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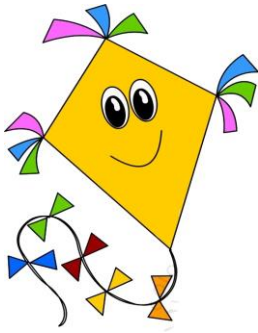
a fight for human dignity



We Shall Overcome!



ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21



“Kites rise highest against the wind – not with it.”

Winston Churchill

Could any of us or for that matter any child have ever imagined a situation when they would say :
“When will schools reopen? I am quite sick of sitting at home, wearing masks, not being able to meet and play with my friends”

COVID-19 has caused the largest disruption of education in history, having already had a near universal impact on learners and teachers around the world, specially our pre-primary to secondary school teachers and vocational education sections. The pandemic and lockdown and its periodic extension has also brought about a sense of fear and anxiety everywhere. This has led to psycho-social and mental health implications for children and parents, judging from the consultations our psychologists have to keep giving.

As mentioned in our last report, we at Prayas had decided to adopt the digital mode of teaching, where learning is not confined to the classroom, but reaches the child in his home. Our biggest challenge was in ensuring that education does not become regressive. We worked on changes to adapt our regular programs and rethink strategies and methods of execution, keeping in mind the priorities, limitations and strained resources of our beneficiaries. We were successful in preparing and then training our teachers, who then made supporting videos for each lesson of the curriculum to be followed by individual follow ups.

We are happy to report that the pandemic, though it has impacted the education of children to some extent has given an opportunity for us to empower our teachers to enhance their skills and cope with challenges.

Our sincere thanks to our staff, partners, friends and well-wishers, who have stood by us always.

Sanjay Jain



On behalf of the Members of the Executive Committee, PRAYAS



Late Miss Jatinder Arora
Founder PRAYAS

"It always seems impossible until it's done."

Nelson Mandela



Late S. Harjeet Singh
who provided inspiration
and immense strength
and showed us the right
way to tread on

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world", said Nelson Mandela. Everyone deserves to be educated and it is the first early investment for child development. So the importance of Education being accessible to all cannot be undermined.

The positive thing that has emerged is that there are many factors now contributing to a change in this situation and acceptance of the importance of education.

- First, progress on general enrolment is enabling more attention to be given to children from under privileged backgrounds, who are harder to reach, many of whom are disabled.
- Second, there is increasing awareness that universal primary education will only be achieved if the participation in schooling of such children is secured.
- Third, there is more recognition of the rights of people with disabilities, including the right of children with disabilities to education, due to advocacy at every level.
- Fourth, there have been associated changes in attitudes towards people with disabilities and their capabilities. There is also an increasing emphasis on rights and inclusion in relation to disability having some influence on approaches to education.

PRAYAS was conceived in 1996 with exactly this in mind. The word Prayas means an Endeavour...an effort to help the mentally and physically challenged child and other under privileged children to lead a meaningful and dignified life !

Vision

Equal opportunities for all

Mission

Our mission is the integration of children, with and without special needs, into mainstream schooling and society by providing education to enable their growth and development towards becoming self-sufficient individuals who can live with dignity.

Objectives

- Provide Inclusive Education (Education for all).
- Enhance skills of CWSN and develop a positive attitude towards self-reliance.

- Provide income generating projects to enable differently-abled to become economically self-sufficient.
- To develop strategies for marketing the products made by the physically and mentally challenged so that their income can be ensured.
- To advocate and network with governmental and non-governmental institutes for child rights.
- Women empowerment.
- Community participation in child education.
- To develop a resource centre in accordance with special needs in changing environment.
- To run professional courses under the accreditation of RCI.
- To facilitate inclusion in government run schools in slums of Jaipur.
- To pursue and help children to continue education for secondary and higher secondary certificate for placement.
- To provide computer science knowledge for better placement.

Key Activities and Progress during the Covid period when schools have been closed.

The entire focus of the Prayas team was on keeping the cwsn and other children connected to school /education and ensuring that their family livelihood did not adversely effect on this part of their lives. The effort to ensure that community families did not loose access to government beneficial schemes due to lack of documentation was also ongoing.



- Maintain a dialogue between parents and special educators, advise them on safety precautions, importance of social distancing etc.
- Educating the parents on following a home schedule, so that there is some routine in the child's life. Pick up some individual targets/goals for the child and guide the parents to work on them at home.
- Provide supporting video recording for guidance and customized Teaching Learning material.
- Prepare short You Tube videos which can be accessed on parents' smart phones. These can be shown to the children to reiterate and reinforce their learning activities.
- Prepare child specific physiotherapy videos demonstrating the exercise so that parents can be guided to do the same at home.
- Focus on health supplements, medical checkup and immunity boosting.

