

Cornell kids deconstruct Parikrma model

Pavan.MV@timesgroup.com

Bengaluru: A city-based non-profit organization's model of imparting education to poor children has got global attention.

A group of 32 students of Samuel Curtis Johnson Graduate School of Management, Cor-

POOR KIDS BENEFIT

nell University came from New York to study the Parikrma Humanity Foundation (PHF), which has been providing free education to poor children in different parts of the city since 2003. Their case study is now available for students at the university.

With the objective of implementing the PHF education model in other countries, these students analysed its four schools and a junior college which educate around 1,600 students.



LESSONS IN QUALITY EDUCATION: Bengaluru-based Parikrma Humanity Foundation offers free education to slum children and orphans

The study showed how this NPO helps students from Day 1 and even after they finish schooling. Many children residing in slums cannot even afford to go to a government school. PHF admits only children whose fami-

ly income is less than Rs 3,000 per month and its officials visit their homes to verify the right kids get admission. The management students talked about how PHF founder Shukla Bose came up with the idea of an in-

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novative method to provide free education for low-income kids when she was chatting with friends at her kitchen table. The study highlights how Parikrma's model is different from that of other NPOs – it arranges full scholarships in higher education.

Alcoholic and abusive parents and low income are the main reasons why these kids don't go to school. The management students showed how PHF curbs this problem. It has linked education with community development service (CDS). The CDS team in Parikrma helps entrepreneurial mothers with vocational training in tailoring and cosmetology.

The university students pointed out that PHF provides breakfast, lunch supplied by Akshaya Patra and a protein-malted milk drink at the end of the school day which helps kids focus better in the classroom.

Differentiation in Education

The study focused on Parikrma's classroom instruction method as it follows 'Differentiation in Education', a technique which ensures that in a classroom of 30 students, different speeds of learning are accounted for and makes sure that the material and format is engaging for all students.

The study shows that PHF is in good shape in terms of revenue and cost. Typically, more funds are raised each year than expended, and resources are then placed in a corpus for future use and investment.

“Of the 32 students, two conducted the survey and the others assisted them. They wanted to implement the Parikrma model of education in countries like Mexico and Bangladesh. Recently, we started the education transformation centre for government school teachers

Shukla Bose | FOUNDER, PHF



WHO IS SHUKLA BOSE

She has 28-year experience in the hospitality industry and was a managing director of a private company for 11 years. She won India's Women Entrepreneur of the Year in 1995 and Woman of the Year in 2000.