



## KESARI DEVI CHARITABLE TRUST

(Registration No:309/10, Varanasi, 15-09-2010)

B 31/25-22, Sankat Mochan Colony, Varanasi - 221005

#8419872155

www.trustkesari.org

Email:trustkesari@gmail.com

Justice Abhinav Upadhya  
Chairman

Prof. Ajit Narayan Tripathi  
Managing Trustee

Prof. Vibha Tripathi  
Jt. Managing Trustee

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### ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

To,  
All our donors, partners and well-wishers

01-May-2025

Dear Friends,

The financial year 2024-25 was yet another year of all-round growth for both our Trust and our rural school. We could raise Rs. 22.31 Lakh from 13 donors for our Endowment fund. The amount includes a donation from an institutional donor, Veddis Foundation, who contributed Rs. 10 Lakh. This fund is invested in MFs and the monthly returns received from it go towards meeting the operating expenses of the school. We raised Rs. 3.67 Lakh from 43 individual donors for our Educate a Child scheme. This fund is directly used for operating expenses. Two institutional donors, Sir Ness Wadia Foundation and F.E.D Dinshaw Trust contributed Rs. 2.5 Lakh each to this scheme. In addition, two companies provided us their CSR support: PowerHF India Ltd. gave us a grant of Rs. 5 Lakh towards meeting the operating expenses, and Windlass Biotech Ltd. gave us a grant of Rs. 5.5 lakh for implementing our value-education programme. Another contribution came from the Ladies Circle associated with our partners Varanasi Round Table. They got a cemented badminton court constructed in the school. We thank all these donors for providing us with the much needed financial resources. It is on the strength of their support that we are moving forward in our mission of providing quality education at an affordable cost to the children of an economically deprived rural community.

The value education programme is an innovative feature of our school education. We have made out a syllabus listing the character traits and other ethical and human value we wish to inculcate in the children of class VI to class XII. We plan to implement this programme using an innovative, video-based, dialogical methodology. We hope this will help students grow up as a good persons and good citizens.

The popularity of our school is growing steadily. The total number of students on roll in the year 2024-25 was 432 compared to 353 in the year 2023-24. This is an increase of 79. Along with the usual academic activities of the school, there were several other interesting activities and events. We celebrate Nov. 14, the birthday of our first Prime Minister, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, as the Sports Day. On that day there were several sports competitions and certificates of merit were given to the winning students. The Annual Day function was celebrated with much gaiety. The students presented a colorful cultural programme, named *Indraparni*. The chief guest of the function was Dr. M.R.Pathak, former Joint Registrar of Banaras Hindu University.

Another important event was the annual four day teachers' workshop. It has two focal areas: (i) improving teachers' pedagogical skills and (ii) improving their human qualities. There were sixteen highly interactive sessions of one and a half hour each, conducted by six resource persons. One of these was Sri Samarth Pathak, South East Asia Advocacy and Communication Officer of UNODC. He had visited our school earlier this year on August 4, 2024 along with a committee of four eminent educationists from New Delhi. They conducted several interactive sessions with students, teachers, and also met some parents. A report of their experience was posted on the Facebook; it is very laudatory of our initiatives. I am attaching it as an annexure to this report.

During the year under review two new scholarships were instituted in the name of Sri Deoki Nandan Bhargava. These are to be awarded to students securing highest marks in class III and classes IV. The scholarships cover full tuition fee plus free books and school dress for one year. With this addition we now have eight merit cum means scholarships available to our students.

However, in spite of our all-round growth, we have not yet been successful in raising the capital outlay of Rs. 5 Crore needed to develop the school further up to the level of a higher secondary school. We have approached nearly one hundred companies for their CSR support but without success. I request you all too kindly help me locate the right persons and companies to approach for seeking their CSR support for this second phase development of our rural school project.

A.N.Tripathi  
Managing Trustee

**Samarth Pathak ,**

**South Asia Advocacy & Communications at UNODC**

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Returning to Mirzamurad's Gaur Village, located 25 km from Varanasi, was an experience filled with deep emotions and reflections. Four years ago, [UNODC South Asia](#) and [Round Table Abhinav Vidyalaya By Varanasi Round Table 196](#) (RTAV) embarked on a journey together, planting seeds of change in this vibrant community of rural students and educators. Today, those seeds have grown into a powerful circle of impact.

Being welcomed by our RTAV "alumni" with a heartfelt handwritten note was a poignant moment. These young minds, now in Class 10, were once participants in UNODC's [#LockdownLearners](#) program and have now evolved into mentors for our [#RiseUp4Peace](#) initiative, championing peace and SDGs. Their journey is a story of transformation—one that underscores the profound impact of education and mentorship.

Inspired by their stories, I had the honor of joining Dr. [Satya Bhushan](#) from NCERT and Mr. [Ramachandra Nvs](#), former Joint Commissioner of Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, to conduct a RiseUp4Peace workshop at RTAV. We were also privileged to have Ms. [Yashashri Shukla](#), Additional Secretary at the Central Vigilance Commission, observe and support our efforts to empower both educators and young minds.

The creativity, confidence, and leadership displayed by these young stars from classes 5-8 were nothing short of inspiring. They presented an art exhibition on the SDGs and performed a compelling 'nukkad natak' on discrimination. Their social awareness and drive to make a change were evident in every word and gesture.

Through group activities and engaging dialogues, their voices resonated with clarity: "I want to be judged for my abilities, not my gender." "Taunting hurts." "I get anxious thinking about the future." These reflections highlight the urgent need for inclusive and empathetic education—one that listens to and addresses the concerns of our youth.

The dedication of RTAV educators—led by Dr. AN Tripathi and Ms. [Jaya Shukla Tewari](#)—in integrating peace and integrity into their teaching, in collaboration with UNODC, has made a visible difference. Their commitment goes far beyond academics; they are nurturing the next generation of changemakers.

After the program, the students invited us to their village for a cup of tea—a simple yet profound gesture of warmth and connection that I will never forget. Walking through the fields, we discussed their aspirations, challenges, and the kind of future they want. Their desire for peace and lawfulness resonated strongly in our discussions.

Building emotional connections in the classroom is where true learning begins. When students feel heard and understood, they open up, and the real magic happens. This is the essence of our efforts with UNODC's RiseUp4Peace—continuity, impact, and lasting change, with young minds and educators at the heart of it all.

## Snap Shot:





