



Head Office

Youth of India Foundation

Hotel Lemon Tree Building, 1st Floor,
Sevoke Road, Siliguri,
West Bengal - 734008

+91 78660 03362
youthofindia.org.in
info@youthofindia.org.in

SCAN TO DONATE



Registered Office

Youth of India Foundation

R-35, B/2 1st Floor,
Pul Pehladpur,
New Delhi-110044
+91 78660 03362
youthofindia.org.in
info@youthofindia.org.in

 Youth2047  Youth of India Foundation



SUSHILA SCHOLARSHIP

A Youth of India Foundation Initiative

राष्ट्रस्य दीपः अनुसंधानम्



Founder's Message:

The **Sushila Scholarship** is one close to my heart.



My mother couldn't pursue her higher education, having married early. She left school, yes, but didn't lose the zeal to learn and constantly upskill herself. On the days of my exams, and my brothers', we weren't the only ones learning - she would sit with us, learn, and teach, all at once, like magic. She instilled the importance of Education in us very early on, and led by example - having completed high school 30 years after her marriage! So to say, my mother is the success story that inspired not just me, but the entire Youth of India Foundation family to wholeheartedly give ourselves to building a literate, educated India through the Sushila Scholarship.

According to the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) 2019-21, 23.3% of women aged 20-24 were married before they turned 18, a statistic that closely correlates with interrupted schooling.

In several rural and semi-urban areas, local data also shows that girls from single-parent families are the first to leave school when finances become constrained. Furthermore, UNICEF India 2022 estimates suggest that over 1.2 million adolescent girls risk dropping out of school if large-scale support programs are not implemented or expanded. These statistics might be scary, but the reality is even scarier, and we intend to change that by ensuring that no girl is left behind due to socioeconomic barriers.

The perfect embodiment of स्वस्थं ह वदयया युक्तं स्त्री भव त जगत्प्रभा, which translates to "A Healthy and Educated woman becomes the light of the world", the Sushila Scholarship transcends the boundaries of just monetary support to single-parent girl children. We create a nurturing environment within which we Enable Education, Health, Skill-ing, and Green Livelihoods to ensure their Holistic Development, with a sharp focus on STEM, AI training, and the Creative Arts to reduce gender-based disparities in the nation through our comprehensive curricula. The culture that we come from has taught us that यत्र नायस्त पज्यन्त रमन्त तत्र दवता:

i.e. where Women are honored, Divinity blossoms. With the vision to expand the initiative to the **North-Eastern Region, Northern Region of West Bengal, and Aspirational Districts/Blocks of India**, ensuring we reach every girl child, and every family in need, I invite you to come join us in building a community of support for Single-Parent Girl-Child families, where they can thrive, access mentorship, develop essential life skills, and ultimately, become Empowered individuals ready to take on the world, all through the Sushila Scholarship - **a beautiful legacy of hope & love, named after my mother.**

With Gratitude,
Sailesh Singhal



An Overview:



Single-parent girl children in India are a vulnerable group. Unfortunately, single parenthood is still a social stigma in the country. What follows is absolute horror: economic hardships, limited access to education, increased vulnerability to abuse, peer pressure, emotional instability, and difficulty navigating gender-based discrimination, all amplified by the lack of a second parent figure to support her. The girl is then pushed into early marriages and increased household responsibilities, restricting her aspirations and personal life. At this stage, she develops health issues such as emotional distress, anxiety, and low self-esteem, thereby making her more susceptible to exploitation and abuse.

We, at the Youth of India Foundation, are providing access to supportive communities and networks that can help not just the child, but also the single parents in navigating these challenges through equal access to opportunities. Having aligned ourselves

