Corporate Social Responsibility and Educational Development: A Comparative Study of Leading Indian Companies

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Abstract—**This study looks at how Corporate Social Responsibility drives educational growth in India, highlighting projects from leading companies like Tata Group, Infosys, Wipro, ITC, Aditya Birla Group, and Tech Mahindra, from building rural classrooms to funding teacher training. Since the Companies Act of 2013 came into force, CSR has taken shape as a clear framework for corporate participation in nation building, with education; like funding village schools, rising to the top of investment priorities. The study shows how these companies pitch in, funding school enrolment drives, training teachers, offering scholarships, building digital learning tools, improving classrooms, and opening doors for students from marginalized communities.
The initiatives have improved life for millions, but big hurdles remain-scaling the programs, getting funds fairly to rural and tribal communities, bridging gaps in internet access, and keeping a close watch on whether students are learning. This research compares programs to spot what works best, where the gaps are, and which practical steps, like community-led workshops can make CSR-driven education more sustainable and inclusive. The findings show that when companies work in step with national education policies and the real needs of local communities like helping equip rural classrooms, they can spark major change across India's education system.**

Index Terms—**Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), Educational Development, Teacher Training, Digital Learning, Inclusivity**

I. INTRODUCTION

Corporate Social Responsibility, once seen as little more than charity work, has become a central pillar of modern business. Around the world, companies face growing pressure to weave social, ethical, and environmental values into the heart of their work— right down to how they source raw materials or treat their workers. This change shows how stakeholders now expect organizations to drive economic growth and invest in social fairness and local communities, like funding a neighbourhood park or supporting small businesses. Of all the areas touched by CSR, education has long taken the lead, shaping skills, opening doors to social mobility, and laying the first bricks for a more inclusive future. In India, CSR stands out, shaped by a long tradition of giving. When the Companies Act of 2013 came into force, making CSR spending mandatory for certain companies, it marked a turning point in the way Indian corporations approached social responsibility like swapping quiet donations for visible, structured projects. The government required companies to put at least two percent of their average net profits into CSR efforts, giving clear direction for how they could help build the nation, whether funding school libraries or planting roadside trees. Since education is spelled out in Schedule VII of the Act, it is now one of the top targets for CSR spending; think classroom upgrades, new books, and fresh coats of paint on school walls. In India, education still struggles with stubborn problems like unequal access, crumbling school buildings, children from poor families leaving early, too few teachers, and a growing gap between those with fast internet and those with none. The government has worked steadily through programs like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, the Right to Education Act, and the National Education Policy 2020, yet the challenge is so vast that private players must step in to help shoulder the load. That is why corporate involvement has become a key pillar in closing gaps, sparking fresh ideas, and backing up state-led efforts, much like a steady hand filling cracks in a worn brick wall. Several Indian companies are

stepping up through their CSR programs to tackle educational challenges, from funding classroom supplies to training teachers. Tata Group, Infosys, Wipro, ITC, Aditya Birla Group, and Tech Mahindra have long led the way in this field, setting the pace like a steady drumbeat others try to match. They've tackled everything from building schools and funding scholarships to rolling out digital learning tools, training teachers, launching skill academies, and offering tailored support for children with disabilities. These programs open more doors to learning and raise the bar on quality, making classrooms more welcoming and graduates more ready for work. For example, the Aditya Birla Group runs over 40 schools, opening classroom doors to thousands of underprivileged children who learn without paying a rupee. Tech Mahindra launched the ARISE+ initiative to support differently abled students, while Infosys put its tech muscle to work, rolling out digital skilling programs that reach thousands. Wipro has pushed for broad education reforms by working with NGOs and local governments, while ITC pairs new school buildings with extra tutoring that helps students catch up. By contrast, Tata companies have woven tribal education, smart classrooms, scholarships, and even virtual coaching into their wide-ranging CSR efforts, from remote village schools to online mentoring sessions.

