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# Roshni

Reaching Out to Serve Humanity with  
New Initiatives



## About Prabhat

The Prabhat Education Foundation reflects a journey that began in 2003 through the identification and nurturing of children with learning difficulties struggling in mainstream schools. In time, realizing the need for education and learning of this group and particularly of children, Prabhat conceptualized an institutional facility to provide systematic learning and rehabilitation services that could be accessible for those challenged by poverty and mobility. Working with and through local communities is Prabhat's hallmark.

What started as a modest beginning, with one child in 2007, has now reached to more than 3000 persons with disabilities in Ahmedabad as well as to their families, neighbours and communities.



## When each factor in the ecosystem connected to the child becomes sensitized to its role, changes will begin...

When an initiative is taken with the expectation of a positive outcome and the results confirm it, it is great. The same is happening here today with twin brothers Jai and Jignesh of Kankaria Shala No-8, who have special needs.

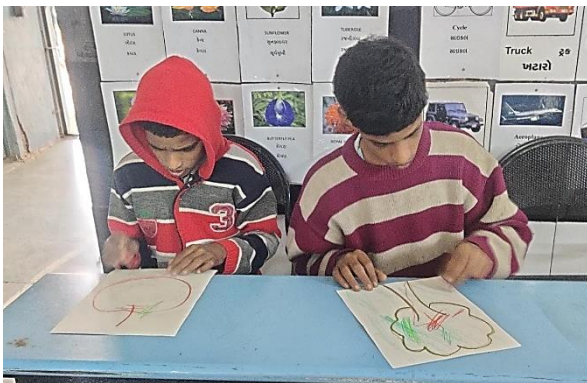
Prabhat has arranged a resource room for children with special needs in Kankaria shala No.8 since January, with an aim to create an ecosystem of peaceful integration of children with special needs in mainstream schools. The resource room has provision for primary education and physiotherapy to cater to children with varied disabilities.

On talking to the principal, it was learned that Jai and Jignesh were studying in class 8. They are 16-year-old twins, who would come to school but would never sit in the class room. They disliked playing with other children and would not talk with anyone even their teachers. Jai had a habit of throwing things around as soon as he was asked to sit in the class. Prabhat was asked to intervene once the resource room was set-up. The first course of action taken by the team was to conduct a complete assessment of both the boys. It was established that both of them were hyperactive with intellectual disability. Prabhat's team then went to their home to meet the parents and apprise them of their diagnosis and provide the required guidance and counsel. Their parents were happy that their children were finally getting the required intervention within the school premises. Their parents are very supportive and ready to provide any assistance to bring progress in their children.

The Prabhat team started guiding the school teachers as well, they were asked to make both Jai and Jignesh sit in the resource room, so that their rehabilitation process can begin. Various activities were done with them. Priority was to make both of them sit in one place for some time and gradually increase that timeframe. To achieve this the team spoke to their mother to understand what are their like and dislikes. Accordingly, a plan was developed, which included sitting activities that they started enjoying.

Activities like flashcard, picture reading, pre-writing skills, sight writing, coloring pictures with crayons, sensory therapy, speech therapy, group activities, walks in the garden area, meditation etc. begun. The team observed incredible results in a span of one month, starting with both of them sitting in one place for almost two hours engrossed in their activities and also talking with other students.

Today they follow the instructions given by the teacher. Have begun to communicate with other children and are also helping the younger students in the class. Their parents are very happy to see the changes in both of them, which they never envisaged. The teachers at the school are also surprised that the changes in the boys have happened so soon and they say its commendable. A member of Prabhat's team says that they are satisfied with the result for now, but there is still a long way to go and with the support of both the school and the family, the team is gradually able to bring the expected results. This confluence is what is needed for peaceful integration of children with disabilities into the mainstream society.