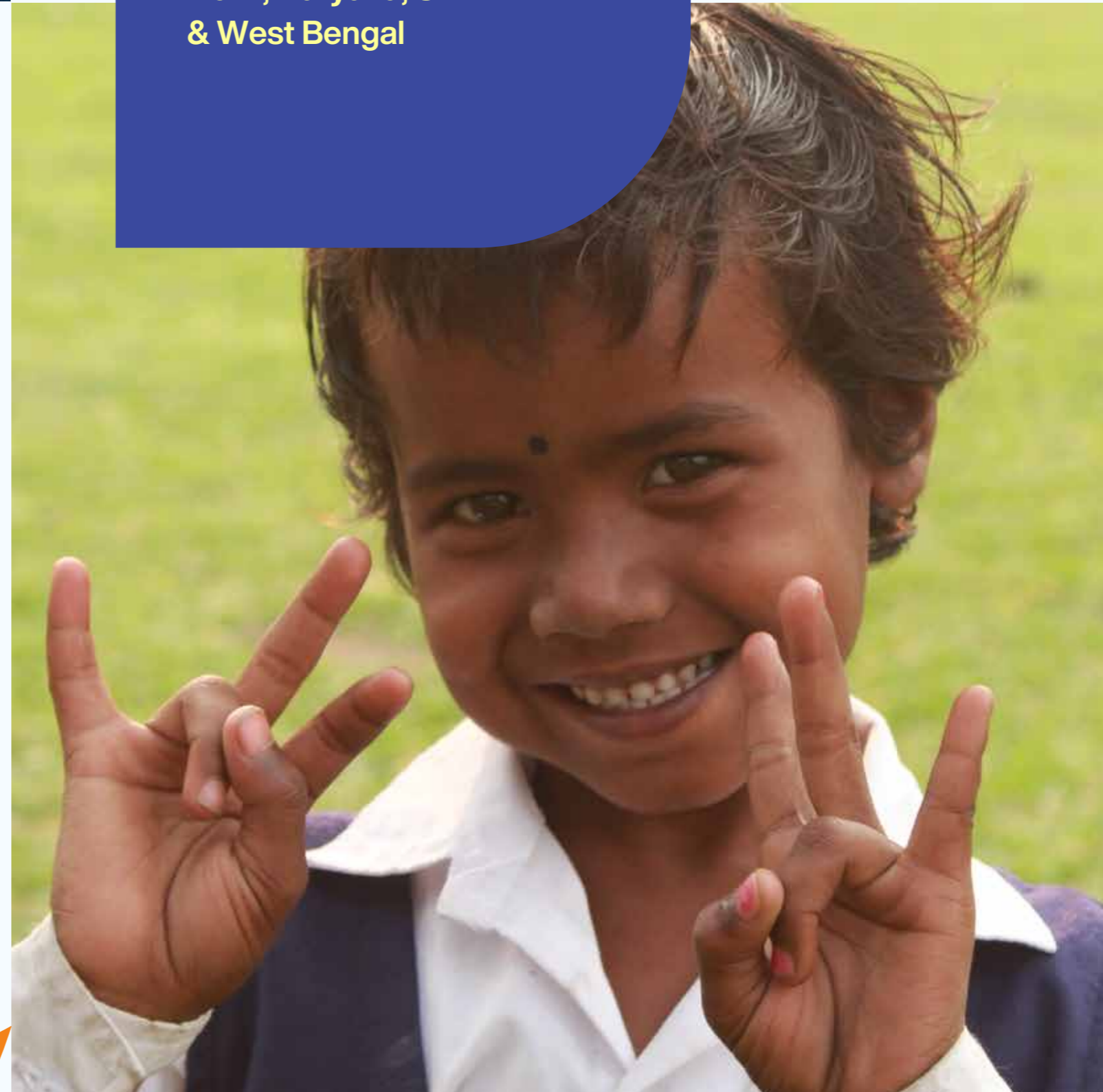
with various Government Policies aimed at improving access to Education & Healthcare, especially for the girl child, such as **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao** & **Sukanya Samridhi Yojana**, we are turning stigmas into strengths through the Sushila Scholarship.

We do this by spanning the focus areas of **Health & Education**. We cover their School Fees, along with uniforms, books, and stationery, while facilitating extra-curriculars, sports, and STEM classes to encourage and ensure holistic growth. Breaking social barriers, we host awareness campaigns on Menstruation, providing the girls with sustainable menstrual cups. Additionally, we will enable Yearly Full-Body check-ups to promote overall Good Health & Well-Being.

