Profile of the organization

Foundation for Education and Development (FED) is a public charitable trust established by five renowned educationists. FED works with the most deprived, excluded and vulnerable rural adolescents by making their lives more productive and meaningful. In order to fulfil the above mandate, FED initiated a project called *Doosra Dashak (DD)* in the year 2001 for holistic and integrated education of adolescents. The need for initiating DD was based on the following grounds:

- Non-fulfilment of the goals of universal primary education and adult literacy in our country;
- Increased nationwide realization about the critical importance of youth and adolescents of 11-20 age group; and
- The vast possibilities which could be opened by a good programme of education and development for these persons.

Vision of FED -

The vision of FED is -'To nurture the adolescents and youth from the rural and marginalised backgrounds as responsible and skilled and collectivised citizens through holistic education. Such that, with the participation of their communities, the dream of an equal society based on constitutional values is brought to life.'

DD is a decentralized, innovative, process oriented and participatory project that seeks to provide value based and skills-oriented education to harness the leadership potential of youth and women for social transformation. DD's major interventions are:

- Community mobilization (e.g.: Social mapping and micro-planning)
- Four months residential camp for foundational education
- Two months residential camp for class X and XII through open schooling
- Continuing education for lifelong learning (eg: Ikhvelo and VLCs)
- Skills for Life and work
- Building community organizations for sustainable development (e.g.: Yuva Manch and Mahila Samooh)
- Improving service delivery of public welfare schemes and development projects

Organisational Achievements (Till March 2026)

Doosra Dashak has created a prototype for education and development for the poorest and most vulnerable communities. DD has engaged with 1,31,164 adolescents (of which 50% adolescents are girls) in 1,1207 villages of 272 Panchayats in Rajasthan and has made significant contributions to making their lives more productive and meaningful. The major achievements of Doosra Dashak are as follows:

a) Providing a second chance education to 9,710 adolescents including 6,163 girls through camps and re-entry into government schools.
b) Building socially committed & responsible cadres of youth and women in the most backward rural pockets.
c) Improved capacity of local leadership for social transformation through democracy, equality and social justice

d) Galvanising public action for opposition to harmful social practices like child marriage, bonded labour, dowry, mrityu-bhoj, violence against women and alcoholism
e) Improved access to government services in 9 blocks (school, hospitals, PDS, electricity, water, etc.). 80,704 people were linked with public welfare schemes in collaboration with PRIs and district administration.
f) Supported more than 5,00,000 people from marginalised communities during the COVID-19 pandemic through awareness and distribution of ration, cooked meals, medicines, nutritional food for pregnant and lactating mothers, sanitary pads, slippers for migrant workers, water, soaps & sanitizers, face masks and clay pots for water storage.
g) Collaboration with government educational institutions for training in life skills and capacity building of SMCs and teachers
h) Partnership with NGOs in six states for community mobilization and capacity building for education of adolescents

Impact of FED

- Nationwide recognition through awards and accolades – FED was one of the top three finalists in the Education category for the prestigious HCL Grant 2018. The shortlisted entities represent the most outstanding non-profit bodies working to bring critical change in Indian villages. FED was awarded a certificate for its outstanding contribution in the field of Education.
- DD's pioneering approach for education and development of adolescent and youth was endorsed by the Planning Commission and systematically incorporated in the 10^{th}, 11^{th} and 12^{th} Five-Year Plans for the entire country.
- Inspired by DD and drawing upon its rich experience, several partner NGOs from Rajasthan, UP, Jharkhand, Bihar, Assam, Orissa, W.B. and MP have implemented similar programmes for adolescents.
- DD's movement for the liberation and rehabilitation of bonded labour has drawn national as well as international attention. Gyarsi bai of Jagrat Mahila Sangathan was awarded the *Stri Shakti Puraskar* by the state of Rajasthan for her contribution towards campaigning for violence against women. She has been covered by BBC – Hindi for her outstanding contribution in rehabilitation of bonded labour in Baran district.

