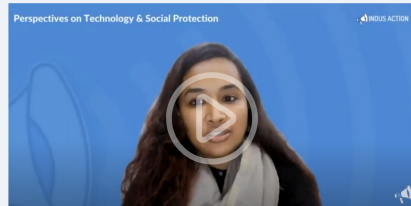


Hello Readers!

We hope that you've had a great start to 2022. For those of you battling with Covid19, we wish strength and resilience.

December was a lively month at Indus Action and we hope to carry the same energy, zeal, and enthusiasm in the new year. Last month, we **released the fourth edition of our annual [Bright Spots Report 2021](#)**, which **focuses on inclusion in the Indian education system through the lens of the [Right to Education Act](#)**. We also released some key findings in the [RTE Retention Survey 2021](#). The launch event was held in collaboration with [Cisco CSR](#) and [Save the Children](#), where we hosted insightful conversations around the subjects of making learning more equitable and accessible. Check out the [key takeaways here](#).

Critical data from our [Bright Spots Report](#) was covered by the [Times of India](#). Read the full article [here](#).



Our team was on a roll in December, because we released another episode of **#IATalks** where eminent industry leaders like **Sekhar Bonu from NITI Aayog, Digvijay Singh from UNDP, Anita Kumar from Cisco, and Sid Ravinutala from IDInsight** discussed their [“Perspectives on Technology and Social Protection.”](#)

Point Of View

Many students and teachers hoped that 2022 would be the year they would return to physical schools and classes, but amidst a third wave, the country is going through another round of lockdowns. As children are being vaccinated against the virus, their desire to return to offline education is becoming stronger. Apart from the safe reopening of schools, we must also focus on creating roadmaps to rebuild the education system, addressing the learning gaps, and lessening the digital divide. **Here are some thoughts shared by school-going children on reopening schools:**

"I was waiting for the day to get my dose of the vaccine as the pandemic forced us to stay at our homes most of the time. We want to get back to regular school and other activities as soon as possible."

- Singh, a class 11 student.

Source - The Economic Times



"There is a sense of relief among people of her age and they are looking forward to resuming their normal activities and going back to school once vaccinated against coronavirus."

- thoughts by Reema Dutta, 15.

Source - The Hindu

"कुछ महीने से सीनियर क्लास के लिए
स्कूल चल रहा था, लेकिन अब टीकाकरण
से हम थोड़े निडर हो सकते हैं।"

- Senior school student
Sources: The Economic Times, The Hindu



To advocate for safe reopening of schools and to lend support to parents and teachers, **we urge you to please use the hashtag #backtoschool** when engaging with social media posts on the subject.

Diving Deep

Social schemes like the [Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana \(PMMVY\)](#) aim to provide maternity benefits to women in India which can go a long way in ensuring safe and healthy motherhood. [We'd like to show solidarity with Hon'ble Amar Patnaik](#), who has been reiterating the benefits of such welfare measures and has urged decision makers to act on them for achieving the maximum impact. [Read his thought provoking article published in The Hindu.](#)

Samaaj 3.5%

Our [Samaaj 3.5%](#) program intends to create lasting & effective change through civic engagement. We'd like to thank our partner [Rohini Nilekani Philanthropies](#) for extending their support to our Community Champions and thereby enabling social entrepreneurship and active citizenship.

[Hear the voices of our champions!](#)



Looking Ahead

2021 was a year of change and learning for Indus Action. While we've achieved many milestones, **we are taking the learnings from the past year and working towards creating a greater impact in 2022!**

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2021

Fueled conversations & policy action for
PMMVY & MGNREGA schemes
Right to Education
Covid19 vaccination
Reopening schools

Covered by

Recognized by the World Economic Forum as one of the top 50 Covid19 Last Mile Responders.



We have to say, "Ensured implementation of RTE in Uttarakhand, Delhi, Chattisgarh & Odisha & Rule 134 A in Haryana"



Empowered community leaders through 2 cohorts of our Samaaj 3.5% initiative



Founder Tarun Cherukuri became a GLG Social Impact & Obama Foundation Fellow

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