



# LEAD PRAYANA

*Unleash your leadership potential*

KARNATAKA

# WHY DO WE DO LEAD PRAYANA



LEAD Prayana, which began in 2012, is an annual leadership journey that takes over 120 passionate students aged between 18-26 from throughout India on a 15-day tour across Karnataka, and parts of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. Packed with role model sessions, hands on activities, and site visits, LEAD Prayana inspire students by exposing them to individuals and institutions which have innovated and implemented solutions to major challenges. Through this leadership journey we aim to instill in the participants a need to bring change through effective leadership.

Through sessions with our specially selected role models and speakers, the participants are exposed to leaders across a variety of fields and not only learn more about topics including entrepreneurship, agriculture, technology, and the non-profit sector, but hear about the up and downs these accomplished leaders have gone through in their own leadership journeys. An emphasis on asking questions offers the participants the unique experience to interact with the role models and speakers and makes their Prayana more personal and rewarding.

Hands-on activities and community break-out sessions take the participants out of the classroom to enhance and apply their leadership skills in the community. Conducting educational activities and interactions in villages along the route and team building activities amongst the participants are planned with the aim of experiential learning.

While ultimately a learning experience, LEAD Prayana is also an opportunity for fun and friendship. Group activities such as dancing, yoga, and games not only offer time to have fun and unwind during the journey but help the participants to get to know each other. With participants from five different states across India, LEAD Prayana aims to offer a national networking opportunity for its participants and the possibility for lifelong friendships and connections with other.

# TESTIMONIALS



Suhani S.

“

From crying on first day “to go home” to crying on last day” not to leave”, it was the most beautiful journey. We had pain, sufferings, constant learning ... everything in this journey. This was definitely the ignition we all needed for life.

”

“

It was most memorable and enriching [experience]. [I] hope everyone will experience such life and perception changing journey. “Let the world change you and then you can change the world” [this] quote suits the best for this Prayana.

”



Alok B.

“

Leadership is not about leading the team, it begins with leading yourself in better direction and to guide the team. This is the most important fact I have learnt in this journey. Networking and experiencing new things was one of the best part for me.

”



Nilima J.

“

The place where you can find a different world... And gain a lifetime experience [with] different people... And inspiration to do things...

”



Sreedhar C.



# BELAGAVI



## THE KICK-OFF

VTU Belagavi

The 8<sup>th</sup> LEAD Prayana kicked off from VTU Belagavi on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Here, 111 students started their Karnataka journey of 14 days. The ceremonial candle lighting marked the beginning of the night, then followed by inspirational speeches by Mr. Ajay Suman Shukla (Director, LEAD), Mr. Vivek Pawar (CEO, Deshpande Foundation), Dr.

Anand Shivapure (PG Coordinator, VTU), Mr. Raj Belgaumkar (Chairman, KLS IMER) and Mr. A. S. Deshpande (Principle, GIT, Belgaum). They shared their insights on the LEAD program and what students have gained from the journey. The night ended with a cultural celebration led by talented LEAD students, musicians, and dancers.



# 01

## AEQUS and Mahesh Foundation

After morning yoga and a dancing session, the Prayanees travelled to their first stop: AEQUS, a global manufacturing company specializing in aerospace. There they met with Mr. Parvar Kumar, an engineer with AEQUS and a former member of LEAD. After, they travelled to Mahesh Foundation and met with Mr. Mahesh Jadhav, the founder. He shared his first experience with children affected by HIV that led him find a solution. Today, 55 children eat, sleep, and learn at the Mahesh Foundation.



# MANIPAL

After an overnight journey, the Prayanees reached Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE). They provide their students with valuable hands-on skills and an overall unique university experience.



## Manipal Academy of Higher Education

They met with Dr. Aparna (the Director of Planning and Monitoring), who gave the Prayanees more information about the university and inspiration when facing challenges. Afterwards, the Prayanees toured the Manipal Museum of Anatomy and Pathology and Marena (an indoor sports complex for MAHE students). The evening was spent relaxing and having fun at Malpe Beach. They dipped their feet into the waves and ended the day with a flash mob.





# DHARMASTHALA

## 03

SKDRDP, SIRI, and SDM Medical Trust

The SKDRDP was formed to achieve the goal of “Inclusive Rural Development”, which is done through the Loans Diverse programs and initiatives, including loans, insurance, and pensions that help accomplish financial stability. SKDRDP has also developed many branches such as SIRI (a program to help citizens become self-sustaining entrepreneurs) and SDM Medical Trust (an eight-day program to help alcoholics battle their addiction). Throughout the day, the Prayanees met with Mr. Hemavathi Heggade (Director, SIRI), Mr. Timmayya Naik (Project Officer at SDM Medical Trust), and Dr. L. H. Manjunath (Executive, Director, SKDRDP).



## 04

Siddhavana Gurukul, Ratnmanasa Gurukul, and SDM College



The Prayannes met with Mr. Siddavana Mahabaleshwar, the Chief In-charge of Siddhavana Gurukul (which runs under SKDRDP). The Ratnmanasa Gurukul is an all-boys hostel, where the students are taught a variety of life skills. These skills include farming, caring for cattle, hair styling, and financial management. Later, the Prayanees visited SDM college of Ujire, where they toured the multimedia room, radio station, and arboretum of the college. Then, they headed to the Rural Development and Self Employment Training Institute (RUDSETI), a program devoted to helping unemployed adults the opportunity to gain new skills. The day was concluded with a visit to the Dharmasthala Temple.

# MOODABIDRI

## 05

### Manjusha Museum and Alva's College

The first visit of the day started at the Manjusha Museum, the home of many historical artifacts, paintings, jewelry, and more. Then, they visited the historical site of Sri Kshethra Dharmasthala Sri Manjunatha Swamy Temple to see Karnataka's third largest statue of Lord Bahubali at 59

feet. After, they visited the agricultural warehouse where food for the local temples are stored. The Prayanees also got to see how the food was prepared at the Annapoorna kitchen. After lunch, the Prayanees had the unforgettable experience of listening to Mr. Veerendra Heggades,

a role model and philanthropists of India. After the inspiring session, the LEADers got on to the bus and headed to Moodabidri to meet with Mr. Vivek Alva (the son of the founder of Alva's College). There, they also visited the botanical garden of medicinal plants.



## 06

### Alva's College

Republic Day marks the date where the Constitution of India came into effect and replaced the Government of India Act, as the governing document of India. This year, the Prayanees got the honor to celebrate the 70th Republic day at Alva's College with over 30,000 attendees. After a fun and patriotic celebration, the Prayanees met with Dr. Alva Mohan, the founder of Alva's College. He shared his story on his perseverance to join the medical field and the experiences he gained in his career.