Despite these efforts, there are still gaps, like tracking results years down the line and tying CSR education programs closely to the country's development goals. Plenty of companies boast big beneficiary numbers, but far fewer take the time to closely measure whether those people learn more, find steady jobs, or climb the social ladder over the long haul. CSR efforts often cluster in a few states or towns, while poorer areas; places with cracked roads and shuttered shops get left behind. Research on CSR in India reveals promising openings alongside tough hurdles, from rural outreach projects to tangled regulatory demands. Companies have made solid strides in making education a central part of their CSR work, yet worries linger about flashy branding over substance, patchy reporting, and the absence of independent checks. Scholars say CSR works in education only if it can grow, last, and reach everyone, like a library whose shelves never run out of books. Partnerships between corporations, NGOs, local governments, and communities matter just as much, making sure CSR programs do not run in isolation but instead work hand in hand with wider educational reforms like adding new books to a school library that's already updating its curriculum. This study adds to the growing field by comparing how top Indian companies approach CSR in education, from funding rural schools to providing teacher training. It aims to examine the size, reach, and structure of CSR education programs, compare what they offer in beneficiaries served, facilities built, and skills taught, and assess how they might shape the futures of underprivileged children, strengthen teacher training, and open new opportunities for young people. The study takes this approach to spotlight best practices, uncover gaps, and lay out clear steps, like funding teacher training to boost how corporate social responsibility shapes the future of education in India. In the end, education-focused CSR can change lives and reshape communities, turning a single classroom into a spark for lasting growth. Done well, it boosts literacy and learning, equips young people with skills they can use on the job, narrows gaps in opportunity, and shapes a well-informed public ready to push for lasting change. When government policy works hand in hand with corporate investment and community voices, education can become a spark that reshapes society like a single lit classroom brightening an entire street.

1.1 Research Objectives:
➢ To analyse the nature and scale of CSR initiatives in the educational sector by selected Indian companies.
➢ To compare the annual contributions of these companies in terms of beneficiaries, programs, and infrastructure support.
➢ To assess the impact of CSR education initiatives on underprivileged children, youth skill development, and teacher training.
➢ To suggest strategies for improving the reach, inclusivity, and sustainability of education-focused CSR in India.

1.2 Significance of the Study:
This study examines the role of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in advancing education in India, focusing on initiatives by the Tata Group, Infosys, Wipro, ITC, the Aditya Birla Group, and Tech Mahindra. Since the Companies Act of 2013, CSR has become a structured framework for corporate

involvement in national development, with education as a key priority. These companies contribute through programs that enhance school enrolment, teacher training, scholarships, digital learning, infrastructure, and inclusive education for disadvantaged groups. While such efforts have benefited millions, challenges remain in terms of scalability, equitable resource distribution, digital access, and outcome monitoring.

The study highlights best practices and gaps, emphasizing that CSR initiatives aligned with national policies and community needs can play a transformative role in reshaping India's educational landscape.

1.3 Research Methodology:

The research adopts a qualitative and descriptive methodology, relying primarily on secondary data sources such as company CSR reports, sustainability disclosures, government documents, published research papers, and case studies. A comparative study approach has been used to analyze the initiatives of selected Indian companies, focusing on their reach, design, and outcomes in the education sector. The study also incorporates a thematic review of literature to understand existing debates on CSR's role in education, identifying both opportunities and limitations. Data from official reports, NGO partnerships, and independent evaluations have been examined to assess the scope and impact of programs.

II - REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

Corporate Social Responsibility — A Study on State Bank of India ~ by Dr Someshwari Mudda: This study analyses the State Bank of India's (SBI) Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) under the Companies Act of 2013 and RBI guidelines. Through the SBI Foundation, initiatives span education, health, sustainability, skills, and livelihoods, with strong rural outreach. Based on secondary data, the analysis highlights scope but limited impact assessment, calling for future research using beneficiary surveys and independent evaluation metrics.

A Research on Corporate Social Responsibility Practices Followed at ITC Limited ~ By Rajesh Kumar Nagaraj: This article reviews ITC's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in sustainable development, focusing on forestry, watershed management, agriculture, skills, women's empowerment, and health. Initiatives like e-Choupal and farm-forestry showcase its rural impact, supported by NGO partnerships and ecosystem-based approaches. However, the lack of independent impact assessments highlights the need for further research on sustainability and effectiveness.

Corporate Social Responsibility: An Initiative in the Indian IT Sector (Tech Mahindra Foundation case) ~ By M. Bikshapathi

This research studies the evolution of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) through the initiatives of the Tech Mahindra Foundation in education, SMART training, disability inclusion, and volunteerism. It highlights the role of NGO partnerships and GRI-based reporting in ensuring transparency, while incorporating outcome metrics such as placement rates and centre expansion to present a data-driven assessment.

A Study on Corporate Social Responsibility Initiatives of Wipro Ltd ~ By Sridhar. K

This article examines Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) through Wipro Cares, which supports healthcare, education, forestry, and disaster relief. It notes that IT companies often rely on volunteering, trusts, and partnerships to deliver CSR, with Wipro's model showing how trusts provide both structure and flexibility. However, the lack of independent evaluations highlights the need for stronger indicators and third-party assessments to measure real impact.