- Operational: The whole focus of the Prayas team was on keeping the cwsn and other children connected to schooling/education and ensuring that their family livelihood did not adversely effect on this part of their lives. Weak children were brought to school in small groups for individual guidance following Covid safety protocols.



- Educational: Educating the parents on following a home schedule, so that there is some routine in the child's life. Help them access videos on smart phones. These can be shown to the children to reinforce their learning activities. All the teachers worked very hard last year to ensure the completion of this exercise upto Class VIII. We have had to make accommodations and modifications in the teaching methods to cope. Online live classroom sessions are not possible for them. This was not be possible for all, but could be done for many. This was followed up by one to one phone calls with the teacher to clarify misunderstandings. Some students were called to school individually for special lessons.

- In the next step, the Teachers will be participating in a Worksheet making Workshop online, where they will be taught how to make meaningful worksheets for each the text books. This is the next step we propose to work on.
- Prepare child specific physiotherapy videos demonstrating the exercise so that parents can be guided to do the same at home.
- Teachers were granted permission to work from home and come to school individually to work individually with children, who had little access to smart phones or could not cope.

The present situation does not seem very promising and there is little hope of schools reopening in the near future. We keep planning ahead to see what else we can do and preparing worksheets for all individual lessons has been taken up after conducting a workshop to train them. This will help further in the assessment and better understanding. For cwsn we have made and provided customized Teaching Learning Material and training parents to work with them.

Details of Prayas Schools:

PRAYAS SCHOOLS

	JHALANA (Special Needs School)	RAJA PARK (Integrated School)	AMAGARH (Integrated School)	SANGANER (Integrated School)
Grades	A special classification system used.	Nursery to 8/Upper Primary	Nursery to 5/ Primary	Nursery to 5/ Primary
Post-Prayas	Students are either integrated into schools of mainstream society or rehabilitated by way of employment or self-employment.	Students are helped to enter mainstream schooling. Financial and academic support is provided where required.	Students attend the Raja Park school from Class VI onwards.	Students are helped with entering mainstream schooling. Financial and academic support is provided where required.

Name of Centre	Current Student Strength
RAJA PARK (Integrated School)	177
JHALANA (Special Needs School)	102
AMAGARH (Integrated School)	130
SANGANER (Integrated School)	153

No. of Children with Special Needs and Slow Learners							
Category	Amagarh	Sanganer	Rajapark	Jhalana	Home based	Govt. schools	Total
CWSN (Intellectually Disabled, Multiple Disabled, Hearing Impaired, Cerebral Palsy, Learning Disability)	18	7	40	105	32	71	273
Slow Learners	19			-			19

Reports from Ground Zero

Chaos, negativity and uncertainty, that's how we all started our session last year, shattered by the devastating stories all around and worry for our loved ones and their safety. Soon after the lockdown, we realized that we have to do something so as to keep the spirit and purpose of Prayas alive.

Resources were limited but efforts were not. Many of our children did not even have access to a smart phone. We gathered everything we had and started working towards realization of the promise that we won't let the situation overcome us. We started



working on a plan, that would be a ray of hope for our students, parents and members of Prayas family. It was not like a fairy tale but we were gradually moving and still making an attempt to motivate our

There's a never ending list of challenges we faced, while we we're still trying to keep everyone hopeful about the future, like no money to no home, no ration in the family to no medicines to treat the fragile and sometimes even no mobile to no network and many more. Every challenge we faced made us stronger and taught us that we're family and ready to conquer the situation and come out as better version of ourselves. We connected the needful ones to the right place where resources were available and kept on teaching students, the most neglected ones amid this havoc.

It is heart warming to see a smile on the faces after getting a video call from us reminding that they matter to us and they're not alone in this. We made a silent promise that we will all get through this together and won't leave anyone behind. We look forward to the day when we sail through the storm, a little battered no doubt but stronger in intent and spirit.

Project Coordinator, Prayas reports:

The COVID-19 pandemic impacted the mental health and wellbeing of every individual, specially the special needs children. Children remain confined to their homes during the pandemic, schools have been closed for over a year, they are unable to meet their friends, or play outdoors. As a result they have displayed temper tantrums, stress symptoms ,aggression and misbehaviour to vent out their frustration.