# MYSURU

## 07

Infosys and Kuliyuva Mane



The Prayanees started the first session of the day with Mr. Hari, an Education Trainer at Infosys. He stated that, "The story of Infosys is everything is possible" and told the story of how the company started. Infosys started with three initial members with only Rs. 250, but now it is internationally recognized.

Afterwards, the Prayanees headed to Kuliyuva Mane and met with Mr. Ananth (the CEO). Kuliyuva Mane is a school that helps students learn in an environment without pressure and non-traditional teaching methods. Furthermore, they value eco-friendly practices in the school such as solar panels, harvesting rainwater, and more.



# BENGALURU

## 08

Samarthanam Trust and Upparpet Police Station

Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled is a non-profit organization engaged in empowering persons with disabilities and distress in socio-economical cultural fronts. After a tour of the facilities, the Prayanees met with Ms. Vasanti Savanur (Trustee). She shared information about Samarthanam Trust and how it has helped changed the lives of students. The interaction was followed by a dance and singing performance by students of Samarthanam Trust. After, the Prayanees split into ten groups and





was given instructions to visit different community police stations in Bengaluru. At the stations, the police members gave a tour of the facilities and showed the different procedures that take part. The Prayanees then met up at the Upparpet Police Station, where they took part in one of the most awaited sessions of the journey with DCP Ravi D. Channannavar. He is known for his noble initiatives and is an inspiration to many.



# D O D D A B A L L A P U R A

## 09

Narayana Reddy Farm and Vishaal Natural Food Products

The late Dr. Narayana Reddy, a visionary in organic farming, was an enthusiastic and experimental farmer. He was a role model for LEAD Prayana for many years and shared many words of inspiration to previous journeys. To give tribute, the Prayanees visited his beautiful farm, where Mr. Abhinandan Kavale, Dr. Chetan Upadhye, and Veeresh Badiger shared a few memories of him. After the sentimental session, the Prayanees visited another farm, Vishaal Natural Food Products. Here, they learned and had hands-on experience in plantation, harvesting, and packaging in the agriculture industry.





# KUPPAM

## 10

Agastya International Foundation

Shortly after arriving at Agastya International Foundation, the Prayanees were given an introduction and tour of the facilities. They visited the Design Lab, Innovation Lab, Young Instructive Leader Lab, and an astronomy auditorium.



Furthermore, the Prayanees got to participate in the hands-on activity in creating seed balls. With a mixture of red dirt, cow dung, and water, into a ball, a seed was planted in the center. These balls will later be planted at Agastya International Foundation to grow plants that are beneficial to birds. Later in the night, the Prayanees played some music and had a dance off. It was a great way to end a long day of learning and hard work.





# HUBBALLI

## 11

### Kalkeri Sangeet Vidyalaya

After a train journey, the Prayanees met again and arrived at Kalkeri Sangeet Vidyalaya (KSV) in Hubballi. They met with Mr. Adam Woodward, the Managing Director, who led a session and gave a tour of the school. KSV gives underprivileged children access to education and traditional Indian arts at no cost.

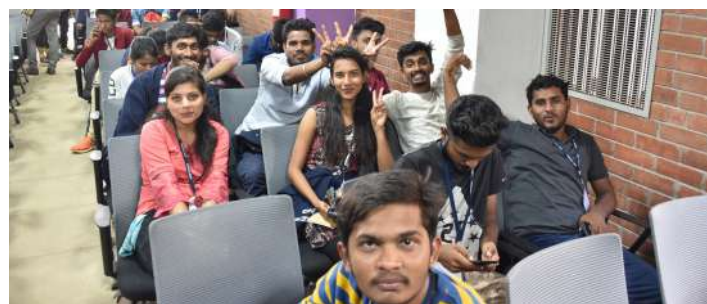
Later in the evening, the Prayanees were divided into small groups and placed in village homes for the night. Each student gained a unique and unforgettable experience from cooking, farming, cleaning, and more.



## 12

### Sandbox Startups and Deshpande Foundation

The Prayanees met with Mr. Amrut Patil (Sandbox Startup Manager), where they learnt about Sandbox Startups and their vision. Their vision is to “enable entrepreneurs to impact people’s lives in rural and semi-rural communities across India”.



Prayanees were divided into groups and given a tour of the facilities. Next, the Prayanees went to the head office of Deshpande Foundation (DF) for a kick-off event which included a dance performance by the service team of DF. It was their first time performing and the audience gave them a standing ovation! This was followed by a session where Dr. Gururaj “Desh” Deshpande addressed the Prayanees and answered some of their questions. After the session at DF, Prayanees went back to Deshpande Educational Trust for dinner and a reflection time, where funny moments from the journey were shared with everyone.

# Y U V A S U M M I T

## 13

The 9th Yuva Summit brought together over 1,000 college youth from across 5 states. The day started with LEAD Talk, a series of LEADers sharing their experiences and innovations with the crowd. The speakers include, LEADer Varadh, Vimala, Sharon, Monika, Riddhima, Vishwanath, and Ena.



Honorable speakers were invited to the stage. Each speaker shared their insight in leadership and encouraged the LEADers to aim high. The speakers include Mr. R.S. Hiremath, Captain Naveen Nagappa, Ms. Carrie Morgridge, and Mr. Gerald Chertavian. Moreover, throughout the day awards were given to LEADers and projects were on display.



Mr. Abhinandan Kavale initiated the Innovators Panel that featured Mr. N M Pratap, Mr. Niranjan, Mr. Prajwal, Mr. Yuvraj. They spoke on their inventions and their solutions to issues they saw in the community







After a final yoga session by Vivek Pawar, Prayanees went to a set of morning sessions which focussed on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the UN. A history of the Deshpande Foundation was given by Ajay Shukla and Nishil Acharya. Manasi Vikram Kirloskar (business and social entrepreneur) hosted a panel discussion with Gauri Arora (Private Sector Specialist United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office), Prince Kapoor and Ketan Munoth (Co-founders of Urban Essentials), and Perna Mukharya (Founder of Outline India). A video was shown, and many important topics were addressed.

“  
**IF INDIA ACHIEVES  
 THE SDGS,  
 THE WORLD WILL ACHIEVE  
 THE SDGS**  
**GAURI ARORA**  
 ”



# I'VE UNLEASHED MY LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL...

## NOW WHAT?

After seeing each of your leadership potentials being unleashed during this extraordinary journey, we at LEAD would like to see you go on with hands-on leadership experience. To make real change, we would like you to get engaged in the following ways.