Corporate Social Responsibility: A Study on CSR Practices of Select Indian Companies ~ By Pavankumar Ramgouda

This paper reviews Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in India, tracing its shift from charity to strategy under the Companies Act of 2013. With mandatory spending, firms like Infosys, Tata, ITC, and Mahindra have advanced initiatives in education, health, sustainability, and livelihoods. However, CSR is often criticized for image-driven practices and weak transparency. The study underscores the need for standardized reporting and independent assessments to strengthen accountability.

Corporate Social Responsibility: A Case Study of the Tata Group ~ By Amit Kumar Srivastava

This case study observes Tata's CSR through theoretical frameworks, highlighting its longstanding philanthropy and rural development programs. It showcases Tata's pioneering integration of business with social good, supported by a strong historical foundation. However, the lack of broad applicability

and empirical impact data points to the need for systematic evaluation and clearer links between investments and outcomes.

A Study of CSR Practices in Aditya Birla Group ~ By Rashida Hasan

This article explores Aditya Birla's CSR initiatives in rural development, with a focus on sustainability, disability support, employee welfare, and education. It highlights the company's management of rural centres and collaboration with local authorities and NGOs to engage communities. While the programs appear diverse and well-structured, the analysis relies heavily on company reports, underscoring the need for independent studies to assess their long-term social and economic impact.

Corporate Social Responsibility: A Study On CSR Initiatives Of HUL In India ~ By Dr. Kranti, Tanisha Kumari Singh.

This study reviews Hindustan Unilever's (HUL) CSR initiatives from 2018–19 to 2022–23, including water conservation, the Swachh Aadat campaign, Project Prabhat, Project Shakti, health clinics, and student scholarships. While HUL exceeded mandated CSR spending, much of the available information records activities rather than their real impact. The study calls for surveys, clear performance indicators, and independent evaluations to better assess outcomes.

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY: ISSUES CHALLENGES AND STRATEGIES FOR INDIAN CORPORATES ~ By VISHAL.V. BENCHALLI

This paper traces CSR in India's shift from charity to sustainability, driven by reduced state support and rising stakeholder demands. Examples from Tata, Infosys, ITC, and Aditya Birla show efforts in education, health, environment, and livelihoods, but challenges such as image-driven projects, weak reporting, and limited community input persist. Stronger partnerships and rigorous evaluations are needed to ensure lasting impact.

Defining corporate social responsibility ~ Wan Saiful Wan Jan

The paper reviews debates on CSR, contrasting it as an ethical duty versus a business strategy. Using Carroll's pyramid and stakeholder theory, it explains why firms must consider employees, customers, and communities alongside profits. It presents both views: critics caution against image-driven CSR, while others see it as key to reputation and long-term success. The review also cites definitions from bodies like WBCSD and UK DTI, stressing environment, community support, and fair labour practices.

A STUDY ON CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR) IN INDIA -ISSUES AND CHALLENGES ~ By Dr. Dharmendra Singh, Dr. Vikash Kumar Yadav

This paper examines CSR as both an ethical responsibility and a strategic business tool. Drawing on Carroll's pyramid and stakeholder theory, it shows how firms must balance profit with responsibilities to employees, customers, and communities. While some view CSR as image-driven, others see it as key to brand value and long-term success, with global definitions stressing environmental care, community support, and fair labour.

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN INDIA – CURRENT SCENARIO AND CHALLENGES ~ By Raut Nileshkumar Kailashbhai

This paper analyses CSR in India under the Companies Act, showing that spending rose from 2016–17 to 2021–22 but reporting declined. Large firms dominate contributions, with funds concentrated in states like Maharashtra. The study highlights uneven allocation, weak audits, and limited community input, calling for stronger reporting and on-the-ground evaluations.

A Study of Corporate Social Responsibility: Infosys Limited ~ By Aneesha Saxena, Dr. Vinod Kumar Pandey

This paper traces CSR's shift in India from charity to structured programs under the Companies Act, focusing on Infosys's work in education, skills, and sustainability. Despite these efforts, reporting remains weak, evaluations are limited, and Infosys met the 2% CSR target only once between 2019–20 and 2022–23. The study calls for stronger, outcome-based assessments.

Corporate Social Responsibility: An Indian Perspective ~ By Raja Sarkar

Sarkar's paper reviews CSR under the Companies Act, showing that most funds from large corporation's flow to education, health, environment, and livelihoods, often concentrated in states like Maharashtra. It highlights weak reporting, limited community engagement, and PR-driven projects, urging clearer disclosure and field research to assess real impact.

