

I hope you and your loved ones are doing well. We just wanted to share another 'quick' update on how things are going here at Medha, as we start month three of the lockdown.

The last eight weeks have reminded all of us just how important communities are. Whether it's our neighbor who's arranging essential deliveries for the building or colony, a family friend in another city who's checking-in on our parents, or a WhatsApp group where homeschooling tips are shared. Despite being 'on our own' these last few months, we all have a greater appreciation for just how much we need and depend on each other, especially during times like these.

That same community spirit and support is stronger than ever amongst our students, alumni, employers, and government/academic partners. They have come together over the last two months in ways we never envisioned when we started Medha nine years ago. It's heartening to see that intentionally or unintentionally, we had some small role to play in building this community, but more importantly, the best thing we can do now is continue to create the enabling environment, and then do our best to get out of the way!

A few ways in which our 20,000 students and alumni, 1,500 employer partners, 250 educational institutions, and 130 team members have supported each other these last two months:

1. [#MedhaKeSipahi](#) (Medha's soldiers) – a TikTok campaign to spread awareness around COVID prevention and safety. **More than 166k views of the 160 videos created by students and alumni in just one week!**



2. [WoX Talks](#) – our Workplace Experience Talks have moved online and are bigger than ever. **More than 50 industry experts have participated** – from journalists to bankers, entrepreneurs to government officials. Five thousand students have participated, and we have started posting them live on our [YouTube page](#) so everyone can tune in.



WoX Talks

ENTREPRENEURSHIP OPPORTUNITIES POST COVID-19

Speaker
Dr. Jay Prakash Verma,
Senior Assistant Professor,
Kejriwal Institute of Management

Date
23rd May, 2020

Time
12 noon - 1 p.m.

3. [#DilSeJudo](#) (Let your heart connect) – an [alumni-led Instagram campaign to stay connected](#) and support one another. More than 3,200 members of our [alumni Facebook group](#) and 5,500 alumni across WhatsApp groups have joined in to share stories, poetry, original songs, artwork, and hundreds of other positive ways to overcome the stress and anxiety of the current times.



4. SDIT's continuity plan – Our partner, the [Haryana Skill Development & Industrial Training department](#) has adapted quickly to an online learning environment – creating and sharing over 160 hours of employability skills lesson plans with more than 50,000 students over WhatsApp in the last month. We have been [helping them design and track these lesson plans, as well as working with the 53 Government Employability Skills Instructors](#) to adapt to this new way of skill-building.
5. Learning from each other – While our focus is frequently on our external stakeholders, we can't support their community unless we take care of our own. The team has been exchanging a lot of gyaan with each other during the lockdown – holding regional huddles across locations, conducting [peer sessions on self-motivation, well-being, and time management](#), and even holding weekly 'games night' every Wednesday on Microsoft Teams (see below).

Happy Hours

'Eena Meena Deeka' is an activity in which we'll share audio clips from some of the beautiful, fun Hindi songs. All you've to do is identify which songs they're from and whoever answers correctly first, wins!

Ok, your time starts now!



Needless to say, the community is strong. We have no doubt our students, alumni, employers, and government/academic partners are rallying together to get through this challenging time and come out of it more resilient. As far as our community of Medha team members goes, we will continue to do our part to support these communities to work closer together, so young people not only make it through this crisis but thrive as a result of it.

As we inch closer to the usual start of the academic year in July, we are busy planning for a few likely scenarios, while trying to build in as much flexibility as we can. It is going to be a very different year, and the team is gearing up to take on whatever it throws at us!

Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to jump on a quick call. It was great speaking with you a couple of months ago and we look forward to keeping the dialogue open as we navigate these uncertain times!

Thanks, as always for your support,

Chris