- 1. Stay connected!** Follow LEAD on all social media platforms (@dcselead) to get regular inspiration and see what other LEADers are doing in their communities. You'll also never miss any LEAD events or updates! Keep in touch with fellow Prayanees to stay motivated, support each other, and build long-lasting friendships!
- 2. Haven't started a LEAD project yet? START NOW!** During LEAD Prayana, you met many role models and speakers who made a big difference by addressing a small issue in their community. Now it's your turn! Don't have an idea? Start looking around you for issues you think you can help address. You can also check out the Idea Bank on our LEAD website ([leadcampus.org](http://leadcampus.org)), or get in touch with local LEADers to gain inspiration or join a group project.
- 3. Become a Master LEADer or LEAD Ambassador!** Now that you have completed LEAD Prayana, you are eligible to apply to become a Master LEADer, and eventually a LEAD Ambassador. Master LEADers are on the front line, engaging with promising students and spreading the word about the benefits of joining LEAD. Ambassadors get the chance to represent LEAD on their campus and work closely with the LEAD associates and school administration to help LEAD grow at their college. Contact your local LEAD associate to discuss setting up an interview.
- 4. Attend a Valedictory!** LEAD Valedictories occur in many LEAD centers across India in April, and it is where the stand-out projects and LEADers in that location are identified, showcased, and awarded. It is a great opportunity to reunite with your fellow Prayanees from your area and to network with other local LEADers. Visit our website ([leadcampus.org](http://leadcampus.org)) for more information.
- 5. Join the LEAD Leadership Program (LLP)!** LLP is a unique 10-day residential camp that emphasizes practical exposure over classroom learning. LLP combines hands on learning experience in understanding practically leadership, team building, critical thinking, creativity and entrepreneurial mindset through inspiring guest speaker sessions, individual mentorship, engaging activities, and exposure visits to industries and community-based organizations in order to foster practical, critical and creative thinking ability within the students. LLPs take place in late May, June, and July, and you can find application information on our website, [leadcampus.org](http://leadcampus.org).

Best of luck as you continue your leadership journey!

Ajay Suman Shukla & the LEAD Team



# INSPIRING WORDS OF LEAD PRAYANA



DR. APARNA



AS YOU CHASE YOUR DREAMS, AMBITIONS, AND GOALS IN LIFE, THERE WILL BE A LOT OF CRITICS. BUT LEARN TO DISREGARD THE CRITICS



MR. VEERENDRA HEGGADE



FOCUS,  
BELIEVE IN YOURSELF,  
RESPECT THE WORK.



MR. KETAN MUNOTH



TAKE A LEAP OF FAITH  
TO ENSURE THAT YOUR  
IDEA OR SOLUTION CAN  
BE IMPLEMENTED



DR. GURURAJ DESHPANDE



PEOPLE ARE NOT BORN  
TO DO ONE THING, YOU  
CAN BE GOOD AT  
ANYTHING YOU WANT



MS. PRERNA MUKHARYA



WHAT MAKES  
INDIA SO EXCITING,  
[IS THAT] YOU CAN DO  
SOMETHING SMALL AND  
CREATE GREAT CHANGE



MR. NARAYANA MURTHY



YOU MUST ASPIRE  
HIGHER AND HIGHER. IF  
YOU DON'T ASPIRE TO  
SOMETHING, YOU WON'T  
HAVE A CHANCE TO  
ACHIEVE EVEN HALF OF  
THAT



