GARUL AND CHANDRAWATI DEWAN FOUNDATION

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021 ----



## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

#### Dear Friends, Supporters, and Well-Wishers,

I am pleased to extend my heartfelt greetings to you as we reflect upon the accomplishments and journey of the Garul and Chandrawati Dewan Foundation in our inaugural year.

In June 2021, we set out on a mission to make a tangible difference in the lives of students residing in the remote corners of our nation. Little did we anticipate the challenges that the ongoing global pandemic would present. Nevertheless, fueled by our commitment and a shared vision of empowering rural communities, we forged ahead.

Our pilot project, initiated in July 2021 at the Village Montessori school in Babukhola Forest Village, marked the beginning of what would become a transformative venture. In the face of adversity, we expanded our reach, establishing community computer learning centers in various locations, each one representing a beacon of hope and opportunity for the children it serves.

The year 2021 witnessed the launch of not just computer learning centers, but centers of empowerment, knowledge, and connectivity. Despite the closure of schools and colleges due to the pandemic, we stood firm in our resolve to provide free computer education to those who needed it the most. The statistics speak volumes – 243 students enrolled, 40,000 hours of training delivered. It is a testament to the impact we have made and the potential that lies within each young mind we have touched.

Thank you for being part of the Garul and Chandrawati Dewan Foundation's journey. Let us continue to work hand in hand, unlocking the potential of every child we reach.

### ROHIT KUMAR DEWAN CHAIRMAN & TRUSTEE

#### GARUL AND CHANDRAWATI DEWAN FOUNDATION

#### YEAR 2021



## INTRODUCTION

Garul and Chandrawati Dewan Foundation, a public charitable trust, was registered in June 2021 with a vision to bridge the digital divide in rural areas. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the foundation embarked on a mission to provide free computer education to students in remote locations where access to the internet and computers was limited.

Recognizing the critical need to address the digital gap, especially during the pandemic, the foundation initiated this program with the aim of helping students catch up with the rest of the world. The lack of internet access and computers in rural areas was a significant barrier, and the foundation's efforts sought to eliminate this obstacle.

With limited resources, including family members and a few friends, the foundation overcame financial constraints and initiated the pilot project in Babukhola. The support of Computer Shiksha, which provided valuable video tutorials, was instrumental. This partnership eliminated the need for trained manpower, serving as a crucial component in the success of the initiative.

The foundation acknowledges the support of everyone who believed in their work and contributed to the cause. The collaboration with communities and stakeholders played a pivotal role in reaching remote areas and establishing computer learning centers.

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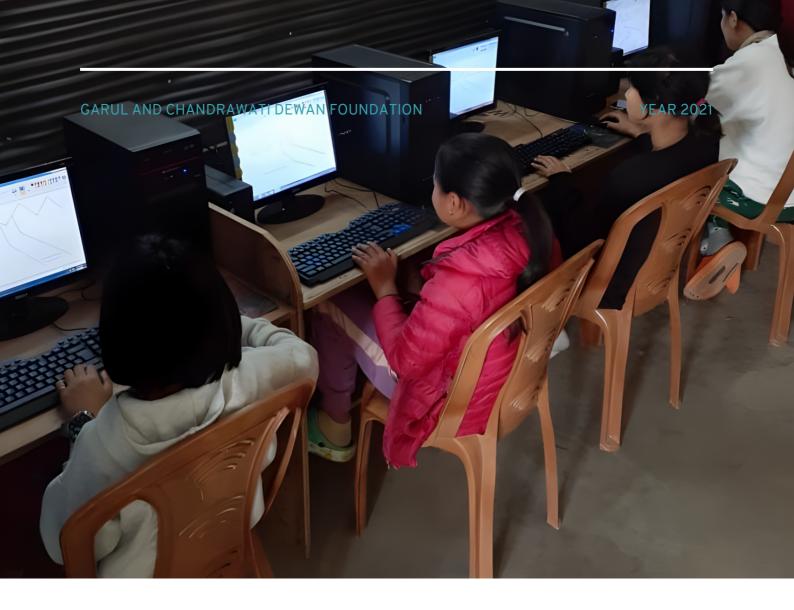
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40K HOURS OF TRAINING



# **IMPACT AND MILESTONES**

Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic and the closure of schools and colleges, the foundation successfully enrolled 243 students across eight community computer learning centers. A staggering 40,000 hours of training were provided, ensuring that students in rural areas had access to essential computer education.

- In July 2021, the foundation initiated its first pilot project, establishing a community computer learning center at the Village Montessori school in Babukhola Forest Village, Bagora Range, Sitting, Kurseong.
- September 2021: Establishment of the second community computer learning center at Sunrise Nursery School, Maneydara, Tukdah.
- October 2021: Establishment of the third community computer learning center in Sirikhola with Sirikhola Social and Welfare Society, Rimbick.
- December 2021: Expansion to five centers at Lungthm-Happy Valley Tea Estate, Beechgaon-Rimbick, Gurdum-Rimbick, Busty No 3 in Pokhraibong, and Maldhiram Junior High School in Maldhiram Tea Estate.



## Together, we bridge the digital gap, one community at a time.

As we conclude the inaugural year, Garul and Chandrawati Dewan Foundation express gratitude for the overwhelming support. The foundation's commitment to empowering students in rural areas remains unwavering. With the successful establishment of eight community computer learning centers, the foundation looks forward to expanding its reach in the coming years, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to unlock their full potential through digital education.

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