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# NEWSLETTER

**JAN-MAR, 2025**



**GYANALOK TRUST**  
Empowerment Through Knowledge



### Vision

GYANALOK envisages all round development of society, along with equality and justice through proper education, health, pristine environment and social inclusion.

### Mission

GYANALOK has the Mission to educate, sensitise, organize, enable and empower people and work for achievement of sustainable development goals for the development of all specially by dealing with the issues of poor, needy, backward and marginalized section of the society.



## About Gyanalok



Gyanalok aims to empower people through knowledge. We believe that many of the persisting social and economic problems of the nation can be addressed through proper dissemination of information and education to the people at grass root level. Therefore, we seek to build capacity of the people in remote villages of the country by disseminating the useful information on the education opportunities, health care, importance of proper sanitation, government schemes for poor people etc. Education can be a panacea for many social ills. We want to facilitate education for the merit-cum-needy students by supporting the expenditure of their education. We wish to reinstate the faith that government funded schools can provide quality education to masses with the constructive community participation. While realizing the merits of modern education we also recognize the value of traditional knowledge on diverse aspects. We want to preserve the traditional knowledge on health care, biodiversity conservation, organic agricultural practice and so on. We believe that the social progress can be achieved only through the rise of masses from the bottom.



### Operational District

- Khordha
- Sonapur
- Rayagada
- Nayagarh



### Key Activities of Gyanalok

- Education & Health Awareness Programme
- Scholarship Programme
- Plantation & Environment Awareness Programme
- Webinar (Lecture Series)

### Activity Done in 2024

- Virtual Lecture - 19
- National Social Work Week Webinar - 3
- Education Awareness & Counselling - 5
- Sports & Cultural Event - 2
- Scholarship - 6
- Plantation Drive - 3
- Health Awareness - 3

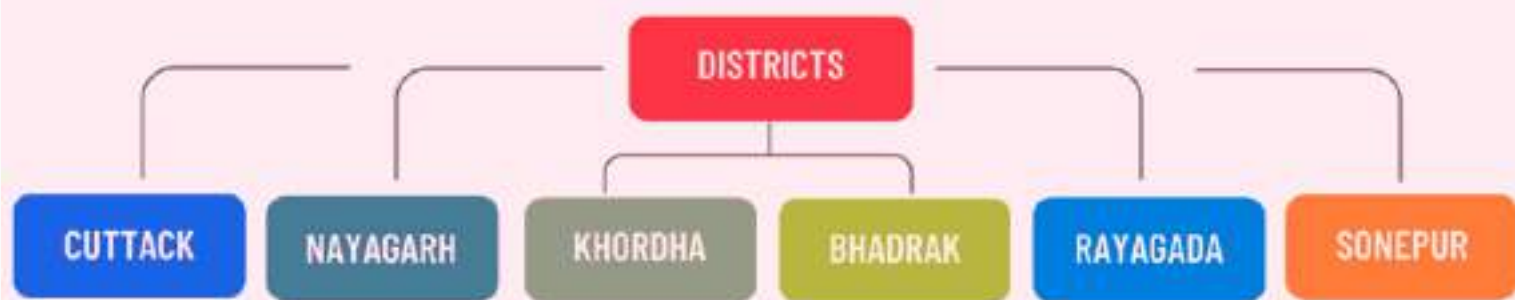


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**Gyanalok Trust, Bhubaneswar, Odisha**

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## OPERATIONAL DISTRICTS OF GYANALOK TRUST





## About Gyanalok Trust

Gyanalok Trust is committed to empowering communities through the light of knowledge. We believe that many social and economic challenges in India can be addressed through informed, grassroots-level education and awareness. Our focus is on building capacities in remote villages by sharing essential information related to education opportunities, healthcare, sanitation, and government welfare schemes.

We support merit-cum-needy students by funding their educational needs, and strongly advocate that government schools-when supported by active community participation-can offer quality education. While embracing modern education, we also strive to preserve and promote traditional knowledge systems in areas such as healthcare, biodiversity conservation, and organic farming.

At Gyanalok, we believe that real social progress begins with the rise of people at the grassroots. Our mission is to nurture informed, self-reliant communities by making knowledge accessible, relevant, and transformative.

## Mission

GYANALOK has the Mission to educate, sensitize, organize, enable and empower people and work for achievement of sustainable development goals for the development of all specially by dealing with the issues of poor, needy, backward and marginalized section of the society.

## Vision

GYANALOK envisages all round development of society, along with equality and justice through proper education, health, pristine environment and social inclusion.



## Message from the Chairman, Gyanalok Trust Dr. Pradeep Kumar Sahoo



Dear Friends and Well-wishers,



It is with immense pride and gratitude that I pen this message for the first edition of Gyanalok Quarterly (January-March 2025) Newsletter “**Gyanprajna**”. As Gyanalok Trust completes 11 meaningful years of its journey, this is a moment of reflection, celebration, and renewed commitment.

