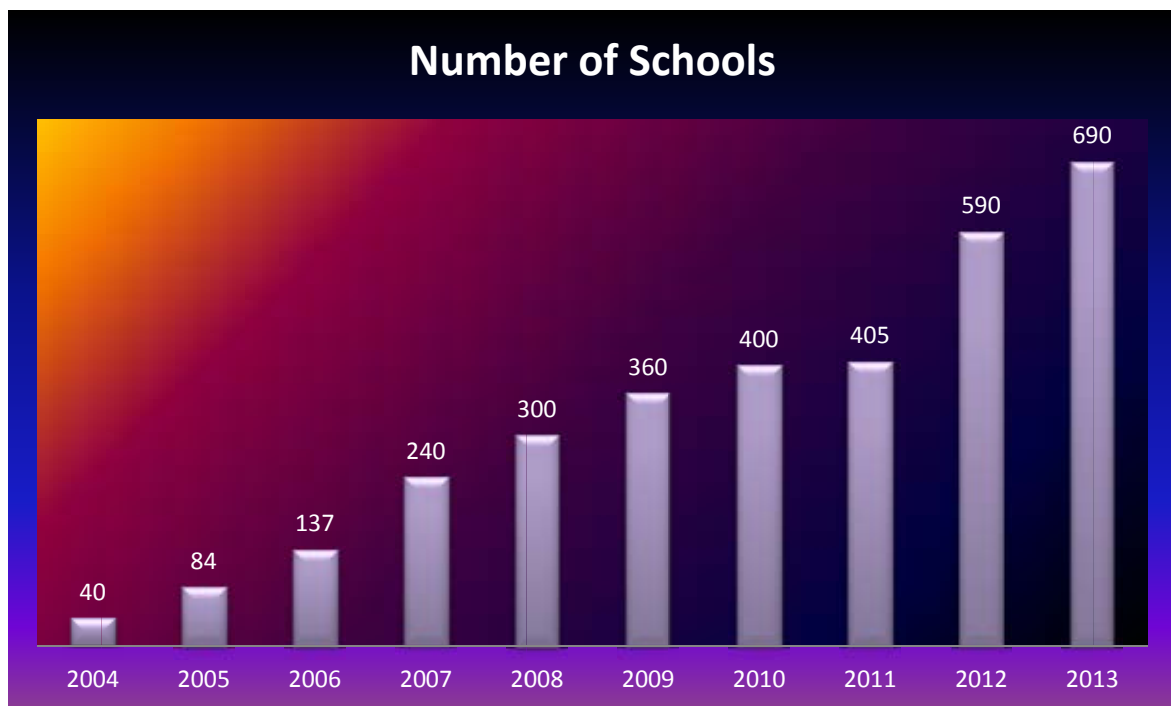




EKAL VIDYALAYA FOUNDATION OF AUSTRALIA

ANNUAL REPORT 2012-13



Dear Ekal Sponsors, Supporters and Friends

On behalf of the Ekal volunteers' team, it is my privilege and pleasure to present to you the 2012-13 annual report for Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation (EVF) of Australia.

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all Ekal volunteers and all school sponsors. With your enthusiasm, hard work and generous support we are able to sponsor 690 schools from Australia. Overall, Ekal is now operating close to 52,000 schools educating about 1.5 million children.

Since their launch last year, Ekal Youth have been very active this year. They organized several fundraising functions, such as bowling night, movie marathon, and a major event "Rhythm Of Bollywood" in March 2013 at Bowman Hall, Blacktown where they raised \$10,700. A big congratulation and thank you to the young Ekal volunteers for their contribution.

A major initiative this year was the launch of Ekal Women. A group of very enthusiastic women volunteers got together with the aim to promote the Ekal cause amongst the Australian women population. Their launch event on 15th September 2013 was a highly successful High Tea function at Mercure Hotel, Parramatta that saw sponsorship of 7 new schools on the day. The group plans to organize regular women-only functions to reach out to the wider population in the community.

As before, Ekal volunteers made their presence felt at various community fairs, such as Tamil Arts and Cultural Associations fair on 21st April 2013. We also made presentation to the Rotary Club, Dural on 19th March 2013 and showed their members an Ekal film and answered their questions.

