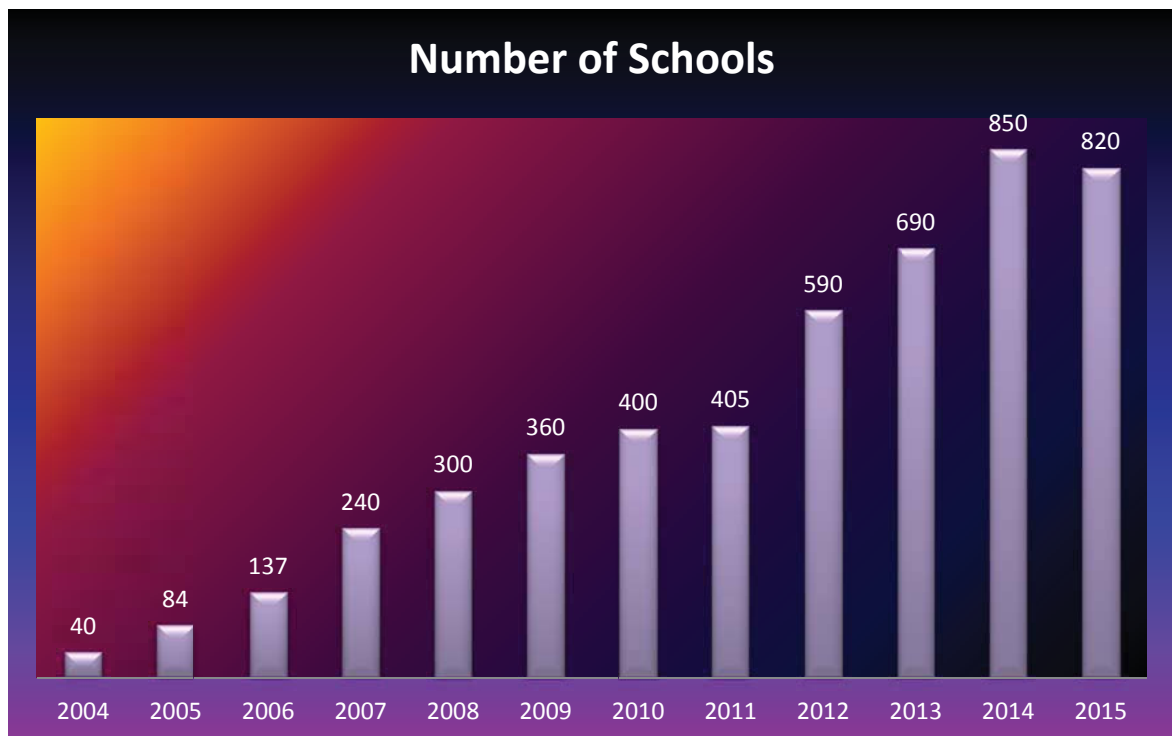




EKAL VIDYALAYA FOUNDATION OF AUSTRALIA

ANNUAL REPORT 2014-15



Dear Ekal Sponsors, Supporters and Friends

On behalf of Ekal Volunteers team it is my honor and privilege to present to you the annual report for 2014-2015 of Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation of Australia.

2014-2015 year has been full of activities for Ekal Australia. In March Ekal Australia organised **Ekal Dinner cruise** at Darling Harbour. The cruise was full of family fun with musical entertainment by leading singers of Sydney. About 170 Ekal guests enjoyed the evening. This year Ekal Australia got the opportunity to partner with other organisations to raise the funds for the rural and tribal children of India. In July a Carnatic Vocal concert was organised by **Shadja** in Pennant hills. Five Ekal schools were sponsored through this event. We would like to thank Nalini Sankar and her team for their support to Ekal. Recently Hamsa Venkat and her Samskriti school organised the show case event **Thathastu** in UNSW, the exceptional performance of more than 50 highly talented students was witnessed by over 600 guests. Eleven Ekal schools already have been sponsored through this event and many more to come.