To help them cope with such situations, we have through the last one year been counselling and organizing interactive sessions for stressed parents and children helping them tide over the pandemic-induced challenges. We have learned to be more careful on precautions of covid protocols and best thing on adoption of virtual platform which helped to connect with teachers, children and parents in this pandemic situation. These are tough times but we are relentless and will not give up hope!

Psychologist, Prayas reports

Yes, it has been a very stressful time for children and parents because of various reasons like the children at home, lost jobs, financial issues, handling of cwsn and their tantrums, behaviour problems for 24 hours. However counselling and advise on working with them, suggestion of various methods of relieving stress have indeed been helpful.

Government School Intervention

At Prayas when we speak of Government School Intervention, we refer to our intervention in government schools of the community to promote Inclusion and facilitate the same, so the teachers working are encouraged to follow it. Our interns from abroad are also encouraged to go and participate, and work with the children there.



Prayas recognizes and supports the right to inclusive education of all children and dignity on an equal basis with other children. UNCRPD, the RPWD Act and the RTE Act, are our guiding beacons. Our initiative of intervention by providing special educators to facilitate Inclusive education in 12 government primary schools for the last eleven years has been driven by this belief.

On 9th January 2021, we organized a “Milaap” program in the community grounds where cwsn, parents were and others were invited to inter mingle a, be sensitised and understand that there were others to whom they could each in times of need. The program was much appreciated. This was followed by a lunch sponsored by Prayas.

Prayas Resource Centre

is now in its fourteenth year. This two year diploma course in Special Education, Mental Retardation runs under the aegis of Rehabilitation Council of India, New Delhi and National Institute of Persons with Multiple Disabilities, Chennai. Over 300 Special educators, who have completed the course are working in different capacities for children with special needs. Apart from the regular course, our children get the added advantage of being exposed to and participate in our community programs first hand.



Prayas Home Base Program

In Prayas Home Base Program, our psychotherapists, social workers visit the cwsn at home. This type of practice comes with many advantages. The child who is unable to come to school gets the advantage of getting therapy at home and many a time be prepared to attend school with support. During the lockdown period our children enrolled in this program were sent videos and the connect with our therapist was maintained. Parents also got trained to participate in the child's therapy.



Empowerment of Teachers and Special Educators

The Covid period gave us an opportunity to empower our teachers and learn how to make videos related to their lessons to make the learning easier for the children at home. This helped us encourage teachers to move from a traditional, lecture-based approach to more interactive, learner-centered pedagogies

Community Outreach

Community outreach gives back to the community. When the community needs these services to help build a better life for themselves and for their children, we believe it is our duty to step in and help however we can. We are serving the community in the area of education, documentation, access to government beneficial schemes, health, cleanliness and skill development, community libraries for children etc. On 5th, 6th and 10th February Magic Shows were organised in the community (Rishi Galav Nagar, Sethi Colony etc.) and much enjoyed by all. Masks were distributed to CWSN and they were taught the proper use for them.



Statistics, related to community benefitting initiatives of Prayas team	Total No.
Cwsn admitted to Govt. schools	3
Cwsn in govt schools	71
Cwsn in Home base program	32
Escort Allowance	42
Escort Allowance (new applications)	43
Minority Scholarship	16
Regular children admitted to Govt. Schools	10
Aadhaar Cards	46
Janaadhaar Cards	47
Pension forms submitted	42
Birh Certificate Applications	2
Paalanhaar Yojana	3
Paalanhaar Yojana Renewal	8
Disability Certificates	16
Bank Accounts opened	48
Mool Niwas	23
Pan Card	11
UID	85
Astha Card	3
Caste Certificate	8
Food Allowance	5
Income Certificate	2
TLM distributed nto Govt School cwsn at home	90

Waiting for these golden days to return!



PRAYAS is Registered Under

Prayas has had the privilege of getting support from various national and international alliances in the course of its journey so far.

- Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, New Delhi
- Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI)
- Societies Registration Act, 1958 (Soc. Reg. No. 165/JPR/96-97)
- Foreign Contribution Regulation Act, 1976 Amended in 2010 (Reg. No 125560127)
- National Institute of Open Schooling
- Rajasthan Board of Secondary Education
- National Institute of Mentally Handicapped (NIMH), Secunderabad
- National Institute of Empowerment of persons with Disability (NIEMPD), Chennai

Hands That Are Helping Us : Wipro Cares, Vibha, U.S.A., ASHA For Education, U.S.A., WIPRO Cares, Bangalore, Genpact, Jaipur, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India, New Delhi, India, Deutsche Bank, Jaipur, India, Mr. Sachit Dhawan, New Delhi, India, Mr. Subhash Oberoi and Mr. Roshan, New Delhi, India, Many other individual local donors.

