



OUR TRIBUTE TO THE EXTRAORDINARY  
CONTRIBUTION OF AN EDUCATOR  
IN A CHILD'S LIFE!

# EDUCATORS' CONCLAVE

DATE: 19 OCTOBER, 2019  
TIME: 9.30AM TO 5 PM  
VENUE: ANVAYA CONVENTION CENTRE,  
GACHIBOWLI, HYDERABAD



**The Shri Ram  
Universal School**

**SHRI  
EDUCARE**

## Report on the proceedings of the Educators' Conclave

### SUMMARY



'Aacharya Devo Bhava' a mega project initiated by The Shri Ram Universal School, Hyderabad, is a tribute to extraordinary contribution of educator in a child's life.

As a part of the project, 'Educators' Conclave' was organised on Saturday, 19 October in Hyderabad, Telangana.

India has had a time-honoured tradition of holding teachers in great regard. Teaching as a profession has transformed through ages and while it is paramount to keep up with changing times, it is also substantial to withhold the honor of the profession. Team TSUS through this initiative aims to bring back the valued & honored approach towards Educators' contribution in a child's life and to society at large.

Now, at a time when educators are courageously raising the bar for student achievement higher than ever before, the role of an educator has never been more critical to the success of our children and to the prosperity of our nation. It is crucial to highlight the scale of impact made by an educator, channelise quality talent and uphold integrity of the teaching profession.

The percentage of young generation opting for teaching as a career option is coming down. We need to ask ourselves why the brightest of our young people view teaching as a last-resort career option. India currently faces a shortage of over 12 lakhs (1.2 million) teachers, according to estimates by the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

At this juncture where our education world is undergoing a positive facelift with new innovative teaching-learning methods, it is equally important for an educator to prepare themselves for a dynamic education ecosystem.

The Educators' Conclave focused on thought-provoking and pivotal discussions about the noble profession. Eminent personalities across India addressed the audience.

The audience included members of school managements, eminent personalities from the education sector, bureaucrats, policy makers and passionate educators.

It is worth recalling the words of Lee Iacocca, the legendary former CEO of Chrysler, who said, "In a completely rational society, the best of us would be teachers and the rest of us would have to settle for something less, because passing civilization along from one generation to the next ought to be the highest honour and the highest responsibility anyone could have."

### PROCEEDINGS AND KEY TAKE AWAY

#### SESSION WISE PROCEEDINGS

**Inaugural Session:** The session began with the lighting of the lamp, followed by the recital of Guru Ashtakam by the Shri Educators.





## Welcome Address:

**Dr. Jyothi Reddy**

**Founder Principal**

**The Shri Ram Universal School, Hyderabad**

Dr. Jyothi Reddy began her address in her customary style of appreciating and thanking teachers and staff for their efforts to bring to fruition the 'Acharya Devo Bhava – Educators' Conclave'. Finding resonance in our Late. President Abdul Kalam's statement that 'Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world', she said, true education must correspond to surrounding circumstances for it to serve a meaningful purpose. Promising everyone present at the conclave an enriching experience, Dr. Jyothi expressed, how humbling and honoured she felt to be among some of the brightest minds of the nation. She asserted that educators had a moral duty of preparing the future generation of India to stand tall and at par with their counterparts around the world.



It was Dr. Jyothi Reddy's dream coming alive, to bring people of great stature and numerous stakeholders under one roof, discussing prevailing trends in the current education scenario.

The Educators' Conclave - Acharya Devo Bhava, a seed that was sown would now germinate and eventually grow into a tree. A series of meaningful conversations and few unanswered questions in her mind solidified the purpose of the conclave. Questions such as:

- Why have recruiting, training and retaining quality teachers become a struggle for schools?
- Does the current generation willingly opt for teaching as a preferred career choice?

- Do teachers take pride and feel respected, at par with their counterparts from other professions?
- What was the dream that Kalam and Gandhi nurtured for the youth of our nation?
- Are we able to achieve their dream as members of the noble fraternity?
- How many of us count the innumerable things that teachers do before finding the gaps in what they do and think about supporting them?