I also got the opportunity of being one of the speakers in the panel discussion organised by Social Impact club of AGSM for Not for Profit Organisations. Where I could share the mission and objectives of Ekal Movement with young leaders.

This year we have added Ezidebit facility for our Ekal sponsors /donors. Now the contribution/donation also can be made through this facility. Monthly payment option has also become available.

Ekal youth Australia team has been very active this years .They organised their annual function Rhythm of Bollywood on 21st March in Hurstville which was a great success. Last month they organised movie in open Air theatre in Parramatta which was a sold out event. Ekal Youth Australia raised over \$10000 this year which will contribute to sponsor about 21 Ekal schools. Congratulations to our Ekal youth team. Well done.

This year Ekal celebrated 25 years of Ekal Movement in its birthplace Dhanbad. The event was attended by representatives from Ekal USA, Ekal UK, and Ekal Australia, Ekal Hong Kong, Ekal Nepal and every state of India. Dr Nihal Agar our Founder president attended the function.

In the end I take the opportunity to sincerely thank all Ekal Volunteers, Ekal Sponsors and supporters. With your enthusiasm, hard work and support we are able to continue our Ekal journey of eradicating the illiteracy from the rural and tribal India. We look forward to more support in future.

Once again thank you and Kind regards

Anil Yadav
President, EVF Australia
November 2015

Activities during the Year

THATHASTU – SO BE IT



On Saturday, 31st October 2015, Hamsa Venkat and her Samskriti School of Dance, performed to a near packed Science Theatre at the UNSW. It was a special day for Ekal as this program was a joint venture with all proceeds going to the sponsorship of more Ekal schools in rural and tribal India. Ekal Australia is extremely grateful to Hamsa Venkat and her team for giving us a new platform to present the great work Ekal is doing in states across the length and breadth of India. We have already received sponsorships for **eleven schools** and more calls are coming in.

The theme of the performances was very apt too – ‘Thathastu’ – So Be It! Ancient Hindu mythology tells the tales of gods, goddesses and celestial angels blessing their devotees for their devotion and granting them boons and fulfilling their wishes with the word ‘Thathastu’. We don’t necessarily have to say the word ‘Thathastu’ but can deliver the act through our deeds. Ekal sponsorship is one way of doing that for what can be more powerful and rewarding than the gift of education.

During the two and half hours performance, the students of Samskriti School of Dance mesmerised the audience as they retold snippets from the puranas and also covered human impact on environment in the traditional Bharatanatyam style. The stories depicted spoke about the positive power of love, devotion and positive thoughts and the negativity that comes from pessimism, greed and the lust for power. Hamsa Venkat presented a very clever collage of the audio-visual with live performances taking the entire presentation to a new level. Going back in times, she used a narrator to give the gist of the story for the benefit of the multi-lingual audience.

All in all, the performances were greatly savoured by the connoisseurs of classical dance and the first-timers alike as there was something for everyone in it. It was an evening well spent and kudos to Hamsa Venkat and her entire team for the hard work and dedication. What a fantastic way to showcase the cultural heritage and helping out Ekal with more school sponsorships.

“SHADJA” – A BLESSED BEGINNING



On Sunday, 5th July 2015 at Pennant Hill Community Centre, Ekal Australia was supported by “Shadja”, the newest arrival in the arena of Indian classical music. Shadja has received the blessings from most of the current crop of talented and experienced musicians that comprise of global celebrities as well as culture vultures in the Australian circuit. The proceeds of their introductory Carnatic music concert by G.Ravikiran have gone towards sponsoring **five schools** in tribal and rural India by the Ekal Vidyalaya Organization. This is a positive but definite step towards eradicating illiteracy.

The programme commenced with an introduction by Bala Sankar, who is a founder member of ‘Shadja’ based in Melbourne. G. Ravikiran the vocalist from Chennai. He was accompanied by T. Sampath on the violin, Bala Sankar on the Mridangam and W.Athavan on the Kanjira. They have won several prizes and awards in their respective fields.

