

## **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!

Finding a Second Home at Prabhat: Zoya's Story

At Prabhat, every child is recognized as unique and special. We strive to create an environment where each child's individual needs are met with compassion and understanding. Zoya's story exemplifies this approach.

Eleven-year-old Zoya's journey at the Prabhat Center began with a sense of alienation. Accustomed to the comfort of her mother's constant presence, adapting to a new environment and unfamiliar faces was challenging. Recognizing this, the Prabhat team prioritized creating a warm and safe space for Zoya, carefully identifying her needs and preferences.

A personalized plan of assessment and therapy was developed, focusing on activities to enhance her hand-eye coordination, color recognition, and academic skills, mindful of her autism and intellectual disability. Through patience and positive reinforcement, Zoya began to make significant progress. She is now able to draw shapes and is actively participating in speech therapy, gradually expanding her vocabulary.

Today, the Prabhat Center has become Zoya's second home. Her growth and achievements, made possible by the dedication of the Prabhat team and the collaboration with her family, are a source of immense satisfaction.





As Zoya continues her journey, we wish her all the best in her academic pursuits and future endeavors.

Prepared by: Nalanda Dhaamel: Special Educator

## **Program Updates**

Embracing All Abilities: Samaanta Mahotsav

The grounds of Kankaria School No. 8 came alive with the spirit of inclusion during *Samaanta Mahotsav*, a vibrant festival jointly organised by the AMC School Board, Prabhat and aProCh.

We celebrated the idea of 'all abilities, one celebration,' where children of all abilities participated side by side in games, Zumba sessions, and interactive learning activities. Organised with the aim of nurturing inclusive education and fostering equality, the festival offered experiences that bridged differences without discrimination. Children explored a wide

array of fun-filled activities curated by aProCh, promoting understanding, cooperation, and shared learning. The day served as a reminder that while individuals may differ, the opportunities to learn, play, and grow together should remain universal.





The festival not only encouraged cooperation and equality among children but also brought together parents, educators, and dignitaries including Vipulbhai Sewak (Vice Chairman, Municipal School Board), Keshavbhai Chatterjee (Managing Trustee, Prabhat), and Principal Birjuben Kapadia — all of whom interacted with the children and reaffirmed their support for inclusive education.

#### **Handholding for Inclusive Anganwadis**

We are committed to creating long-term, sustainable change in early childhood education. As part of our exit strategy for the Anganwadi program, we've initiated the first phase of handholding in 20 Anganwadis. A key component of this process is the formation of "Support Groups," bringing together community members to champion inclusive practices. These groups will receive training and collaborate to define plans and roles for both Anganwadi staff and group members.



Support groups have currently been established in two Anganwadis, with plans for further expansion.

#### Bi-annual Board Meeting

Prabhat hosted its bi-annual board meeting on March 29, 2025, at the Bhaipura Centre. Esteemed board members Ashoke Chatterjee, Renu Seth, and Hasyalatha Mehta, along with AMC representative Pritesh Shah, visited the centre, interacted with children, and observed ongoing activities. The Prabhat team presented an overview of the year's progress,



highlighting outreach, services, and vocational initiatives. Discussions focused on community-based rehabilitation, vocational pathways for children, and the organisation's work with employers.

Ashoke Chatterjee shared valuable suggestions for ongoing research on 'Access to Energy.' The visit reaffirmed our commitment to expanding inclusion and deepening community impact in the year ahead.





#### Holi Celebrations at Prabhat

Holi, the vibrant festival of colors, brought a wave of joy and learning to Prabhat's children this month! At Prabhat, festivals are always celebrated not just for fun, but as opportunities for learning and growth. With safety as a priority, the children enjoyed playing with colors, embracing the festive spirit wholeheartedly.

At Kankaria Gujarati School No. 8, children from the resource room teamed up with students of Standard 6 to craft origami water guns, adding creativity to their celebrations. They also went on a special outing, where they learned to shop for festive items — a fun and practical life lesson! Meanwhile, at Vatva Centre, vocational students gathered to prepare delicious bhel, turning the festivities into an engaging activity.

