



## **MR. MOHAMMAD IMRAN KHAN MEWATI**

**Recipient of the Award for Application of Science and Technology for Rural Development - 2019**

Born: December 5, 1978

Mohammad Imran Khan Mewati is a Mathematics teacher in Sanskrit School from Alwar, in Rajasthan. A self-learner and with a technology bent of mind, Mohammad Imran Khan has voluntarily contributed and created educational 'Apps' to provide quality content for learning, access to education and engage school children (especially those of rural India), reduce the school dropout rate and bridge the digital divide. Inherited with passion and extraordinary capabilities, Mohammad Imran Khan's work is a culmination of his journey of life and his vision.

**The Beginning:** It all first started with designing website for rural schools in 2009. Being new to the subject Mohammad Imran Khan learnt about creating websites by studying from his brother's computer and engineering college books, fiddling his computer and browsing through internet. It was an eye opener for Mohammad Imran Khan to the world of digital information technology. Later, he learned to design and develop mobile apps based on the inspiration of a district collector. Within weeks Mohammad Imran Khan successfully designed his first mobile app in 2011, which was on General Science (Notes and Quizzes) for primary school children. Children's engagement was found to be encouraging and recorded around 15 lakh installations because of its user-friendly and colourful features.

**Khan's App Journey:** Mohammad Imran Khan designs and develops apps voluntarily. His 80 apps mainly cover subjects related to school curriculum. Mohammad Imran has created apps for Primary and Secondary Classes and for competitive exams. Users of his apps are 20 million. According to the analytical reports of Apps, his apps are not only used in India, but also in 50 other countries. Some famous apps of Mohammad Imran Khan are Project Dishari, Alwar Shakti, Digital Mewat, General Science, Maternal Care, SSC Exam, Kids General Knowledge, etc. Presently there are over 4,20,000 users for Dishari app which was launched in 2017 for the benefit of the college students to help prepare for competitive exams. The app also features news updates and job alerts. Mohammad Imran Khan provides a platform for subject wise Online Tests on a daily basis for competitive examinations. This feature is liked very much by students and has recorded 15 million tests attempts so far by Dishari users. Mohammad Imran Khan also created Digital Mewat, an app to help groups and volunteers at the grassroots level to propagate social reforms like stop the dowry tradition, encourage girl child education and extend educational support to potential students. His latest creation is Alwar Shakti App for District Administration, Alwar. This app is to strengthen youths and to ensure positive engagement. It provides career guidance, skill development information, current affair updates, positive works and stories, etc. It is also an open forum for the users to discuss and seek response from the panel of experts of the District Administration on various topics.

Mohammad Imran Khan's apps can be freely installed. Keeping in mind the background of the beneficiaries i.e. 60-70% of the users being rural based, he has focused on developing apps which are rich in content, workable offline and free of complication. The apps are primarily in Hindi language and some in English. Rural students have limited access to resources and set ups like library or coaching centre, so availability of these apps have proved to be beneficial to the children in their learning process.

Digitization of education is demand of the changing times with diminishing physical barriers/boundaries and reaching the unreached. Mohammad Imran Khan Mewati donated 50 apps to the Ministry of Human Resources Development, Government of India with a condition that it will be available to people free of cost.

His apps have reached millions, with a record of more than two crore users. His passion for developing apps, his vision and intention has inspired many in India and abroad. The framework that Mohammad Imran Khan creates through his knowledge, passion and inclination matches that of professional standards, which is noteworthy. He is a role model for many youngsters including IT professionals in India and abroad.

Mohammad Imran Khan is of the view that e-learning, digital learning is the future and it is important for the rural areas to have access to the digital information and technology infrastructures. It is a platform for learning without discrimination. It will be a boon for the rural students to access and explore new horizons in educational and learning content with their own interest and pace out without much expense. Information Technology will help in knowledge and skill development.

Mohammad Imran Khan contributes to the technology, design and conceptualization of an app. Teachers, professionals from various fraternity and his friends extend their voluntary support for content development on varied subjects. They contribute to topics which could be early school subjects, preparing for professional courses and competitive exams, learning Sanskrit, or monitoring maternal and other health parameters, etc. Being a teacher has also enabled Mohammad Imran Khan to add value to the educational content of the app.

Mohammad Imran Khan is a member of the technical advisory of an institute under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India and member of Alwar based team Project EKTA, which works towards strengthening elementary learning through online education and Alwar Shakti, a campaign for youths. He has been invited several times to enlighten trainee IAS officers on topics related to innovation and education.

Self-taught and self-effacing Mohammad Imran Khan Mewati has helped transform rural India by bridging the digital gap with his contribution. It has facilitated access to educational and employment opportunities. Thus giving rural youths chances to live a fulfilling life. Mohammad Imran Khan's services and productive utilization of technology has helped stem migration and positively transform education as well as the prospects of the future generation of our country.

#### **Awards & Recognitions:**

2018: State Level Teacher Award

2017: National Award to Teachers

2017: Zee Business Makers of India Award

2016: National Information & Communication Technology Award

2016: State Level Teacher Award

2016: Rajeev Gandhi Global Excellence Award

2016: Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam Award

2016: Bhamashah Award

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