



Empowering every ability: Sristi Foundation

Description

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The serene town of Mailam, Sristi Foundation shines brightly as a catalyst for change, fostering a warm and welcoming space where inclusivity blossoms and every individual is inspired to reach their fullest potential.



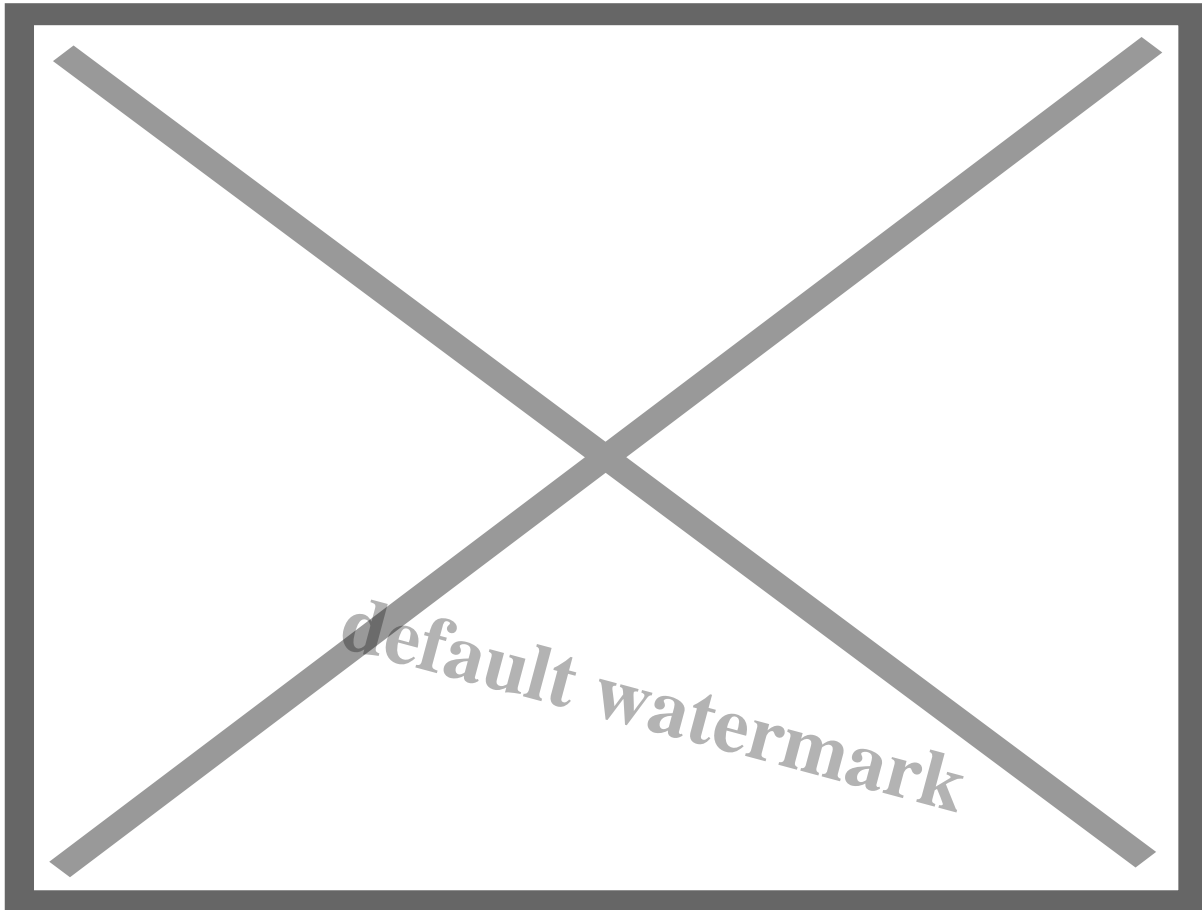
G. Karthikeyan in his office at the Foundation

The Sristi Foundation is a registered, non-profit, which is dedicated to creating an inclusive, self-sufficient society, where intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDS) can live, learn, and work. Founded by psychologist G. Karthikeyan, the organization's vision is to empower people with IDD to lead independent and dignified lives through meaningful engagement and economic participation.



Karthikeyan observes that while society often sees slowness as a drawback for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, it can also be seen as a power. In the foundation, the residents are benefiting from their founder by providing food and shelter. Not only food and shelter, but they also taught skills like farming, livestock, rearing, and handicraft-making. These products were being exported internationally.

In India, there are over 1.6 million people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, with 75% residing in rural areas. Unfortunately, many face exclusion, neglect, and significant barriers to integrating into mainstream society. At Sristi Foundation, they are committed to changing this narrative.



Many former residents are now employed and self-reliant, a testament to the foundation's commitment to holistic development. Even though they are people with IDD's they have much brilliance and they often lack the time and tutelage to reveal it. In a fast-paced world, it is our collective responsibility to provide timely support and training so that everyone can realise their potential. If society embraces this approach, we can help reduce the barriers faced by people with Intellectual Disabilities and build a more inclusive world.

Category

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