2014 will be the 10th anniversary of Ekal in Australia. We have started planning to celebrate this milestone with functions in Sydney and at least 2 or 3 other capital cities. An event team has been formed headed by Anil Yadav. Please get in touch with us if you have any ideas about the type of events we should do, or wish to get involved in organizing the events.

As part of the 10th anniversary, we have set ourselves a goal of increasing the school sponsorship from existing 690 to 1,000 schools. Jay Shah is spearheading this effort with a focus on setting up active chapters in all capital cities. If you have friends in other capital cities in Australia who would be interested to be part of Ekal, please get them to contact me or Jay Shah.

Once again thank you and wish you all the best.

Devendra Gupta
President, EVF Australia
November 2013

Activities during the Year

Ekal Youth Bowling Fundraiser

In January, the team at Ekal Youth Australia held their first ever fundraiser at AMF Bowling in Blacktown. The event was a great success! Over the last two months, the team had been working hard to organise our main event 'The Rhythm of Bollywood' (held 15th March) and this bowling fundraiser was the beginning of our marketing campaign. Within January itself, we coordinated with AMF North Strathfield and were able to get a Facebook event page up and running.

Over 90 people came to support Ekal on the rainy Sunday afternoon. All of the 10 lanes booked were filled as both friends from university and family friends enjoyed two games of bowling. AMF also organised some small competitions and prizes to keep the afternoon exciting and interactive, for example free games passes were given to people who made the next strike after the presenter announced it.

This was the first time that Ekal Youth ran an event as a team, and it was very heartening to see the team all work together so well. The team even wore 'Ekal Youth Australia' T-shirts! It was a fantastic team effort, and the team's hard work and organisation meant that we raised \$875 that afternoon.

Not only did the event raise funds, but it also launched Ekal Youth into the public eye. By running a successful event, we raised awareness of the work Ekal does, and of future fundraisers like 'The Rhythm of Bollywood.'



Ekal Youth Strikes again...

The recently launched Ekal Youth Australia of 15 members collectively presented their hard-work and effort through their first major event “The Rhythm of Bollywood” on the 15th of March, 2013 at Bowman Hall, Blacktown.

An event organised by 15 university students and supported by online media partner Desi.com.au was an effort that took 4 months to bring together, with such a small team involved and no funds, recognition or experience to back them up, it all began with a goal in mind and a whole lot of enthusiasm and we can safely say that “The Rhythm of Bollywood” clearly turned into a big success.

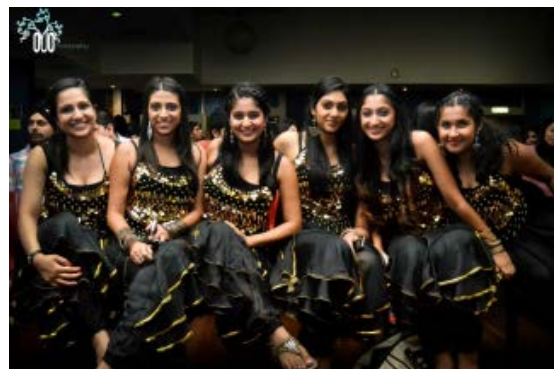
“The Rhythm of Bollywood” was advertised as a bollywood/bhangra night, aimed predominantly at university students. With the event being mainly marketed through Facebook and University societies the majority of the attendees were anywhere between 17 year olds to 25 year olds, however there were older and younger age groups present on the night.

“The Rhythm of Bollywood” was set out in a way so that the first half could entertain the audiences and the second half the audiences could entertain each other. The event began with a fashion show by Shweta Kohli, followed by 6 dance performances including Mayur Indian Dance Academy, Shiamak Sydney, Pehchaan Mutiyaar Di, Ruchi Sanghi Dance Company, Elementary Dance and Bollywood Glamour. The cultural segment was beautifully hosted by Srishti Yadav and Dhruv Gupta (both members of EYA) and ended with a presentation on Ekal Youth Australia and a vote of thanks by Sunali and Aakash, the two were also given the opportunity to share the stage with Akshay Raj of the Australian Labor Party who presented them with a donation for the organisation and gave a quick speech on their appreciation and support to Ekal Youth Australia. The door prizes were drawn and dinner was then served.

