

WHEN HANDS SPEAK,  
HEARTS LISTEN



AKSHAR TRUST

Annual Report 2024-25



## Message from Hon. Founder director & managing trustee

Dear Friends,

There have been many interesting areas which have developed over the past year.

11 students have joined. Some came to Akshar at an older age, but the belief at Akshar is that even a few years of schooling would be of value to any child but especially to a child with deafness.

Vocational skill development has proceeded apace under the Govt. of India National Apprentice Programme. A group of 10, both students and alumni are being trained in a course for 'Self -Employed Tailor', by Ms. Mansa Singh, an alumni herself. She has a B.Sc in Fashion Design from M.S. University. The student's skills in sports and games are being enhanced year on year. In 2024-25 they participated in various events and tournaments held in Vadodara. The coaches that come from Baroda Football Association have been assiduously honing their talents.

There have been activities and celebrations which the students have enjoyed and from which they have gained. There has been interaction with many schools in Vadodara, such as Nalanda, St. Kabir amongst others.

There is some concern we have on the food that the students bring for the school day at Akshar. It is of poor nutritive value. This is a new area we are pursuing and we hope to be able to provide a nutritive meal for each student with support from well-wishers.

An important new area that is being explored is an Employment Cell to help alumni find jobs. Some of the alumni are in good jobs but there is also a large gap that needs to be addressed. In India, the statistics for employment of People with Disability are most dismal. The latest figures tell us that the workforce participation rate of PwD is 36% as compared to 60 % for those without disability.

**Nisha Grover**

*“We are only able to pursue this work because of the support Akshar receives from our well-wishers. We are truly humbled and grateful.”*



## Message from Principal

Dear Friends,

This year has seen further consolidation of work. For more than 25 years Akshar has been rewriting Text Books of the Gujarat Education Board. The Exercises in the texts are also re-written as per the requirements of a child with deafness.

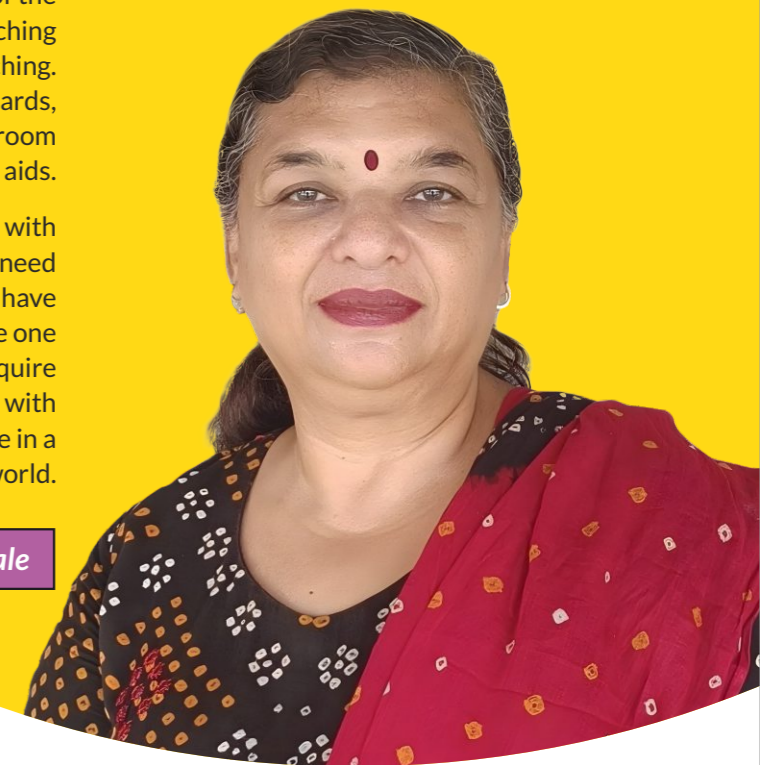
These Adapted Texts are then photocopied, spiral-bound and given to each child. This is arduous work which takes both time and effort. This year all the Texts have been compiled for the year.

This has greatly reduced the work of the teacher as the attention shifts to teaching from doing both, adapting and teaching. As all the classrooms have Smart Boards, PPTs are then made for classroom teaching with various teaching aids.

Many meetings have taken place with parents to explain the function and need of Hearing Aids. We hope that we have succeeded because hearing aids are one of the most important means to acquire language and speech. Children with deafness need both to survive in a speaking world.

**Hema Kale**

**Many younger students have been given hearing aids in 2024-25. This has been made possible under CSR by corporate bodies. Due to various factors such as illiteracy and poverty, parents are not always equipped to manage the hearing aids. This is a constant challenge.**



**The classrooms are slowly being upgraded with more advanced smart android boards and other requirements.**

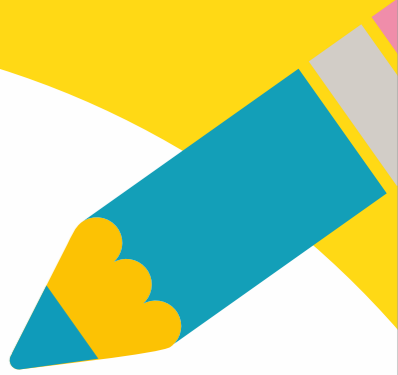
## FOR WHOM DOES AKSHAR WORK

For children with sensori- neural deafness. Nearly all belong to the economically weaker section of society. Many parents are not educated but believe in the value of education.

Experience of the past 37 years has shown us that given the appropriate pedagogy, technology and opportunity, a child with deafness can, and does perform as well as the child without deafness. This is the belief that drives our work.



## Children with deafness are children first



**They have Rights**

**Right to a happy  
childhood and an  
education**

**Right to literacy**

**Right to  
communication skills**

**Right to a livelihood**

**Right to all of the above  
notwithstanding the fact  
that they belong to the  
poorer and more  
underprivileged  
section of society.**



our work is based on



### Statistics

Available data of India informs that four in every 1000 children suffer from severe to profound hearing loss and 100,000 babies are born with hearing deficiencies every year. The access to quality education for a child with deafness is very limited. Roughly only 35% children get this opportunity.

### Experience

In 50 years, it has been made evident to us that by following 'Good Practice', the future of the children changes and they can hope to live a life of dignity and independence.



## Trust Registration and Banker Details



Akshar Trust is a non-profit, voluntary and secular organization.

Registered under the Bombay Public Trust Act 1950, No. E/4063/Vadodara dated 29-03-1989.