Founded in 2014 with a humble vision-to bring the light of education to the underprivileged-Gyanalok has grown steadily into a vibrant and trusted platform of grassroots intervention. Our journey began with a few volunteers in Khordha, Nayagarh and Bhadrak, who believed that education is the strongest tool of empowerment. Over the years, this belief has translated into tangible change across remote villages, urban slums, and tribal belts of Odisha.

Our work started with basic literacy support and bridge courses for school dropouts. Today, we are enabling digital learning, career counselling, and community-led school support programmes. Through school-based interventions, need-based scholarships, and continuous teacher-parent engagement, we have impacted over 3,000 children.

Our efforts would not have been possible without the generous support of our donors, the dedication of our team, and the trust of the communities we serve. Gyanalok stands as a testimony to what collective goodwill can achieve.

As we step into our 12th year, we are committed to expanding our reach, leveraging technology, and aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals-particularly SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). This newsletter will serve as a window into our work, voices from the field, and updates on the impact we create together.

Let us walk forward with renewed energy to keep the flame of “Gyanalok”-The fight for freedom from poverty driven illiteracy.

With warm regards,

**Dr Pradeep Kumar Sahoo**  
Chairman, Gyanalok Trust

**Message from Ms Abha Mishra**  
**Head of Office**  
**United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**  
**Bhubaneswar, Odisha**



Congratulations, Gyanlok for an impactful year. Your innovative approaches for educational development in the various schools continues to set new benchmarks. I applaud the teams commitment to shaping adaptable and equitable learning environments that empower individuals for the challenges and opportunities of tomorrow. Good luck for many more breakthroughs!

**Message from Mr Arun Maharana**  
**Trustee of Gyanalok Trust**  
**Bhubaneswar, Odisha**



### **Celebrating a Decade of Dedication...**

It feels almost like a dream that Gyanalok Trust has completed a decade of dedicated service-nurturing children's education and supporting their higher studies through scholarships-thanks to the unwavering generosity of our well-wishers. With the active participation of our members and volunteers, we have helped countless children uncover their inner potential through sports, art, debate, essay writing, and health awareness programmes led by dedicated counsellors and educators.

Though the journey has not been without its challenges, it is the steadfast support and encouragement from our members and well-wishers that have kept Gyanalok moving forward. What began as a modest educational initiative has grown into a committed mission, formally established as a trust in 2023.

As a Trustee, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all our supporters who have stood by us like a family through every high and low, empowering us to continue this noble path of transformation and hope.



**Message from Prof Prasanna Kumar Patra**  
Associate Professor of Anthropology  
Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha



### ଜ୍ଞାନାଲୋକ ଦ୍ରୁତଲେଟର ପାଇଁ ବାର୍ତ୍ତା

ଜ୍ଞାନାଲୋକ ପାଇଁ ଏହି ବାର୍ତ୍ତା ଲେଖିବା ମୋତେ ଅତ୍ୟନ୍ତ ଆନନ୍ଦ ଦେଉଛି । ଏହା ସହିତ ମୁଁ କିଛି ବର୍ଷ ଧରି ଜଡ଼ିତ ଅଛି । ଜ୍ଞାନାଲୋକ ପରିବାରର ଏକ ଅଂଶ ହୋଇ ମୁଁ ନିଜକୁ ସମ୍ମାନିତ ଏବଂ ଖୁସି ଅନୁଭବ କରୁଛି । ଜ୍ଞାନାଲୋକ ହେଉଛି ଦାରିଦ୍ର୍ୟ ଏବଂ ଅବହେଳିତତାର ଛାୟାରେ ରହୁଥିବା ଅନେକଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ଆଶାର ଆଲୋକ । ଏହା ଏକ ଗଭୀର ବିଶ୍ୱାସ ସହିତ କାମ କରେ ଯେ ଜ୍ଞାନ ଜୀବନକୁ ପରିବର୍ତ୍ତନ କରିବାର ଶକ୍ତି ରଖେ । ଶିକ୍ଷା, ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ, ପରିମଳ ଏବଂ ସରକାରୀ ଯୋଜନା ବିଷୟରେ ସଚେତନତା ପ୍ରସାର କରି, ବିଶେଷକରି ଦୂରଦୂରାନ୍ତର ଗ୍ରାମଗୁଡ଼ିକରେ, ଜ୍ଞାନାଲୋକ ତୃଣମୂଳ ସ୍ତରରେ ପ୍ରକୃତ ପରିବର୍ତ୍ତନ ଆଣୁଛି । ଏହା ଉତ୍କଳ କିନ୍ତୁ ଅଭାବୀ ଛାତ୍ରଛାତ୍ରୀମାନଙ୍କୁ ସମର୍ଥନ କରେ ଯାହା ଦ୍ୱାରା ସେମାନେ ସେମାନଙ୍କର ଶିକ୍ଷା ଜାରି ରଖିପାରିବେ ଏବଂ ଏକ ଉନ୍ନତ ଭବିଷ୍ୟତର ସ୍ୱପ୍ନ ଦେଖିପାରିବେ । ଜ୍ଞାନାଲୋକ ପାରମ୍ପରିକ ଜ୍ଞାନକୁ ମଧ୍ୟ ମୂଲ୍ୟ ଦିଏ ଏବଂ ସଂରକ୍ଷଣ କରେ - ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ, କୃଷି ଏବଂ ପରିବେଶ ଉପରେ - ଯାହା ସ୍ଥାୟୀ ଜୀବନଯାପନ ପାଇଁ ଜ୍ଞାନ ରଖେ । ଜ୍ଞାନାଲୋକକୁ ସ୍ୱତନ୍ତ୍ର କରୁଥିବା ବିଷୟ ହେଉଛି ଏହାର ନିଃସ୍ୱାର୍ଥତା ଏବଂ ସମର୍ପିତ ସଦସ୍ୟଙ୍କ ଦଳ ଯେଉଁମାନେ ଆବଶ୍ୟକତା ଥିବା ଲୋକଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ଅକ୍ଳାନ୍ତ ପରିଶ୍ରମ କରନ୍ତି । ସେମାନଙ୍କର କରୁଣା ଏବଂ ପ୍ରତିବଦ୍ଧତା ଏକ ଉନ୍ନତ ସମାଜ ଗଠନ କରୁଛି । ଶିକ୍ଷା ଏହାର ସମସ୍ତ ପ୍ରୟାସର ମୂଳରେ ରହିଛି କାରଣ ଏହା ଅନ୍ୟାୟ, ଅସମାନତା ଏବଂ ଅଜ୍ଞତା ସହିତ ଲଢ଼ିବାର ସବୁଠାରୁ ଶକ୍ତିଶାଳୀ ଉପକରଣ । ଏକାଠି, ଆସନ୍ତୁ ଆମେ ଏହି ମିଶନକୁ ଜୀବନ୍ତ ଏବଂ ବୃଦ୍ଧିଶୀଳ ରଖିବା । ଜ୍ଞାନାଲୋକ ପରିବାର ସହିତ ଜଡ଼ିତ ସମସ୍ତଙ୍କ ଭବିଷ୍ୟତ ସୁଖମୟ ହେଉ ବୋଲି ମୁଁ କାମନା କରୁଛି ।