# PRAYANEES OF 2019

**LEAD**  
**PRAYANA**  
Unleash your leadership potential



**ACTION**  
**AKSHAY**



**ATTRACTIVE**  
**AKSHATA**



**BLISSFUL**  
**BHANDAVYA**



**KIND**  
**KARISHMA**



**MISS**  
**MOHINI**



**AWESOME**  
**ANKITA**



**BUBBLY**  
**BHUVANA**



**BODACIOUS**  
**BHOOMIKA**



**IRREPLACEABLE**  
**IMMANUEL**



**MORAL**  
**MANOHAR**



**ACTIVE**  
**AKASHITA**



**DANGEROUS**  
**DHRUV**



**JOLLY**  
**JAGDISH**



**JOY**  
**JYOTI**



**KINETIC**  
**KALMESH**



**ADMIRABLE**  
**ADARSH**



**DARING**  
**DHANIK**



**JOYFUL**  
**JODI**



**KOOL**  
**KIRAN**



**KITE**  
**KAJAL**



**ADOPTABLE**  
**ANISHA**



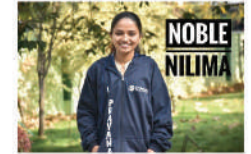
**DHAKSHA**  
**DHANUSH**



**KATHARNAK**  
**KALAWATI**



**KRAZY**  
**KRISHA**



**NOBLE**  
**NILIMA**



**AGRSSIVE**  
**ABHILASH**



**DYNAMIC**  
**DIVYANSH**



**KEEP UP**  
**KAJAL**



**LUSTROUS**  
**LAKSHMI**



**OBIDIENT**  
**OMI**



**ALL OK**  
**ALOK**



**GALLANT**  
**GURURAJ**



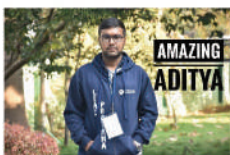
**KIDDO**  
**KOMAL**



**MARVELOUS**  
**MANOJ**



**PASSIONATE**  
**PRAJNA**



**AMAZING**  
**ADITYA**



**GREAT**  
**GOPI**



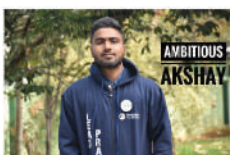
**KILLER**  
**KAUSHAL**



**MASKED**  
**MANI**



**PASSIONO**  
**PRATEEKSHA**



**AMBITIOUS**  
**AKSHAY**



**BINDAS**  
**BALU**



**KILLER**  
**KAVYA**



**MASTERMIND**  
**MUKTA**



**PEACEFUL**  
**PRASAD**



**PEDAUT**  
**PRINCE**



**RAPID**  
**RESHMA**



**SARCASTIC**  
**SAMI**



**SINGER**  
**SAHANA**



**SMILEY**  
**SANTOSH**







# LEAD TEAM



Ajay Suman Shukla



Abhinandan Kavale



Sanmati Jakkannavar



Guru Konnuramath



Anisha Cardoza



Sunil Baragundi



Pramod Hukkeri



Krishnaji Chandrappa More



Vishakha Chitare



Tanveer Taj



Santosh Biradar



Rakesh Totakar



Akshata Badiger



Praveen Kumar



Sardhar Ganesh



Pragathi Tangella



Vaishnavi Goud



Vamshi Krishna



Ashok Nadigadda



Neeraj Misha



Chandan Tiwari



Arpit Mishra



Manjeet Singh



Sarika Dubey



Amarjeet Singh



Constanza Ramis



Jodi Cheung

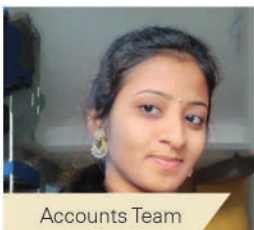


Josh Willemsen



Dylan Renouf

# SUPPORTING TEAMS



Accounts Team



Design Team



Web Communication Team



Travel Team





## SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS



**LEAD, Deshpande Foundation**  
**LEAD Helpline: 080-3301-2041 or leadcampus.org**

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MCIIE,  
IIT-Banaras Hindu University  
Varanasi - 221005, Uttar Pradesh

Rukmini Chambers,  
Vinayak Nagar, Nizamabad  
-503001, Telangana

**3 JOURNEYS, 1 MOTTO**  
follow our social media to see more!





From January 21<sup>st</sup> to February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019, 40 students from Telangana travelled 1800 km over 14 days to 5 destinations and heard from 17 inspiring speakers.

This is...







## Why do we do **LEAD PRAYANA**?

LEAD Prayana, which began in 2012, is an annual leadership journey that takes over 200 passionate students aged between 18-26 from throughout India on a 14-day tour across either Karnataka (Route 1), Telangana (Route 2), or Uttar Pradesh (Route 3). Packed with role model sessions, hands-on activities, and site visits, LEAD Prayana inspires students by exposing them to individuals and institutions which have innovated and implemented solutions to major challenges. Through this leadership journey, we aim to instill in the participants a need to bring change through effective leadership. When LEAD Prayana 2019, concludes, we will have had over 1,000 students go on this leadership journey of a lifetime.

Through sessions with our specially selected role models and speakers, the participants are exposed to leaders across a variety of fields and not only learn more about topics including entrepreneurship, agriculture, technology, and the non-profit sector, but hear about the ups and downs these accomplished leaders have gone through in their own leadership journeys. These intimate discussions help to broaden the participants' understanding of what a leader looks like and how to undertake their next steps to becoming leaders. An emphasis on asking questions offers the participants the unique experience to interact with the role models and speakers, and makes their Prayana more personal and rewarding.

Hands-on activities and community break-out sessions take the participants out of the classroom to enhance and apply their leadership skills in the community. Conducting educational activities and interactions in villages along the route and team building activities amongst the participants are planned with the aim of experiential learning. The skills learned in these activities will help the participants once they return to their colleges and start projects in their communities.

While ultimately a learning experience, LEAD Prayana is also an opportunity for fun and friendship. Group activities such as dancing, yoga, and games not only offer time to have fun and unwind during the journey, but help the participants to get to know each other. With participants from five different states across India, LEAD Prayana aims to offer a national networking opportunity for its participants and the possibility for lifelong friendships and connections with other motivated future leaders.

## 2019 Prayanee Testimonials



"LEAD Prayana for me is a phenomenal experience. The 14-day journey of fully packed fun and learning is insane. I got to learn and experience things that I would never had experienced if it wasn't for Prayana. The fact that people of my age are doing things that are creating such an impact inspires me and makes me want to contribute too. LEAD Prayana will go down as one of the best times of my life."

**- Raahel Baig**

"I really gained a lot from this journey and got to understand how to deal with people of different mentalities."

**- Nithyasri Chiluka**



"I have learnt many things from Prayana. In the 14-day journey, I experienced life as a rich and poor person and I gained a better understanding of how to overcome problems, improve myself, and talk with people. Prayana has given me many memories and helps me build a network throughout the different states. The journey has given me strength to face my challenges."

**- Ruthwik**

"I've learned how to talk on stage fearlessly and have gained leadership qualities."

**- Vaishnavipriya Ramagiri**



"Prayana is a journey where we can learn many things. The things I learnt include communication skills, leadership qualities, innovative thinking, sustainability, sharing, network building, intellectual ability, and many others."

**- Nataraj Puram**

"Prayana taught me that family is a major role in our life, we need to work hard and commit to succeed in life, always have a positive mind-set, be patience, as well as how to properly build myself up."

**- Bagula Bhavani**





### Day 1: January 21

### Kick-Off at Kakatiya • Presidency High School • Shree Gajanan Industries



The first day of the journey started with a kickoff ceremony and addresses from Mr. Sunil Reddy (Founder of Orange Travels), Mr. Surendra Nayak (Deputy General Manager, SBI), and Mr. Praveen Kumar (Program Officer, LEAD). Mr. Ajit Narra led the tour and session at Presidency High School where Prayanees learned the scientific, unconventional, and environmentally sustainable way the school functions. At Shree Gajanan Industries, Ravish Bhimani (Head of Finance and Compliance), showed the different steps involved in rice production.



### Farm Ponds in Kunayapalli Village

Kumar Swamy, a highly-experienced farmer of Kunayapalli (Siddipet), demonstrated how Farm Ponds and the Better Cotton Initiative is helping farmers build ponds that harvest and store ground and rain water in an environmentally sustainable method. In a nearby village, Prayanees surveyed farmers to understand their struggles and asked questions to Deshpande Foundation employees that are working with the village.



### Day 2: January 22

### Day 3: January 23

### Bala Vikasa • Model Village



At Bala Vikasa, Prayanees heard from Bala Theresa (Founder), Sunitha Reddy (Program Manager for People Development Training Center), and Shoury Reddy (Executive Director) about the NGOs goal of “helping communities help themselves” through community driven development. Bala Theresa shared her story of leaving Canada and coming back to India to give back to her people. Prayanees then visited Gangadevarapally, known as a model village because of Bala Vikasa’s work over several decades. They also interviewed some people from the village and listened to a talk by the village leader, Rajamouli.





Day 4: January 24

Laknavaram Lake • Bussapur Primary School



There was a fun visit to Laknavaram Lake and then Prayanees went to Bussapur Primary School. Some painted colourful pictures to add life to the school, others surveyed villagers and taught them about online conveniences, while others informed about LEAD and asked for donations in return for tasks. Back in Nizamabad, some of the Prayanees shared their reflection of the first four days.



