

# eVidyaloka To Educate - Anywhere Anytime

## E-CONNECT

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### ROBOTICS WORKSHOP IN CHITTELA

#### **OPERATIONS UPDATE**

#### From The Editor's Desk

In response to a globalizing world that requires high technological literacy, our evidyaloka team, in collaboration with Mr. Seemakurthy Hupesh, conducted Workshop in Chittela, Andhra Pradesh. The purpose of this workshop was to provide the basics of robotics and how digital technologies can enhance student learning. While this has helped in improving rural community life, opportunities like these help in correlating classroom practices, technology and culture and to their implementation in proposing new alternatives, which on the other part bridge the gap between current rural, and urban education. The workshop gave a brief insight on what a robot is, its advantages and applications, how to build the robots and what factors to be considered while building them.

Students of grade 7 and 8 participated in this workshop. Hupesh, organizer of this Workshop says "I have seen many students from government schools having good talent but that they seldom have sufficient funds to learn advanced technologies like robotics so I thought of encouraging them by sharing the knowledge that I have and with the hope that this kind of education will increase the number of children enrolling in government schools. There are many people who are sending their kids to private schools because there are sub-standard facilities in a government school. When we offer the same quality of education and the same resources to the children of a Government school, it reduces the financial burden on parents, as they can send kids to government schools and be rid of high fees."

The students started with an almost non-existent knowledge base and most of them had never even heard about robots, but at the end of the workshop they were able to develop their knowledge concerning Robots, with each one of them actively participating.

The young participants gained unique skills and experience in the most excited and effervescent manner. This is due in large part to the volunteers who are quite passionately taking time out of their busy schedules to reach out to these children.

We hope that as the program expands and develops, we can conduct such workshops all across rural Andhra Pradesh and implement the same in other state projects as well. These kind of workshops bring learning opportunities to children especially of a kind that these disadvantaged students would otherwise not have had. These children can now thrive with the access to high quality education, creative methodologies of learning and innovative computational training.

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The most important ongoing activity at evidyaloka is on the shoulders of operations team. The purpose of team is to ensure the constant deployment of teachers and admins at the right places, monitoring them, allotting classes according to the availability of both children and teachers, maintaining and keeping a track of all the teachers, and being a one point of contact for all involved parties of an entire state. The roles and responsibilities of operation team are well-defined, and they are conducted exceptionally.

In the month of November a total of 1474 classes were conducted across all the centers of evidyaloka. Despite the festive season in Jharkhand, which is generally a severe downer in the context of classes being conducted in the state due to various issues involving on ground volunteers and attendance of children, 52.7 per cent of classes were successfully held.



#### **VOLUNTEERS CORNER**

We are immensely pleased to observe the constant enthusiasm displayed by our volunteers in teaching the children in their responsibility. We are pleased to note, that some volunteers have taken up the quite daunting task of handling multiple classes, sometimes in multiple states. These inspired people deserve our utmost commendation for their efforts.

However, these efforts would be for naught if not for the astute willingness of the target audience, the children, to inculcate what is being taught. It is our pleasure to announce that these students have shown great interest, and have been making exemplary progress in learning the content of their respective subjects. Their actions fill us with motivation to continue on our mission provide rural children with digital education.

Further, despite progress being made on both sides, we feel that we can reach more children in a more effective manner, and also ease stress on our volunteers who have taken up multiple classes of children in the State of Karnataka, which is the branch of our project with the most number of schools needing assistance. This, however, can only be achieved by a larger number of Kannada speaking volunteers signing up for our project here in Karnataka. We would hereby like to appeal to any person capable of speaking and teaching in Kannada and with a passion for teaching, to assist us in our pursuit, and benefit rural children who lack competent teachers in their schools. Two hours of your time in a week, can truly make a difference.