**Message from Dr. Jyoti Prakash Rath**  
Senior Programme Manager,  
Foundation for Ecological Security (F E S)  
State Office, Bhubaneswar



Gyanalok trust is one of its own kind that makes an attempt to shape future of the children by ensuring their education and boosting their moral which would definitely pay dividends in the form of a quality human resource in the future days. It is even more exciting to know that, over the years people from different segments of the society who have concern for the well-being of the society are extending their helping hands to make this journey of Gyanalok trust more exciting and impactful. I feel myself as privileged and honoured to have associated with it and have the opportunity to serve the society. On this occasion of publishing it's first news letter, I wish Gyanalok trust to achieve success in it's future endeavours and realise it's vision which all of us are aligning with.

**Message from Dr. Himanshu Sekhar Rout**  
**Associate Professor of Economics,**  
**Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha**



I am delighted to note that Gyanalok Trust is bringing out its first quarterly newsletter. The Trust's commitment to grassroots transformation through education, awareness, and community engagement is truly commendable. Its diverse initiatives-ranging from academic enrichment to life skills development, sports, environment and health awareness, and cultural activities-are empowering students and communities alike. Such efforts are not only aligned with the goals of inclusive development but also contribute meaningfully to building a knowledge-driven society. I congratulate the entire team and wish Gyanalok continued success in its mission to illuminate lives and create lasting social impact.

**Message from Dr. Kirtti Ranjan Paltasingh**  
**Assistant Professor of Economics,**  
**Ravenshaw University, Cuttack, Odisha**



Gyanalok has been a beacon of hope for those downtrodden, having no access to education. I wish that it continues to serve humanity

**Message from Mrs Samita Padhi**  
**Professional Social Worker**  
**Dadra and Nagar Haveli**



"I wish Gyanalok Trust continues to grow in strength and reach, touching the lives of countless children in need. May its noble mission of spreading education and nurturing young minds bring lasting change in communities. I hope the light of knowledge it shares continues to shine brighter each day. May it inspire many more to join hands in this beautiful journey. Wishing the Trust continued success, love, and unwavering support in all its future endeavors."



**Message from Prof. Asutosh Pradhan**  
**Department of Social Work**  
**Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Dharamshala**



Congratulations on the Launch of First Newsletter!

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the entire team at Gyanalok Trust on the successful release of your inaugural newsletter! This marks a significant milestone in your journey of fostering hope, equity, and opportunity.

Through your steadfast commitment to inclusive education, Gyanalok Trust has made remarkable strides in empowering young minds from economically and socially disadvantaged, rural backgrounds. By providing vital financial support and guidance, you are not only enabling these students to pursue higher education but also lighting the path toward a more equitable future.

