

Registered u/s 8 of Companies Act and u/s 12A and 80G of Income Tax Act (eligible to accept CSR contributions)

Brochure: A peek into our working



Corporate Identity Number: U80903PN2020NPL194301

Email us at connect@ketasedufoundation.org

ABOUT US

KETAS Education Foundation, a Not-For-Profit organization, registered as a Section 8 company with also granted 80G and 12A Certificates under Income Tax Act. It works in the field of education reforms and community empowerment by promoting capacity building programmes. KETAS Education Foundation was *established in 2020* and has offered pro bono teaching and skill development programmes to over 10,000 students and professionals. We were born during the peak of the Covid-19 outbreak in April, 2020. Our selfless, community-oriented work, earned us 12A and 80G certificates under the Income Tax Act within first four years of our establishment given our detailed account of not-for-profit contribution to the society.

The aims, vision, and mission of the KETAS Education Foundation are well-founded on real-time issues of the Indian education system and the need for an activist approach to reform. They reflect the values and principles of our founders, who understand the social realities and challenges concerning the accessibility of education at affordable costs, teacher salaries, and several other issues. At KETAS Education Foundation, we firmly believe that technology is not just a tool but a fundamental enabler and a potential game-changer in reforming the discourse on education. Therefore, we are committed to promoting its greater use in the education sector and empowering the youth. By addressing the pressing challenges within the Indian education system, the KETAS Education Foundation seeks to empower youth and foster a culture of lifelong learning.

KETAS Education Foundation was founded by Dr. Nachiketa Mittal who is a law professor with over 16 years of work experience in the fields of human rights as a civil society activist, lawyer, law teachers and as a crusader of education reforms. You may address us simply as 'KETAS' as we preach the philosophy – 'Know, Empower, Thrive and Achieve Success'.



KEY MEMBERS

- Founder & Director: [**Dr. Nachiketa Mittal**] A visionary leader with extensive experience in legal studies, educational reform and policy development.
- Research & Development Manager: [Ms. Pakhi Garg] Oversees project implementation and stakeholder engagement.

PROJECTS

Virtual Law School (India's 1st)

The Virtual Law School initiative is designed to democratize access to legal education by providing free online courses specifically tailored for students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Recognizing the barriers many face in pursuing legal studies, this program leverages technology to create an inclusive learning environment.

The Virtual Law School was established on April 25, 2020. It was electronically inaugurated on April 25, 2020 by Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.K. Sikri (Former Judge, Supreme Court of India), Hon'ble Mr. Justice Kurian Joseph (Former Judge, Supreme Court of India), Mr. P.K. Malhotra (Former Law Secretary, Govt. of India), Sr. Adv. Sidharth Luthra (Supreme Court of India), Mr. Rajiv Luthra (Managing Partner, L&L Partners Delhi), Prof. (Dr.) S. Shanthakumar (Vice-Chancellor, Gujarat National Law University), and Prof. (Dr.) Manoj Kumar Sinha (Director, Indian Law Institute).

<u>Objectives</u>

Accessibility: Our primary goal is to ensure that quality legal education is available to all, irrespective of geographical location or financial limitations. We offer online courses to remove traditional barriers such as travel and tuition fees.

Social Justice Commitment: We aim to foster a new generation of legal professionals who are knowledgeable and deeply committed to social justice. By instilling the values of equity and advocacy, we prepare students to address legal issues affecting marginalized communities.

<u>Impact</u>

By equipping students with essential legal knowledge and skills, we empower them to advocate for their rights and the rights of others. Graduates of the Virtual Law School are better positioned to contribute positively to society, whether through community service, pro bono work, or careers in public interest law.

Pro Bono Law Teachers: One of the foundational principles of VLS was to impart quality legal education for law students at minimal cost. It was inspired from our Vision of creating an environment of learning on an equal footing. From the day of its inception, everyone taught in VLS being associated with the cause we stand for. It has been a celebration of a joy teaching. We start ed without any financial support and especially during the lockdown primarily to help law students cover their syllabus when most law schools were not providing effective online classes. Thus, we sought an intellectual donation of pro bono law teaching hours. And many retired judges, lawyers and law professors came forward to donate their teaching hours. Thus, no one draws a dime from contributing teaching hours at VLS.

Educational Policy Research

Our Educational Policy Research project involves comprehensive studies analysing existing educational policies and their effectiveness. This research is crucial for understanding the current education landscape in India and identifying areas that require reform.

Objectives

Identify Gaps: We aim to pinpoint deficiencies in current educational policies by analyzing data and stakeholder feedback. This process helps us understand what works and what doesn't in the existing framework.

Evidence-Based Recommendations: We propose actionable, evidence-based recommendations for policy improvement based on our findings. We aim to ensure that these recommendations are practical and can be implemented effectively by educational authorities.

Collaboration with Government Bodies: We actively collaborate with government agencies and educational institutions to translate our research findings into actionable policies. This partnership is vital for ensuring that our insights lead to meaningful change.

