



REAP QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER - Q3 2024

JULY-SEPTEMBER 2024



Main Programmes:

- Early Childhood Education
- Foundational Learning
- STEM Learning
- Digital Learning
- Community Outreach Programme

This quarter, REAP continued its mission to empower disadvantaged children, youth, and communities in Kalwa's slums through education. As we approach 25 years of service in 2025, our focus remains on fostering transformation and development among marginalized groups.

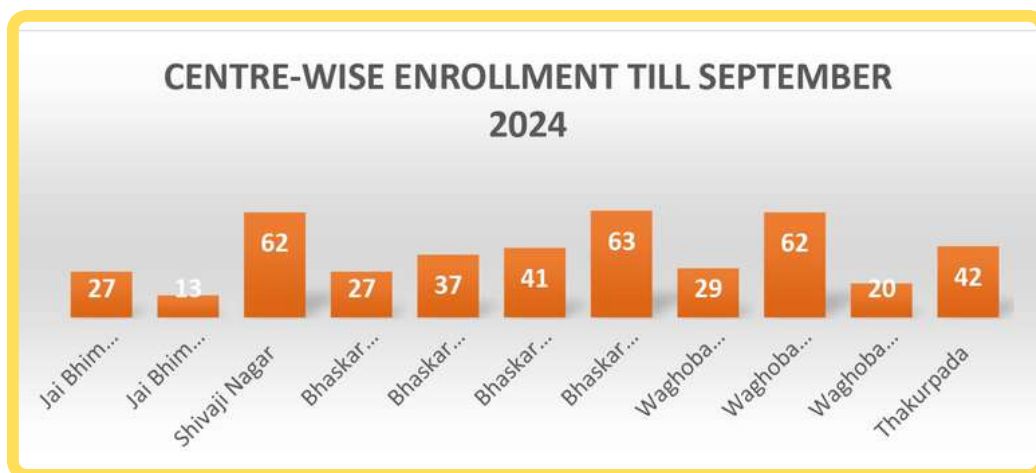
From July to September 2024, we prioritized enhancing teaching methods, engaging the community, reorganizing classes for effective learning, onboarding new teachers, and conducting mid-term assessments to evaluate student progress.



➤ EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMME (ECEP):

REAP's Early Childhood education Programme in its new form was launched in January 2024. Known by the name 'Little Angel's English Nursery', it has become popular in the Bastis of Kalwa. REAP established these classes for the small kids of the age group of 3 to 6 years in Shivaji Nagar, Bhaskar Nagar, Waghoba Nagar, Thakurpada and Jai Bhim Nagar.

By the end of September 2024, 423 kids were enrolled in our 11 classes mostly running from 9.00 am to 12.00 pm and few running from 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm. on a daily basis. 15 Teachers well trained on ECE have been engaged in these Centres for accompanying the kids.



Girl child enrollment has increased significantly in the reporting period due to the quality work shown by our Female Teachers and engagement with the mothers and the community.

We follow the National Guidelines on ECE and implement an innovative Play Based Curriculum for better growth of children. We have developed specialized games for individual and group activities for cognitive and language development, and other methods such as free play, free and guided conversation, storytelling, rhymes and action songs and 3 R's.

The kids have shown active participation and engagement in the processes with significant improvement in their skills. Box Research and evidence establish the fact that there is a learning crisis in India.

Large number of children going to school fail to learn even the basics. As a result, the future employability and skill formation among these children have remained big challenge. Scientific studies have conclusively established long ago that 90% of brain growth occurs by age 5. Hence, the Right to Education Act 2009 in India had emphasized the need for early childhood education for all children, though it did not make it compulsory and binding. Lack of opportunities and access to early childhood education to the children from marginalized and disadvantaged communities, makes them enter primary grade-1 and learn the syllabus without any pre-school education and school readiness programme.

➤ HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS:

➤ Birthday Celebration with 120 Nursery Kids



We celebrated Sujata's birthday with 120 nursery kids at Bhaskar Nagar! Her generosity brought smiles with cake, snacks, and biryani. Thank you, Sujata!

➤ Celebrating the Spirit of Freedom and Joy!



We celebrated the 78th Independence Day at REAP Learning Centers with vibrant dances, poems, and activities. The children's smiles and enthusiasm showcased the power of education and our commitment to their bright future.

► FOUNDATIONAL LEARNING:

REAP was established 25 years ago with the Mission to make every child literate and enabled to access quality education as an empowerment tool to bring social transformation.

Universal access to quality education is fundamental for developing an equitable and just society, promoting national development, scientific advancement, national integration, and cultural preservation.

There is a huge learning gap as evidenced from the assessments carried out every year by Govt. and NGO research bodies and the assessment results reported under SDG 4.1.1. to the UN.

Children studying in various grades are unable to read a simple text or solve a simple arithmetic problem. REAP is addressing this learning gap among the children of the disadvantaged communities which was further widened due to school closure caused by Covid-19.