Your dedication to creating meaningful change stands as an inspiring example of how purposeful action can transform lives and communities. We celebrate this achievement with you and look forward to many more stories of impact and inspiration in the issues to come.

Wishing you continued success and growth in your mission.

**Message from Ms Jyoshna Dash**  
**Professional Counselor and Teacher**  
**Bhubaneswar, Odisha**



At Gyanalok, we believe that the true light of progress begins with the education of every child. Education is not just a right-it is the most powerful tool to break the cycle of poverty, empower communities and build a future filled with dignity, curiosity and hope.

The First News Letter of Gyanlok is dedicated to the cause of child education-a mission close to our hearts. Each story, article and coverage within these pages reflects our commitment to creating opportunities to kindle curiosity where it was once meek and to building bridges between dreams and reality for every child.

We hope this edition not only informs but also inspires you to join us in our journey. Let us unite to ensure that no child is left behind, that every voice is heard and that every young mind receives the chance to shine.

Together, let us spread the light of knowledge.

Together, let us illuminate lives. Together, let us be Gyanalok.



## Gyanalok Trust - Consolidated Activity Report (2014-15)

In the academic year 2014-15, Gyanalok Trust undertook a series of impactful educational initiatives across three Government Upper Primary Schools located in Karadapalla (Ranapur, Nayagarh), Haja (Banapur, Khordha), and Tulasipur (Tihidi, Bhadrak). These programs aimed to promote education awareness among students and parents, strengthen community participation in schooling, and provide targeted support to underprivileged learners.

Education awareness meetings were conducted in all three schools, reaching over 250 students and their parents/guardians. The sessions emphasized the importance of regular attendance, parental involvement, and continued education, particularly for girls and first-generation learners. In parallel, over 100 students participated enthusiastically in academic competitions such as essay writing, debates, quizzes, and drawing contests. Top performers were recognized with certificates and prizes, fostering a sense of achievement and motivation among participants.



To support deserving students beyond classroom activities, Gyanalok extended direct financial assistance to two economically disadvantaged girls: Rasmita Patra from Karadapalla, Nayagarh, and Malli Muduli from Haja, Khordha. Both received fellowships to pursue their Plus Two education, helping to reduce dropout risk due to financial constraints.

Recognizing the pivotal role of families in a child's education, Gyanalok organized parent/guardian meetings in each intervention village. More than 150 parents attended these sessions, where they pledged active engagement in their children's academic journey.

All activities during the year were solely funded by donations from Gyanalok's core members, with additional voluntary support from well-wishers for student fellowships, academic competitions, prize distribution, and community engagement events, reaffirming Gyanalok's grassroots commitment to educational empowerment.



## Gyanalok Trust - Consolidated Activity Report (2015-16)

During the year 2015-16, Gyanalok Trust continued its mission to promote inclusive and quality education through targeted interventions in two Government Upper Primary Schools-Karadapalla (Ranapur, Nayagarh) and Haja (Banapur, Khordha). As part of its education awareness initiative, community meetings were held with parents and guardians to highlight the importance of their involvement in their children's education. These sensitization sessions aimed to reduce absenteeism, prevent dropouts, and strengthen the school-home connection.



To stimulate academic excellence and foster creativity, Gyanalok organized a series of academic competitions in both schools, including debates, essays, quizzes, and drawing contests. Over 200 students actively participated, and the top three winners in each category were recognized with certificates and prizes, encouraging healthy competition and scholastic motivation among students.



In line with its commitment to supporting disadvantaged learners, the Trust extended financial assistance to three underprivileged students pursuing higher education in 2015-16. The beneficiaries included Droupadee Nayak and Rama Chandra Patra from Karadapalla (Nayagarh), and Manas Behera from Haja (Khordha). This support aimed to ensure continuity of education for economically weaker students and reduce the risk of dropouts at the college level.



Further reinforcing the community's role in education, four parents/guardians meetings were conducted in the two schools, engaging over 150 participants. These meetings provided a platform to discuss educational challenges, share feedback, and develop community-based solutions to improve enrollment and learning outcomes.



Gyanalok's 2015-16 initiatives reflect its grassroots-driven approach to educational empowerment, with a focus on student participation, parental engagement, and financial support for the most vulnerable.



## Gyanalok Trust - Consolidated Activity Report (2016-17)

In 2016-17, Gyanalok Trust expanded its educational outreach and community engagement across multiple villages in Nayagarh and Khordha districts, focusing on awareness, academic enrichment, health, and social responsibility. Education awareness programmes were conducted at Government Primary School, Karadapalla (Ranapur, Nayagarh), Government Upper Primary School, Haja (Banapur, Khordha), and Patita Paban Bani Mandir, Gambharimunda (Banapur, Khordha). A significant milestone was Gyanalok's intervention in Kaluniari village, Khordha, where the illiteracy rate stood at 68%. A 15-member team led a village-wide education campaign, resulting in increased school enrollment among local children.

To foster academic enthusiasm, over 200 students participated in various competitions-essay, debate, quiz, and drawing-organized across the intervention schools. Ninety students securing the top three positions were awarded certificates and prizes, further boosting their confidence and motivation.