Second half of the evening began with a Bharatanatyam recital by Aruna Gandhi and students of the Silambam-Sydney school of Indian Traditional Dance. The concluding item was the ‘Story of Dharawal’ which was conceptualised and implemented by the School of Vedic Sciences Australia.

Ekal Australia appreciates the generosity of Shadja in sponsoring 5 schools, which will go long way in promoting education and social empowerment.

THE EKAL CRUISE



Ekal Australia had yet another successful fundraising event on Sunday, 15th March 2015. The Sunset Cruise saw over 170 people aboard the Sydney Showboats at Darling Harbour under the banner of the Majestic Cruises. Ekal Vidyalaya is a People's movement and the growth of this initiative that was started in 1986 by a group of young enthusiastic educational entrepreneurs is only possible by the participation and commitment of the people towards this noble cause. Ekal Vidyalayas are single-teacher schools in rural and tribal India and the sole purpose is imparting education and promoting social empowerment.

Education has the apparatuses and the gears to make life changing possibilities available to children from the remotest parts of India. It can help open borders and overcome barriers of social inequality and subjugation, instilling in an individual elements of self-confidence and self-worth. The educational revolution is always an ongoing one – there is always scope for more to come. Ekal Australia is slowly edging towards its dream target of the sponsorship of 1000 schools by the end of 2015. We are very close to our lakshya, thanks to the altruistic sponsors and other philanthropic members of the Indo-Australian community. During the duration of the 3 hour cruise, **four schools** were sponsored and this truly defines the statement that “Together we can do so much more than we can do alone”.

This whole experience was a novel one as this is the first time that a cruise has been organised by Ekal. There was live music showcasing some of the best talents in Sydney. This included Saleem Zamaan, the man with the golden voice, the very melodious Shailaja Chandra and Gul Hora, the talented youngster who at a very young age carved a niche for himself. The food served was delectable and the views of the Harbour, beautiful. Though the evening started with a slight shower, the sun emerged as the cruise began and the setting sun was indeed a feast for the eyes. A very fitting finale

“What you do makes a difference and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make” Jane Goodall.

Ekal Youth Australia

Ekal Youth Australia is now in its fourth year of operation, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the EVF Australia team for their ongoing support and guidance over the years.

2015 has been an incredible year for the Ekal Youth Australia team, with more events organised, more new members and more schools being sponsored than ever before!

Ekal Youth Office Bearers

Ekal Youth Australia recently held executive team elections and the following team members now form the executive committee for 2015-2016:

- Sheffy Goyal
- Jesica Sharma
- Sahil Bhandula

Additionally, we have now recruited and on boarded 10 new members who bring new passion and ideas to the team.

Ekal Youth Australia contribution

Overall, 2015 has been a hugely successful and promising year for Ekal Youth Australia.

Not only have we continued to bring new and exciting events to the youth of Australia but also we have upheld the vision of EVF and ensured we remain active across social media platforms between events to continue to connect with our followers. One such initiative that was launched this year was the Facebook “EYA Face of the Week” campaign, which showcases the extraordinary efforts of a local youth in their attempt to make a difference to the condition of youth in Australia and overseas.

In doing so, the team not only inspires the youth community in Australia but also is intrinsically motivated to continue working to achieve our goal.

We are proud to announce that this year the Ekal Youth Australia team has contributed to sponsoring approximately 21 schools in India with their generous donation of \$10,000 to the EVF Relief Fund.

Here is a snapshot of what the Ekal Youth Australia team has achieved this year.

The Rhythm of Bollywood 2015



The year started off with a bang with the return of our flagship event The Rhythm of Bollywood (ROB)! The event was held on Saturday 21st March at the Marana Auditorium in Hurstville, and was once again supported by our media partner Desi.com.au.

With over 500 guests in attendance, ROB 2015 proved to be a success once again, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank Arti Banga from Desi.com.au for her ongoing support since the very inception of ROB in 2013.

