

KVWT's STUDENT MENTORSHIP INITIATIVE

Empowering Young Minds

Education has always been the strongest pillar of community development. It shapes individuals, strengthens families, drives economic progress, promotes social equity, and builds a healthier society. For the Kannada Vaishya Welfare Trust, education is not merely one among the many welfare activities; it is the very foundation upon which the future of our community rests.

From its very inception, the Trust has firmly believed that the true progress of our community lies in nurturing the intellectual strength of its younger generation. This thought is amplified by the consistent excellence demonstrated by our students in SSLC, PUC, and Degree examinations, securing outstanding scores, state ranks, and academic distinctions, which stands as a powerful testament to the merit, dedication, and academic spirit of our community. Every year, through our student support Program, we take immense pride in honouring these young achievers at our annual functions, celebrating their accomplishments and inspiring future generations to follow in their footsteps.

Alongside these bright student achievers, our community is equally proud to be home to a remarkable number of accomplished professionals, including Chartered Accountants, Medical Doctors, PhD Scholars and so on whose success reflects the strength of our educational foundation. Their academic brilliance and meaningful contributions to society are well recognized and celebrated annually at our community events, as part of our commitment to acknowledging excellence in all its forms.

For a small and close-knit community like ours, having over 40 PhD scholars, an equal number of Chartered Accountants, or more than 50 Medical Doctors is not merely an achievement—it is a shining testament to the immense talent, discipline, and deeply rooted educational culture that defines us. This extraordinary journey has not happened by chance. It is the result of generations of elders, parents, teachers, and mentors who have carefully laid a strong foundation of values, discipline, and aspiration for the youth to build upon.

Beyond these achievements in the field of medicine, finance, and academia, the software revolution of the 1990s marked yet another milestone in elevating our community's stature. Many of our young achievers successfully entered the fields of engineering & software, bringing financial stability, professional excellence, and greater social recognition to the community.

Together, these accomplishments reflect not only individual success stories but also the collective vision, perseverance, and commitment of a community that has always placed education, hard work, and progress at the heart of its identity.

While these accomplishments are a matter of immense pride and reflect our community's deep-rooted commitment to education, true progress also demands continuous self-assessment. Every generation brings new opportunities and new challenges. As the world evolves rapidly, so too must our aspirations, strategies, and preparation methods.

Even as we take immense pride in our community's outstanding achievements in medicine, finance, academia, engineering, and technology, an important reality calls for reflection. Despite consistently producing students who score above 90% in SSLC and PUC, secure academic distinctions, and excel in traditional educational paths, our presence in premier institutions of our country such as IITs, IIMs, AIIMS, and among successful candidates in highly competitive examinations like NEET, UPSC, NDA, Banking, or Civil Services remains limited. For many deserving students, these aspirations continue to remain a distant dream over the years.

This is not due to any lack of intelligence or dedication. Our students have repeatedly proven their merit. However, in today's highly competitive environment, academic excellence alone is often not enough. Success in elite national-level examinations requires early exposure, strong conceptual foundations, strategic preparations, analytical thinking, and sustained mentoring areas where many bright students often lack structured support.



At the same time, the rise of Artificial Intelligence, automation, and global competition is rapidly reshaping career opportunities. Traditional pathways are evolving, and success today demands not only strong academic performance but also innovation, adaptability, leadership, and competitive readiness.

For our community, this is both a challenge and an opportunity. While our educational legacy is strong, the next milestone lies in preparing our youth to compete successfully for national institutions, leadership roles, and future-ready careers. Recognizing this crucial gap, the Kannada Vaishya Welfare Trust has taken up a visionary step through its “Catch Them Young” initiative, the genesis of the Student Mentorship Initiative, created to nurture young talent early and guide students from academic excellence towards career excellence.

Recognizing this need for early, structured, and future-oriented intervention, the Trust resolved not merely to celebrate academic excellence, but to actively shape it from its formative stages

Catch Them Young: The genesis of the Student Mentorship Initiative

Understanding that competitive excellence must begin early, the Trust launched its pioneering *Student Mentorship Initiative* in 2025 under the powerful concept of “*Catch Them Young*.”