Registered under Section 51(2) of the Persons with Disabilities Act 2016 with Government of Gujarat, Director of Social Defense. Registration No. 421002105.

Registered with the office of the Commissioner of Income Tax, Vadodara, under section 12A (a) of the Income Tax Act 1961, dated 28-05-2021, No. AAATA3327JE1989301.

Registered with the Ministry of Home Affairs under Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act 1976, FCRA No. 041960087 dated 09-11-1998.

All donations are 50% exempt under section 80G (V) of the Income Tax 1961 vide order no. AAATA3327JF2021401 dated 28-05-2021 valid till date.

PAN No. AAATA3327J

The Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) has given 'Permanent Recognition' to the Teacher Training Programme. It has accorded 'Very Good Performance' status to the Programme in 2009.

Registration of the entities for undertaking CSR activities dated 01-04-2021 (SRN-T11188265).  
Registration number - CSR00000100



### Name and Address of Bankers

State Bank of India  
(Alkapuri Branch)  
Neha Apartments,  
RC Dutt Road,  
Vadodara - 390 007.

State Bank of India  
(New Delhi Main Branch)  
{00691} Foreign Exchange Division,  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, C Block, 11 Sansad Marg,  
New Delhi - 110 001.

ICICI Bank  
42, Haribhakti Colony,  
Near Chakli Circle,  
Old Padra Road,  
Vadodara - 390 007.

### Name and Address of Chartered Accountant

JHS & Associates LLP Chartered Accountants, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Lila Chamber,  
Notus Pride IT Park, Part "C", Block E, Sarabhai Campus, Vadiwadi, Vadodara - 390 023.

**Experience of the past 37 years has shown Akshar that given the correct pedagogy, technology and opportunity, a child with deafness can and does perform as well as the next child without deafness. This is the belief that drives our work.**

**Akshar Trust, Vadodara, was established in 1988 to:**

Provide education and care to hearing impaired children and guidance to their families

Conduct research, investigation and experiments in the education of hearing-impaired children

Train teachers of the hearing impaired



## Overview

Akshar Trust began its work with 5 hearing impaired/deaf children on 18<sup>th</sup> July 1988 in a small, rented shed in Fatehsinghrao Gymkhana. It is today educating 103 children with a staff of 27, including special educators, an audiologist & speech pathologist, faculty members, consultants, an art teacher, a karate teacher, teacher's aides, interns, voluntary workers, bus drivers and other staff.

As a not-for-profit, secular, charitable trust it has worked to provide hearing impaired children an opportunity to be educated and thus be employed and independent.



### Mission Statement

The endeavour of Akshar Trust is to enable children with hearing impairment have access to an academic environment which will prove to be their opportunity, perhaps their only opportunity, for a life of self-reliance and dignity.



### Vision Statement

To make an individual with deafness lead a useful, happy and fulfilling life.



### Coverage

Children come to Akshar for education from different places in and outside Vadodara. They have come to Vadodara from Shinor, Padra, Chhota Udepur, Anand, Kalol, Bharuch, Halol, Dabhoi, Waghodia, Sadhali etc. Some come from Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

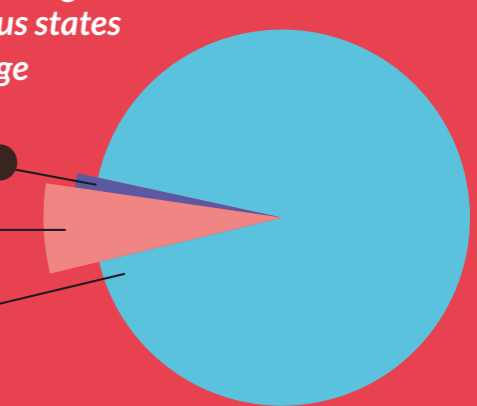


### Trainees coming from various states D.Ed College

Uttar Pradesh

Gujarat

Rajasthan





- **Early Intervention**
- **Pre-school**
- **Classes from 1-12**
- **Mainstreaming**
- **Capacity Building of other special schools for children with hearing impairment**

- **Teacher Training Programmes**  
 D.Ed. Spl. Ed. (DHH):  
 (Deaf & Hard of Hearing)  
 under Rehabilitation Council of India  
  
**Earlier Programmes**  
 B.Ed (SEDE) (HI):  
 (Special Education Distance Education)  
 (Hearing Impairment) under Baba Saheb  
 Ambedkar Open University  
  
**ACCIE:** Advance Certificate Course for  
 Inclusive Education (Cross Disability) under  
 RCI as a Pilot Project.




## Salient Features

**Mode of Communication -**  
 Total Communication since 1996

**Admissions:** No child with deafness refused admission; children with problems additional to deafness admitted; admissions through the year; older children with deafness admitted.

**Mainstreaming:** Over 105 students have been completely mainstreamed into hearing schools over the years.

**Two mediums of instruction:**  
 Gujarati and Hindi.

**Students:** Akshar is the earliest and 1 of only 6 Schools for the deaf in Gujarat, which is preparing students for Std. 12 Gujarat State board exams; till date 200 deaf students of Akshar have completed Std. X & XII of Gujarat State Board.

**Parent Involvement:**  
 Early Intervention observation /participation; Individual counseling of parents and child.

**Development of Language and Communication Skills;**  
 Auditory Training; Working with Amplification Devices-Programmable hearing aids for 80% students; Check List for maintenance; Speech Software; Speech Trainers.

**Akshar is the only school,** out of 38 for the deaf in Gujarat, which also offers Hindi as a separate medium of instruction, apart from Gujarati.

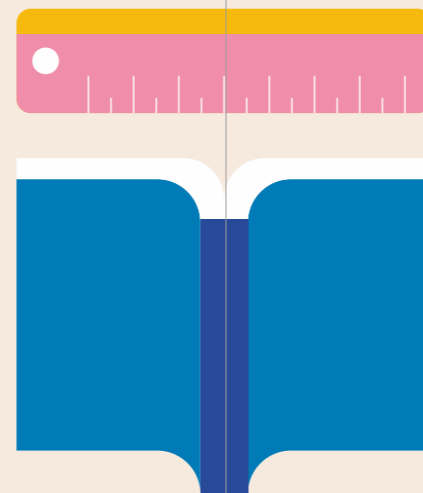
**Therapies:** Special Training in Art and Karate; Speech; Psychological testing.