While making lame remarks, it should be realized that teachers too have families, growing children, perhaps a sick family member, social obligations and personal life as well. Dr. Jyothi Reddy emphasized the need for teachers to reflect and introspect regularly while keeping themselves abreast of the myriad changes taking place in the education sector. She posed a thought-provoking question on the impact of technology and Artificial Intelligence on the current generation of teachers and whether or not they were equipped to be future-ready. Another question directed was for school leaders and policymakers on their efforts to bring a paradigm shift in the education scenario.



Acharya Devo Bhava, an year-long project was designed to touch some facets of our life thereby raising awareness about the teaching profession and helping regain its lost sheen. This initiative aimed to involve all members of the society to reiterate the faith in the most revered 'Guru-Shishya' bond. There was an overwhelming response from the parents to share heartwarming gratitude stories about the teachers who have crossed their paths. A good number of parents participated in writing essays on the topic, 'Role of parents in inculcating the value - Acharya Devo Bhava'. Our Shriites, surprised their teachers as they paid warm tribute to them by





presenting a heart touching song adapted, sung and visually presented in the form of a video on Teacher's Day.

She shared the details of various events that are planned in sync with the theme, 'Acharya Devo Bhava' where the students will also share their perspectives going forward. She launched the Shri Utsav mega Inter-school fest which will continue to throw light on the subject.

In conclusion, Dr. Jyothi Reddy recited a Shloka the meaning of which is, 'Education gives humility, humility gives character, from character one gets wealth, from wealth one gets righteousness, in righteousness, there is joy, happiness, so character, personality, make a lot of difference in the society, not just in the personal life of a human being'.

### **Educators' Conclave**

**After Principal's welcome address the success story of Acharya Devo Bhava was shared through a visual display of how the planning for the programme was done.**

**Address by Luminary Guest of Honour - Ms. Manika Sharma, Director, The Shri Ram Schools, Delhi**

Ms. Manika, referring to Atithi Devo Bhava, reiterated the fact that open and honest forums are the need of the hour. She believed that education is a field of passion not a profession. Teachers are like doctors on a 24X7 duty with a magical healing touch. She shared her views that everyone stepping into the school should be happy. She recalled that the first Shriram school started in the year 1988, with the belief in the child's innate ability and the need for a space for them to grow. A school is a place about love, compassion and learning. All decisions are child centric at The Shri Ram Schools.



She contemplated the following:

- Knowledge pouring is easy but educators need something way beyond this basic premise.
- Conversing makes the children have a shorter learning curve.
- Shri Ram is treading the road less travelled by giving a completely inclusive environment to students with different abilities. It celebrates each child come what may without instilling the spirit of competition. It helps each child blossom and stand tall in society. To make them adept global citizens who have a high moral compass and are resolute in holistic education. The Shri Ram Schools is the bedrock of values, environment consciousness and inclusiveness.

She concluded by symbolising teachers with sculptors. She quoted Khalil Gibran in this context:

"You are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth".

**Address by Guest of Honour  
Ms. Uttara Singh, Director,  
The Shriram Millennium School, Gurugram**



Ms. Uttara Singh began her speech by describing that Hyderabad looked very bright and magical because of the Educator's Conclave that TSUS, Hyderabad has taken up. She appreciated the efforts and the thought behind the programme. She further expressed that it would be great if the purpose behind the conclave is met. She began by taking the audience through the ten years of the Shri Ram Millennium School in Noida. The speaker while displaying the photographs of the schools, explained how the magic happen in the classrooms. According to





Ms. Singh, The Shriram Schools gave the gurus the due. The Core values are lived in the The Shri Ram Schools. The Speaker summed up that the success of The Shri Ram Millennium School as

Happy Children  
Happy Teachers  
Happy Parents  
Happy Didis and Happy Bhaiyas!