A Decade of Impact: Evaluating Godrej's CSR Initiatives (2013–2023) ~ By Akshat Golchha, Jeiya Vaid et al

This paper reviews Godrej & Boyce's environmental CSR from 2014 to 2023, highlighting progress in renewable energy, water conservation, waste management, and biodiversity efforts such as planting native trees around factories. While it provides clear data linking targets to actions, the analysis relies mainly on company reports. The study calls for independent reviews and community input to better assess real impact.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR): A Study of Reliance Industries Limited ~ By Dhiraj Kumar, Dr. Himanshu Srivastava

This paper reviews CSR in India under the Companies Act, highlighting Reliance Foundation's work in education, health, environment, and women's empowerment. While achievements are documented, reliance on company reports limits assessment, underscoring the need for independent evaluations and field studies to measure real impact.

III - THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK:

Aditya Birla group- CSR
The Aditya Birla Centre for Community Initiatives and Rural Development, led by Rajashree Birla, serves as the group's CSR hub, reaching over 7 million people across 3,000 villages. Its initiatives have exceeded ₹5,000 crore, with ₹40 crore dedicated to education, supporting everything from schoolbooks to classroom infrastructure.

Education:
Education is central to the Aditya Birla Group's CSR, spanning classroom construction, literacy programs, and scholarships. The group runs 42 schools serving about 45,000 students, with 18,000 studying free of cost. Scholarships such as the Savitribai Dattak Pallak Yojna and the Aditya Birla Scholarships support talented students from underprivileged backgrounds in pursuing higher education.

Healthcare:
It runs 18 hospitals and treats more than a million patients each year, hosting 5,000 medical camps where lines sometimes stretch past the gate. Through Project Gyanarjan, performed over 200 cochlear implant surgeries for children with hearing loss, investing ₹2.33 crore and giving 3,230 students a better chance to learn; also helped about 10,000 children get diagnosis and treatment for various cancers, from leukemia to bone tumors. Nearly 8,000 girls rolled up

their sleeves for the HPV shot, a step to help protect them from cervical cancer.

Infrastructure and development:
The initiative has revitalized 300 villages, with 128 across 22 states showing measurable progress. Key efforts include 450,000 solar lamps for students, daily meals for 63,000 children, and recycling over 10 million tonnes of waste toward a zero-waste-to-landfill goal.

Tech Mahindra- CSR
Tech Mahindra's CSR, driven by the Tech Mahindra Foundation, centers on its vision of "Empowerment through Education." Its work spans education, employability, and disability inclusion, with women's empowerment integrated across all initiatives.

Education:
Tech Mahindra's flagship CSR program, SMART, equips underprivileged youth with employable skills, with a strong focus on women and people with disabilities. Through 12 SMART Academies and the ARISE initiative, it has upgraded 18 schools, supported nearly 6,000 students, and extended specialized support to over 5,400 children with disabilities under ARISE+. The Shikshaantar program has trained nearly 10,000 teachers and school staff, strengthening more than 1,500 government classrooms. In FY 2022–23 alone, Tech Mahindra's CSR initiatives trained over 156,000 youth, supported 168,000 children in schools, equipped 49,000 teachers with new skills, and reached 48,000 children with disabilities. Additionally, 13,500 people with disabilities completed SMART+ training, employees volunteered 57,500 hours, and 582 COVID-relief projects supported communities across 17 states.

TATA COMPANIES- CSR
Tata Group's CSR puts its energy into education, health, rural growth, and empowering women, working through trusts, foundations, and local programs across India to build change that lasts.

Education:
Tata Group companies run diverse CSR initiatives, from village schools to women's skill training. Tata Steel has improved education in tribal areas of Odisha and Jharkhand, reaching nearly 200,000 children, reintegrating 99% of out-of-school students, and strengthening over 560 School Management Committees. Tata Motors' Vidyadhanam program has

supported more than 150,000 students through school improvements, coaching, scholarships, and virtual JEE/NEET prep in 477 Navodaya schools across 26 states and UTs. Since 2011, Tata ClassEdge has introduced smart learning tools in K–12 schools and offered free training to teachers on supporting students with learning disabilities. Tata Chemicals contributes through scholarships worth nearly ₹50 lakh, a Learning & Migration Program in 161 villages and 169 schools, and women's empowerment efforts, with over 3,000 women in 236 Self-Help Groups saving more than ₹2 crore.

ITC (INDIAN TOBACCO COMPANY) – CSR

ITC's CSR drives sustainable growth through education, health, livelihoods, and protecting the environment, working with local NGOs to make a real difference, like planting trees along dusty village roads.