**Conferences and in-service**  
 Training for Teachers.

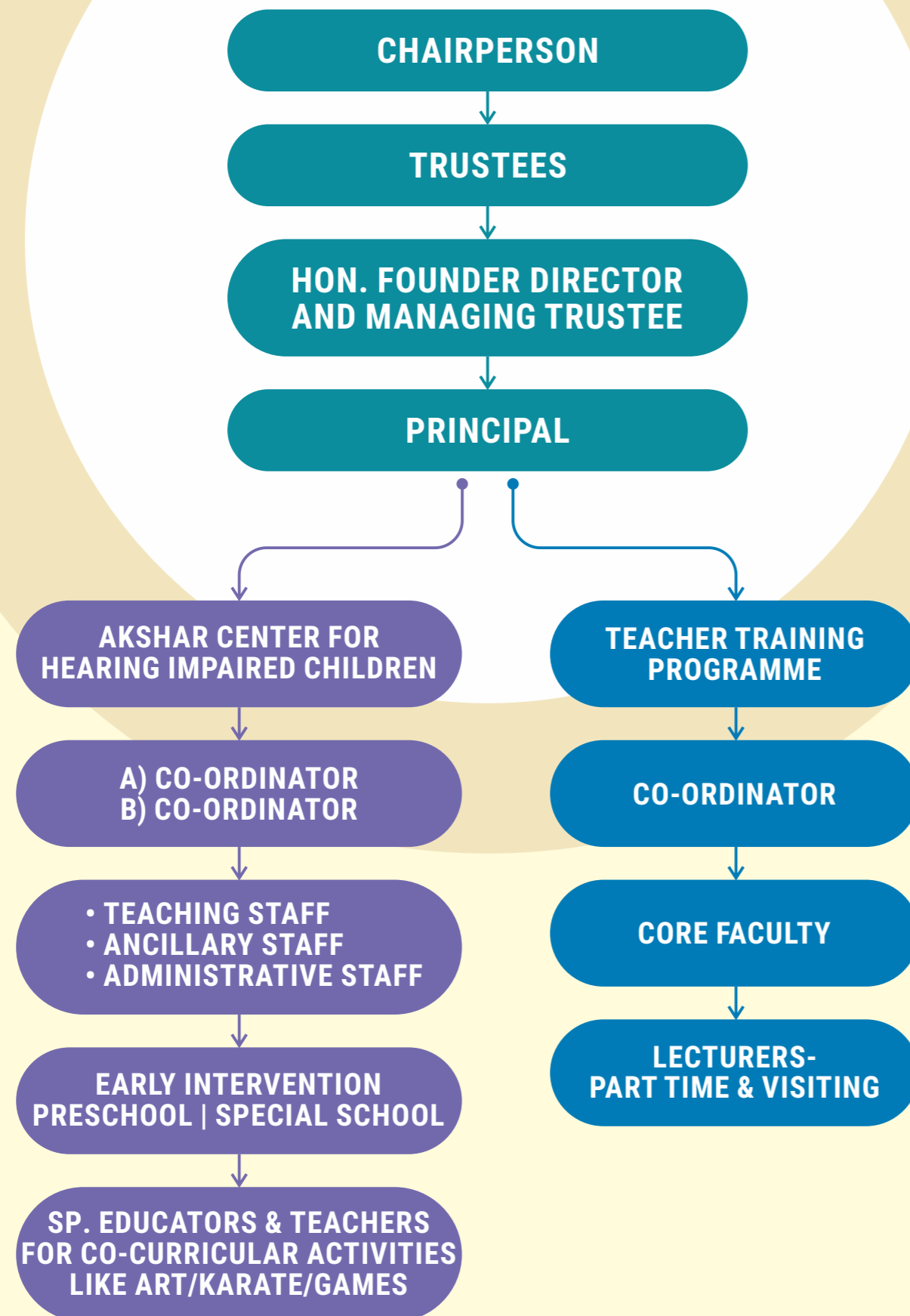
**Subsidies:** Students come from all socio-economic backgrounds but largely from the underprivileged section; 100% of the students are subsidized, not even one student has paid the required fees; all 3 buses are free, free hearing aids, ancillaries and audiograms are sourced for underprivileged students.

## Educational Features

- ❖ **Adapted Curriculum & Adapted Textbooks (Re-writing)**
- ❖ **Curriculum planning**
- ❖ **Lesson Planning**
- ❖ **Teacher Learning Material Development**
- ❖ **Report Card Day - Twice a year**
- ❖ **Senior and experienced teachers guide, direct and share ideas with newer entrants**
- ❖ **Professional growth of staff is encouraged**



## organizational structure



## TRUSTEES PROFILE



**Ms. Nisha Grover**  
Hon. Founder  
Director &  
Managing Trustee

Education

- President, National Convention of Educators of the Deaf (NCED), India, 2010-16.
- Ex-Governing Council Member, Ali Yavar Jung National Institute of Speech and Hearing Disabilities, 2014-15.
- Executive Council Member, Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India.
- Founder Trustee - Bhasha Trust.



**Mr. Rajesh Parikh**  
Trustee

Business

- Partner at Spandan Multi Specialty Hospital.
- Senate-Syndicate Member (Govt. Nominee) M.S. Univ. (2007-2012).
- Municipal Councilor (2005-2010).
- Member Municipal School Board (1995-2005).



**Ms. Ishita Verma**  
Trustee

Education

- Director-QEDRAK, Content Development & Training.
- Trustee-Srotoswini Trust (Pathshala & Pathbhavan).
- Hon. Consultant-REACH Centre for Autism.
- Freelance Writer-Teacher Tribe, Aditya Birla Ed, QEDpress.



**Ms. Rati Desai**  
Trustee

Professional

- Independent Director on the Board of few Companies.
- Executive Committee Member - Heritage Trust, Vadodara.
- Works for Animal Welfare in the areas of providing food, shelter and rescuing street animals.



**Mr. Rajesh Gupta**  
Trustee

Professional

- Director of a company.
- Treasurer of Society for Clean Environment, a Registered Charitable Trust.

### Accountability and Transparency

No remuneration, sitting fees, any form of compensation or reimbursement has been paid to any Board Members of the Trust since the inception of the Trust.

## EFFECTIVE EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

### Early Intervention

A hearing child develops speech and forms basic language concepts in the Critical Age of 0-3 years, so for a child with deafness the training process should start immediately upon diagnosis.

Akshar Centre is the first in Gujarat to have started an Early Intervention programme in 1978 before the formal Centre took shape.

In this programme the youngest child has been 3 months. Interaction with hospitals, anganwadis and orphanages has ensured that children with deafness are identified earlier.