Continuing its tradition of supporting underprivileged learners, Gyanalok extended monetary assistance to seven students pursuing higher education: Abhiram Swain, Jhilu Behera, Ashutosh Mohapatra, Dibyajyoti Patra, Rutash Harichandan, Harapriya Sahoo, and Manini Muduli, belonging to different villages across Nayagarh and Khordha districts.

Recognizing the crucial role of parents in educational development, Gyanalok organized a series of parent/guardian meetings in three intervention areas, with active participation from over 250 parents. These meetings addressed barriers to education and encouraged families to take ownership of their children's learning outcomes.

In addition to its educational focus, Gyanalok introduced new community welfare initiatives. A free health camp was held on 6th December 2016 at Government UP School, Karadapalla, in partnership with medical teams from Capital Hospital and AMRI Hospital, Bhubaneswar. Eight doctors from various disciplines-including medicine, pediatrics, gynecology, Ayurveda, and yoga-treated 232 patients and provided free medicines and diagnostic services.

Moreover, a voluntary blood donation camp was conducted at Karadapalla Youth Club in collaboration with Banabihari Youth Club and supported by Capital Hospital Blood Bank. The camp resulted in the collection of 35 units of blood and included free blood grouping for all students of the local Government UP School.

Overall, the 2016-17 period marked a year of strategic expansion and deepened impact for Gyanalok Trust, combining educational advancement with holistic community welfare.



## Gyanalok Trust - Consolidated Activity Report (2017-18)

In 2017-18, Gyanalok Trust continued its holistic educational outreach across rural Odisha with a strong focus on awareness, motivation, talent development, and financial support. Education Awareness Programmes were conducted at Patita Paban Bani Mandir, Gambharimunda, and Karadapalla Primary School, aiming to emphasize the value of education in shaping children's futures. These sessions engaged students, parents, and educators through interactive counseling and motivational activities like storytelling, expert talks, and success story displays. Special attention was given to identifying and re-enrolling school dropouts through continuous counseling and sensitization about government support schemes, thereby reinforcing the importance of sustained education in underprivileged communities.

To inspire academic excellence and nurture student potential, Gyanalok organized a thematic competition series titled “Anwasha (Khoj)” at Patita Paban Bani Mandir, Gambharimunda. A total of 46 students took part in essay writing, debates, quizzes, and drawing contests. Ten top performers were felicitated with trophies, certificates, books, dictionaries, and geometry boxes, encouraging creative expression, confidence, and healthy competition.

As part of its tradition to recognize contributions in the field of education, Gyanalok felicitated four dedicated individuals who made significant impacts in promoting learning and mentoring children. Their recognition served as a tribute to educators whose commitment has shaped many young lives in the community.



Furthering its mission of equitable access to education, Gyanalok extended financial support to four meritorious students from marginalized families in remote areas of Banpur block, Khordha district. These scholarships enabled the students to pursue higher education and overcome financial constraints, affirming the Trust's core belief in education as a transformative force. The initiatives of 2017-18 reflect Gyanalok's comprehensive and sustained efforts to empower students, engage parents, strengthen community participation, and bridge the education gap in rural Odisha.





## Gyanalok Trust - Consolidated Activity Report (2018-19)

In 2018-19, Gyanalok Trust continued its focused efforts toward educational empowerment in rural Odisha through a comprehensive range of initiatives targeting awareness, academic enrichment, recognition, and financial support. The Education Awareness Programme was conducted across Patita Paban Bani Mandir, Gambharimunda, and Karadapalla Primary School with the active involvement of students, parents, and educators. Personalized counseling sessions addressed individual challenges in accessing education, while motivational talks, storytelling, and success story presentations helped inspire both students and parents. A key objective was the re-enrollment of dropout children, achieved through regular awareness drives and counseling sessions that also highlighted government schemes supporting school education.

To promote intellectual engagement and holistic development, Gyanalok organized a series of academic competitions under the theme "Jigyansa" at Gambharimunda. A total of 69 students took part in essay writing, debate, quiz, and drawing contests. Twelve students were awarded for their outstanding performances with certificates, trophies, books, dictionaries, and geometry boxes. These competitions aimed to develop critical thinking, creativity, and confidence, fostering a healthy academic spirit among participants.

In recognition of educational leadership, Gyanalok felicitated four outstanding individuals who had made significant contributions to promoting education and mentoring children. This annual tradition serves not only to honor excellence in the field but also to inspire educators and community members to continue investing in the academic growth of future generations.

Reaffirming its commitment to equitable access to higher education, Gyanalok extended monetary support to six deserving students from economically and socially marginalized families in the Banpur block of Khordha district. These students, despite financial constraints, demonstrated strong academic potential and aspiration. By providing financial assistance, Gyanalok helped bridge the gap between ambition and opportunity, reinforcing its belief that education is a fundamental right, not a privilege.

