



**Pratham** Council for Vulnerable Children  
Every Child's Rights Protected, Every Child in School & Learning Well

# ANNUAL REPORT

**2022-23**

## ABOUT PRATHAM

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### PRATHAM

Pratham started in Mumbai in 1994 with the vision and mission of "Every Child in School and Learning Well". In the early years, Pratham's area of work was Mumbai; now it is spread across India. Initially, Pratham catered exclusively to children in urban areas, but now works on a large scale in rural areas across India. From being a service delivery organisation, Pratham has evolved to be an innovator of methods of large-scale delivery. To support the growth and needs of the rural and urban programs, the continuous development of teaching learning approaches, methods and materials as well as training are

### PCVC

Pratham Council for Vulnerable Children (PCVC) serves as the Child Rights and Protection wing of Pratham, established in the year 2000, with the aim of "Every Child's Rights Protected, Every Child in School and Learning Well." Initially PVC started as an outreach program in the urban slum communities of Mumbai, responding to the needs of children belonging to underserved communities emphasizing on a specific segment of out of school and working children. Today, PCVC has grown from being an organization focused on working with child labourers, to a Rights-based and Resource organization, working on protection and safeguarding rights of children.



## DIRECTOR'S DESK



Following our motto of '***Every child matters,***' we reached out to the most unreached children this year as well. This year, in addition to our work in prevention, rescue, and repatriation, we concentrated on adolescent groups to be the change agents in their communities. This year through our initiatives the adolescents not only got a platform to express their views but also bring about a change through their actions in the community. We conducted several initiatives, awareness drives, and collaborated closely with government stakeholders in all states, based on the needs of the geography. We were instrumental in establishing a child protection system in numerous areas. I would like to thank all the PCVC team members who have always gone above and beyond to reach to every child in need. Owing to their relentless effort we could implement the different projects and new initiatives on the ground. This would not have been possible without our well-wishers, partners and supporters' trust in us. We would thus like to extend our gratitude to all of them, as well as all our Government Officials who supported us and our NGO partners. Last but not the least, a big thank you to all our children who keep giving us hope to continue our work overcoming obstacles that come our way.

**KISHOR BHAMRE**

Director



## THE YEAR AT A GLANCE

07.

*STATES- National Presence*

18

*Districts covered*

54

*Blocks covered*

1,17,296

*Children covered this year*

739

*Children covered under sponsorship*

706

*Children covered through Multiple Activity Centres*





## THE YEAR AT A GLANCE

593

*Children rescued from work*

857

*Families covered under the Family Assistance Program*

7,98,259

*Adults covered through direct intervention*

## PCVC'S PRESENCE

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## NATIONAL SNAPSHOT

- Through child right and protection sessions as part of the prevention activities this year PCVC team reached out to 1,17,296 children in schools and communities.
- Through adolescent empowerment initiative created the cadre of 10,384 adolescent girls who are the voices of change on ground to talk about gender equality, importance of education and safety of children from harmful practices like child labour, child marriage and trafficking.
- 593 children were rescued from child labour and repatriated back with their families, out of these 34 children were placed in Child Care Institutes. Complex additions, mixed and higher, adding colour. a more wholistic.





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## ***ANDHRA PRADESH AND TELANGANA STATE***

***34962 CHILDREN & 30,676 ADULTS***



## APTS

1.

The team organized a training program Aanganwadi teachers for their sensitization regarding children with special, on child rights, safety, education. The aim of this session was to create awareness the on different issues pertaining to children as well as capacity building of the teachers. The information that the teachers received through these trainings would then be passed onto parents in the communities by them. The team was also involved into the highest matter that can be found in

2.

The team participated in 'operation Swechha'. Under this the team conducted surveys to see where all children were found working and along with the labour department the team rescued 44 children who weren't natives of the state.



## APTS

3.

The team organized a training program of police officers for their sensitization regarding children with special, on child rights, safety, education. The aim of this session was to create awareness on different issues pertaining to children. The team also shared with them about the work the organization does as well as Child Line and the role they both play in safeguarding a child.

4.