To address this challenge, foundational learning is given highest priority in the New National Educational Policy 2020. Govt. has set up the FLN Mission (Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Mission) with the goal to ensure that every child can read by Grade 3 so that they can “read to learn” after that. Guidelines called NIPUN -BHARAT (National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy) are issued to all Stakeholders to achieve this goal.

REAP's Foundational Learning Programme aims to enhance the educational outcomes of children from Class 1 to 4 residing in the slum area. The primary objectives of the programme include raising awareness, preventing dropouts, providing remedial coaching, and developing basic skills in language and numeracy.

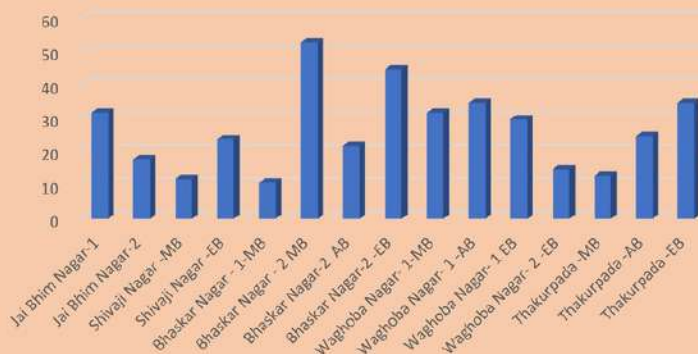
Achievements till September 2024

- **Number of Students: 402**
- **Number of Classes: 15**

These 15 Centres are located in the slums of Shivaji Nagar, Bhaskar Nagar, Waghoba Nagar, Thakurpada and Jai Bhim Nagar.

We have successfully mobilized 206 girl students compared to 196 boys to our Centres ensuring equal opportunities for girl's empowerment.

Centre-wise and Batch-wise Students



In terms of learning improvement, 70% of our learners have achieved the minimum standards set for literacy and numeracy. The children are gradually enabled to learn the grade appropriate lessons.

Language Skills Development:

- Reading and writing practices were conducted using engaging materials like storybooks and interactive games in the Learning Centres.
- Speech sessions were conducted for children.

Numeracy Skills Development:

- Math trainings were organized where children could learn through various activities such as puzzles, games, and real-life applications.
- One-on-one tutoring was provided for students who needed additional support in mathematics.
- Abacus tool was introduced and used by children for easy math learning.

Increased and Parental Community Involvement

- Parental involvement has increased significantly with over 80% of parents attending most of the parent-teacher meetings.
- Engagement with local community was enhanced during this period with mobilization of growing trust and support. There is an increase in demand for education and enrollment of children in different learning programmes.

Teacher Training and Capacity Building

- Teachers are the primary contributors to child' development. Hence, REAP has made special efforts to build the capacity of teachers on various aspects. About 5 one day training programmes were conducted for the teachers in the reporting period.
- Teachers have started incorporating more interactive and engaging teaching methods, leading to higher student engagement.

➤ **HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS: (FOUNDATIONAL LEARNING)**

➤ **Making Maths an Adventure! Collabration with Target Publication!**



Over 70 students at REAP Bhaskar Nagar enjoyed a fun Maths workshop by Target Publications, exploring shapes and symmetry. Thank you for sparking curiosity and supporting learning with stationery!

➤ **Celebrating Cinema Day with REAP Students!**



On Cinema Day, REAP Learning Centers in Kalwa East screened Delhi Safari and Stanley Ka Dabba, offering lessons on life, friendship, and nature. The day was filled with learning, laughter, and a special lunch, reflecting our focus on holistic education.

► STEM UDAAN: EMPOWERING FUTURES WITH INNOVATION

STEM Udaan is a transformative initiative aimed at providing quality STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education to underprivileged children in Kalwa's slum communities. Through hands-on, activity-based learning, the program fosters curiosity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills, preparing children to thrive in the modern world.

STEM education bridges the gap between classroom learning and real-world applications. For children from economically weaker sections, access to STEM learning unlocks opportunities and nurtures skills essential for the future. Activity-based approaches, like building models and experimenting with concepts, make learning engaging, practical, and impactful.

Achievements (July-September 2024):

- Students Reached: 150+ students from Grades 1-8 across five centers.
- Hands-On Projects: Built 4-Wheel Cars, Marble Runs, Scissor Lifts, Stirrer Machines, and Robot Scarecrows, exploring mechanics, motion, and automation.
- Learning Outcomes: 80% improved problem-solving skills; academic performance in STEM subjects rose by 7-10%.
- Parental Involvement: 75% of parents engaged through workshops and meetings.

STEM Udaan is empowering young learners to become future innovators. By combining curiosity with hands-on experiences, REAP is equipping underprivileged children with the skills and confidence to explore limitless possibilities.

Future Plans

STEM Udaan aims to expand its impact by:

- Introducing advanced modules, including AI and robotics, for higher grades.
- Reaching more students through additional centers.
- Enhancing teacher capacities to deliver cutting-edge STEM education.



DIGITAL LEARNING INITIATIVE: BRIDGING THE TECHNOLOGICAL GAP

REAP's Digital Learning Programme equips underprivileged children in Kalwa's slum communities with essential digital skills. By providing access to computer education, the initiative empowers students to thrive in a technology-driven world and bridges the gap between opportunity and access.

In today's digital age, proficiency in technology is a fundamental skill for education, employment, and personal growth. However, children from marginalized communities often lack access to such learning resources. REAP's program aims to close this gap by offering structured training, fostering digital literacy, and enhancing confidence in using technology for future opportunities.

Achievements (July-September 2024):

- **Students Reached:** 220 students across four centers.
- **Upgraded Infrastructure:** New computers, software, and improved internet connectivity.
- **Skill Development:** Students learned typing, Microsoft Office tools, and internet safety, with 75% attendance.
- **Parental Feedback:** Parents praised the program for boosting confidence and educational outcomes.

REAP's Digital Learning Programme is transforming lives by providing the tools and skills needed for a brighter future. By empowering children with digital proficiency, we're opening doors to opportunities that were once out of reach, ensuring that every child can dream and achieve big in the digital era.



► COMMUNITY OUTREACH: TRANSFORMING LIVES BEYOND EDUCATION

REAP's Community Outreach Programme serves as a bridge between underprivileged communities in Kalwa and essential resources. Through awareness campaigns, assistance camps, and direct engagement, the program empowers families to access government schemes and services, improving their quality of life.

Marginalized communities often face barriers in accessing government welfare schemes due to lack of awareness, documentation, or technical knowledge. REAP's outreach efforts aim to break these barriers, ensuring families can secure their rights and benefits. By connecting people to resources, we address challenges such as healthcare access, financial aid, and educational support, fostering holistic community development.

Achievements (July-September 2024):

- **Camps Held:** Assisted 150+ families at Bhaskar Nagar and Shivaji Nagar with Aadhar updates, e-Shram, and Ayushman Bharat applications.
- **Registrations Processed:** Over 110 documents, including 31 under 'माझी लाडकी बहीण योजना' and 65 ABHA cards.
- **Workshops:** Sessions on child protection laws and collaborations with NGOs and authorities to support migrant families.

Community Impact

The program has built trust and engagement within the community, with increased participation in education and welfare initiatives. Families are now more proactive in seeking opportunities for their children and themselves.

► HIGHLIGHTED EVENT: (COMMUNITY OUTREACH)

► Success of Community Outreach Camp at Bhaskar Nagar, Kalwa East



Our recent outreach camp at Bhaskar Nagar REAP Center helped over 120 women from Kalwa East register for vital schemes like Ladki Bahin Yojana and Ayushman Bharat. Visit our Shivaji Nagar office for assistance as we continue empowering communities!



► HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS: (CHILDREN ACTIVITIES)

► REAP Stars Shine at Thane Creek 2024 Marathon!

Our REAP stars shone at the Thane Creek 2024 Half Marathon, completing their first 2km run with joy and pride! Sporting REAP t-shirts, they spread the message: "RUN FOR CHILD EDUCATION!" Thank you for cheering us on and supporting brighter futures!



► Where Faith Meets Service: Prayers in Action at REAP Learning Center

Over 80 students visited our REAP Learning Centers, connecting with children from underprivileged communities. The experience was filled with learning, inspiration, and shared hope for a brighter future, building bridges of empathy through education and service.



► Gratitude for Gartner Team's Visit to Bhaskar Nagar Center

A heartfelt thank you to the Gartner team – Anup, Jaydeep, Jervis, Dipika, and everyone – for their time, care, and support at our Bhaskar Nagar center, making a lasting impact on the children with your positive energy.



➤ HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS: (STAFF ACTIVITIES)

➤ Celebrating the Heart of Education - Our Incredible Teachers!

On Teacher's Day, the REAP Bhaskar Nagar Learning Center celebrated our teachers with roses, gifts, games, and dance. The day was filled with laughter and nostalgia, honoring their dedication in making learning a joyous journey for our children!



➤ Strengthening Child Safety: Workshop on Child Protection Laws & POCSO Act

We held a workshop on Child Protection Laws at Kalwa East Bhaskar Nagar Learning Center, led by panel advocate Ms. Trupti S. Patil. The session focused on the POCSO Act, equipping our staff with practical knowledge to ensure children's safety.



➤ Teachers' Training Session on Advancing Education

We held a teachers' training session in Kalwa East, introducing digital advancements in fee collection and admissions. Teachers shared feedback to improve efficiency. The session also focused on STEM learning and training, empowering educators to inspire students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.





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