Development Dialogue • LEAD Summit

Day 5: January 25



In the morning, Prayanees enjoyed some inspirational sessions from influential leaders, entrepreneurs, and social innovators at Kakatiya's Development Dialogue in Nizamabad. There was a flash mob, dance performance by Dr. Haleem Khan, and Vivek Pawar hosted a panel with Sudheer Mareddi (Co-founder & MD of Ebutor), Neha Aggarwal (2008 Olympian for table tennis), and Surjai Karampuri (Telangana government official) on the topic of skill development. Neha Aggarwal, also spoke about her work training Indian Olympic athletes and said that, "it only takes 6 grams of gold to lift a nation".



LEAD Summit was a time for Prayanees to hear from role model speakers, ask questions, give speeches, be entertained, and win awards for their projects throughout the year. There were talks/panel discussions with Vivek Pawar, Ajay Suman Shukla, Vinish Bhimani (Managing Director at Kimoha Entrepreneurs) Viiveck Verma (Chief Strategy Officer at Srinivasa Farms), and Alakh Naresh Gargiya (CEO of Pay1). "The only face you are accountable to is the face in the mirror"- Viiveck Verma. Best word to describe LEAD: Inspiration (Mr. Gargiya), Satisfaction (Mr. Verma), Fantastic (Mr. Bhimani).





Day 6: January 26

Republic Day • Tree Planting



Prayanees attended a ceremony at a government school to celebrate Republic Day (flag hoisting, national anthem, dance performance). At Indur Thirumala, Prayanees got their hands dirty planting trees to positively impact the environment. Narsimha Reddy gave multiple sessions where he talked about the medicinal value of plants, the formula for true happiness, the struggles he faced purchasing the land for the temple and farm and that all religions should get along, and even taught the Prayanees an ancient game. "True happiness is attained when you do the things that make you happy, but only if those things lead to happy results" – Narsimha Reddy. The finished with an overnight bus journey to Nalgonda Sandbox.



Nalgonda Sandbox

Day 7: January 27

Suresh Guptha, former Sudha Bank manager turned full-time promotor of proper environmental practices. Mr. Guptha changed the way he treats the environment and hopes Prayanees will do the same. Gona Reddy, CEO of Nalgonda Sanbox, told Prayanees, "I want you to become leaders, change makers, and problem solvers". Chandan Tiwari, LEAD Program Associate, talked about the 10 steps to create a successful startup. The Prayanees were then challenged to create something that could be sold out of scrap materials like plastic bottles, cardboard, glue, and string. Then it was a time for fun, singing, dancing, and games.





### Day 8: January 28

### Sam Agri • Google



Mr. Ajay (Domestic Business Manager) gave Prayanees a brief presentation about Sam Agri, an international fruit producer and exporter with its headquarters in Hyderabad. Mr. M. N. Rao (Marketing Manager) led a tour of the incredibly efficient fruit and vegetable processing and packing systems. Prayanees were given the opportunity to visit the Google office in Hyderabad and were very impressed with its five themed floors and creative work space. After the tour, Mr. Rushab led a workshop on how to create an effective resume and excel in a job interview. In the evening, two birthdays were celebrated and individual reflection activity was completed.

### Akshaya Patra • Nirmaan Organization

### Day 9: January 29



Prayanees visited Akshaya Patra Foundation, the world's largest modern kitchen that provided lunch for Rs. 17+ lakh government school children every day with the use of 39 kitchens. There was a tour of the state of the art facility and a session was led by Yagneshwara Dasa, who mentioned that, "an NGO is only successful when the root problem is solved and it can exit the industry". At Nirmaan Organization, Prayanees learned about its three functions: workshops in schools to create career awareness, Nirmaan's Vidya Helpline for career advice, and Career Saathi Program (CSP) connects students with mentors. The CEO, Rakesh Anugula, wants people to find a career in their field of interest. Later, there were team building activities.



### Day 10: January 30

### IIIT • Cyient • Wave Labs



The first session was held at IIIT and led by role model Dr. Ramancharla Pradeep Kumar, Professor of Civil Engineering. His main point was the body needs little, but "happiness comes from relationship and self-fulfillment". Next, Prayanees heard from employees at Cyient Inc. and its founder, Dr. B.V.R Mohan Reddy. Additive manufacturing (3D printing) and the Golden Eye scanner were demonstrated. Dr. Reddy spoke on leadership and entrepreneurship and said, "the secret of success lies in doing common tasks uncommonly well". At Wave Labs, Ajay Suman Shukla talked about how doing unusual things (like reducing plastic use) make Prayanees innovators. Ms. Sunitha Krishnan, told the story of how being gang raped at age 15 led her to start the Prajwala Foundation, which works with survivors of sexual exploitation and has rescued 21,000 women and children. Finally, ex-Prayanees shared what they do now and their experiences with LEAD Prayana.





### 50K Ventures • Wave Labs • Amazon

Day 11: January 31

50K Ventures makes small investments (50K USD) into and supports the development of business startups. Its founder, Sanjay Enishetty, told the story of 50K Ventures and urged Prayanees to start something soon because it will be beneficial even if it fails. Wave Labs supports tech startups using open source technology. Its founder, Vineel Nalla, told Prayanees to, “follow the vision, not the money”. Next was a tour of Amazon’s Hyderabad’s office and session with the staff that taught Prayanees the history and functions of the company and its “customer obsession”. The day ended with dinner at Mommy’s kitchen (owned by LEAD Prayana organizer Annie).



### Day 12: February 1

### Sandbox Startups • Deshpande Foundation



The Prayanees were met with Mr. Amrut Patil (Sandbox Startup Manager), where they learnt about the Sandbox Startups and their vision. Their vision is to “enable entrepreneurs to impact people’s lives in rural and semi-rural communities across India”. Prayanees were then broken into groups and given a tour of the facilities and got to some of the work spaces provided for startups including a mechanical lab and maker’s lab. Next, Prayanees went to the head office of Deshpande Foundation (DF) for a kickoff event which included a dance performance by the service team of DF. It was their first time performing and the audience gave them a standing ovation! This was followed by a session where Dr. Gururaj “Desh” Deshpande directly addressed the Prayanees and answered some of their questions. After the session at DF, Prayanees went back to Deshpande Educational Trust for dinner and a reflection time where funny moments from the journey were shared with everyone.

