



## **QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER**

**April 2026 – June 2026**

**School for Potential Advancement and Restoration of Confidence (SPARC)  
India**

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## INTRODUCTION

School for Potential Advancement and Restoration of Confidence (SPARC)-India is a non-profit organization with its Head Office in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh (UP), and has been in existence for 26 years now. The Founder Director and Chairperson, Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra, is himself having Cerebral Palsy (CP) with mild spasticity since birth, and it was his cherished dream to work for the cause of disability. He did his post-graduation from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai, and served corporates and CSOs in Bihar and UP. Recently, he completed his PhD from the Department of Psychology, University of Lucknow, and was awarded a PhD degree in Applied Psychology. At present, he is nominated as a member of the Steering Committee of the State Election Commission, Government of Uttar Pradesh, and nominated as a member (renewed) of the State Coordination Committee on Disability. He is also a member of the State Advisory Board on Disability of Uttar Pradesh.

SPARC-India was formed in 1995 and registered in July 1996 as a voluntary organization that aimed to empower people with various disabilities, especially people with CP. SPARC-India started its Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) program in the year 1996 for persons with disabilities (PwDs) in the urban slums of Lucknow. The thrust of the program was on health and medical rehabilitation, the formation of Disabled Persons Organizations (DPOs) / Self-Help Groups (SHGs) of PwDs & their families, and establishing linkages with government schemes.

In due course of time, SPARC-India gradually established Jyoti Kiran School (JKS) for children with CP in the year 2003. Recently, SPARC-India has been aligning itself to the philosophy of 'Inclusion'. It emphasizes that inclusive environments will help in minimizing segregation and deep-rooted misunderstandings and prejudices between children with disabilities (CwDs) and non-challenged sections of society. In 2005, SPARC-India set up a Vocational Training and Placement Cell for PwDs to provide placement services to them. SPARC-India has immense experience in imparting vocational training and skill development programs for PwDs.

SPARC-India established Uttar Pradesh Viklang Manch (UPVM) to develop a support system for CwDs / PwDs to help them exercise their statutory rights and avail entitlements. SPARC-India has provided counselling to approximately 12000 community members, vocational training to about 2500 PwDs, and has created self-employment opportunities for more than 1200 PwDs and their family members.

## **JYOTI KIRAN SCHOOL (JKS)**

Jyoti Kiran School intervention continued in collaboration with the State Bank of India Foundation. It includes education, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy sessions.



**Beads Activity**



**Passing the Ball Game**



**Painting Activity**



**Puzzle Fixing**



**Physiotherapy Sessions**



**Assembling Kit Activity**



**Art / Craft Activity**



**Dance preparation**

## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

The main aim was to ensure that children with special needs receive the rightful access to education and raise awareness among parents and community members about the importance of enrolling these children in schools and the benefits of education. The sensitizations were conducted to inform the community about various government schemes and programs available for Children/Persons with Disabilities, emphasizing their rights to education and support.



Additionally, the initiative included providing hands-on assistance to families in preparing necessary documents for school admissions, such as disability certificates, UDIDs, identity proofs, etc. Community Mobilizer actively guided parents through the application processes and connected them with relevant authorities. This collective effort aimed to empower families, promote inclusivity, and ensure that no child is left behind in their educational journey.

## **SATURDAY ACTIVITY**

Every Saturday, different activities were organized so that the children could experience peer learning, participation, and group work. Students participated in indoor and outdoor games, as the main objective of the activity was to strengthen





muscles, enhance students' creativity, and provide fine motor and sensory skills through Carrom, Ludo, Snakes and Ladders, and throwing balls into baskets, etc. Additionally, we periodically include quiz activities to encourage learning in a fun and interactive manner, ensuring that Saturdays are not only enjoyable but also enriching for all our students.

## PARENTS' SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

A *Parents Support Group* (PSG) meeting was held on **18<sup>th</sup> April 2026 & 16<sup>th</sup> May 2026** at Jyoti Kiran School. The main aims of the meeting were:



- Counselling of parents/guardians
- Review of children's annual examination results and commencement of the new academic session.
- Update on children's therapy progress and addressing therapy-related concerns.
- Information and planning for the upcoming Summer Camp.
- Completion of sponsorship forms and discussion on assistive devices/equipment requirements.
- Guidance on children's nutrition and healthy food habits during the summer season.
- Distribution and explanation of students' report cards.
- Suggestions for meaningful home-based learning and recreational activities during the summer vacation.
- Importance of maintaining children's daily routines, therapy schedules, and structured activities at home.

