

Technology knows no boundary

Three economically deprived children from Bangalore have headed for Boston under the Intel Computer Clubhouse programme.

Revathi, Adesh and Sunil are students from economically poor backgrounds. They study in government school/college in Jakkur, Bangalore. The three have probably not seen their home city's highlights but are now visiting faraway Boston for a week. Thanks to the Intel Clubhouse where they are members.

Revathi Rani is 13 years and studies at the Jakkur Government School. Her father abandoned the family about seven years ago. Her mother and brother work for the family's living. She has an excellent academic record and participates in almost every co-curricular activity.

Whether it be art, theatre or software projects, Revathi has something to contribute. Her project which she has developed at the CLT is surprisingly fashion designing! And why not?

She saw some pictures at the clubhouse and decided she would learn a thing or two about designing. She was also involved in the making of the Village Documentary and is

also working with a team on Rainwater Harvesting at present.

Adesh Prakash, 14 years but small-built, studies in the 9th Grade at the same school. Adesh is fascinated by the computer and is busy using the multimedia to make an ad. He too comes from a poor economic background, and both his parents work for a living.

He has great talent for the stage and has participated in a number of theatre projects at the Clubhouse and in his school. He loves Photoshop and Flash. He has with some others created and edited a movie in a typical Indian movie style during the summer camp.

Sunil Kumar SV, 16 years, studying for I PUC at the Government College is comparatively shy. He comes from a slightly better background than Revathi or Adesh and

has good family support. Sunil loves Photoshop and Flash and adores the cameras, never missing an opportunity to handle them. He is into designing a website for an international event he will be attending.

All three of them are headed to Boston this week to take part in a weeklong workshop as part of the Intel Computer Clubhouse activities. There they will join nearly 200 young people from other countries for the Intel Computer Clubhouse Network's 2004 Teen Summit.

At the summit, teens mostly from less privileged communities worldwide will use technology to create solutions for issues faced by their communities and in the process be exposed to a range of opportunities related to their areas of interest, including a college and career fair, access to busi-

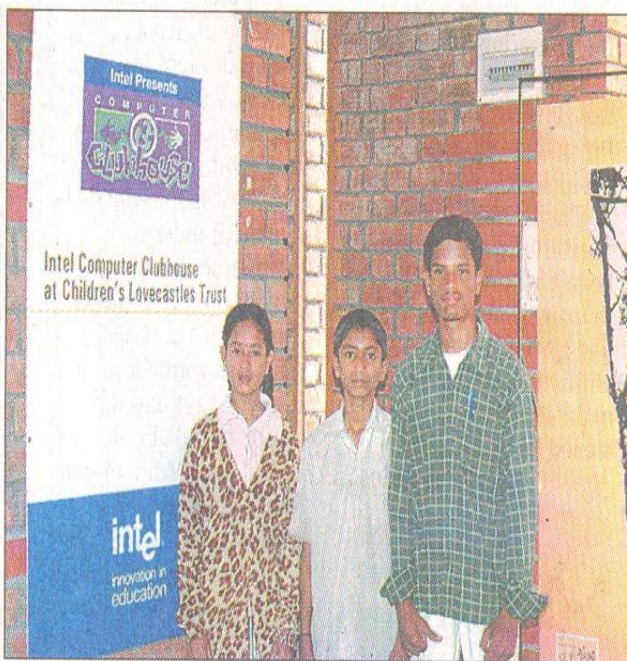
ness professionals and various workshops.

The Intel Computer Clubhouse is an after-school programme, where underprivileged youth aged between eight to 18 have access to high-tech equipment and mentoring in order to develop skills that open up opportunities, encourage self-confidence and foster creativity.

At the Clubhouse they learn through teamwork using the PC as a tool for learning. They create digital artwork, write and edit their own short movies, and also work on relevant community focussed projects.

The Bangalore clubhouse was launched late in 2002 at the Children's Lovecastles Trust (CLT).

Funded in part by the Intel Foundation, the Computer Clubhouse was founded in 1993 by The Computer Museum (now part of Boston's Museum of Science) in collaboration with the MIT Media Laboratory. Today, with the Clubhouse at the Museum of Science as the model, the Intel Computer Clubhouse Network, which now includes more than 80 Clubhouses worldwide, is hosting the Summit for young people whose lives have been changed through this innovative learning model. Thanks to the initiatives of Children's Lovecastles Trust and Intel, school children from government schools in Jakkur are learning to have fun and help their communities.



The three students from Jakkur.

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