

DONORS MEET

Gathering of friends and supporters of SRUTI



Celebrating the 40-year SRUTI Journey

Taking forth the celebrations of SRUTI's 40-year journey, a **Donor's meet program was held at Vishwa Yuvak Kendra, Delhi on 09th March 2024**. The program was graced by the presence of esteemed donors, scrap vendors, SRUTI Fellows, and communities engaged in scrap segregation and rag-picking, associated with local groups in Delhi. The program was to collectively celebrate and strengthen the significant milestone in SRUTI's journey of collective empowerment and community development.

Why does every scraps count for us?

For nearly four decades, SRUTI has been leading the way in scrap collection. From bustling households to corporate offices, our dedicated team traverses the Delhi-NCR region to gather discarded treasures. Every bit of scrap contributes directly to supporting the SRUTI Fellowship Programme and addressing grassroots needs. We strive to empower individuals in their pursuit of dignified lives. The current outreach of SRUTI fellows is over **7361 villages** and **250 urban clusters** covering around **6.8 lakh people**.



During the meeting, a film about SRUTI was shown, leaving attendees deeply moved. After viewing the film, **Deepti, a donor, expressed** her emotions, stating, "Participating in this donor meeting has enlightened me about the positive impact of the scraps we donate."

SRUTI Donors, Fellows, and Volunteers shared their experiences and how they came to be involved with SRUTI.





SRUTI Fellow, Devendra walked us through his personal journey, which began with initiatives in community mobilization and the founding of the Manthan community school, followed by the establishment of the Handloom Cooperative, Adarsh Hathkargha Sahkari Samiti. He emphasized how the consistent support from SRUTI has been instrumental in helping strengthen such transformative initiatives. Furthermore, he stressed the importance of initiatives such as scrap collection, emphasizing their contribution to sustaining community-driven processes that advocate for equality and foster substantial social change.

Kanika ji a Board member of SRUTI, in her speech, said that we have to see the “Power of One” (“हर व्यक्ति की शक्ति, हर व्यक्ति में शक्ति”). SRUTI's 40-year Journey, which looks happy now, was not that easy, it was connected with the contribution of every individual, their challenges, and their struggles. It had its share of ups and downs, and everyone has embraced it and has grown together in it.”



“ **SRUTI donor Shashank** said that after leaving the company in which he worked, he ensured that SRUTI's resource mobilization team was associated with, both the new company he joined as well as in continuing a good relationship with the previous company he was working at.” ”

“ **Mahendra Prasad**, one of SRUTI's donors said “The scraps I give to SRUTI are exactly like a drop in the ocean. I am happy to know what our scrap is used for.” ”



Iram, a volunteer with Delhi Young Artist Forum (DYAF) shared: “We work with girls of our community who have dropped out of school for various reasons and engage them with upskilling small items to prepare craft. We also teach them for an hour daily. Those girls who go to school are also welcome at the centre and are trained after they return from school.”



An Exhibition was also arranged, featuring stalls set up by the SRUTI fellow group DYAF. The stalls dazzled with an array of handcrafted products, including paintings by talented young girls, handmade earrings, and hair bands. A collection of handloom products such as kurtas, bedsheets, and towels from the Adarsh Hathkargha Sakhari Samiti cooperative also attracted the attention of all. This unique opportunity allowed donors to witness firsthand the impactful work supported through scrap collection efforts.



Donors who came for the meeting were presented with a pot of plant. The participant along with the SRUTI team sowed seeds in the pot, with a promise and resolve that each small step would help create a big impact in some way or the other. This immersive experience delved deep into the significance of their support, highlighting how it would catalyze the flourishing and nurturing of others' lives.



At the end of the program, the hall echoed to “एक दिन बिक जाएगा माटी के मोल” sung by the SRUTI team with the promise of persevering through all situations. With this, the Donors' Meet was concluded by presenting all participants with small tokens of gratitude; a calendar, the SRUTI annual newsletter and the SRUTI diary, along with books and a small plant.

