

## **Bighelp for Education Post-Internship Report**

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For my Bighelp Youth Internship, I visited the government ZillaPrajaParishad High School in the village of Sarvepalli, Nellore district, Andhra Pradesh, India. Overall, the school has 25 teachers and around 400 students from grades 1-10. It is mostly a Telugu-medium school, but there is an English-medium section from grades 6-10. The school itself is square-shaped with classrooms making up the edge of the square and a field/courtyard in the center. The courtyard is where morning assemblies and lunch takes place. Not all of the students who attend this school live in Sarvepalli, which I found interesting. I chose this school because it was close to where my grandparents live in India.

On the first day of the internship, we arrived at the school around 8 am. It was a Friday, so students were not required to wear uniforms. Their school day starts around 9:30 am, so we talked with the headmaster and some of the teachers. Around 9:30, all the students gathered in the courtyard for the morning assembly, where they recite the national anthem, slokas, and announce local news. The students stood in lines separated by gender and grade. The headmaster then introduced me and my family to the school, and explained to them that I would be talking to the ninth and tenth grade English-medium classes about life in America, my school, recycling, and nutrition. He also said that he hoped we could stay the whole school day on the second day of the internship, which we gladly agreed to. The headmaster announced that the local reservoir had dried up, so there was no functional water or drinking water in the school. However, this didn't bother the students. After we were kindly welcomed to the school and the assembly concluded, the students dispersed to their classrooms. The class that I

was speaking to had 44 students. The boys sat on one side of the room and the girls on the other. I handed out nametags, and each of the students announced their name and grade level. Then, for about two hours, I talked about my background, my typical school day, the weather, local Indian events that we attend, and time zones. During the discussion, I passed around pictures of things I mentioned during the speech, including my school bus, a snowman, ice skating, a map of Massachusetts, etc. Every now and then, my mom would reiterate what I said but in Telugu, just so the students could fully understand what I was saying. The students were very interested and asked me many questions in both English and Telugu. After I finished answering questions, all the students had a fifteen-minute break, where they could go anywhere in the school. The students, especially the girls, were so excited to show me around. I talked to some of the teachers and other students, and saw the rest of the school.



Talking with a teacher and other students during the breaktime

These girls were extremely welcoming and friendly, which was a pleasant surprise. Everyone in the school, including the professors and the rest of the students, were so kind and happy to meet me and my family. After the break was over, I spoke about the 3 R's and global warming for about 30 minutes. Then, we did the first activity; making paper bags out of scrapbook paper. Many of the students were fascinated with the glue sticks I handed out. After we finished making the paper bags, I gave out chocolates for them to put in the bag. The students were already a little late to lunch, so we quickly wrapped up day 1.



Students with their scrapbook paper bags

The second day was a Saturday, so the students had to wear uniforms. During the morning assembly, I spoke in front of the school and thanked them for being nothing but nice and making me feel comfortable. After my parents spoke, we began handing

out backpacks to the students in the classes that I spoke to. When we returned to the same classroom we were in the day before, the girls were telling me that I was all they were talking about that night. On this second day, I began by asking the class a few questions about the day before and then discussed landmarks, holidays, differences between India and the US, currencies, and college. As I did the day before, I handed out related images. Because the topic for the second day was nutrition, I talked about healthy meals and the five food groups. As a class, the students and I discussed healthy meals that they could eat every day. After the presentation, we made a fruit salad as the activity. While the students were eating their portions of the salad, the teachers asked me a few questions. They were interested with the way college works in the US. I also asked the students many questions about how their college system works, and what they do after tenth grade. When I asked them what they wanted to be when they grew up, many of them said that they wanted to be police officers, which I found interesting. Because my family and I were staying for most of the day rather than for half a day, we ate lunch at the school. After eating, the students and I all sat together in a classroom and talked. I cannot explain how nice these kids were. They even made my younger sister feel completely welcomed, despite their language barrier. All of the students were shocked when I told them that boys and girls sit together in our American classrooms. They loved seeing pictures of my friends and I. One student named Sumasree sticks out in my mind. She was always the first one to answer a question and took time to get to know my shy sister. The professors and the headmaster were very lenient and allowed me to talk to the students as long as I wanted to. Two of the students, Chandrika and Sumasree, performed a 5-minute skit for me about everything they learned. They performed their skit in front of the class and didn't even have any notecard or scripts. It was incredibly funny and I was very impressed that they planned it all out during the

break period. In the skit, they mentioned how I didn't stand in one place during the discussion – apparently this really surprised them. They were also interested in Daylight Savings day. The students bought my sister and I bangles, keychains, and chocolates, which we appreciate so much.