Counseling of the parents/guardians was done in all the meetings. Since students' progress depends not only on teachers but also on their parents, the JKS staff discussed strategies that can be implemented at home to positively impact children's overall development. The parents were also motivated to send their wards to school regularly.

## CASE CONFERENCE

We conducted the *Case Conference*, which typically involved a collaborative discussion between the special educators, therapist, and coordinator to address the student's academic program, behavior, and other specific challenges.



## CLINIC DAY

Following the case conference, *Clinic Day* was organized for individual students. On clinic day, teachers, parents, therapists, and coordinators discussed the student's behavior, learning difficulties, challenges in activities, and any other issues the child faced.





## HOME VISIT

We conducted the *Home Visits* after the case conference and clinic day. The purpose of visiting the homes of children with disabilities at Jyoti Kiran School is to gain information about the students who have taken admission to the school, to know about them and their family's behavior towards them, their home environment, as well as their daily activities of life and their interests.

*Home Visits* provide teachers an opportunity to connect with parents and discuss the child's progress. It serves as a means to strengthen the relationship between the school, students, and their families while addressing various aspects of the child's well-being and education.



## VALEDICTORY FUNCTION OF SUMMER CAMP

On 23 May 2026, SPARC-India, in collaboration with the SBI Foundation, organized the **Valedictory Function of the Summer Camp** at Ek Prayas Centre, Bakshi Ka Talab, Lucknow. The event celebrated the creativity, talent, and achievements of children with disabilities through cultural performances and an Art & Craft Exhibition.



**Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra**, Founder Director of SPARC-India, welcomed the guests and shared the organization's ongoing initiatives for the empowerment of persons with disabilities.

The programme was graced by **Mr. Vishak G, IAS**, District Magistrate, Lucknow, as the Chief Guest, along with distinguished guests including **Ms. Renu Shukla** (CDPO, Bakshi Ka Talab), **Mr. Sandeep Joshi** (Regional Head – Academic Alliances Group, TCS, Lucknow), **Prof. (Dr.) Vikram Khanna** (KGMU, Lucknow), **Mr. Uma Shankar Singh** (President, SPARC-India), and **Mrs. Mridula Mehrotra** (Board Member, SPARC-India).

In his address, the District Magistrate appreciated SPARC-India's efforts in promoting disability inclusion and emphasized the need to establish more Early Intervention Centers like Ek Prayas.

The programme featured Saraswati Vandana, cultural performances by children with hearing impairment, intellectual disabilities, Down syndrome, and physical disabilities from Jyoti Kiran School and Ek Prayas Centre, followed by an Art & Craft Exhibition showcasing their creativity. The event concluded with the distribution of gifts to all students.

The programme reflected SPARC-India's commitment to promoting inclusion, dignity, and equal opportunities for children with disabilities.

## CAPACITY BUILDING FOR STAFF

On 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> June 2026, SPARC-India organized a training session on "**Team Building: Growing Together for Better Results**" at Jyoti Kiran School (JKS). The session was facilitated



by Mr. Someshwar Dutta Bajpai, Program Manager, SPARC-India, and attended by 17 staff members, including Mr. Sunil Kumar (Program Coordinator), Mrs. Roopanjali Singh (Centre Head, Ek Prayas), and Mrs. Kiran Rastogi (Head Teacher, JKS).



The training focused on strengthening teamwork, effective coordination, inclusive workplace practices, government welfare schemes, and the rights and entitlements of persons with disabilities. The interactive session encouraged participants to share experiences, discuss challenges, and exchange best practices.

The programme enhanced participants' knowledge, strengthened collaboration among staff, and equipped them with practical strategies to work more effectively towards achieving better outcomes for children with disabilities.

### **INCLUSIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM**

SPARC-India, in collaboration with SBI Foundation, continued the Inclusive Education (IE) Program in 70+ Government Schools in Lucknow from July 2024 for children with disabilities.

