

From the Founding & Managing Trustee's Desk



Dear Readers,

FY 2023-24 was a great year for us at BYST. We made substantial progress on our journey to realise the BYST mission of turning underprivileged Indian youth into job givers, rather than joining the long queues of job seekers outside private corporations and government offices. This was made possible through nurturing

nearly 7,000 grassroots entrepreneurs, and expanding our projects to 48 districts across 16 states of India (including 12 aspirational districts).

Our mentor headcount increased by nearly 2,300, as we added experienced business owners, bank managers, government officials, college faculty and corporate executives as volunteer mentors and institutional mentors (via the Mentoring India® programme).

This resulted in BYST supported entrepreneurs generating wealth estimated at Rs. 4,666 crores (FY23), supported by our dedicated cadre of mentors.

Overall, in thirty-two years of service to the nation, BYST has counselled 2.1 million youth, trained nearly 1,25,000, and facilitated bank loans to the tune of Rs. 723 crores for over 15,000 entrepreneurs (as of 31st March '24). About 10% of BYST-supported entrepreneurs have become millionaires. As many as 110 BYST-supported entrepreneurs have won national (75) and international (35) awards and emerged as successful youth icons.

In March 2024, two of our women entrepreneurs – Panchamirtham (M/s Indo Tools & Dies, Chennai) and Sridevi (M/s Ecomom Natural & Herbal Traders) were honoured with the FICCI FLO Awards under the 'Special Recognition' category. I was also privileged to receive the FICCI Flo Award in the 'Social Entrepreneur (non-governmental organisation)' category.

What's more, BYST-supported entrepreneurs, V. Keerthana (Social Entrepreneurship) and Yogesh Gawande (Climate Entrepreneurship) have been shortlisted amongst candidates from 30 countries for the Youth Business International Bootcamp, London in June 2024.

We aim to support 53,000 new grassroots entrepreneurs over the next three years and touch a cumulative total of 1,00,000 entrepreneurs by end of FY27, supported by 35,000 mentors. A bright future beckons!

Lakshmi Venkataraman Venkatesan

Founding and Managing Trustee, Bharatiya Yuva Shakti Trust

New Partnership

DICCI

Bharatiya Yuva Shakti Trust (BYST) and the Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DICCI) signed an MoU, aiming to empower 5,000 Dalit youth as job creators. This partnership signifies a commitment to provide credit support, training, and counselling to SMEs led by Dalits.

Through this collaboration, BYST will offer counselling to 1,000 Dalit youth, covering essential entrepreneurial skills such as banking practices, customer relations, and project preparation. The partnership also includes a free Entrepreneur Online Learning (EOL) programme and credit linkages for 250 Dalit youth, facilitated by BYST's extensive network of PSU bank lending partners.



IndusInd Bank

BYST has signed an MoU with IndusInd Bank, to replicate its model and create an entrepreneurial ecosystem in select aspirational districts of Maharashtra (Osmanabad), Bihar (Begusarai), Uttar Pradesh (Bahraich), Tamil Nadu (Virudhunagar) and Rajasthan (Baran). The project envisages the creation of 1,800 entrepreneurs and 2,000 mentors over 3 years. The programme would be called, "BYST-INDUSIND BANK INCLUSIVE GRAMPRENEUR® DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME".





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June 2024

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BYST Programme Activities

Bridging the digital gap through Training on Cyber Security



BYST conducted Training on Cyber Security for mentors from the southern region under Digital Grampreneur® Development Programme supported by Cisco. 17 mentors participated from Chennai, Sriperumbudur, Hyderabad and Vijaywada in the training held at St Thomas International Training Centre, Chennai.

Nurturing entrepreneurship for women from slum communities



BYST Chennai cluster conducted an Awareness Generation Programme (AGP) in entrepreneurship development for young women at the Muthal Thali Murai Trust, Kannai Nagar. The programme witnessed participation of over 40 women from the slum community. The women raised a lot of queries on how they could pursue livelihood opportunities.

Empowering women Grampreneurs® through awareness generation



BYST, supported by IndusInd Bank, conducted Awareness Generation Programme (AGP) for the aspiring entrepreneurs at State Bank of India R-SETI (Rural Self Employment Training Institute), Dharashiv (Osmanabad). BYST mentor, NAME and officials conducted this session where over 30 women participated. The session was highly interactive with the participants raising a lot of queries.

Letter of Cooperation signed to empower youth entrepreneurs



BYST Pune has entered into a new partnership with India Institute of Local Self Government to support aspiring youth entrepreneurs by signing a Letter of Cooperation (LOC). The partnership will result in identifying potential young entrepreneurs through Awareness Generation Programmes (AGP) and other activities.



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BYST Programme Activities

Screening entrepreneurship applications



BYST conducted an Internal Entrepreneur Selection Panel (IESP) meeting to screen entrepreneurship applications from aspiring entrepreneurs. The meeting was conducted by BYST Hyderabad Cluster on (DATE). 2 of applications were thoroughly scrutinised and 1 were shortlisted for further support.

