

Disale, the Global Teacher Award Winner

S Rajagopalan

I wonder how many of you have heard of Ranjitsingh Disale, who is one of the ten winners of the Global Teacher Award carrying the prize money of Rs.7.4 crores announced by the UNESCO for his “incredible work as a change-maker.” There were 12,000 nominations from 24 countries in the world and Disale is among the winners. He is a primary school teacher. Isn't it surprising? One man single-handedly has brought out changes all around in his village through his efforts: one hundred percent of enrolment of girls and a pucca building for the primary school where he worked.

What has he done? He learnt Kannada since his mother-tongue was Marathi, for a large number of children in his village were Kannada speaking. He-re-designed all the textbooks of grades 1-4 with unique QR

codes embedding audio poems, video features, stories, and assignments in Kannada. This led to increased enrolment of children, particularly girls. He sent a proposal for the use of QR codes in textbooks and it was accepted by the Maharashtra Government and later by the NCERT, too. This has been helping children to continue their education without a break during the pandemic. Due to his efforts, the percent of enrolment of girls in his primary school soon rose to 100. He wants to take a virtual world tour using one of the Google services in this regard.

The nation salutes him.

Prof. S. Rajagopalan, (Retd.) Dean, School of Education, Annamalai University & Patron, ELTAI.

Journal of Technology for ELT

The Journal of Technology for ELT is an open-access research journal for teachers of English. It is published four times a year by the English Language Teachers' Association of India (ELTAI). It aims to promote serious discussion and sharing of experiences on the use of technological tools and resources for teaching and learning English effectively, either in an online mode or through blended learning modules. The emphasis is on application and judicious use of technology for the purpose rather than on mere descriptions of the tools and devices available for use globally.

Articles can be submitted throughout the year. They may be sent to: **indiaeltai@gmail.com** with a copy (Cc) to the editor Dr. Jaya Ramakrishnan at: **rjayaenglish@gmail.com**. For submission guidelines, visit the journal website: <https://sites.google.com/view/journal-of-technology-for-elt/home>. **There is no access or publication fee.**