

# Shreeja India Vidushee "Paying it Forward"

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## Vidushee Project

Vidusee seeks to impart basic foundational knowledge among marginalized first-generation learner tribal girls (5-10 years) through a collaborative approach. In project Vidushee, Shreeja Senior Girls who have passed their class X or XII Board Examinations teach academic curriculum to the young girls (classes I to IV) in their respective villages.



Further, during the Covid-19 pandemic followed by lockdown, we wanted to bring education to the door-steps of the tribal girls and simultaneously create a sustainable education model. These senior girls are trained and engaged by Shreeja India as Vidushee teachers. They are provided with a stipend for their service which in turn enhances their value in their households and is helping them to become more confident and responsible in life. Currently, there are 16 Vidushee teachers and 150 Vidushee students from ten villages.



Project Vidushee has been launched in September 2020. The endeavor seeks to instill the habit among first-generation learner young tribal girls to come to school regularly and make them developmentally ready. It can be an effective tool for imparting foundational knowledge among rural children in India through a unique collaborative learning mechanism and it is designed to make education sustainable for the beneficiary community.



After the initial evaluation at Shreeja India Facilities around 75% of schoolchildren lack basic reading and arithmetic abilities. The benefits of school education in later years are lost if these basic abilities are not acquired. As a result, the essence of overall student learning outcomes that produces a successful and inclusive education system is foundational learning for all students. Mentors, out-of-school academic support, and courses in essential life skills are all needed for FGL tribal girls to help them stay focused on their academics.



## Objectives

Three significant objectives of project Vidushee are:

- To familiarize tribal girls with the habit of attending schools regularly and follow instructions from teachers from their tender age of 7 years
- To offer opportunities to Shreeja Senior girls (18-20 years) to earn some pocket money by teaching younger girls (7-10 years) in their respective villages
- To bring the whole community closer through sports-based education and live harmoniously with each other.

## How they exercise their money

Saving doesn't come naturally to most of us. Especially when you're young, it's hard to grasp the real value of money. Vidushee Girls understand the importance of saving up for future. Hence, they add value to the quality of life they have with the money that they earn through the Vidushee project



# Vidushee Teachers

## Rupali's Story

Coming from a family that cannot fully sustain her financial requirements, she utilises the Vidushee stipend as her daily pocket money to commute to college.

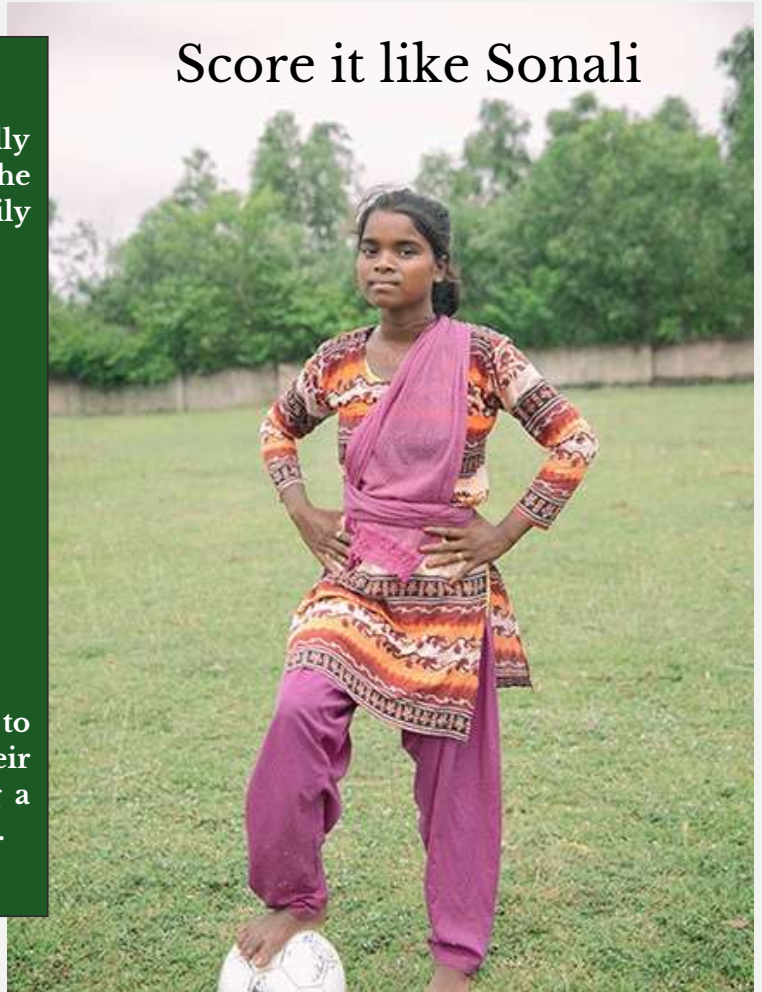
## Sonali's Story

She aspires to be an athlete, just like her father had dreamt of. She studies for 7-8 hours a day while still taking care of all the household chores, and she has been saving the stipend money into her father's bank account for future security.

## Purnima's Story

As much as she enjoys talking, she loves to teach the children and help them in their learning. Purnima dreams of becoming a footballer and making her parents proud.

## Score it like Sonali



## Impact of Vidushee

- The project benefitted more than 150 FGL tribal girls to become educated, confident and goal directed, early in life.
- There is a significant reduction in the incidence of school dropouts, early marriages and other social evils prevalent in the community
- The project assures equitable access to learning opportunities for the deprived tribal girls
- The student is well-informed as the project offers access to the Internet to explore the outside world
- There is a noticeable improvement in overall health and fitness conditions of the tribal girls
- Vidushee Teachers will continue to remain attached to knowledge and learning, thus enriching them
- Vidushee Teachers are earning a stipend for their community service which helps them support their households