Ms. Singh truly believed that the more we share, the more we feel happy. Since the children have a heart of gold, we must compliment them. She believed in Crowd Funding. The speaker concluded by leaving the audience with the thought, "Let's work from within".

#### **Vote of Thanks**

**Ms Meera Sahni,**  
**Academic Head, The Shri Ram Universal School,**  
**Hyderabad**



Ms. Meera Sahni thanked all the distinguished guests, speakers, principals and teachers participating from various schools, sponsors of the event, Directors of The Shri Ram Universal School, Ms. Sindhura Indukuri & Aishwarya Kurra, Principal, Dr. Jyothi Reddy, Head-Operations, Ms Nisha Chander, and all the Admin Colleagues who helped the wheel roll. Ms. Sahni said, "Feeling the gratitude and not speaking about it is like giving a gift without wrapping it".

#### **Keynote Speaker 1**

**PS Dr. YS. Rajan, Honorary Distinguished Professor,**  
**ISRO**

**Topic - 'Kalam's Educational Philosophy - Today's Relevance'**



Dr. Y.S. Rajan emphasized the importance of elementary school teachers. Their work is of utmost importance. They need to get their hands dirty with mud to unleash the potential of students. As he preached life to be a bell curve rather than a smooth-running, he credited the teacher with the important responsibility to discover and evaluate the child. He quoted examples of Abdul Kalam's conversation with his wife who was an elementary teacher.

Also, he brought to limelight the fact that the child is above technology. Natural intelligence is way above an artificial one.

#### **Key note Speaker 2:**

**Mr. Naga Prasad Tummala, Chairman, People Combine Group**

**Topic - 'School Leaders Mindset - Thought Leadership - Teacher Empowerment**

Mr Tummala believed that any organisation to be successful requires a perpetual structure to move on and to get it liberated. He emphasised that all of us are leaders. Most of the times we wait to look for role clarity in our respective roles. The speaker moved forward with the question. "Who is the leader?" According to him, anyone who can influence others to become better is a leader. He believed that one needs to be a leader by choice and not by designation.

When we are a leader by choice, the leader's responsibility is to create value. He interlinked the dependence of the individual to the success of the team and thereby, leading to the success of the organization. The philosophy of the organisation is also very important. It needs to be very transparent and consistent. According to him, we start an organisation to create value for its stakeholders. In the process, it is important to keep up the values. For the speaker, the three most important things are - People, Principles and Product.





He believed that salary and fee were not the most important points in creating this value. He expressed, we need to involve teachers in the decisions and it is in this process that the goals are understood. According to the speaker, teachers are utopians and cannot understand numbers. Hence, we need to work around emotions and language with educators.

The speaker strongly believed that the teacher should be considered as the captain. So, we need to provide the resources to deliver the best in the classroom. He believed in reducing the load of the teacher. A secure environment needs to be created. The leader should trust not only what their teachers do in class but also their commitment to work.

The speaker also believed that it is the leader's responsibility to provide a stress-free environment. Though sometimes mundane work dominates the actual work, he believed that technology can substitute this monotony. A leader's job is to make everyone perform the best. For this, parents' partnership is essential and crucial. They are the potential cooperators in bringing about success to the institution. He concluded by saying that the central focus of the school leaders should be in the partnership of the parents, students, and teachers.

## PANEL DISCUSSION 1:

### Parent Partnership in Schools

<b>Moderator</b>	<b>Ms. SEETA MURTHY</b> Director Education, Silver Oaks International Schools, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Vishakhapatnam
<b>Panelists</b>	<b>Ms. MANIKA SHARMA</b> Director, The Shri Ram Schools, New Delhi
	<b>Ms. BEENA K THAMBI</b> Dean, Academics, Siddhartha Group of Institutions, Kerala

<b>Panelists</b>	<b>Mr. ANIL KOLLI</b> Director, Samaika Educations.
	<b>Dr. Chandrashekar D P</b> CEO, JGI Schools



### Parent Partnership in Schools

The discussion was moderated by Ms Seetha Murthy. She set the context by putting forth the question as to how a harmonious environment can be created with parents. She further explored the challenges in partnership with parents.