The girls giving us bangles they bought together

Another girl also drew an amazing design with my name in it and gave it to me. The students talked about me like I was a celebrity, and asked for my Facebook and Whatsapp. It was amazing to me that what I think is my normal life was so interesting to them. They also revealed that prior to my arrival, they were nervous as well. They said that they were surprised by how nice I was to them, and that it didn't feel awkward at all. I was overjoyed when one girl told me that she felt like I was her best friend. The experience as a whole was incredible, exceeding my expectations. It really made me feel privileged. Living in America, I have a completely different life. Here, we have our own bedrooms, laptops, smartphones, etc. and most of the time we will always want something else. I physically saw that financial status does not determine a person's

happiness. Those students live in small villages and aren't exactly "wealthy," but they are content and sincerely happy with their lives. When we were leaving, I genuinely felt sad because I loved the (beyond) kind people I met.

I have never experienced anything like this, and I never thought that I would feel this attached to the people I met there. When the students were sharing one thing that they learned, a girl named Divya said that she is inspired by Chand Pasha uncle and would like to do something as incredible as starting a program like Bighelp. I believe that this enlightening internship has 100% impacted me as a person, but also influenced all the students. During the morning assembly when my parents talked to the students, my dad related to the kids because he also grew up in a small village. I think that this really encouraged them because he came from the same background as many of the students and went on to start a family in America. The headmaster asked my mom to say something to encourage the girls, too. Growing up with three sisters in India, my mom knows how many people insulted her family for raising four girls. Because of this past, she really wants to see these schoolgirls succeed and not let their gender change anything. Both my parents definitely felt accomplished by encouraging these children. I've been to India many times before, but I've never interacted with people in such a way. As an introvert, I didn't think I could present comfortably in front of people, or bond with people I've never met before living completely different lives. I regret feeling that way, because, like I mentioned before, the students I met were so pure that I can't imagine even thinking that I might not have been able to connect with them/be comfortable with them. I am so grateful that my parents helped make this happen. I want to thank Anitha Aunty and Rekha Aunty for preparing me on such a short time span. A huge thank you goes out to headmaster garu for letting my family and I talk with the students as much as we wanted and for making this experience possible. If I read

that this internship was “eye-opening” before I completed it myself, I would’ve thought that it was exaggerated. Now that I finished the internship, I can wholeheartedly agree that it was in fact eye-opening and I am truly blessed to have been able to make these unforgettable memories.

**Newspaper Coverages:**

సమస్యలు అభ్యయ్యుగారి ఎదుకోవడం, మూలగాది సారాయం, పేటి యాపి పొల్లొచ్చారు.

**పేద విద్యార్థులకు బిగ్ హెల్ప్ బ్యాగుల పంపిణీ**

సర్వేపల్లి (పెంతటాడ అం) : బిగ్ హెల్ప్ స్వచ్ఛంద సంస్థ అధ్యక్షులులో మండలంలోని సర్వేపల్లి ఉన్నత పాఠశాలలోని పేద విద్యార్థులకు కరువారం బ్యాగులు పంపిణీ చేశారు.



**బ్యాగులు పంపిణీ చేస్తున్న హె.ఎం. జ్ఞానిరత్నం, శీతల సుమనీ తదితరులు**

బిగ్ హెల్ప్ సంస్థ తరఫున ఆమెరికాకు చెందిన విద్యార్థిని శీతల సుమనీ రెండో రోజు సర్వేపల్లి జిల్లీ ఉన్నత పాఠశాలను పరిశీలించింది. పాఠశాలలో మొత్తం 40 మంది పేద విద్యార్థులకు ఒక్కొక్కరికి రూ.1000 విలువ గల బ్యాగులను పంపిణీ చేశారు. అనంతరం పాఠశాల విద్యార్థులతో సమావేశమై పోషకాహార పదార్థాలపై ప్రాజెక్ట్ నిర్వహించి విద్యార్థులకు అవగాహన కల్పించారు. భారతదేశానికి స్వాతంత్ర్యం ఎప్పుడు వచ్చిందని, ఆమెరికాలో స్వాతంత్ర్యం గురించి విద్యార్థులకు తెలియజేశారు. ఈ కార్యక్రమంలో పాఠశాల ప్రధానోపాధ్యాయుడు జ్ఞానిరత్నం, ఉపాధ్యాయుని, ఉపాధ్యాయులు పాల్గొన్నారు.