### **TRAINING ON ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING**

Training on Activities of Daily Living (ADL) for the parents and caregivers of children with disabilities was conducted to create awareness among parents and caregivers of CwDs. The main aim of the meeting was to make them aware of what precautions to take during pregnancy and how to help the child practice ADL so that they can slowly become independent. Parents and caregivers of CwDs asked questions relating to the issues faced by their children in conducting daily activities.



| S. No. | Activity Name                          | Place                    | Date                      |
|--------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1      | Training on Activities of Daily Living | AWC Beerampur            | 15 <sup>th</sup> Apr 2026 |
| 2      | Training on Activities of Daily Living | Community Mallahan Kheda | 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jun 2026 |

### **SIBLING WORKSHOP**

A sibling Workshop for the siblings of children with disabilities was conducted to create awareness of Child Rights and how to help the siblings in practicing ADL. The main aim of the meeting was to make the participants aware of Child Rights, the Right to Education, and how to help the siblings practice ADL so that they can slowly become independent.



| S. No. | Activity Name     | Place                    | Date                       |
|--------|-------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1      | Siblings workshop | Community Kishunpur      | 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2026 |
| 2      | Siblings workshop | Community Mallahan Khera | 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2026 |

## MEETING WITH PARENTS OF CwDs AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY

A meeting with parents/guardians of CwDs and members of the community on Inclusive Education was conducted to create awareness of Inclusive Education among the parents of CwDs and members of the community. The main aim of the meeting was to make them aware of prenatal, natal, and post-natal precautions, how to apply for all types of pensions, the importance of education for all, etc.



| S. No. | Activity Name                                            | Place                    | Date                       |
|--------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1      | Meeting with parents/guardians of CwDs and the community | AWC Chandakodar          | 8 <sup>th</sup> Apr 2026   |
| 2      | Meeting with parents/guardians of CwDs and the community | AWC Vijaypur             | 17 <sup>th</sup> June 2026 |
| 3      | Meeting with parents/guardians of CwDs and the community | Sub Center Nagavamau     | 17 <sup>th</sup> June 2026 |
| 4      | Meeting with parents/guardians of CwDs and the community | AWC Kishunpur            | 18 <sup>th</sup> June 2026 |
| 5      | Meeting with parents/guardians of CwDs and the community | Community Chakprithvipur | 18 <sup>th</sup> June 2026 |

## TRAINING ON THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION ACT 2009 & INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

Training on the Right to Education (RTE) Act 2009 and Inclusive Education was conducted to create awareness of the RTE Act 2009 and Inclusive Education among the parents & caretakers of CwDs. The main aim of the meeting was to make the participants aware of the RTE Act 2009 and the provisions mentioned in the Act, including Inclusive Education. The training was attended by parents and guardians of both challenged and non-challenged children.



All the participants showed their interest that they would focus more on their ward's education.

| S. No. | Activity Name                                    | Place                    | Date                       |
|--------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1      | Training on RTE Act 2009 and Inclusive Education | AWC Sonava               | 8 <sup>th</sup> Apr 2026   |
| 2      | Training on RTE Act 2009 and Inclusive Education | AWC Arjunpur             | 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2026  |
| 3      | Training on RTE Act 2009 and Inclusive Education | Community Rampur Devarai | 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2026 |

## QUANTITATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS

- 1975 Stakeholders sensitized on Disability Rights
- 5 Meetings with parents of CwDs and members of the community were conducted
- 3 Trainings on the Right to Education Act 2009 and Inclusive Education were conducted
- 2 Sibling Workshops were conducted
- 2 Training on Activities of Daily Living were conducted
- 3 CwDs for disability certificate, 9 CwDs for UDID, 25 CwDs for Sponsorship Scheme, 1 PwD for pension, 1 CwD for Birth Certificate, and 4 CwDs for Assistive Devices/TLMs
- Intervention with 105 CwDs was conducted, which included assessment, education, training on activities of daily living, rights-based needs (linking with govt. schemes), including training of family members, siblings, etc.

