdles. We even created a radio ad in Hindi explaining the scholarship and played it across the islands! Today five children from the region – Matrena, Bindu, Pratima, Rukhsar and Jinu, are in various colleges across the country after having finished their Std 10 from Rishi Valley school, the country's top ranked boarding school.

In 2011 we decided to launch REACH II in the **Kashmir Valley**. The Kashmir initiative had its own challenges. The threat of militancy (bombs went off in Lal Bazar in Srinagar on one of our trips), distance (braving treacherous roads, our team reached the Indo-Pak border with application forms), and orthodoxy (the school chosen for this scholarship initiative is co-educational), six children – four girls and two boys, were selected and have completed their first year at the Sahyadri School (a sister school of Rishi Valley), near Pune. The next region REACH moves to is **Manipur and Meghalaya** in the north-east.

Where better to start bridging the divide between the two Indias than in the classroom. The dream is to nurture hundreds of children from different parts of the country; children entering the world, educated, informed, full of the certitude that the world can be one, so that they in turn will never shy away from walking up to the forgotten, taking them by the hand and setting them on a deeper, richer journey.

RAHUL BOSE
Founder



“ In Nicobar we feel forgotten by people on the mainland. The Foundation showed us it’s not true. ”

MATRENA MARTIN



VINAY JAVAR NEGATIVE SPACE PHOTOGRAPHY



“ I couldn't talk to the teachers freely in my school in Kashmir. In Sahyadri the teachers are like my older brothers and sisters. ”

ASIF MANZOOR



“ पहले कोई मुझे पूछता नहीं था अन्दमन मे,
पर आज मुझे सब जानते है। सब को मालूम
है प्रतीमा के scholarship के बारे मे,
The Foundation के बारे मे. मुझे बहुत
अच्छ लगता है। ”

Earlier nobody knew us in the
Andamans. Today everybody knows
about Pratima's scholarship, about
The Foundation. I feel so proud.

BERONICA KUJUR



VINAY JAWAR NEGATIVE SPACE PHOTOGRAPHY



“ In winter I really miss home, the snow, the *kangri*... then I do pottery under the parijat tree in school and I forget everything! ”

SHEEBA ASHRAF



VINAY JAVAR NEGATIVE SPACE PHOTOGRAPHY



“ Life in Kashmir is beautiful but sometimes sad. Here schoolwork is tough but there is no sadness. ”

SARHAN SHOWKAT



VINAY JAVAR NEGATIVE SPACE PHOTOGRAPHY



“ अभी तक यकीन नहीं हो रहा है कि मुंबई से कश्मीर आकर किसी ने Yousra को वज़ीफा दिया है Sahyadri School में पढ़ने के लिए। अच्छे लोग हैं इस दुनिया में। ”

I still cannot believe somebody has come all the way from Mumbai and has chosen my daughter to study in Sahyadri School. There are good people in this world.

NANCY BANOO

REACH I

| District | Number meeting Eligibility Criteria | Phase - I Applications Received (Essay & Artwork) | Phase II Group Discussions | Phase III Rishi Valley Entrance Exam | Final Selection (By Panel) |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Andaman Islands | | | | | |
| Diglipur | 329 | 82 | 22 | 6 | |
| Mayabunder | 391 | 105 | 26 | 5 | 1 |
| Rangat | 533 | 175 | 44 | 10 | 2 |
| Wimberlygunj | 477 | 68 | 17 | 5 | 1 |
| South Andaman (rural) | 394 | 109 | 27 | 9 | |
| Little Andaman | 176 | 31 | 16 | 1 | |
| Nicobar Islands | | | | | |
| Car Nicobar | 224 | 65 | 33 | 8 | |
| Nancowrie | 160 | 36 | 18 | 5 | |
| Campbell Bay | 108 | 14 | 7 | 2 | |
| Port Blair | 95 | 60 | 34 | 4 | 1 |
| Total | 2887 | 745 | 244 | 55 | 5 |

Total no. of students in Std V in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands : 4600
 Total no. of students eligible for REACH I after eligibility criteria* : 2887
 Total no. of applications : 745 (25.8%)

***Eligibility Criteria:**

- Students studying in government schools
- Students studying in English medium schools
- Students whose parents are permanent residents of the Islands

Phase I – Evaluation of essay & artwork. Top 20 percentile selected for Phase II.

Phase II – Conducting activity sessions/group discussions with shortlisted applicants in every zone. Top 20 percentile selected for Phase III.

Phase III – Conducting a modified entrance exam from Rishi Valley School (testing English & Math) for shortlisted applicants. Top 20 percentile selected for Phase III.

Phase IV - Final selection by a panel of experts from the fields of education, child welfare & psychology.

ANDAMAN & NICOBAR

REACH II

| District | Number of Applications | Phase - I Applications Approved (Essay & Artwork) | Phase II Sahyadri Entrance Exam | Phase III Group Discussions | Phase IV Panel Interview | Final Selection |
|--------------|------------------------|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Pulwama | 568 | 359 | 25 | 11 | | |
| Bandipora | 890 | 630 | 68 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| Baramullah | 760 | 604 | 94 | 7 | 3 | |
| Kulgam | 1020 | 412 | 83 | 1 | 1 | |
| Srinagar | 1468 | 712 | 73 | 8 | 4 | 1 |
| Ganderbal | 1340 | 350 | 15 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| Budgam | 2657 | 836 | 110 | 1 | | |
| Anantnag | 4583 | 1446 | 139 | 21 | 7 | 3 |
| Kupwara | 1245 | 979 | 129 | 2 | | |
| Shopian | 458 | 214 | 28 | 9 | 1 | |
| Total | 12771 | 6542 | 764 | 69 | 20 | 6 |

Total no. of students in Std V in the Kashmir Valley : 200,000 (approx.)
 Total no. of students eligible for REACH II after eligibility criteria* : 22,500
 Total no. of applications : 12771 (56.8%)

***Eligibility Criteria:**

- Students of English medium schools (public & private)
- Students who have a minimum score of 60% (or suitable corresponding grade) in their Std 5 examination
- Students who have a family income of less than or equal to Rs. 2.4 lakhs per annum

Phase I – Evaluation of essay & artwork. Top 10 percentile selected for Phase II.

