

January 2024 | Issue No. 50 | A monthly newsletter



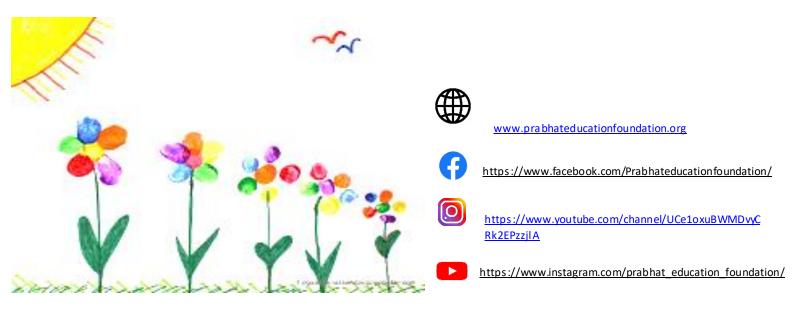
Reaching Out to Serve Humanity with New Initiatives,



## About us

Prabhat Education Foundation is an organization working with special needs children/individuals from underprivileged sections of Ahmedabad since 2003. The organization helps mentally and physically challenged children and adults with special needs. The organization works through 3 programmes. - Networking through Prabhat Centre, Community Based Rehabilitation and Advocacy.

Prabhat first started with one child and today it has grown to reach more than 3000 persons with special needs in Ahmedabad, their families, neighbors and communities.



# Monthly Update: With details of activities

#### Visit by Ummeed Foundation

A training session, facilitated by Ummeed **Foundation** to two representatives from Prabhat, was organized by Wipro. On the other hand, representatives from Ummeed received insights into Prabhat Education Foundation's early Intervention program, home-based activities, aanganvadis, and Prabhat center, engaging with both- family members and the team. This reciprocal exchange has proven to be a valuable learning experience for both organizations, fostering a meaningful exchange of insights and expertise.







**Vocational:** On the onset of the journey of vocational training, Prabhat's children enter the phase of professional journey. This is a challenge not only for the individual but also for Prabhat. For a smooth transition, providing a favorable environment and selecting the suitable occupation are the key factors. Another challenge is to ensure safe arrival at the workplace and returning home. This month, meetings were arranged and conducted with 30 different companies, owners and management of factories. Out of this, 8 garment companies showed their inclination for employment of the children of Prabhat. Currently, Prabhat's youth are employed at other two garment companies where, in the early st age of employment, they are trained at the workplace by Prabhat's vocational trainer to make sure that they are fine-tuned with environment and the work. This enables them to begin the course of action for which they are employed.

**Home Industry (Gruh Udyog): Hands – on Training:** Prabhat remains dedicated to enabling both children and underprivileged families to engage in home-based work opportunities within their community. By bringing work closer to home and providing essential training, Prabhat ensures that children and families can participate in income-generating activities. Recently, a delightful activity involved moulding toy scooters and filling them with sugar–coated fennel seeds. The children eagerly participated, receiving hands-on training to maintain and use the equipment responsibly. This lighthearted activity not only facilitated learning but was also thoroughly enjoyed by the children involved. Some even showed remarkable proficiency, so much so that they sometimes didn't want to leave the task! Prabhat's ultimate goal is to empower children through such home based employment activities, guiding them towards independence.

#### Uttarayan, a Celebration of Hope:

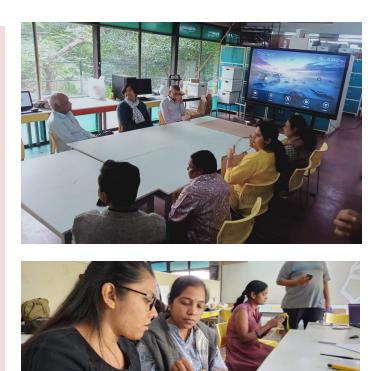
Throughout the year, various festivals grace our lives, offering not just moments of joy but also valuable lessons. Uttarayan, in particular, instils in us the aspiration to soar higher and the resilience to persist our endeavours. At Prabhat, children wholeheartedly embraced this festival with the customary enthusiasm, delighting in kite-flying and balloons as they do every year. Amidst the sweet pleasure of flying kites, they savoured traditional treats like talsakli, while also learning to craft and decorate their own kites. On this auspicious day, the children were generously treated to a variety of snacks and sweets, fostering a sense of collective celebration. Their mothers joined by actively participating in the festivities, thereby enriching the spirit of Uttarayan.





