



## Agent Of Change

They were almost on the verge of becoming drug addicts, unskilled labourers, housemaids or, God forbid, petty criminals. Then Fazlani Foundation with its Institute of Vocational Education intervened. The group of adolescent boys and girls who were awarded certificates for doing short-term courses in trades as varied as tailoring and jewellery-making, fashion designing and mobile

phone repairing at a recent function in the city, glowingly thanked one man — septuagenarian industrialist Abdul Kader Fazlani. Half a century ago, Fazlani, a school dropout, would work untiringly on his typewriter from a small office in central Mumbai. He dreamed of not just making loads of money but sharing it with the underprivileged too. Having made a fortune through multiple industries that he went on to set up, he established several trusts to help the poor.

The function held at the Foundation's Aisabai College of Education, seated cheek-

by-jowl with the J J Hospital, proved that all is not lost in our much-maligned world. "You are my children and I ask you to not forget the less privileged around you while you prosper," addressed the patriarch whom some of the certificate-holders, in acceptance speeches, called "an agent of change". Seeing the smiling young faces, our correspondent was overwhelmed with the happy thought: Amidst the devils, there are angels galore and we must tap the angels for a better future.