### Working with Amplification Devices

An audiologist and teachers work with the students regularly. All the equipment required for amplification is available.

Free hearing aids are distributed to the more needy students through support of other organizations.

### Adaptation

Adaptation of Curriculum and of Textbooks has been done in tune with principles of special education, since 2005. This is a painstaking job and is undertaken by very few organizations in the country.

### Videography & Film

At every school event video films are made and posted on social media.

<https://youtu.be/NJCJiga4eB4>

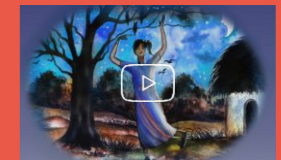


Videos of classroom - teaching for discussion and constructive feedback on improvement of teaching methodology are made.

A film on Total Communication was produced by Akshar for Rehabilitation Council of India.



Fundraiser -  
<https://youtu.be/Xk70Md9D5CE>



Story -  
<https://zamasama.com/the-song-in-her-heart/>

### Technology

- Paul Mason Consulting India Pvt. Ltd. (PMC) had designed a software for 'Students' Management' for Akshar.
- PPT Presentations are used both for teaching trainees and students. Teachers make videos as per the curriculum.
- There are 14 Smart Boards at Akshar, of which 11 were donated by PMC, 1 was donated by Indian Oil Corporation and 2 donated by Gulbrandsen Technologies India Pvt. Ltd.
- 20 Laptops have also been donated by PMC and 20 Prime books have been donated by Mr. Daxesh Patel.



## ON-GOING PROGRAMMES & PLANS

### New Infrastructure and Equipment

#### Akshar has developed facilities

- Spaces for the Infant-Parent Programme and Counseling
- Classrooms for Special School
- Audiology and Speech Wing
- Lecture rooms for Teacher Training
- Space for Conferences / School Programmes
- Computer Laboratory
- Science Laboratory
- Games facilities & Playground
- Library
- Disability-Friendly bathrooms and a ramp
- LAN (Local Area Network)
- Solar Panels cum Bus shelter
- New Furniture
- CCTV In Centre & in buses
- A New Bus in 2025

#### Continuing Rehabilitation Education (CRE)

Akshar has conducted 22 CRE programmes under the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) till date. Special educators, including principals and vice-principals from Gujarat and Mumbai, have attended lectures on deafness and teaching methodology.

#### Buses

3 buses were donated by ONGC (Oil and Natural Gas Corporation), State Bank of India and Koch Glitz between 2014 and 2016. These ferry students, trainees and staff on a daily basis FREE of cost.

A new 50 Seater has been donated by Koch Engineered Solutions India Pvt. Ltd., a division of Koch Chemicals in 2025. This was needed as one of the other older buses needed a lot of repair.



#### Karate

The students have been learning Karate since 1995. They have mastered many techniques, earned various 'belts' and participated in many competitions in the city under the guidance of Mr. James George.

As Mr. George says, 'Akshar is concentrating on the overall development of the students to face their difficulties by training them mentally and physically. Mostly all the students are interested in martial art, are very good in Karate and doing well'.



#### Playground and Games

The playground and other facilities have been made possible due to generous donations given by various organizations. The initial amount received from United Way of Baroda helped in building the playground and equipping the facility; the funding by GACL contributed towards the multipurpose Court; the Games Coaches sent by GSFC helped the students in improving their skills in various games and sports. United Way has continued their valuable funding for Sports Coaches, infrastructure and equipment.

The availability of proper equipment and training resulted in the students participating in the Khel Mahakumbh (Games Competition) of Vadodara District with some getting awards. The students have consistently been participating and achieving in games at 'Prerna', organized by M.S. University for Children with Disabilities.

The retaining wall for the playground was built by Mini and Jagdeep Budhiraja. This protects the students from the Mini River which flows just below.

DCB Bank has contributed a drainage system and a Water-Harvesting Tank at the Playground level. This helps in soil retention.



Daksha and Girish Mehta have been helping Akshar for over 20 years. In 2023 a friend of their's, Amy Greene most kindly decided to send a donation for the extension of a Playground. This was to honour the memory of her brother, Jerry Greene. The donation saw the creation of a Volley Ball court and retention of more ground. Seating in an amphitheater style was also made possible. Due to these additions the Annual Days and Sports Days are being held on the Akshar premises.

## COST EFFECTIVENESS

### Free Accommodation

Since 1991 Akshar has managed the work in buildings without paying rent.

1988-91 rented a shed in Fatehsinh Gymkhana.

1991-96 EME wing of army gave a small bungalow under Army Welfare.

1996-2016 Municipal School Board (ShikshanSamiti) permitted the use of various empty schools.

In 2000 the Govt. of Gujarat leased Akshar 2 ½ acres of 'Kothar', 'Wasteland' on the outskirts of Vadodara. After 16 years of great efforts by all trustees, including fighting a case with a squatter, the new campus was inaugurated on April 29, 2016, by **Dr. J. N. Singh**, ex-Chief Secretary, Govt. of Gujarat.

- Grant from Central Government under DDRS Scheme.
- Free lunch from Jalaram Temple for students for 20 years, from 1996 till 2016.
- Recycling of paper and cards - All rough work in school is done on used paper and cardboard
- Donations in-kind like computers, furniture, hearing aids, etc. have been a regular practice. Paul Mason Consulting India Pvt. Ltd. donated old office furniture. This formed the backbone of the school furniture in the new campus from 2016.
- Donations from individuals and corporates.
- Akshar arranges to get scholarships from the Govt. of Gujarat for students coming from a poor economic background.

### AKSHAR TRUST

Grant-in-aid  
Ministry of Social  
Justice & Empowerment  
Department of Empowerment  
of Persons with Disability  
New Delhi 110003



## Art



Under the guidance of **Mr. Jaydev Biswal**, a professional artist, all the students are learning drawing and painting. Special teaching techniques have been developed to make them understand better.

There is a separate Art Room with specially designed tables, a big LED screen, a black board and large display boards. Akshar provides all the art materials. Students learn drawing using different techniques and application of different mediums of colour. Most of them are good at drawing and painting. They have got several awards in National and State Level Art Competitions. Some of the alumni have finished from the famous Faculty of Fine Arts.



## Interactions

Noteworthy Individuals who have mentored and guided Akshar include **Ms. Mandira Banerji**, **Dr. Bharatiben Modi**, **Ms. Tehmina Cawasji**, **Dr. Prabha Ghatе**, **Ms. Mini Budhiraja**, **Gen. Bobby Dutta**, **Dr. Varsha Gathoo** and **Mr. Karan Grover** among others.

