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# **ROSHNI**

Reaching Out to Serve Humanity with New Initiatives

# **About Prabhat**

Founded in 2003, Prabhat identifies and empowers children with disabilities and learning difficulties, providing accessible learning and rehabilitation services to over 3000 individuals in Ahmedabad. Working closely with local communities, Prabhat fosters inclusive education and support for individuals with disabilities and their families.



Learn more

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Hello readers! Explore community highlights, glean valuable insights, and get inspired to take action. Enjoy the read!

Sports as a pathway to Inclusion

The holistic development of every child is essential, fostering social integration and sense of belonging. A powerful platform which embraces this, is the **Khel Mahakumbh**, a state-level sports initiative that embraces the participation of players with special needs and promotes inclusivity through sports.

For Prabhat, Khel Mahakumbh has become more than just an event—it is an annual tradition that symbolizes courage, dreams, and breaking societal barriers. Every year, the preparation begins with conversations with parents—encouraging them to envision their children as capable athletes. Children are trained, guided, and supported to choose their sport, building both skill and confidence.







| Name                                | Sport     | Rank   |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------|
| Fuzail Hussain Zakir Hussain Ansari | 25m Race  | First  |
| Ashish Amarbhai Shah                | 50m walk  | Second |
| Ruturaj Narendrasinh Zala           | 100m walk | Third  |
| Dhwani Manojbhai Sharma             | Bocce     | First  |
| Prem Rupabhai Gediya                | 50m Race  | Second |

This year as well, children from Prabhat participated, with five of them winning medals in walking races and Bocce. The joy reflected not just in their smiles but in their parents' pride—proof of how such platforms transform self-perception and community attitudes. "We were very happy, and even our relatives and neighbors celebrated his win," shared Fuzail's mother, beaming with pride.

As Prabhat's special educators have observed, "What's heartening is that children now choose their sport and even reflect on their performance—they have started dreaming."

So, participation in this Khel Mahakumbh isn't just about medals. It reaffirms Prabhat's commitment to holistic development, confidence-building, and nurturing a society where every child truly belongs.

# **Program Updates**

# Stepping Back to Leap Forward: Prabhat's Annual Retreat

Prabhat kicked off February with a four-day annual retreat to Lonavala, Matheran, and Khandala. This offsite experience was designed to both revitalize our team and strategically plan for the year ahead.



The retreat blended critical capacity-building sessions with team-building activities and exploration of the scenic hill stations. We engaged in brainstorming sessions to identify key priorities and refine our organizational strategy, fostering a shared vision for Prabhat's future. Beyond strategic planning, the retreat provided invaluable opportunities for team bonding. Many staff members experienced their first out-of-state trip or time away from family, creating lasting memories and strengthening interpersonal connections. Shared meals, games, and storytelling allowed us to discover new facets of each other, boosting morale and fostering a sense of unity. This retreat successfully combined strategic planning with team rejuvenation, setting a strong foundation for Prabhat's continued growth and impact.

## **Towards Inclusive Anganwadis: A Step Forward**

The team visited 44 Anganwadi centers across different localities to assess their operational structures, space availability, and the presence of children with special needs. These visits help in understanding existing challenges, gauging awareness levels, and laying the groundwork for more inclusive early childhood education spaces.

Additionally, Prabhat conducted an orientation meeting in the Bhaipura ward, where 22 Anganwadi workers participated. The session introduced them to Prabhat's work and explored ways to collaborate in fostering inclusive learning environments.



These steps mark steady progress in our mission to create sustainable, inclusive models in early childhood education.





#### Jacobs' Solutions Visits Prabhat

We had the pleasure of hosting Sunil Sir and Pankaj Sir from Jacobs as they visited Charmaliya Anganwadi, Home-Based Children, and our centers in Vatva, Berral Market, and Bhaipura to gain deeper insights into the impact of their support. They were pleased to witness the collaborative efforts between Prabhat's team and parents in ensuring holistic development for children with special needs. They observed firsthand how parents actively engage in their child's progress, working alongside Prabhat's experts to create a supportive ecosystem. Prabhat also presented plans to focus on vocational skills and opportunities for the children, which Jacobs was receptive to supporting.