The initiatives undertaken in 2018-19 reflect Gyanalok's sustained and integrated approach to fostering educational inclusion, academic excellence, and community participation, creating lasting impact in the lives of children and their families.



## Gyanalok Trust - Consolidated Activity Report (2019-20)

In the academic year 2019-20, Gyanalok Trust continued its mission to promote inclusive and quality education through a range of impactful programs focused on awareness, student engagement, educational recognition, and financial support. The Education Awareness Programme was conducted at Patita Paban Bani Mandir, Gambharimunda, and Karadapalla Primary School, with the aim of sensitizing students and parents about the transformative role of education in shaping future careers. These sessions featured expert-led motivational talks, storytelling, and success story presentations to engage participants, while personalized counseling was offered to address learning difficulties and dropout risks. A special focus was placed on re-enrolling drop-out students, supported by consistent awareness campaigns and dissemination of information on government education schemes, ensuring continued access to education for underserved communities.

To foster academic enthusiasm and talent development, Gyanalok organized the annual academic competition series “Jigyansa”, covering essay writing, debate, quiz, and drawing contests at Gambharimunda School in Khordha district. A total of 69 students showcased their skills, with 12 top performers receiving trophies, books, dictionaries, geometry boxes, word books, and certificates of excellence. This initiative encouraged creativity, critical thinking, and self-confidence, while promoting a spirit of healthy competition and lifelong learning among young learners.



As part of its tradition of celebrating educational contributions, Gyanalok felicitated four distinguished individuals in 2019-20 for their exceptional dedication to promoting education and child development. Their efforts have significantly influenced the academic journeys of many students and served as an inspiration to educators and communities alike. This recognition underscores Gyanalok’s commitment to honoring educational leadership and nurturing a culture of mentorship.

To further bridge the gap between aspiration and opportunity, Gyanalok provided financial support to six meritorious students from socio-economically disadvantaged families in Banpur block, Khordha district. Despite facing financial constraints, these students exhibited strong academic dedication and ambition to pursue higher education. Gyanalok’s support ensured continuity in their educational journey and reaffirmed the belief that education is a fundamental right that should be accessible to all, regardless of socio-economic status.

The 2019-20 initiatives highlight Gyanalok Trust’s integrated and sustained approach to educational development, engaging communities, empowering students, recognizing educators, and supporting underprivileged youth to build a more informed and equitable society.



## Gyanalok Trust - Consolidated Activity Report (2020-21)

In the academic year 2020-21, Gyanalok Trust continued its dedicated efforts to strengthen educational awareness, student engagement, and community involvement across its intervention areas. Three Education Awareness Programmes were conducted at Karadapalla Primary School, Haja M.E. School, and Gambharimunda High School, reaching over 500 students. The sessions focused on the importance of education for career and character development. Special activities included motivational talks, meetings with intellectual parents, idea-sharing with local leaders, and felicitations to inspire academic commitment. A career counselling session, held at Patita Paban Bani Mandir (PPBM), Gambharimunda High School in collaboration with an expert from the National Institute of Science Education and Research (NISER), guided over 100 Class 10 students on modern career paths. Additionally, more than 63 parents participated in awareness meetings designed to promote school re-enrollment and reinforce the role of families in a child's education.

As part of its annual talent enhancement initiative, Gyanalok organized academic competitions under the theme "Jigyansa" across PPBM, Gambharimunda High School, Haja Primary School, and Karadapalla Primary School. A total of 174 students participated in events such as essay writing, debates, quizzes, and drawing competitions. Of these, 42 students were recognized with prizes and certificates, celebrating their creativity, skill, and dedication.

To reduce financial barriers to education, Gyanalok provided monetary support to seven economically disadvantaged students pursuing higher education at Godavarish Mahavidyalaya (Banapur), Parsuram Mahavidyalaya (Gambharimunda), and Nachuni Mahavidyalaya (Nachuni). The Trust also covered second-year admission and form fill-up costs for six previously supported students from the 2019-20 batch, ensuring continuity in their academic journey.

Recognizing the critical role of families in education, Gyanalok convened a large parent/guardian awareness meeting at PPBM, Gambharimunda High School, with the participation of over 200 parents/guardians. The session served as a platform to discuss educational challenges and explore community-based solutions, guided by expert insights.

Through its multifaceted initiatives in 2020-21, Gyanalok Trust reaffirmed its commitment to inclusive education by addressing academic, motivational, financial, and parental dimensions, thereby fostering a supportive ecosystem for learning in rural Odisha.



## Gyanalok Trust - Consolidated Activity Report (2021-22)

In the academic year 2021-22, Gyanalok Trust sustained its mission to promote education and empower rural communities through a holistic set of initiatives. The Education Awareness Programme was conducted across its intervention areas, including Haja Primary School, Patita Paban Bani Mandir-Gambharimunda, and Karadapalla Primary School. The campaign focused on instilling the importance of education in career and character development among students and parents. One-on-one counselling sessions were held separately with children and parents to address specific challenges and offer remedial measures. To inspire school attendance and interest in learning, the program featured storytelling, motivational talks, and displays of real-life success stories. Regular efforts were made to re-enroll drop-out students, supported by awareness about government schemes and consistent motivation.