Hands That Have Helped Us : Child Rights and You (C.R.Y.), India, Jamshedji Tata Trust, Mumbai, Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, Mumbai, Government of Japan (New Delhi Embassy), Government of Rajasthan Education Trust, New Delhi, Mr. John and Mrs. Liz Robbins, U.K., Avtar Viridi Charitable Foundation, U.K., Genpact, Global Fund For Children, Save The Children Fund, SBI Life Insurance.

Supporting Prayas

We are extremely thankful to all those who have supported the children of Prayas in cash, kind and spirit in the past and present. You can support the children by:

1. Donate: To provide monetary support, please refer to the details below.

You could also send a cheque in favour of PRAYAS VOCATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR MENTALLY HANDICAPPED to J-5A, Jhalana Institutional Area, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India. Alternatively, you can visit us at this address. You would be provided with a receipt for the same for tax exemption outlined in section 80(G) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 in India.

Indian Citizens (Indian Residents & Non-Indian Residents)

Account Holder's Name: PRAYAS VOCATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR MENTALLY HANDICAPPED
Account Number: 98150100000475
Bank's Name: Bank of Baroda
Location (City/Town): Jaipur
Branch IFSC Code: BARB0EXTNEH
Branch Name: IDS Extension Counter Branch, Jhalana Institutional Area, Jaipur

1. Sponsoring A Child: By sponsoring a child, you would be helping by covering the cost of the child's education and other-related needs. You would receive a brief profile and periodic updates of the child.
2. Volunteering: One can volunteer to spend time with children by way of teaching, games and activities, organizing field trips, etc.
3. You can help by purchasing products made in vocational classes by Prayas children.

Bank Details for Foreign Contribution

Account Holder's Name: PRAYAS VOCATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR MENTALLY HANDICAPPED
Account No. 40108917541(CURRENT ACCOUNT)
Account Holder's Bank: STATE BANK OF INDIA
Branch Code: 00691
Branch IFS Code: SBIN0000691
Swift Code: SBININBB104
Branch Name: FCRA CELL, 4th FLOOR, STATE BANK OF INDIA, NEW DELHI MAIN BRANCH,11, SANSAD MARG, NEW DELHI-110001

नन्हे कलम से

मेरी अद्भुत कर्मशाला

मन को प्यारी राग माला जग से न्यारी पाठशाला,
खाल-बाल की कंठमाला मेरी अद्भुत कर्म-शाला,
प्रांगण इसका है निराला, बनती इसके आंगन अंशुमाला,
भरती हृदय में सबके उजाला, जान से भरी है ग्रंथमाला,
मेरी अद्भुत कर्म-शाला, बालक इसकी बगिया के फूल,
बनके कली खिलते हर शाखा, मस्तिष्क की है आरोग्य शाला,
गुरु जैसे है रत्नमाला, मेरी अद्भुत कर्म-शाला ।।
सम्मान यहाँ पर बाल-बाला, जान पाते यहाँ निराला,
खुल जाता हर कठिनाई का ताला, ऐसी पावन पाठशाला,
मेरी अद्भुत कर्म-शाला, भावों की है अग्नि-शाला,
दुभावों की आयुष-शाला, कला की है अनुपम माला,
अंधियारे में करती उजियाली, मेरी अद्भुत कर्म शाला ।।
मेरे तो जीवन की आशा, तपती दुपहर में जैसे काई छाया,
हर ली मेरे मन की निराशा, जग से न्यारी पाठशाला,
मेरी अद्भुत कर्म-शाला ।

मुस्कान, कक्षा-IV



कोरोना से जंग में (समस्त कर्मवीरों को समर्पित कविता)

कोरोना से महा कहर से जूझ रहे श्रीमान जी, नमन आपको प्रियवर मन से, वन्दन बारम्बार जी ।
अपने कुशल प्रबंधन से दिल जीत लिया जी, सहयोगी समस्त प्रशासन को वन्दन बारम्बार जी ।
कोरोना का कहर बड़ा है, मच गया हाहाकार जी, आफत की इस कठिन घड़ी में आस भगवान जी ।
कोरोना के कर्मवीरों को, दिल से करे सलाम जी, भगवान इनको शक्ति देना, मिटा सके जंजाल
एक निवेदन हाथ जोड़कर, मरुधरा की जनता से, अब तो समझो घर में रहकर, जंग जीत लो आफत से ।