*Through the years, many organizations, both Indian & foreign, have been involved with Akshar and have sent volunteers. AISEC and International Youth Volunteer service, Germany are among them.*



**Dr. Prabha Ghatе** was instrumental in Akshar choosing Total Communication as a mode of communication in 1996.

**Ms. Kristine Landon-Smith**, a well-known theatre personality and her husband, **Mr. Felix Cross, MBE**, an international music composer, from the UK, have been sharing their expertise. They conducted Workshops for students in 2018. This was the second visit for Ms. Landon-Smith. Subsequently, Ms. Landon-Smith conceived and directed a 'Short Long Film' on Zoom in 2020. Mr. Felix Cross composed the music. This was 'Vishwamitri Villas', a film made during Covid times. In February 2024, Vishwamitri Villas was presented as an 'Unscripted Play' in Vadodara. Students from Akshar and hearing students of 'Page to Stage' collaborated for the 6 performances. Nearly 600 Barodians came for the performances.

**Ms. Suchitra Parikh & Ms. Neena Arora**, who run 'Page to Stage', have involved students of Akshar over many years. Beginning with a play about Cricket, written by Akshar students, the experimental film, 'Vishwamitri Villas' and the theatre production of the same in Vadodara was in collaboration with 'Page to Stage'. The film was nominated on 4 film platforms and the cast won an award on one film platform.

**Ms. Sophie Williams**, a speech pathologist from the UK spent time at Akshar in 2017. Two young girls from Germany, **Ms. A. Schramm & Ms. S. Aschbrenner** taught English to the students, most successfully, for a year. **Ms. Aleyna Brandt** worked for a month in 2019. She also sponsored a student.

## NGO Expo

Liveweek Business invited Ms. N. Grover to participate in the 9<sup>th</sup> Global Conference in New York. NGO Expo, in September 2018. Mr. Girish Mehta, a long-time supporter of Akshar from USA, trustee of VVCT and a well-wisher of Akshar, extended all possible help at the Expo.



Ms. Rupande Valera and her daughter, Vaidehi, who live in the USA, volunteered at the Expo. They are related to Manan Patel, one of Akshar's earliest students, now working as a Financial Consultant in the US. Akshar was also featured in the 'Good Book' brought out by Liveweek. In July 2019 Akshar participated in the NGO Expo at Mumbai.

## Publications and Manuals

- Akshar staff have been contributing to the writing of Manuals for Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) till date.
- They have contributed to the Sign Language Volume of Bhasha Research and Publication Centre's 'Indian Sign Language' as part of People's Linguistic Survey of India, 2013.
- Ms. N. Grover has contributed to the following:
  - ❖ Some Units in the ISLRTC Manual for Diploma of 'Indian Sign Language Interpretation - Deaf, Deafness & Communication Options'. (Paper Code: DISLI TI) for Rehabilitation Council of India, 2023.
  - ❖ Curricular Framework for Cross Disability Early Intervention and School Readiness, published by RCI, 2023.
  - ❖ Writing of a Learning Plan in, 'Redesigning Education - 5 Steps to Becoming Enablers for Change', Vevaina, C.S., White Falcon Publishing, 2023.
  - ❖ Editor, along with 2 others, for Bhasha Research and Publication Centre's publication on 'Indian Sign Language' as a part of documentation of Indian languages for a 'Peoples' Linguistic Survey of India', in 2013.
  - ❖ Directed a film on 'Total Communication' produced by Akshar for Rehabilitation Council of India, 2011.
  - ❖ Contribution to Communication Options and Students with Deafness, Rehabilitation Council of India, October, 2009.

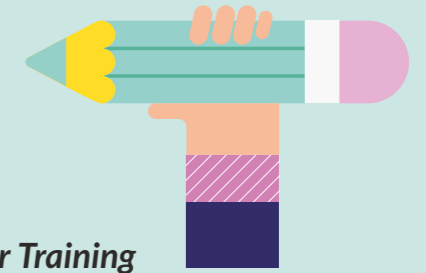
## Skill Development

- In 2017 a unique model for Skill Development was sponsored by Paul Mason Consulting India Pvt. Ltd. (PMC), a U.K. based corporate. An agency was asked to conduct 6-month courses exclusively for Akshar alumni and Drop-outs. PMC has been employing Akshar alumni for the past 15 years.
- PMC is supporting 2 new initiatives:
  - a) A special English teacher to enhance the English of Akshar students from Std. 3 to 8.
  - b) Supporting the upgrading of the English skills of a total of 11 alumni working at PMC.
- The Govt. of India has initiated a National Apprenticeship Programme (NAP) Skill Development model for young people with disability. Akshar Trust has been chosen as a Centre to conduct a course for 'Self-Employed Tailor'. An alumni, Ms. Mansa Singh, B.Sc. in Fashion Design is heading the programme.



## Lecturer Krunal Thakkar has contributed to the following:

- Articles to publications of Alochan Drishti and BAL-VISHVA Children's Research University, in 2024 and 2025.
- A Chapter in an SGSH Publication on, 'Diverse Perspectives on NEP 2020', 2024
- A Chapter in a Manual on 'Assessment and Identification', published by Baba Sahab Ambedkar Open University, 2014.

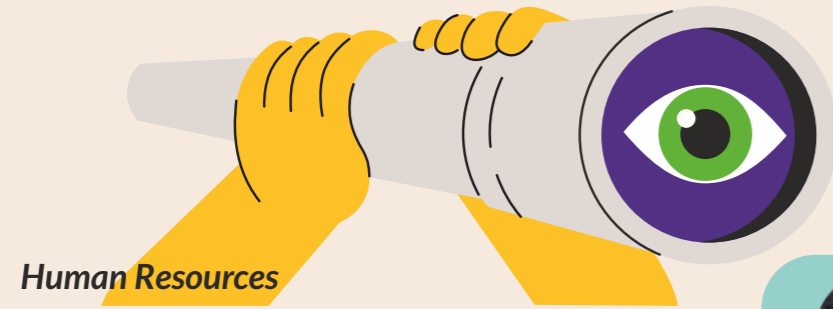


## Teacher Training

- The Teacher Training Department started in 1993. The D.Ed. Spl. Ed. (HI) course was recognized by the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), a statutory body governed by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in 1999 for a 2 yr. course.
- B.Ed. (Spl. Ed. Distance Education) (HI) under Baba Saheb Ambedkar Open University ran from 2011 till 2021. 88 students have cleared the course.
- Under RCI Akshar offered an Advanced Certificate course of 6 months in 'Inclusive Education - Cross Disabilities', as a pilot project. This was conducted in 2018 (Feb. to July) with 40 candidates.