Hurstville Night Markets



Barely two weeks after ROB 2015, the Ekal Youth Australia team was back in action with a proposal to host a stall at the annual Hurstville Night Markets festival.

Hurstville City Council approached the team with this fundraising opportunity allowing us to broaden our market to a new audience of not only Australian youth, but Indian and Nepalese Australians and families residing in the Hurstville region.

Ekal in Newcastle

On the 5th of September 2015, University of Newcastle's Indian and Pakistani Associations held an Indian-Pakistani Cultural Night for all students and their friends and families. The event was sold out (approximately 200 seats). The night was filled with dancing and singing performances, followed by dinner and an open dance floor.

Bollywood beneath the Stars!

This year the Ekal Youth Australia team was able to achieve an unattainable feat of organising two major events in the same calendar year.

Bollywood beneath the Stars was conceptualized and planned in just a over a month and what a night it was! Showcasing one of Bollywood's biggest hits till date, Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara, the movie night was hosted in the heart of Parramatta at Prince Alfred Park as an open-air cinema.

The night was initially intended to be a small-scale event however the Facebook Event page and organisation received heavy exposure reaching out to more than 1000 people in less than 48 hours. The event was well planned and coordinated, thus pulling a crowd of 200 people including youth and families of Indian and non-Indian backgrounds. Attendees were able to enjoy a night of their favourite movie with friends and family under the night sky on an inflatable big screen.



**EKAL VIDYALAYA FOUNDATION OF AUSTRALIA
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (AUDITED)
AS ON 30 JUNE 2015**

2014		2015
	CURRENT ASSETS	
	Cash:	
15,955.23	Cash at bank	15,172.48
174,609.34	Bank Relief Fund	181,857.04
30,784.80	Cash in hand	13,636.25
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221,349.37	TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	210,665.77
	 CURRENT LIABILITY	
440.00	Accrued expenses	550.00
-----		-----
\$220,909.37	NET ASSETS	\$210,115.77
=====		=====
	ACCUMULATED FUND	
178,579.24	Balance at beginning	220,909.37
42,330.13	Surplus (Loss) for the year	(10,793.60)
-----		-----
\$220,909.37	Balance at end	\$210,115.77
=====		=====

**EKAL VIDYALAYA FOUNDATION OF AUSTRALIA
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE(AUDITED)
AS ON 30 JUNE 2015**

2014		2015
	INCOME	
206,207.02	Gross Income-Sponsorship	239,169.15
3,581.15	-Donations	0.00
3,877.97	-Func. Sponsorship	54,742.70
831.24	-Everyday Hero	0.00
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214,497.38		293,911.85
	Less	
	EXPENDITURE	
550.00	Audit	660.00
440.00	Advertisement & brochures	0.00
165,755.00	Sponsorships	280,000.00
539.00	Hall hire	3,608.00
1,373.25	Insurance	1,383.70
0.00	Raffles and prize	1,000.00
0.00	ISSO meals for function	3,750.00
0.00	EKAL cruise	12,420.00
0.00	Diwali Mela stall	330.00
0.00	Souvenir & receipts printing	1,553.75
3,510.00	Hi-tea function expenses	0.00
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172,167.25		304,705.45
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\$42,330.13	SURPLUS (LOSS) for the year	(\$10,793.60)
=====		=====

**EKAL VIDYALAYA FOUNDATION OF AUSTRALIA
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS (AUDITED)
AS ON 30 JUNE 2015**

	30-Jun-14	30-Jun-15
	\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities		
Receipts from sponsors	209,788.17	239,169.15
Other receipts	4,709.21	54,742.70
Sponsor payments	(165,755.00)	(280,000.00)
Payments to suppliers	(6,302.25)	(24,595.45)
Interest received	-	-
Net cash flows from operating activities	<u>42,440.13</u>	<u>(10,683.60)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	42,440.13	(10,683.60)
Cash at beginning of year	178,909.24	221,349.37
Cash at end of year	<u>221,349.37</u>	<u>210,665.77</u>

The accompanying notes form part of the financial statements.