# **Community Based Rehabilitation**



# Home Based Services begin in Bhaipura!

After months of groundwork, Prabhat has launched its Home-Based Services at our Bhaipura Centre, bringing much-needed support directly to children who cannot access our centers due to mobility challenges or distance. Currently, four children have been enrolled, marking the beginning of a vital extension of our Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) program.

Home-based interventions provide personalized support by integrating therapy, education, and skill-building within the child's familiar environment. Our team conducts regular visits, working closely with families to build a supportive ecosystem for the child's development. By identifying local needs through community surveys and recruiting team members from within these communities, Prabhat ensures sustainable and meaningful engagement.

#### **Assistive Services**

Following documents were processed this month:

Medical Certificate: 2 Railway Pass: 3

Pension Forms: 2 State Transport Forms: 3

We have also distributed 8 wheelchairs and 29 MR Kits to individuals with disabilities.

# A Run for Every Child: Prabhat's Participation

Our children joined *Run for Hope: Every Child Deserves a Childhood*, an event organized by aProCh to celebrate the joy and freedom of childhood. The run, attended by over 700 participants—from toddlers to seniors—offered 1 KM, 3 KM, and 5 KM categories, along with a lively Zumba warm-up, games, and fun activities.



Eleven children from Prabhat participated, embracing the excitement of the run and the joy of play. This event, which drew participants of all ages, highlighted the importance of creating a world where every child can thrive.

## Nirma University Students visit

As part of Prabhat's ongoing efforts in advocacy and networking, students from the Department of Architecture at Nirma University visited our Bhaipura Centre this month. Through direct interaction with children, they gained a deeper understanding of disability and inclusion, while also learning about Prabhat's approach in community as well as at the centres to support children with special needs.



These interactions are crucial as we continue to create awareness and dialogue on inclusive spaces, encouraging future architects to consider accessibility and universal design in their work.

## Prabhat at NID's Prototype Showcase

NID students recently showcased innovative prototypes, including designs tailored for children with special needs, in an exhibition at their campus. Prabhat children, along with their caregivers and staff, visited the exhibition, offering valuable feedback encouragement to the budding and designers. The visit was not just an inspiring exchange but also a fun day out, offering children and parents a glimpse into how inclusion and design can support accessibility.



# **Norquest Brands Visit Prabhat**

This month, Jayshreeben from Norquest Brands visited Prabhat's Bhaipura Centre to gain a deeper understanding of our work and children. Norquest, an ethically certified custom bag manufacturing company, has provided vocational opportunities for Prabhat's children. This visit will surely strengthen our collaboration further for more such skill development opportunities.



# **Kidz Corner**



# Summer Sips: Sensory Fun in the classroom

With summer's warmth approaching, students in the Kankaria Gujarati School No. 8 resource room learned to make refreshing lemonade! This co-curricular activity, shared with students and guardians from standard 6 and 8, offered a fun and educational experience.

Lemonade is an ideal activity for children with special needs, as it's simple, engaging, and provides valuable sensory stimulation. Beyond the delicious taste, lemonade's healthy benefits make it a perfect energy booster for the summer months.

The children of the Vatva Center enjoyed a visit to Shantivan Jain Upashram, where they received backpacks, water bottles, and a nourishing lunch.

## **Resource Corner**

In a significant step towards promoting inclusivity, the Gujarat government has issued a resolution (GR) on February 3, 2025, regarding the use of appropriate terminology for "Divyangjan" (persons with disabilities). *This GR* reinforces the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, and United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), emphasizing the importance of using respectful language and avoiding terms like "Viklang," "Apang," and "Ashakt." *This resolution* provides clear guidance on the correct terminology to be used in official documents, schemes, and communications.

















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