**508 teachers**  
have been trained till now  
and 18 are in the process  
of completing their  
course for Diploma.





## Human Resources

Over the past few years Trustee, **Ms. Ishita Verma** and volunteer, **Ms. Rupal Joshi** have been instrumental in organizing an impressive HR Dept. They completely revamped the entire set-up and introduced systems and checks to enhance efficiency. This effort has contributed to the overall strengthening of the institute.



## Capacity Building



### NCED-India – Vadodara Conference 2020

For over 20 years, Akshar Trust has been keenly involved in the work of National Convention of Educators of the Deaf-India (NCED-India). NCED-India is a national level association of special educators and allied members working to upgrade the skills of educators of children with hearing impairment, the inception of which dates back to 1935. There are 9 State Chapters, an annual Peer Reviewed Journal since 2009 and National and International Conferences which have been held across the country annually.

Akshar was represented at the national level by Ms. N. Grover as Vice-President from 2006. She took over as President in 2010 and after completing 2 terms stepped down in 2016 at the Mysore Conference. The Gujarat Chapter is presently headed by Ms. Hema Kale. Grass root work through Continuing Rehabilitation Education workshops & annual conferences have been the hallmark of the body.



### NCED - Gujarat Chapter

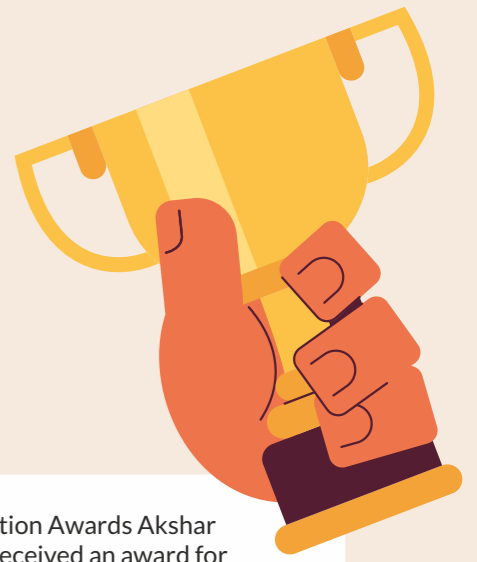
The Gujarat Chapter of NCED-India was formed in 2004 and Akshar Trust, became the head office and the nodal body for NCED-Gujarat. 2 members of Akshar Trust has always been actively engaged in the work. In 2005 a National level Conference was organized at Vadodara, where 22 papers were presented for 350 participants. Dr. I. G. Patel, Former Governor, Reserve Bank of India, Former Director, London School of Economics was the Chief Guest and Mr. Philip O'Keefe, Lead Social Protection Specialist for India, World Bank, was the Key-Note speaker. Apart from the first national conference at Vadodara in 2005, 6 State conferences have been organized: Nadiad, 2011, Himatnagar, 2012, Nadiad, December 2015, Vadodara, December 2016, Bhavnagar December 2017, and Navsari in 2018.

The 85<sup>th</sup> NCED India National Conference was organized at Vadodara in Feb 2020.

## Awards

### Faculty Awards

- M. C. Sen Award for Best Theme Paper presented to Ms. N. Grover and The Kadar Khan Award for Best Innovative Paper presented to Ms. K. Thakkar & Ms. H. Kale at the national conference of the National Convention of Educators of the Deaf (NCED-India), organized by Akshar Trust in February 2005.
- The Nalanda Knowledge Foundation presented the Institution Building Award to Ms. N. Grover in 2007.
- Ms. Shweta Khare received an Award from Rotary Club of Baroda in 2007.
- Mr. Premal Desai, Best Paper Award at NCED-Gujarat, 2015, Nadiad.
- Ms. Varsha Patel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Best Paper Award at NCED-Gujarat, 2016, Vadodara.
- Mr. Om Meghwal, 3<sup>rd</sup> Best Paper Award at NCED-Gujarat, 2016, Vadodara.
- Mr. Om Meghwal, NCED-Gujarat, 2017, Bhavnagar.
- Ms. H. Kale, 'Certificate of Appreciation' Lions Club of Baroda-Taramandal September 5, 2017, Teacher's Day.
- Mr. Om Meghwal, "Young Researcher" award for, "A Key for Map Reading: Mnemonics", 83<sup>rd</sup> NCED-India, Conference, Lucknow, February 26, 2018.
- Mr. Pradeep Patwa, 'Best Paper' for 'Technology in Classroom', NCED-India 85<sup>th</sup> Conference, January 2020.
- Ms. N. Grover for 'Outstanding Social Services' by International Association of Lions Club District 3232 F1 Region 11, January 2020.
- Ms. N. Grover the Guardian Angel Award 4<sup>th</sup> edition-Life Time Achievement, from Vishalwin Foundation, March 2024.



Institution Awards Akshar Trust received an award for 'Mentorship of Masters of Social Work Students' of Sardar Patel University, March 6, 2018.



Akshar Trust received Certificate of Appreciation from Polestar Foundation in recognition of the exemplary work in community development and participation in the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Polestar Awards held on October 27, 2017.



Akshar Trust received Certificate of Appreciation from University of South Carolina College of Social Work, for valuable contributions to the India Global Classroom Program in 2016-2017.

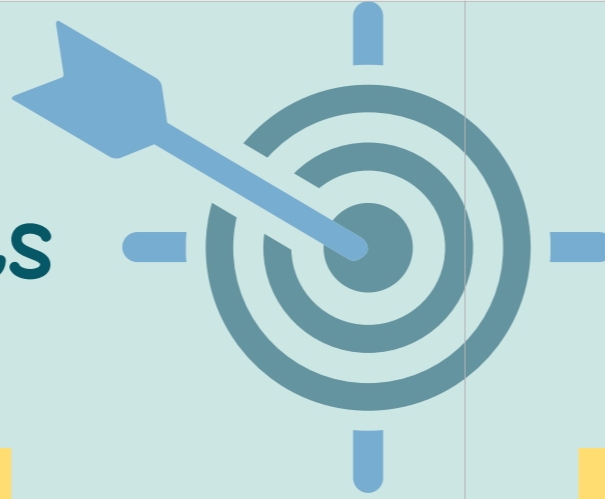


Akshar Trust received True Impact Award, 2016 in the NGO category by the District CSR Cell of Vadodara under the Chairperson of Ms. Avantika Singh, IAS, District Collector, Vadodara in February 2016.



