



March 2024 | Issue No. 52 | 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.



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCe1oxuBWMdvyCrk2EPzjIA>



www.prabhateducationfoundation.org



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



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

When Faced with Challenges, Mothers Persevere

How does one feel in overwhelming tough times when giving up is not the solution; one can always choose to focus on what *can* be improved, even if it's a small step. What should one say when a mother is under such circumstances? A mother's love is a symbol of strength, as shown by Gyanti Devi Prajapati.

Gyanti Devi's youngest son, Rahul, has multiple disabilities. He could not sit, stand, speak, hold anything (as he had no grip) and faced difficulty in eating. After primary examination and treatment, he was taken care of at home. Despite financial limitations, she never gave up hope for his well-being. For nearly four years, she couldn't afford a specialist for his care. Yet, Gyanti Devi's spirit remained unbroken.

When Prabhat's CBR team stepped in, offering a home-based program tailored to Rahul's needs, they were aware that the journey required immense dedication from both Prabhat's team and Gyanti Devi. This program involved speech therapy, physiotherapy, and sensory activities – all during home visits. (Children who have severe disabilities and cannot go to the center, Prabhat has introduced 'Home Based Program' for them).

After six years' continuous efforts, their combined efforts have yielded remarkable results. Rahul can now sit independently, stand with support, speak basic words, and identify objects by touch and also grasp them. Now he is brought to the center for physiotherapy and is also seen enjoying most of the events of Prabhat. Gyanti Devi's joy knows no bounds.

Gyanti Devi also manages household finances by selling khakhras, actively involves herself in Rahul's therapy sessions, and even brings him to her workplace when necessary. She has trained her other two sons care for Rahul, ensuring her peace of mind.

Through this all, Gyanti Devi perseveres with utmost optimism. Her commitment to Rahul's progress is an inspiration. While Rahul may not achieve full recovery, her story teaches us the importance of striving for even incremental improvements.

- Prepared by Namrata (Home based Program)



Monthly Updates

Anant National University: From Integration to Participation: Prabhat's collaborative approach to an inclusive society for the disabled transitioned to an exciting collaboration with Anant National University (Anant).

The initial discussions, interviews, and a co-produced documentary film titled "*Chahat ki Udaan*", fostered a sense of shared purpose and potential and finally a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

This MoU aims at an inclusive perspective with the next generation of design professionals and this collaborative effort will help both institutions to learn and grow. Following the signing, Anant's students visited Prabhat's centre and the office as well. The in-depth discussions provided valuable insights into the challenges faced by children with disabilities.

Workshop: A two-day (in-person) workshop of **SVP** facilitated by **Mr. Gagan Sethi** engaged the attendees in discussions regarding **Analysis of today's world in three levels, Three Ps (Practice Partnership Policy), Diagnostic Tools and their learnings** and **The Need of Partnerships**.

Dasra Philanthropy Week: The week's celebration (from 29th Feb to 2nd March) started with Ahmedabad and continued in Mumbai (both in-person) which encompassed discussions on topics of: **Transitioning towards Sustainable livelihoods**, Collaboratives and the promise of Non-linear Impact, Conveying message for the Climate, Unlocking Finance for Nature Based Solutions among others.

Internships: Volunteer Program of Ahmedabad University: Every year, Ahmedabad University (AU) facilitates an internship program for students and organizations allowing students to choose placements aligned with their interests. The university hosts a 'bridge' program where invited NGOs set up stalls to showcase their work and opportunities. This interactive session allowed students to directly connect with Prabhat also, gaining valuable insights to guide their internship selection.

Ceramic activity: Students from NID Ahmedabad conducted a design practice using ceramics. This activity, involved objects (for all age groups) designed to be easy to grip but came out to be larger for a small child's hand. The students are now redesigning the objects specifically for their fine motor skills and grip strength.

Towards a New Connection: To ensure children's health stays on track, Prabhat conducts regular full-body checkups and organizes health camps in collaboration with other organizations. Recently, a representative from **K.D. Foundation** visited Prabhat to deeply understand where this foundation can partner for the well-being of children.

Aid Camp - Distribution of Tricycles: In partnership with **Shri Bhagwan Mahavir Vikalang Sahayta Samiti**, Prabhat organized a disability support camp in Vatva, wherein the team had conducted a registration drive to prioritize those in greatest need. This approach ensured a successful program, with **180 tricycles** given to deserving individuals.

'Sangat': Program conducted by interns: A three-month internship by interns of Gujarat Vidyapith (Randheja) Anere and Naitik pursuing MBA in Rural Management concluded with an event organised by them - '**Sangat**' -for the children of Prabhat (at the premises of Vidyapith) which aimed 'to associate' Prabhat's children with the students of Gujarat Vidyapith planting seeds of compassion and sensitivity, not pity.

The event buzzed with activities, music, delicious food and gifts for the children with immense cheer during the dance session. At the end of the program, the team of special educators present there said, "When children showcase their learnings in the outside world, it's a moment of pride for the team." Witnessing how these trips facilitated easy interaction and learning between the children, solidified Prabhat's belief in the importance of mainstreaming.

Empowering Individuals Through Work: Prabhat's Vocational Training: J B Fragrances & Flavors: A Flourishing Partnership

The program's success is evident at J B Fragrances & Flavors. Through regular follow-up visits and on-site support, Prabhat ensures these individuals receive the guidance they need to adjust smoothly and build lasting relationships with their colleagues for **building a sustainable future**.

While initial integration can be challenging, Prabhat's team is committed to creating long-term solutions by working closely with individuals and the workplace for retention of the youth of Prabhat.

Ek din Prabhat k naam

An interview with a representative of an Etech company was conducted during the celebration of Disability Week (Dec '24). Enthralled by Prabhat's purpose and its children, a few more visitors from Etech visited the center. They expressed the joy in art and dance activities with the children alongwith learning from them. The visitors were also amazed to see how the kitchen running at the center is being used for education and therapy as well.

Mainstreaming the Children:

After admission in Prabhat Anganwadis and schools, children receive personalised training to adapt to the new platforms. The preparation for the nearing exams of children admitted to A.B. Vidyalaya and Kankaria School has begun. A dialogue was held to help parents prepare them at home. It was decided by the school management that children who can write without any help will take the test themselves and some children can sit with their guardian for support. Team of Prabhat is filled with pleasure seeing that the children have the opportunity of appearing for exams without much hesitation in an inclusive environment.

Government Support Services:

Medical Certificates: 1

Railway Passes: Online and Offline – 3 (each)

State Transport Passes: 3 Online Forms

Pension Scheme Forms: 2

RTE forms online: 9

Photo Gallery

Mr. Nikul and Ms. K. Kavitha (of Prabhat) receiving the prestigious award of Guardian Angels



Visit by representatives of Etech



Employment camp at the center



Ek din Prabhat ke naam



ABHA Card issuance



Aid Camp - Distribution of Tricycles



Disussions with Students of Anant National University



Representatives of Prabhat at Ahmedabad University



“Sangat” by Interns of Gujarat