दूरियों से रहो सुरक्षित, बच जाओगे डंडो से, प्रहार करेगा कोरोना, यदि नहीं मानोगे मिलने से ।
नमन करे उन सब वीरों को, जो जूझ रहे, अपनी जान हथेली लेकर जीना सिखा रहे ।
सरकारों के मूल मंत्र को जीवन पथ से जोड़ रहे, हाथ जोड़कर विनयपूर्वक घर में रहना सीखा रहे ।
आओ करे प्रतिज्ञा मिलकर संघर्ष करे संकट से, सामाजिक दूरी अपनाकर परास्त करें तन से ।
राह कठिन पर हैं मुमकिन, चले दृढ़ संकल्प से, अनुशासन की पराकाष्ठा बिन, असंभव मुक्त होना इससे ।
उदंड हठीली जनता थी अब, कायल है श्रीमान जनिर्धन बेबस लाचारों की ज्योती किरण श्रीमान जी ।
अपनी कर्म कुशलता का तप, दिखा दिया श्रीमान जी, उन रणवीरों के रण कौशल को वन्दन बारम्बार जी ।
है मालिक तुमसे प्रार्थना, सबको सफल बना देना, निष्काम कर्म के पथिकों को, अपनी मंजिल पहुँचा देना ।
कोरोना के तप को हर कर, आरोग्य प्रकाशित कर देना, तन—मन से समाए हर गम को,
फिर से मुस्कान बना देना, फिर से मुस्कान बना देना ।

कनक कश्यप कक्षा – V

जब मैं नानी के घर गयी

जब मैं दो साल पहले नानी के घर गयी थी तो मुझे बहुत अच्छा लगा है, क्यों कि वहाँ पर बहुत अच्छी घूमने की जगह है लेकिन अबकी बार तो मुझे बहुत मजा आया क्योंकि वहाँ पर जादू वाला आया था। जहाँ जादू दिखाया जाता था वह जगह नानी के घर के बिल्कुल पास थी तो हम सब रात में जादू करने वाले लोगों के पास जाकर उनसे बातें करते, उनके कपड़े, जूते, बाल, मुँह पहन कर और अपने चहरे पर लगा-लगा कर देखने पर बड़ा मजा आता



था। अब तो हम रोज सवेरे जल्दी उठ जाते और जादू वालों के पास खेलने पहुँच जाते।

एक दिन मम्मी ने कहा 'अब अपने घर चलेगें तो मुझे बहुत बुरा लगा क्यों कि पता ही नहीं चला कि एक महीना कब पूरा हो गया।'

पलक कक्षा – IV

जलमहल में पिकनिक

पिछले साल ईद के बाद में घूमने, पिकनिक मनाने अपने मम्मी, पापा, दादी व भाई के साथ जलमहल गयी। वहाँ उस दिन बहुत भीड़ थी लेकिन मुझे बड़ा अच्छा लग रहा था। थोड़ी देर में वहाँ और भी बच्चे आये थे उनके साथ पकड़म-पकड़म खेल खेला। थोड़ी देर बाद फिर हमने खाना खाया और वहाँ आइसक्रीम वाले भैया से आइसक्रीम भी खरीदी और सबने खाई।



वहाँ बहुत सारे खिलौने वाले जैसे गुब्बारे, गुड़िया, पिस्तौल, लट्टू वाले आये थे पापा ने मुझे गुड़िया व गुब्बारा दिलाया फिर हमने उससे खेला। बहुत मजा आया। शाम होने लगी थी इसलिए हम वापस घर आने के लिए वहाँ से चल दिये।

श्रयान कक्षा– V

Members of Executive Committee



Dr. Shail Choyal, Chairman,
PhD in Drawing and Painting,
Retd. Professor Sukhadiya University,
Udaipur, Rajasthan.



Mr. R.K. Mohla, Honorary Secretary
Retired C.E.O Rajasthan Patrika,
(Leading news daily in Rajasthan India.)



Mr. Sanjay Jain, Treasurer
Businessman, Philanthropist



Ms. Seema Singh, Member,
Graduate, Diploma in Fashion Designing,
Commercial Pilot, Social worker



Mrs. Ravindra Cheena, Member,
MA, Social Worker



Ms. Rashmi Chandra, Member,
MBA, Social Worker



Mr. K.P. Singh, Member,
Engineer, Social Worker

PRODUCTS MADE BY PRAYAS CWSN UNDER SHELTER WORKSHOP





SCHOOL IS FUN AT PRAYAS

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