The team was able to raise 11 lakh INR with the help of a local MLA towards the treatment of a child with special needs who needed a Cochlear implant surgery.

**BIHAR**

**2,01,364 CHILDREN & 4,30,246 ADULTS**





## BIHAR

1.

The CLTS is a portal is an initiative of the Bihar government to keep track of rescued child labour for their proper rehabilitation. The team has directly ensured 244 children's data and documentation has been uploaded to the portal and that they are receiving the allotted money. There are many more children whose documents have been verified by the team and been uploaded to the portal, they are in line to receive their benefits. To give a platform for child and adolescents to speak the Bal Darbar" was organized by the Social Welfare Department of the Government of Bihar and UNICEF Bihar in an effort to recognize children and girls and adolescent girls for two consecutive years during the week of November 14, 2022 Children's Day to November 20, 2022 World Children's Day. The team reached out to 5,000 plus children directly during this program in the two years.

2.

Project 'UDAAN', an collaboration between UNICEF and three partners including Pratham was implemented across 22 districts in Bihar. Pratham was implementing and monitoring the work in 7 districts. Children and Action Aid, got into a partnership with UNICEF to implement a project in Bihar. The project, 'Udaan -Strengthening systems response to Child Protection with focus on child marriage / labour / children on the move with convergent plans for quality protection services and prevention of violence against children' focuses on Child Protection touching base on issues on child labour, trafficking, child marriage, education, violence and abuse in 22 districts of Bihar. Under the project the teams worked across 210 panchayats, in 42 blocks across the 7 districts. Here in they worked closely with stakeholders such as the Labour Department, Police force, National border forces (of both India and Nepal), communities, schools, PRI members and other front line functionaries.

## BIHAR

3.

Under a UNICEF project, 'Empowering Girls to Lead the Way for Education in Bihar' our team is directly working in Shergatti district covering 86 villages in 9 panchayats across the district. The project aims are empowering girls. The team is working closely with Mahadalit population of the district and bridging the exiting gap between the children and education system,

4.

Through tracking at the exit/entry points such as bus stations, railway stations and the premises around these two spots is where the team is actively monitoring the movement of children in and out of the city through this bus depot. They counsel the children they find travelling alone or with an adult(s) for the purpose of work and convince them to go back home. Specific trains commuting between stations in Bihar and Mumbai/ Gujarat/ Rajasthan are tracked. Children who are seen moving out are spoken with and counselled to go back home. Their details are taken down, and after a week of the interactions the teams conduct home visits for the children to ensure they haven't migrated, and connect them to schools and/or schemes depending on the age and vulnerability of the child.



## BIHAR

5.

A Child Protection Committee (CPC) is a community based group including duty bearers, who are primarily responsible for creating and promoting a child friendly and safe community environment wherein all children's wellbeing, safety and rights are protected. CPCs are responsible for monitoring, reporting and responding to the issues of child protection in the community. It is a community based monitoring system in creating safety net for our children at the grass-root level. The objective is to build community awareness and consciousness on child rights and promoting behavior change among parents and community in the best interest of the child. The CPCs are at two levels, one at the village level and second at the block/ward level. The team was engaged in forming the CPCs at block and panchayat level during the tenure of the project. A total of 462 CPCs (P-CPC -414, B- CPC – 48) were formed across our catchment area.

6.

During our work on the field we came across many youth who were not in school and were looking for opportunities to learn a skill and make an earning. Such youth who were above 17years 6 months of age, were connected with the different vocational training courses such as plumbing, automobile repair, hospitality etc. Pratham has its own skilling centres and these youth were admission to these courses at no cost and were also moulded so as to be able to secure jobs. Around 30 youth, including girls have completed their courses and started working. The youth from Bihar are now working across the nation, some are placed in north Indian states such as Haryana, Delhi; some in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh in the South while some in Gujarat.



**GUJARAT**

**58,361 CHILDREN & 83,998 ADULTS**





# GUJARAT

1.

