

# Reflections

## ANNUAL REPORT

[ 2004 -05 ]



### **Institute of Juvenile Justice**

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## About Prayas

The genesis of Prayas Juvenile Aid Centre (JAC) can be traced back to a devastating fire that rocked Jahangirpuri, one of the biggest slums in Delhi in the year 1988. The fire had caused large-scale physical devastation but the worst outcome had been the situations of shock, trauma and the feeling of complete destitution lingering in the minds of the people. Children for obvious reasons had been the worst victims of this calamity. Delhi police responded with emergency services for reorganizing and rebuilding the shattered lives of these children. This pioneering effort led to the birth of an organization and Prayas was born in the year 1988. The organization got registered as a society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. During the same period two other organizations joined hands with Prayas viz. Delhi School of Social Work and erstwhile Shramik Vidyapeeth.

Starting its activities in a tiny one-room structure by providing non-formal education to 25 children. Today Prayas operates more than 12 different projects in various slum communities of Delhi thus serving around 50, 000 neglected, street and working children in Delhi itself. Similar projects are now operating in the six states of the country to provide basic needs care facilities and opportunities for holistic development of the child.

This long journey has remained beset with numerous challenges but with the passage of time this small welfare agency serving the children evolved into a fairly large sized voluntary agency running multiple programmes for the empowerment of the marginalized children, youth and women.

Today most of its projects function with the cooperation of the communities it serves. The single common denominator in the entire process has been its focus on development of: ***‘Children in Need for Care and Protection’***.

### Mission

A humanitarian, gender-sensitive and child-focused development organization, Prayas aims at restoring the lost childhood of neglected ,street and working children. Its mission therefore is to help them fulfill their basic needs. Prayas’ strength lies in its capacity to network with the government as well as other NGOs in the field. In this context, it has been able to participate with the government at the policy and advocacy levels. It also maintains close links with NGOs working in the field of child rights, child labour, juvenile justice and other such related issues.

In restoring the childhood of neglected and exploited children it is vital to remember that children cannot defend themselves like adults against various adversities inherent in an exploitative social milieu, rooted in ‘survival of the fittest’. Prayas also believes that community participation in all such programs is an absolute must.

### Objectives

As an agency concerned with the protection and development of children and implementing programmes for them, Prayas operates with the following broad objectives:

- Undertaking welfare programs for the, care, protection and development of disadvantaged children, youth and women

- Promoting and organizing meaningful educational programs for children
- Running vocational training programs and organizing Self – Help Groups as part of economic empowerment of these disadvantaged groups and the communities to which they belong
- Organizing basic health, nutritional and medical services including health awareness programs for children
- Developing recreational and library facilities for its target audience
- Offering counseling and psychological support
- Promoting measures for correction/ rehabilitation of juvenile offenders and neglected children
- Running model home for children in need of institutional care and protection

Besides the above the organization has been engaged in creating model practices for child protection, elimination of child labour and evolving a system of social mobilization and promotion of community-owned initiatives besides policy change and advocacy through its Institute of Juvenile Justice. The institute organizes training programmes, workshops, national and regional consultations on Juvenile Justice besides issues of child rights, child trafficking, etc with the following objectives:

- Influencing policy changes in the Juvenile Justice System in terms of the best interests of the child and symbiotic relationship between the needs and rights of a child as envisaged under the various legal provisions
- Formulation of a replicable model for the elimination of child labour and child rights
- Creating a national level institution-cum-resource center for child rights and juvenile justice.
- Creating optimum resources for their well being and making the national child rights policies and commitments a reality

### **Legal Status**

Prayas is a registered ‘society’ under the Societies’ Registration Act, XXI of 1860 No. S-20291 dated August 29, 1989. To foster its growth and to specialize in vocational education, Prayas JAC set-up a Jan Shikshan Sansthan Prayas (JSSP) registered under the Indian Societies Act, 1860 vide registration No. 37213 of 2000.

Prayas has been given recognition under Section-6(I) of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India No. II/21022/83/59/93-FCRA-III dated Dec.20, 1993 (Registration No. 231650677) for receiving foreign contributions.

It has been granted registration under section-80(G) (5)(vi) of the income Tax Act, 1961 by the Director of income Tax (Exemptions), New Delhi NO. DIT (EXEMPT)/P-109/91/95-96/1170. The Office of the Commissioner of Income Tax (Computer Operations) has also been issued a Permanent Account Number (PAN) AAATPO449E.

Prayas is recognized as a ‘Fit Institution’ under Sub-section (II) of Section-2 of the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 read with Rules 34 and 35 of Juvenile Justice (Delhi) Rules, 1987 vide Notification number F6 (13) DSW/DDCW/96-97 dated June 6, 1997, of Directorate of Social Welfare, Govt. of NCT, Delhi. (Formerly run under the control and guidance of Directorate

of Social Welfare, Delhi Administration Prayas Observation Home for Boys is now being managed entirely by Prayas with financial support provided by the Delhi Government. This arrangement conforms to the JJ Act, 2000 whereby Prayas qualifies as a *'Fit Institution'* to run such a home under the Act

## Geographical Coverage



## **Thematic Issues and Interventions Programmes**

Prayas intervention programmes are focused on the following theme areas:

- Child Protection – Child Trafficking, Juvenile Justice, Child Labour and Child Abuse
- Rescue, social integration and rehabilitation of children
- Education as tool for Empowerment
- Action Research and Documentation on child protection, child rights, child labour, child trafficking, HIV/ AIDS and alternative education issues
- Institutional building
- People's participation (Children, Youth & Women)
- Empowerment of the marginalized youth and women
- Disaster Risk Management
- Policy advocacy, support and information dissemination
- Training and development
- Capacity building of smaller NGOs
- Urban poverty and livelihood
- Resource mobilization and social marketing

### **Institute of Juvenile Justice**

The Institute of Juvenile Justice (IJJ), is the apex unit of Prayas established to serve as a resource center at the national level to pursue developmental goals related to children's rights and juvenile justice. IJJ is essentially an action-based research and documentation center to focus upon Child Protection issues of Juvenile Justice, Child Rights, Child Labour, Child Trafficking and other child related issues. It directly serves different slums of Delhi and supervises projects in the seven states of the country including Delhi, in support with the donors, government institutions and the corporate.

The organization has been able to make meaningful contributions to national and international policy dialogues on issues of child labour and child protection and even established a good practice model through grass roots programmes. It has proved to be an agency, meeting explicit needs of the voluntary sector, gap filling in the mainstream government systems and in the south Asian region. It has been able to evolve and establish models and best practices for demonstration and replication. This institute has assisted in expanding its mandate and taking up issues of vital importance concerning the right of the marginalized children, youth and women.

### **Protection Services for Children in Situations of Distress and Abuse**

Child Protection scenario in India is a matter of huge concern with 35 million children falling under the need of care and protection in India. The issue has attracted the attention of NGOs and the government, which has been striving to deal with the issue by way of framing of policies, legislations and effective programmes. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act, 2000 provides a comprehensive definition of a child in need of care and protection Working within the ambit of this Act Prayas strives to offer a 'protective cover' to children in need of care and protection. It includes the provision of alternative education, vocational

training, nutrition, recreation, shelter and effective legal interventions against abuse and exploitation and counseling for wayward children.

### **Addressing the problem of Child Labour**

While attempting to promote child development a major challenge comprises the existence and persistence of Child Labour. Realizing that the problem cannot be wished away just by enacting legislations, Prayas has adopted a multi-pronged approach to curb the menace of Child labour.

As a child rights based organization and its efforts to address the problem of child labour, Prayas has established cooperation's with the Government of India and other International agencies. Its efforts have been recognized, Prayas is now a member of the Delhi Child Labour Rehabilitation and Welfare Society, Government of NCT Delhi. Prayas program for the elimination of child labour has also been accredited by Indus Child Labour Project, a technical collaboration project of the Ministry of Labour and Department of Education, Government of India and the US State Department of Labour.

### **Strategies pursued in coping with child labour**

Prayas aims to create conditions conducive to phasing out child labour. These involve forming the essential infrastructure to stem the supply of child labour to the workplace and to enforce legislation effectively.

- Changing mindsets of the people to avoid viewing children as a cheap and exploitable source of labour;
- Assisting children in going to school;
- Enriching children's education with the inclusion of vocational training and cultural values.
- Introducing poverty alleviation programs to foster economic empowerment of the family especially women.
- Generating mass awareness against the employment of Child Labour.

Prayas works with a large number of child workers through its different projects in Delhi. Its Childline project has been instrumental in freeing many children from the yolk of child labour.

### **Anti-Trafficking and Rehabilitation Programme for Survivors of Trafficking**

Prayas has developed a process oriented model to respond to the needs of rescue and rehabilitation of trafficking survivors and created a special programme along with government and other bi-lateral agencies in Delhi, Bihar and Gujarat. This programme has been operational in these three source and destination points. It has been actively engaged in rescue and rehabilitation of the trafficking survivors and created programmes for economic rehabilitation and alternative livelihood opportunities. As part of its advocacy efforts, Prayas had organized a number of sensitization programme through children's workshops / painting competitions, state level workshop to sensitize law enforcement agencies and develop networking in Delhi and Bihar. In the last year, Prayas had successfully initiated a media campaign on human trafficking and launched a media award for best reporting of trafficking cases in India and conducted a regional media workshop.

In recognition of its contribution to combat human trafficking, the US State Department had mentioned Prayas as international best practice and its founder Secretary as a Hero to combat child trafficking in the Trafficking in Persons Report 2005.

Prayas Institute of Juvenile Justice had the opportunity to contribute to the south Asian consultation on migration and trafficking issues at the high level in Dhaka. The views expressed by Prayas had helped the respective governments of India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Nepal to take a resolution for recognition of the problem of unsafe child migration and vulnerabilities of trafficking and the need for safe migration and child protection policy.

### **Social Re-integration and rehabilitation through non-institutional approaches**

More than 100 girls in need of care and protection took shelter in the Girls shelter Home. In all 45 new cases were received, 39 girls were restored while 15 were Transferred to other suitable homes.

### **Initiatives for early intervention and repatriation of Girls**

- Home investigations of girls were done in Delhi, Jharkhand, Chattisgarh, West Bengal and Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra and were successfully restored to their homes by Prayas team with the assistance of local NGOs and the police.
- Six orphan girls in the age group of 8 – 12 years were transferred to Matrikunj, Dehradun as part of the long-term rehabilitation process.
- Victims of commercial sexual exploitation were referred for their rehabilitation to the Girls Shelter Home by Child Welfare Committee, Mumbai
- Children were also referred to the girls shelter home by the Child Welfare Committee and National Commission for Women
- Two shelter home girls were rehabilitated by getting those married and them in life. Follow – up is being done on a regular basis
- The slow learner girls were put into relevant schools for their proper development.

### **Empowering the Girl Child**

Activities were taken on wide scale providing opportunity for development and growth.

- Girls participated actively in the Painting competitions within and outside Prayas and won prizes for putting up excellent performance.
- New Sanchay Prayas, Amul outlets opened for economic rehabilitation of survivors of trafficking. This ambitious project is being carried in collaboration with IOM, Amul and Prayas.
- Self Defence training program organized for a month for the Girls of shelter home and those from the communities by the Crime against Women cell, Delhi Police.
- Shelter home girls attended the training workshop organized on women issues, child labour
- Girls were taken to for recreational- cum-informative trips to various places within Delhi and outside.
- Detailed investigation of Placement Agency employing girls for domestic labour conducted and children rescued for rehabilitation

- Follow-up of former girls were conducted at Karammarg, Matrikunj, Dehradoun, Arya Annathalya and Agra
- Legal and Counselling help provided to the family and the victims of abuse and sexual exploitation.

### **Counselling and Health facilities**

- Regular health checkup of children were conducted by doctors paying visit to the Girls Shelter Home. Children were also taken to hospitals and health care institutes outside for serious ailments.
- Group counseling and ice-breaking sessions were conducted for the adolescent girls of the home.

### **Achievements of the children**

It was time of rejoice for children as they had performed very well in the annual school examination. All the girls appearing in the annual school examination passed. While many of them performed well in extra – curricular activities there were number of them who scored high percentage in their annual school examination and received scholarship for their excellent performance.

### **Alternative system of rehabilitation with Railway Platform Children**

The issue of migration of children and their vulnerabilities has been an area of concern in all the child protection policies. Most of the urban children who are victims of exploitation, abuse, forced labour, trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation often migrate through railways and land up in the platforms as first destination point and subsequently get trapped with the vicious cycle of crime and exploitation. Even the railway authorities find these children as barriers to their commercial activities and they create law and order problem for them in the platforms. These children are one of those categories of children identified as targeted group under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2000. The Institute of Juvenile Justice took the initiative to engage the Railway Ministry, Railway Protection Force, Social Welfare Department and other stakeholders to find an alternative solution for these vulnerable children and thus the concept of railway children has been found a suitable option for their gradual and sequential shift from platforms to a dignified rehabilitation and social mainstreaming with natural / foster parents.

Railway Prayas Project (Shelter for Railway Children) at Lahori Gate, Delhi, was started in July 2004 with the purpose of providing shelter for homeless, street and working children, missing, orphan & children need of care and protection. The purpose behind the establishment of this Prayas Railway Children UK Project was its proximity to New Delhi Railway Station and Sadar Bazar Market, Hanuman Mandir, Connaught Place, Nizamuddin Railway Station, Old Delhi Railway Station where there was the largest concentration of street working, destitute and homeless children who are fighting for their livelihood on the street. Besides The Drop-in center was started with the purpose of providing care and protection to these children.

The Drop-in centre provides institutional support necessary for the wholesome development of street children, Railway Children particularly those without homes and family ties, and children especially vulnerable to abuse and exploitation. So the Prayas Railway Project aims

at covering a large number of street and working children who are homeless and have no access to basic facilities like education, health, shelter & reintegration with their family etc.

As a part of this project presently Prayas Juvenile Aid Center runs three contact points at the following different places in New Delhi area :-

- Prayas Drop-in Center, Hanuman Mandir, Connaught Place
- Prayas Drop-in-Center, Palika Hostel, Gole Market
- Prayas Shelter Home, Gali Ravi Das, Nabi Karim, New Delhi

These centers of Prayas has access to more than 150 street and working children everyday. The Prayas Health Service takes care of the health & counseling needs of the children at all the contact points. Efforts are being made to provide rights of the children to those children who work on the street sleep and lived on the street and sometimes die on the street unnoticed and uncared. Therefore, through these contact points, the basic facilitates such a non formal education, health care, referrals, recreation, vocation training, counseling, repatriation and rehabilitation etc. are provided to street and working children on the streets in New Delhi.

