



AKANKSHA CHARITABLE TRUST

Igniting Dreams, Shaping
Lives

Reg No:
PUT-4-00084-2014-15

**Annual Report
2025 - 2026**





Message from the Founder

It gives me immense pride and gratitude to present the Annual Report for the year 2025–26 of Akanksha Charitable Trust (R.), Puttur. This year has been a defining chapter in our journey, marking a significant evolution from a grassroots implementation team to a robust, policy-driven organization.

Central to our efforts this year is our flagship initiative, Grantha Mitra, focusing on Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN). By successfully reaching ten schools this year, Grantha Mitra has moved beyond being a simple classroom program; it has become a movement to ensure no child is left behind in the core skills of reading, writing, and arithmetic. Students saw literacy scores rise from a baseline of 25.58% to 65.28% – a 39.70% improvement – and numeracy from 21.28% to 65.52%, marking a 44.25% growth.

Parallel to our academic outreach, we made significant strides in institutional integrity through enhanced governance and compliance. Akanksha formalized and strengthened critical frameworks including our Child Protection Policy (CPP), HR protocols, and PoSH standards – ensuring a safety-first environment for every beneficiary and a professional, equitable workplace for our team.

Our engagement with Abdul Nazir Sab State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (ANSSIRDPR), Mysore on digital literacy policies and participation in the National Youth Conference 2025 at KMC Manipal are testaments to our growing regional influence. From CodeCraft Science Melas to the Spark Buddy Mentorship program, we remain dedicated to bridging the gap between rural potential and global excellence.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to our partners – CodeCraft Technologies, Medallia India, GetixHealth, and our 250+ volunteers – whose belief in our mission remains our greatest strength. As we look ahead, we are not just running programs; we are building a lasting ecosystem of leadership and livelihood for the next generation.

With gratitude and hope,



Dr. Shreesha Bhat

Founder and Managing Trustee
Akanksha Charitable Trust (R.), Puttur



AKANKSHA CHARITABLE TRUST

About

Akanksha Charitable Trust (ACT), established in 2014, is committed to empowering underprivileged communities across five districts in Karnataka. With the support of 200+ passionate and dedicated volunteers, we have positively impacted the lives of more than 34,000 rural students and youth. Since 2022, ACT has partnered with the Rural Development & Panchayat Raj (RDPR) Department, Government of Karnataka, to build foundational skills across 110+ Gram Panchayats through Arivu Kendras. Our innovative, community-driven model has been recognized by the Minister of Panchayat Raj and ITBT, Karnataka for its scalability and impact.



Vision

To foster an inclusive future where every individual has the education, skills, and opportunities to thrive.



Mission

- ▶ To deliver equitable access to quality education, skill-building, and innovative learning opportunities for children of all backgrounds.
- ▶ To build pathways for opportunity and social mobility by fostering youth engagement, volunteering, and strategic partnerships with government, corporates, and civil society.



Presence

Primarily active across Dakshina Kannada and four other districts of Karnataka, including Bengaluru Urban, ACT has impacted more than 50 schools and colleges through initiatives such as Grantha Mitra FLN, CodeCraft Science Mela, NMMS Workshops, the Getix Fun Math Kit Program, STEM lab Setup, Library Setup, and other educational and community development initiatives.

Annual Program Highlights 25-26

Grantha Mitra

Grantha Mitra is ACT's flagship FLN program addressing critical literacy and numeracy gaps among rural government and aided school students in Grades 4–7. Trained FLN educators are deployed across 10 schools, providing structured, small-group sessions tailored to each child's learning level. The impact has been remarkable – literacy scores improved by 39.70 percentage points (from 25.58% to 65.28%) and numeracy by 44.25 percentage points (from 21.28% to 65.52%), directly benefiting 160+ students. By focusing on schools with the highest need and tracking every child's progress through continuous assessment, Grantha Mitra ensures no student is left behind.



CodeCraft Science Mela

CodeCraft Science Mela is ACT's large-scale STEM initiative bridging the scientific exposure gap for rural government and aided school students. Many students in Dakshina Kannada had never participated in a science exhibition or received practical scientific training. ACT organized a district-level science fair engaging 46 schools, where students embarked on a five-month journey of innovation – designing and presenting working models ranging from clean energy systems to disaster warning devices. Over 1,000 student teams participated across preparatory rounds leading to the District Finale, where 20 winning teams were awarded ₹50,000+ in cash prizes, trophies, and certificates. All participants received Certificates of Participation, ensuring every student's effort was recognized and celebrated.

MindSpace

MindSpace is ACT's school mental health program addressing the often-overlooked psychological needs of rural students. Many children face emotional challenges – anxiety, low self-esteem, and academic pressure – with little to no professional support. ACT deploys one-to-one trained psychologists to provide counseling, psychological screening, and career guidance, ensuring every student's well-being is prioritized alongside their academics. This year, 46 students received continuous support with 35 showing significant improvements in their mental outlook and academic focus. By addressing emotional hurdles early, MindSpace empowers students to approach their future with greater clarity, confidence, and resilience.

Annual Program Highlights 25 - 26

Spark Buddy

SparkBuddy is ACT's structured online mentorship program designed to bridge the gap between academic learning and professional expectations for B.Com and BBA students. Many rural college students graduate without the practical skills needed to navigate the modern workforce – unsure of how to write a resume, draft a professional email, or present themselves in an interview. ACT addresses this through intensive, mentor-led sessions covering resume building, professional email writing, interview preparation, and career planning. This year, 15+ students completed 10+ sessions, gaining the confidence and tools to present themselves as industry-ready candidates. Spark Buddy transforms academic knowledge into real-world career readiness.



