



PRESENTS

EDUCATIONAL ALCHEMISTS

Transforming Bihar's Districts





PRESENTS

EDUCATIONAL ALCHEMISTS

Transforming Bihar's Districts

Published by
MUSIC BROADCAST LIMITED

Project Visualisation
& Sales Coordination
PATNA SALES TEAM

Written & Edited by
IMRAN MOJIB

Photography
ASHOK SINHA

Disclaimer

This inspirational book is a biographical narrative that reveals the unique thought process, grand vision, untiring efforts and enthralling anecdotes of top achievers in the field of private education in Bihar.

Every article is based on the information shared by the featured person in a freewheeling chat with the author. On certain occasions, additional information and photographs were provided by them through their representatives or sourced from the featured organisation's website or its publication available in the public domain.

This book does not claim any proximity to any of the persons mentioned herein nor does it stake any claim to being a ranking or survey based listing. This book is just marketed by Music Broadcast Limited, Mumbai, India. Music Broadcast Limited, Mumbai,

India, or its employees cannot be held responsible or liable in any manner for any loss or damage caused to any related person or any third party in any way due to mistakes, omissions which may have inadvertently crept in despite care & caution. In no event will Music Broadcast Limited, Mumbai, India, be liable for any loss or damage, including without limitation, direct, indirect, incidental, special, consequential or punitive loss or damages or any loss or damage whatsoever arising out of this book.

No part of this publication may be reduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means—electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise—without prior permission of the publisher.

All Rights Reserved.

PREFACE

Today, people from Bihar are the backbone of Indian administrative machinery. They have been doing exceptionally well in the corporate world as well as in different areas of scientific research, medical and engineering. Credit goes to those selfless souls who truly cared about serving the society and worked tirelessly to upgrade the lives of people around them.

Towards the end of the 20th century, certain people took it upon themselves to prepare the future generations of Bihar to meet the challenges of globalisation as well as to make the most of the opportunities it was supposed to bring to the country.

There was a new awakening. Bihar witnessed yet another phase of reform – introduction of English medium schools imparting modern education. Everyone who decided to make a contribution did it for self satisfaction... no matter whether they belonged to a princely state... or came from a family that has been producing top professionals for generations.

As we are approaching the end of the first quarter of the 21st century, we decided to look for those unsung heroes and document their efforts for posterity. We travelled the length-and-breadth of Bihar and came across several individuals who braved the challenges and continued the mission. We zeroed in on indigenously developed CBSE-affiliated schools and selected one top institution from each district.

This book, “Educational Alchemists: Transforming Bihar's Districts,” celebrates the legacy of twenty visionary educators who transformed socio-economic conditions in their neighbourhood through quality education.

As you flip through pages of the book, you will come across stories of several real life heroes including someone who was a UGC scholar with a PhD degree at an early age of 23 but decided to forego a lucrative career in research and academics to serve the society. The book also traces the cases of top corporate professionals who quit their jobs to give positive direction to hundreds of youth in small towns. While certain edupreneurs came forward and established quality schools offering modern education, several educationists also resigned from top institutions in big cities and returned home to serve children in their neighbourhood.

We present this book to you with great expectations that it will help shine a light on such a dynamic region of India, demonstrating that the challenges and opportunities confronting Bihar are unique and worthy of discussion by academics, businesses and governments.

—IMRAN MOJIB



FOREWORD

“Education is not merely the imparting of knowledge; it is the key to unlocking the vast potential within every individual!”



Ashit Kukian
CEO, Radio City

As we delve into the pages of 'Educational Alchemists Transforming Bihar's Districts,' we embark on a journey through the educational landscape of Bihar, a state committed to the transformative power of learning.

Over the past decade, Bihar has witnessed a remarkable shift in its approach to education. The rise of private schools has played a pivotal role in shaping the educational narrative, offering not just classrooms but vibrant spaces where young minds can thrive and evolve. In this Coffee Table Book, we celebrate these institutions that have become beacons of quality education, providing a platform for holistic development.

Each school featured in these pages represents more than just an institution; it symbolises a commitment to nurturing young talents, fostering a globally-inclusive community, and providing endless extracurricular opportunities for character development. These educational alchemists are moulding the future of Bihar, one student at a time.

