



NISA School Leaders Summit

www.nisaindia.org

New Delhi, 30 November 2012 – On 05 December 2012, the first annual [NISA School Leaders Summit](#) is being organised at Silver Oak, India Habitat Centre, by [Centre for Civil Society](#) and [Central Square Foundation](#). The summit will bring together 175 budget private school leaders, school owners and heads of affordable school associations from 12 states across India representing over 12,000 schools, to share best practices in education quality and learn how these can be implemented here, within our Indian context. (The Schedule for the program is below)

National Independent Schools Alliance (NISA) is the only national platform fighting for the voice of low-fee and budget private schools in India. The promise of an English-medium education and improved accountability of teachers is resulting in large-scale migration of students from government schools to low-fee private schools. Despite the best efforts of these private schools, they are struggling to improve quality and learning outcomes. The Summit offers a platform to understand opportunities and innovative practices in education to improve the quality of schooling and student performance. We invite you to be a part of this dialogue, representing a cross section of stakeholders such as investors, financial institutions, thought leaders, education service providers, principals of affordable schools, proprietors and association heads.

- Opening address (10:10am – 10:50am): **Scaling Innovation: High Expectations, No Excuses.**
Pankaj Jain of Gyanshala, an NGO that serves the education needs of children from economically weaker sections across Gujarat and Bihar.
- Session 1 (10:50am – 11:30am): **Power of Networks: International Experiences**
Jane Hofmeyr of ISASA; the largest association of independent schools in South Africa, providing quality, values-based education to over 157,000 pupils.
- Session 2 (12pm – 1:20pm): **Teacher Recruitment and Professional Development**
Gaurav Singh of 3.2.1 Schools, which focuses on creating a new standard of excellence in education for children from disadvantaged communities
Jennifer Thomas of Muktangan, which seeks to offer a sustainable model of quality education for the economically deprived sections of society.
- Session 3 (2:20pm – 3:00pm): **Parent Engagement**
Vandana Goyal of Akanksha; reaching out to over 4,000 children by providing a strong educational foundation serving children from low-income communities in Mumbai and Pune.
- Session 4 (3:00pm – 3:40pm): **Technology in Education**
Priya Krishnan of Sujaya, a chain of affordable Schools which have adopted multiple intelligence approach to education and high quality of teaching, infrastructure and resources.
- Session 5 (4:10pm – 5:30pm): **Teaching English to First Generation Learners**
Jaya George of Christel House, which helps children of underprivileged backgrounds break the cycle of poverty, and become self-sufficient, contributing members of society.
Arghya Banerjee of Levelfield School; an award-winning initiative to provide affordable, high-quality education to students in non-metro-city areas.
- Closing session (5:30pm – 6:00pm): **Engaging with the Right to Education Act**
NISA members led by *RC Jain* and other NISA State Association heads.

About NISA (www.nisaindia.org)

National Independent Schools Alliance (NISA) is the only national platform fighting for the voice of low-fee and budget private schools in India. NISA aims to create an enabling ecosystem for budget private schools that are working to improve access to affordable and quality education for the economically weaker. NISA believes in concerted efforts for advocacy with the government, amplifying the voice of budget private schools, relying on the media and building an evidence-base for budget private schools.

About Centre for Civil Society (www.ccs.in)

Centre for Civil Society is a globally recognised public policy think tank advancing personal, social, economic and political freedoms. The Centre challenges conventional wisdom to usher an intellectual revolution that encourages people to look beyond the obvious, think beyond good intentions and act beyond activism. Through research, outreach and advocacy, the team aims to promote choice, competition and community based policy reforms.

About Central Square Foundation (www.centralsquarefoundation.org)

The Central Square Foundation is a venture philanthropy fund focused on demonstrating high quality in the school education space. We are strictly a philanthropic funding and capacity-building organisation that operates by making early and growth stage grants in education-focused NGOs. Our focus is on initiatives that are impactful, efficient and effective with the potential to scale so as to affect systemic change. We are data driven, seeking empirical, fact-based information to inform our views and insights.

For more information, contact:

Daphne Vallado

daphne@ccs.in | +91 9910667576

Conference Schedule:

Wednesday, 05 December 2012	
9:30 am to 10:00 am	Registration
10:00 am to 10:10 am	Welcome & About NISA Parth J Shah, <i>Centre for Civil Society</i> Ashish Dhawan, <i>Central Square Foundation</i>
10:10 am to 10:50 am	Opening Address: Scaling Innovation: High Expectations, No Excuses Pankaj Jain, <i>Gyanshala</i>
10:50 am to 11:30 am	Session 1: Power of Networks: International Experiences Jane Hofmeyr, <i>ISASA</i>
11:30 am to 12:00 pm	Tea Break
12:00 pm to 1:20 pm	Session 2: Teacher Recruitment and Professional Development Gaurav Singh, <i>3.2.1. Schools</i> Jennifer Thomas, <i>Muktangan</i>
1:20 pm to 2:20 pm	Lunch

2:20 pm to 3:00 pm	Session 3: Parent Engagement Vandana Goyal, <i>Akanksha</i>
3:00 pm to 3:40 pm	Session 4: Technology in Education Priya Krishnan, <i>Sujaya</i>
3:40 pm to 4:10 pm	Tea Break
4:10 pm to 5:30 pm	Session 5: Teaching English to First Generation Learners Jaya George, <i>Christel House</i> Arghya Banerjee, <i>Levelfield School</i>
5:30 pm	Closing Address (Engaging with the Right to Education Act) RC Jain and Other NISA state association heads