

ANNUAL REPORT

2024-2025



WHITE LOTUS



Dear White Lotus community,

As we look back on 2024–25, we do so with deep gratitude and a sense of quiet pride. This has been a year of consolidation and momentum—of programs maturing, partnerships deepening, and young lives shifting onto more hopeful trajectories. None of this would have been possible without your steadfast belief in the power of education, opportunity, and care.

Across several states of India, White Lotus Trust has continued to expand both the reach and the depth of its work—touching thousands of children, youth, and families, and strengthening the ecosystems that support them. What follows is a snapshot of that shared journey.

This year, we significantly scaled our impact through strategic partnerships with government schools in Delhi, Haryana, and Jharkhand. Through large-scale career counselling seminars, university scholarship pathways, and both basic and advanced digital literacy training, we reached thousands of young people from low-income communities.

Our focus has been clear: helping youth make informed education and career choices aligned with their individual capabilities, while equipping them with practical, employment-oriented skills.

Our after-school “learn through play” programs once again proved that joy and learning belong together. By blending academic reinforcement with creativity, music, art, and play, we supported nearly a thousand children from families of smallholder farmers and daily wage laborers.

Our Rohini education hub continues to serve as a vital community space, providing youth meaningful opportunities for voluntarism and engaging parents and families through education, health, safety, and cultural events.

In 2024, our long-running Blossom Bus and Lotus Pedals programs—now in their 15th year—continued to quietly transform lives by enabling safe access to education for 600 girls



For the third consecutive year, White Lotus Trust supported football tournaments for 360 young tribal girls in rural Jharkhand, fostering confidence, teamwork, and community pride. Our digital literacy centers in Jharkhand trained 640 young women, while a new IT facility in Delhi expanded access to employment-linked technology training.

We have done a lot and there is always so much more to do. Thank you for standing with White Lotus Trust. Your continued support makes this work possible and ensures that hope, opportunity, and dignity reach those who need it most.

With gratitude,

The White Lotus Trust Team

Women's empowerment through education, training and advocacy

- Girls access to education
- Tertiary scholarships
- Buses and Bikes for better education outcomes
- Bridging digital divides thru employment targetted computer training
- Getting youth on course for a bright future thru career counselling
- Community outreach through social development advocacy
- Afterschool education and care for elementary age children
- Young women's football tournaments, raising the voice and self esteem of young women in their communities through sport.

WHITE LOTUS TRUST PROGRAMME FUNDA'S

White Lotus Trust and our partners offer a range of Education, Training and Health (CARE) strategies arranged in verticals to serve the particular needs of women and children living in poverty. For instance, a bike or a bus will ensure children living remotely attend classes while school-based nutrition frees up parents to engage in livelihood activities. After school programs ensure children get academic support to keep on top of their studies. A basic high school education may not be enough to ensure a young graduate get a good job. If we give her a university degree, career counseling, a computer and employment targeted training diplomas, her chances of reaching her full potential multiply considerably in terms of supporting herself and her family over the course of a lifetime.

**Education Training and Care =
Multidimensional strategies for
sustainable empowerment**



**LOTUS
PEDALS**



**COMPUTER
TRAINING**



**SCHOOL
NUTRITION**



**BLOSSOM
BUS**



**CAREER
COUNSELLING**



**COMMUNITY
WATER
RESOURCES**

EDUCATION + TRAINING + CARE BUILD EMPOWERMENT



Access to Education

Access to education through provision of transport whether on a bus or a bicycle is a huge change agent in the lives of girls that would simply not have any option other than to become homemakers after finishing school at primary or elementary level.

BLOSSOM BUS



★ 547

Served - 436 young women at Haryana and 111 children at Garden of Peace School. 38 young women from remote rural areas provided daily transport to College .

The service ensured 547 children remained in school with regular attendance, benefited from guidance and encouragement from personal mentors, contributed to ongoing positive behavioural change in rural families from traditional and gender wise conservative communities to support their girls in reaching the highest professional goals and provided 111 village children with educational and mind expanding excursions to museums, libraries and historical monuments. 38 young women from remote rural areas provided daily transport to College .



Lotus Pedals serving female youth living remotely from schools and learning centers

Lotus Pedals continues to be a game changer for young women living remotely, providing them access to schools, colleges and centers of further education such as our computer training and career counselling programs for instance.

