

## A brief write up on E2E Career Fair - 2015

A Career Fair was organized by Vikramshila on 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2015 in collaboration with SSA Kolkata at Shiksha Bhawan premises in Kasba for students of government and government aided secondary schools of Kolkata. The Fair started from 10.30 in the morning and continued till 4.30 in the evening. Around 1200 students from 30 Project Schools, 100 School teachers and more than 100 parents visited the Fair, in batches. Stalls were put up by some of the leading skill training providers in the state – Ramakrishna Mission Shilpamandir & Shilpayatan, Belur Math, National Institute of fashion Desining (NIFT), Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute (SRFTI), Footwear Design & Development Institute (FDDI), Apparel Training & Designing Centre (ATDC), Taratala Institute of Hotel Management (IHM), George Telegraph, SMART Centres of Tech Mahindra Foundation, etc. The stalls were attractively decorated with colourful posters and other informative materials. Special invitees to the Fair were the Department of Micro Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) and The American Centre, both of whom were able to give students a different perspective on careers. Throughout the day the students were busy with the different activities that were being organized parallelly such as Quiz Competitions, Motivational Talks, Audio Visual presentations, etc. There was a corner dedicated for poster making where the students drew and wrote about down their dreams and aspirations. Students interacted with the skill providers and the dignitaries delivering speeches with much interest and fervor. The exhibitors also were happy to get a chance to interact with so many school children. The Fair worked as a common platform for the skill training providers, the future workforce, education department officials and successful professionals.

As a sequel to the Fair, a seminar was organized, on the 28<sup>th</sup> of Feb, 2015 at ‘The Conclave’, 216, A.J.C Bose Road, Kolkata, to facilitate face to face interaction with the key stake holders who have been involved with the project and also to initiate planning and developing strategies aiming at students’ benefit. The opening panel had eminent speakers from different institutions and organisations – Ms Sangeeta Dey from the World Bank, Ms Sudipta Chatterjee, State Project Director RMSA, Mr. Debajyoti Boral DI Secondary Kolkata, Mr. Bibekananda Banerjee of NIFT, Ms Amrita Sengupta of Unicef, and Mr. R.K. Middya Jt. Director MSME. The presence of some school principals along with the skill training providers such as RK Mission, FDDI, George Telegraph, SEOMP Society, Reach India Trust, etc. made the interactions quite lively and informative.

