



May 2023 | Issue No. 42 | A monthly newsletter

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.



Experiencing joy



https://www.instagram.com/prabhat_education_foundation/



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCe1oxuBWMDvyCRk2EPzzjIA>



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



www.prabhateducationfoundation.org

A Prabhat experiences

I don't know what my life story will be but...there will never be a time when it would say "I gave up"

I was very nervous when it was my first day in the office. What will happen when I go there, how will things be! How will everyone see me there , what will everyone think of me, what kind of facilities will be there for me, will I be accepted...and several other questions and doubts were racing my mind! But it all turned out to be so different...Today, I write this blog after several months of being at and with Prabhat, with all questions answered and all doubts clarified.

That first day - everyone in the office was waiting for me like farmers await the rains! Keshav sir was standing near the lift with a chair, which he carried all the way from home! I was shocked and wondering "oh wow, he actually took the trouble of bringing a chair all the way to the lift for me"! We both entered the office and I was given a warm welcome by everyone and allotted my own desk and personal computer and all I could think was "Wow I have a place of my own"! I was so excited that I got a job, got a place where I could prove myself! That was my start...

Although I recieved a warm welcome from everyone, hesitations remained like "will I be able to build a rapport with everyone, will they like me, will I like to work here? I don't know how and when it happened, but it all just turned out to be fantastic. I learnt slowly and steadily things fall into place, there is no appointed time or a rhythm set for this to develop.

I live in a hostel so the memory of my family takes me far away but now I don't miss the warmth and love as much, as I get it from my dear colleagues. In the beginning I thought that I will not be able to even continue for a month, but today it has been many months and I don't know how time flew by.

Presently I am working as an administrator in Prabhat along with some accounts work. I think I am very skilled but never got the oppurtunity to show them at the other places I worked, but here at Prabhat owing to my skills I have been given leadership opportunities. I go to the Prabhat Centres at Vatva and Danilmda once a month and teach our children vocational skills. Children have been enjoying these sessions but not as much as I enjoy and look forward to them.

We people with challenges/ disability are often looked at, as someone with limitations at any given work place. But at Prabhat Education Foundation, no one has that kind of thought process either at the office or at the Centres. That's why it is said, that if you get someone's support, then the climb up to the Himalayas will also not be a problem! With the support that Prabhat extends to me I will be able to reach my goal. For a disabled person more than facilities getting respect and equality is utmost.

At Prabhat I am never reminded of my limitations, but always given the encouragement that I can do everything and that pushes me everyday. I feel this is how each person with disability who joins the workforce should feel, but unfortunately it isn't.

I believe that with a little support, lots of oppurtunities the disabled community can contribute substantially for the nation.

I appeal to everyone who is reading my article/blog give people with disabilities employment oppurtunities for them to soar and remember we don't fly alone we take you all with us!

Sangeeta Vaghela

Assistant to Administrator at Prabhat Education Foundation

<https://prabhateducationfoundation.org/blog/>



A successful academic year ending!

An academic year ending is a time of celebration, joy and hope! For Prabhat's children and their families it is always extra special. At Prabhat we see term it as an year long 'journey' report.

The parent teacher meetings are organized to discuss the overall yearly goal which was set for the child at the beginning and how much has been achieved. The ones which have not been achieved the reasons for those are also explained to the parents. Parents of each are met separately. Plans for coming new academic year is also discussed. This helps parents to also prepare for the support they may need to extend to their child, especially to bridge the learning between the Centre and home.

One notable progress which was also mentioned by parents among youngsters under vocational training was the confidence that was coming through in them. It was the confidence of earning and joining the work force which is motivating and pushing the youngsters to strive and excel.

Prem's mother Jyoti of Danilimda Centre says that "when Prem is taught new dishes in the cafeteria, I feel he will soon join me, in my work". She says " I am excited to see what new dishes can Prem add to our tea stall, this will help us to earn a little more".

Institutional networking: This month include that with NID and Gujarat National Law University, Gandhinagar.

Summer Camp :

In 2004, Prabhat emerged as the answer to the unasked question 'why aren't there any summer camps organized for children with disabilities'. The camp turned out to be a haven for all an opportunity for siblings to bond, new unique avenues for children with disabilities to learn and enjoy, an opportunity for parents to understand that their with child with disability can also have other 'normal friends'. More than anything the camp was a lesson for all- whatever you set your mind to it can be done!

This tradition was then followed through every year, except for the two years during the pandemic. Summer camps buzz with activities like – dancing, painting, craft, sports, etc. It is the coming together of children and volunteers from different walks of life that makes this event a success. This year Prabhat organized 2 summer camps in AB Hindi School and Kankaria shala no. 8. A total of 60 children participated in each camp.

This was the first time a summer camp was organized in the government school Kankaria Shala no. 8. The response from the authorities and the parents was very encouraging. The school authorities also evinced their interest in conducting it next year and include their other students as well. But process of convincing them to participate and let Prabhat organize it there wasn't easy, but it was pulled through successfully.

The Principal of AB School was also very supportive and thanked Prabhat for selecting their premises for conducting the summer camp. It is only with this unconditional support from different people and authorities that Prabhat is able to organize these activities.

Glimpse into the summer camp fun!



The Annual parent-teacher meet