Phase II – Conducting a modified entrance exam from Sahyadri School (testing English & Math) for shortlisted applicants. Top 10 percentile selected for Phase III.

Phase III – Conducting activity sessions/group discussions with shortlisted applicants in every zone. Top 10 percentile selected for Phase IV.

Phase IV - Final selection by a panel of experts from the fields of education, child welfare & psychology.

JAMMU & KASHMIR



VINAY JAYAR NEGATIVE SPACE PHOTOGRAPHY



“ My house is in Betapur village. It takes 8 hours by bus to go to Port Blair. I never dreamt one day I would be in Mumbai, that too studying in Xaviers! ”

JINU GEORGE



VINAY JAYAR NEGATIVE SPACE PHOTOGRAPHY



“ My mother used to take care of me before I left the Andamans. Now I take care of her. ”

PRATIMA KUMARI



VINAY JAVAR NEGATIVE SPACE PHOTOGRAPHY



“ मुझे पता है Muquadas बहुत होनहार लड़की है, पर सपनों में भी मैंने कभी सोचा नहीं था कि एक दिन वह मुल्क के सबसे बेहतरीन boarding schools में से तालीम हासिल करेंगी। ”

I always knew Muquadas was very talented, but I could never have dreamt that one day she would be studying in one of India's best boarding schools!

MANZOOR WANI



VINAY JAYAKR NEGATIVE SPACE PHOTOGRAPHY



“ When I first told my classmates in Rishi Valley I was from the Middle Andamans, they used to say, ‘Where??’ Now all of them want to visit! ”

BINDU DURAIKANNU

Bindu
Duraikannu



Jinu
George

Pratima
Kumari



Matrena
Martin



Rukhsar
Rasheed



All of 17 years of age, Bindu is intensed and focused, someone who is sure of what she wants and knows how to go about achieving her goals. She is an avid reader and a sponge for information. Blessed with a quiet sense of mischief, Bindu has developed tremendous diligence that will be her mainstay when she steps out into the real world.

Doing a B.Sc at St. Xaviers College, Mumbai, Jinu is equally at ease taking apart a gadget and putting it back together again as he is on the football field. Not yet 18 years of age, Jinu has a sense of responsibility far beyond his years, which coupled with his high sense of integrity make him an unusual, exceptional teenager.

A warm and outspoken 18 year old, Matrena is a natural extrovert who gets along famously with her Sophia College classmates. She is a self-starter, and has used the past six years to develop leadership skills that will continue to propel her to the top of any field she chooses.

A late bloomer, Rukhsar is a winsome young lady who possesses a beguiling sense of humour. Despite her innate gregariousness, she is introspective and thoughtful about her role in the world. Naturally drawn to the performing arts, at 17, Rukhsar is cultural head girl of her junior college.

Studying Arts at Sophia College, Mumbai, Pratima is a very sensitive and aware 17 year old. Her quiet reserve hides a girl who is always willing to lend a helping hand wherever needed. While Pratima has a very strong sense of family she is equally independent-minded. She is able to stand by the decisions and choices she makes, even if the going gets a little hard.

ANDAMAN & NICOBAR



At 12 years, Sarhan is an extremely bright, sensitive young boy. He is imaginative, idealistic and multi-talented, as confident captaining his cricket team as breaking into song in perfect melody. He dreams of one day being a pilot.

A determined young girl of 11, Yousra is alert, aware and observant. Able to think practically and on her feet, she is ambitious and has extremely high expectations of herself. Not surprisingly, she wants to be either a judge or a scientist.

At 11, Asif is a confident, alert & quick witted young boy. A clear leader, delegator, and problem solver by nature, he is able to think out of the box and on his feet. He displays a child-like curiosity and an adventurous spirit to boot.

A soft spoken young girl with a quiet confidence, Sheeba is sharp, logical and perceptive. Mature beyond her 11 years, she has a strong sense of self. She's also every teacher's dream – quiet, attentive, and ready to absorb.

A sensitive and thoughtful young girl of 11, Arbeena is assertive and stands her ground when necessary. While she has a strong sense of faith, she possesses an openness to accept that her peers might not share her religious convictions. Arbeena has a fierce desire to do well and make her parents proud.

Muquadas is a bright, effervescent and articulate young girl. Reflective and self aware, she feels very strongly about gender equality and believes that boys and girls deserve the same opportunities. She enjoys public speaking and never misses a debate!

Sarhan
Showkat



Sheeba
Ashraf

Yousra
Iqbal



Arbeena
Jan

Asif
Manzoor



Muquadas
Wani

JAMMU & KASHMIR



VINAY JAVVAR NEGATIVE SPACE PHOTOGRAPHY



“ While there are a thousand manifestations of evil on this planet, perhaps the single most instinctive evil is discrimination. We do not like the Other. They make us uncomfortable. So we treat the poor, the uneducated, the physically and mentally challenged with unease, the ‘unwashed’, the dark-skinned, the transvestites, the ‘lower castes’, with contempt. The Foundation has, as its one-point agenda, the endeavour to remove all kinds of discrimination from our lives, our country, our world. Clearly, this is a massive mountain to climb. We will start small, we may even stay small, but the work we will do will be intelligent, focussed, uncompromising, and full of love. ”

THE FOUNDATION



www.thefoundation.in