



Project Nishant by Nai Subah Foundation

Media Coverage



CREATING A POOL OF CANDIDATES FOR CORPORATES TO CHOOSE FROM

Aiming to bridge the gap between skilling and meaningful employment for People with Disabilities (PwD) in the country, two young students Tarini Malhotra and Avni Singh of Class Xth and XIth respectively, Shri Ram School, Gurugram have conceptualised 'Project Nishant'. In an exclusive interview, Tarini talks about the initiative which connects mentally diverse young adults with NGOs involved in livelihood skilling over an online platform. Excerpts...

Q1 How did you conceptualise this project?

Last year, we did a fundraiser for a school for special needs kids. That set us on this path to do something sustainable and long term for mentally diverse young adults. Project Nishant is the outcome. We don't use the word 'disability' as we believe that they deserve to live with dignity in our society.

Q2 Who are your key partners in this project?

We have met some NGOs in Delhi-NCR who work in this field. We are primarily working with PORDAC and ALAP, run by Mrs. Manjir Gupta and Mrs. Neena Wagh. Our school, The Shri Ram School, Mousari, Gurugram, has been very encouraging and we would like to thank our mentor, Simran Bindra ma'am for supporting us throughout our journey. Our tech partner Phoenix Tech Consulting has also been wonderful – they are doing this as their CSR initiative.

Q3 How will you create synergy between PwDs and corporates?

Once we have enough mentally diverse candidates and industry partners on board, our online platform will work to match the demand and supply. There are options to search candidates based on location, skills etc. Application forms have been customised and you can endorse candidates just like on a professional networking site.

Q4 How do you feel young students can bring about a meaningful change through this project?

We think that today's young adults and teenagers are more socially sensitive and capable than the generations before. We are powered by our dreams and encouraged by our families and the societal ecosystem to do more.

Q5 What has the response been till now?

In our initial outreach, we have found some likeminded corporates with social conscience and sustainability agendas.

Q6 What has been your biggest challenge so far?

This is a real-world project that is extremely challenging. Working on tech, identifying and building partnerships with NGOs, booking appointments and meeting corporates – nothing is easy.

Q7 How are you funding the initiative?

We are raising money through our website as well as through crowdfunding on ImpactGuru. So far, we have raised around Rs 2 lakh for this project, but we are optimistic about generating more funds.

Q8 What are the criteria for identifying the skillsets?

Skillsets requirements are defined by the industry. Some have fairly simple requirements like data entry operation or production work, but some are more complex. At the same time, we have interesting candidates with varied skills. So, we are enjoying the diversity and

(As told to Kausar Firdausi)



**Outlook Magazine,
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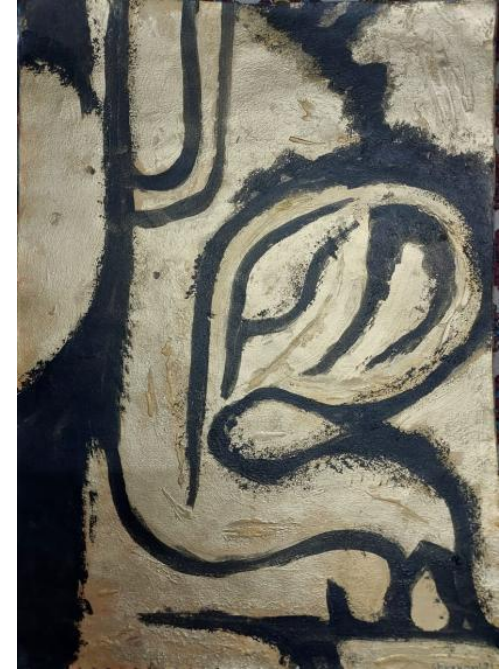
<https://hr.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/workplace-4-0/diversity-and-inclusion/workplace-diversity-how-these-two-schoolgirls-are-helping-differently-abled-people-to-get-jobs-in-companies/87903855>

The Economic Times, November 25, 2021



[Student Start-up Project Nishant organises virtual art exhibition showcasing talented young neurodiverse artists | Business Standard News \(business-standard.com\)](#)

Business Standard, December 20, 2021





<https://youtu.be/JhqXLYEbLjl>

NewsX Channel, January 2022

[Project Nishant, An Initiative Of Two School
Girls Is Providing Employment To Mentally
Diverse People | Leaving No One Behind
\(\[ndtv.com\]\(http://ndtv.com\)\)](#)

NDTV, February 22, 2022