At Navinagri , Valsad, the team conducted open house activities in which various sports activities were conducted with the children, various competitive activities were also conducted by the team and the children participated enthusiastically. And the team was taught the activities that the children liked and played in the school. The children were also given information on their safety and their issues were discussed. And proper guidance was given to the team. This was followed by a discussion with the children on the issue of harassment in their area and how to resolve it.

2.

Child line se dosti campaign activities were carried out from 14th November to 21 st November 2022. During the campaign period the teams carried out different activities such as the team visited the homeless shelter and conducted sessions on child rights and safety as well as some activities were conducted with the children. School awareness was done, the teams visited the Municipal hospital and shared information with the staff about Pratham and ChildLine. The teams also visited two Government homes where in they took sessions with the children and played games and carried out arts & crafts activities with them.



## GUJARAT

3.

Outreach activities were undertaken by the Valsad Pratham Child Line Team in Valsad and Kaprada, Dharampu, Vapi, and Parditalukas including market, village, basti, depot, station, PHC, anganwadi, schools, etc. Door-to-door pamphlet distribution, distribution in shops, community meetings were conducted where in people were given information schemes and loans.

4.

about ChildLine and child rights. Sessions with Kishori groups were done. This sessions were interactive. The team explained to them about ones where in both the team the helpline number 1098 and also members as well as girls would encourage people to try calling the participate and take sessions. The helpline number. There was a way girls were given information on how we can help to child marriage, exploitation. The team spoke with them about standing up for the right, what kind of questions they should ask, who should they turn to when in need of help and the different ways the Government helps girls through its schemes and loans.



**MAHARASHTRA**

**71,574 CHILDREN & 1,46,875 ADULTS**



# MAHARASHTRA

1.

Train tracking is one of the major direct interventions of the team in the city. A lot of children are found moving into and out of the city via trains. The teams have tracked trains coming into the city and in the past year 392 children were identified and intervention was done. Some of the children were found begging in and around the railway premises while some were potential child labourers. There was a small number of children who were missing and found.

2.

The team successfully conducted the training of Aanganwadi Sevikas. This training was on gender equality and 200 sevika's were reached out too. We are sure that our new ambassadors of child rights will work hard to ensure the protective environment for every child in their respective villages.



## MAHARASHTRA

3.

Under our partnership with Cipla in this financial year we held 16 programs where in 579 children who are covered under the sponsorship program and their family members interacted with our as well as Cipla team members. Under this who are covered under the sponsorship program and their family members interacted with our as well as Cipla team members. Under this children who are covered under the sponsorship program and their family members interacted with our as well as Cipla team members. Under this who are

4.

covered under the sponsorship We are running two Multiple program and their family Activity Centres (MACs), both in members interacted with our Govandi, for the children in the as well as Cipla team members. community. This centre caters to Under this partnership 50 children in pre-school, children who children from Patalganga and are out of school, as well as in Khalapur were brought to school. In the centre the teams Nehru Science Centre, Mumbai conduct different child rights bases for an exposure visit. sessions, arts and crafts based activities, inculcate in them good habits and discipline, enabling them to read and write and pushing them to think critically. Through this centers we aim to help children enter and remain in schools.

**RAJASTHAN**

**9,029 CHILDREN & 54,909 ADULTS**



## RAJASTHAN

1.

We are running these two Multiple Activity Centres (MACs), one in Machda and other in Kalakar community, for the children in these communities. This centre's cater to children in pre-school, children who are out of school, as well as in school. In the centre the teams shall conduct different child rights bases sessions, arts and crafts based activities, inculcate in them good habits and discipline, enabling them to read and write and pushing them to think critically. Through this centers we aim to help children enter and remain in schools.

2.

On 'World Day Against Child Labour' the team conducted awareness session at major junctions through the city such as bus depot, railway station and tourist spots. They spread awareness on child safety, trafficking, and impornace of education. The team also held a signature campaign that day and reached out to 10,000 plus people through this campaign.



## RAJASTHAN

3.

The team conducted a poster campaign in 8 communities. Posters of education, child safety, child trafficking and similar such posters pertaining to child protection were pasted and show cased in the communities. The team also took part in the child labour and child beggars rescue campaign initiated by the Government.

4.

