

February 2024 | Issue No. 51 | A monthly newsletter



Reaching Out to Serve Humanity with NewInitiatives

About Us

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.





A still from 'Prem ground'

Naseem's ongoing transformative journey...





Naseem, now 7 years old, had walked through the doors of Prabhat's center two years back with a bag over his shoulders, a tiffin box clutched in his hand and a heart brimming with nervous anticipation. He cornered himself, unwilling to talk to anyone except his mother. You'll be impressed learning how much he has progressed.

The purpose: Naseem was enrolled in the Berral Market center due to delayed development and speech impairment. His parents reported that theyonly expect him to learn to speak and be capable to do his daily chores independently. The team welcomed him and thus began his journey.

The Ride: Initially his behavioural attributes were closely monitored to know his interests and responses. Eg.: Whenever any ball rolled out towards him (when other children played), he would excitedly throw it back. It was noticeable that he liked outdoor activities and so was encouraged such games alongside his ongoing speech therapy. He was fascinated with colours and so he learnt separating colors, counting and arranging them etc. His academic grades showed progression and he also learnt to speak small words and short sentences.

The Progress: The constant appreciation from his educators at the center helped him to express his thoughts, likes and dislikes. Naseem's delightful mother says, "Pehle kuch bolta hi nahi tha, ab to kitna bol raha hai" (Earlier he wouldn't utter a word and now he's chattering!) He is also able to help her in household chores and look after his little sister, replicating what he's taught at the center. We take pride in mentioning that he has been admitted in an anganwadi and the process for his admission for mainstreaming will also commence soon.

Prepared by Jagruti (special educator) and Nikul

Beral market





https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCe1oxuBWMDvyCR k2EPzzjl A https://www.instagram.com/prabhat_education_foundation/



G

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

Monthly Updates

'Opening closed doors' - expression of love: A place meant for children with special needs where they can play with other children without any disparity is a universal need. A glimpse of such a place can be felt at **'Prem Ground'**. The name is a direct clue for which it is prepared. The word **'prepared'** is like a **flag** that the children have raised, signifying their united efforts and determination.

In continuation of 'Buddy Interaction', this unique idea was witnessed and appreciated by teachers, parents and Prabhat. Dialogues, meetings, mapping – made this vision a reality. Every child was an active participant in this project. When thoughts on Prem Ground were pouring in, students of both the institutions learned concepts of distance, measurements, conversions etc. To understand what's there in a park, they were explained the details by with the help of a video. Inaugurated on 14th Feb, 'Prem ground' was a learning process, wherein, parents also showed delight along with the children. This ground warmly welcomes every child, hoping that a 'warm welcome' fosters everywhere.

Khel Mahakumbh: Prabhat's approach of working towards the development of the child from a holistic perspective helps it to organize and coordinate several activities to integrate children in mainstream (society) and to establish harmony. Highlighting this, children of Prabhat participated in 'Khel Mahakumbh' to showcase their talent with confidence. Throughout the entire process - from registration to declaring the winner, the team stood by them. 37 children participated and 5 also achieved victory. What's noteworthy is, previously registration for this event was done offline and nowit is online. Apart from this, a bank account and a renewed medical certificate is mandatory. All these developments have boosted participation to a great extent.

Outreach programs:

With Aanganwadis: Prabhat works to empower children by enrolling them in Anganwadis, providing essential therapy alongside pre-primary education, fostering their holistic development. This task is supported through regular meetings with the Anganwadi workers for various trainings. Meetings are also organized at regular intervals with the aim of creating awareness on a large scale. In a recent meeting with 82 workers from Dakor Nath area, they were trained on basic identification methods and related activities for these children. This training aimed to equip them to identify children needing support within their communities and act as facilitators for connecting them with Prabhat's comprehensive care services, including pre-primary education and tailored therapy.