Akshar Trust received Award for Excellence 2011 for Social Welfare by Institution from the Federation of Gujarat Industries in September 2012.

# Academic Achievements



200 students have completed school board exams.  
Many students are graduates. 9 have completed M.Com.



**Dhara S. Jain**  
M.Com.  
Ex.DCB Bank Executive



**Rahul Kanojiya**  
Ceat Tyres  
Production Inspection



**Lay Gandhi**  
Operation Support Trainee  
Paul Mason Consulting  
India Pvt. Ltd.



**Shrenik Shah**  
Deputy Manager Grade 2  
DCB Bank



**Manushi Gandhi**  
B.Arch.  
M. S. University  
Practicing Architect



**Harshit Kandoi**  
B.Com.  
Finance Analyst  
Paul Mason Consulting  
India Pvt. Ltd.



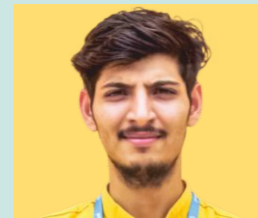
**Gajendra Solanki**  
Working at GSFC -  
Urban Agricultural Outlet,  
Vadodara



**Mayank N. Patel**  
Quality Control Analyst.  
Biorepository Technologist -  
Analyst Laboratory II



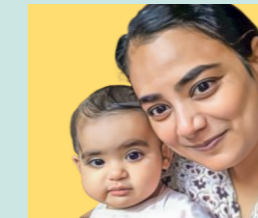
**Sakshi Sharma**  
HR. Administrator  
Paul Mason Consulting  
India Pvt. Ltd.



**Harshal Desai**  
Operation Support Analyst  
Paul Mason Consulting  
India Pvt. Ltd.



**Pratik P Shah**  
Test Analyst -  
Paul Mason Consulting  
India Pvt. Ltd.



**Manisha Sindkar**  
M.Com  
Home Maker



**Dheeraj Suthar**  
Project Manager - Arch  
Development Foundation



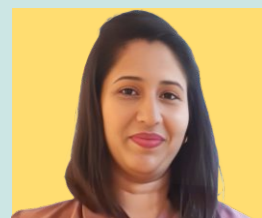
**Mustakim Mansuri**  
CNC Machine  
Operator



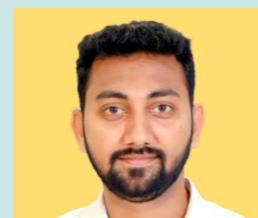
**Payal Presswala**  
Diploma in Sp. Edu. (HI)  
Sp. Educator at S.G.



**Pooja Patel**  
Diploma of Interior Design



**Vandana Gurnani**  
Test Analyst  
Paul Mason Consulting  
India Pvt. Ltd.



**Ruchit Shitole**  
Sr. Test Analyst  
Paul Mason Consulting  
India Pvt. Ltd.



**Anshu Jha**  
Data Entry Operator  
Army Public School, Delhi



**Rinkal Parikh**  
IT Admin Trainee  
Paul Mason Consulting  
India Pvt. Ltd.



**Vishal Badgujar**  
Deputy Manager Grade 2  
DCB Bank



**Kanaka Bhatt**  
M.Com  
Home Maker



**Neha Valand**  
B. Com



**Kavya Patel**  
Beauty Salon



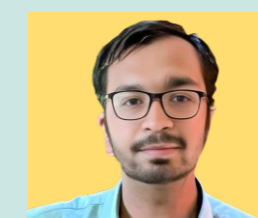
**Pinal Pirojpara**  
Larsen & Toubro Limited  
HR Officer



**Ayaz Shaikh**  
Computer Operator &  
Programming Assistant



**Mansa Singh**  
B.Sc.  
Lead Tailoring NAP



**Tanmay Parmar**  
B.Com



**Manan Patel**  
Financial Consultant



**Divya Singh**  
ITI COPA



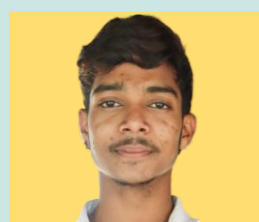
**Rahul Shah**  
Senior Graphic Designer  
Paras Papar Mart Co.



**Pritesh Bariya**  
Internship Trainee  
Paul Mason Consulting  
India Pvt. Ltd.



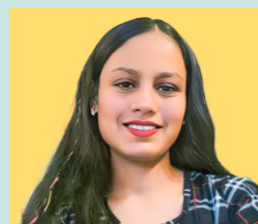
**Amit Kumar Jha**  
Machine Operator  
CareGroup Sight Solutions  
Pvt. Ltd.



**Chandhan Kushwaha**  
ITI COPA



**Mansi Raj Purohit**  
Bachelor of Visual arts  
(Painting)  
Parul University



**Ahediya Qureshi**  
Makeup & Nail Artist



**Mayur Dalvi**  
Dmart



**Keyur Nair**  
B.Com.  
Internship Trainee  
Paul Mason Consulting  
India Pvt. Ltd.



**Kajal Mail**  
Internship Trainee  
Paul Mason Consulting  
India Pvt. Ltd.



**Kunj Kushwaha**  
ITI COPA



**Hitav Patel**  
Care Group Pharma  
Division  
Network certificated  
Engineer



**Vishaka Karva**  
ITI COPA



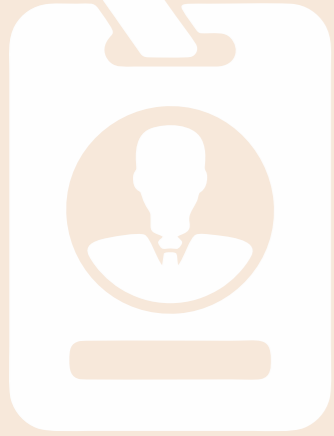
### Board Exams

Year	10 <sup>th</sup> (SSC)	12 <sup>th</sup> (HSC)
NIOS - National Indian Open School		
2005	5	-
2006	7	-
GSEB - Gujarat Secondary and Higher Secondary Education Board		
2008	10	2
2009	2	-
2010	11	10
2011	-	1
2012	10	8
2013	4	-
2014	10	8
2015	7	1
2016	2	2
2017	10	5
2018	8	7
2019	10	5
2020	4	2
2021	1	4
2022	9	4
2023	3	-
2024	18	9
2025	-	3