The street girls are also identified through the Railway Protection Force at New Delhi Railway Station after the opening Center of Railway Prayas Project. This project has also networking with the Railway Protection Force, Child line Delhi and Child Welfare Committee, Directorate of Social Welfare, Govt. of Delhi and rest of the Prayas Projects.

The Samastipur railway project was established in response to the ongoing pressure to take care of wayward children loitering on the Railway Platform and its vicinity. Most of these children belong to Bihar. For want of vitally needed support they fall prey to criminals who use them to pursue there nefarious ends.

### **Towards a more Humane Juvenile Justice System**

Prayas believes that ' the basic needs of the child are synonymous with his/her basic rights'. These include the right to (i) survival, (ii) protection, (iii) development and (iv) participation. We envisage a scenario where every child goes to school or receives a decent 'alternative education' and has the opportunity to satisfy his/ her basic needs for development. Prayas model encompasses the provision of Alternative Education followed by mainstreaming. Provision of mid-day meals, weekly health check-ups, vocational training, recreation, community awareness generation, counselling, special aids, and sponsorship are some of the salient features of the Prayas package.

### **Institutional Care**

Prayas also provides custodial and non-custodial services to neglected juveniles through its Children's Home for Boys, each at Delhi Gate and Jahangirpuri and a girls home at Tughlakabad. The Jahangirpuri Home is 'a round the clock drop-in centre' capable of serving 300 boys. It offers facilities for night stay, bathing arrangements, meals, recreation as well as first aid. In more ways than one, it signifies a kind of symbiosis between non – institutional and institutional care. Further a shelter home for the working girls has been started as a part of the rehabilitation process.

## **Advocacy-cum-Training Workshops**

To sensitize the stakeholders (Police, Social Welfare Department, health workers, civil society organizations and the community at large) through advocacy about the role of Juvenile Justice in responding to the emerging welfare needs of the children. To this end, Prayas has been using a wide variety of locally suited media to change public opinion and influence the policy makers to usher in vitally needed structural and functional changes. In pursuing this objective a number of training programs were also organized to sensitize the functionaries and the policy makers about the need of flexibility and prompt action in dealing with the problems of the neglected children. The participants included police officers and functionaries of homes run by the government and the NGOs. In this regard Juvenile Justice Unit conducted a series of State Level Workshop on Juvenile Justice in collaboration with NISD with NGO as well as Government functionaries in the cities of Chandigarh, Lucknow, Patna, Delhi, Goa, Mumbai, Assam

A training kit for the government functionaries involved in the implementation of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2000 was prepared for dissemination

## **Publications on Good Practices**

- Publication of a book on Juvenile Justice “child as offender, Victim and Witness” “Juvenile Justice and Rights of the Child” and “Institutionalized children: “Restoration & Reintegration”
- Compilation of Report of Seminar on ‘Juvenile Justice and Right to Education’ at Bagaha.
- Analysis of the Nepal Children’s Act and Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act of India
- Prayas experiments were widely documented with the support of the trainees coming for their block field placement in Juvenile Justice Unit.

In operational zing the legal component of Juvenile Justice Prayas had the privilege of being entrusted with the running of an Observation home for Boys OB Home at Delhi Gate. Viewing Prayas as a ‘fit institution’ under the JJ Act this home was transferred to it by the Delhi administration in the year 1997. Until date the major thrust of Prayas in running the OB home is to create a ‘true home’ with a humane ambience for the delinquent children referred to it under the JJ Act.

In view of the best practice adopted by Prayas in running of the custodial homes, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has decided to entrust the running of the home of delinquent children at Majnu Ka Tilla.

## **Shelter Home for Girls**

The Prayas shelter home for girls provides the basic facilities like shelter, food, alternative education, recreation, counselling, health care and vocational training to girls in the age group of 6-18 years. Most of the girls in the home come from extremely difficult backgrounds, including some from Delhi’s red light area. About half of the girls of this have been enabled to attend regular schools as part of their mainstreaming. The girls are also encouraged to take up the available vocational courses. Numbers of them have also been placed in boutiques and petrol pumps.

## **Night Shelters**

One of the major problems facing neglected children in any metropolis is the absence of a roof over the head. Not having a secure place to stay makes children more vulnerable to exploitation by anti-social elements. To tackle the problem Prayas took the initiative to establish night shelters (more appropriately 'drop-in-centres. Established in different parts of Delhi, six such units connote a step to reduce the risk of being exposed to anti-social activities. Overtime, some of the beneficiaries of these units also start benefiting from the other developmental activities of Prayas. The services in these night shelters include hygienic facility for night stay as well as meals and educational facilities especially for the young ones. Prayas runs night shelters at Hanuman Mandir, Nabi Karin Lahori Gate and Pallika house.

## **Child Assistance and Drop-in-Shelter facilities for Railway Children**

Prayas has set up a Shelter Home for railway based street children at Lahori Gate, New Delhi Railway Station in collaboration with the Railway Protection Force (RPF) for children migrating from the adjoining states of Delhi in search of good future and landing up in trouble.

## **Childline: Prayas as Nodal and Collaborative Agency**

As the nodal agency of Childline Prayas offers a variety of services aimed at rescue, care, protection, counselling and guidance, medical care, and rehabilitation including sponsorship restoration to their families wherever possible.

## **Crisis Intervention Center (CIC) for the Rape Victims**

Established on 09 January 2000 CIC primarily caters to cases of rape of minor girls in South District of Delhi. Such cases frequently need psychological support, shelter and rehabilitation. This pilot project is being run in collaboration with Delhi Commission for Women, Government of Delhi, Central Social Welfare Board and the Delhi Police. Starting from the criminal investigations of the act to the rehabilitation and counseling of the victim, CIC's working has been a source of in-depth learning for the sponsors of the programs.

## **Education: A Tool for Empowerment**

Prayas has been facilitating the education of the marginalized children through its widely acclaimed Alternative Education Program. The concept of alternative education followed by Prayas is a planned and deliberate programme for out of school children of 06-14 years of age that leads to learning outcomes comparable that of elementary schools. It is focused to ensure participation of all out-of-school children including children in need of care and protection, street children, migrant children, girl child, etc. Alternative education of Prayas works on the premise that the formal system may not address the needs of all children. This calls for a system, which adapts to the diversity of needs of street and working children.

Over a decade and half long experience of Prayas, it has successfully demonstrated that education is a means for child protection and one of the strategies to realize child rights. It has progressively developed a practical model synchronizing its needs and rights-based

perspective alongwith the rehabilitation component into focus i.e., vocationalization of education for children above 14 years.

The education program of Prayas grew manifolds in the reporting year. Prayas was allocated two prestigious education projects from the Department of Elementary Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India and the REACH India, a unit of USAID.

### **Alternative Education**

The establish practice of quality alternative education of Prayas has now been implemented in five states / UTs of India, Delhi, Bihar, Gujarat, Assam, and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. It has supported more than 10,000 children, mostly deprived of education in both rural and urban areas and ensured their reintegration and mainstreaming into schools. Today, Prayas is actively advocating the issues of child protection through alternative education as the framework for child rights in India which has been duly recognized by the Department of Elementary Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India and even acceded the governmental resources to Prayas for scaling up its intervention in areas of bridge courses and vocational education as extension of the programme into the national Sarva Shikshan Abhiyan (Education for All) programme for skill enhancement and mainstreaming of the marginalized children.

With the support of its partners, quality education upto elementary level is provided to the out of school and street and working children. These include the children working in the export factories, petty shops, vegetable sellers, maidservants etc. Some of the children look after their siblings at home and hence are not able to attend school. A large number of children are migrants and are not enrolled in school. Prayas are providing education, clothing, mid day meals, health facility, recreation, school admission and counseling. The centers are being run in several slum localities of Delhi. With the programme now being replicated in consonance to the local needs in Bihar, Gujarat, Assam, Haryana and Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

### **Empowering Children through Mainstreaming and Vocational Training**

To reinforce the educational program of Prayas further mainstreaming of children into formal school system is done on a large scale. This is done by enrolling the children into government formal schools and by providing an option of National Open School to those who cannot spare full time for studying further. Realizing that the formal education was not enough for achieving the desired benefits for the marginalized, vocational training was made an integral part of the Educational Program of Prayas. The vocational component has been incorporated with the aim of imparting skilled training to the children in numerous trades to make them economically independent.

### **Bridging of Gender Gaps**

Education of girl child has received special focus by providing relevant education and appropriate life skills to the adolescent girls as part of their economic rehabilitation process. Considering that girls are at a greater disadvantage, special care is made to meet their socio-economic and educational needs. Special scholarships are provided to girls and education for girls is free.

## **New Initiatives in Alternative Education**

To strengthen the educational program further two components of **Remedial and Bridge Courses** were started with the aim at ensuring that all the children in the age group of 11 to 14 are regularly attending school, designed for them. Promoting community ownership and community - school partnerships in effort to universalize elementary education in the locality.

	Male	Female	Total
<b>Remedial Education</b>	1518	1532	3050
<b>Bridge Courses</b>	752	698	1450
			4500

## **Partnering with Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) in Delhi**

Prayas is a partner of the Delhi Government in implementing the goals of SSA through Universalization of Elementary Education. Prayas is currently running 75 learning centres for out-of school children in the age group of 06-14 years.

## **Corporate and Individual Partnership fostering Quality Education to Children**

Adding yet another dimension to providing quality education to the urban and rural marginalized children and to effectively deal with the problem of out-of-school children, Prayas has joined hands with several corporate for establishing educational learning centres in the slums and communities in Delhi and its adjoining areas. Corporate partners like Ernst and Young, Titan, HSBC and Indian Oil has come forward to support the educational, health, nutritional and recreational activities for the children.

The *child sponsorship program* meant for the needy children has received a great boost with the support of the individual and corporate sponsors coming forward to assist the education of these children.

## **Promoting and nurturing talents of young children: Kalashrishti Prayas project**

It has been realized that the children on the streets and those who are at-risk situation, mostly migrants from traditional families have inherent talents and creativities. With NORAD assistance, these children have been provided a platform to exhibit these creativities through dramatics, paintings, arts, folk dances, music, etc.

A group of more than 500 children with extraordinary talents have formed a council for promotion of culture, named, Kalashrishti Prayas. This group of children have been regularly participating art and crafts session and even performed in many places. The idea of creating this group is to promote children to participate in their own way and support other groups of children for promotion of talents. Kalashrishti Prayas has been recognized and supported by professional groups and institutions, namely, National School of Drama, Delhi College of Arts (Delhi University), Sahitya Kala Parishad to name a few.

- 50 children from the SSA learning centers of Sangam Vihar taken to Garden of Five Senses, Mehrauli.

- Bal Mela (Children's Fair) was organized on 17 March 2005 by Prayas Institute of Juvenile Justice. In this programme painting competition was organized in five different locations and 750 children participated. Drawing / Recreational activities was undertaken at centers as part of the recreational activity.
- A rally on Education for All was taken out on 23 July 2004 in Sangam Vihar, south Delhi in which about 500-600 children participated with slogans on the importance of the education. The children held a cultural program. The community and the local police also participated with great enthusiasm.
- A 20-day long self – defence training programme was organized for the girls of the girls shelter home, Tughlakabad and the community children. The programme was organized by the Crime Against Women unit of Delhi Police in July, 2004

### **Capacity Building and Strengthening Grassroots Initiatives**

Prayas actively advocates the need for strengthening and building capacities of grassroots initiatives to bring about the much-desired change in the lives of children. Besides the individual efforts it has strived to build the capacities of grassroots NGOs to adapt and implement the replicable child protection model programmes especially the Alternative Education Model of Prayas for the benefit of larger society.

### **Prayas – REACH India Project**

The educational programme of Prayas meant for the marginalized children has received widespread acclaim from all directions in course of time. Its experience in imparting education in alternative mode received further recognition with the organization getting the approval of two education projects with far reaching impact. One of them sanctioned by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India is an experimental and innovative programme that seeks to strengthen the educational levels of children in the age group of 11 to 14 years. Another capacity building institutional cooperation programme with REACH India, an agency of USAID, is aimed at building the capacities of and network with less experienced small NGOs in Delhi for quality educational services to at-risk children.

### **Capacity-building of small NGOs in Delhi for replication of Prayas alternative education model**

Prayas has entered into a new pattern of strengthening other NGOs and offered its skills, expertise and good practices in the area of elementary education. The project is being taken up with at least six other child – centered NGOs in the NCT of Delhi, to cover nearly 3,900 vulnerable children over a period of three years. The achieve the desired result following efforts are being put in

- Adaptation of the approaches developed by Prayas and their implementation through networking with grass root NGOs.
- Capacity building in the areas of educational service management, quality enhancement and skill development.
- Main streaming of about 3,900 children through successful strategies with a large outreach.
- Advocacy and networking for goal achievement and impact in mainstreaming policies of the government.

- Capacity building of parents including children and their families, the local - self governance institutions, state and union government at the national level and the civil society at large

### **Action based Research and Documentation**

Action based research forms the core activity of the organization. While implementing the projects and programs we gather innumerable experiences and findings that have been helpful in guiding our programs. These findings besides being extremely useful in giving clarity to our own understanding of the concepts have also benefited us in developing replicable models. One of the most noteworthy outcome of these action based researches has been the meaningful use of the findings for influencing child rights policy, legislations and programmes. Recently it has initiated a National Study on Child Abuse in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Child Development with the support of UNICEF and Save the Children. The study is proposed to be undertaken in 13 states with a sample size of 12,447 child respondents and 4,500 adult stakeholders, the findings of which would be utilized for substantiating the proposed Offences against Children's' Bill. Some of the recent publications of the organization are:

- Compilation of in-house monthly reports of the project and programmes undertaken was done on regular basis.
- Prayas Reflections, the annual report of the year 2003-2004 was published and circulated.
- Publication of a book on Juvenile Justice "child as offender, victim and witness" "Juvenile Justice and Rights of the Child" and "Institutionalized children": "Restoration & Reintegration"
- Several papers on child labour, child abuse, child trafficking and juvenile justice prepared.