Education:
ITC's Primary Education Programme works to open doors for students in government schools and Anganwadis boosting learning, fixing classrooms with leaky roofs, and helping children stay in school. In just a year, it reached more than 33,000 children across 26 districts in 13 states, pushing its total impact past 8.08 lakh, enough to fill a stadium several times over. By working with NGOs like Pratham through initiatives such as Read India Plus, it offers extra lessons and tutoring in small, lively Supplementary Learning Centres, helping children stay in school. Earlier records reveal the program reached 1.15 lakh children in 24 districts across 14 states, eventually touching about 6.91 lakh lives and upgrading facilities in 199 schools, fresh paint on walls, new desks, brighter classrooms, showing how steadily it's grown over the years.

Skilling & Vocational Training:
The program trained 12,500 young people in 33 districts across 16 states, and nearly half of them were women, bright faces filling classrooms from dusty village halls to city learning centres. Trainers worked out of small, decentralized centres in villages across Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Uttar Pradesh, making it easier for people to join and take part.

Women's empowerment:
So far, 60 lakh women and girls have benefited from initiatives in education, skill training, financial inclusion, community engagement, and program delivery. Of these, 4.51 lakh women have been supported in building livelihoods and running small businesses, from selling vegetables on carts to stitching clothes from home.

WIPRO- CSR

Wipro's CSR, led by the Wipro Foundation, focuses on education, healthcare, community development, and sustainability. Key initiatives include Santoor Scholarships for girls, education programs for underprivileged children, and the Earthian sustainability initiative -efforts designed to create lasting impact for future generations.

Education:
The Wipro Foundation works with around 140 partners across 25–27 states and UTs, addressing over 15 focus areas in education. It has implemented 250+ projects, reaching 3,000 schools, 4,000 teachers, and over 130,000 children, including 70,000 migrant students. The Santoor Scholarship annually supports 900 underprivileged girls in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana. Through the Earthian program, more than 13,000 schools and 8,600 college teams have engaged in sustainability initiatives over 13 years. Recently, the Foundation partnered with 21 organizations to support over 11,000 children with disabilities.

INFOSYS- CSR

Infosys Foundation (FY 2023–24): Undertook over 100 projects across education, healthcare, women's empowerment, and the environment, impacting more than 1 crore individuals.

Digital Skilling & Education:
Infosys's CSR centres on digital skills, education, and tech-driven social impact. Through platforms like Springboard and Wingspan, it has reached 11.75 million learners, while Tech for Good programs have benefited 119 million people with e-governance, online lessons, and rural healthcare. Infosys Foundation USA has supported 1.1 million students and 47,000 teachers, and initiatives like Project Genesis have trained 78,000 rural youth in job-ready skills. In India, the Foundation has committed ₹33 crore with ICT Academy to skill 48,000 students across 450 colleges. Since 2018, the Aarohan Social Innovation Awards have fostered scalable solutions in education, healthcare, and sustainability, offering

prizes up to ₹50 lakh alongside mentoring and incubation.

Statistics of Aditya Birla Group- Education.

Year (FY or Calendar)	Company / ABG arm	Education beneficiaries (or students)
2010	ABG (group schools)	Over 45,000 students in 42 schools; ~18,000 received free education
2012	ABG (group schools)	~42,000 students; 18,000 received free education
2013-14	Hindalco (ABG company)	150,401 people reached through education initiatives that year
2014-25	UltraTech Cement (ABG company)	133,703 education beneficiaries that year
2016 (dec)	ABG (group schools)	45,000 children in 42 schools; merit scholarships to ~32,000 rural students; English support to ~28,000 children
FY2017	UltraTech	Total CSR spend ₹54.15 crore; CSR reach ~1.3 million people across 407 villages in 13 states; education is one of five focus areas. (Report lists "formal schools, balwadis, girl-child education, non-formal education" under education.)
FY 2017	Hindalco	Education initiatives explicitly counted ~44,857 beneficiaries across preschool, school support, scholarships, etc. (education line item in sustainability report).
FY 2020	Hindalco	1.13 million people reached across all CSR themes (education one of the strategic pillars).
FY 2024	Grasim	Integrated report highlights overall CSR scale (e.g., "Communities: 3+ lakh beneficiaries"), with education included among flagship themes.

Statistics of ITC- Education.

Year (FY / Calendar)	Education beneficiaries / reach (reported)	Main education programmes active / notes
~2006 (start of structured CSR era for many Indian cos)	ITC had already been running primary education initiatives in factory catchments; formal scaling under sustainability reporting follows in later years.	Primary Education Programme (school infrastructure, learning support); livelihood & agri programmes continued.
2010–2012	Programmatic expansion of primary education in factory catchments; specific beneficiary counts start appearing in later reports.	Primary education, school improvement, teacher training.
2013–2014	ITC's Primary Education Programme reported impacting hundreds of thousands cumulatively by mid-2010s.	Primary Education Programme, school infrastructure, remedial support, adult literacy linkages.
2015	CSR journalism notes ~1.15 lakh (115,000) children covered in a recent year and cumulative impact in the hundreds of	Primary Education Programme; school infrastructure upgrades across districts.