### EK PRAYAS CENTRE

Ek Prayas Centre, supported by IDFC FIRST Bank, focuses on early identification and intervention to support the physical and mental development of children aged 1 to 14 years with neurological disorders. The center provides timely treatment and support for conditions such as Cerebral Palsy, Intellectual Disability, Down Syndrome, and autism spectrum disorder (ASD).



Thumb Painting



Paper Pasting Activity



Physical Therapy



Home Based Activity

## SENSITIZATION AWARENESS SESSION FOR PARENTS (COMMUNITY)

Meetings were conducted with parents and guardians of Children with Disabilities (CwDs), as well as community members, to raise awareness about the importance of early intervention services. The discussions focused on understanding various forms of disability, addressing common myths and misconceptions, highlighting preventive measures from the prenatal to postnatal stages, explaining available government schemes and entitlements, outlining the process of disability certification, and emphasizing the importance of inclusive education.



The Sensitization and Awareness Program aimed to strengthen community understanding of disability rights, available services, and social inclusion. The sessions helped foster a more



positive, informed, and supportive attitude towards persons with disabilities and encouraged families and community members to access appropriate support and services.

| S. No. | Activity Name                               | Place       | Date                      |
|--------|---------------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| 1.     | Sensitization Awareness Session for Parents | Mampur Raja | 29 <sup>th</sup> Apr 2026 |
| 2.     | Sensitization Awareness Session for Parents | Mawaikala   | 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2026 |

## PARENT SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS

A total of 4 Parent Support Group (PSG) meetings were organized at the Ek Prayas Centre between April and June 2026. These meetings served as an important platform for engaging parents and guardians of children with special needs and encouraging their active participation in their children's development and well-being.



The key areas discussed during the meetings included:

1. Counselling and guidance for parents and guardians
2. Cleanliness and personal hygiene of children
3. Children's health and the importance of timely medical treatment
4. Commercialization and socialization
5. Planning and arrangements related to health camps
6. Required documents for sponsorship forms
7. Physical and speech therapy interventions
8. School uniforms and dress codes

The primary objective of these meetings was to counsel, support, and empower parents to take an active role in their children's developmental journey. The discussions provided an opportunity for parents to share their concerns, seek guidance, and better understand the services available at the centre.

The meetings also contributed to strengthening trust and communication between parents and the centre, which helped improve parental engagement, enrolment, regular attendance, and timely submission of fees. Overall, the PSG meetings supported more effective participation of families in the development and well-being of children with special needs.

## HOME VISITS

*Home visits* were conducted for children with irregular attendance at the centre. During these visits, parents were counselled on the importance of consistent participation. In addition, detailed information was gathered on the child's home environment, behavioural patterns, and the family's financial situation to identify and address underlying barriers.





## CASE CONFERENCE

Following the home visit, a *Case Conference* was conducted for the children. The physiotherapist, speech therapist, special educator, field officer, and centre head reviewed the case and provided their recommendations.



## CLINIC DAY

Following the case conference, *Clinic Day* was organized for individual students. During Clinic Day, teachers, parents, therapists, and coordinators discussed the student's behaviour, learning difficulties, challenges in daily activities, and any other concerns.



## SATURDAY ACTIVITY

Saturdays at the Ek Prayas Centre were dedicated to group-based enrichment activities, where all children participated in interactive sessions such as art and craft, indoor games, and outdoor games. These activities supported the holistic development of children by fostering creativity, enhancing physical fitness, and strengthening cognitive and social skills.

Creative activities, including drawing, colouring, and craftwork, encouraged imagination, self-expression, and fine motor skill development. Indoor and outdoor games provided opportunities for children to develop gross motor skills, coordination, balance, physical endurance, teamwork, and social interaction.



Through regular participation in these sessions, children demonstrated increased self-confidence, communication, cooperation, and participation. The activities also helped them develop essential life skills in a fun, inclusive, and supportive environment.

## FIELD VISIT

The primary aim of field visits is to identify children with special needs within the community and ensure their access to appropriate support, care, and essential services. A key component of this outreach is facilitating the online registration of children who do not yet have a Unique Disability ID (UDID) card, enabling them to access government schemes and welfare benefits.



Overall, this process plays a critical role in protecting the rights of these children and linking them to relevant support systems.



## SUMMER CAMP INAUGURATION

On 13 May 2026, SPARC India's Ek Prayas Centre, in collaboration with IDFC FIRST Bank, successfully inaugurated its **Summer Camp** to promote learning, creativity, confidence, and the holistic development of Children with Disabilities (CwDs). The event was graced by **Chief Guest Mr. Sanjay Kumar Singh, Guest of Honor Mr. Ashok Kumar Yadav**, police personnel from **BKT Police Station, Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra** (Founder Director, SPARC India), **Mr. Somesh D. Bajpai** (Program Manager), and **Ms. Roopanjali Singh** (Centre Head).



The programme commenced with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, followed by interactions between the guests and the children. The dignitaries appreciated the Centre's efforts towards inclusive development and encouraged the children to actively participate in the camp activities. Chocolates and sweets were distributed among the children, creating a joyful and welcoming atmosphere. The event concluded with a vote of thanks, marking the successful inauguration of the Summer Camp and reinforcing SPARC India's commitment to providing an engaging, inclusive, and enriching learning environment for Children with Disabilities.

## SUMMER CAMP VALEDICTORY CEREMONY

On 23 May 2026, the **Summer Camp Valedictory Ceremony** was successfully organized at SPARC-India's Ek Prayas Centre, Bakshi Ka Talab, Lucknow, marking the successful culmination of the Summer Camp. The event was graced by **Mr. Vishak G., IAS**, District Magistrate, Lucknow, along with distinguished representatives from **ICDS, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), King George's Medical University (KGMU)**, and **SPARC-India**. The dignitaries were warmly welcomed by **Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra**, Founder Director of SPARC-India.



During the programme, the children showcased vibrant cultural performances, reflecting the skills, confidence, and creativity they had developed during the camp. The performances were highly appreciated by the guests, who commended the efforts of the children, their parents, and the Centre team in creating an inclusive and nurturing learning environment. The ceremony concluded with a vote of thanks, celebrating the successful completion of the Summer Camp and the enthusiastic participation and achievements of the children throughout the programme.

## LEND-A-SHOULDER (LAS) ACTIVITY

On 17 June 2026, SPARC-India's Ek Prayas Centre, in collaboration with IDFC FIRST Bank, organized a **Lend-A-Shoulder (LAS) Financial Literacy Session** for 39 parents/caregivers and 13 children. The session was facilitated by **Ms. Ishita Vora**, along with **12 volunteers from IDFC FIRST Bank, Lucknow**.



The session focused on key aspects of financial literacy, including the importance of savings, household budgeting, insurance, government financial schemes, and responsible financial planning. Through interactive discussions and practical examples, participants gained a better understanding of financial management and the effective utilization of available financial resources.



The initiative strengthened financial awareness among participating families, promoted financial inclusion, and empowered parents and caregivers to make informed financial decisions, thereby contributing to their long-term financial well-being and security.

## QUANTITATIVE PARAMETERS AT A GLANCE

| Achievement Area                                                         | Count |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Villages reached                                                         | 34    |
| Households (HH) reached                                                  | 136   |
| Community members reached, including awareness and enrolment             | 210   |
| Monthly goal sheets prepared and followed (Planned vs. Achieved)         | 128   |
| Staff training sessions conducted                                        | 3     |
| Stakeholder training and awareness sessions conducted                    | 3     |
| Home visits conducted                                                    | 40    |
| Parent Support Group (PSG) meetings conducted at Ek Prayas Centre        | 4     |
| Social entitlements facilitated / assistive aids and appliances provided | 6     |

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

SPARC-India, supported by India Pesticides Limited (IPL), conducted various activities for Children with disabilities and their parents/ guardians in the community.

## COUNSELLING

The Community Mobilizer conducted regular outreach and counselling sessions with parents and guardians of children with disabilities, using both individual and group approaches to increase awareness, explain rights and entitlements, and strengthen parental involvement in their children's education and development.

In addition, the mobilizer provided hands-on support to families in obtaining essential documents and services, including disability certificates, UDID cards, identity proofs, assistive aids, and disability pensions. This included assistance with documentation, application submission, and follow-up with concerned departments.





Through continuous guidance and coordination with government authorities, the initiative improved access to social protection schemes and promoted inclusive practices in the community, ensuring that children with disabilities receive their rightful opportunities in education and overall development.

### HOME-BASED THERAPY (COMMUNITY AND JYOTI KIRAN SCHOOL)

Under the Inclusive Education Program, home-based therapy sessions were provided to children with disabilities both in the community and at Jyoti Kiran School. These sessions focused on improving motor, cognitive, and communication skills to support overall development and school readiness. Therapists created individualized plans based on each child's needs and regularly monitored progress through follow-up visits.



Parents and caregivers were guided on continuing therapeutic exercises at home, ensuring sustained impact and active family involvement.

These interventions have strengthened inclusive education outcomes, enhanced children's functional abilities, and empowered families. Donor support has been vital in delivering these essential services and promoting the inclusion of children with disabilities in the community.

### VALEDICTORY FUNCTION OF SUMMER CAMP

On 23 May 2026, SPARC-India organized the *Valedictory Function of the Summer Camp* at Ek Prayas Centre, Bakshi Ka Talab, Lucknow, with the support of India Pesticides Limited (IPL). The event celebrated the participation, creativity, confidence, and achievements of children with disabilities through cultural performances and an Art & Craft Exhibition.



**Mr. Vishak G., IAS**, District Magistrate, Lucknow, as the Chief Guest, graced the programme. The Guests of Honor included **Ms. Renu Shukla**, CDPO, Bakshi Ka Talab; **Mr. Sandeep Joshi**, Regional Head – Academic Alliances Group, TCS, Lucknow; and **Prof. (Dr.) Vikram Khanna**, Department of Oral Medicine & Radiology, Faculty of Dental Sciences, KGMU, Lucknow. **Mr. Uma Shankar Singh**, President, SPARC-India, and **Mrs. Mridula Mehrotra**, Board Member, SPARC-India, also graced the occasion.

Welcoming the dignitaries and guests, **Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra**, Founder Director, SPARC-India, highlighted the organization's continued efforts towards early intervention, inclusive education, and empowerment of children with disabilities.

The programme began with Saraswati Vandana, followed by a series of colourful cultural performances by children from Jyoti Kiran School and Ek Prayas Centre. The performances included group and classical dances presented by children with hearing impairment, intellectual



disabilities, Down Syndrome, and physical disabilities. The children demonstrated their abilities, confidence, and creativity, receiving enthusiastic appreciation from the audience.

An Art & Craft Exhibition featuring creative work prepared by the children was another key attraction of the event, providing an opportunity for them to showcase their artistic skills and achievements.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Guest appreciated the talent and potential of children with disabilities and emphasized the importance of expanding early intervention and inclusive support services. He also appreciated SPARC-India's initiatives, including Ek Prayas Centre and Jyoti Kiran School, for creating meaningful opportunities for children with disabilities.

The programme concluded with the distribution of gifts to the participating children, followed by a vote of thanks.

The valedictory programme was a meaningful celebration of inclusion, participation, creativity, and empowerment, reflecting SPARC-India's commitment to ensuring that children with disabilities receive opportunities to learn, express themselves, and participate equally in community life.

### **CAPACITY BUILDING SESSION**

On 29 June 2026, SPARC-India, in collaboration with India Pesticides Limited (IPL), organized a staff training session on "Team Building: Growing Together for Better Results" at Jyoti Kiran School (JKS). The session was facilitated by Mr. Someshwar Dutta Bajpai, Program Manager, SPARC-India, and attended by 17 staff members, including representatives from JKS and Ek Prayas Centre.



The training focused on teamwork, effective communication, coordination, workplace collaboration, management practices, and awareness of government welfare schemes and disability rights and entitlements.

Through interactive activities, discussions, and experience sharing, participants explored practical ways to strengthen teamwork and collaborative problem-solving. The session enhanced staff knowledge, motivation, and coordination while reinforcing the importance of inclusive workplace practices and effective team collaboration for improved programme delivery and organizational outcomes.

### **SENSITIZATION AWARENESS SESSION**

On 29 April and 15 May 2026, Community Awareness programmes were conducted in Mampur Raja Village, Bakshi Ka Talab (BKT), to strengthen community understanding of disability, early identification and intervention, and access to government welfare schemes and entitlements.



The sessions focused on the importance of early identification of developmental delays, timely intervention, disability inclusion, and equal opportunities for persons with disabilities. Participants were also informed about disability certification, the Divyang Pension Scheme, sponsorship support, and other government welfare benefits, including eligibility criteria, required documentation, and application procedures.

An interactive discussion was held to address participants' questions and provide information on available services and referral mechanisms. Community members actively participated in the sessions and shared their concerns and experiences.



The programmes helped improve awareness of early intervention, disability inclusion, and available government support, while encouraging families to seek timely services and appropriate assistance for children and adults with disabilities.

### MEETING WITH PARENTS OF CwDs AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY

A meeting with parents and guardians of Children with Disabilities (CwDs) and community members was conducted to raise awareness about the importance of Inclusive Education. The meeting focused on sensitizing participants about prenatal, natal, and postnatal precautions, the process of applying for various government pensions and entitlements, and the importance of education for all children, including children with disabilities.



The session also emphasized the role of families and communities in promoting equal educational opportunities, social inclusion, and the overall development of children with disabilities.

| S. No. | Activity Name                                            | Place                         | Date                       |
|--------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1      | Meeting with parents/guardians of CwDs and the community | AWC Chandakodar, BKT          | 8 <sup>th</sup> Apr 2026   |
| 2      | Meeting with parents/guardians of CwDs and the community | AWC Arjunpur, BKT             | 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2026  |
| 3      | Meeting with parents/guardians of CwDs and the community | Sub Center Nagavamau, BKT     | 17 <sup>th</sup> June 2026 |
| 4      | Meeting with parents/guardians of CwDs and the community | Community Mallahan Kheda, BKT | 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2026 |

### TRAINING ON THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION ACT 2009 & INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

A training session on the Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009, and Inclusive Education was conducted to create awareness among parents and caregivers of Children with Disabilities (CwDs) about their rights to education and the provisions of the Act. The session focused on key



provisions of the RTE Act, 2009, including those related to equitable access to education and Inclusive Education.

The training was attended by parents and guardians of both children with disabilities and children without disabilities. The session aimed to enhance participants' understanding of the importance of inclusive and equitable education and encouraged them to support the educational participation and inclusion of all children.



All the participants showed an interest in focusing more on their ward's education.

| S. No. | Activity Name                                    | Place                         | Date                      |
|--------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1      | Training on RTE Act 2009 and Inclusive Education | AWC Sonava, BKT               | 8 <sup>th</sup> Apr 2026  |
| 2      | Training on RTE Act 2009 and Inclusive Education | Community Rampur Devarai, BKT | 24 <sup>th</sup> Jun 2026 |

## DISABILITY AWARENESS AND SENSITIZATION CAMPAIGN

Disability Awareness and Sensitization Campaigns were conducted to raise awareness about disability and promote a more inclusive and supportive attitude among community members. The sessions covered key topics, including preventive measures during pregnancy and the prenatal period, awareness of different types of disabilities and their prevalence, common myths and misconceptions about disability, and the importance of school education for Children with Disabilities (CwDs).



The participants were also sensitized about the importance of obtaining disability certificates, various government schemes and entitlements available to children and persons with disabilities, Activities of Daily Living (ADL), and strategies for addressing behavioural concerns among children with disabilities.

The sessions were attended by parents and guardians of both children with disabilities and children without disabilities. Participants actively engaged in the discussions, expressed interest in learning more about disability and related services, and raised questions regarding their concerns and experiences.

| S. No. | Activity Name                          | Place                   | Date                      |
|--------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1      | Disability Awareness and Sensitization | AWC Chakprithvipur, BKT | 18 <sup>th</sup> Jun 2026 |
| 2      | Disability Awareness and Sensitization | AWC Kishunpur, BKT      | 18 <sup>th</sup> Jun 2026 |



## PRESENTATIONS

**Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra** (Founder Director, SPARC-India) participated in various webinars and meetings that were organized by various organizations.

### **INDIA ESG SUMMIT 2026**

On 24 April 2026, Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra, Founder Director, SPARC-India, was invited to participate in the India ESG Summit 2026, held at IIM Lucknow.