### **Policy Advocacy and Support Programmes (IEC)**

Prayas Institute of Juvenile Justice has been actively engaged in policy influence with state governments, central government and international governments with an aim to put children in the centre of development and governance.

### **Contribution to the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights Bill, 2005**

Active participation with significant contributions that added value to the various existing provisions and dimensions of the proposed National Commission for Protection of Child Rights Bill, 2005. Prayas was invited to share its view in the Standing Committee of the Parliament and the suggestions offered for amendment of the Bill was considered for incorporation in the final document.

### **Significant Contributions in the Drafting of Offence against Children Bill**

The Department of Women and Child Development, Government of India has been engaged in consultation with several NGOs, lawyers, academicians and social activists for drafting of special Act to address issues of violence against children and child abuse. Prayas has been made a member of the drafting Committee and it has been regularly participating in the drafting process and a group of experts from the organization have been officially made as

member for draft preparation of the Act. This Act is also part of the national study of the child abuse in India which is being executed by Prayas Institute of Juvenile Justice. This exercise is a follow-up of the international initiative of the UN Secretary General and global study on violence against children. The research study on child abuse is perhaps the biggest ever conducted worldwide.

Two issues of Parivartan, a newsletter of Prayas was published and circulated. It provides a glimpse of some of the major activities of the organization.

Prayas had produced two thematic documentaries on child labour and juvenile justice earlier with NORAD support. These documentaries are extensively used as training materials and for advocacy on policy issues.

As an outcome as seen as positive development, the national authority on broadcasting, the Prasar Bharati ( National Channel) of Government of India had approved five documentary films to be made on issues of Girl Child and education, child labour, juvenile justice, child trafficking and child abuse. These documentaries are being planned and once these are made, they would be telecasted on the national channel.

### **Membership with Children Films Society of India, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India**

For the first time, Prayas has been chosen as a member of the Government sponsored apex body for documentaries on India's children, the Children Films Society of India. This membership has been offered on account of Prayas contribution in media policy advocacy with the Government through Institute of Juvenile Justice and due to contributions in crucial issues of marginalized children in India.

In addition to advocacy on children's issues, Prayas has realized that the development of the marginalized youth and women are equally important to address the national theme of social development. This engagement of Prayas is a continuum of its efforts made earlier, and followed up by engaging itself with the state departments and the central government based on emerging opportunities in the political milieu and thrusts of the government. The Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation, Government of India invited Prayas to assist in strategy formulation and programme implementation to address urban poverty issues alongwith UNDP in Delhi.

The Department of Women and Child Development, Government of India associated Prayas in drafting of the offence against Children Act, the National Commission for Children, the Central Advisory Body for policy formulations to combat human trafficking.

Learning from sources, the Education Department of Chattisgarh State Government invited Prayas to consult on developing educational strategies for out-of-school children in a contextual mode for tribal population. Similarly the Assam Government invited Prayas as a technical person for strategy development to implement SSA programme.

On the good practice of linking education with vocational skills for rehabilitation of the marginalized children, youth and women in cooperation with the central government, the Assam Chief Minister took interest in Prayas and made a visit for assessment for replication in

the state of Assam, north east India. This initiative by the state government facilitated Prayas to set-up a programme for replication in areas of child protection, juvenile justice and economic empowerment of the rural youth and women in the district of Jorhat and also in the state. The government departments have been actively engaged in taking forward the mission of Prayas in a partnership mode.

### **Institutional Strengthening through Training and Development**

Sensitization workshops and seminars for the various stakeholders including Corporate sector in social issues in Child Trafficking, Child Abuse and Child Labour was undertaken this year.

**Media workshop** for Combating Human Trafficking was held on 06 November 2004. It drew large scale participation from Media, NGOs, Government and Corporates.

**Corporate Training Program** - The organization has been constantly receiving requests for training in community programs by Corporate Sector. Recently it organized a two day workshop to provide training to the employees of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) in community service.

**Juvenile Delinquency: Contemporary issues and Coping mechanisms** a lecture was held as part of Prayas Annual Lecture by an eminent expert in Criminology from University of Ottawa, Canada.

### **Human Resource Development**

Sincere efforts have been made in the reporting year to instill in the human resources skills and knowledge for efficient and quality management of programmes. Exchange and training workshops have been conducted within Prayas projects and its partner organizations on the basis on assessment of learning needs and performance goals through project visit and performance reviews. Some of the most important workshops conducted are:

- Application of IT in child tracking in education programme
- Curriculum development and content preparation for quality educational service delivery
- Results based management for staff at SSK
- Educational exchange with Bodh in Rajasthan
- Juvenile Justice system and application of child rights framework

**Participation in International Exchange** - Prayas widely participated at National and International fora to advocate the cause of the needy children and also to appraise the initiatives undertaken by the organization for the welfare for these children by offering holistic programs. In a similar exercise Prayas actively participated in two important International meets in Japan and US.

Prayas promotes opportunities for children and provide space for exposure and exchange as a matter of policy for child participation. It has established institutional partnership with Ashinaga, a national organization in Japan and every year a group of Prayas' children participate in the world conference in Tokyo and several cities of Japan.

In 2005, a group of earthquake affected children from Prayas project in Gujarat made a presentation to the world audience, sharing their experiences of survival and rehabilitation,

views on policy related to children in Tokyo. This group of children also had the opportunity to exchange notes with the Prime Minister of Japan in a special meeting in the Japanese Parliament.

On a special invitation from the UK Police, a Programme Manager from Prayas participated in the International Conference on Children at Risk and made a presentation on child protection policies and Childline services. This presentation was part of the official agenda for promotion of partnership and exchange.

On issues related to Human Trafficking, Prayas Institute of Juvenile Justice has carved a niche with large programme base and expertise. The Japan Government invited Prayas to make its presentation on the issue in an international conference held at Tokyo. Prayas shared its views on the subject and addressed the critical areas of cooperation and collaboration to fight human trafficking which has become a global concern.

As a follow-up of the 1<sup>st</sup> Indo-US Exchange Programme participated by the founder Secretary of Prayas, a Programme Manager was sponsored to undertake a six month study tour in Child Foster Care in Washington DC.

### **Sharing of Technical Expertise**

The Institute of Juvenile Justice has been able to create a cadre of experts on thematic areas of child protection and juvenile justice, child labour, human trafficking, education for marginalized children, corporate social responsibility, economic empowerment and entrepreneurship development, programme management, monitoring and evaluation, child abuse, urban poverty and homelessness, etc. different academic institute and universities, research bodies recognized Prayas Institute of Juvenile Justice as a resource centre and engage its programme faculty for educational dialogue and teachings on these themes as a guest faculty. These nationally known academic and research bodies participate in Prayas as institutional partner and some of them also involve in policy and research matters of the organization.

### **Orientation to Government Officials on Juvenile Justice and Child Protection Issues**

For the first time in India, the high level conference of the Director General of Police, hosted by the Home Ministry, Government of India had included an agenda for discussion on juvenile crime and delinquency. The founder Secretary of Prayas Institute of Juvenile Justice made a presentation on the theme and the Ministry took note of the seriousness of the issue for police sensitization and action. As a matter of impact, the police training institutes in India now involve civil society organizations engaged in juvenile justice implementation for exposure and class room teachings. Prayas Institute of Juvenile Justice has been recognized as a resource centre.

In the area of human trafficking, the Institute of Juvenile Justice has evolved a perspective which has received acclaim and world wide recognition. The US State Department has recognized Prayas Institute of Juvenile Justice as an International Best Practice to fight against child trafficking and good practice on child protection in India. The Bureau of Police Research & Development, Ministry of Home Affairs has sought technical assistance from Prayas to prepare police training manual to efficiently use the legal provisions for law enforcement and protection of human rights of the trafficking survivors. The Institute of

Juvenile Justice has drafted the manual with special inputs in juvenile crime, trafficking and child labour which has been considered for application across India. Prayas has offered partnership for capacity building of police personnel on these issues and BPR&D has responded positively and even wrote to all state Police Chiefs for associating Prayas Institute of Juvenile Justice in training programme.

Suggestions for amendment of provisions of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000, to the Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India

### **Collaboration with National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD)**

NIPCCD has been an institutional of Prayas in exchange of research materials and training of personnel engaged in the child development programmes. The Institute of Juvenile Justice shares its faculty in the training programmes, workshops and research activities on common issues of interest, namely, child protection and juvenile justice, voluntary sector and social development, community development, etc. NIPCCD has also been a partner of Prayas in research study of child abuse in India in terms of sharing of technical expertise.

Some of the important workshops and seminars wherein Prayas faculty shared technical expertise:

- Orientation on the JJ Act to the law enforcement officers from Mauritius
- Training on JJ Act students of social work from various parts of the country
- Sensitization and orientation to the concept of juvenile delinquency in India and steps taken by NGO's towards them.

### **Collaboration with National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)**

Prayas joined hands with NCERT to campaign for reservation of seats for poor marginalized children in the public schools. This campaign has been a success by way of having the special attention of the Supreme Court of India and a 10% reservation has been made mandatory to all public schools for admission. Prayas has taken full advantage of this order and placed the children into schools from its alternative education centres.

### **Internship and Volunteering at Prayas**

Placement and training of interns from well known social work, management and law institutes from all over India is provided throughout the year. The management and the law institutes include the prestigious Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, Delhi, S P Jain Management Institute (Mumbai), IITM (Gwalior), Xavier Institute of Management (Bangalore), Amity Law Institute, Institute of Forensic Sciences, (New Delhi) and NALSAR (Hyderabad). While the social work departments include those of Delhi University, Jamia Millia Islamia University, Institute of Home Sciences (New Delhi), Rajagiri College (Cochin), Kashi Vidyapeeth Muslim University (Aligarh).

## **Volunteer's Management Program**

Prayas has been receiving a large number of volunteers from all over the world including countries like Norway, Germany, Ireland, UK, Japan and U.S. A group volunteers from Germany have been coming to Prayas through V.i.a.e for the past three years and they have been able to make significant impact through their contributions in the lives of the children during their year long stay. A Volunteer's Manual was published to provide guidance to the national as well international volunteers and Indian students.

## **Economic Empowerment and Livelihood Support**

The educational programmes of Prayas are strengthened by vocational skills programme for enabling them to become self – sustainable in life. The organization has been addressing the needs of economic empowerment of the marginalized through Jan Shikshan Sansthan Prayas (JSSP), Ministry of Human Resource & Development, Government of India and Prayas Institute of Economic Empowerment (PIEE). The constitution and guidelines of JSS have been drafted by the Ministry of HRD, dovetailing it with the National Literacy Programme & other related activities.

## **Empowerment of the community women through Self – Help Groups**

Owing to the track record of the organization, of running vocational training programs under Shramik Vidyapeeth, Ministry of Human Resource and Development identified Prayas as the nodal agency for running 'Jan Shikshan Sansthan' Scheme. As such Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS Prayas) was launched in on 12 August 2000. The Jan Shikshan Sansthan Prayas represents a convergence of GO-NGO partnership aimed at the economic upliftment of the marginalized slum children. Prayas JSS aims at enhancing opportunities for economic rehabilitation of neglected street and working children through customized vocational training. The project mainly serves various categories of marginalized children and women with a variety of training programs. The vocational training in the project covers trades identified on the basis of market surveys in various slum localities.

Children in the age group of 12-16 years were given training in vocations suited to their interest. Adolescent girls and women are also encouraged to join vocational education and form self-help income generating groups

Prayas imparts vocational training in market driven trades, identified bearing in mind the need of the children and the youth who attend these programs. These trades focus on skill enhancement, entrepreneurship development and training modules in respective areas, which were developed and designed to fulfill the requirements of the society, especially belonging to the underprivileged sections. Through its 20 centres in 15 trades including computers, screen- printing, candle making, hand and machine embroidery, auto repair, beauty culture, cutting and tailoring, doll making, etc.

## **Placement services**

Besides vocational training Prayas also offers placement services to the trainees who successfully complete different courses. Referrals for placement are made to corporate houses as well as small and medium sized business establishments. Prayas also arranges funds for those starting their own ventures.

### Achievements in the year (April 2004 – March 2005)

S.No	Trade	Trainees Referred	Trainees Placed	Trainees Rejected	Offer refused by Trainee	Trainee Under Consideration
1.	Computer (Basic & DTP)	223	113	73	20	17
2.	Beauty Culture	121	104	01	10	06
3.	Cutting and tailoring	90	84	00	06	00
4.	Others:-					
	▪ Teachers (Computers, C&T. etc.)	17	16	00	00	01
	▪ Domestic Attendant	30	18	00	08	04
	▪ Hospital Attendant	17	09	00	04	04
	▪ Typing & Stenography	31	10	21	05	05
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>37</b>

**During the year 354 trained youth were placed in wage employment and 475 in self – employment ventures.**

#### **Fostering Economic Empowerment**

Several programs have been started towards fostering economic empowerment among the community through by promoting the concept of micro-credit and self help group program. Prayas has also opened Sanchay Prayas outlets for the sale of products manufactured by the SHGs and Prayas.

#### **‘Nurturing Young Entrepreneurs’ - Sanchay Prayas Outlets**

Prayas in collaboration with international Organization for Migration (IOM) has opened five sales outlets named as Sanchay Prayas of various products produced by the beneficiaries of Vocational Training Program and by Women of Self – Help Groups. In these beneficiaries placed are children residing in the Shelter Homes of Jahangirpuri and Tughlakabad. In this process 24 beneficiaries have been placed and are earning their livelihood. By the end of the financial year 2005 – 06, five more outlets have been planned in various parts of Delhi so that more children could be placed.

S. No.	Locations of Sanchay Prayas	No. of Beneficiaries placed
1.	Jahangirpuri	04
2.	Tughlakabad	04
3.	Vivek Vihar	04
4.	Pul Bangas (Metro Station)	04
5.	Pratap Nagar	04
6.	Ashram	04
	<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>

## **Self – Help Groups**

While making efforts to help children in Distress Prayas felt that all its initiatives would be futile if the socio – economic conditions of the family did not improve. It realized that to ensure a good future of the children it was necessary that their mothers were empowered. Empowering the women would take care of the whole family, as they often are more vulnerable than men, are less mobile, has to cope with financial shortages while fulfilling the commitment of rearing the children. After analyzing the whole issue of realities and the importance of women empowerment, Prayas formally stepped in the process of mobilizing women and formation of Self – Help Groups in the year 2000. Today around 17000 women are associate with Prayas through 105 Self – Help Groups in different slums, resettlement colonies and rural parts of Delhi. Out of these 105 groups, four are men groups.

## **Training Workshops**

**Entrepreneurship Development workshop** held in October 2004 in collaboration with Bhartiya Yuva Shakti Trust. The target beneficiaries of the program included women of SHGs and the students undergoing training at JSS Prayas.

Training Workshops held in March 2005

- a) **Educators for record maintenance**
- b) **Accountants for feeding data Excel Program**

Realization of the economic empowerment by imparting vocational skills to the marginalized youth and women has become the primary objective of Prayas. The Institute of Economic Empowerment for providing the much needed skills and employment opportunities to the marginalized youth and women is one important step in this direction.

## **Prayas Institute of Economic Empowerment (PIEE)**

Prayas Institute of Economic Empowerment (PIEE) has been envisaged and created with a view to functioning as an entity to develop programmes aimed at building livelihood alternatives for youth and women of rural and urban communities in Delhi and outside in your area through life skill cultivation / up-gradation and vocational training in such contemporary market driven trades that prepare the beneficiaries for jobs or small business enterprises. This Institute also covers members of Self Help Groups in Delhi and outside in your area as its target group for its empowerment through training oriented economic activities which involve production and marketing functions as means to economic end. As such, components like **vocational training life-skill up-gradation, production, marketing, micro-credit, micro financing, job opportunities and micro-business enterprises** form the fiber of this institute.

It has been found that a fairly large number of urban youth with little or no skills are engaged in the informal sector. As a result with low skill and consequently lower labour productivity they are left with very few job opportunities. Keeping these aspects in view Prayas has set up an Institute of Economic Empowerment to impart courses for skills development of the urban youth and women and the other underprivileged group, an to ensure that they get better employment and contribute more meaningfully to their work.

## **Joint Programme in Micro Credit, SHGs and rural craftsmanship in Bihar**

**Basant Saras Fair (Mela)**, the first ever state level programme was organized by Prayas in Patna from 31 March to 10 April, 2005 . This was the first time that a Mela of this magnitude was given to a voluntary organization, by the ministry of Rural Development, Government of India. The Mela was a great success and achievement for Prayas. It was platform for promoting and marketing handicraft and SHGs products. In all 260 stall were put from different states of the country.

### **Corporate Partnership and Networking**

Prayas has been making significant efforts for developing self – sustainability of its projects. In this regard it has taken up numerous initiatives that would help in the sustenance of the projects without any outside support. The resource unit of Prayas is fully involved in raising resources by organizing a range of activities like various cultural events/film shows, sponsorship, sale of greeting cards, bakery products and other items of daily use. Functioning in close collaboration with the IEC unit this unit targets both individual donors and corporate houses to generate resources.

- This year the unit organized several cultural shows, musical and dinner nites with celebrities.
- Exhibition, Stalls and Melas organized in Delhi and Bihar for promoting the sale and marketing of Prayas products.
- Vehicle and other infrastructure donated by corporates for supporting the educational and medical programs.
- Sponsorship program for children also grew with more and more individuals and corporate coming forward to support the children. Major Corporate Partners: are LG, Ernst and Young, Daksh, Vertex, Titan etc. Target set for sponsorship of children achieved and new target was set.
- The seasons Greeting cards were designed and marketed on a large scale gaining market in the corporate world.
- Children’s film festival was organized at Siri Fort Auditorium.
- Production and marketing of Prayas products like agarbattis, bakery products grew manifolds this year.
- The unit has been constantly getting donations and sponsors, both in cash and kind, for all Prayas Projects and Programs. For this several schemes have been designed which include Bhagidari, donation box, etc.
- Donation boxes were placed on airports; shops, hotels, and the amount are collected regularly.
- Sanchay Prayas - Under its agreement with International Organization for Migration for opening 10 Sanchay Prayas - Amul kiosks, six parlours have already been set up and is functioning. As agreed the outlets are being run by children from shelter home and the trafficked girls staying in Prayas. This would not only provide financial independence and security to these women but also more importantly an identity in the society

## **Programmes in Delhi**

### **Institute of Juvenile Justice (IJJ)**

Established in 1999, this institution comprises the apex unit and it serves and monitors various projects located in the slums of Delhi, as well as projects in Bihar and Gujarat. It organizes training programs, workshops, national and regional consultations on a wide range of issues including juvenile justice, child rights, child trafficking, etc. This unit also runs a shelter cum transit home for the girls in need of care and protection.

The objectives of Prayas and salient action taken are described: -

- Conducting research on issues related to neglected children and the juvenile justice system in the country
- To create a common platform to promote the best interest of the child.
- To conduct and publish studies on the socio-economic and legal status of neglected/delinquent children within the broader context of juvenile justice system. In this context a study funded by CIDA was undertaken to locate the elements necessary to strengthen the Juvenile Justice system. Another study is underway to explore the dynamics of restoration of children from an institutional environment to their homes. Until date Prayas has brought a number of reports and audio- visual presentations on the magnitude of the problem and measures needed / taken to effectively empower neglected children.
- To conceptualize and define the roles of the various stakeholders in the Juvenile Justice System etc.
- To seek effective implementation of the Juvenile Justice Act and keep it attuned to the changing realities.
- To sensitize the stakeholders (Police, Social Welfare Department, health workers, civil society organizations and the community at large) through advocacy about the role of Juvenile Justice in responding to the emerging welfare needs of the children. To this end, Prayas has been using a wide variety of locally suited media to change public opinion and influence the policy makers to usher in vitally needed structural and functional changes. In pursuing this objective a number of training programs are regularly organized to sensitize the functionaries and the policy makers about the need of flexibility and prompt action in dealing with the problems of the neglected children. The participants include police officers and functionaries of homes run by the government and the NGOs.
- To share the rich experiences of working with such children in community as well as the institutional setting in the time to come.
- To incorporate and sustain the minimum standards of childcare in the Prayas model in keeping with the U. N. Conventions on the rights of child.
- Initiating advocacy to usher in policy changes to promote effective child development programs in the country and
- Bringing out publication on various issues dealing with development of children youth and women in deprived communities.

Prayas tries to attain these objectives through the provision of innovative Alternative Education; vocational training and rehabilitation; custodial and non – custodial care; counseling; recreation; mid – day meals; educational trips and medicare.

Various operational units functioning in the IJJ campus include a Shelter Home for Girls; Juvenile Justice; Crisis Intervention Centre (CIC); Training; Research & Documentation, Information, Education and Communication), Education; Library and Resource Mobilization. Besides organizing various local, national and regional events (Seminars, Conferences etc.) Prayas also organizes training for groups.

### **Shelter Home for Girls**

Prayas shelter home for girls forms a part of the IJJ with the provision of facilities like shelter, food, alternative education, recreation, counseling, health care and vocational training for girls in the age group of 06-18 years. Most of the girls in the home come from extremely difficult backgrounds, including some from Delhi's red light area. About half of these girls have been enabled to attend regular schools as part of their mainstreaming.

New Cases	45
Restoration:	39
Transfer	15

### **Activities**

- Three girls received prizes in Painting competition organized for EFA event on 20 April, 04
- The shelter home girl gave evidence against her relative which played instrumental role in giving punishment for his wrongdoing
- Sanchay Prayas was set up for economic rehabilitation of survivors of trafficking. The project was setup in collaboration of IOM, Amul and Prayas.
- Six girls were transferred to Matrikunj, Dehradun for long-term rehabilitation. These girls in the age group of 8-12 yrs were orphan.
- Child welfare Committee, Mumbai referred three girls with background of commercial sexual exploitation for rehabilitation
- Shelter home girls along with girls from community attended Self - Defence training from 14 May - 4 June, 04. The training was organized by CIC unit and CAW cell.
- 10 girls attended summer workshop named Unnati, organized by Times Foundation in May, 04
- Sartaj, residing in the shelter home got scholarship of 100 per month for securing above 80% marks in 4<sup>th</sup> class
- Children from child labour background participated in a Workshop on Elimination of Child Labour on 11<sup>th</sup> June, 04 to narrate their past experiences
- Sangani, an NGO, working on women issues, started conducting group sessions with adolescent girls fortnightly
- All girls went for recreational- cum-informative trips to various places of Delhi on 25 June, 04

- Salma, a shelter home girl awarded third prize in Talent show organized by Chetna on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 04
- Marriage of shelter home girl i.e. Noori was performed at Arya Samaj Mandir on 19 July, 04
- The children went for educational trip to TCV, Dharmashala for 10 days in July, 04
- Children attended Swalambi Mela at Dilli Haat in August, 04
- Children went to see the movie, Spiderman-2 at Sangam cinema on 7 August, 04
- Children participated in Art camp organized by Lalit Kala Academy and got appreciation by Hon'ble President
- The court proceeding of two girls was attended at Delhi High Court. The parents filed writ petition for taking custody of girls and dismissed on the ground of unfit parents.
- Successful restorations of shelter home girls were done in Akola, Maharsthara, West Bengal, Banaras, Gorakpur and Jharkhand. The restoration team lead by the housemother of the home
- Attended three day workshop on Implementation of the JJA (care and protection of children), 2000
- All new girls inducted in the home were produced before Child Welfare Committee, Delhi for their directions
- The staff directly in interaction with children like counsellor, housemother, caretaker, educator etc attended series of workshop on counselling conducted by Saarthak, a NGO, working in the field of mental health
- Attended regional workshop on Media initiative in combating human trafficking at WWF, Lodi Estate
- Follow-up conducted of the girls placed at Karammarg, Matrikunj , Dehradun, Arya Annathalya and Agra
- The counsellor attended review meeting of UNIFEM project at Alwar, Rajsthan on 17<sup>th</sup> Nov, 04
- Regular eye checkup of children were conducted at Venu Eye Institute, Shaik Sarai
- Workshop on Mind of survivor: Reporting back at Kolkata, organized by SLRTC with technical support of Saarthak and funded UNIFEM on 20 and 21 Dec, 04 was attended
- All children of shelter home attended recreational trip to farmhouse, Kadarapur on eve of New Year. The children also visited to Damdama Lake. The trip was organized by Mr. Bhalla
- Home investigation of girls were done in Sonia Vihar, Shadhara, Bhajanpura, Samaypur Badli, Tughlkabad, Uttam Nagar and Chattisgarh
- The slow learner girls of the home were placed in Akshay Pratishthan School, Vasant Kunj
- The investigation of Jahanara was done at Pooja Placement Agency in Chirag Delhi and detail report was prepared on the functioning of Placement agency
- Three children including boy of 7 yrs were placed in Shelter Home as per CWC order. These siblings were referred by National Commission for Women for short period of time due to the conflict between mother of Ukraine nationality and Indian father
- Children from the shelter home participated in Saras Mela, Patna in March, 04
- Result of school was announced and children performed well.

No of Girls Appeared	:	28
No of Girls passed	:	27
No of Girls Failed	:	01
No of Positions	:	14
No of Scholarship	:	05

### **Crisis Intervention Centre (CIC)**

With the establishment of the Rape Crisis Intervention Centre Prayas' interventions to children in especially difficult circumstances have expanded tremendously. This unit attends to all the cases of minor rape and physical abuse registered in the district of south Delhi. Follow up of the CIC Cases, counseling, emotional and legal support to the victim and her family, medical care etc. form some of the important activities undertaken by the unit.

Besides the rape cases this unit is also working for the rehabilitation of the trafficked survivors. The rescued trafficked victims are provided specialized and clinical counseling, medical assistance, social investigation – home visits, education/ special classes, vocational and specialized training, economic rehabilitation. As part of the socio-economic rehabilitation strategy Amul Ice-cream parlours have been opened for the placement of the girls. Girls have also placed at petrol pumps, boutiques and beauty parlours. A working Girls Hostel is in pipeline. They are provided freedom of movement for shopping, operation of bank accounts, making phone calls etc. Marriage of girls has also been initiated. Follow up of forced prostitution case in the courts of Delhi, networking and co-ordination with the concerned organizations and bodies regarding rehabilitation of the trafficked cases are undertaken

#### Number of cases reported from Different Police station

- Sangam Vihar PS----- 6
- Meharuli PS----- 2
- Dr. Amedkar Nagar PS-- 5
- Badarpur PS----- 3
- Malviya Nagar PS----- Nil
- Kalkajee PS----- 5
- Shriniwaspuri PS----- 2
- Hazrat Nizamudhin PS— 1
- Sarita Vihar PS-----1
- Kotla Mubrakpur PS-----1
- Hauz Khas PS-----1
- Jahangirpuri PS-----1

**Total Cases---- 28**

#### **Activities:**

- Regular follow-up of the cases were done
- Home visits of cases were conducted
- Trial courts were visited along with victim and her family for providing emotional support

- CIC unit in collaboration of CAW/Cell organized 20 days Self-Defence Camp for girls of Shelter Home who were subjected to sexual, physical and emotional abuses in their past life and girls from the nearby community in the month of May-June, 2004.
- Meeting with DCP office on review of CIC project on 29 Oct. 04
- Meeting on roles of different stakeholders of CIC was conducted at DCP (South) on 17 Nov, 04
- Cases related with marital problems were handled in the unit
- National consultative meeting on violence against children and women, was held at National Commission for Women on 13<sup>th</sup> Dec, 04
- The second Sub-Committee meeting was held on 4 Feb 2004. Police Officials, advocates, doctors, representative from Delhi Social welfare board, CAW/Cell and NGO representative attended the meeting. It was discussed to list out Short Stay Home for victims of sexual abuse, to conduct regular sensitization programmes for constables, parents and judiciary bodies. It was decided to hold introspective workshop for reviewing the progress of CIC/FCC project in South Dist in near future.
- Reports of CIC cases were submitted to CSWB, DSWB and DCW
- CIC regularly conducted Community awareness programmes like Samuday Sabha, Community meetings with the social organizations of the area for preventing rape cases in the area. The meetings also focused on sensitization of parents about the nature of rape and how to prevent cases of incest in the family.

### **Juvenile Justice Unit (JJU)**

The Juvenile Justice Unit conducts survey, action research and studies on the socio-economic, emotional and legal status of the neglected and delinquent children within the broader meaning of Juvenile Justice system that clearly defines and conceptualizes the respective roles of the various components of the Juvenile Justice System viz. police, Juvenile Justice Board Child welfare Committee, functionaries of Home, NGOs and social workers etc.

The JJU works to create awareness through advocacy and lobbying for more effective implementation of the existing Juvenile Justice legislation in India. For this it also works in close association with the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, National Institute of Social Defence and Delhi Council for Child Welfare. For details of objectives and programs please see the relevant part of sub – section objectives (Towards a more Human Juvenile Justice System)

The unit also provides the much needed technical guidance and inputs for the effective management of the homes run by Prayas. Collection of data from homes and there analysis, preparation of case studies and reports of the homes. Preparation of the project proposals and networking with the government as well as the non – government agencies are just few of the activities taken up by the unit.

### **Research and Documentation Unit**

Set up to create a database on child labour and the related issues this unit conducts studies on issues pertaining to children’s rights, non-formal education, juvenile justice system, street vendors, etc. The information collected is shared with various stakeholders and update the

actual functionaries and policy makers through consultations, seminars, workshops and publications. The library unit of Prayas plays a pivotal role in enriching the efforts of the R&D unit.

### **Prayas Vachnalaya (Library) Project**

Besides the community libraries operated by Prayas as part of the campaign to universalize literacy, the IJJ has a library in its own premises. Manned by a professionally qualified librarian this unit has a sizeable collection of books and other materials on street and working children, juvenile justice, child trafficking, HIV/AIDS etc. This unit is extensively used not only by the staff of the various other units of the IJJ but also the children of the shelter home and the adjacent community.

### **Information Education and Communication Unit**

This unit creates mechanism for advocacy and awareness generation. The activities undertaken include networking with the stakeholders especially the Govt., NGOs and the media for organizing advocacy-based children's programs like sports, painting competitions, street plays, puppet shows and children's rallies etc. All these activities are designed precisely to appeal to the target audience through **Kalashristi Prayas**, a special unit created by Prayas for this purpose of Prayas.

A salient feature behind the organization of these activities comprised inter - organizational collaboration. Thus, Prayas was privileged to join hands with active collaborators like NIPCCD and Church of North India to organize national Level activities in which thousands of children participated.

### **Resource Management Unit**

This unit generates resources whereby Prayas moves towards self – sustainability. Its range of activities includes resource raising by organizing of various cultural events/film shows, sponsorship, sale of greeting cards, bakery products and other items of daily use.

Functioning in close collaboration with the IEC unit this unit targets both individual donors and corporate houses to generate resources. Some of the salient resource raising Events has been enlisted in the table number 6.

### **Prayas Health Service (PHS)**

#### **Providing Health Care Support to Street And Working Children**

Prayas has been directly addressing the unique health challenges faced by street and slum children through Prayas Health Service, a health unit at Kirti Nagar in west Delhi. Specifically, at the local level, it provides primary health care to 50,000 street and working children in Delhi itself. This unit has been covering its projects in Bihar, Gujarat, Assam and Andaman and Nicobar islands by providing necessary health inputs for the slum and community population. The Health care package provided to the street children includes OPD services, Mobile Health Camps, Laboratory services, Participation in Government campaigns covering street children, AIDS awareness among Government school children and DOTS (anti tuberculosis service). Children needing special care are also referred to Babu Jagjeevan Ram Hospital, Deen Dayal Hospital, Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narayan Hospital, Batra

Hospital, Charitable Trust, Rotary Blood Bank, Venu – Eye Institute and Pharmaceutical Agencies. Prayas' associations with the NGOs forum enables the forum members' children to benefit from various health services offered by Prayas. In many ways this aspect also signifies the advantages that accrue to the NGOs sector through networking.

The health service offers following services to cater to the immediate health needs of the slum population who remain largely deprived of quality medical services that are affordable. Some of the services offered are

**OPD** – Prayas Health Service provides regular and free OPD services in its premises for women and children living in the slum community of Kirti Nagar and Pandav Nagar. On an average hundred patients visit for treatment of their seasonal ailments, reproductive health based problems, ENT problems, respiratory tract infections and STDs etc. The PHS also offers *sick bays* for children in need of more intensive care. Children requiring special care are referred for specialized treatment like X –ray, dental, renal, heart, eye checkups and ENT services etc. to different hospitals

**Laboratory Services** - The laboratory services strengthen the OPD services of PHS. The pregnancy test using pregnancy test kits and various other tests like TLC, DLC, ESR, WIDAL, VDRL, Blood sugar, ABO and RH grouping, complete urine examination, Hb% etc were done at PHS. For some investigations patients have been referred to advanced centers also.

**Project – based health services** - Medicare units exist in all the Prayas homes to serve the children sheltered therein. These units operate in Prayas Children's Home for boys at Jahangirpuri, Prayas Observation Home for Boys, Delhi Gate and Shelter Home for Girls at Tughlakabad Institutional Area, serving approximately 400 children.

**Health Camps** are organized in different slum clusters of Delhi with the focus on children not covered by any health scheme. This service is augmented by Prayas Mobile Health Vans with its team of medical and para - medical staff, who visit the intervention areas at least once a week on the fixed date and time for the health camp, STDs diagnosis and treatment and HIV/AIDS awareness.

The Peer group sessions, street plays, puppet shows, film shows and other community meetings are used as media for awareness about the camps and also about HIV/AIDS. The community is made aware that they should always consult a doctor in case of any illness, instead of visiting a quack.

**HIV/ AIDS Program** - Sexually transmitted diseases are common among the children rescued from the streets. They are at high risk of contracting AIDS. STDs/HIV/AIDS awareness programs are organized for the street children in different parts of Delhi as per the guidelines of the National AIDS Control Organization (NACO), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India. Prayas also initiated a program to impart education about HIV/AIDS to the students of Government schools. Till date it has covered students studying in class IXth and Xth in sixty schools. These programs have been developed particularly to arouse and sustain children's interest therein.

To keep abreast of the latest development, Prayas has been networking with various organizations concerned with this issue. These include NACO, Lawyers collective HIV/AIDS

unit, UNESCO, DSACS, UNICEF, IMA etc. Interacting with these organization has helped Prayas to share its field- based experiences also to acquire know – how of the latest development in the field.

**Treatment of Sexually Transmitted Diseases** – Patients affected by STDs identified through the OPD and the health camp programs are encouraged for the treatment of their partners. This offers an important opportunity to identify the asymptomatic person.

**Peer Group Formation** - HIV/AIDS awareness sessions are organized with adolescent boys and girls. Few adolescent boys and girls are also selected as peer educators. The myths and misconceptions carried by these children about sex and sexuality are removed during the course of the group training programs.

Prayas has more than 20 trained peer educators (both boys and girls) for disseminating the HIV/AIDS and health awareness. This peer group reaches out to other children of their age and various other members of the community. The peer group is also evaluated and those successful are awarded incentives. The peer educators are also given refresher training.

**Counselling Services** - Trained counselors provide AIDS Counseling Service, including tele - counseling, to children and adolescents for their problems relating to sex, sexuality and HIV/AIDS/STDs. Prayas organizes HIV/AIDS/STDs awareness meetings and programs for the community members with special emphasis on its preventive aspect. Regular contact is maintained with other organizations working in this area. Counseling has also brought about changes in the behavior and attitude of the community people.

**Ante- natal and Infants Care** - The pregnant women have been visiting the antenatal clinic for their antenatal check-up and immunization against Tetanus. The separate antenatal forms were being filled up for antenatal cases by our qualified ANM.

The PHS provided medical check up for the newborns. Advice related to care for newborns, immunization, nutrition and the monitoring of weight, developments of milestones etc. was given by the doctors at PHS. The mothers were specially counseled for the timely medical consultation for the management of various ailments related to infancy like diarrhoea, respiratory tract infections etc.

Often due to early marriage and superstitions, the mothers of these slum areas are unable to take proper care of their infants and children. Intensive counseling was done to shed their inhibitions and to get over various superstitions to provide the proper care needed by their babies.

**Immunization**

<b>T.T. Immunization of Pregnant Women</b>	<b>Immunization of children</b>	<b>Pulse Polio Immunization of children</b>	<b>Referrals for Immunization</b>
160	150	1500	800

**Networking for quality health**

As part of its efforts to upgrade the available health services, Prayas Health Service has established network with several well-known hospitals and medical associations to provide quality medical services to the slum population. In this direction it has added specialist OPD services and medial camps to the already running programmes.

**Eye O.P.D.** became functional this year in association with Rajdhani Charitable Eye & Medical Centre. Free eye medicines and free surgeries are offered to the poor and needy patients.

**Dental O.P.D.** has been started with the assistance of renowned dentists who have also donated the dental chair, compressor and a few other equipments to run the O.P.D.

**Cardiac (Heart) check-up camps** were begun at the Research Centre of Prayas Health Service, in association with Escorts Heart Institute. More than 200 hundred heart patients have benefited from the free ECG and medicines provided. .

**Hepatitis-B vaccination cum General Health Check-Up Camp** sponsored by Daksh-IBM held for adolescents at Lahori Gate. Eighty-seven cases of vaccination were done.

**Referrals services** – have become a necessary means for delivering treatment in case of advanced health needs and services. Referrals are generally done for making Special Investigations, Delivery and MTP.

### **Empowering the Community through Meetings**

Community meetings are affective means of spreading awareness about the risks of HIV/AIDS, STDs etc. These group meetings, Mahila Mandal, Purush Mandal, and meetings with Rickshaw pullers & peer educators ha e proved extremely helpful in meeting alongwith the counseling sessions are very helpful in bringing about a change in the behavior and attitude of the community people.

**Counseling Activities** -Trained counselors provide counseling services to the people in the intervention areas for their problems related to family planning, sex, sexuality, STDs, HIV/AIDS and on various other topics. Various medical camps were organized at different places to provide the necessary platform for the screening of cases for family planning and STD treatment. The trained counselors of PHS have been providing counseling to the community and patients coming to the PHS on various topics as follows:

**Family Planning** - Family planning is an important component of RCH. An understanding of gender issues in the family planning services is important for effective service provision. Lack of information/services, prevailing myths and misconceptions regarding contraception and care during pregnancy and poor quality of available family planning services result in unwanted and repeated pregnancies and unsafe abortions. There is socio cultural believes that influence the choice of methods – eg: men are at risk of losing their virility if they undergo vasectomy resulting in resistance to the use of condoms. Male participation in temporary or permanent contraceptive methods is now getting some acceptance. Counseling is playing a major role in changing the attitude and behavior of people with regard to family planning. Prayas Health Service conducts on the spot counseling for the women who visit the centre and also by paying visits to the community for dealing with the day-to-day reproductive queries of the target group. They motivate the community people to adopt the small family norms. The people were counseled for both temporary and permanent methods of family planning based on their needs and personal preference. *Condoms and Oral Pills distribution* were distributed regularly as a means to promote temporary methods of contraception. The condoms were distributed by the health workers of PHS in the community during community meetings and also through condom distribution boxes placed at the reception and other various places in the community. While the oral contraceptive pills could be collected from the pharmacy of PHS after consulting the lady doctor.

**Pre-marital counselling** - The PHS has been arranging special group counseling sessions for the community males and females in the reproductive age group on the relevant issues.

**Counseling of the newly-weds** - The PHS has been arranging special group counseling sessions for the newly wed couples in the community regarding reproductive issues vis -a-vis family planning, spacing methods, nutrition, child rearing practices and for adopting safe delivery methods. Many such sessions were organized in the last year 30 people participating in each of these sessions on an average.

**Ante Natal counselling** - Group and individual counseling sessions on nutrition, family planning, self care, personal hygiene, safe delivery, breast feeding, better parenting etc. are given to all the antenatal cases by the lady doctor and the counselor of PHS.

**Counseling on nutrition** - The nutritious and balanced diet is a key component of healthy living. People living in slum areas are often malnourished and suffer from various nutritional deficiencies. Besides lack of nutritious food due to financial constraints, they have little knowledge about what constitutes a balanced diet. Lack of proper diet for pregnant women and infants has serious consequences that result into spontaneous miscarriages, complications or under weight of the children with serious deformities and illnesses later. Focusing on the above-mentioned aspects, the nutritional counseling was regularly imparted to all the men, women and children of the community.

**Health Talks with the community** - Prayas health Service organized weekly meetings with the pradhans, women and adolescents of the community on topics such as Family Planning, Immunization, Community hygiene, Personal hygiene, Puberty, Safe and Institutional deliveries, Home deliveries, Spacing between children, Permanent and temporary methods of family planning, Adopting small family norms, STI, HIV/AIDS, Water borne diseases and diarrhoea diseases, Communicable diseases, Nutrition and other health related issues.

**Participation in various Health Melas, fairs and Govt. Health program:**

Prayas Health has been widely participating in the health melas, fairs and exhibitions to spread its message and awareness on the need and means for maintaining good health. Children of Prayas Health Service spread the message through cultural program like skits, drawing competitions, role play, extempore, fancy dress competitions etc.

**Pulse Polio Program** - Prayas Health Service joined hands to actively participate in all the pulse polio campaigns and provided immunization to more than 1500 children below five years of age.

**Participation in India International Trade Fair in November 2004.** It put up a stall on Family Planning and provided counseling services on the subjects like Reproductive & Child Health, HIV/AIDS, STDs etc. Around 18,000 people visited the stall out of which 220 people took personal counseling from the counselor of PHS.

**Participation in Marco International Health Mela** wherein 3500 people benefited by visiting the stall and from the counseling services provided.

**Active participation in Perfect Health Parade** in April 2004 by the PHS staff members and the peer educators.

Participation in “*We the People*”, a talk show on NDTV.

**Rally** on the theme of “Save the Girl Child” in July 2004, held by Action India programme on the occasion of National population day.

**Screening of ‘A closer Walk’**, a documentary film on experiences of HIV/AIDS victims at Stein Auditorium, IHC directed by an Oscar Nominee, Robert Bilheimer, organized by Action India.

### **Manpower training at PHS**

It is obvious fact that trained manpower is an asset an essential for the success of any program. Therefore, as part of the capacity building exercise of the staff of Prayas Health Service training program were conducted on regular basis. Some of these programs were held.

**Dais’ Training Program** - Training program for Dais working was completed on large scale in March 2005.

**Peer Educators Training Program** - Good and trained peer educators are an effective communication link between children and adolescents of the community and PHS. They received training at PHS on various subjects and in turn spread their knowledge in the community. They also staged the skits and street plays prepared by the PHS on various health related issues like, female foeticide, worm infestation, HIV/AIDS awareness, anti-tobacco.

**Training program on methods of cooking nutritious** food from cheap and easily available ingredients held by the Department of food & nutrition in March 2005.

### **Advocating the health needs**

Prayas health service has been using variety of means to develop awareness in the wider community against AIDS, tobacco use and need and importance of hygiene.

**Swasthya Darshan**, is a quarterly newsletter providing details about the health issues and health programs of Prayas is published regularly by Prayas health service.

**Awareness building** is also reinforced through the organization of street plays film show, puppet show, wall writing and display board. Catchy AIDS awareness slogans put up on the post-office, railway reservation counters, near Alternative-Education centres of Prayas, dhabas and areas frequented by rag pickers. Training Aids used by Prayas comprise flip charts, posters, films/ modules on “Learning for Life,” and booklet.

### **Workshops and Events**

“*Anti-Tobacco Workshop*” organized on 6.10.2004, at W.W.F. conference hall to mark the completion of the Anti-Tobacco Scheme, supported by the Ministry of Health, Govt. of India and W.H.O. The theme of the workshop was “Voice against the menace of Tobacco”.

**Anti Tobacco Day** was observed on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2004. Painting and elocution competition were organized on this occasion for the community children, peer educators, other project of Prayas and 'Nidar' group. Prizes were distributed to the children.

**Exhibition on RCH** – was organized on Reproductive and Child Health for community women and peer educators of PHS.

### **Prayas Children's Home for Boys**

**Location: Jahangirpuri resettlement colony,  
EE Block, Northwest Delhi-33**

#### **Inception**

Prayas made its humble beginning from this place as the Prayas Juvenile Aid Centre with 25 children only. Prayas Children's Home is a Drop- in- Centre recognizing children's right to freedom. It has a capacity to accommodate 200 children with 24 hours facility for boarding and lodging. A full-fledged facility hub for wholesome and overall development of the children.

#### **Activities**

- Non- Formal Alternative Education / Formal Education
- 24 hrs. shelter and helpline services
- Vocational Training.
- Shelter, food and clothing
- Health care.
- Recreational facilities.
- Rehabilitation and mainstreaming of street and working boys.

#### **Special Features**

- A model home for neglected children and a success story for Prayas.
- Declared as a fit institution by the Juvenile Justice Board.
- Every child is given autonomy to come to the Home and leave the place as soon as he finds for himself a protective alternative, in keeping with the spirit of the UN Convention on the rights of the Child.

#### **Funding**

- Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India.

#### **Program Components**

The functioning of the Children's Home is based on a holistic approach towards care, protection, development and rehabilitation of neglected street children through a package of rehabilitation services. The main components of the programme are:

**Alternative Education:** To raise the literacy and education level to a standard whereby a child is able to distinguish between good and bad in relation to his environment through facilities for literacy, numeric, mathematics, social sciences, life-skills education and initiating efforts for mainstreaming into the formal education system.

**Vocational Training:** To impart vocational training as an integral part of all educational program and to make them meaningful and to enable the target group to ultimately move towards economic self-sufficiency as soon as they attain adulthood. In this process children are being enrolled in various course organized with the collaboration of Jan Shikshan Sansthan an institute sponsored by Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India.

**Placement:** To facilitate job placement and to create entrepreneurship opportunities for children to earn a reasonable livelihood and support. The Placement cell was established in Prayas on January 2001 to facilitate the rehabilitation of children residing in the Home and other beneficiaries trained in Vocational Training Centre of Prayas and JSS. Since its inception Placement Cell is able to provide jobs to 150 beneficiaries and more than 1500 organizations contacted. One of the important aspects of placement cell is to provide training related to personality development and exiting office culture. The HPS Foundation and Sh. Bodh Raj Sawney Trust (BRSMT) are supporting to Placement Cell.

**Therapeutic Services:** To provide counseling, both at individual and group levels and provide mental health interventions, so as to restore their childhood.

**Health and Nutrition:** To ensure their physical and mental well being through regular health check ups, nutritious meals and healthy recreation.

**Counseling and Referral Services:** To enable the target group to meet the challenges of the changing society and to upgrade the quality of life.

**Formal Schooling:** After completion of non-formal stages the children will be admitted in formal school where it will be ensured that they should not drop out from their school.

**Restoration:** The children are sent to their native place from where they have migrated. In case they have a problem with their parents or home environment, our counselors/volunteers meet the family and ensure that a child's basic rights are secured. By providing children with basic needs like recreation facilities, nutrition, and clothes Prayas creates conditions wherein children do not need to work to acquire these basic needs. Furthermore, by providing education, Prayas included in the children will to study and make a better future for them. Moreover, by providing vocational and life skill training, they are equipped to explore and utilized options to become economically independent.

**Community Linkage:** -We all know that there is an immense need of community participation in all the social projects. For the child development project during mainstreaming, it is mandatory for us to involve community representatives could be involve for acceptance of child who has either lost his parents or they involved in minor delinquencies. To fulfill the basic needs of children, we have to mobilize the resources available within the community. The local community people are regular visitors of our home and they do help us as volunteers in organizing welfare activities for children. In this process, the people interact with children, which is helpful for their betterment in future life.

Through community participation we are able to locate parents of children and they are really helpful in restoration.

The Children's Home at Jahangirpuri also hosts three other projects namely, Community based Intervention project for slum children, Childline project, Jan Shikshan Sansthan and National Open School Project.

### **National Open School**

Prayas has been accredited by the Ministry of HRD, Government of India, to run the National Open School programme for street and working children who have been deprived of schooling in the formative years of life. The NOS provides all learning and teaching opportunities through the distance education mode to such children. Prayas not only provides the space for running the NIOS programme but also organizes tutorials for children enrolled in the NIOS. Every year 300 children enrolled.

### **Community-based Intervention Project for slum children**

The project is funded by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and NORAD, Directorate of Education, Govt. of NCT of Delhi and runs programmes like alternative education, supplementary nutrition, health support services, recreation and counseling for slum children. There are 5 slum centers located in different slum pockets in the vicinity of Jahangirpuri children home.

These centers cover more than six hundred children through the various intervention programmes. Apart from this, there are 15 learning centers under the program of UEE.

### **Childline Project**

Childline is a referral agency funded by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. The child help line is a free telephone service (1098), meant for children in distress. The facilities provided to the children through the Childline could range from mere interaction with a traumatized child to the provision of shelter, food, non-formal education, recreation, counseling, health care and vocational training.

### **Jan Shikshan Sansthan Prayas**

Jan Shikshan Sansthan Prayas (formerly known as Shramik Vidyapeeth) an institute sponsored by Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India. The main functions include imparting vocational training to the underprivileged masses (especially youths) of the society at very marginalized fees in various trades like Computers, Candle Making, Carpentry, Auto Repairing, Garment Making, Cutting and Tailoring etc.

### **Street Children Project**

Besides, providing residential and non-residential care the Prayas JAC provides a platform to offer services exclusively for street and working children. This project covers children working on the railway platforms and the vegetable market at Azadpur (Biggest in Asia) and the adjoining areas. The specific objectives of this special project are:

- Identification of Street and Working Children and their enrollment with various developmental activities

- Protection against abuse, exploitation and destitution
- Provision of Alternative Education along with other services like mid – day meal, recreation etc.
- Rehabilitation through vocational training, repatriation and reintegration with their families,
- Awareness generation of the wider community about the problem faced by these children through advocacy and other measures.
- Research, documentation and dissemination of information about street and working children and their problems and
- Provision of learning opportunities through fieldwork for student social workers and NGO personnel.

## CHILDLINE

Prayas has been operating as a nodal agency of Childline in Delhi since the year 2002. The aim of the unit is to reach out to the most marginalized children between the ages of 0 – 18 years. It also offers a variety of services aimed at rescue, care and protection, shelter, counseling, medical care, rehabilitation, sponsorship, restoration to their families wherever possible and emotional support and guidance.

### Activity Report –Collaborative Organizations

#### 1. Calls statistics in the following format for the appropriate period (2004 –2005)

Type of calls	Total no. of calls												
	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar	Total
Intervention	03	05	01	03	03	05	01	00	01	00	03	02	27
Medical help	08	13	03	20	12	30	12	07	07	10	01	07	130
Shelter	02	03	02	17	08	06	04	03	03	02	02	07	59
Repatriation	08	00	00	03	01	05	02	01	03	01	01	03	28
Rescue	00	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	01
Death related	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
Sponsorship	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
<b>Missing children</b>													
Child lost	13	28	15	27	27	25	14	13	15	16	23	25	240
Parents asking help	43	47	31	48	46	48	45	43	57	31	34	32	445
Emotional support and guidance	01	01	03	01	01	02	01	02	02	02	02	03	21
<b>Information</b>													
Info. And referral services	13	09	07	03	04	06	08	14	10	08	06	18	74
Information about CHILDLINE & VOL.	06	03	03	00	00	04	05	31	17	11	02	07	89
<b>Others</b>													
Unclassified	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
Did not find (DNF)	01	00	00	01	01	00	00	01	00	00	01	00	05
Crank/chat/	317	233	190	278	251	151	184	215	195	233	131	108	2486

fun/abusive													
Wrong	237	176	161	221	213	171	228	294	242	243	156	164	2506
Silent	293	199	165	253	316	198	218	253	223	241	187	123	2669
Blank	485	443	281	383	351	305	370	478	408	412	293	258	4467
Follow-up calls	33	29	32	39	33	36	30	35	07	23	06	18	311
Phone-testing calls	31	37	39	41	27	33	29	30	28	38	47	51	431
Administrative	49	89	46	41	44	65	94	112	105	174	189	194	1202
Personal	121	59	54	55	43	100	85	64	70	107	93	87	938
<b>Total</b>	<b>1665</b>	<b>1374</b>	<b>1036</b>	<b>1432</b>	<b>1382</b>	<b>1190</b>	<b>1330</b>	<b>1595</b>	<b>1391</b>	<b>1552</b>	<b>1176</b>	<b>1107</b>	<b>16119</b>

### New Innovations in CHILDLINE

1. The CHILDLINE Prayas organized a get together with Hospitals in which it invited the staff of Hospital (i.e. Doctors, nurses, Administrative staff). All staff of hospital gathered in the conference hall of the hospital, where CHILDLINE staff conducted an awareness activity about CHILDLINE child rights, child labour etc. Questions were raised by the staff of Hospital like how much time you would take after a call, adoption of child etc. the CHILDLINE staff clarified their question and gave them a positive response. The get together was organized in two hospitals on 18 May 2004 at BJRM Hospital and at ID Hospital, Camp.
2. The CHILDLINE staff also contacted the Newspaper vendor and the authorized agent so that the CHILDLINE stickers and pamphlets could be attached with the newspaper to create awareness about the CHILDLINE and it's functioning in the community.
3. Besides this training of P.C.O. owners, police personnel's and also building network and liasioning with them was also done by the CHILDLINE team in north Delhi.
4. CHILDLINE team organized a community based outreach program in every alternate month.
5. Quarterly training cum get together of P.C.O. owners with the Jahangirpuri PCO owners and CHILDLINE staff.

### Naya Prayas Project, south Delhi

Started in 1993 to help vulnerable girl children working as domestic help along with the migrant children in couple of areas of south Delhi. Initially, the project catered only to the need of the children but late on it also responded to the needs of poor and jobless mothers by introducing vocational training program that could use the traditional skills of these women.

## **Activities:**

### **Education**

No. of AE Centres	08
No. of children enrolled in NFE centres	510
No. of children mainstreamed into Govt. school	381
No. of children given special coaching	233
No. of children given Mid-day meal	514
No. of children sponsored	41
No. of library members	307

### **Health**

No. of health camp organized	35
No. of children examined	1101
No. of children with health card	504
No. of children referred to hospital for treatment	55

### **Vocational Training**

No. of children/women enrolled C/T & Embr.	178
No. of children/women completed C/T & Embr.	155
No. of men/women enrolled in Computer course	160
No. of women/men completed the Computer course training	153
No. of women enrolled in Beauty Culture	30
No. of women completed Beauty Culture training	27
No. of children/women placed in jobs after the completion of training	240

### **Self-Help Groups**

No of SHGs with their Bank Accounts	06
SHGs of Men's group	03
SHGs of Women's group	04

### **Recreational Activities**

- Dance and coloring competition organized on 9 April 2004 in collaboration with HSBC
- Children were taken to show "Spider Man II at Sangam Cinema on 7 Aug 2004. The show was sponsored by American Express
- Children were taken to Garden of five senses for the cultural programme organized by Prayas on 13 August 2004
- Children were taken to National Museum and Children's Park for a picnic on 28 August 2004
- Prayas annual week celebrated from 1- 5 November 2004, in all the communities falling under Naya Prayas. Children enjoyed participating in the week long celebration full of drawing competition, debate competition, mehendi competition, extempore, bridal make up competition, dance competition, healthy baby show and fancy dress competition.

- Children of Naya Prayas centre actively participated in a weeklong festival 'Udaan' organized by Prayas at Dilli Haat. They participated in activities like painting, drawing, games and folk dance
- Diwali was celebrated on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2004 with the children and the community members
- On 6<sup>th</sup> of February 2005, 5 children participated in the rally at Nehru Park, organized by Mobile Creche.
- On 13<sup>th</sup> of February 2005, children of Naya Prayas participated in the culture meet organized by Jamia Milia Islamia University. On 22<sup>nd</sup> of February 2005, Ms. Komal visited Naya Prayas and met the sponsor child.
- On 19<sup>th</sup> of March 2005, Children of all the Remedial Centres of Naya Prayas were taken to Children's Park for 'Bal Mela'. On 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2005, death anniversary of Mr. N C Gupta's daughter was organized at Bhanwar Singh Camp.

#### **Chottu's Story**

Chottu a sponsored child of Kusumpur Pahari participated in the painting competition organized by CAF at Shree Ram School on 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2005. He stood third in the competition

#### **Social Awareness Programmes**

- Mrs. Joyce Moll from the organization, VOICE visited Naya Prayas on 17 November 2004, Mrs. Joyce Moll from the organization VOICE took a session about Mental Health with the educators.
- An interactive session about Health and Hygiene and Nutrition with the women of the community of Bhanwar Singh Camp was conducted by the trainees of Vishwa Bharati University, Kolkata on 31 November 2004, A cleaning campaign was organized by them
- On 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2005, Health camp was organized at Kusumpur Pahari with the help of Shradha Social Welfare Association. Three doctors including the members of the organization were present for the camp. During the health camp 140 children and the staff of Naya Prayas were examined and medicines were distributed.

#### **New Initiatives**

- 12 Remedial Centers were started from 4 October 2004, under the project, "Community Owned Effort To Universalize Elementary Education In Urban Deprived Community Concerning Mainstreaming of 11-14 yr Old Out of School Children ". This project is affiliated to MHRD.
- On 13th of January 2005, educators for Bridge Course centres were appointed. Training was imparted to all the educators.

## Supporting Partners

- Ms. Nancy Dickinson, regional head of HSBC and Mr. Mohit Seth, Sr. Manager, hand over a cheque of Rs. 2,40,000 at Naya Prayas on 20 January 2005
- On 27 January 2005, Mehandi Ratan from Institute Of Language, Govt. of India, came for the supervision of Library at Naya Prayas.

## Trainings

- All the educators attended a workshop on counseling organized by Sarthak on 22 April 2004
- All the educators attended the workshop on teaching aids on 24 and 25 May 2004,
- Educator's training for remedial teaching organized at Jahangirpuri from 19-21 November 2004
- From 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2005, workshop in hand embroidery craft for the SHG women is organized in collaboration with Ministry of Textile.

## Children's Hope Prayas

Located in West Delhi the project was started in 1994 to help neglected children. Most of the children belong to the families adept in performing traditional art forms. These include folk dance & music, acrobatics and puppetry – all of which are taught to children from an early age. Quite a few of the children are also involved in occupation like rag picking, hawking, begging, domestic work etc.

The activities of the project are being supported by the HPS Foundation funds and the Children's Hope, USA.

**Health Services:** Prayas Health Services covers all children and provides healthcare and referral services. It also runs awareness and educative programs to sensitize adolescent boys and girls on HIV/AIDS.

**Crèche:** Two crèche were started for the younger children with working parents. This facility has provided the elder girls with the opportunity to get enrolled in the alternative education centers. Each child is provided a wholesome mid – day meal twice a day

**Activities with Children:** Recreational activities and outside visits are quite frequent. They include visits to book fairs, picnics, camps; street plays, painting competition, toy making from waste material and regular celebration of festivals and important days. This year children received certificates from Nehru Bal Samiti an NGO in Delhi.

**Women's Empowerment:** This program is guided and implemented in collaboration with JSS Prayas. Opportunities of training and work have been created for the SHG women by corporate houses, in stitching, making of chapatti boxes, hanky basket, Coca Cola Bags, paper envelope for enhancing their income and to make them independent.

**Outreach/ Mobilization:** A long – term change in the lives of the children calls for a change in the lives of the women and community at large. In this regard a task force of field workers has been formed to assess the unique needs/ strengths, identify key people/ leaders, mobilize

community resources, help improve conditions and provide opportunities for growth and development. The task force actively works to generate parental involvement and support for education and health. It initiates and facilitates interaction between the community and municipal authorities for provision of clean water, sanitation and other civic amenities.

### **Awareness Programs**

- Regular community awareness programs were held on issues of family planning, sanitation, hygiene and diseases.
- Health talks on nutrition diet with demonstration held in collaboration with the Food and Nutrition Board, Govt. of India.

### **Prayas Observation Home for Boys (POHB)**

Located near Delhi Gate this custodial institution was run by the Delhi administration prior to being taken over by Prayas whereafter it was rechristened Prayas Observation Home for Boys. This also turned out to be an experiment and a testing ground for the changes in the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000. As mentioned under Care and Protection, the changeover resulted in giving an all round face-lift to the activities of this Fit Institution. These include comprehensive health care with regular check ups, non-formal education and vocational training (Candle making, Cutting and Tailoring, Embroidery and Knitting, Book-binding, Dyeing and tying, Chalk-making, Jute-work etc.), recreation, counseling, picnics, educational tours, participation in painting and sports competitions etc.

In July 2003, the responsibilities of the Home was converted into an Observation Home for Juveniles in Conflict with Law at the instance of the Delhi Government and Prayas once again took the challenge. The transition has placed a new and greater challenge before Prayas, of coping effectively with the needs of juveniles in conflict with the law. Bearing in mind the emotional problems faced by such children, Prayas is paying special attention to counseling of these children with the objective of reducing their emotional stress to facilitate their rehabilitation. The entire routine of the Home is based on a **Sadan** (like a house in boarding school) system. The Sadans help to develop a we feeling among the children for more effective management.

During the course of running this home Prayas noticed several lacunae. A need was strongly felt for certain modifications within the Act, like the composition of the Juvenile Courts and Boards, introducing fundamental changes like privatization of homes etc. The experience gained in running this institution thus enabled Prayas to play a significant role in reformulating the Juvenile Justice Act of 1986. The efforts made by Prayas led to the reenactment of the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 into the new Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) of Children's Act, 2000. This act now serves as a blue print of child welfare and development in the country.

### **Health Programs undertaken in the Prayas OB Home for Boys**

For the first time, a fully equipped medical unit, with a full-time doctor and 2 staff-nurses has been maintained. Under the able guidance of Dr. V.J. Anand, eminent Surgeon, L.N.J.P Hospital, priorities were fixed with the objective to reach the goal of providing 'Health to All'. This goal covers the following objectives:-

- Promotion of positive health

- Prevention of the epidemic diseases
- Early diagnosis, treatment and follow up
- Referral services, as and when required

In order to achieve the objective of promoting good health basic steps like supervision of hygiene such as: A) daily checking of personal hygiene of children, B) proper washing of clothes, C) keeping the external surroundings like toilet, bathrooms, dormitories and classrooms clean and tidy, E) daily brushing of teeth and bathing with soap in the morning, F) proper maintenance of pots and pans used in the kitchen, G) cutting of nails and hair, H) wearing of appropriate clothes during summer and winter, J) making drinking water safe by adding chlorine tablets in the water cooler, etc. All these measures, led to the control of diseases like Scabies, Pyoderma etc. Special efforts have gone in the treatment of problem related to lice, which is common amongst the children who are brought to the Home.

A Dental Care Clinic was set up in the Home, which was inaugurated by the Health Minister Dr. A.K. Walia. Three dentists from the dental wing of Maulana Azad Medical College, provide free services twice a week. This clinic is first of its kind to be established in an NGO to provide oral health.

The doctors from Indian Academic of Pediatrician visit the Home periodically and conduct the checkup of the inmates. Recently the Escorts Heart Institution has also entered into collaboration with Prayas to treat heart related problems of the children. They have already conducted one camp in Prayas Observation Home on 31 May, 2000. Besides this, three interns from Maulana Azad Medical College visit six days a week and conduct free OPD for the children. On an average the children gain 3 kg. of weight during the stay of 3 months according to a study conducted by Prof. Kalyani Singh, Lady Irwin College.

### **Recreational activities undertaken in POHB**

Recreation, in the context of a particular age group comprises of activity based outdoor sports and some indoor games, which involve physical movements to a great extent. Recreation here also includes excursions, picnics, outings, visits etc., which are elaborated below. Preferences of the children are always taken into consideration during the planning of recreational activities. So much so, for the first time in the children's park, swings were installed, cricket bats and balls were provided, soccer, volleyball, basketball, flying disc, skipping ropes, badminton, ludos, chess, caroms, video-film shows, music sessions and dances were also introduced.

### **Outings and Excursion**

This is a bold initiative that has been widely acknowledged as well as admired by all concerned. In the past, the inmates were never allowed to go out. Outing and excursion have become the routine affair of the Home now. Our experiment affirms that such bold initiative wipeouts the otherwise prison like atmosphere in a Home.

### **Probation unit**

Probation unit is being managed by four professionally qualified Probation Officers (POs). They study the antecedents of juveniles, comprising of their family background, neighborhood set up, socio-economic status etc., to understand and diagnose the problems of the juveniles.

Probation Unit also conducts home visits and takes in depth interviews of the parents of the juveniles. As soon as a new child is admitted in the Home, the Probation Officer gets in touch with the child in order to know his background and address. On receipt of his address, the information is immediately send to the parents through letter, telegram, telephone or other sources accordingly. In many cases where small children are not able to give any clue about their residential addresses, their photographs are published in the newspapers and telecasted on Doordarshan. For the local children, the PO conducts home visit along with the child who helps in locating the home. The PO carries out a detailed investigation, on the basis of which s/he then prepares suitable recommendations for the rehabilitation of the children. The recommendations are placed before the Juvenile Welfare Board (JWB), so as to obtain legal orders regarding the disposal of the cases. Children belonging to other states are escorted by the Prayas staff or 3rd battalion, for restoration to their parents or for transfer to the State Homes.

### **Astha Prayas, East Delhi**

Astha Prayas signifies a local initiative of the public-spirited citizens of Jwala Nagar in East Delhi. Totally self – dependent to project provides vocational training to poor girls besides giving mid- day meals to 80 children every day. Supported by local philanthropists, Astha Prayas, imparts non- formal education to scores of children and enables sizable number of them to be mainstreamed in the nearby government schools. The dedicated volunteers and staff have brought about a vast change in the lives of children in this neglected area of Delhi.

**Mid- day Meal:** Astha Prayas provides mid- day meals to all NFE Children through out the Year.

#### **Health Care:**

- Routine check- up of the children is conducted. Health camps are organized by Prayas Health Service.

#### **Achievements**

- Twelve children were mainstreamed in MCD schools.
- Children have been receiving prizes for presenting outstanding performances in painting and dance competitions.
- Children are taken for adventure trips and taught rock climbing and tracking. Talented children of the community are picked and given training in dance by professional choreographers.
- The most distinctive features of this project have been a total self – reliance with the assistance of Prayas expertise to innovatively run the project.

## Programmes outside Delhi

Prayas has expanded its work and addresses the needs of the marginalized children and their families in the states of Gujarat, Bihar, Assam, and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. As such it reaches out to more than 50,000 children through its programmes on alternative education, nutrition, counselling, recreation and vocational skills empowerment.

### **Bihar**

The State of Bihar is considered to be among the most economically deprived states of the country. The State also has one of the highest numbers of neglected children and children living in difficult circumstances. As such it has initiated several programmes to deal with different problems associated with children of the state. Some of these projects are:

#### **Bihar Voluntary Coordinating Agency**

The poverty in the state often leads to the destitution and abandonment of infants. While deliberating upon the 'Adoption programmes' in the country the Supreme Court of India in its judgment pronounced that every State should have a Voluntary Coordinating Agency (VCA) to ensure proper implementation of the laws pertaining to adoption and neglected children.

**Objective:** The project addresses the adoption issues of newborn babies and to curb the problem of child trafficking. It works with nursing homes to stop the child trafficking in the hospitals by exposing the child trafficking channels or networks and to sensitize the doctors regarding promotion of legal adoption.

**About the project in brief:** Prayas, in collaboration with East and West Education Society, an NGO with excellent track record in Patna, has been running programmes at the grassroots and co-ordinating with the local agencies through training, workshops, research studies, etc. Prayas and East & West Educational Society have established the statutory body as a separate society, named Bihar Voluntary Coordinating Agency in response to the Supreme Court's judgement. The Society has a network with NGOs and the State Government to regulate and facilitate in-country and inter-country adoption of children. The project aims to stop child trafficking in the hospitals. It has been reported that staffs of several hospitals & Nursing Homes are involved in child trafficking. It has also been reported that staffs of these places sell babies of unwed mothers privately to the couples who are eager to adopt. Therefore, it becomes essential to advocate these doctors regarding the procedure of legal adoption.

#### **Prayas Bikas Bharati Bagaha Project**

**Location:** Bagaha, West Champaran district

**Issues addressed:** West Champaran is one of the most backward district of Bihar. Dalits and Adivasis together constitute 15.7% of the population. Of the 35 districts in India that rank lowest in terms of women's literacy, 15 are in Bihar. Champaran is notorious dacoit country where the sword definitely scores over the pen.

**Objective:** To mobilize the community and encourage parents to send their children to schools. To economically empower women by forming Self Help groups and training these women in various skills.

**About the project in brief:** Prayas started its project in the West Champaran district of Bihar with a view to not only provide education to the children but also to raise the living standard of the people. The children belonging to the marginalized community were given non- formal education in an alternative center after which they are mainstreamed. Apart from it Self Help groups are formed in the community to improve the economic condition of women in rural areas under Prayas Institute of Juvenile Justice (PIEE). Livelihood programme of cutting, tailoring, & embroidery under PIEE, for economically marginalized women.

### **Prayas - Mira Memorial Trust**

**Areas covered by the project:** Bastapur, Chandrahiya, Sarangpur, Semra

**Issues covered:** The project deals with rescued children from trafficking networks, runaway and working children. The child trafficking and child labor is growing rampantly in Bihar. Every year hundreds of children runaway from their home in search of work and end up working at railway stations. There are many others who are lured and are trafficked. Bihar serves as source state for trafficking of children. Hundreds of young girls in Bihar and are forcibly taken away to the other states.

**Objective:** To rescue children from the trafficking network and to provide education, shelter and psychological support to these children. Also to provide all the basic facilities to the street and working children.

**About the project in brief:** Prayas started the project in collaboration with the Mass Education Directorate of Government of Bihar. So far 10 education centers have been set up and are catering to the needs of 250 neglected out-of-school children. The curriculum of these centers was designed with a significant target of mainstreaming participating children in accordance with the outside advanced world.

Apart from it a shelter home is being run in Motihari. Under this rescued children are provided with shelter facilities. Further counselors are also working round the clock to give psychological support to these vulnerable children. The project also deals with the restoration of the children to their respective family is also being considered.

Prayas in Motihari also works with the street & working children. Under this project runaway children and children working under hazardous conditions at railway stations are being looked after. Prayas is initiating its support in the form of alternative education, free meals, and shelter homes to ameliorate the lives of these neglected children.

The other project running in Motihari is Prayas Bal Chetna Kendra. Under this project children are encouraged to get enrolled, so that they could be provided with education and gradually mainstreamed with the curriculum of other advanced schools.

## **Prayas Samastipur Project**

**Major issues:** As per one of the reports of UNICEF there are nearly 60 of every 1,000 children in Bihar – one of India’s poorest states – do not live to celebrate their first birthday primarily because they do not get proper health services. Around 60 per cent of street children sweating it out in Delhi’s roadside hotels, streets and railway station are from Bihar.