However, we must acknowledge the challenges that persist. Disparities in infrastructure, varying student-teacher ratios, and the quest for quality education create concerns for parents seeking the best for their children. This book serves not only as a tribute to the achievements of these schools but also as a guide for parents navigating the important decision of choosing the right educational path for their wards.

Our Radio City team has embarked on an initiative to showcase a visual and editorial journey through the rich history and legacy of these schools. This book is our effort to honour and showcase the dedication and passion of educators who play a pivotal role in shaping the future of Bihar.

May this compilation serve as a source of inspiration and information, igniting conversations that transcend words. Let us collectively strive towards a future where every child in Bihar has access to quality education, unlocking their limitless potential.

— **Ashit Kukian**
CEO, Radio City





Ssa
2023
BEST SCHOOL WITH HOLISTIC LEARNING
PROUDLY PRESENTED TO
GYAN JYOTI AWASIYA VIDHYALAYA

FAKIRI UNIVERSITY
Presents
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AWARDS BANGKOK | 9TH EDITION
Awarded to
CEPI JAIN
WE THANK YOU FOR GRACING THE OCCASION AS FAMILIY!

Ceipi Jain

Tech-Enabled Learning Crucial For Students



Gyan Jyoti Awasiya Vidyalaya, Ara, was among the first few schools to introduce Maths Lab, Robotics and 3D Printing. It helped the students clear the concepts. Several of its alumni, who have studied engineering, express gratitude to their alma mater for introducing them to these facilities so early in life, which ultimately helped them during their higher studies

“Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn.”

This centuries-old famous and most often quoted quote on education continues to inspire educators even in the 21st century to transform lives of their students. The students too remain ever grateful to their alma maters for this learning which helps them scale new heights in life.

Gyan Jyoti Awasiya Vidyalaya, the eminent school in Ara, Bhojpur, is the true manifestation of what various philosophers have taught for several centuries – “actual learning requires that you do those things.”

Ceipi Jain, Co-Founder and Principal of the school, said that the idea to start this school germinated two decades ago when she started looking for a good school in Ara which could offer activity-based learning to her children, but failed to find one. However, it was becoming a norm in other cities.

“I love to read. Read anything meaningful. This habit has helped me keep pace with the global trends and realise the demand of the days to come. As the famous adage goes, 'The more that you read, the more things you will know,' I realised soon that the city needs a school that can prepare children to meet the next-generation challenges,” she recalled.



Today's education providers must realise the widening gap between real life challenges, the job market requirements and what mass schooling currently offers, especially in small towns and tier three cities. They must focus on bridging this gap. Parents should also need to take time out and deliberate seriously what they want for their children's education.

—Aditya Bijay Jain



modern school with her husband Aditya Bijay Jain, who was then running a hi-tech computer education centre, Lakhotia Computer Centre (LCC), to provide quality computer and information technology education to youth in Ara and the neighbouring areas.

Ceipi Jain's vision to provide a robust, vibrant and holistic school education that will engender excellence in every sphere of human endeavour, immediately convinced her husband Aditya Bijay Jain.

In December 2005, the husband-wife duo launched the school in a rented apartment in the heart of the city (South Ramna Road, Near Maharaja College, Ara). It was the first school in Ara ready to impart education with the help of audio-visual medium and a lot of other facilities.

Among the unique offerings introduced since the beginning was the Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation, the school-based system of evaluation commonly known as CCE, which was later introduced by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) New Delhi, in the affiliated schools.

“This was a new concept for the parents which surprised them. Initially not many people were ready to send their wards to our school, thinking it was unnecessary. But we were confident and started the school as per our plan. Although, we launched the school for students of pre-Nursery to Grade 2, there were only eight students when we conducted the first assembly,” recalled Ceipi Jain.

The school also introduced the concept of providing lunch to its students to train them the table manners and to inculcate healthy food habits. Parents were quite concerned about their wards' skipping lunch in schools and throwing tantrums when it came to have healthy food habit. Good table manners demonstrate respect for others at the table and boost a child's confidence.

Aditya Bijay Jain, Co-Founder and Director of the Gyan Jyoti Awasiya Vidyalaya, Ara, said that one of the major challenges faced by them in the early days was procuring audio-visual material to teach students in elementary classes.