This initiative **localizes** the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**, in this case, **SDGs 3 (Good Health & Well-Being)**, **4 (Quality Education)**, **5 (Gender Equality)**, and **10 (Reduced Inequalities)** to create impact at the grassroots level.

Current Impact Regions:

Delhi, Haryana, Sikkim & West Bengal



Our Objective:

We aim to build a safe community of support for Single-Parent Families. We are not just offering scholarships; we are creating a wide network of mentors and educators who are committed to the success of the girl-children. We're investing in the **Future of India** - one girl at a time - because our nation can only grow when we enable and leverage our **Nari Shakti** towards a **Viksit Bharat of 2047**.

Key Program Features:

While covering School Fees is a key component, the Scholarship's real strength lies in its holistic model, which nurtures aspirations, fosters confidence, and restores hope. This comprehensive approach has proven pivotal in creating tangible change, especially in a country where socio-economic challenges often converge to push girls out of basic educational & healthcare systems.

Education:

We transfer Monthly School Fees directly to the concerned institution. We also cover additional expenses like - Exam Fees, Transportation Fees, and other Miscellaneous Costs that may arise during the academic year to ensure a smooth academic experience for the children.

We provide One-time Purchases such as Stationery, Books, and School Uniforms to the students. Additionally, we provide Ergonomic Furniture such as Study Tables & Chairs.

We mandate 2-3 Skill Training Activities, Co-curricular Activities, and Vocational Workshops, such as AI training, English Speaking, and STEM classes to encourage girls to pursue their dreams without worrying about gender-based stereotypes and barriers, while advancing Skill India.

We provide Digital Tools such as Laptops, Smart Tablets, and Phones depending on the Age Group and Requirement of the child to promote Digital Inclusivity and advance Digital India.

We provide access to Career Guidance by connecting One Mentor to Two Students to ensure Academic Excellence and Mental Well-being.

Health:

We provide Monthly Health & Nutrition Kits to the girl-children.

We facilitate Sports Training & Equipment such as sports gear and bicycles to ensure General Fitness and nurture world-class sportspeople from the nation.

We Enable Yearly Full-Body Health Check-Ups to ensure overall good health & well-being.

We host Health Awareness and WASH (**Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene**) Sessions to encourage behavioral change and improve Public Health.



Internship & Apprenticeship Programmes:

We aim to implement the “Earn & Learn” model through our Internship & Apprenticeship Programmes to offer on-the-job training to students, allowing them to earn a pay cheque while nurturing new skills, gaining exposure to and experience in real-life business environments across various sectors, ensuring professional growth and self-dependence in the long run.

