

## About 'Utopia' Organization

### What:

A non-profit organization (NPO) my sister and I co-founded to help government schools in nearby villages across various avenues, including helping students explore new opportunities, improving the school's infrastructure, encouraging sustainability, and addressing other challenges the schools may face like miscommunications with parents or low attendance rates.

### Why:

To minimize educational disparities I have noticed by studying in schools around the world, working towards my dream of being able to benefit the community through my work in the future.

### How:

By going to 3 different schools over two villages nearby, I connected with 200+ students with the activities we did.

We were able to bring our ideas to life with funding from businesses in Kota (who we pitched the idea to), and expertise of professionals like photographers and gym trainers wanting to help the community as well.

We organized sessions for various age groups at the schools, coordinating with the principals to ensure it doesn't clash with any other major events.

We arranged sessions online as well, to continue sessions even when we are at our boarding school, and expanded our team to a team of 10 people to continue the work when we are out as well.

To maximize our influence, we started an instagram account to spread the word. We also requested the school principals to write letters to the state office and propose starting enrichment activities in all government schools across Rajasthan, India.

### What skills I learnt/developed:

Reflection- During every car ride back, when I reflected on the way I connected with the students, the way I shared the information I aimed to share, and the way I could improve on our next trip to have a more impactful influence.

Determination- After each session, when I left inspired by the students blazing towards their long-term goals of becoming doctors or engineers while facing mountains of challenges daily, all with a smile on their face.

Communication- When teaching debate and photography or presenting about the importance of school attendance, I learnt how to communicate with my target audience effectively, including knowledge about when and how to change the tone of my communication.

Problem-solving- When encountering a new challenge, like miscommunication between parents and the school on key events that would boost the child's growth, and overcoming it with simple but effective solutions, like hosting parent-teacher conferences and setting up a communication method to do so.

Creativity- When thinking outside convention to be able to connect with the students effectively, organizing events like Sports Days or teaching them how to juggle to do so.

**What I plan to do next:**

Expand my team (to at least 20 members) to provide more opportunities and more enrichment activities

Expand Utopia's presence to more schools (at least 3 more, by the end of this academic year) around the Kota district.

Continue working for Utopia and for this cause even while at university!