### Hubballi • Yuva Summit

Day 13: February 2



The 9th Yuva Summit brought together over 1,000 college youth from across 5 states. The day started with LEAD Talk, a series of LEADers sharing their experiences and innovations with the crowd. The speakers include, LEADer Varadh, Vimala, Sharon, Monika, Riddhima, Vishwanath, and Ena. After, Mr. Abhinandan Kavale initiated the Innovators Panel that featured Mr. N M Pratap, Mr. Niranjan, Mr. Prajwal, Mr. Yuvraj. They spoke on their inventions and their solutions to issues they saw in the community. Afterwards, honorable speakers were invited to the stage. Each speaker shared their insight in leadership and encouraged the LEADers to aim high. The speakers include Mr. R.S. Hiremath, Captain Naveen Nagappa, Ms. Carrie Morgridge, and Mr. Gerald Chertavian. Moreover, throughout the day awards were given to LEADers and projects were on display.



Day 14: February 3

Shifting Tide: A Dialogue on Business and the Sustainable Development Goals



After a final yoga session by Vivek Pawar, Prayanees went to a set of morning sessions which focussed on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the UN. A history of the Deshpande Foundation was given by Ajay Shukla and Nishil Acharya. Manasi Vikram Kirloskar (business and social entrepreneur) hosted a panel discussion with Gauri Arora (Private Sector Specialist United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office), Prince Kapoor and Ketan Munoth (Co-founders of Urban Essentials), and Perna Mukharya (Founder of Outline India). A video was shown and many important things were addressed. "If India achieves the SDGs, the world will achieve the SDGs" - Gauri Arora. "I think if we improve our infrastructure, the inclusion of more women into the workforce could be achieved" – Manasi Kirloskar. "That's what makes India so exciting, you can do something small and create great change" – Perna Mukharya. "You need to have the right combination of flexibility and persistence to run a successful business" – Prince Kapoor.



## Inspiration from **LEAD PRAYANA** role models!



"The secret of success lies in doing common tasks uncommonly well"  
**Dr. B.V.R. Mohan Reddy**, Founder of Cyient Inc.



"I believe I can be the change I want"  
**Ms. Sunitha Krishnan**, Founder of Prajwala Foundation



"People are not born to do one thing, you can be good at anything you want"  
**Dr. Gururaj "Desh" Deshpande**, Co-Founder of the Deshpande Foundation



"History is created by people that believe in themselves"  
**Captain Naveen Nagappa**, Kargil War Veteran, Sena Medal



**I've unleashed my leadership potential...**

**... now what?**

After seeing each of your leadership potentials being unleashed during this extraordinary journey, we at LEAD would like to see you go on with hands-on leadership experience. Each one of you has immense potential, and to prove your presence and to make real change, we would like you to get engaged in the following ways.

### **1. Stay connected!**

Follow LEAD on all social media platforms (/dcselead) to get regular inspiration and see what other LEADers are doing in their communities. You'll also never miss any LEAD events or updates! It is also important to stay connected with your fellow Prayanees. Keep in touch and use the networks LEAD Prayana helped you build to stay motivated, support each other, and build long-lasting friendships!

### **2. Haven't started a LEAD project yet? START NOW!**

During LEAD Prayana, you met many role models and speakers who made a big difference by addressing a small issue in their community. Now it's your turn! If you've always thought about doing something to change something in society, start today! We at LEAD are here to support you. Don't have an idea? Start looking around you for issues you think you can help address. Even small projects are steps along your leadership journey. You can also check out the Idea Bank on our LEAD website (leadcampus.org), or get in touch with local LEADers to gain inspiration or join a group project.

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### **4. Attend a Valedictory!**

LEAD Valedictories occur in many LEAD centers across India in April, and it is where the stand-out projects and LEADers in that location are identified, showcased, and awarded. Valedictories commemorate all the hard work, innovation, and learning that happened in the past academic year. It is also a great opportunity to reunite with your fellow Prayanees from your area and to network with other local LEADers. Visit our website (leadcampus.org) for more information.

### **5. Join the LEAD Leadership Program (LLP)!**

LLP is a unique 10-day residential camp that emphasizes practical exposure over classroom learning. LLP combines hands-on learning experience in understanding practical leadership, team building, critical thinking, creativity and entrepreneurial mindset through inspiring guest speaker sessions, individual mentorship, engaging activities, and exposure visits to industries and community-based organizations in order to foster practical, critical and creative thinking ability within the students. LLPs take place in late May, June, and July, and you can find application information on our website, leadcampus.org.

**Best of luck as you continue your leadership journey!**

**Ajay Suman Shukla & the LEAD team**

# THANK YOU

## TO ALL OUR LOYAL SPONORS



Ma Palle Charitable Trust

**LEAD, Deshpande Foundation**

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Karnataka

MCIIE,  
IIT- Banaras Hindu University,  
Varanasi - 221005, Uttar Pradesh

Rukmini Chambers,  
Vinayak Nagar, Nizamabad,  
- 503001, Telangana





2019



**LEAD**  
**PRAYANA**

*Unleash your leadership potential*

UTTAR PRADESH

# WHY DO WE DO LEAD PRAYANA



LEAD Prayana, which began in 2012, is an annual leadership journey that takes over 120 passionate students aged between 18-26 from throughout India on a 15-day tour across Karnataka, and parts of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. Packed with role model sessions, hands on activities, and site visits, LEAD Prayana inspire students by exposing them to individuals and institutions which have innovated and implemented solutions to major challenges. Through this leadership journey we aim to instill in the participants a need to bring change through effective leadership.

Through sessions with our specially selected role models and speakers, the participants are exposed to leaders across a variety of fields and not only learn more about topics including entrepreneurship, agriculture, technology, and the non-profit sector, but hear about the up and downs these accomplished leaders have gone through in their own leadership journeys. An emphasis on asking questions offers the participants the unique experience to interact with the role models and speakers and makes their Prayana more personal and rewarding.

Hands-on activities and community break-out sessions take the participants out of the classroom to enhance and apply their leadership skills in the community. Conducting educational activities and interactions in villages along the route and team building activities amongst the participants are planned with the aim of experiential learning.

While ultimately a learning experience, LEAD Prayana is also an opportunity for fun and friendship. Group activities such as dancing, yoga, and games not only offer time to have fun and unwind during the journey but help the participants to get to know each other. With participants from five different states across India, LEAD Prayana aims to offer a national networking opportunity for its participants and the possibility for lifelong friendships and connections with other.