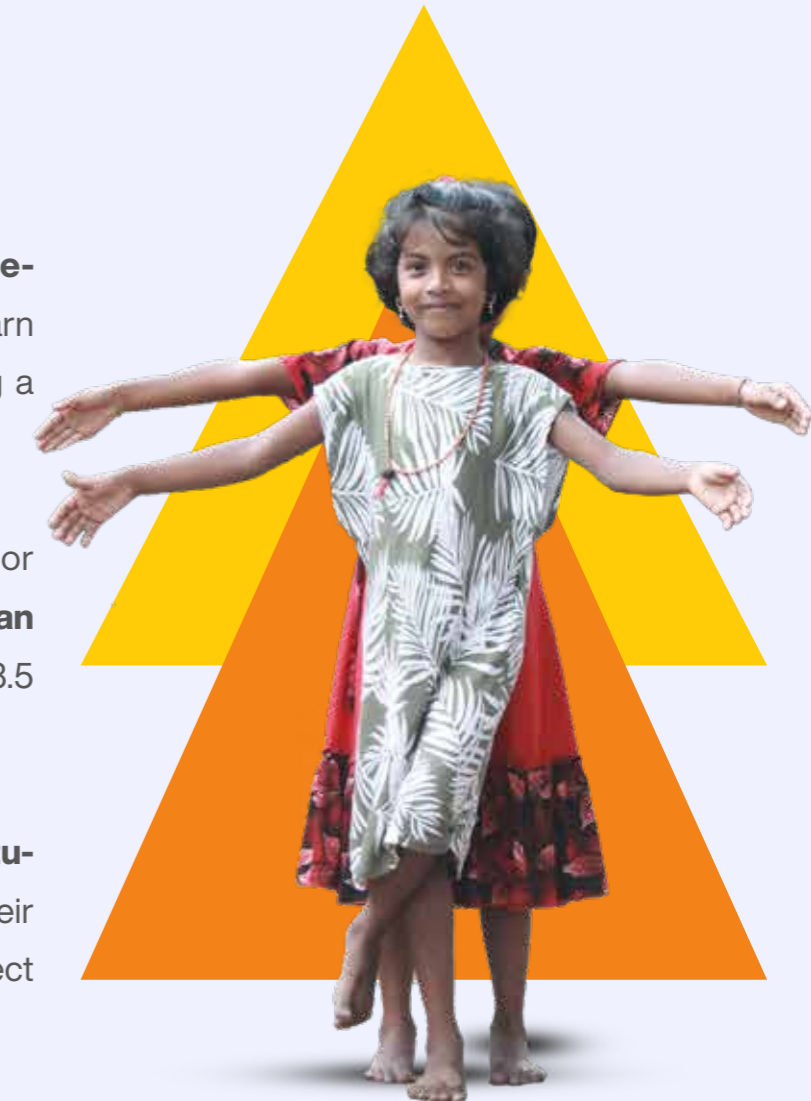
Advancing the larger vision for **Skill Development** and **Employment**, this encourages **Continuous Learning** and **Financial Independence**, key pillars of career development throughout one’s professional journey! This comes at a time when the **Indian Government** is focused on providing valuable internship opportunities to the Youth of India to bridge the gap between academic learning and real-world experience.

We aim to:

Engage Girl Children in **Apprenticeship Programs**, wherein they can learn from industry experts while receiving a basic stipend

Develop a Skilled Resource Pool for to advance the rapidly growing **Indian Gig Economy**, projected to employ 23.5 million workers by 2029-30

Facilitating these Programmes for **students aged 18+** will culminate in their holistic growth, striking the perfect balance of Experience & Education!



Application Process:

Eligibility Criteria:

- Must be a **Single-parent** or **Orphaned Girl Child** from low-income groups
- Must be a student in the range of **Nursery to Year III in an Undergraduate Programme**

We carry out a **Needs Assessment** once we have received the request by interacting with the locals from the neighborhood and the **Panchayat / Municipal Corporation** to determine whether the family meets the basic criteria, after which the decision is taken by the **Youth of India Foundation** Board.

The **Application Link** to avail the Sushila Scholarship is provided on our website and shared across our social media platforms!

Testimonials

Photos haven't been provided to maintain confidentiality.

Lalita Chhetri

Beneficiary

“I don't know what we would have done without the support of the Sushila Scholarship. After my husband passed away, I was struggling to keep my daughters in school. When I had to move my elder daughter to a government school, I thought my younger one would have to leave her English-medium school too. But then, we met Sailesh Ji from the organization, and everything changed. He guided us, helped with my daughter's fees, and constantly checked in to see how we were doing, and because of this Scholarship, my little girls still have a future, and for that, I will always be grateful.”

Anita Rani

Beneficiary

“Losing my husband was the hardest thing I have ever faced. I was left alone to raise my two children, and I had no idea how I would manage. My pension barely covers our daily expenses, and affording my daughter's education felt impossible. When my brother told me about the Sushila Scholarship, it felt like a blessing. Thanks to their support, Nishita can continue her studies without worry. The people at the organization have been so kind, always making sure we have what we need. This Scholarship has given my daughter a future, and that means everything to me.”

Sreetama Roy

Volunteer

“Our visit to Champasari, Debidanga Babupara near Sunrise Junior School was an unforgettable experience. The family we met was incredibly warm and welcoming, treating us as their own. The youngest daughter, Shiksa, delighted us with her paintings and playful nature. Her enthusiasm and talent were inspiring. We provided some essentials and small gifts, which brought her immense joy. Despite the hardships, their home radiated positivity. The visit reaffirmed our belief in the impact of this scholarship program and our desire to continue supporting them.”