Teeing Off For A Noble Cause

Isha Golf Jaunt

It was an opportunity hard to pass up; golfing for the cause of rural education in India. When professional and amateur golfers—from across India and overseas nations such as Australia, Singapore, UAE, and UK—came together at Oxford Golf Resort in Pune, for once, no one was concerned about their handicap as they teed off on December 8. Joining them was Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev, Founder, Isha Foundation. Pro golfer Anirban Lahiri was among the participants. "...I really wanted to be a part of this fantastic gesture; it's something we all need to contribute towards, so this is my little bit," said the 31-year-old.

Since 2012, Isha Golf Jaunt has been raising awareness and funds for Isha Vidhya, a rural education program that targets the most disadvantaged communities to offer quality education to children. Isha Vidhya schools and intervention programs in government schools touch close to 200,000 children in rural Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

Paul Jegata from Australia

Rakesh Singh, Head Investment Banking, HDFC Bank

Isha Vidhya is currently supporting over 3,000 government schools in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, directly benefiting close to 200,000 students

"Unless we educate rural India, unless we create a competent population, there is no future for the nation."

Sadhguru

"It was very emotional when we could speak to the first-generation, English-speaking community of children from Isha Vidhya... As a duty to society, we do a lot of things, this is something I would like to encourage all of you to get into-Isha Vidhya," said Anil Sonalker, Owner of Oxford Golf Resort, who hosted Isha Golf Jaunt.

Later, talk inevitably turned to the state of rural education in India and why such efforts are necessary. Sadhguru was typically forthright. "Unless we educate rural India, unless we create a competent population, there is no future for the nation..."

Sadhguru and Anil Sonalker (Owner, Oxford Golf Resort)

Collectors came together for a great cause