# TESTIMONIALS



Aditya Bansal

“

I am lucky to be [a] part of LEAD Prayana '19 journey. [I] got to learn many new things, [gained] new friends, [and the] main thing I learnt is discipline and leadership, which are key factors to success.

”

“

Prayana 2019 was the best trip I had ever been to! It taught me how to stay strong and calm, even in the toughest situations. Networking and a huge number of friends were the best present Prayana has gifted to me. If you want to experience craziness, zeal and sessions all at the same time, join the next Prayana journey!

”



Ankita Singh

“

I was quite confused on the first day of the Prayana, but [now] I have got a bunch of friends from different cities of India. [I] learned a lot about networking and developed communication skills. All together it was a totally new experience. Be yourself and the world will start loving you as you are!

”



Harsh Agrahari

“

LEAD Prayana helped me not only to find the direction but a clear vision of my goals and boosted my confidence to achieve them... This was the unique journey with lots of adventure, which was [a new] experience for me...

”



Piyush Kumar

# VARANASI CITY



## 01

### Madhopur School and Kiran Society

The first destination of the day was the ancient temple of Varanasi city. Dr. Subhash Chandra Yadav, Regional Archaeologist of the Uttar Pradesh, shared information about the different buildings and historical stories in Varanasi. He spoke about the origin of the "Ganga", ghats, and oldest monuments of Varanasi. After, the Prayanees met Dr. Mishra, Professor of Chemical Engineering at IIT BHU. He operates the Technology Incubation Center which provides aid to entrepreneurs of the country. He shared that, "with true passion and hard work one can achieve all kind of goals".

After, they visited a village and Madhopur School, where they were welcomed with flowers. The primary school at Madhopur has been beautified and enhanced by LEADers. LEADers have educated people in the village about banking facilities and the importance of education. Then, the Prayanees went to Kiran Society, which empowers special abled ones by providing them with basic needs and facilities. Mr. Satish the Director, showed the Prayanees the tools and equipment which are used to teach the kids.

The Prayanees it made to Vishwanath Temple, located at the BHU Campus. They took blessings from the temple and headed to the next destination, Barabanki. After a long journey they were welcomed by the people of the Chandwara village and were surprised with a New Year's Party. They celebrated with music, dancing, and a bonfire. After having a delicious meal, they welcomed in the year 2019. At Barabanki, they participated in various of fun and enriching activities, such as group discussions.

## 02

### Vishwanath Temple and BHU







# BARABANKI

## 03

### Chandwara Village and Madarasa Village

The Prayanees started the first day of the year in Chandwara village with some hands-on activities. The road in the village was unfit for transportation so the Prayanees helped by placing bricks. They created a "human chain" and used teamwork to get the job done. Within an hour, they created a street that was practical for the villagers.



Next, they visited a school in Madarasa village and a nearby park. They helped decorate the park by painting quotes and art along the walls. Then, the Prayanees had a session with Mrs. Prakashini Jaiswal and Mr. Rituraj Jaiswal. They shared the issues that the village is facing and their future plans to help improve it. With their hard work and dedication, they received an award by the Prime Minister.

# KANPUR

## 04

### IIT Kanpur

The day started with yoga and a visit to IIT Kanpur, one of the most prestigious colleges of India. Mr. Abhay Karandikar, Director of IIT Kanpur, welcomed the Prayanees and spoke about the future of Telecommunication Industries. He shared his views on topics such as, IPRs connections, mobile radiations, and UV rays. Along with the technical things, he spoke about his college life in IIT Kanpur and his experiences in traveling.

Then, they met with Dr. B. V. Phani, a mechanical engineer at IIT Calcutta. Dr. Phani has a PhD in finance and holds a position of finance innovator and entrepreneurship in the department of industrial management and engineering. He is an alumnus of the great IIT Kanpur. He spoke about the opportunities available in the industry and stated "theoretical knowledge is of no use, unless you [experience] it practically". After, they visited the Flight Laboratory, where the Prayanees got to learn about various aircraft.



## 05

### IIT Kanpur



SIDBI Innovation & Incubation Centre (SIIC), at IIT Kanpur, fosters innovation, research and entrepreneurial activities in technological-related areas. It was established in 2000 with the vision of transforming knowledge into wealth. This was the ideal visit for the Prayanees that are interested in entrepreneurship and developing new ideas. There, they got to interact and network with innovative and business-minded people. It was a memorable and unforgettable experience for the Prayanees.



The Prayanees started the day at IIT Kanpur campus again. Their first session was with Mr. Anil Gupta, leader from the Parivartan team, is a scholar of IIT Kanpur. He shared some insights about his drive and motivations. Mr. Anil Gupta has goals and plans to make Kanpur a cleaner and greener city.

After, they started their journey to the next destination, Vrindavan.



## VRINDAVAN

## 07

Vrindavan Chandrodaya Mandir, Akshay Patra Foundation, Ma Dham, and Yamuna River

The Prayanees reached one of the most famous spiritual cities of India, Vrindavan. It is an important place of pilgrimage for devotees of Lord Krishna. The first place the Prayanees visited was the Vrindavan Chandrodaya Mandir, where they met with Mr. Satyavrat Dasa, the head of processing and planning. He shared the history and plans for the temple.



After, the Prayanees visited Akshay Patra Foundation, an organization which distributes food to millions of schools and people in need. They toured the facility and witnessed how the foundation prepares and processes food.



The day continued with a visit to Ma Dham, an old age home for women who are far away from their family and loved ones. The Prayanees served food and spent quality time with the women. It was a memorable experience for all.

After, The Prayanees visited Yamuna River and was disappointed to see the garbage and dirt all over the ghats. They spent the next hour cleaning the garbage and the locals thanked the Prayanees for their impact.



# N O I D A

## 08

### Amazon and BIMTECH



The day started at the Amazon office in Noida. Miss. Shreya shared that the company was founded in the year 1994, in Washington, by Jeff. It started as a book company and now it sells almost anything you can think of. Miss Shreya discussed the issues that Amazon faces and their efforts to keep advancing in the world. After, the Prayanees visited BIMTECH where they had a chance to meet Miss. Dipti Shankar, the founder of Safe Campus, an organization that teaches women self defense.

In the session she spoke about SOS – Six Seconds of Survival and common breakdowns people had (mental, emotional and physical). This organization has trained 145 schools in just two years. After, was a session with Mr. Navpreet Kaur, director of HCL, where he spoke about the key to a successful life. He gave a brief description about the Happiness Curriculum initiative in Delhi Schools, which will start in July 2019. Then, a long-awaited session with Mr. Dilip Modi began. He shared his life story and motivation to the Prayanees.