“We overcame this by developing audio-visual teaching materials on our own. The faculty members at the LCC extended a helping hand and prepared audio-visual material based on the printed material available for each class,” he recalled.

“The next challenge was to find out teachers who could use audio-visual materials. Since we were introducing a new concept, it was a difficult task. Once again, we sought help from the faculty members of the LCC, who came forward to train our teachers.”

Immense efforts of Aditya Bijay Jain and Ceipi Jain have won the school laurels at various levels.

- Former President of India Ram Nath Kovind had visited the school during his stint as Governor of Bihar. He was so impressed with the students' performance that after becoming President of India, he invited the school management and a group of its students to Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi twice – in 2018 and again in 2019.
- Principal Ceipi Jain, who led the students' delegation, said it was great recognition.
- In the year 2015, when the school's first batch appeared for Grade 10 examination conducted by the CBSE, New Delhi, it registered 100 percent success and each student had earned A1 Grade.
- Principal Ceipi Jain and all the teachers had received appreciation letter from the then HRD Minister of India Smriti Zubin Irani commending their immense efforts in producing such brilliant students.
- Aditya Bijay Jain, Director of the Gyan Jyoti Awasiya Vidyalaya, was awarded honorary doctorate for his immense efforts in the field of education in rural area by Ballsbridge University at the special convocation held in New Delhi on August 24, 2018.
- Principal Ceipi Jain was awarded an honorary doctorate for her efforts in academic management by Theophany University on July 16, 2023.
- Gyan Jyoti Awasiya Vidyalaya, Ara, won the Best School with Holistic Learning Award 2023 at the 9th International School Award, held in Bangkok.
- Ceipi Jain was also honoured at the 9th International School Award, held in Bangkok.

Making a Difference

But it was not only the modern technologies that the school focused upon. It simultaneously introduced the students to their rich and diversified culture and trained them in fine arts as well. To ensure overall development of the students they were also trained in acting, dancing and singing. To showcase their talent to the world, the school organised various festivals and cultural activities with full participation of the students. It helped them on various levels – to overcome stage fright and to identify their hidden talent as well.



“Since the very first day we were focused on experiential learning, experimental learning, holistic development... this concept has hogged the limelight only after introduction of the New Education Policy (NEP),” she said.

Soon, remarkable development of the students got noticed by one and all. The parents started appreciating the school management for the unique approach to education. It also changed other people's perception towards new ways of teaching with the help of audio-visual medium.

It took some time to win people's trust. But within two-three years, the school started getting overwhelming response. Soon, the management realised that the rented apartment was not enough to cater to the growing demand.

Eye on Future

Keeping an eye on the future requirement, the school management realised the need to shift to a larger campus, which was not available within the city. Thus, in 2009, a plot of land was purchased along the Ara-Buxar highway. Soon the management started constructing the dedicated school building which also fulfilled the norms set by the CBSE, New Delhi. In 2012, the school was shifted to the new campus.

“It was a big challenge to purchase such a big plot of land and construct a building that not only meets the CBSE norms but should also be big enough to cater to the growing demand in decades to come,” said Ceipi Jain.

Construction of the school building was completed within three years and the management started planning to move to the new campus. But another challenge was awaiting – parents were not ready to

send their wards to a location which was a bit far from the city. However, this challenge was also overcome once the parents experienced the extra-ordinary infrastructure of the school and the management promised them to provide intelligent transport system.

Major Milestones

In 2012 itself, the school got the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), New Delhi, affiliation for Class 10th examination.

“There were only five students in the first batch that appeared for grade 10th examination conducted by the CBSE, New Delhi, in 2015. But we were thrilled to see the results as each one of them had secured A1 Grade,” recalled Ceipi Jain.

The thrill got doubled when Principal Ceipi Jain and all the teachers received appreciation letter from the then HRD Minister of India Smriti Zubin Irani commending their immense efforts to produce such brilliant students.

The year 2016 was another major milestone in the history of the Gyan Jyoti Awasiya Vidyalaya when the school management decided to introduce Ara to another set of ground-breaking technology. The school became first in the district to introduce a number of innovative laboratories including Maths Lab, Language Lab, Robotics Lab, and the 3D Printing Lab.