With ASHA workers: An awareness meeting was held with ASHA workers to identify individuals especially adults with special needs aiming to empower these individuals to lead fulfilling lives, with information on available government programs, skill building resources, and specific jobs. They also learned about referral processes to connect individuals with the appropriate support services.

Networking:

Dasra Workshop: We're thrilled to share highlights from the Ahmedabad City Convening, part of Dasra Philanthropy Week on February 26, 2024. This collaborative event, in partnership with CWAS, CRDF, and CEPT University, brought together Gujarat practitioners to address challenges and explore collaboration opportunities. The opening session, "Resilience in Action: Decoding Sustainable Futures," led by Gagan Sethi, Binoy Acharya, and Donald Lobo, emphasized strategies for building resilient organizations and communities. Abhay Mangaldas shared Shreyas Foundation's selfsustainability journey, while Meha Patel discussed CSR interventions by Zydus Foundation. Despite robust discussions on women's equity, the absence of disability discussions prompted a call for greater inclusion. The event concluded with a dynamic panel discussion, "Potential to Prosperity: Supporting Community Catalysts," underscoring the critical role of community engagement in driving positive change. The event fostered paving the way for a brighter, resilient future.

Gender Budgeting Workshop:

Participation in opportunities at various governmental and nongovernment organizations is part of Prabhat's advocacy. Prabhat's team participated in a workshop related to **Roundtable Ahmedabad** -**Suggestions for Gender Budgeting framework and feedback loop mechanism from disability lens** organized **by FICCI**. The focus was on considering special needs' girls and women while making a special budget. Attention was drawn to the matters to be taken care of during budget allocation (in writing) alongwith methods which are raw. Representatives of various voluntary organizations participated inthis workshop and the panel had subject matter experts and representatives from Women and Child Welfare and **National Institute of Public Finance and Policy** (NIPFP).

Vocation: A step towards self-reliance:

Pre-vocational and vocational units at Prabhat Center work with various trades. Prabhat is also coordinating strategically with industries/factories/home industries in different areas so that people with special needs around the same area can work with them and more people can move towards self-reliance. During this, a good no. of 20 individuals have been identified in Danilimda and Millatnagar.

Overnight camp: An occasion for joy

Prabhat organizes overnight stay camps for the children fostering an inclusive community where they can connect more with nature. For this, they were whisked away on a weekend getaway to the city's tourist spots at Mini Pavagadh and Mini Amarnath. As many as 41 children, 17 special educators and 4 parents were a part of this experience. Children played various games to their heart's content- in the open field and near the river as well. Their physical condition didn't hold them back from being happy.

The entire process, from getting parental permission to sending the child home, is tedious but the team's trust and the strong bond with the child and made it a success. The team also ensured the children received their medication on schedule, safeguarding their well -being. The shared commitment to the child's development fuelled the team's continued support.

Government Support Services:

Medical Certificates: 2

Railway Passes: Online -1; offline -2

Passes for State Transport: 3 online Forms

Pension Scheme: 3 Forms

Photo Gallery





Picnic to Mini-Amarnath and Pavagadh



પ્રભાત ફાઉન્ડેશન દ્વારા વિશિષ્ટ જરૂરિયાત ધરાવતા બાળકોના સર્વાંગી વિકાસને ધ્યાને રાખી અને બહારના કુદરતી વાતાવરણમાં તેઓ મુક્ત રીતે રમી શકે અનુભવ કરી શકે, તે માટે ૪૧ બાળકોને મિની પાવાગઢ અને મિની અમરનાથનો પ્રવાસ કરવામાં આવ્યો હતો.

Vocational training

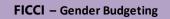


Learning art & Craft



Account-opening processes by BOB







Meeting at the Kankaria Resource Center





Dasra Workshop



Prabhat Education Foundation 325,Iscon Emporio, Satellite, Ahmedabad, Gujarat 380015 Phone:+91-79-4890-305Email:prabhat@prabhatedu.orgWebsite:www.prabhateducationfoundation.org