Lotus Pedals in 2024 – 150 bikes provided!!

Each and every bike is a means for a girl and open including a sibling or friend, to reach school at all, on time and every day. India – 150 Bikes with pumps provided to girls, tribal youth having to ride up to 20kms and further to reach schools and learning centres.





Transport for education serving 1295 young women living remotely



436 female youth at Haryana and an even mix of 111 girls and boys at garden of peace school in Tamil Nadu, are provided daily transport to school from some 23 villages at Haryana/Rajasthan and 15 villages at Tamil Nadu.



Lower drop out rates after grade 9, evidence of ripple effect of high numbers of girls in higher education. Government starting to provide buses for the first time ever!!



Higher education for girls, access to stem and computer studies translate to expanded ambitions for professions among female youth impacting on gender equations.

KAPADIA EDUCATION FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS



★ 98 Scholars

98 scholars were provided annual fees, educational materials, text books and such for a total of 98 KEF scholars made up of a mixture of new and continuing students in the current year.

31 students graduated!! 49 new students added, 17 students from batch 2021 and 32 students from 2022 for an overall total of 109 students for 2023-2024.



895 Children

served in our after-School Programs



Buddha Smiles 696 children in 18 centres

45 children of day labor served in 12 afterschool

While many Lotus Outreach programs are now centred on higher education and which is the need of the hour for developing countries to go forward, there is still a great deal to do at elementary school level. Many students from poor families of illiterate parents don't have help with their homework, get lost at the back of class room and drop out in the first years of secondary school. Further, their parents are working from early morning till evening so we also provide a daycare function for their children ensuring their safety in a stimulating and engaging environment.



Reflecting on White Lotus as a Community builder

There is nothing more satisfying than while developing critical education resources for young people, we end up supporting a community that is so much more than the sum of its parts. Many White Lotus Trust education initiatives have been running for more than 10 and up to 20 years serving children and youth through the entire life cycle of their education.

Our Lotus **Education** Hubs in Delhi and Jharkhand have served more than a thousand youth (mostly girls) from slum and extremely low-income families and remote tribal villages providing them not only with various education resources and employment to boot. Our education Hubs are warm, secure and safe places where our youth will always feel at home, make life-long friends and have people they can depend on for good advice and encouragement, where someone will always be there to answer their questions and open doors and windows leading to better lives. There is nothing more uplifting than feeling the hum and thrum of young people working and interacting in a reading library, computer room and counselling session ALL in the same place at the same time!!

Promoting tribal girls in sports

Soccer and annual tournaments



In 2024 and for the third year running, Lotus Outreach funded a three day football (soccer) play off' with 360 young tribal girl participating in a full kit of boots n socks n shorts n tops. the ground near our education hub now has a smooth grass pitch with solid steel, netted goal posts. Officials from District level ensure the highest level of competition in front of an excellent local crowd keen to see the girls compete and take the coveted cash prizes shared between all players of the winning sides.





Access to (care) water, health, nutrition & sports

Lack of health services and knowledge of basic hygiene leads to many social ills and impacts on education and livelihood outcomes. Our CARE programs include Village based community water programs for drinking and irrigation for better livelihood outcomes, provision of nutrition for school children, soccer coaching, cleated boots, full uniform kits and an annual three day tournament of sudden-death playoff matches.

BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE



- Essentially, youth from low-income families wishing to advance socially and economically must have access to computer and information technology. Unfortunately, even in 2024, huge numbers of Indian youth from low-income sectors do not access to a computer at home and must therefore pay for access and which is not affordable for them.
- Oxfam's India Inequality report 2022 is clear evidence reveals the extent of a continuing digital divide in India stating that "some 70% of people from among the poorest 20 percent of households, only 2.7 percent have access to a computer and 8.9 percent to internet facilities.
- In 2024 we provided a whopping 640 girls with either the basic 6 month or the advanced 9 month training course and additionally enrolled 28 students in 3 month certificate courses in partnership with the National Institute of Information Technology, providing nationally recognised computer and IT based courses with access to at least 3 real job opportunities with NIIT's corporate and government partners.