**Republic day:** Our constitution, based on equality, liberty and fraternity gives us the opportunity to live a dignified life as a human being. To truly claim its status as a republic, every citizen should commemorate the day our constitution came into effect. This celebration resonated at all the Prabhat centers, where everyone used their creativity to express their national pride. From making paper flags and badges to drawing, singing, and decorating the centers, the spirit of celebration pervaded every aspect of the event.

National Institute of Design (NID) - Internship and Workshop: Product-design Interns from NID conducted home visits for children receiving Early Intervention services. The objective was to develop products tailored to their unique needs. Following these visits, the interns presented their creations to a panel of experts, including representatives from Prabhat Education Foundation and Utthaan. The presentations showcased a variety of products designed for young children and vocational purposes. The experts provided valuable feedback based on their extensive field experience. In response to a request from Prabhat, NID organized a workshop for their team and representatives from other organizations for a focus on vocational products, highlighted during the presentation. The NID students from design department demonstrated techniques such as ceramic molding, origami, and cross-stitching on laser-cut wooden frames. These skills will be imparted to children of vocational studies at Prabhat's center, fostering their development and potential employment opportunities.



### Empathy in Action: Suraj's journey towards Inclusive education

Introducing Suraj, another remarkable fifth-grade student enrolled at AB Vidyalay, whose transformative actions have positioned him as a change-maker within his school community. He has been enrolled in the class since the time the resource centre established in his school. Initially intrigued, Suraj's curiosity led him to dig deeper into the activity, eventually gaining a comprehensive understanding. Over the time, he not only grasped the intricacies but also demonstrated his commitment by occasionally observing the class in its entirety. This consistent engagement facilitated the establishment of a meaningful relationship between Suraj and Prabhat.



One day, he approached the special educator and asked her, "Hamare pehchaan mein ek bachcha hai, kya aap usko padhaayenge? Kyunki aap to sabhi bacchon ko padhate hain jinhen taklif hai. Wo bhi bol nahi sakta aur chal nahi sakta (There is a child we know; will you teach him? Because you teach all children who are suffering. He also cannot speak and walk). Suraj also mentioned that he was talking about the child who is suffering from multiple disabilities and lives in his neighborhood. The child's name is Aayush and he is a distant relative.

The special educator calmly listened to Suraj's request and asked for his rationale. Suraj praised the teachers for their unwavering dedication despite challenges, emphasizing their role as both educators and nurturing figures akin to parents.

Suraj discussed more about Aayush – the four-year-old with hearing impairment (HI) and cerebral palsy (CP). He initiated a conversation with Aayush's mother and informed them about Prabhat, prompting Aayush's mother to visit the resource center at AB Vidyalaya. Convinced of its appropriateness for her child, she proceeded to enrol Aayush at Prabhat.

In this entire series of action, the sensitive understanding of Suraj at this young age is remarkable. Prabhat always talks about an inclusive community. By instilling these values in the younger generation from an early age, we pave the way for turning this imaginative vision into a tangible reality. Prabhat's connection through the resource center not only facilitated Suraj in articulating his insights but also stands as a commendable accomplishment for Prabhat.

We strive to create individuals like Suraj who light-up the society.

### Admission of Children to Mainstream:

Timely support, education and proper treatment plays an important role in the development of the child. To encourage these steps, Prabhat works with anganwadis for admission of the child alongwith their treatment. Under this, three children of Vatva Center have been admitted in the anganwadi in their area.

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