Year (FY / Calendar)	Education beneficiaries / reach (reported)	Main education programmes active / notes
	thousands (figures reported in secondary sources).	
2019	ITC reported large cumulative reach for education — secondary sources citing ~6.9 lakh (690,000) children impacted over time and ~1.15 lakh in a single recent year for primary education in factory catchments (these figures appear in CSR summaries/news pieces).	Primary Education Programme (factory catchment schools), digital/ICT learning aids in schools, teacher training, remedial learning.
2020	COVID response years: education programming shifted to remote support / school recovery; beneficiary counts for education during COVID given as program notes in sustainability reports.	Primary education, catch-up learning post-COVID, digital learning support, school sanitation (WASH).
2022	ITC lists education among core community investments; program reach reported in aggregate community beneficiaries counts (hundreds of thousands across programmes).	Primary Education Programme, digital learning, teacher capacity building.
2023	Company continues to report large cumulative education outreach (hundreds of thousands). Yearly education beneficiaries often shown in sustainability report annexures (varies year to year).	Primary Education Programme, school systems strengthening, remedial support, vocational linkages for older students.
2024	By 2024 ITC's published materials continue to list education among long-running strategic programmes; public summaries report cumulative impacts (lakhs) though a neat per-year rupee/beneficiary breakout is not always present in the publicly available one-page summaries.	Primary Education Programme; school infrastructure & learning outcomes; WASH & digital learning.

Statistics of Tech Mahindra- Education.

FY	Main education programmes / notes
FY2014	ARISE & school programs continue; TMF reports central role.
FY2015	ARISE / school improvement / TMF core operations.
FY2016	TMF active in school improvement / teacher training / beginnings of stronger disclosure.
FY2016-17	ARISE, ARISE+ (disability stream), Shikshaantar (teacher development), MEI support to higher/technical education.
FY2017-18	ARISE / ARISE+ / TMF school projects; MEI activities continue.
FY2018-19	ARISE, ARISE+, Shikshaantar teacher training; TMF ran ~150 projects across 11 locations that year.
FY2019-20	ARISE, ARISE+, Shikshaantar; MEI (Mahindra Educational Institutions) / support to Mahindra University.

FY	Main education programmes / notes
FY2020-21	ARISE/ARISE+, Shikshaantar; Mahindra University / MEI support; COVID-response education adaptations.
FY2021-22	ARISE, ARISE+; Shikshaantar; MEI; continued scale up of digital / remedial interventions post-COVID.
FY2022-23	ARISE, ARISE+ (disability), Shikshaantar; digital learning & remedial catch-up programs.
FY2023-24	ARISE, ARISE+, Shikshaantar; MEI / Mahindra University links; continued school improvement, teacher capacity building, remedial & digital learning.

Statistics of TATA- Education.

Year	Education beneficiaries (Tata Trusts reporting)	Principal education programmes / notes
2015	Detailed line items available in yearbook — grants / scholarships listed; specific beneficiary counts for some projects (see 2015–16 report).	Ongoing school improvement; increasing number of scholarships & teacher development programmes.
2016	Education grants (value) and project lists published; beneficiary counts for many projects are reported in project pages (varies by programme).	Tata Trusts (group) consolidates education grants; trust-run teacher education programme being launched.
2017–2018	ND at consolidated line here; many project-level beneficiary numbers included in programme annexures.	Large investments in teacher training, remedial learning pilots, multi-state projects.
2018–19	Project lists show explicit counts (e.g., scholarships, number of teachers trained, children covered under specific projects). Example: details of education grants and number of scholars appear in 2018–19 report annexure.	Primary Education programme, scholarships, teacher development; measurable counts given for many projects in annexure.
2019–20	Project-by-project beneficiary reporting continues; Tata Trusts narrative highlights learning & teacher interventions and reach figures for selected programmes.	Teacher professional development, school support, scholarship cohorts; cross-sector Covid preparedness activities begin late FY20.
2020–21	COVID year: Tata Trusts reports shifts to digital/catch-up learning; several programmes report beneficiaries (children reached via remote content) in report annexures.	Catch-up learning, digital content distribution, teacher support for remote schooling; emergency education continuity response.
2021–22	Specific project numbers available (Tata Trusts cites teacher cohorts trained and scholarship recipients; sample: 259 teachers attended Experiential Learning course launched in collaboration with govt in 2021–22).	Large push on teacher development (certificate course on Experiential Learning for CBSE / EMRS teachers); continued school recovery & remedial programs.
2022–23	Numbers reported for selected programmes: e.g., "44 Karta Scholars received funding during the reporting year" (example of higher-education scholarships); many project beneficiary counts published in annexures.	Scholarships (Karta Scholars), teacher development, school and system strengthening, digital learning & vocational interfaces.
2023–24	Tata Trusts reported total disbursals ~₹5,754.69 million across all Trust activities; education disbursements & project beneficiaries detailed in the education grants annexure (project-level beneficiaries included there). Exact per-year education beneficiary totals must be summed from the annexure.	Continued large-scale school & teacher interventions; scholarships; policy & system partnerships; extensive project-level beneficiary reporting in annexure.