Opening a new computer centre at the Education hub delhi

- In addition to our many projects at our Community Education Hub in Delhi, we've now added a refurbished 2nd floor as a dedicated computer centre with twenty computer workstations and with lots of extra room for community events.
- Students enrolled in NIIT courses will have access to computers at set times 6 days a week in accord with the NIIT course outline.
- TSO Career counselling and drop in students will be next in line for access on an as and when the terminals are available.
- The facility will provide qualified staff to assist and accelerate student progress.



1303 Scholars receive career and further education counselling across two states of India

The program at Jharkhand provides counselling to college and high school students as well as a lot of village community outreach, while at Delhi the outreach is to local schools and government departments related to child protection.

- A total of 60 girls are currently engaged in competitive exam preparation.
- A total of 350 students across different schools have received career counselling sessions.
- A total of 250 students and parents from different hamlets across 10 project villages, including some remote areas with high dropout rates, have participated in career counselling sessions.
- 660 youth served at Jharkhand.



Career Counselling and community outreach, Delhi and Haryana projects

At Rohini, NW Delhi, from April 2024 to January 2025 we provided life changing support through a combination of assessments, individual counseling sessions, group career counseling workshops, and ongoing guidance, to 643 students from poor families, studying in local schools, classes 8 through J2 as well as College students in Delhi programs and Blossom Bus girls at Haryana, enabling them and choose subjects and courses leading to further education and career paths suitable to their capabilities and keeping in mind:

Career counseling can reduce dropout rates by up to 30%, according to the National Education Policy 2020.

90% of 72th-grade students were unaware of the Common University Entrance test and which is now essential for securing admission to regular colleges.

45% of children from low-income families drop out of school early due to financial pressure and lack of parental guidance (ASER Report, 2023).



Education Hub and community Center

★ 643 Served

Daily attendance at Delhi Hub includes; youth for general counselling (with Rakesh a UCLA accredited counsellor) and competitive examination preparation, access to our library and internet browsing. Attendance is also taken for various youth centric events celebrated at the Hub.

★ 660 Served

This project provides intensive study to 60 young women to prepare for competitive examinations (with Gaurav, again a UCLA accredited counsellor) to qualify for specific employment outcomes. 320 village girls and school going children from 8-12 grade received guidance to develop informed further education and career path choices.



AFTER SCHOOL CENTRES

★ 308

308 children served in 12 centres. 2,663 cumulatively since 2017 The project an smoothly with many community services and interventions in collaboration with government departments added: highly participated in special programs for child protection, self-defence, sports and art fairs

BUDDHA SHINES

★ 696

Expanded from 15 to 18 centres, latest three of which are coordinating centres serving high school girls and boys with very highly qualified teachers, MA chemistry, PHD physics etc. 590 students served in 15 centres and 106 in the three study centres.





School Based Meal Program

School Meals Program – 204 (200,000 meals)

More than 200,000 meals provided to 204 children and 15 teachers over the course of one school year. Students and teachers receive morning porridge, a full lunch of rice, pulses and vegetables and an afternoon snack, 6 days a week for 9 months of the school year.

Building on last year's successful introduction, in 2024 we expanded the school nutrition program to include a nutritious morning meal for 35 children from especially vulnerable families and 5 staff.

Since their families are not able to provide them regular breakfast at home the morning meal helps them stay focussed and energised throughout the school day

We would like to extend this program to all students in the upcoming academic year, to ensure that no child starts the day on an empty stomach.

One of Our many Success Stories

Shivangi, a talented and confident girl, faced a lot of pressure from her family to leave school after completing her 12th grade. Her parents, struggling with money, thought it would be better if she started working to help with the family's financial problems. However, after a career counselling session, her parents realized the value of education and how it could bring long-term stability to their family. With her dreams in mind, we advised her to take the CUET examination and apply to the Indian Institute of Mass Communication, Odisha (IIMC), one of the best colleges for Journalism. Shivangi worked hard, and despite the difficulties, she was able to secure a place in her dream college. Her journey shows how determination and the right guidance can help anyone overcome struggles and achieve success.



A BIG THANKYOU TO OUR PRECIOUS DONORS AND PARTNERS

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THANK YOU FOR BEING PART OF WHITE LOTUS TRUST COMMUNITY



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