BYST, supported by J K Paper conducted a Mobile Mentor Clinic (MMC)



BYST, supported by J K Paper conducted a Mobile Mentor Clinic (MMC) where four mentors from different backgrounds visited four entrepreneurs and guided them on resolving their business challenges. Mobile Mentor Clinic is a unique BYST concept that enables mentors to reach remote areas, providing support to entrepreneurs from underserved communities at their doorsteps.

Awards & Accolades



Lakshmi V Venkatesan, Founding and Managing Trustee, Bharatiya Yuva Shakti Trust, was honoured with the FICCI Flo Award in the 'Social Entrepreneur (non-governmental organization)' category. Bharatiya Yuva Shakti Trust is a not-for-profit organization co-founded by Ms. Venkatesan with the Late Mr. J R D Tata. Ms. Aruna Vinodh, COO of BYST, received the award on behalf of Ms. Lakshmi V Venkatesan.



Sridevi T. R., a BYST-supported entrepreneur, was bestowed with the FICCI Flo Award in the 'Special Recognition' category. Her venture, Ecomom Natural & Herbal Traders, launched in 2017, bottles and sells pure, natural honey sourced from the Western Ghats hills and forests in Tamil Nadu state. BYST's support and guidance helped Sridevi obtain a bank loan to expand

her business and diversify her product range and customer base. Sridevi continues to support several indigenous families living in and around the hills of Coimbatore who source and supply raw honey to Sridevi's bottling unit.

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Panchmirtham, the founder of M/s Indo Tools & Dies, was conferred with the FICCI Flo Award in the 'Special Recognition' category. Established in 2012 and headquartered in Chennai, M/s Indo Tools & Dies Pvt. Ltd. is a renowned manufacturer specialising in tools and dies for the industrial sector, particularly focusing on electrical and electronic components. BYST's support extended beyond financial aid, and encompassed invaluable mentorship and guidance by Mr. Kunjidhpatham, a former electrical engineer and the senior mentor of BYST Chennai cluster. With her commitment and BYST's support, Panchmirtham's business revenues in financial year 2022-23 reached Rs. 3.9 crore.



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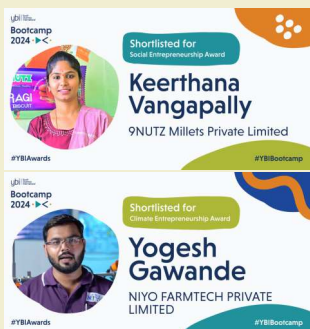
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Awards & Accolades



Keerthana V. has been shortlisted for Youth Business International bootcamp under social entrepreneurship category. She is among the 30 shortlisted candidates from 30 countries globally. She has been a promoter of healthy food choices and ensuring the availability of the same. She is the owner of 9nutz millets, which specialises in manufacturing millet-based snacks and chocolates.

Along with Keerthana V, Yogesh Gawande has been shortlisted for Youth Business International bootcamp under climate entrepreneurship category. His enterprise- Niyo Farmtech Pvt Ltd- manufactures spray pumps for farmers. These pumps are meticulously designed, integrating wheels, making women farmers enable for spray operations. During Covid, when every door was closed, my mentor came up with the idea that we should use our spray pumps for sanitization purpose.

Success Stories

Suraj Apshinge, M/s Yuva Biofloc Aquaculture, Satara



Suraj Apshinge, coming from a financially challenged family, founded Yuva Biofloc Aquaculture to transform agricultural waste into organic farming solutions and to reduce the negative impact on the environment. Forced to leave school in 11th grade due to his mother's illness, Suraj worked various odd jobs while pursuing sustainable entrepreneurship. At 21, he introduced an innovative Indonesian technology in Maharashtra to convert waste into valuable products using eco-friendly methods.

With the help from Bharatiya Yuva Shakti Trust, Suraj received a loan of Rs. 9.5 Lakh and an experienced mentor's guidance. Suraj's "N-Richh" brand now serves numerous clients. The mentor assigned by BYST, Dr. Shivajirao Thombare is an experienced botanist. Dr. Thombare has supported Suraj in operations, overcoming teething challenges of the business and enhancing the product quality. Additionally, the mentor supported Suraj in marketing, customer interaction, building confidence, and adopting an entrepreneurial mindset. Suraj's business reached a turnover of Rs. 85 lakhs in FY 2023-24, providing employment to 47 workers. Suraj also runs a YouTube channel to spread knowledge about Biofloc and waste-to-wealth technology. He has also been appointed as the youngest trainer and consultant at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Baramati, a Government of Maharashtra institution.