She unveiled the immense potential of parents in the school. For this, she put into relevance the recent strike by bus drivers citing that the students and parents should have voiced their concern.

Ms. Manika Sharma: She commenced her views with the mission statement of The Shri Ram School 'Belief in parents as partners'. She expressed, that the school and the parents, can make the magic happen. So mutual faith and trust happen to be the guiding mantra. She reckoned that there should be a parent body, to involve them in active decision making and leave nothing concealed.

Mr. Anil: He articulated that if a child is only educated in school, then he/she is not educated at all. According to the Indian belief system, the mother, the father, as well as the teacher, equally share the same pedestal not less than God.

He shared his humble education background wherein his mother was uneducated and monitored his home-work. Parents were never invited to school and there was no relation between parents and teachers. However, he imbibed by observing his parents. They were his epitomes of high morals and good values. Nowadays, a



child's time is equally divided at home and school. Parents seldom have experience in varied parenting styles. So, schools can play a pivotal role in guiding the parents as to how they can make maximum utilisation of their time with children. This is essential for homogeneous learning between school and home.

Ms. Seeta : Proposed the use of friendly , reflective methods of parenting. As schools closely observe students, they should share their observations with the parents.

Ms. Thambi: Proposed a beautiful partnership between parents and teachers. There should be an Open-Door Policy wherein there should be a stipulated time for parents to meet the Principal and teachers.

The school leader should be able to absorb the problems articulated.

The 3 pillars of partnership being (3R's) :

- Respect – That of a mutual one.
- Responsibility – Given to the parents to make them happy
- Relationship – Should be such that parents feel warm, happy and belonged

She further illuminated us with the example of the Siddhartha Group. A beautiful 14-foot statue stands as the world's tallest due to the hard work and vision of the parents backed by supportive management.

Mr. Chandra: He was realistic in his approach of the relationship, saying there are bound to be differences between parents and the school along with trust and respect.

The important point being whether those differences were arising out of issues or relations.

If it is out of issues, then it's the best thing to happen for a school since it would churn out the best out of the 'manthan'.

However, if it is out of relation, then it is the end of the road.

He suggested to channelise the differences towards issues rather than relations. That way, we can get the best from multiple brains involved, after all, 'Multiple heads are better than one'.

So, the best approach should be of an open door and an open mind.

Ms. Seetha : The moderator concluded by probing on how parents choose a school for their wards. Based on online reviews, they are easily swooped by the likes and dislikes of the masses. Clarity regarding the underlying reason for admitting to a particular school leads to more meaningful choices and fruitful decisions.

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER 3

**Dr. A. Senthil Kumaran, Chief Confluencer, The Learners Confluence**

**Topic - 'Emerging Trends in Education - Insight on National Education Policy 2019'**



**Dr. A. Senthil Kumaran** spoke about the emerging trends in the Draft National Education Policy (DNEP). The speaker mentioned that the Gurukul system followed a learning process, it was self-reliant, it enabled the students to be prepared for life and Guru was the ultimate. According to him, the DNEP is based on the Ethos of the Gurukul system.

Senthil explained that according to the DNEP, the child will get to decide what subjects he/she wants to study, so the school needs to be ready to provide it. He emphasised that the schools should STOP teaching and START reaching out to the requirements of the students. Assessments need to be based on census, concepts and skills of the students.

The speaker mentioned that these days teaching is not considered to be an aspirational profession in India as our practices are flawed. Teachers end up doing academic and non-academic tasks. According to DNEP the tasks that a school needs to undertake are divided into



academic, academic administration and administration. Most of the times the promotions are non-merit based and time bound. The speaker mentioned that with the NEP practiced in the right spirit, there will be a change in this approach.