To encourage intellectual growth and foster healthy academic competition, Gyanalok organized its annual academic event “Jigyansa” at Gambharimunda School in Khordha district. A total of 74 students participated in four categories-essay writing, debate, quiz, and drawing. Nine outstanding performers were felicitated with trophies, certificates, books, geometry boxes, dictionaries, and word books. These competitions served to build creativity, self-confidence, and critical thinking among rural students.

As part of its tradition to honor educational contributors, Gyanalok felicitated three individuals for their significant contributions to the field of education and child development. Their recognition highlighted the Trust’s appreciation for educators who work tirelessly to support academic transformation at the grassroots level.

Continuing its commitment to educational equity, Gyanalok provided financial assistance to four underprivileged students from remote regions of Banpur block, Khordha district, enabling them to pursue Plus Two education in Bhubaneswar. These scholarships aimed to ensure that financial barriers do not hinder the academic aspirations of deserving youth.

The activities of 2021-22 reflect Gyanalok’s integrated approach to strengthening the educational ecosystem-through student motivation, community involvement, academic stimulation, recognition of educators, and direct financial support-contributing meaningfully to a future rooted in knowledge and opportunity.





## Gyanalok Trust - Consolidated Activity Report (2022-23)

In 2022–23, Gyanalok Trust deepened its commitment to inclusive educational and social development through a range of impactful initiatives across Odisha, particularly in Khordha district. Ten underprivileged students, including four from Scheduled Tribe communities in Banapur, Khordha, received financial assistance to pursue higher education. To foster academic enthusiasm from early stages, inter-school competitions were organized at Gandamunda High School and Niladri Vihar Primary School, engaging 232 students (188 from Gandamunda, 44 from Niladri Vihar) in essay, debate, quiz, drawing, and general knowledge events. Participants were grouped into Special, Sub-Junior, Junior, and Senior categories, with 60 winners awarded books, stationery, and dictionaries. A career counselling session on 22.02.2023, led by expert psychologist Dr. Jharana Swain, guided 48 Class 10 students at Gandamunda High School in evaluating their interests and exploring career paths. Artistic talents were encouraged through drawing exhibitions, showcasing 30 select student artworks.



Parent engagement was strengthened through interactive sessions at Niladri Vihar Primary School, including a musical chair game for 27 mothers, where three were felicitated, and structured meetings involving over 200 parents/guardians to address student performance and school-family collaboration. Eleven individuals were honoured for their contributions to educational development, while cultural programs such as songs, dance, and drama were used to spread awareness about the importance of education.

At the higher education level, Gyanalok hosted a national virtual workshop on Research Methodology from 25.02.2023 to 04.03.2023, attended by 90 postgraduate students and research scholars. Sessions were led by experts including Prof. Asutosh Pradhan (Central University, Himachal Pradesh) and Dr. Gangotri Dash (IPSOS Research, Bangalore), focusing on research planning and academic skills. Complementing this, a five-month webinar series titled "Social Development Issues & Role of Development Professionals" ran from 25.03.2023 to 05.08.2023, featuring 20 lectures from national and international experts on topics like TB, HIV/AIDS, mental health, disaster management, livelihood, and challenges faced by development professionals.





Promoting adolescent health, a special awareness program on anaemia prevention was conducted on 30.03.2023 at Assist Children Home, Rayagada. Fifty adolescent girls were sensitized on causes, symptoms, government schemes, and nutritional strategies, with a concluding quiz competition and prize distribution to winners.

A milestone achievement for Gyanalok Trust this year was its formal registration under the Indian Trust Act, 1882, on 3rd March 2023.

Through integrated efforts in education, health, research, and social empowerment, Gyanalok Trust has taken significant strides toward its vision of equitable growth and opportunity for all.





## Gyanalok Trust - Consolidated Activity Report (2023-24)

In the year 2023-24, Gyanalok Trust executed a multifaceted programme focusing on education, environment, health, social awareness, and community empowerment across Odisha. Under its Environmental Awareness and Tree Plantation Campaign, tree plantation drives were conducted at Government High School, Gandamunda (1st July), Niladri Vihar Primary School (8th July), and Tikuda UP School, Sonapur (26th August). These events involved school children, educators, and dignitaries, including experts from Utkal University, KIIT, and Khurda Law College, and featured interactive discussions on sustainability and the importance of green spaces.

To strengthen educational access and equity, Gyanalok awarded scholarships to four deserving students, including Shruti Singh, an orphan from Rayagada, and three high-performing students from Gandamunda. Educational awareness events were held at Khordha Law College, Niladri Vihar Primary School, Jeeban Jyoti Ashram, and other institutions, reaching hundreds of students and parents. Activities included prize distribution to 15 meritorious students, distribution of study materials, and speech competitions engaging 32 law students, with the theme “Role of Advocates in Shaping the Future of Society.”