SEEP

Spoken English Empowerment Program (SEEP) is ACT's practical, activity-based initiative designed to break the language barrier for Kannada-medium government and aided school students. Many rural students in Classes 3–7 face significant disadvantages due to limited exposure to spoken English – a skill increasingly critical for higher education and future employment. ACT conducts weekly interactive sessions using role-plays, games, and conversational exercises, delivered by trained interns, to build fluency and confidence in a fun, low-pressure environment. This year, 100+ students across 5 schools participated in 40+ sessions, showing progress in vocabulary, fluency, and self-expression. SEEP ensures language is never a barrier to opportunity. Students demonstrated improved confidence, vocabulary, and classroom participation.



Jnana Vahini – NMMS Coaching Program

The National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship (NMMS) Coaching Program is ACT's intensive coaching initiative designed to prepare students from rural government and aided schools for the NMMS examination and level the playing field. The NMMS exam is a critical gateway to financial support for higher education, yet most rural students lack access to quality coaching or exam preparation resources. ACT provides structured, high-intensity sessions covering the Mental Ability Test (MAT) and Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) topics and solving 90+ questions per session, ensuring students are thoroughly prepared and confident. This year, 550+ students across Bangalore Rural, Udupi, Dakshina Kannada, Uttara Kannada, and Kasargod directly benefited from the program. Through Jnana Vahini, ACT has cumulatively helped 100+ students clear the NMMS examination, enabling them to access government scholarships and pursue higher education with greater confidence.

Annual Program Highlights 25-26

Getix FunMathKit

Getix Fun Math Kit is ACT's activity-based numeracy initiative designed to transform mathematics from a feared subject into an engaging, enjoyable experience for rural students. In many government and aided schools, traditional rote-learning methods fail to engage students, leading to math anxiety, poor performance, and a lack of foundational skills essential for future learning. In collaboration with GetixHealth India, ACT distributed interactive game-based math kits to 40 rural schools, directly benefiting 1,500+ students. The impact has been striking – students actively use the kits during free periods making mathematics an enjoyable and engaging learning experience. By making learning fun and accessible, the program is building lasting confidence and foundational numeracy skills across rural Karnataka.



Annual Impact Highlights

Education & Foundational Learning

- 10 Government Schools supported through the Grantha Mitra FLN Program
- 550+ Students benefited through NMMS Coaching across Bangalore Rural, Udupi, Dakshina Kannada, Uttara Kannada, and Kasargod
- 100+ Students qualified in the NMMS Examination
- 1,500+ Students benefited through the Getix Fun Math Kit initiative across 40 schools
- 560+ Students received school kits through the ABB CSR Initiative

STEM, Innovation & Experiential Learning

- 46 Schools participated in the CodeCraft Science Mela
- 120+ Students engaged through Educational Wall Painting at GHPS Balanja

Youth Development & Career Readiness

- 15+ B.Com and BBA students received career mentoring through Spark Buddy
- ACT represented at the National Youth Conference 2025 (Youth in Social Change 2025), KMC Manipal

Community & Environmental Initiatives

- 160+ Students participated in Environmental Awareness Programmes at Naravi and Balanja
- 17 Students completed Bharatanatyam Training and performed during the BEM Manjalpadpu School Day
- Five institutional policies formalized to strengthen organizational governance



Impact

34000+

Children and youth have been cumulatively impacted through education and skill programs since 2014.

20000+

Direct beneficiaries were reached across five districts of Karnataka in 2024-26.

5000+

Students directly benefited through structured FLN and enrichment programs.

150+

ACT has facilitated government scholarships for 100+ NMMS scholars.

88

Digital librarians were trained in digital literacy under the GoIT Program, Kodagu.

185

Government librarians enhanced their spoken English proficiency under the Empower Program, Dakshina Kannada.

4500+

School kits were donated to students across 29 rural schools through the Vantiva collaboration.

2000+

Parents have been oriented and guided through workshops and community sessions.

Staff List

- Hemanth - Program Manager
- Prajna Kumari D. - FLN Teacher
- Sannidhi M. - Accounts Executive Rajeshwari N. - Counselling
- Psychologist
- Latha Mohan Shetty - Manager (Fundraising and Corporate Partnerships)
- Krishna Madivala - Subject Matter Expert



Donor Testimonials

- "At CodeCraft, we believe true success includes responsibility toward our community. Through our partnership with Akanksha Charitable Trust, the CodeCraft Science Mela is opening doors for young learners in rural Kannada-medium schools to explore and excel. Together, we aim to spark curiosity and make science a joyful journey for every child."

— Jobin Joseph P J, Operation Lead, CodeCraft Technologies

- "At GetixHealth, we are incredibly proud to partner with Akanksha Charitable Trust for the 'Getix Fun Math Kit' initiative. Seeing over 1,500 students across 40 schools voluntarily seek out these kits during free periods reinforces our belief that when learning is made engaging, children embrace it naturally."

— Sunaisa Erfan, Assistant Manager - Human Resources, GetixHealth India Pvt Ltd

Beneficiary Stories

- "It is truly heartening to see students embracing these math kits so naturally. They come and ask for the kits during free hours to play and learn. It has significantly boosted their interest and confidence in Mathematics."

— Shilpa, Maths Teacher, Shree Rama School Sulkeri

- "I used to get very nervous before math class, but these games made all my fear go away. Now, math doesn't feel like hard work — it feels like playing a game!"

— Prajwal, 6th Standard, GHPS Kabaka

- "In our school, FLN classes are taught very well. If we don't understand a subject, the teacher explains it simply and individually. Math has become easy, and even homework feels easier now."

— Fatimat Afifa, 5th Standard, D.K.Z.P. HP School, Kabaka

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Trusted by institutions that share our belief in education as the great equaliser

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