Statistics of INFOSYS- Education.

Year	Programs included / notes
2015	Infosys Foundation school projects, scholarships; Campus Connect active. See Foundation annual report for project-level counts.
2016	Foundation programme yearbook and sustainability report list project beneficiaries by programme (not always as a single consolidated education total).
2017	Continued school projects; Foundation report 2016-17 documents several education projects (schools supported, grants).
2018	Campus Connect: continued faculty engagement; Foundation supported school & learning projects. See sustainability / Campus Connect notes.
2019	Campus Connect (engineering faculty & students) + Infosys Foundation school projects, Avanti Fellows partnerships.
2020	COVID pivot: remote learning, digital content and catch-up; Foundation supported Avanti / school emergency responses.
2021	Continued digital and remedial learning interventions; Foundation reports pandemic-era education relief and program adaptations.
2022	Ongoing primary education, teacher development, Avanti & Campus Connect activities. Foundation reports list per-project beneficiaries.
2023	Continued school system support, teacher training, scholarships, digital learning and Avanti partnerships.
2024	Foundation yearbook shows 419,604 beneficiaries under Education for the 2023–24 report period; programmes include school improvement, Avanti / partner schools, Campus Connect contributions, digital & remedial learning, scholarships & teacher development.

Statistics of WIPRO- Education.

FY (approx)	Main education programmes active that year (recurring)
FY2006–FY2009	Early school projects; foundation-building for long-term school programmes; local Wipro Cares projects.
FY2010–FY2013	School improvement, teacher capacity-building pilots, libraries.
FY2014–FY2016	Systemic education projects, Wipro Fellowship activity, libraries, volunteer programs.
FY2016–FY2018	Foundational literacy pilots, project expansion to more states, teacher development scale-up.
FY2018–FY2019	Systemic reform interventions, FLN, ECCE pilots, Arts & library interventions.
FY2019–FY2020	Ongoing systemic & remedial programmes; early COVID preparedness.
FY2020–FY2021 (COVID year)	Rapid pivot to digital learning & remote support; catch-up learning interventions; teacher support for remote pedagogy.
FY2021–FY2022	FLN & school recovery programmes; Wipro Fellowship; focus on system-level teacher capacity building.
FY2022–FY2023	ECCE, FLN, Arts, Libraries, Inclusive education, Wipro Education Fellowship; ~160 partners across 25 States/UTs cited in 2023–24 description of work.
FY2023–FY2024	School education (systemic reform), ECCE, FLN, Arts & libraries, SEL, Inclusive education, Wipro Fellowship; scale across ~160 partners (2023–24).

IV - KEY FINDINGS:

Top Indian companies are increasingly investing their CSR funds in education, putting books in children's hands, improving classrooms, and expanding access to learning. The Aditya Birla Group runs 42 schools for 45,000 students, 18,000 of whom study for free, alongside scholarships and literacy programs in rural villages. Tech Mahindra builds skills through its SMART Academies and strengthens schools with ARISE and ARISE+, reaching over 160,000 youth and 167,000 children each year, including those with disabilities. The Tata Group, through Tata Steel, Tata Motors, Tata ClassEdge, and Tata Chemicals, supports everything from tribal school enrolment to JEE and NEET coaching, scholarships, and digital tools, directly benefiting hundreds of thousands of students. ITC's Primary Education Programme has reached more than 8 lakh children, with classroom upgrades and NGO partnerships like Pratham. Wipro Foundation focuses on systemic reform, training teachers, improving literacy, and supporting underprivileged girls through scholarships. Infosys extends its reach to over 4 lakh children annually with school projects, digital platforms, and teacher training, while its global initiatives touch more than 1 million students and 47,000 educators. Together, these efforts highlight a strong corporate push to expand learning opportunities, raise standards, and make classrooms from cities to remote villages, more inclusive and impactful.