Health and psychological well-being were prioritized through dedicated awareness sessions. A Mental Health Awareness Program (11th Oct) was held in Kasturba Gandhi Girls' School, K.Singhpur, Rayagada, while career counselling for 70 children at Assist Children Home was facilitated by experienced counsellors. Anti-addiction awareness efforts included a quiz and sensitization session at Government High School, Gandamunda (25th Nov) and a drug abuse prevention campaign at Niladri Vihar Primary School (13th Jan), supported by NGOs and local leaders.

Gyanalok continued its tradition of celebratory and community development events, organizing Republic Day celebrations (26th Jan) at Niladri Vihar and Sebashram School, Sonapur, recognizing 28 students for excellence in sports and promoting hygiene awareness. The Annual Sports Day (30th Nov) at Gandamunda High School saw the participation of over 100 students, with prizes and certificates distributed to boost morale and active engagement.





This Year, the Trust obtained a PAN card, opened a bank account with SBI (Sailashree Bihar, Bhubaneswar), and secured registrations under Sections 12A and 80G of the Income Tax Act. It was also registered under the Government of India's NGO-DARPAN portal, enhancing its transparency and eligibility for grants and partnerships.

Further strengthening grassroots involvement, Gyanalok, with NABARD's support, conducted a Gender Sensitization and Leadership Training program (5th March) for 43 SHG members in Ullunda, Sonapur, focusing on empowerment, SHG strengthening, and participatory development. Cultural initiatives like education-themed performances and drawing exhibitions added a creative dimension to learning across several events.

The Annual Meeting of the Trust was held on 9th July 2023 at CYSD, Bhubaneswar, where the previous year's progress was reviewed, and strategic plans for future activities were developed with active participation from stakeholders.

Through its inclusive and participatory approach, Gyanalok Trust's initiatives in 2023-24 positively impacted students, educators, parents, community members, and vulnerable populations, furthering its mission of educational empowerment, health awareness, and sustainable community development.





## Gyanalok Trust - Consolidated Activity Report (2024-25)

In the financial year 2024-25, Gyanalok Trust continued its mission of empowering communities through impactful initiatives in education, health, creativity, and social development across Odisha. The year began with two vibrant drawing competitions-held at Tarini Nagar Basti, Gandamunda, Khandagiri, Bhubaneswar (23rd June 2024) and Assist Children Home, Rayagada (30th March 2025)-engaging over 55 children, fostering creativity, and encouraging self-expression. Volunteers and dignitaries, including Dr. Pradeep Kumar Sahoo and Mr. Arun Maharana, played a vital role in motivating the young participants.

To strengthen educational access, the Trust awarded scholarships to seven meritorious students on 13th July 2024 at Government High School, Gandamunda, Khandagiri, Bhubaneswar. The event, which emphasized the importance of higher education for economically disadvantaged youth, was well-attended by students, guardians, and educators. This was complemented by the Annual General Meeting (14th July 2024) at CYSD, Bhubaneswar, where stakeholders reviewed progress and planned strategic outreach for the coming year.



On 15th August 2024, Gyanalok commemorated India's 78th Independence Day and the 5th National Social Work Week through a blend of cultural, environmental, and academic activities across Niladri Vihar Primary School, Bhubaneswar and Panchayat High School, Dharmasala, Sonapur. The day also featured two online lectures-attended by over 100 participants-by Prof. Sanjai Bhatt and Prof. Bharati Dogra on social work relevance and NEP 2020 respectively.



As part of its youth development initiatives, the Trust organized career counselling and personality development sessions at Government High School, Gandamunda (9th Nov 2024) and UG High School, Phulapokhari (8th Feb 2025). Over 120 students benefited from the expert insights of Mr. Anuj Kumar Das (Kanak News) and Dr. Girish Ranjan Sahoo (Centurion University), gaining clarity on educational and professional pathways.



Health education was a key focus, with a Sickle Cell Anemia Awareness Program held on 14th Dec 2024 at Phulapokhari, where experts educated students on symptoms, prevention, and care. Complementary competitions reinforced health knowledge through engaging formats.



Promoting physical well-being, two sports festivals were conducted-on 8th Jan 2025 (Phulapokhari) and 11th Jan 2025 (Niladri Vihar). These events saw participation from over 320 students, with 171 receiving awards and 14 being crowned school champions, reflecting the Trust's dedication to holistic development.

Finally, on 24th Jan 2025, Gyanalok celebrated the International Day of Education in collaboration with Centurion University and NAPSWI. The event featured debates and quizzes on NEP 2020, involving over 50 students, and was graced by senior academic leaders including Prof. Supriya Pattanayak (VC, CUTM).

Through these diverse yet integrated efforts, Gyanalok Trust significantly impacted educational advancement, youth empowerment, health awareness, and community engagement in 2024-25. The Trust remains committed to inclusive, sustainable development, thanks to the unwavering support of its team, partners, and well-wishers.









## **Gyanalok Trust**

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