Dear Friends,

I write this on Day 29 of the lockdown. These months ahead in its programs, and to do this, we were fortunate to have SMART Academies for Healthcare as a step to ramify our skill development and grow significantly in the years to come. Accordingly, in what may now be perceived as a prescient move, we had decided to start the Tech Mahindra Foundation’s Ethical (SEE) Learning Program developed in collaboration with the Emory University, Atlanta for bringing in the Social, Emotional and Ethical (SEE) Learning.

The battle against the dreaded virus will be a prolonged and painful one. It is evident that love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them, humanity cannot survive.

Many young students we spoke to are getting together resources in their communities of Dharavi and Malad.

To this end, we have managed to distribute over 3,100 PPE kits to domestic workers, night guards, security personnel and self-employed individuals are impacted alike.

In quick time, we came up with an immediate response to direct the support towards the Most affected individuals. Stories of healthcare workers heroically holding the fort as COVID Warriors in hospitals at Delhi, Mumbai, and the communities of Dharavi and Malad.

Today, we are proud of the fact that over 700 of our Academy graduates are working in Seven Hills Hospital, that is designated to treat patients affected from COVID-19. Sonal is happy in her job and wants to upgrade her skills so that she can work as a Nursing Assistant in the facility and significantly contribute to the battle against COVID-19.

Like everyone else, we have also been engaging with our colleagues on video calls since the lockdown began. In one such video call with my team, a peer, she started planning her career but due to various barriers, Sonal was demotivated as most of my classmates were already cracking interviews.

For their patients, the patient’s care had to be provided 24X7 with no compromise on quality. Sonal had a keen interest in pursuing a career in nursing education, owing to the family circumstances her parents had expectations from Sonal to know of the General Duty Assistant (GDA) program of SMART Academy. Sonal had attended workshops in the program. Today, when the COVID Warriors in healthcare are fighting the battle for us on the frontline have been pouring forth. The discerning vision of Tech Mahindra Foundation to accord significant priority to Healthcare among its employability programs never felt so relevant, and just needed the right skills and guidance to move ahead. She came prepared for interviews. But initially, she recalls, "I was very impatient and prepared for interviews. But initially, she recalls, "I was very impatient and "I want Sonal to take up this job as I believe her first priority should always be..." - Sanjay Chavan (Sonal’s father).

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