Geographical Coverage: Rajasthan

a) **Socio – Economic context:** Rajasthan has an area of 3,42,239 Sq Kms and population of 6,86,21,000. This makes it the largest state with the lowest density of population. It has 41 districts, 457 block and 41016 villages. Two thirds of the state is covered by Thar Desert, making it difficult to traverse. Weather conditions are harsh, the ecology is fragile and the economy is held back due to frequent droughts. Agriculture and animal husbandry are the mainstays of the economy. More than 75% of the population is rural based and a large proportion (30%) belongs to SC/ST. Rajasthan is known for its rich heritage of forts, palaces and folk music, which make it a major tourist attraction. However, its infrastructure in terms of road, electricity and water is relatively underdeveloped. The total fertility rate (TFR) of Rajasthan is 3.1 as compared to

national TFR of 2.4 resulting in high decadal population growth rate of 21.4% between the years 2001 - 2011.

b) **Educational scenario:** In terms of universalization of elementary education (UEE) and adult literacy, Rajasthan is among the most backward states of India. According to Census 2011, overall adult literacy rate is 67% compared to national literacy rate of 75%. With female literacy of 52.7% and male literacy of 80.5%, its gender gap of about 28% is by far the highest in India. Currently, Rajasthan ranks the lowest among 36 states in terms of adult literacy.

Rajasthan has made notable progress towards achieving the goal of universalization of elementary education (UEE) since the early 90s. This has been facilitated by programmes such as Shiksha Karmi, Lok Jumbish, DPEP, Total Literacy Campaign (TLCs) and Doosra Dashak. School infrastructure has improved, while availability of textbooks and mid-day meals has contributed to increased enrolment and improved attendance. Nevertheless, the state is characterised by high dropout rates, low transition between different levels of education, teacher vacancies, teacher absenteeism and low levels of attainment. The dysfunctional government schools have resulted in children moving to private education often at high cost. Education of girls and disadvantaged sections of the population living in remote and inaccessible areas pose serious challenges.

In line with trends in the rest of the country, almost a quarter of the population of Rajasthan is between the age group of 10 – 19 years. According to the latest ASER Report 2017, as many as 22.7% are not enrolled in the schools. The proportion of women in this age group not enrolled in schools is even higher at 28%. The mean age of marriage of girls is 16.4 years with 42 percent girls getting married between the ages of 15-17 years. Almost one fourth are married even before attaining the age of 15 years.

Management Structure

FED is managed by a Board of Trustees comprising eminent educationists, former civil servants and representatives of civil society who are committed to social development. The Board of Trustees of FED has constituted an Executive Committee for management of the Doosra Dashak program and has delegated to it full administrative and financial powers with regard to Doosra Dashak. The Managing Trustee of the FED is also the Chair of the Executive Committee, holding responsibility for policy and programmes. At the state level, there is a Steering & Coordination Unit (SCU) headed by the Director along with a team of professionals. This unit is responsible for the day-to-day management of Doosra Dashak, coordination, monitoring and review of implementation. In each block, a Field Extension and Support Unit (FESU) have been set up under the leadership of the Project Director. The Project Director is responsible for preparing block specific plans and ensures effective monitoring and implementation as per the specificities of the context, adhering to the overall vision, objectives and value framework of FED.

Doosra Dashak has a set of Service and Financial Rules which guides the functioning and implementation of its activities at the Central as well as Block level. Strict adherence is observed to accounting procedures to ensure the optimal utilization of the available resources. For this purpose, regular visits are undertaken to the blocks by an internal audit support team from the central unit. External Audit is undertaken on a regular basis by a

reputed Chartered Accounting Firm.FED has also laid down guidelines for Redressal of Sexual Harassment and Gender Insensitivity at Work Place.

Details of the Board Members/Governance Council

The project is being implemented by Foundation for Education & Development, a public charitable trust registered in Delhi.

Trustees

- **Shri. Abhimanyu Singh, IAS (Retd.)**, former Education Secretary (Govt. of Rajasthan) and Joint Secretary, MHRD New Delhi; is the Chairperson of FED and a permanent Trustee on the Board. He served UNESCO as Director, Education for All (EFA) at its headquarters in Paris and as Country Director of Nigeria. His last assignment was with UNESCO as the Director and Representative for East Asia covering China, Japan, Mongolia, South Korea and North Korea, in UNESCO at Beijing. He has been awardeda research fellowship from Japan Foundation (2016) and a Fulbright Fellowship by Government of USA (1986-87)

- **Shri. Rajendra Bhanawat,** IAS (Retd.), former Secretary Rural Development, Government of Rajasthan, Director, Literacy and Continuing Education (CE), is former Managing Trustee of FED. He received the NLMUNESCO award in the year 2000 on behalf of the State of Rajasthan for outstanding work in promoting literacy.