The speaker summed up the ten main objectives of the DNEP as below:

- Student and Subject Connect
- Work environment - safe, comfortable and inviting
- Caring, Collaborative and Inclusive School Culture
- Resources - Availability and Accessibility
- Not Overburdening
- Autonomy to innovate and teach
- Robust opportunities for CDP - Content and Pedagogy
- Choice of Career Management and Progression
- Enhanced Participation of School Management
- Members Vibrant Professional Community
- Professional Standards for Teachers- both in National and State Levels
- Teacher education to be revamped

The speaker emphasised that the DNEP referred teachers as Professionals. The only way forward in the educational system is to leverage the DNEP. The speaker concluded his keynote address by pointing out that all stakeholders have a role in making the DNEP a success.

## PANEL DISCUSSION 2:

**Topic: 'Teaching Profession - Making it Aspirational'**

<b>Moderator</b>	Ms. NEETHI SRIKUMAR AVP- Operations, Shri Educare Limited
	Mr. SAI PRAMOD BATHENA City Head, India School Leadership Institute
<b>Panelists</b>	Dr. A.P. JAYARAMAN Senior Nuclear Scientist, BARC; Chairman, National Centre for Science Communicators & President, STEAM Academy
	Ms. UTTARA SINGH Director-The Shriram Millennium Schools, Gurugram
	Mr. PAVAN ALLENA, Founder, Metamorphosis



The Panel discussion was moderated by Ms. Neethi Srikumar. In her opening statement, Ms. Srikumar mentioned that the aspiration to become a teacher has come down in the new generation and requested the panelists views on the above statement.

**Mr. Sai Pramod** was the first among the panelists to address the concern. He quoted a conversation with students about their aspirations and most of them wanted to be scientists and astro-physicists in NASA but none wanted to be a teacher. When he asked why this was so, the students replied that all that teachers do in the classrooms is disciplining the students and asking them to do homework. They felt that teachers were not respected and teaching was not a celebrated profession. He mentioned that we need to follow the DNEP and help the teachers to get the deserved respect and make them a strong stakeholder in the education field.

The other stakeholders being:

- The Management.
- The Government: They need to make 100 Model Schools and make it a forum to display the best teachers.
- The Society: They should support the growth of the teachers.
- The Media: To exhibit the talents of our teachers every single day. All the best practices can be displayed on social media. Make these talents viral.

These pillars can help to aspire the new generation to be teachers.

The moderator appreciated Mr. Sai and she said that if we follow this approach, then we will be able to aspire the youngsters to look at teaching as a celebrated profession.



**Ms. Uttara Singh** had a different point of view as to why the aspiration to become a teacher has diminished. She said that we should try to make teaching an aspirational job like being an actor or a sportsperson. She felt that the teaching profession makes a lot of impact on the students and thus impact on society. She felt that if better salaries are given to the teachers then more people will aspire to become teachers. She questioned why teachers are not paid well. Ms. Singh also brought to light the necessity of bringing transparency, truthfulness and honesty into the career. Also, the teacher needs to be happy and emotionally content. Knowing that 'I' have a stake in the profession and that 'I' matter, is very important to make this profession aspirational.

The speaker also made the audience think by asking the questions, "Why Gurus are popular and not us teachers?", "What are they doing differently?". According to her, teachers were doing their part well to motivate and make a difference. However, it is essential to pay and take care of teachers well.

The moderator reinforced that at all the Shri Ram teachers are happy and well looked after. So, all The Shri Ram Schools Are Happy Schools. Ms. Srikumar added that all teachers are not in this profession just for money. She emphasised that we are not here to get rich but to enrich others' lives.



**Dr. Jayaraman** was the third panelist who addressed the panel. He spoke that developmental programs are essential. He opined that to be successful teachers and to aspire others to become teachers, we need to throw away the sum+cost fallacy.

He said if you visit the cemetery of a successful teacher (who has won the President's award) or a not so successful teacher, the driving forces for both are the

same. He was of the opinion that incentives were never the propeller for both. Continual professional development is the most important point and every teacher needs to rediscover oneself. We need to keep ourselves skilled. He mentioned that we need to forget George Bernard Shaw, "He who can, does; he who cannot teaches." The speaker felt that these words are lingering around the minds of many teachers and so they need to forget this and rediscover yourself.