### **Advocacy and Networking**

#### Where Classrooms becomes Communities

Efforts to strengthen the use of resource rooms in government schools are gaining positive momentum. Special educators from the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan have taken note of the effective implementation at schools, encouraging wider awareness across neighbouring schools.



This month, the Principal of Kankaria School No. 6, Vinitaben, along with her students, visited the resource room at Kankaria School No. 8. During their visit, they explored the educational and therapy services offered, while students actively interacted with children in the resource room. The visit provided an opportunity to build understanding, promote inclusion, and broaden a shared sense of community among all learners.

# Research Update: Exploring Energy Access for Persons with Disabilities

We are pleased to share that the data collection phase of our collaborative study on accessibility for energy persons with disabilities Ahmedabad has in been completed. successfully Conducted partnership with Dr. Amita Bhakta, an independent consultant from Loughborough University, UK, this study explores important yet underrepresented aspect of daily life for people with disabilities.



Our team and Dr. Bhakta are now engaged in classifying and analyzing the data, paving the way for the final report. We look forward to unveiling the findings soon, which promise valuable insights and fresh perspectives on this vital topic.

#### Exploring Partnerships: Azim Premji Foundation Visits Prabhat

With the shared vision of enabling children and adults with special needs to live with dignity and access meaningful opportunities, Prabhat continues to engage with partners who support this mission. This month, we had the privilege of hosting representatives from the Azim Premji Foundation, Ms. Nagaratna and Ms. Varsha. Through in-depth discussions with our team, centre visits, and interactions with stakeholders, they gained insights into Prabhat's programs and impact. We look forward to nurturing this potential partnership and will share further updates as the journey unfolds.

#### **Kidz Corner**



The children enjoyed participating in lively dance activity led by Srikanth, a Graphic Design student from NID, at Vatva Center.



At the Bhaipura Center, children engaged in a creative claywork activity, learning through play, under the guidance of NID students.

## **Community Based Rehabilitation**

#### Aids and Appliances Distribution Camp

Prabhat's holistic approach places it at the intersection between vital government services, organizations, and the community. In this role, Prabhat facilitated an aids and appliances distribution camp, ensuring that critical resources reached those in need. Through awareness drives, community-level assessments, and coordination, the Shree Bhagwan Mahavir Viklang Sahayata Samiti, with Prabhat's support, distributed wheelchairs, 37 5 calipers, underarm crutches, and 3 Jaipur foot to individuals.



Initiatives like these strengthen mobility and independence, bringing us closer to an inclusive community.

#### Guided by Kindness, not Sight

As the setting sun wondered who would illuminate the earth after its departure, a humble clay lamp whispered, "I will shine as much as I can." It is not about replacing the sun, but about recognising the power of doing what we can. That spark of selfless determination defines true strength.

Such a spark was seen in a remarkable group of visually impaired individuals who, despite their own challenges, visited the Berral Market Centre and shared ration kits and stationery with our children in the spirit of Ramadan.



Sanketbhai, a college student and part of this inspiring group, shared, "We may not see with our eyes, but we are determined to give, not take. We help others in the ways we are able." Their gesture speaks of profound generosity and reinforces the belief that every act of giving, no matter its size, brightens the world.

## **Capacity Building**



At Prabhat, continuous learning is at the heart of our work. As part of our ongoing efforts to strengthen early childhood education under the Wipro Inclusive Anganwadi program, the Prabhat team had



Rather than providing direct instruction, teachers act as facilitators, nurturing the social, emotional, and physical growth of each child at their own pace.

the enriching opportunity to visit Pragati Shikshan Sansthan in Phaltan, Maharashtra. This educational institute champions the philosophy of "learning through play," placing play at the centre of children's development.

During our visit to their Balwadis, we observed how children are encouraged to explore, experiment, and express themselves freely.

The exposure was invaluable — reinforcing how child-driven learning environments deepen curiosity, creativity, and confidence. These insights will guide our future training modules, helping us further embed playbased learning into our inclusive education approach. We look forward to bringing these practices into our community to create joyful, engaging spaces for every child.

#### **Assistive Services**

Following documents were processed this month:

Medical Certificate: 2 Railway Pass: 3

Pension Forms: 3 State Transport Forms: 3

Besides, Online forms for 5 children were filled under the Right to Education.

















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