After the short dinner break the second half of the night began with a performance by Rooh Punjab Dee on the dance floor itself, after which DJ Dimple and his Desi Crew Australia with two dholi's took over introducing the open dance floor to the crowd. The rest of the night was spent on the dance floor dancing to dhol tracks, a mix of bollywood, punjabi and english songs and more importantly on a special track that was created by DJ Dimple based on the requests for songs that were given for the night previously through Facebook.

This event was possible with the combined efforts of the Ekal Youth Australia team which included President Sunali Bhandula, Vice President Medhavi Gupta and Deepak Chand, Treasurer Priyanka Misra and event and marketing co-ordinators Srishti Yadav, Kartik Yadav, Dhruv Kaushik, Aakash Gupta, Eric Gotla, Aakriti Gupta, Isha Gandhi, Ayesha Juneja, Sheffy Goyal, Risha Chanda and Abhishek Srivastava. Leading up to the big night the team had already been raising funds to cover their costs through the small scale bowling event, chocolate selling and Deepak Chand's “The Rhythm of Bollywood in South Korea” effort where he raised money during his internship in South Korea through a similar event.

The event was able to gather more than 500 people on the night allowing Ekal Youth Australia to raise more than \$10, 000 (after costs) from all their efforts leading up to and on the night of “The Rhythm of Bollywood”. It is safe to say that Ekal Youth Australia has done it again, with all goals and expectations met they are now looking forward to their next event.



Raising awareness through Rotary Club

Earlier this year, Hari Kishan from Ekal Marketing Team and Devendra Gupta Ekal President went to one of the meetings for the Rotary Club of Dural. There they met Bob Chary the Chairman of the club and other members.

During the meeting Hari and Devendra talked about Ekal's work in India and the school sponsorship program. They also showed a video on Ekal in action.

The presentation was well received by all its members and the details about Ekals' work were published in the club newsletter raising awareness amongst its readers.



Ekal Women- NEW BEGINNINGS

“If the poor children cannot come to the education, then the education must go to them”
Swami Vivekananda.

15th of September saw the beginning of a new a new chapter in the history of Ekal Australia. Ekal Woman was launched with great fervour and enthusiasm by a small team of volunteers whose sole aim was to rally the women in Australia behind a very noble cause. The High Tea organised at Mercure, Parramatta saw women all dressed in different hues of pink, ready to pitch in to make this humble effort a roaring success. Sumathi Advani, the Chairperson of UIA's Women's Steering Committee and Aishveryaa Nidhi, a prominent theatre personality who has carved a niche for herself in the field of Australian theatre addressed the audience and shared their experiences. The entertainment included songs by Shobha Ingleshwar, Bollywood dance potpourri by Neha Jain and a fun-filled Trivia. The afternoon showcased the Ekal cause with a short video and slideshow, highlighting the work done by Ekal Vidyalayas in the remote tribal villages of India. The statistics though not overtly surprising are staggering.

Most of the 300 million illiterate folk in India live in the tribal villages that lack the basic amenities of life, like safe drinking water and basic healthcare. The literacy rate of the female population is as low as 39% and only 10% of these villages have government schools. For families who survive on an annual income of \$30, education of their children fades into oblivion. More hands on deck to increase the daily livelihood is the top priority. The existing schools are under-staffed with poorly paid teachers who are not motivated enough. Such villages are on Ekal's road map.

The Ekal movement was started in India in 1986 by Rakesh Popli and his wife Rama Popli with the intention of improving the literacy at the grassroots level. The idea of the Ekal Vidyalaya, a single teacher school caught the attention of the people and it soon became a global phenomenon, with Indian diasporas from across the globe sponsoring schools in the remote regions of India. The best gift you can give any child is education and that is what the Ekal movement endeavours to do. Ekal Vidyalayas are different from traditional school because the delivery of education is not regimented but flexible. The schools are run free of cost when it is most convenient to their clientele, which would mean evening classes. This way, the parents have nothing to complain about. In fact adults also participate in the educational experience. This education is not restricted to classroom learning, as the students are actively involved in the upliftment of the whole community. They learn about recycling and vermicompost, sell the compost they prepare to the local farmers thus generating income for the schools. The system the Ekal Vidyalayas put in place is a cyclic one, where every person in the village/community is benefitted from it and is a part of it, thus take ownership of it. They see a purpose in the education meted out by the Vidyalayas.