- **Shri. Ashok Kumar Bhandari, IPS (Retd.)**, is a long serving member of the Board of Trustees of FED. He has distinguished himself on various posts including, First Secretary, Indian High Commission (London), Special Secretary Jammu & Kashmir Affairs (New Delhi) and Administrative member, Central Administrative Tribunal. He has been awarded Police Medal for Meritorious Service, 1958 and President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service in 1992. He is also working on the board of, Eye Bank Society of Rajasthan, Jaipur.

- **Ms. Vrinda Sarup**, **IAS (Retd.)**, former Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy, is a member of the Board of Trustees of FED. Since the early nineties, she has served continuously in MHRD and the Department of Education in various capacities. During this period, she has made notable contributions to important national projects in Education, including DPEP, SSA and Mahila Samakhya. International agencies which she has closely worked with include World Bank, DFID of UK, UNICEF, EU and World Food Programme.

Advisors

- **Prof. Shantha Sinha,** serves as an advisor in Board of Trustees of FED. She is an internationally reputed anti-child labour activist. She is the founder of Mamidipudi Venkatarangaiya Foundation, popularly known as MV Foundation, and is a Professor in the Department of Political Science at Hyderabad Central University. She has headed the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights for two consecutive terms (6 years). She was conferred with a Padma Shri Award by the Government of

India in 1999.She is a recipient of the prestigious Ramon Magsaysay Award for Community Leadership in 2003.

- **Sh. Ajay Singh Mehta,** Currently, Shri Ajay Singh Mehta serves as an Advisor to the Board of Trustees of the Foundation for Education and Development (FED). He is also a Board Member of Seva Mandir Trust and the Rama Mehta Charitable Trust & serves as a Patron of the Udaipur Taleem Tarbiat Foundation.His previous positions include Member, State Planning Board (2011–2013), President, Vidya Bhawan Society (2015–2024), President, Seva Mandir (2003–2018), Executive Director, National Foundation for India (2001–2011 and Chief Executive, Seva Mandir (1990–1999).

Executive Committee of Doosra Dashak

S. No	Name	Experience	Position
1.	Shri Abhimanyu Singh	IAS (Retd.) (Former Education Secretary, Govt. of Rajasthan)	Chairman
2.	Shri Rajendra Bhanawat	IAS (Retd.) (Former Secretary Rural Development, Government of Rajasthan)	Member
3.	Ms. Abha Bhaiya	Founder Director, Jagori, New Delhi	Member
4.	Shri. Ashok Kumar Bhandari	IPS (Retd.) (Former Special Secretary, Home, Jammu and Kashmir)	Member
5.	Ms. Dipta Bhog	Senior Director, Nirantar, New Delhi	Member
6.	Shri Srini Swaminathan	(Social Development Consultant; Formar Rotary International Foundation Peace Fellow 2022 / Apple India Retail Project)	Member
7.	Shri R.D. Sharma	Acting Director, Doosra Dashak	Member Secretary
8.	Shri. M.L. Thanvi	Project Director, Bap	Member
9.	Sh. Kamlesh Kumar Avasthi	Project Director, Laxmangarh	Member

Financial Discipline (Audit and Income Tax)

The Foundation for Education and Development has ensured timely filling of Income Tax Returns based on its Audited Annual Accounts by an independent firm of Chartered Accountants. It has filed Income Tax Returns for Assessment 2019-2020. Audited accounts have been approved by our Board of Trustees.

Financial Position

Financial strength of an organization is evaluated mainly on the basis of following two parameters:
1. Capacity of solvency, liquidity and sustainability of an organization by way of a healthy Corpus maintained by it; and
2. Annual turnover.

Position of Corpus Fund and Annual Turnover of the FED is given below:

Position of the Corpus Fund

(Rs. in crore)

S. No.	Corpus Funds	As on 31.03.2025
1	SDTT-FED-Corpus Fund	7.69
2	FED Fund (Self-generated)	4.40
3	AB Scholarship Fund	0.38
	Total	12.47

Position of Annual Turnover

(Rs. in crore)

S. No.	Particulars	2024-25
1	Annual Turnover	3.85

Above position reveals that FED has a healthy Corpus of Rs. 12.47 crores and Annual Turnover of Rs. 3.85 crores as on 31.03.2025. These strong parameters have enabled FED to assess project funding from prestigious funding agencies such as Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives (APPI), Tata Trusts, Bajaj Auto Ltd., HT Parekh Foundation, ICRW, and HCL Foundation.

Major financial partners of the FED: