

# 2023: Need for re-structuring

Focus on local Anganwadis and public schools for better reach, impact and sustainability



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## Building an ecosystem of inclusive-ed in Karjat

### Need to invest in better infra and inclusive classroom practices

2022 felt a bit like the first year of founding Samaaveshi, though we were on the ground for three years with presence in 50+ villages of Karjat. In February 2022, we welcomed students back to the classroom after almost two years of school closure due to COVID-19. Ever since, we toiled with the zeal of a fresh start-up, to get our programmes back in shape and help students recover from the learning loss before they're promoted to a new grade in April.

In May 2022, we struggled to get approval from the Block Education Office, Karjat to start a one-year pilot with a local Zilla Parishad (ZP) school, to implement inclusive education. After engaging with 60 Anganwadis, this was a new chapter to transform a public primary school and engage with 28 students in Grades 1-3, including five children with disabilities.

By December 2022, as we celebrated our 4th Annual Day, we were struck with a bigger challenge when the landlord asked us to vacate the rented premises. This meant that we would have to shutdown or shift our four-room set-up comprising a kindergarten and a library.

Thus we decided to re-structure our programmes in 2023, to focus more on public institutions, and re-distribute our resources for better reach, impact and sustainability. Below are the proposed changes for 2023: 1) Shutdown our kindergarten and work closely with the three Anganwadis in Kashele village, 2) Build a new community library in a local ZP school and conduct regular workshops on inclusion, STEM, literacy and life skills, 3) Inclusive education support at two ZP schools, in Kashele and Kautewadi, 4) Training on inclusive-ed skills with a new batch of 20 Anganwadis, and refresher training with previous 80 Anganwadis.

**Support one child's education at Samaaveshi**  
(Rs 6,000 per annum/get 80G tax exemption):

**Click here to donate:**  
[www.Samaaveshi.org/Donate](http://www.Samaaveshi.org/Donate)

## Education post-COVID: Lessons learnt as early-stage nonprofit

### Need for increased engagement with parents

It's been nearly a year since we switched from online or home-based to classroom-based learning with our students. Below are the key lessons learnt:

- 1. Integrate social-emotional learning (SEL):** use of play, stories and creative arts; group activities; and focus on building positive relationships for improved well-being.
- 2. Parents and the community:** they must be made equal partners in a child's learning through events & meetings.
- 3. Use of local resources:** improves affordability and classroom engagement, and helps contextual learning.
- 4. Technology and innovation:** offers learning through personalization, and fosters research and exploration.
- 5. Encourage students to self-study:** to instill a sense of ownership and autonomy; and improve self-esteem.



## Ways to improve attendance and quality of education in ZP schools

### Insights from six months' partnership

It's been six months since Samaaveshi started a 'Zilla Parishad (ZP) School Inclusive-ed Support' programme with a ZP school in Kashele village, to facilitate inclusive-ed for Grades 1-3, comprising 28 students including five children with disabilities.

Below are our **key learning and insights** on improving daily attendance and quality of education in ZP schools:

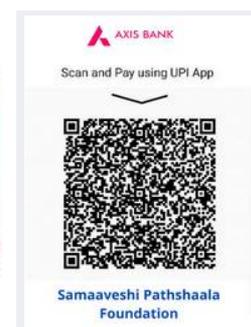
- 1. Teacher-training on classroom pedagogy & innovation*
- 2. Invest in age-appropriate in/outdoor play resources*
- 3. Continuous interaction with parents & community*
- 4. Organize regular play/arts/sports and special events*
- 5. Better school and classroom infrastructure.*

## APPEAL: Help Samaaveshi acquire a school van (Cost = Rs 7 lakh)

Samaaveshi is in urgent need of a school van (Suzuki EECO worth Rs 7 lakh) to provide regular travel/mobility support to 12-15 children with disabilities from remote villages of Karjat, without public transport.

With a school van, these children will have continued access to education, medical treatment and therapy services. Besides, this vehicle will help transport special educators and medical professionals, to support our programmes and deliver quality inclusive education.

Click here for a detailed proposal on school van 



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