The moderator highlighted that we can learn at any age therefore, teachers need to rediscover themselves. We have a new set of students who come every year and we cannot follow the same methods every time.

The last speaker of the panel was **Mr. Pavan** who decided to be an entrepreneur professionally instead of being a teacher. He said that this was because he didn't think that teaching is an aspirational job. He is one of the youngest entrepreneurs in the country and his venture, 'Metamor-phosis' has trained more than 20,000 students about entrepreneurship.

He felt that teachers need to deal with so many departments at the same time. He felt it is very unfortunate state. He suggested that in order to make the teaching an aspirational profession, we need to work on the hiring process. So, we need to exhibit the teaching job as the most valuable and highly respectable.



The moderator summed up the session by suggesting that all the teachers present at the seminar need to work on the points mentioned by the panelists.



**Session by Ms. Geeta Ramanujan,  
Executive Director,  
Kathalaya Trust and The International Academy of  
Storytelling**



Ms. Geeta started her speech through a modest acceptance of the fact that even as teachers, we don't always have all the answers. She optimistically added that it is when we give in all that we have, then we get answers which we have been seeking. She supported the view of losing oneself to finally find oneself.

She then animatedly narrated a story with a series of characters. Probing the audience regarding its sequence of events, she pointed out that due to the concept of connections and visualizations, the audience could effortlessly recollect the story.

She highlighted the fact that when any communicator (teacher/leader/parent) communicates, the communication is converted to images. This happens even when one child communicates with the other. In today's times, when we speak, we are so fast in our articulation that listeners are not able to comprehend what is being said. We are not speaking clearly. It is because there is so much chaos and conflict within us. Unresolved inner dialogue mars our ability to express with clarity.

She pointed out that the things which cannot be measured such as love, peace are really the things which really matter in life. But today we focus only on numbers. We hardly focus on nurturing our inner being.

She shared her journey of starting her career as a teacher, and then how she became a storyteller, to finally becoming a story-educator. Throughout her journey, she had always used intriguing questions to make concepts interesting. She became the Pied Piper to captivate the

children through her all-time 'astra' of storytelling. In 1996 the breakthrough came when Girish Karnad suggested her to hold a summer camp which was the first of its kind in Bangalore. It was highly appreciated and received great popularity through the newspaper article, 'Sounds coming from a room'. After that, there has been no looking back for her.

**PANEL DISCUSSION 3:**

**Artificial Intelligence – Is it Aladdin's Lamp or Pandora's Box?**

<b>Moderator</b>	Mr. SUDHAKAR RAO Director- Branding- ICFAI Group
<b>Panelists</b>	Mr. CHAITANYA CHOKKAREDDY Chief Innovation Officer, Ozonetel Communications Pvt. Ltd.
	Mr. J.A. CHOWDARY Special Chief Secretary & IT Advisor to the Chief Minister, Govt. of AP
	Mr. AJIT RANGNEKAR Director General at Research and Innovation Circle of Hyderabad Partner, SVP India



The session was moderated by Mr. Sudhakar. He claimed that AI has received disproportionate popularity. There is more ado than what is professed.

He, then invited the views of other panelists, starting with Mr. Ajit.

**Mr. Ajit** commenced by illuminating the audience with what is Artificial Intelligence. Fundamentally, AI employs machines to collect answers and use logic for effective decision-making. It exploits the power of machines, namely, scalability and consistency across the spheres. Together Artificial Intelligence with Augmented Reality (AR) will become the game-changers for education.



Students will be able to receive education according to their choice of time, place, speed, language and method. That lead Mr. Ajit to question the necessity for teaching profession itself? But he was quick to turn the tables by claiming that AI is devoid of the heart and emotion. We need teachers for the motivation and emotional-uplift-ment of students which AI can never do. The role of teachers changes from giving 'gyaan' to exciting them to learn more.



