



## **PRABHAT EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

### **ANNUAL REPORT 2006-07**

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**PRABHAT EDUCATION FOUNDATION** is a Public Charitable Trust registered in 2006 under the Bombay Public Trust Act 1950. Donations to Prabhat are exempted from income-tax under Section 80(G) of the Income-Tax Act 1961. (As per amendment of Section 80(G), existing approval of Prabhat is in perpetuity). Prabhat is authorized to receive donations from overseas under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA Registration No.041910406). Prabhat is registered by the National Trust (Government of India) and by the Government of Gujarat as a recognized institution for persons with disabilities under The Persons with Disabilities Act (1955).

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## **ANNUAL REPORT: PRABHAT EDUCATION FOUNDATION 2006-07**

In a report on its preparatory years 2003-2006, Prabhat described the journey which led to the establishment of the Foundation. It has embraced the needs of special children (through the Prabhat *Jeevan Taleem* programme), an activity centre for small children (*Prabhat for Kids*), working with mainstream schools on environment education (*Prabhat for Environment*) and with service institutions to help school teachers lift their skills and capacities (*Prabhat for Teachers*). The report for 2003-2006 also a review of activities up to January 2007.

The year 2006 was a year of milestone for Prabhat. In January 2006 Prabhat completed formalities for a trust deed for establishing the Prabhat Education Foundation. It announced the members of its first Board: Mr. Sridhar Rajagopalan, Mr. Geet Sethi, Ms. Renu Seth and Mr. Keshav Chatterjee registration procedure were taken up with the charity commisssionar and an current account opened at Bank of India (Paldi). Part time accountancy support was arranged.

### **2006-07**

Prabhat for Kids concluded its academic activities in April, followed by a 10 day summer fun club for school going-children external resource person and volunteers join the experiences which ended with a one-day camp at which special children were welcomed to join in a celebration.

In May Prabhat responded to the needs of many parents of special children by organizing one month Jeevan Taleem summer workshop in space offer to Prabhat by the Ahmedabad Education Society. The programme proved very successful for both children and parents, bringing together educators, counsellor, volunteers, and other schools in majour effort at creating an enjoyable experience rich with learning. The Summer Workshop provided important experience which was soon to lead to the establishment of Prabhat's first Jeevan Taleem centre before the end of the 2006-07.

At the Summer Workshop Prabhat faced man requests from parents and family to sustain the progress the children had made through the one month experience. It was decided to rent space premises of the Apang Manav Mandal, (Gurukul Road) and to start regular daily opportunities for physical, mental and spiritual growth of special children. Parents were closely involved in developing the classroom and therapy opportunities which were to contribute to the services and programme Prabhat would later offer through its Centre.

Prabhat's outreach to mainstream schools and teachers were an important part of the year's networking and advocacy affort. During this period, Prabhat was also involve with assisting teachers of the Jagruti Charitable Trust (Halol), Panchmahal district to upgrade teaching and evaluation skills, design pedagogic programme an improve class room system. In August, Riverside School (Ahmedabad) requested Director Keshav Chatterjee to lead a group of grade 5,6 students on a one-week environmental field trip to Mussoorie in co-operation with Woodstock school. This environmental exposure to the Himalyas followed by programme for younger children in and around the Ahmedabad campus. Training programmes were also conducted for teachers from the Galaxy International School (Rajkot) and Anand Niketa (Ahmedabad) on organizing Nature Club for school children. Through its link with the NGO Udaan (An Janvikas Initiative) Prabhat began coo-operation in October with Bhasa an NGO that works with tribal communities all over India. Keshav Chatterjee also conducted workshop at the Dalit Shakti Kendra (Sanand) for teachers and field workers to help upgrade skills and materials for children. Each of these linkages provided Prabhat with opportunities

to advocate the need for inclusive policy toward special children in mainstream education both urban and rural as well as formal informal.

By January 2007 a two day session for the teachers from Jamiat-e-Hind, Kutch on classroom skills and a ToT for Human rights trainers at Centre for Social Justice were followed by a 3 day workshops for the teachers on classroom management and teaching technique for the leading NGO called Navsarjan. Discussion were organized several school, society and Institution on the problems of school admission faced by children below the age of 5.

### **Prabhat Jeevan Taleem Centre**

In March, Prabhat opened its Jeevan Taleem centre in the Maninagar area of Ahmedabad. This was the culmination of many months of preparation and discussion with educators, parents and Prabhat's Trustees. Several location were studied before the decision were taken to make a beginning in the Maninagar area through renting space. It was felt that Prabhat now had the experience that could help it provide sustain service to special children and their family through a permanent location in the area closed to many family with this needs. The challenge of the finding a team that could support and manage such outreach had began through the summer workshop. The first members of the Prabhat Centre included Ms. Jayshri Shah, Shailee Majethia, Mittal Dadiwadia and Alka Panchal. Basic curricula was design and a start made with counseling, therapy and learning.

Finance continued to be a major constraint with Prabhat dependent on family resources. Accounting system were introduced and fund raising strategies discussed with trustees and advisors including Mr. Prafull Anubhai and Mr. Venkat Krishnan. Part time accountant services were brought in through the good offices of Yogesh K Dave and Company, Auditors.

Efforts began to longer term planning as it this period had made clear the need for Prabhat to choose its priority carefully and to concentrate on the building the Prabhat centre as a catalyst for special education in Ahmedabad and as a demonstration of services essential to special children and their families.