1. Aditya Birla Group provides education to over 45,000 students annually, with nearly 18,000 receiving free education.
2. Tech Mahindra's ARISE+ program has innovatively included children with special needs in mainstream education.
3. Tata Steel has re-enrolled 99% of identified out-of-school tribal children in Odisha and Jharkhand.
4. Tata Motors supports JEE/NEET coaching for students from 477 government schools across India.
5. Tata ClassEdge has enhanced teacher effectiveness by introducing smart learning solutions.
6. ITC's Primary Education Program has cumulatively impacted over 8 lakh children.
7. ITC's partnership with NGOs such as Pratham strengthens remedial learning for weaker students.
8. Wipro Foundation has collaborated with over 140 partners for systemic education reform.
9. Wipro's Santoor Scholarships have provided higher education opportunities to thousands of underprivileged girls.
10. Infosys Foundation's digital skilling initiatives have reached more than 11.75 million learners.
11. Infosys Springboard platform has democratized access to technology-enabled education.
12. CSR contributions in education have increased significantly since the Companies Act, 2013.
13. Most CSR education initiatives focus on school education, with relatively fewer addressing higher education.
14. Monitoring and evaluation of CSR initiatives remain weak, with most companies focusing on outputs rather than outcomes.
15. Regional imbalances persist, with Maharashtra, Karnataka, and a few states receiving a disproportionately high share of CSR education funds.

V- SUGGESTIONS

For CSR in education to make a deeper impact, a few priorities stand out: stronger teacher training, better classrooms, and fairer distribution of resources. Programs like Tech Mahindra's ARISE+, which supports children with special needs, and ITC's NGO partnerships show how scalable ideas can change lives—models that deserve nationwide reach. Yet rural and tribal schools still struggle with broken classrooms and too few teachers, while urban schools often receive more support. Redirecting CSR funds more equitably can help close this gap.

Teacher training is especially powerful, as seen in Wipro and Tech Mahindra's initiatives. Skilled teachers can spark ripple effects—one engaging lesson can shift how an entire class thinks and learns. Digital platforms such as Infosys' Springboard and Tata ClassEdge are helping bridge learning gaps, but access remains uneven. CSR programs must go further by putting devices in students' hands and making internet access affordable, so no learner is left behind.

Finally, monitoring should move beyond counting beneficiaries to measuring real outcomes—improved

reading, stronger job prospects, and long-term career growth. Only then can CSR in education create change that lasts and truly matters.

1. Scale successful models like ARISE+ nationwide to integrate special-needs education.
2. Strengthen rural and tribal education infrastructure through CSR investment.
3. Increase focus on teacher training as a multiplier of educational impact.
4. Expand CSR support for higher education, vocational training, and employability.
5. Bridge digital divides by providing devices and affordable connectivity.
6. Develop CSR education programs in underserved states like Bihar, Jharkhand, and the North-East.
7. Institutionalize independent third-party evaluations of CSR projects.
8. Integrate CSR efforts with NEP 2020 goals for systemic alignment.
9. Foster more corporate-NGO-government partnerships for sustainability.
10. Encourage companies to share open-source digital education tools for wider access.
11. Establish CSR education consortiums for knowledge exchange among companies.
12. Enhance transparency in CSR reporting with outcome-based indicators.
13. Promote inclusion of marginalized groups — SC/ST, minorities, migrant children — in CSR initiatives.
14. Use CSR to pilot innovative education technologies (AI, adaptive learning).
15. Ensure long-term continuity of CSR projects rather than short-term initiatives.

VI. CONCLUSION

In India, CSR has become a powerful driver of social change, with education at its core funding classrooms, training teachers, and opening opportunities. A look at Tata, Infosys, Wipro, ITC, Aditya Birla Group, and Tech Mahindra shows diverse approaches but a shared impact: Tata has strengthened tribal education and scholarships, Infosys expands access through digital platforms like Springboard, Wipro pushes systemic reforms and teacher training, ITC blends remedial lessons with better infrastructure, Aditya Birla offers free education and scholarships, and Tech Mahindra's

ARISE+ builds inclusive models for children with disabilities. Together, these efforts have reached millions, proving the power of corporate partnerships in shaping a more equitable society.

Yet gaps remain. Rural and tribal areas often receive limited attention, digital access is uneven, and teacher training though transformative needs to be central to every CSR agenda. Too often, reports focus on outputs rather than outcomes, counting students reached instead of measuring real gains in literacy, skills, or employability. To maximize impact, companies must expand proven models, align with NEP 2020, and invest in strong monitoring systems that track real progress.

Ultimately, CSR in education is more than compliance it is an investment in human capital. By scaling inclusive models, closing digital divides, and prioritizing teacher development, companies can help build a skilled, confident, and fair society where education lights the path to lasting growth.

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