



## Parikrma Humanity Foundation

**A**n alumna of Jadavpur University and IIM-Calcutta, **Shukla Bose** quit a high-flying 26-year corporate career (Oberoi Hotels, Dalmia Resorts and Resort Condominium of India) to promote the Parikrma Humanity Foundation (PHF) in 2003. From a single school with 165 children in 2003, the foundation has grown to four free-of-charge English-medium K-12 schools and a junior college schooling 1,700 children attracted from four orphanages and 70 slums of Bangalore.

*Summiya Yasmeen* interviewed Shukla Bose.

### **What was the motivation behind the promotion of PHF?**

After 26 years in the corporate world, I was unfulfilled. As a student while working as a volunteer with Mother Teresa at the Missionaries of Charity for seven years I became aware of the huge social and education inequities that hold our country back. I quit my corporate job in 2000 and accepted the position of CEO of a large multinational NGO (Christel House). After working there for four years, I realised that I preferred to do something more grounded and less bureaucratic. In 2003 I registered PHF.

### **What are the prime objectives of PHF?**

The prime objective of Parikrma is to provide children from economically weak households high-quality education to enable them to rise into the middle class and become global citizens. Therefore, we provide our children English-medium CBSE education while also schooling them in secular ethics and citizenship values.

### **What are the foundation's major initiatives?**

Parikrma has promoted four schools, one junior college and an Education Transformation Centre where we train teachers of over 200 government schools. Under this 360 degree education model, our teachers not only teach in interesting ways but ensure our children are provided adequate nutrition — three meals in school — and health-care from immunization to hospitalization to enable them to learn to their full potential. After Parikrma students complete Plus Two, we also fund their higher studies and help them find employment.

### **What are your future plans?**

Our latest initiative — the Parikrma Education Transformation Centre, promoted in 2014 — has already trained 1,643 teachers and 80 headmasters of 200 government schools. This programme is working well and we are planning to expand it. We are also looking at helping government schools in Maharashtra later this year.