During the sessions, Dr. Mehrotra highlighted the critical importance of including Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) within the Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) framework, particularly in the context of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). He emphasized that meaningful ESG practices needed to promote equity, accessibility, and inclusion for all sections of society.



Key highlights of his intervention included:

- ✚ Integration of PwDs into ESG policies and reporting
- ✚ Role of MSMEs in promoting inclusive employment practices
- ✚ Importance of assistive technology in enhancing the independence and productivity of persons with disabilities
- ✚ Need for structured initiatives for children with disabilities, focusing on early intervention, education, and skill development



His insights were well received and aligned with the summit's focus on strengthening MSMEs and promoting sustainable and inclusive growth.

The participation provided SPARC-India with an opportunity to strengthen its advocacy for disability inclusion and explore avenues for greater collaboration in promoting inclusive development and disability-responsive ESG practices.

### **MEETING WITH SHRI PARTH SARTHI SEN SHARMA, IAS**

On 4 June 2026, **Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra**, Founder Director, SPARC-India, held a meeting with **Shri Parth Sarthi Sen Sharma, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary**, Government of Uttar Pradesh, to discuss strategies for strengthening Inclusive Education initiatives in Government Primary Schools across the state.

The discussion focused on developing effective intervention models to ensure equitable access to quality education for children with





disabilities and other marginalized learners. Particular emphasis was placed on collaborative efforts through a proposed **non-financial MoU with the State Project Office, Uttar Pradesh Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)**.

Key areas discussed included inclusive teaching practices, capacity building of educators, institutional support mechanisms, and the development of accessible and enabling learning environments for all children.

The meeting concluded on a positive note and reflected a shared commitment to advancing inclusive and equitable education through collaborative action and strategic partnerships.

Shri Parth Sarthi Sen Sharma was also a distinguished author, with acclaimed works including *Love: Side by Side*, *The Viksit Bharat Quiz Book*, *Lucknow Diaries: Of Love and Longing*, and *Andaman-Andamanush*, among others.

### **MEETING ON PROPOSED MOU FOR INCLUSIVE EDUCATION**

On 15 June 2026, a meeting was held at the State Project Office, Vidya Bhawan, Nishatganj, Lucknow, regarding the proposed **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** between SPARC-India and the Department of Basic Education, Government of Uttar Pradesh, under **Samagra Shiksha**.



The meeting was chaired by **Shri Prem Ranjan Singh, IAS, Additional State Project Director (ASPD), Samagra Shiksha**, and was attended by senior officials from the Department of Basic Education. During the meeting, **Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra**, Founder Director, SPARC-India, delivered a detailed presentation highlighting the organisation's experience, key achievements, and proposed interventions in the field of inclusive education. He also responded to and clarified the queries and concerns raised by the officials during the discussion.

The proposed MoU focused on implementing inclusive education interventions in 70 primary schools in Lucknow district and 30 primary schools in Barabanki district. The proposed initiative aimed to strengthen the identification, enrolment, retention, and educational support of Children with Disabilities (CwDs) within mainstream schools. Based on the outcomes and impact of the initiative, the programme was proposed for potential expansion to additional schools and districts.

The meeting concluded on a positive note, with both parties expressing their commitment to strengthening inclusive education, expanding educational opportunities, and promoting the meaningful inclusion of Children with Disabilities in the mainstream education system.

### **MEETING WITH SHRI PREM RANJAN SINGH, IAS**

On 15 June 2026, **Dr. Amitabh Mehrotra**, Founder Director, SPARC-India, met with **Shri Prem Ranjan Singh, IAS, Additional State Project Director (ASPD)**, Samagra Shiksha, at the State Project Office, Vidya Bhawan, Lucknow.



During the meeting, Dr. Mehrotra presented an overview of SPARC-India's work in disability inclusion and inclusive education. He also highlighted the organization's experience and achievements in supporting Children with Disabilities (CwDs) through various educational interventions.

The discussion focused on strengthening and scaling up inclusive education in government primary schools and exploring collaborative strategies to ensure equitable access to quality education for Children with Disabilities and other marginalized learners. Both parties discussed effective intervention models, capacity-building initiatives, and measures to strengthen inclusive practices within the school system.

The meeting concluded on a positive note, with a shared commitment to advancing inclusive education and expanding equitable educational opportunities for all children.



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