

Welcome To The SMART Life

Dear friends,

We are happy to present the first story for 2015-16. Now, this edition is particularly special, because:

- one, we are beginning the *third volume*, which will have *twelve full issues* this year,
- two, we have a *new look and feel*, which uses a new technology: you can now share our stories online without having to use your email, and
- three, we have *two heartwarming stories* to tell, one feeding into the other, capturing the true essence of our work with youth.



Getting straight to the story part - the SMART programme held its first Alumni Meet on Thursday, with more than 275 young women and men from our Centres across Delhi-NCR coming together with their parents, trainers and employers to tell their stories of success. The SMART programme, which began with three Centres in 2012-13, trained 12,000+ youth in 2014-15, and will reach out to 15,000 young people through a network of sixty-five Centres and the SMART Academy this year. As we look back, we seem to have done well.

While we were delighted to learn about the interesting journeys of our graduates, the youth were inspired by a great success talk by Manoj Chugh, who keenly agreed to join us as the chief guest. He emphasised upon how humility and hard-work take you places, and why it is important save as you earn. We were also joined by many senior team members and volunteers, who continue to support our initiatives with tremendous belief. The Saral Rozgar team made a presentation, showcasing opportunities for both job seekers and providers, and shared how our graduates could particularly benefit from the seamless mobile-based employment service.

We also launched the SMART brochure and screened the SMART film, copies of which would reach you shortly.



"I cracked an interview with Burger King India at the first go, thanks to Tech Mahindra", said a confident Rehnuma, who came with her mother at the Meet

And, it doesn't end there. The next day, we inaugurated a SMART Technical Centre in Kolkata, in partnership with Don Bosco Technical Institute. The Centre will train youth in specific trades of CNC Lathe and Milling. With this collaboration, in words of the Centre's Superintendent Fr Jose Podimattam, "people will look at Kolkata in a different light, reinstating our joint commitment to providing quality training and good placements. ".

The success of our programme wouldn't be possible without the undying efforts of the Foundation team, and the constant support we receive from you. We urge you to watch [the SMART film](#) and invite you to visit a SMART Centre near you. Have a fruitful year ahead!

Warm regards,
Tech Mahindra Foundation

Photos: (1) The SMART Alumni Meet at Delhi and (2) Rehnuma sharing her experience with the SMART programme.