**Objective:** The project works on the issues of neglected children and marginalized communities. It aims at eliminating child labour and to provide education through school or alternative education. To provide health care and shelter for neglected, homeless and street children. Create opportunities for development and rehabilitation of the children in need of care and protection. Apart from it the project aims at imparting vocational skills and job oriented training for the youth and women. Thus promoting socio- economic empowerment of the marginalized women and communities.

**Project in brief:** Prayas Samastipur project presently is engaged in providing functional skills to youths and girls in order to rehabilitate them and link and mainstream them for their socio-economic betterment. Prayas Samastipur imparts vocational education through its seven centers in following trades- stitching, cutting and embroidery, beauty culture, traditional ‘madhubani’ painting, screen printing and computer training. After completing the training in the vocational courses women are able to earn for themselves. The basic idea behind this project is to take each and every child to school or to provide them a highly structured innovative non- formal education. And later enroll them in government schools once basic literacy and education have been provided to them as per their age. . The project has also come up with the Drop –in center for Railway children to provide care and protection to children living and working at railway platforms in Samastipur railway station. The Railway Police Force (RPF) and Women Welfare Organization (WWO) are also part of this project. Through this program, the attempts are being made to bring such children in mainstream who come in contact of the police through counseling and by following the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (care and protection of child) Act, 2000. The project has introduced Self Help Groups (SHGs), micro- credit and income generating programs: Through these programs, women/men of weaker sections are motivated to become economically independent by starting their own economic activities. Samastipur Chetriya Gramin Bank has been linked with SHGs for loan etc

## **Sneh Prayas, Gujarat**

On January 26 2001, a huge earthquake shook the state of Gujarat, resulting in thousands of deaths and massive destruction of property, infrastructure and livestock. Prayas responded to the crisis immediately providing food, temporary shelter, trauma counselling, community centres and day care for orphaned children and women.

**Project Location:** Bhuj, Bhachau in Kutch and Ahmedabad

**Issues covered:** The project was initiated to work towards the needs of the people affected by the earthquake in Kutch. Earthquake in the Kutch destroyed the houses leaving many families homeless. The health care facility was absent specially women and children were suffering from malnourishment- number of starvation death was on rise. Education infrastructure was nearly absent. There was no proper drinking water facility.

**Objectives:** Rehabilitation of the earthquake affected people in Kutch through self- help and focus on child survival, health of the women, community development and water issues.

**Project in brief:** The project covered the worst affected talukas of Kutch area serving fifty villages from the Bhachau taluka of the Kutch area and five slum communities in Ahmedabad. The project also focused on alternative education, vocational education, day care, mid- day meals and recreational services for children. Primary health care, counseling services, community mobilization and self- group activities for economic rehabilitation was taken up. Under this project shelters were also created for needy children and women with voluntary contribution of land by the villages. Besides, houses were constructed to help the disabled and most vulnerable section of the population affected by the earthquake. By way of promoting the rights of the disabled and providing legal support to the projects foster closer links between the earthquake victims and various government agencies meant to help the former. Additionally, a special livelihood support program was initiated to help the deserving whereby they were enabled to promote self-sustenance.

## **Assam**

The state of Assam has been badly affected by armed insurgency over the last one and a half decades with various insurgent groups. These low intensity' conflicts frequently involve the creation of a state of terror to penetrate the fabric of grass roots social relations for entire populations, with social and cultural institutions and ways of life routinely targeted. Men, women and children are now directly drawn, even coerced, into the conflict as 'active participants' on one side or the other, since these wars are being fought more in the backyards, villages and suburban streets and less in battlefields. This seriously perturbed the life of common people.

Realizing the gravity of the situation Prayas came into action and is trying its level best to bring the life of the people to normal.

**Location:** Jorhat, Guwahati

**Objective:** Working for marginalized children, youth and women

Prayas joined hands with Assam Sewa Samiti as a joint initiative for child protection / juvenile justice, shelter facilities, related programs for disadvantaged children, empowerment of youth and women at the unit at Noonmati Shishu Mangal Kendra at Noonmati in Guwahati.

To meet the basic needs of children by providing them with shelter, alternative education, computer literacy and provide them with the vocational training, counseling and recreation to enhance their aptitude and skills.

**Major issues covered:** Assam remains the only state in the northeast where poverty coupled with terrorism is still a major issue. The various terrorist attacks from the terrorist groups Naxalites and Maoists have disturbed the normal life of the people specially the children. There are many children who do not have to basic facilities.

### **Partnership in Observation Home, Lichubari**

Alok Prayas was formally launched in Assam on December 2004. In Jorhat the project concentrate on the Juvenile Justice related issues and works towards the proper implementation of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act 2000 at Lichubari Observation Home for Juveniles (in conflict with law) in order to create some difference in this extremely neglected Remand Home for delinquent children that cater to 10 districts of Assam.

### **Prayas Institute of Economic Empowerment, Teok, Jorhat**

Apart from it the project also works for the upliftment of Assam tribe at Teok Circle "Rajabari" under Prayas Institute of Economic Empowerment (PIEE). Various workshops and the training cum trade activities are organized. The computer labs are set up to uplift the literacy rate in the community.

## Prayas in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

### Prayas Childline



Mrs. Meira Kumar, Union Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment and Mrs. Jagdishan at the inauguration of Prayas Childline at Port Blair

Immediately after the Tsunami killer waves devastated Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Prayas approached the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MJ&E) with the request for initiating the Childline and Crisis Intervention Programme for child victims of Tsunami devastation in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

The efforts of rebuilding the lives of the shattered was done through Prayas Samudai Samiti, a body, consisting of parents, children, community leaders and

our instructors. Local politicians were also invited to attend these meetings. This body essentially provides support and strengthens to our AE programme in the slums through the management of the educational programmes and monitoring the children's progress. PSS provides counseling to dropouts, maladjusted and abused children. Each of the Prayas AE centre has a PSS to support its activities. The members held meeting at least once in a month where they interacted with the families of children on a regular basis at individual level.

## **New Initiatives**

### **National Study on Child Abuse**

Action based research forms the core activity of the organization. While implementing the projects and programs we have had innumerable experiences and findings that have been of great worth in guiding the programs. This has not only been helpful in giving clarity to our own understanding of the concept to us but has been helpful far and wide in developing replicable models. In one of the major recent initiatives Prayas has been entrusted with the responsibility of leading a Nationwide Study on Child Abuse based on its wide experiences. The broad objective of this study is to develop a common understanding of the extremely complex phenomenon of child abuse, with a view to formulating appropriate policies and programmes to deal with the issue. However, through the specific objectives are:

- Assess the extent, magnitude and forms of child abuse in India.
- Study the profile of the abused/exploited children, their situation and relationship with the perpetrator.
- Map existing interventions by the Government, NGOs and the civil society in the specified districts
- Recommend measures/ strategies for policy, legislations and program development.

## Fostering Valuable Partnerships: Donors and Partners

<b>International</b>	<b>National – Government</b>	<b>Institutional</b>	<b>Corporates</b>
• USAID / REACH India	• MoSJ&E	• NIPCCD	• Microsoft
• NORAD	• MHRD	• NLI	• Indian Oil Corporation
• CIDA	• MY&S	• NCW	• Ernst & Young
• Action Aid	• MH&FW	• DCW	• HSBC
• Children's Hope, USA	• Ministry of Labour	• DSSW	• Coke India Ltd.
• British Police	• Dept. of Social Welfare, NCT, Delhi	• JMI	• Hindustan Petroleum Corporation
• UNIFEM	• DSACS, NCT, Delhi	• TISS	• National Thermal Power Corporation
• Rotary International	• Dept. of Education		• LG Electronics
• CRS	• MoSJ&E, Govt. of Gujarat		• IBM - Daksh
• UNICEF	• Dept. of SW, Govt. of Bihar		
• AUSAID	• Dept. of Mass Edu, Bihar		
• IPEC-ILO	• Govt. of Assam		
• TDH, Germany	• CSWB		
• UNESCO			
• CARE-India			
• PRI			
• IOM			

## Balance Sheet / Statement of Accounts

### PRAYAS

#### BALANCE SHEET AS AT MARCH 31, 2005

	SCHEDULE	2005 Rs.	2004 Rs.
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
CORPUS FUND	1	42,943,031	37,226,472
CAPITAL FUND	2	44,723,533	44,708,314
GENERAL FUND	3	1,371,793	3,473,670
CURRENT LIABILITIES	4	20,356,982	6,978,732
		<b>109,395,339</b>	<b>92,387,188</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>			
FIXED ASSETS	5	50,556,109	49,705,805
INVESTMENTS	6	40,364,087	28,470,500
CURRENT ASSETS, LOANS & ADVANCES	7	18,475,143	14,210,883
		<b>109,395,339</b>	<b>92,387,188</b>
NOTES TO ACCOUNTS	13		

As per our report of even date

for NIWAS GUPTA & ASSOCIATES  
Chartered Accountants

  
R N GUPTA  
Proprietor



  
D N MATHUR  
VICE PRESIDENT

  
S NARANG  
TREASURER

  
RAJIB K HALDAR  
EXEC. DIRECTOR/  
JT. SECRETARY

Delhi : September 27, 2005

## PRAYAS

### INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2005

	SCHEDULE	2005 Rs.	2004 Rs.
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>			
SCHEME	8	47,933,043	30,966,919
NON-SCHEME	9	19,149,769	11,786,766
EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME		2,123,717	1,950,832
		<b><u>69,206,529</u></b>	<b><u>44,734,517</u></b>
<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>			
SCHEME	10	32,460,035	27,460,307
NON-SCHEME	11	19,801,184	11,130,268
UNUTILISED GRANT/FUND	12	16,945,310	5,143,942
		<b><u>69,206,529</u></b>	<b><u>43,734,517</u></b>

As per our report of even date

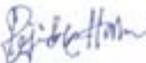
for NIWAS GUPTA & ASSOCIATES  
Chartered Accountants

  
R N GUPTA  
Proprietor



  
D N MATHUR  
VICE PRESIDENT

  
S NARANG  
TREASURER

  
RAJIB K HALDAR  
EXEC DIRECTOR/  
JT. SECRETARY

Delhi : September 27, 2005

**SCHEDULE 13**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

1. Income & Expenditure are accounted for on Accrual basis.
2. No depreciation is provided on fixed assets.
3. The Society has carried out physical verification of fixed assets, cash balances and of stocks and no discrepancies were found.
4. Income Scheme includes unutilised balance of previous year Grants and Grants received/receivable for the year.
5. Expenditure Scheme also includes contribution of the Society.
6. Grants received for specific purpose pending utilisation are carried forward as liability till actual expenditure is incurred.
7. Value of donations received in kind is estimated at market value.
8. FDRs have been physically verified during the year and no discrepancies were found.
9. Interest on FDRs is accounted for on Receipt Basis.
10. The Society has received donations for Tsunami Victims. The Society has maintained a separate bank account and record for Tsunami Donations.
11. The Society has received donations u/s 35AC of the Income tax Act, 1961. The Society has maintained a separate bank account and record.
12. Organization's Contribution both in cash and kind under NCRAD and Other Projects are reflected under different expenditure heads at various centers as non-scheme expenditure.
13. Previous year figures have been re-arranged/re-grouped, wherever necessary, to make them comparable with those of the current year.

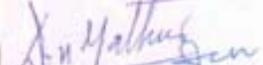
Schedule 1 to 13 form an integral part of the Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account.

As per our report of even date

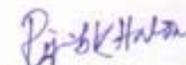
For NIWAS GUPTA & ASSOCIATES  
Chartered Accountants

  
R N GUPTA  
Proprietor



  
D N MATHUR  
VICE PRESIDENT

  
S NARANG  
TREASURER

  
RAJIB K HALDAR  
EXEC. DIRECTOR/  
JT. SECRETARY

Delhi : September 27, 2005

## Project Details

**Prayas Juvenile Aid Center (JAC)**  
EE Block, Jahangirpuri, Delhi-110033,  
Tel: 27633906, 27633907

**Prayas Children's Home**  
EE Block, Jahangirpuri, Delhi-110033,  
Tel: 27634853, 27633906, 27634853  
Email: pch@prayaschildren.org

**Prayas Childline (1098)**  
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Tel: 27633906, 27633907

**Prayas Observation Home for Boys**  
Feroz Shah Kotla, Delhi Gate, Delhi-110002  
Tel: 23318003, 23731218  
Email: pohb@prayaschildren.org

**Naya Prayas**  
MCD Building Basti Vikas Kendra,  
Bhanwar Singh Camp, Vasant Vihar,  
New Delhi-110057, Tel: 65481173  
Email: nayaprayas@prayaschildren.org

**Bhatti Mines Project**  
Sanjay Colony, Bhatti Mines Police Chowki,  
New Delhi-110030

**Prayas Health Service**  
8/35 Kirti Nagar, Industrial Area  
New Delhi-110015, Tel: 25927766  
Email: phs@prayaschildren.org

**Anupam Prayas**  
**(Children's Hope Inc. Project, USA)**  
Basti Vikas Kendra, Katputli Colony,  
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**Astha Prayas**  
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**Jan Shikshan Sansthan Prayas**  
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**Bihar Voluntary Coordinating Agency**  
Arogya Niketan, Nala Road, Patna-800004  
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Email: bvca@satyam.net.in  
Bvca@prayaschildren.org

**Mira Memorial Trust Prayas Shishu Niketan**  
*(A Home for Neglected Children)*  
Shri Deoraha Path, Mohalla-New Agarwa,  
P.O. Motihari-845401, Dist. E. Champaran, Bihar  
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**Sambhav Prayas**  
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**Darbhanga Prayas Project**  
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Tel: 06272-233476

**Prayas-Samastipur**  
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**Prayas Bharti**  
Institute of Juvenile Justice, At. Srinagar, Naraipur,  
Bagaha-2, Dist. West Champaran, Bihar-841505  
Tel: 06251-226455, 09431076342

**Sneh Prayas**  
**Project Office** : Prayas 3 & 4, Manmohan Complex,  
Behind Navrangpura Police Station,  
Navrangpura, Ahmedabad-380009  
Telefax : 079-26461777  
Email : snehprayas@info.org www.snehprayas.org  
**Project** : Village & P.O. Kharoi, Dist : Bhachau,  
Gujarat, Tel. : 02837-2868701

**Prayas Childline**  
Office of the Directorate of Social Welfare  
Gole Ghar, Port Blair, Andaman - 744 101  
Tel: 03192-237742



**Prayas Institute of Juvenile Justice**  
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