**రెండో రోజు ఎమ్మార్పీఎస్ రిలే టీకలు**

పాఠశాలకు : పార్లమెంటులో ఎస్సీల వర్గీకరణ బిల్లును ప్రవేశ పెట్టాలని ఎమ్మార్పీఎస్ కరువారం స్థానిక తహసీల్దార్ కార్యాలయం వద్ద రెండో రోజున రిలే నిరాహార దీక్షను కొనసాగించారు. వెంటనే పదాశాల పాఠశాల వసూలేకాలో బిల్లును ప్రవేశ పెట్టాలంటూ

లోపల...  
శిల్పి...  
కుంది.  
లోపలు...  
దవనం...  
**గుడ్డు**  
మూర్త్యు...  
మర్యాద...  
పోయింది  
వర్గీకరణ...  
**ఆగస్ట్**  
లోపల...  
ఈ-పాస్...  
స్వచ్ఛంద...  
మండలం...  
పాటు...  
కరువారం...  
పంపిణీ...  
రుకూ...  
బిల్లు...  
ప్రజా...  
రైతులు...  
పెన్షనరీ...

నీటిని తోటి పంటలకు అందిస్తుంది.

# పేద విద్యార్థులకు 'బిగ్ హెల్ప్' చేయూత

## • హెచ్ఎం జ్ఞానరత్నం

సర్వేపల్లి (వెంకటాచలం) : పేద విద్యార్థులకు బిగ్ హెల్ప్ ఫర్ ఎడ్యుకేషన్ స్వచ్ఛంద సంస్థ చేయూత నిస్తుందని హెచ్ఎం జ్ఞానరత్నం తెలిపారు. హైదరాబాద్ కేంద్రంగా నిర్వహిస్తున్న స్వచ్ఛంద సంస్థ ఆధ్వర్యంలో సర్వేపల్లిలోని జెడ్పీ ఉన్నత పాఠశాలలో పేద విద్యార్థులను గుర్తించేందుకు శుక్రవారం వచ్చారు. ఈ సందర్భంగా సంస్థ నుంచి అమెరికా దేశానికి చెందిన విద్యార్థిని శీతల సుమన పాఠశాలను పరిశీలించారు. విద్యార్థులతో మమేకమై అమెరికాలో విద్యావ్యవస్థ, వాతావరణ పరిస్థితులను వివరించారు. ఏపీలో విద్యా వ్యవస్థ గురించి ఉపాధ్యాయులను, విద్యార్థులను అడిగి తెలుసుకున్నారు. అనంతరం వేస్ట్ మెటీరియల్ను ఎలా ఉపయోగించాలో ప్రాజెక్ట్ వర్కు చేసి విద్యార్థులకు చూపించారు. హెచ్ఎం జ్ఞానరత్నం మాట్లాడుతూ



విద్యావ్యవస్థపై మాట్లాడుతున్న శీతల సుమన, సర్వేపల్లి హెచ్ఎం జ్ఞానరత్నం

డుతూ తల్లిదండ్రులులేని విద్యార్థులకు, బాగా చదువుతూ ఆర్థిక స్థోమత లేని విద్యార్థులకు బిగ్ హెల్ప్ సంస్థ చేయూత నిస్తుందన్నారు. ఈకార్యక్రమంలో పాఠశాల ఉపాధ్యాయుని, ఉపాధ్యాయులు పాల్గొన్నారు.

ర్పంగా  
నిర్వ  
క్రమం  
నిప్పల్  
విద్యా



సీటు  
శుక్ర  
జన

వర్గీకర  
ఎమ్మా



లలే దీక్ష

పొదలక

ఎస్సీల

ర్నీఎస్

సీల్దార్

నిరాహ

ర్పంగా

వెంకట

కేంద్రం





### విద్యార్థులతో మాట్లాడుతున్న సుమన సీతలం

సర్వేపల్లి(వెంకటాచలం), మ్యాన్టుడే: ఆమెరికా, భారతీయ విద్యా విదానాల్లో మార్పులున్నాయని ఆమెరికాలో చదువుతున్న విద్యార్థిని సుమన సీతలం తెలిపారు. ఆమెరికాలోని చమ్పఫోర్డ్ ఉన్నత పాఠశాలలో చదువుతున్న సుమన బిగ్ హెల్త్ ఫర్ ఎడ్యుకేషన్ సంస్థ ద్వారా ఇంటర్నెటివ్ కోసం వెంకటాచలం మండలంలోని సర్వేపల్లి ఉన్నత పాఠశాలకు శుక్రవారం వచ్చారు. నెల్లూరుకు చెందిన సుమనా సీతలం తల్లిదండ్రులు బిగ్ హెల్త్ ఫర్ ఎడ్యుకేషన్ సంస్థ నిర్వహణలో ఒకరు. ఈ సంస్థ ద్వారా ఏటా పేద విద్యార్థులకు సహకారం అందిస్తుంటారు. ఈ సందర్భంగా సుమన సీతలం ఆమెరికాలో విద్యావిధానం గురించి వివరించారు. ఇక్కడి విద్యావిధానం గురించి తెలుసుకున్నారు. పరిపాటి శుభం ఉంది.