Mr. Ajit, then went on to innumerate the areas where teachers can harness the power of AI for their advantage.

- The concept of Flipped classroom should be employed wherein, modules of 3-6 min duration could be created and teachers can go on to initiate meaningful discussions. This way, teachers can get a glimpse of where students are stuck.
- Examination and grading systems should be automated.

**Mr. Chowdhary** asserted AI to be a double-edged sword mandating an ethical AI policy so as to curb the damages it can entail. We need to revisit the extent AI is needed in education sector. He suggested customising education based on data sets by employing AI tools.

He discussed the Case Study of promoting start-up companies in Vizag. He called it the 5M's story or the Panch Pandavas. It involved manpower, money, market access, mentoring and mid-term events. The project was a huge success and later on won the acclaimed Kurukshetra Award. Education field can take its share of lessons from this project.

**Mr. Chanitanya**, recalled how AI started in the 1970's as Expert systems to replace doctors. However, by 1990's they realised that it was not possible. The breakthrough

came in 2010, when Google came up with thousands of computers to yield the desired results.

**Mr. Chanitanya** defined AI as the software program which shows human level of efficiency. On whether it will replace humans, he brought forth the concept of Assistant Intelligence. That is, let it assist us in everyday jobs such as objective paper correction, attendance etc. Speech technology and translation technology will provide greater penetration of knowledge. This is because, 70% of the population still lacks the required proficiency in English. In this regard, even classes in IIT could be availed in all 22 languages.

**Mr. Sudhakar** encapsulated that the truth, to AI's benefits, is in the middle path. It depends upon how we utilise the system and technology. Machine was created by man and it in vain to blame it. Man should exercise discipline in its utilisation.

#### PANEL DISCUSSION 4:

**'Happy Schools – Happy Teachers- Happy Students - Happy Parents'**

<b>Moderator</b>	Dr. A.P. JAYARAMAN Senior Nuclear Scientist, BARC; Chairman, National Centre for Science Communicators & President, STEAM Academyp
<b>Panelists</b>	Ms. ANURADHA GUPTA Principal-The Shriram Millennium School, Gurugram
	Ms. ANJALI KARIAPPA Founder- SpringUp Leadership
	Mr. ABHILASH JOSEPH Co-Founder & CEO- Leo & Mike

**Dr. Jayaraman** began the Panel on a happy note. He posed the question, "What in the panelists' opinion is the recipe for happiness of a student."





**Ms. Anuradha**, the first panelist believed that if the students and the school have to be happy, the teachers need to be happy. A teacher who is well taken care of and respected, will radiate positive energy which will make the students want to come to school. She emphasised that there needs to be a happy teacher for positivity in the class as well as in the activities done in school.

**Dr. Jayaraman** summarised Ms. Gupta's points as the formula for a happy school is the result of the healthy interaction with the teachers.

According to **Ms. Anjali**, the definition of happiness in education is what makes all the stake holders content and satisfied. Today this is driven by the best numbers. But this is not how it should be. Even Ms. Kariappa believed that if the teacher has a good consciousness then the students will be taught to be conscious and as a result achieve adaptability to readily learn and unlearn. We should focus on Who we are? v/s What we are? Hence the consciousness of 'me' and the 'world around me' will enable us to make the school a happy school.



**Dr. Jayaraman**, the moderator, commented that Dr. Anjali's point was a philosophical one where, from chaos the journey is to cosmos with the intervention of a teacher. That's one of the highest undertaking that we can give.

**Mr. Abhilash**, the next speaker, felt that the happiness of the students has a correlation with the happiness of the teacher. He felt that the aim in life is very important as the teacher always has high expectations. He emphasised that there needs to be consistency and fairness. Children are happy when there is no bias, as, students are very sensitive. The most important and prime factor to keep the students happy is to know your students. The teacher should know what the children like and take interest in

the children's interests. He quoted an example of his English teacher who took interest in his key interests. He strongly believed that a country that can afford to work on infrastructure, can sensitise teachers as well though training.