For monitoring the exit-entry points where we see a large number of children moving around, the team has set up a child rights protection desk at the Bus depot in the middle of the city, This year the team intervened 71 cases. This depot is a main junction where in people enter and exit the city. Many a times the team has seen, stopped and counselled, accompanied or alone, who are seen moving out for work. The team also works closely with the auto driver's union as well as the bus drivers/conductors to spread awareness and with their aid also stop children who are seen migrating.

**UTTAR PRADESH**

**50,113 CHILDREN & 51,555 ADULTS**





## UTTAR PRADESH

1.

Under our exit/entry point intervention we run a child rights protection desk at the Bahraich bus depot. Strong prevention and vigilance at source end will contribute to not only stopping children but also will serve as large awareness building activity at the exit points. The desk which is setup everyday helps monitor the movement of children, accompanied or unaccompanied. The team spoke with the children, counselled them and carried out home visits. Many of these children who were sent back from the bus depot were later connected to the education organization.

2.

On 'World Day Against Child Labour' the team conducted awareness session at major junctions through the city such as bus depot, railway station and tourist spots. They spread awareness on child safety, trafficking, and importance of education. The team also held a signature campaign that day and reached out to 10,000 plus people through this campaign.



## UTTAR PRADESH

3.

The team carried out Labour Registration for migrant labourers . 150 people were registered. The team also conducted follow up post registration to ensure that the people were receiving benefits and are able to secure jobs for themselves.

4.

We are running two Multiple Activity Centres (MAC), in Lucknow city, for the children in the community. This centre caters to children in pre- school, children who are out of school, as well as in school. In the centre the teams conduct different child rights bases sessions, arts and crafts based activities, inculcate in them good habits and discipline, enabling them to read and write and pushing them to think critically. Through this centers we aim to help children enter and remain in schools.

## SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES/PROGRAMS

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### SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

To help connect children who are out of school or at a higher risk of dropping out to the education net, PCVC has a sponsorship program in place which help children get access to education and build a bright future for themselves. These sponsorship programs are aimed at giving every child the access to the right of education and a happy childhood that they deserve. Children are meant to be in schools learning and not in factories working. All the different sponsorship programs offered are aimed to give children access to education. Under the programs children are enrolled in to their nearest Government school. Along with helping the child enrol in school, the tuition fees, transport money, and purchase of any educational material is done. The child's uniform and any other educational related expenditure is covered under these programs. Monitoring of a child under the Sponsorship Program is done with the help of tools such as the follow-up card that has been created for this purpose. Home visits and School visits are carried out by the team to assess a child's performance and development in school. Apart from this, the records will also contain any other achievements. All the relevant information of a child such as the extra-curricular activities he/she has been a part of, leave taken and reasons for the same, etc. are taken note of. This year 739 children are covered under the different sponsorship programs. These children are covered under the program till they achieve at least one milestone such as 10th board exams or 12th board exams. In this financial year 6 of our children have cleared their 10th board exams with flying numbers. Under our partnership with Cipla in this financial year we held 1 programs where in 41 children who are covered under the sponsorship program and their family members interacted with our as well as Cipla team members in Uttar Pradesh



## SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES/PROGRAMS

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### SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM - 931 CHILDREN STATE WISE BREAKUP

State	City/Block	Coverage under Sponsorship
Bihar	Patna	63
Maharashtra	Mumbai & Mumbai Metropolitan Area	615
Rajasthan	Jaipur	75
Telangana	Telangana	35
Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	143

## SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES/PROGRAMS

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### WORKING WITH ADOLESCENTS

