

# Educational and Vocational Projects to start in Hardoi

**The Trust has committed £1.22 million to two new projects in Hardoi, Uttar Pradesh**

During March, The Trust signed two new grant agreements, one for £953,523 with The Open University (OU) UK to support the professional development of Secondary Science and English teachers of Classes 9 to 12 in all 377 Secondary schools in Hardoi. Based upon the OU's award-winning English in Action programme in Bangladesh, this 15-month grant for Phase One of the project aims to improve teachers' classroom practices through school-based face-to-face training, and to provide low-cost audio-visual teaching materials. It will also improve students' understanding of topics taught, help them prepare for exams more effectively and achieve better grades.

The second grant agreement is for £261,808 with Better Education Through Innovation, a Lucknow-based NGO, to fund vocational training for 3,000 beneficiaries over three years in Hardoi. The goal is to build the job skills of young people to help them find employment and earn a living. Up to eleven trades will be taught including embroidery, agro-processing, automobile mechanics, welding, carpentry and computer hardware repairs. All beneficiaries will receive training in business development, accounting and inventory management skills, and 1,350 will also receive educational coaching to enrol in Class 8 and complete their secondary education through regular and open schooling.

During April, the OU team will visit India to develop a detailed implementation plan and meet with key stakeholders including District and State Education Officials, District Education Institutes, School Principals, the education consultancy firm, IGNUS and Kusuma Foundation.

## HARDOI FACTS

- Literacy rate: 52%
- Number of Secondary Schools: 377
- Number of teachers at secondary level: 194
- Pupil-teacher ratio at secondary level: 1:87
- Girls' enrolment rate at secondary level: 58%



A student in a Sanskrit lesson at the Sarvodaya Ashram, Hardoi, Uttar Pradesh. Photo: Sam Strickland



“Regular guidance from the scholarship programme gave me confidence and motivation to perform better at my studies and continue my education. When I graduate in 2014, I plan to take a position in a good hospital so I will have the opportunity to serve my community.”

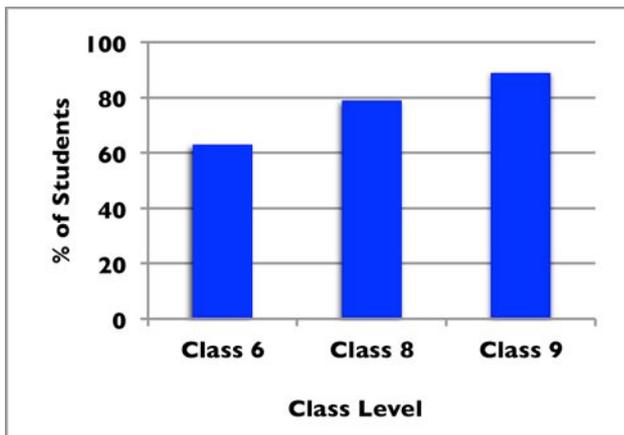
Jeejula Saikrishna, Kusuma Young Achiever Award student, studying a Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Nandamuri Traka Ramarao University, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh.



Saarathi Training on the Probation of Offenders Act 1958 in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh  
Photo: Sadhana

### Hardoi students excel in school

The March evaluation of **Udaan**\* and **Pehchaan**\* students at Sarvodaya Ashram in Hardoi, Uttar Pradesh has produced very positive results. Of the 77 Udaan students studying for Class 4, 83 per cent achieved A grades and 17 per cent achieved B grades in English, Mathematics, Hindi, Sanskrit and Environmental Studies. Pehchaan students studying for Classes 6, 8 and 9 achieved high marks too, as shown below.



The graph above shows the percentage of Pehchaan students scoring 70 per cent and above in monthly evaluations

\*Udaan and Pehchaan are accelerated residential learning programmes for girls aged 8 to 15 years who have never attended or dropped out of school.

### Saarathi training extended

On 14 and 16 March, Mr. Kismat Kumar, Director of the Juvenile Welfare Department (JWD), Mr. David Raj, Manager of the State Monitoring Unit for Women and Child Development and senior staff from the JWD met in Hyderabad to develop new training events for government personnel working with children at-risk. These will include a State-level workshop for the Special Juvenile Police Unit, Child Welfare Committee and Juvenile Justice Board social workers, a National-level workshop on developing partnerships to improve the rescue and rehabilitation of street and missing children, and training for 80 Juvenile Home Superintendents, Deputy Superintendents, Case Workers and Regional Inspectors of Probation.

### Andhra Pradesh students focus on science

On 17 March, 35 **Kusuma Young Achiever Award** students participated in a State-wide exhibition on science innovation in Hanamkonda, Andhra Pradesh. In addition to using android tablets and personal computers, the students learned how low cost science models could be used to harness energy, including solar energy for cooking and micro-irrigation, and bicycle power for running washing machines and ploughing fields.

On 24 March, Mr. Susinder Rao, Project Officer of the government’s Rajiv Vidya Mission, formally launched the **Mobile Science Laboratory** (MSL) Telugu manuals at the Mission’s office in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh. Mr. Rao acknowledged the efforts of Project 511 Roundtable 8 Charitable Trust in producing the manuals and requested that they be translated into English and Urdu. In April, Project 511 will award dictionaries to 445 students who scored between 70 and 90 per cent in science subjects from 80 Hyderabad secondary schools in recognition of their academic achievements.

“We will provide all the support we can to help our daughter complete her higher education studies and find a job. We believe that is the priority for both her and her sister more than marriage.”



Mahendra and Mailhali Nag, parents of Deeptimayee, Kusuma Ratna Fellowship Student, studying Class 12 at Dhama College, Sambalpur, Orissa.