This initiative focuses on identifying students from 7th and 8th Standards and providing them with early foundation coaching through reputed institutions such as Allen, Aakash, Narayana, Base, and similar academies.

The objective is clear: equip our children at the right age with the skills, confidence, and competitive mindset necessary to excel not only in IIT or NEET, but in any demanding career path they choose.

This programme is far more than coaching—it is a transformational ecosystem.

Through this initiative:

- ✓ **Students receive access to IIT/NEET-centric foundation courses (online or offline)**
- ✓ **Scholarships largely covering up to 50% of coaching fees are provided by the Trust**
- ✓ **Financially needy students are supported with laptops or iPads for digital learning**
- ✓ **Career counselling sessions guide students and parents toward informed career choices**
- ✓ **Exposure is broadened beyond engineering to include UPSC, NDA, Banking, LIC, Government Services, Public Sector careers, Management, Medicine, and other elite professions**

In collaboration with organizations like UKV Samaj Hubli and Ankola, multiple mentoring and counselling sessions have been organized, creating awareness among families regarding the importance of structured preparation from a young age.

A Promising Beginning:

The first year of this initiative has already delivered inspiring outcomes.

In 2025:

- ✚ *15 students enrolled under Trust-sponsored coaching*
- ✚ *Nearly 10 additional students independently joined offline programmes across Mumbai, Hubli, Goa, and Bengaluru*
- ✚ *Several participants performed exceptionally well in coaching institute assessments*
- ✚ *A few secured high ranks, making them eligible for significant fee waivers*

These early successes are not merely a statistics- they are indicators of untapped potential being unlocked.

These young achievers are not merely preparing for exams; they are preparing for leadership, excellence, and a future where Kannada Vaishya youth can stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the nation's best.

Beyond IIT and NEET: Building Complete Individuals

One of the greatest strengths of the Student Mentorship Initiative is that its impact extends far beyond entrance examinations.

Foundation training enhances:

- ✓ Logical reasoning
- ✓ Problem-solving ability
- ✓ Academic confidence
- ✓ Discipline and perseverance
- ✓ Time management
- ✓ Career awareness

Whether a student ultimately chooses Medicine, Engineering, Civil Services, Banking, Entrepreneurship, Management, Defence, or Public Administration, this early grooming builds the intellectual and emotional resilience necessary for extraordinary success in any field he or she chooses to make a career. As a community, one of our emerging challenges is the tendency to restrict ambition to familiar paths. Engineering has served us well, but the future demands diversification.

Why should our talented youth not aspire to become:

- o IAS or IPS Officers?
- o Scientists?
- o Chartered Accountants?
- o Defence Officers?
- o Entrepreneurs?
- o RBI, Banking, or LIC professionals?
- o Leaders from institutions like IIT, IIM, ISB, SP Jain, AIIMS, NLSIU, or global universities?

Talent is not our limitation, vision is. The Trust firmly believes that our children possess the capability to excel in every sphere, provided they are mentored, guided, and empowered early. Also the Student Mentorship Initiative is not just a scholarship scheme it is a movement to transform raw talent into national excellence and prepare our youth not just for jobs, but for leadership. No deserving student is left behind due to lack of guidance, resources, or opportunity.

A Message to Our Young Minds :

Dear students, you are the torchbearers of our community's future.

Dream beyond boundaries. Aim beyond comfort zones. Compete not just locally, but nationally and globally. Do not limit yourselves to what is common strive for what is extraordinary.

The path to greatness requires hard work, discipline, consistency & courage. Our Trust is committed to walking this journey with you, but the determination must come from within you.

Let us together build a future where every deserving Kannada Vaishya child is empowered not only to dream boldly, but also to achieve exceptionally-thereby strengthening our community, enriching society, and contributing meaningfully to the nation."

"When talent meets guidance, and ambition meets opportunity, extraordinary success becomes inevitable".



Girish M Gokarn
Retd. DGM, State Bank of India
Trustee - KVWT