**Dr. Jayaraman** put forth the question to the panel that with limited resources how we can maximise the chances of making more numbers of schools happy.

**Ms. Gupta** was of the opinion that with a huge infrastructure and no happy teacher, there will be no happy schools. Dr. Anjali also agreed to this and added that the connection between the teachers and students are more important than infrastructure. Passionate teachers to spark the minds of the students is the priority instead of infrastructure.

**Mr. Abhilash** concluded by saying that the teachers are the backbone of the system. They make or break the system. So, it is important to train the teachers and sensitise them.

**Dr. Jayaraman** said that since all the panelists have agreed on the fact that infrastructure is not the most important factor for happy schools the panel discussion came to end on a happy note.



## Abstract Paper presentations by the teachers

**Ms. Poulami**

**Vista School, Hyderabad**

**Topic – ‘Future Ready Teacher -Skillset and Mindset from here to where’**



Ms. Poulami described a teacher as one who adorns the unique garb of an educator as well as a learner.

The skills of a teacher which were relevant earlier have now become obsolete. Hence the need of a teacher to be an eager learner.

The 21st century skills of a teacher encompass being creative, collaborative, critical thinker, technology literate and life-long learner. To become one, it's evident to be modern, curious, realistic, collaborative, adaptable, open and a life-long learner.

**Ms. Arshi Alam**

**The Shri Ram Universal School, Hyderabad**

**Topic - Parent Partnership - Teacher's perspective**



Ms. Arshi spoke about the importance of family partnership and family dynamics on personal, social and emotional well-being of the child. The speaker elucidated this

with a case study of a nine-year-old student whom she had been observing and analysing for the past 9 months. She then spoke about the importance of the school in the emotional development of the child.

The alternative models of adult authority (Gardner) was mentioned in this context. She added that the teacher can become attachment figures to the students. As a result of the counselling sessions and behavioral contracts, the student will be able to develop healthy relationship with peers and receive a good conduct behavior card. In spite of certain limitations, the speaker believed that the aim of parent intervention should be to build resilience within the child to productively resolve the conflict at school. Ms. Alam concluded that with parent partnership the issue of emotional imbalance in students could be resolved.

**The Conclave concluded with HIGH TEA.**

## EVENTS AT TSUS THAT TOOK ‘ACHARYA DEVO BHAVA’ FORWARD POST EDUCATORS’ CONCLAVE

The Shri Ram Universal School (TSUS) organized an Interschool Literacy Fest on 2 November 2019 on the theme ‘Appreciating Teachers and Understanding Students’ Perspectives’.



It was yet another attempt to acknowledge and honour the contributions of teachers in a child's life and to society at large. Shri Utsav facilitated the students to appreciate the role of teachers in their life and also brought the students closer to the magic of language and literature.

The Educator's Conclave culminated in our Annual Mega event, ‘All about Future’ held on 21 December 2019.



Preparing for an unknown future fosters creativity, encourages problem-solving, reinforces ethics and promotes collaboration. In line with this thought, interesting grade-wise topics were chosen for the students to display their exhibits. Future of Education ( Future-ready teachers) and Communication was one of the interesting topics among many other intriguing and thought provoking topics like -The Quantum Leap- Future of Travel and Transport, Basics Reengineered- Future of Basic Needs of Human Beings, Cosmos- the new neighbourhood, Future of Space Travel, Thoughtful Designing- Future of Architecture and Fashion, The Magic of Thinking Beyond- Earth, 500 years from now, Infinite Possibilities- Man's Search for Meaning- Future of Self were few thought-provoking topics.

The entire campus was converted into a larger-than-life projection of the future through the eyes of the Shriites. The crowd was enthralled by a glimpse of probable future through Nukkad-Natak, songs and unique presentation of Burrah Katha. Flash mobs and Puppet shows were the highlights of the day. The students transported the audience into a world of possibilities and imagination into the realm of unfixed possibilities that the future holds.