<u>Impact</u>

Our research informs policymakers about best practices and introduces innovative approaches that enhance the educational framework in India. By advocating for data-driven policy changes, we contribute to a more effective and equitable education system.

Workshops and Training Programs

We organize workshops aimed at the professional development of educators across various levels. These programs enhance teaching methodologies and provide educators with the tools they need to succeed in today's dynamic educational environment.

Objectives

Enhance Teaching Methodologies: Our workshops focus on introducing innovative teaching strategies and techniques through hands-on training sessions. Educators learn to engage students effectively and adapt their teaching styles to accommodate diverse learning needs.

Promote Collaboration: We encourage collaboration among educators by creating a platform for sharing best practices. These workshops foster a sense of community among teachers, allowing them to learn from one another's experiences and insights.

<u>Impact</u>

Improving teachers' skills through targeted training programs ultimately enhances student learning outcomes. Well-trained educators are more effective in their roles, leading to improved academic performance and greater student engagement. This ripple effect contributes positively to the overall quality of education in the communities we serve.

Annual E-conferences: These conferences bring together educators, policymakers, researchers, and thought leaders to discuss current trends in education. Attendees will engage in panel discussions, workshops, and networking opportunities.

Brochure | 5

Webinars: These webinars cover a wide range of subjects related to educational innovation, policy changes, and teaching strategies. They are designed to cater to the interests of a broad audience. Participants can easily register online for free access.

Community Outreach Programs: These programs aim to raise awareness about community educational resources. Activities include information sessions, resource distribution, and interactive workshops for parents and students.



Brochure | 6

PAST SUCCESSFUL EVENTS



GLAD TALK SERIES

In pursuant to our wholesome objective of developing VLS akin to a standard law school of a country, we strive to bring very senior members of the Bar, Bench and the legal academic to deliver lecture on the platform of VLS. In order to put this plan at work, we started Global Legal Approaches & Development (GLAD) Talk Series. Through GLAD Talk series, we invite senior law professionals and law teachers from across the world to speak on diverse subject matters of law, global perspectives, inter-cultural legal conflict and nuances. We have hosted several guests to speak on contemporary issues of same sex relationship and global legal discourse; ethical approach to public interest litigation; law teaching and pedagogy in times of pandemic; international mediation in times of pandemic and other issues of current time's relevance. Such lectures and discussion by way of Q & A rounds allows law students to interact with well accomplished legal scholars and professionals through an online medium when all rea sonable ways of gaining knowledge through physical class rooms, conferences and workshops has been paralyzed since early 2020.

GLAD Talk Speakers

- ✓ Hon'ble Mr. Michael Kirby, Former Judge, High Court of Australia
- ✓ Prof. Benjamin Davis, University of Toledo College of Law, USA
- ✓ Prof. (Dr.) S. Shanthakumar, Vice-Chancellor of Gujarat National Law University, Gujarat, India
- ✓ Mr. Kapil Sibal, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India
- ✓ Dr. Abhishek Singhvi, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India
- ✓ Mr. Salman Khurshid, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India
- ✓ Justice Yatindra Singh, Former Chief Justice, High Court of Chhattisgarh, India
- ✓ Mr. Prashant Bhushan, Advocate, Supreme Court of India
- ✓ Ms. Naina Krishnamurthy, Managing Partner, Krishnamurthy & Co. Mumbai, India

Professional's Legal Education Programme (PLEP)

Virtual Law School introduced a unique 30 hours course called Professional's Legal Education Programme to promote informed citizenry among media person, members of non-governmental organizations, other professionals working closely in the fields related to law and justice discourse. Here is a glimpse of sessions conducted on a Pro Bono basis by experts for the registered participants:

- ✓ Public Interest Litigation by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Kurian Joseph, Former Judge, Supreme Court of India
- Parliamentary Democracy by Prof. (Dr.) Afroz Alam, Head of the Department, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad
- ✓ Constitutional Law by Prof. (Dr.) Yogesh Pratap Singh, Registrar, NLU Odisha
- ✓ RTI aspects for a Common Man by Mr. Vekatesh Nayak, Project Head, RTI, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI)
- Cyber Security and Laws by Mr. Amit Vashist, Regional Provident Commissioner, Ministry of Labour & Employment, Government of India
- ✓ Child Rights by Ms. Enakshi Ganguly & Ms. Bharti Ali- Co-founder of HAQ: Centre for Child Rights
- ✓ IP Law for Common Man by Adv. Tanushree Sangal, Founder, Adventus Legal
- ✓ Consumer Laws & Medical Negligence Aspects by Adv. M. P. Srivignesh, Supreme Court of India
- ✓ Prevention of Sexual Harassment and Women Rights by Adv. Tanu Priya Gupta, Delhi High Court
- ✓ Criminal Law Aspects for a Common Man by Adv. Madhav Kurana, Delhi High Court
- ✓ Mediation & Arbitration by Adv. Sameer Shah, Arbitrator & Mediator
- ✓ Civil Cases Dos & Don'ts for a Common Man by Mr. Mahesh Menon, Assistant Professor, DAKSHA Fellowship, Sai University

REACH OUT TO US HERE!



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