# DELHI

## 09

### Goonji Foundation

Goonj Foundation is a NGO that helps people that are less fortunate. The Prayanees got the opportunity to visit the organization and witness how they contribute to society. They aid in disaster relief, humanitarian aid, and community development in 23 states across India.

Furthermore, the foundation helps meet one of the basic needs of humans, clothing. Goonj solves this issue by repurposing old clothing and providing it to those in need. They also make sanitary napkins at a low cost for women.



## 10

### BIMTECH and Spice Digitals

The day started at the Atal Incubation Center at BIMTECH, Noida. They met with Ms. Abha, where she gave a brief introduction about the companies that are being nurtured at BIMTECH. One of the projects she mentioned is Chiraiya, a program dedicated to providing education to girls. After, they met with Mr. Chitrnanjan, vice president of Atal Incubation Center, who spoke about creating ideas and the stages of incubation.

The next visit of the day took place at Spice Digitals, where the Prayanees visited the different departments of the company. The highlight of the tour was being able to visit the LEADers adda. Later, they met again with Mr. Dilip Modi at his home, where they discussed the definition of success. The Prayanees understood that the meaning of success is to find happiness and satisfaction in the field.



# HUBBALLI

## 11

### Kalkeri Sangeet Vidyalaya

After a train journey, the Prayanees met again and arrived at Kalkeri Sangeet Vidyalaya (KSV) in Hubballi. They met with Mr. Adam Woodward, the Managing Director, who led a session and gave a tour of the school. KSV gives underprivileged children access to education and traditional Indian arts at no cost.

Later in the evening, the Prayanees were divided into small groups and placed in village homes for the night. Each student gained a unique and unforgettable experience from cooking, farming, cleaning, and more.

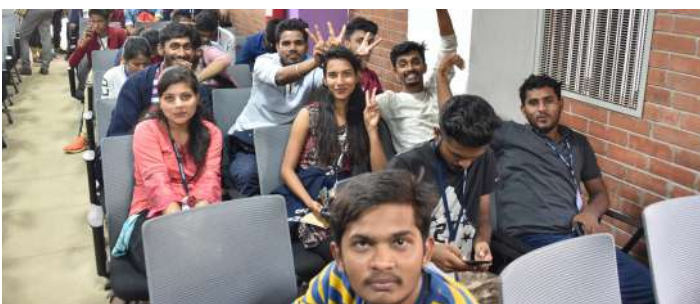


## 12

### Sandbox Startups and Deshpande Foundation

The Prayanees met with Mr. Amrut Patil (Sandbox Startup Manager), where they learnt about Sandbox Startups and their vision. Their vision is to “enable entrepreneurs to impact people’s lives in rural and semi-rural communities across India”.

Prayanees were divided into groups and given a tour of the facilities. Next, the Prayanees went to the head office of Deshpande Foundation (DF) for a kick-off event which included a dance performance by the service team of DF. It was their first time performing and the audience gave them a standing ovation! This was followed by a session where Dr. Gururaj “Desh” Deshpande addressed the Prayanees and answered some of their questions. After the session at DF, Prayanees went back to Deshpande Educational Trust for dinner and a reflection time, where funny moments from the journey were shared with everyone.





# Y U V A S U M M I T

## 13

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“  
**IF INDIA ACHIEVES  
 THE SDGS,  
 THE WORLD WILL ACHIEVE  
 THE SDGS**  
**GAURI ARORA**  
 ”





# I'VE UNLEASHED MY LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL...

## NOW WHAT?

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Best of luck as you continue your leadership journey!

Ajay Suman Shukla & the LEAD Team

# INSPIRING WORDS OF LEAD PRAYANA



DR. APARNA



AS YOU CHASE YOUR DREAMS, AMBITIONS, AND GOALS IN LIFE, THERE WILL BE A LOT OF CRITICS. BUT LEARN TO DISREGARD THE CRITICS



MR. VEERENDRA HEGGADE



FOCUS,  
BELIEVE IN YOURSELF,  
RESPECT THE WORK.



MR. KETAN MUNOTH



TAKE A LEAP OF FAITH  
TO ENSURE THAT YOUR  
IDEA OR SOLUTION CAN  
BE IMPLEMENTED



DR. GURURAJ DESHPANDE



PEOPLE ARE NOT BORN  
TO DO ONE THING, YOU  
CAN BE GOOD AT  
ANYTHING YOU WANT



MS. PRERNA MUKHARYA



WHAT MAKES  
INDIA SO EXCITING,  
[IS THAT] YOU CAN DO  
SOMETHING SMALL AND  
CREATE GREAT CHANGE



MR. NARAYANA MURTHY



YOU MUST ASPIRE  
HIGHER AND HIGHER. IF  
YOU DON'T ASPIRE TO  
SOMETHING, YOU WON'T  
HAVE A CHANCE TO  
ACHIEVE EVEN HALF OF  
THAT



# LEAD TEAM



Ajay Suman Shukla



Abhinandan Kavale



Sanmati Jakkannavar



Guru Konnuramath



Anisha Cardoza



Sunil Baragundi



Pramod Hukkeri



Krishnaji Chandrappa More



Vishakha Chitare



Tanveer Taj



Santosh Biradar



Rakesh Totakar



Akshata Badiger



Praveen Kumar



Sardhar Ganesh



Pragathi Tangella



Vaishnavi Goud



Vamshi Krishna



Ashok Nadigadda



Neeraj Misha



Chandan Tiwari



Arpit Mishra



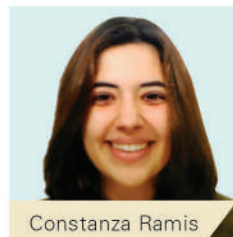
Manjeet Singh



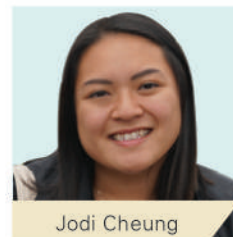
Sarika Dubey



Amarjeet Singh



Constanza Ramis



Jodi Cheung

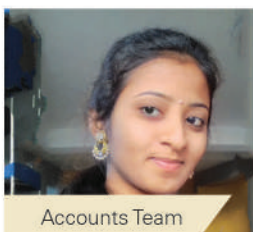


Josh Willemsen



Dylan Renouf

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Vinayak Nagar, Nizamabad  
-503001, Telangana

**3 JOURNEYS, 1 MOTTO**  
follow our social media to see more!