Saradha Gopalakrishnan



Saradha Gopalakrishnan, the founder of Smiley Media and Ahana, is into the business of photography and counselling. In 2012, she dreamed of starting her own photography business, but her parents urged her to pursue engineering. After a year, she followed her passion for visual communication, facing many hurdles along the way and Smiley Media was born.

After losing her first child, Saradha Gopalakrishnan went into profound grief. Despite her grief, she kept her child in her memory by starting Ahana and embracing the role of baby photographer. Going beyond this, she discovered a deeper purpose - a calling to create a sanctuary for mothers like herself, a haven where they could find solace, support and understanding. She created a community of over 500 mothers who share a safe space, and share their motherhood and post-partum challenges. She has tie-ups with vendors like mental and physical health coaches, yoga trainers etc. to help women overcome motherhood challenges and difficulties. They meet regularly, share their experiences, have their me-time, talk about fitness and other important issues which they can't share with others. Saradha's company reached a turnover of Rs 40 Lakh in FY2023-24.

BYST supported Saradha in developing her project report and securing a loan which she spent on purchasing advanced cameras. The mentorship offered boosted her confidence through guidance and support.

Media Coverage

Bootcamp 2024



Shortlisted for
Climate Entrepreneurship Award

**Yogesh
Gawande**

NIYO FARMTECH PRIVATE
LIMITED

#YBI Awards #YBIBootcamp



Shortlisted for
Social Entrepreneurship Award

**Keerthana
Vangapally**

9NUTZ Millets Private Limited

#YBI Awards #YBIBootcamp



Home / India / Menstrual Hygiene Day: India! Whisper no more, stay free from period taboos

Menstrual Hygiene Day: India! Whisper no more, stay free from period taboos

Simantik Dowerah • May 28, 2024, 09:21:48 IST

Respect for India's 'Nari Shakti' rings hollow if we celebrate their triumphs in breaking glass ceilings while remaining silent on menstruation and hiding sanitary napkins in shame

Empowering SC-ST entrepreneurs key to achieving a \$5 trillion economy

May 6, 2024, 9:33 AM IST / Lakshmi Venkataraman Venkatesan and Kishor Kharat in Voices, Economy, India, TCI

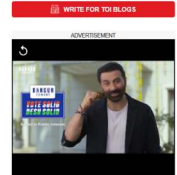
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Lakshmi Venkataraman Venkatesan and Kishor Kharat
Lakshmi Venkataraman Venkatesan is founding and managing trustee, Bharatiya Yuva Shakti Trust. Kishor Kharat is former MD & CEO, CBI Bank and Indian Bank.

The recent Bihar caste survey brought out that the SC-ST community consists of over 21 percent of the state's population, prompting a call for a greater share in the socio-political and socio-economic structures. Currently, Dalits have a poor presence in entrepreneurship and industry ownership across the country -- according to the MSME (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) Development Commissioner's report for 2020, ownership of MSME units in India by Scheduled Caste entrepreneurs was only 8.9 per cent, while for Scheduled Tribe entrepreneurs it was only 2.9 per cent of the total. The majority of SC-ST are first-time entrepreneurs with zero business experience and lack credible collateral and credit history to offer lenders. Furthermore, the absence of mentoring, inadequate access to capital, poor marketing skills, repressive social attitudes and rampant discrimination also restricts their growth.

Dalits can play a key role in revitalizing Indian Economy



WRITE FOR US BLOGS

दिलिपिंद

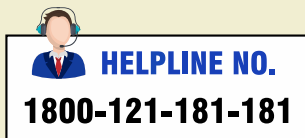
April 30, 2024 by admin BYST IN NEWS

दलित उद्यमियों को कारोबारी गुर सिखाने के लिए बीवाईएसटी, दलित इंडियन चैंबर ऑफ कामर्स के बीच समझौता

नयी दिल्ली, 27 अप्रैल (भाषा) गैर सरकारी संगठन भारतीय युवा शक्ति ट्रस्ट (बीवाईएसटी) और उद्योग मंडल दलित इंडियन चैंबर ऑफ कामर्स एंड इंडस्ट्री ने दलितों की अगुवाई वाले तपु एवं मझोले उद्यमों को कर्ब सहायता, प्रशिक्षण और परामर्श प्रदान करने के लिए समझौता किया है। इस पहल का मकसद दलित उद्यमियों को रोजगार सृजन करने वाला बनने में मदद करना है। बीवाईएसटी ने शनिवार को एक बयान में यह कहा। इस साझेदारी के माध्यम से, बीवाईएसटी और दलित इंडियन चैंबर ऑफ कामर्स एंड इंडस्ट्री (डीआईसीआईआई) 1000 दलित युवा उद्यमियों को परामर्श प्रदान करेंगे। इन युवाओं को उद्यमिता, माहक के साथ संबंध, परियोजना की तैयारी और बिजनेस से जुड़े कौशल आदि के बारे में परामर्श और जानकारी दी जाएगी।

BHARATIYA YUVA SHAKTI TRUST

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