Adolescent females are particularly vulnerable because of pernicious social norms that limit their freedom of movement and prevent them from making choices that will affect their employment, education, marriage, and interpersonal connections. According to the UNICEF report of 2021, a substantial number of females leave school before completing their secondary education because of domestic duties, marriage, child labour, the low relevance of education for job and employability, the distance to school, and/or a lack of sanitary facilities at the school. Girls' lives are drastically disrupted by menstruation in many nations. For these adolescents to have access to possibilities for a better future, cooperation is essential. This year also we have focused on working with adolescents across of geographies. Around 350 Kishori-kishor groups covering 600 adolescents, have been formed in many of our intervention areas. These groups gather on a regular basis to discuss with the team and among themselves all matters concerning children and child protection. They participate in sessions on child safety, child rights, child marriage, menstrual hygiene management, and career advice. The group is constituted in such a way that it can function independently. Giving adolescents the responsibility of ensuring that all children in their village attend school in order to engage them in their communities and give them a sense of accountability and belonging. Giving them financial literacy training to educate them the principles of personal finance was also done. During the last year 109 irregular children were enrolled to schools by the girls from the adolescent groups. Also many of these girls have used the opportunity at Baal Darbar platform to raise issues pertaining to child safety and their village in front of stakeholders.



# WORKING WITH ADOLESCENTS



## SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES/PROGRAMS

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### EXPOSURE VISIT

PCVC works with children to raise awareness and assist them in exercising their rights through the formation of Children's Clubs and Kishori Samoochas (Adolescent Girls Groups). The team encourages the children to exercise their right to participate in these organisations. These youngsters work within their communities to raise awareness about child rights, child protection, the value of education, hygiene, and other issues that affect them, their classmates, and their villages and communities. PCVC felt driven to thus prepare an exposure visit for the adolescents from the blocks who had never had the opportunity to travel outside of their villages. This exposure visit was intended to be a unique experience for the teenagers, one in which they would step outside of their familiar surroundings, interact with, and learn from other adolescents their own age, and see adolescents being made to work (things they had heard only in sessions). The entire trip gives the 18 adolescents something new to experience, from the travel to the various climates and regions. During the week long visit the adolescents got an opportunity to interact with the Police department in the city, they spoke with the Child Welfare Officer. The adolescents then visited factories where in bags, belts and other items are made and where in many children were rescued by the organization. The group got a chance to visit the MAC's and see how classes are conducted there. The group also got an opportunity to meet with renowned politician Mr. Sharad Pawar where in they shared with him the different activities they as adolescent groups had taken up in their village to help safeguard their rights. The group also got an opportunity to visit different tourist spots in the city and experience the local food. Adding to these highlights was the flight back that all the adolescents took to their state. For all this was a first time experience, seeing an airport, sitting in a flight.



## EXPOSURE VISIT



## SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES/PROGRAMS

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### FAMILY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

One of our initiatives that was initiated after COVID as a need-based intervention was the Family Assistance Project. Due to the effects this programme has had on the ground over the last three years, it has now been incorporated into the organization's main rehabilitation programme. There was a need to work with families of rescued child labour, kids with special needs, and households whose young girls were about to get married off in addition to the most marginalised families. Working with families whose children dropped out from school was also a priority, primarily to ensure that, while the family is attempting to make a living for themselves, the children are enrolled in school and receiving access to education, a right to which they are entitled. To ensure that a child attends school, it is crucial that the family is financially stable. If the family's financial condition is weak, children are nearly always taken out of school and, in many cases, forced to help with housework or outside employment to earn some extra money. The families shall be provided with setup material such as 'gumtis, thelas' on which they can sell their choice of items and/or sewing machines. Through either of these two options the family shall be able to make a living and sustain themselves. Along with the thela/sewing machine families with young children would also receive nutrition kit every month for the next 12 months. In this financial year we were able to reach out to close to 857 families across our geographies. Majority of these families were women headed families. Thee teams will conduct follow up visits to see how the families are conducting their business and provide them with any help they need with planning/strategy for running their business. This model has helped connected children to school, give women on women headed families financial empowerment and has aided to stopping child marriages that would take place as economically backward families would look to marry of their girls young so as to pay little for the ceremony.



# FAMILY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM





# PHOTO CORNER



SESSIONS WITH MOTHER'S GROUP & ANGANWADI SEVIKAS





# PHOTO CORNER



## POSTER MAKING





# PHOTO CORNER



## AWARENESS IN COMMUNITY





# PHOTO CORNER



## AWARENESS THROUGH POSTERS/BANNERS



**THANK YOU**