Ekal Australia has been active since 2004 and has successfully earned sponsorships for 650 schools. Ekal Youth that launched last year has so far raised \$10,000 for school sponsorships. Ekal Woman Australia intends to raise funds by showcasing the talent of women in Australia and also through individual or group sponsorships of schools. 15th

September was just the first step in a long and meaningful journey ahead. We hope to welcome more women into the fold to make this bigger and better. Let us the women of Australia join hands to make a difference in lives of our compatriots in India. Let us add to the fabric of an educated and prosperous India.

"Education is one of the most important means of empowering women with the knowledge, skills and self-confidence necessary to participate fully in the development process."



**EKAL VIDYALAYA FOUNDATION OF AUSTRALIA
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (UNAUDITED)
AS ON 30 JUNE 2013**

2012		2013
	Current Assets	
\$ 728.91	Cash at Bank Admin Account	\$ 13,478.36
\$ 153,845.22	Cash at Bank Relief Fund Account	\$ 140,224.64
\$ 21,955.82	Cash/Cheque in Hand	\$ 25,206.24
\$ 176,529.95	Total Current Assets	\$ 178,909.24
\$ 660.00	Accrued Expenses - Audit Charges	\$ 330.00
\$ 175,869.95	Net Assets	\$ 178,579.24
	Accumulated Fund	
\$ 46,918.11	Balance at beginning	\$ 176,529.95
\$ 128,951.84	Surplus (deficit) for year	\$ 2,379.29
\$ 175,869.95	Balance at end	\$ 178,909.24

**EKAL VIDYALAYA FOUNDATION OF AUSTRALIA
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE (UNAUDITED)
AS ON 30 JUNE 2013**

2012		2013
	INCOME	
\$ 170,652.39	Sponsorship	\$ 183,551.84
\$ 2,221.09	Donations	\$ 2,118.00
\$ 6,000.00	Function Sponsorship	\$ 13,435.00
	Ekal Misc Revenue	
	Souvenir Advertisement	\$ 8,300.00
	Ekal Youth Payment	\$ 875.00
\$ 500.00	Council Deposit Refunds	\$ 760.00
	Raffle	
\$ 701.81	Everyday Hero	
\$ 180,075.29	Total Income	\$ 209,039.84
	EXPENDITURE	
\$ 660.00	Audit	\$ 660.00
\$ 49.00	Affiliations and Inc fee	\$ 51.00
	Advertisement & brochures & Souvenir	\$ 925.10
\$ 40,000.00	Sponsorships	\$ 200,000.00
\$ 1,183.25	Hall Hire	\$ 2,785.00
\$ 1,356.20	Insurance	\$ 1,364.45
	Souvenir and receipts printing	
	Ekal Nite Artist Payment	
\$ 6,000.00	Youth Function Expenses	\$ 875.00
\$ 1,875.00	Ekal Dinner Expenses	
\$ 51,123.45	Total Expenditure	\$ 206,660.55
\$ 128,951.84	Surplus (Deficit) for Year	\$ 2,379.29

**EKAL VIDYALAYA FOUNDATION OF AUSTRALIA
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS (UNAUDITED)
AS ON 30 JUNE 2013**

2012		2013
	CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
\$ 170,652.39	Reciept from Sponsors	\$ 183,551.84
\$ 9,422.90	Other Reciepts	\$ 25,488.00
-\$ 40,000.00	Sponsorship Payments	-\$ 200,000.00
-\$ 10,463.95	Payment to Suppliers	-\$ 6,660.55
\$ 129,611.34	Total Income	\$ 2,379.29
\$ 46,918.11	Cash at Beginning	\$ 176,529.45
\$ 176,529.45	Cash at 30 June 2013	\$ 178,908.74