



Ullas Trust

If you dream it you can do it

a social initiative of Polaris employees

Polaris' Ullas Trust awards 2000 scholarships ...Extends its reach to every district in Tamil Nadu

Chennai, August 26, 2006: Ullas Trust organized the 9th Annual Workshop at the Kamaraj Memorial Hall today, with over 2000 Ullas Achievers from Tamil Nadu participating in the "Can Do it" workshop.

Continuing its tradition of recognizing and rewarding academic excellence in students from Corporation and Government schools, the Ullas Trust awarded scholarships to 2000 students across 196 schools in Chennai and 112 schools from 29 district headquarters of Tamil Nadu. The Trust also awarded 'Ullas Young Achievers Higher Education Scholarships' to 35 students.

While all these years Ullas Trust has been supporting students of Chennai-based Corporation and Government schools, this year, the trust has extended its reach to every district in Tamil Nadu. 232 students from 29 districts in Tamil Nadu have been awarded scholarships today. The trust has chosen 8 students from every district headquarter in the state, studying in Municipal/Government schools in the district.

Speaking at the annual workshop of the Ullas Trust, **Mr. Arun Jain, Chairman, and CEO, Polaris Software Lab**, said, "The Ullas Trust initiative is anchored around the Power of Dreams. The Trust has been functioning in Chennai, Mumbai & Delhi, where we have an ongoing program for students, at our office premises, throughout the year. This year, we launched the "Touch the Soil" program, wherein each enterprise group in Polaris, has adopted schools in the districts of Tamil Nadu to take the "Power of dreams" beyond the metros. We have enabled these district students with pre-paid Internet access cards to facilitate their online engagement with the trust. "

Highlights of the annual workshop include:

- Mr. Arun Jain conducted a workshop on "Diary of Dreams". Each Ullas Achiever was presented with a Diary to put down their dreams on paper and start making an action plan to convert their dreams to reality.
- Ullas launched the "Touch the Soil" program this year by reaching out to all the 29 districts in Tamil Nadu, covering 112 schools and 232 students.
- Ullas achievers from the districts have been equipped with pre-paid Internet access cards.
- 'Encouraging Excellence in Education – The EEE Award' for 2005 was won by PAK Palanisamy Higher Secondary School, Old Washermanpet, Chennai

and its Secretary, Mr. TMK Venusamy was chosen as the Best Principal

- S Yuvaraj of PAK Palanisamy Higher Secondary School, M Abinaya and N Sindu Barghavi of Children Garden School, and V Shobana Vasanthi of St Joseph Higher Secondary School were declared winners of Ullas Painting Competition 2006.

Amongst the special guests present at the event to engage and motivate the students were, Dr. P Perumalsamy, Director of Teacher Education Research and Training, Mr. M R Viswanathan (Visu), renowned writer and Film Director and Mr. Sarath Babu, an entrepreneur who, from very humble beginnings, went on to graduate from IIM, Ahmedabad—one of India's premier business schools.

Ullas Trust has been organizing 'Can Do It' workshops for the last eight years to expose young minds to achievers from the real world. The trust also provides an opportunity to students to 'touch and feel' the corporate environment and be mentored by successful software professionals. As an ongoing activity, Polaris employees act as mentors to Ullas achievers offering career counseling and coaching classes related to personality development, English communication, and basic and advanced computer training.

About Ullas Trust:

Ullas Trust was started in 1997 with an aim to integrate the associates (employees) of Polaris with a larger community and enable them to enjoy the bliss of working with young minds. The trust recognizes and rewards academic excellence in economically challenged students through annual scholarships. Ullas Trust has been organizing an annual workshop for the past nine years, with the aim of exposing young minds to role models and achievers from the real world. Every year, the workshop culminates with the trust awarding educational scholarships to students identified through a simple selection process. Going beyond scholarships, the volunteers in the Trust act as "Mentors" to the Ullas achievers, by engaging them regularly on interactive sessions.

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