



It's My Paper

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a monthly newspaper for children

Super Girl Ananya

17 year old Ananya Saluja, is a class XI student at The Shri Ram School in Haryana's Mousari area in Gurugram. She has spent her last three summer breaks in Leh. In addition to teaching, she has raised more than Rs 10 lakhs to build playgrounds and start libraries there.

It all started two years ago when Ananya's school introduced a community service programme in its curriculum, which prescribed that students teach underprivileged children. The programme eventually ended, but Ananya decided she would continue with her community service even though the curriculum didn't



require it anymore.

How Ananya Picked Leh

Ananya had heard about the 17000 Feet Foundation run by Sujata Sahu – a former school teacher and the mother of one of her classmates. So she found out about volunteering opportunities at the Foundation and decided to go to Ladakh. For Ananya, visiting remote villages in Leh and Ladakh has now become a summer ritual.

In 2015, she visited Leh district's Liktey, Turtuk and Tialing, to teach children. And the summer of 2016 took her to another village Matho in

Leh, where she also helped set up a playground for children, besides teaching. This summer, she will be travelling to Kargil to set up a library and conduct a workshop.

How She Raises Money

The regions Ananya has worked in have over 600 homes and 1,000 government schools, which have limited facilities and manpower. Visiting these schools left Ananya wanting to do something more than just a once-in-a-year volunteering programme. That's when she decided to resort to crowd-funding to help the children.

So far she has managed to raise funds for 19 libraries. It is an ongoing effort and she hopes to continue raise as much money as she can for the kids in Kashmir.

How very, very incredible is that! All of us at MY PAPER salute and applaud the effort and commitment of this 17 year old. We hope that we can take inspiration from her and do our bit to help the less privileged. Way to go Ananya! Wishing you continued success!!

Earth Hour

A number of iconic landmarks around the world went into darkness on Saturday, the 25th of March as they switched off their lights for "Earth Hour". Earth Hour is an

initiative to raise awareness of climate change in our world.

Monuments including the Sydney Opera House, the Empire State Building, the Kremlin, Big Ben, the Leaning Tower of Pisa, the Eiffel Tower and Egypt's pyramids were all "switched off". Homes and businesses were also being asked to join in, and individuals could commit to the cause on Facebook.

Last year, scientists recorded the Earth's hottest temperatures in

modern times for the third year in a row. At a convention in Paris in 2015 most of the world's nations agreed to try and limit average global warming to two degrees Celsius over pre-industrial temperatures.

That is the level of effort needed by humankind say scientist. If we try we can still avoid worst-case climate outcomes in terms of rising sea levels, worsening droughts and floods, and increasingly violent superstorms.