In addition to the Computer lab connected to the Internet and Composite Lab of science subjects, the students were also provided with the Science hands-on activity kit. It helped students to complete their projects individually. Each student, from Grade 1 onwards, completes 12-15 projects every year.

- 2005 : School started in a rented apartment in Ara.
- 2009 : Construction started for school's dedicated building.
- 2012 : School shifted to the new campus.
- 2012 : The school got CBSE-affiliation.
- 2015 : First batch of students appeared for Grade 10 examinations conducted by the CBSE, New Delhi. School registered 100 per cent result, each student secured A1 Grade.
- 2016 : Maths Lab, Language Lab, Robotics Lab, and 3D Printing Lab set up at the school.
- 2018-19 : Students visited Rashtrapati Bhavan on the invitation of President of India Ram Nath Kovind.
- 2023 : Won the Best School with Holistic Learning Award 2023 at the 9th International School Award, held in Bangkok.

students earn laurels in various national competitions. One of the major achievements was participation in a Robotics competition organised by the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), New Delhi, where the school students competed with the 1st and 2nd year engineering students of the IIT-Delhi and won appreciation for their innovative projects. Later, a banner with photos of the participating students was put-up at the IIT-Kanpur in appreciation of their talent.

The Covid-19 pandemic and sudden lockdown in the country posed one of the biggest challenges to educational institutions across India. But the school successfully managed to start the academic session as per the plan, albeit online.

“The online classes helped students keep up with their studies during the lockdown. But we are facing two major challenges – the students' writing capability has deteriorated significantly and disciplinary issues as students were living in their comfort zone. But with collective effort we were able to control it significantly,” said Ceipi Jain.

“We were among the first few schools in the North Zone to provide these facilities. It helped our students clear the concept. Several of our alumni, who have studied engineering, express their gratitude for introducing them to Maths Lab, Robotics and 3D Printing so early in life, which ultimately helped them during their higher studies,” she said.

For overall development of its students, the school has also introduced swimming pool and train students for professional competition. Besides, its students also represent the school at various state and national level competitions in swimming, table tennis, chess, basketball, volleyball, kabaddi. Several of them have been enrolled for coaching by





Since the very first day we focused on experiential learning, experimental learning, holistic development... this concept has hogged the limelight only after introduction of the New Education Policy.

— Ceipi Jain

professional cricketers as well. The school has recently started training in skating as well.

To inculcate social responsibility, the school frequently organises various activities including health camp, cleanliness activities, road safety awareness, environment awareness and the Karuna club.

Future Project

After registering momentous success with the Gyan Jyoti Awasiya Vidyalaya, Aditya Bijay Jain has embarked on another ambitious journey – offering youth in Ara and neighbouring districts to continue their higher studies locally.

With this vision, he has established a management college in Ara which offers various courses in the field of management and computer applications including MBA, BBA and BCA. The Jinvani Management College was inaugurated by the Union Minister for Power, New & Renewable Energy Raj Kumar Singh in November 2022.

Founder Director Aditya Bijay Jain said, “Today’s education providers must realise the widening gap between real life challenges, the job market requirements and what mass schooling currently offers, especially in small towns and tier three cities. They must focus on bridging this gap. Parents should also need to take time out and deliberate seriously what they want for their children’s education.”

Approved by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), the college is affiliated to the Aryabhata Knowledge University, Patna. Currently, it offers BCA, BBA and MBA degree courses. The management has plans to develop it into a university by the year 2030.

“In our continued efforts to maintain this institution’s reputation, we are ably supported by our sons Arihant Bijay Jain and Siddha Bijay Jain as well as by our daughter Jinvani Jain. We are confident of their leadership capabilities that will take the Gyan Jyoti Awasiya Vidyalaya and the Jinvani Management College to new heights,” concluded Aditya Bijay Jain.



From left: Ceipi Jain, Jinvani Arihant Bijay Jain, Siddha Jain and Aditya Bijay Jain (sit



The perfect synergy between the crucial stakeholders of a child's destiny and our commitment to the society shall certainly help the young mind, body and spirit to metamorphose into human beings laced with the knowledge and skills needed to hold on their own in the world.

— Abhishek Kumar Singh