 [https://www.instagram.com/prabhat\\_education\\_foundation/](https://www.instagram.com/prabhat_education_foundation/)

 <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCe1oxuBWMdvyCRk2EPzzjIA>

 <https://www.facebook.com/Prabhateducationfoundation/>



[www.prabhateducationfoundation.org](http://www.prabhateducationfoundation.org)

**Parent meeting:** A parent meeting was organized at the Vatva Centre. These meetings help the team to understand the challenges that parents go through with the child at home. These are addressed by experts and Prabhat's team. This month the discussion was on behavioural issues and how they need to be dealt with at home. Several parents complained that children don't listen to them at home, like the way they listen to their teachers at the Centre. The team guided the parents on some of the techniques they use to calm the child and discipline them.

**Eye check-up:** This month 9 children from Berral market dehlui were taken for a detailed eye check-up at Dr. Brinda's clinic. Her clinic is equipped with the latest eye testing equipment and thus provides a complete result. She has prepared a detailed report for further course of action for each child.

### **"If you cannot feed a hundred people, feed just one". Mother**

**Teresa:** Rise against hunger is growing a global movement to end hunger by empowering communities, nourishing lives and responding to emergencies. This month Rise against hunger donated 1000 packets of rice-dal fortified meal. Helping Prabhat move to a healthier tomorrow one meal at a time.

**Building essential networks:** Providing assistive services is an integral part of Prabhat's work. Assistive services help those with disabilities especially from the marginalized section of the society lead a dignified life. One of the service under this includes opening up bank accounts. The opening of bank accounts for minors is anyways problematic but for children with disabilities especially from these communities it becomes even more challenging. Prabhat is now fortunate to receive support and guidance from Mr. Bhupendra Tripathi a high ranking official at the Reserve Bank of India. He has been instrumental in helping Prabhat open up bank accounts of several children. We thank him for his support in Prabhat's endeavours.

**Formal inauguration:** As mentioned in the last issue of Roshni, Prabhat has been given space to run a resource room in Kankaria shala no. 8 (government school). This month a formal inauguration was organized. Attended by Mr Vipul Sevak (Deputy Chairman, Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation Education Board), Mr Hashit Vora (GSSSB, ex-Chairman), Mr Dharmendra Shah (Treasury Head), Prof Ashoke Chatterjee & Mr Geeth Sethi (Trustee, Prabhat) along with team of Prabhat and entire staff of the school. The officials were very pleased seeing the set-up and said a space like this should be provided in every school. The team has made the resource rooms child friendly and welcoming. The space has been integrated very well within the school (but still standing out) and it is heartening to see the school authorities bringing guests and visitors to first see the Prabhat resource Centre as a part of their school tour. Regular activities of therapy, academic learning, counselling, and guidance has begun. It is to be noted that 4 children who have been formally admitted with the school for years, are now availing Prabhat's services in the resource room, this was recommended by the Principal of the school. These children were admitted under the RTE rules, but the school did not have any know-how or provision to teach them. Their disabilities range from intellectual disability, ADHD and behavioural issues. This one school is helping Prabhat walk towards the goal of inclusive education. The organization hopes this becomes an example which other schools follow.

**'Developing inclusive and accessible schools will help challenge perceptions about children with disabilities and actualise the zero-rejection policy in schools'** Adishree Panda, Un-Habitat India.

**Assistive services:** is a process to assist those with disabilities to access government entitlements. This month the CBR team assisted 11 to procure civil certificates (disability certificates), 7 with railway pass, 12 with State transport pass and 7 for pension scheme. These entitlements help people with disability tremendously and becomes an integral part of them leading fulfilling lives.



## ગુજરાત સમાચાર

### કાંકરિયામાં દિવ્યાંગ બાળકો માટે રિસોર્સ રૂમ બનાવાયો



કાંકરિયા શાળા નં. ૮માં પ્રભાત એજ્યુકેશન ફાઉન્ડેશન દ્વારા દિવ્યાંગ બાળકો માટે રિસોર્સ રૂમ બનાવવામાં આવ્યો છે. સંસ્થાના ટ્રસ્ટી અને ધારાસભ્ય વગેરેની હાજરીમાં આ રૂમનું લોકાર્પણ કરાયું હતું.



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