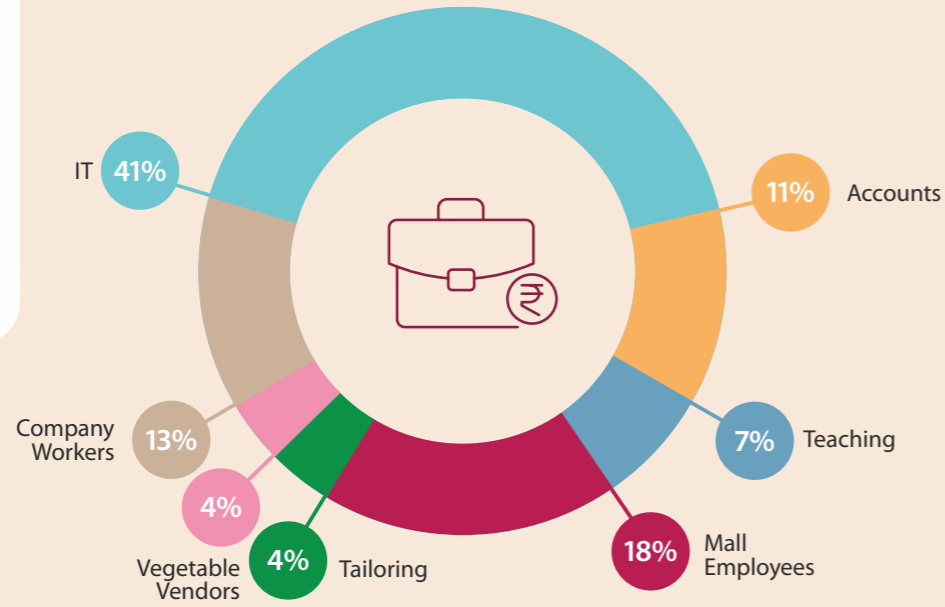
### English Exams

Since 2017 Board Exams for English have been held. Till date, 26 students have appeared and cleared the English Board Exams.

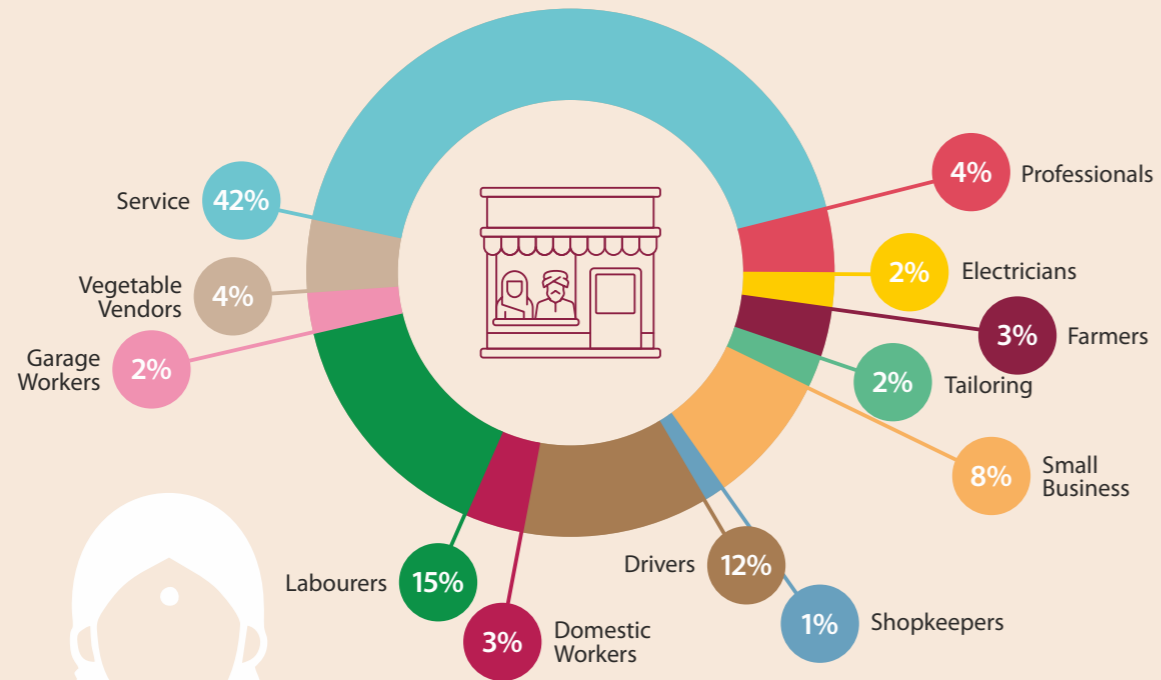




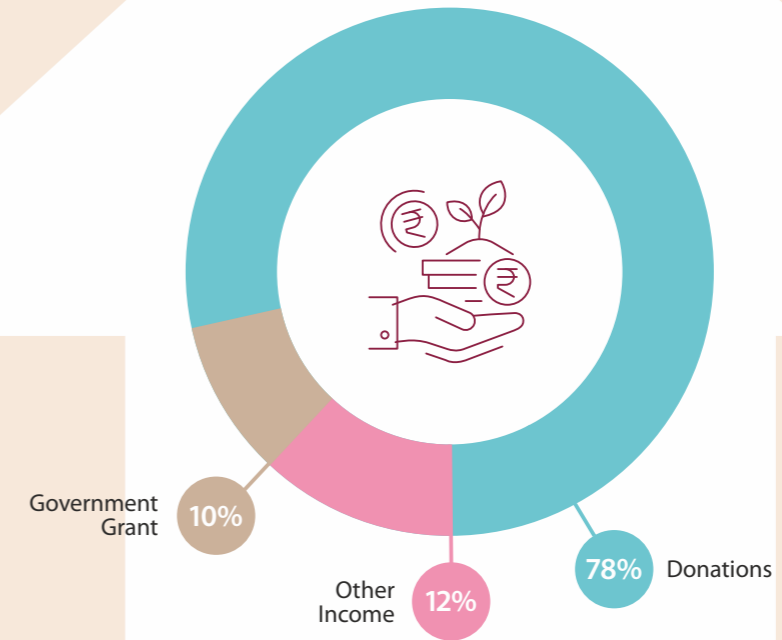
## Employment



## Occupation of Parents

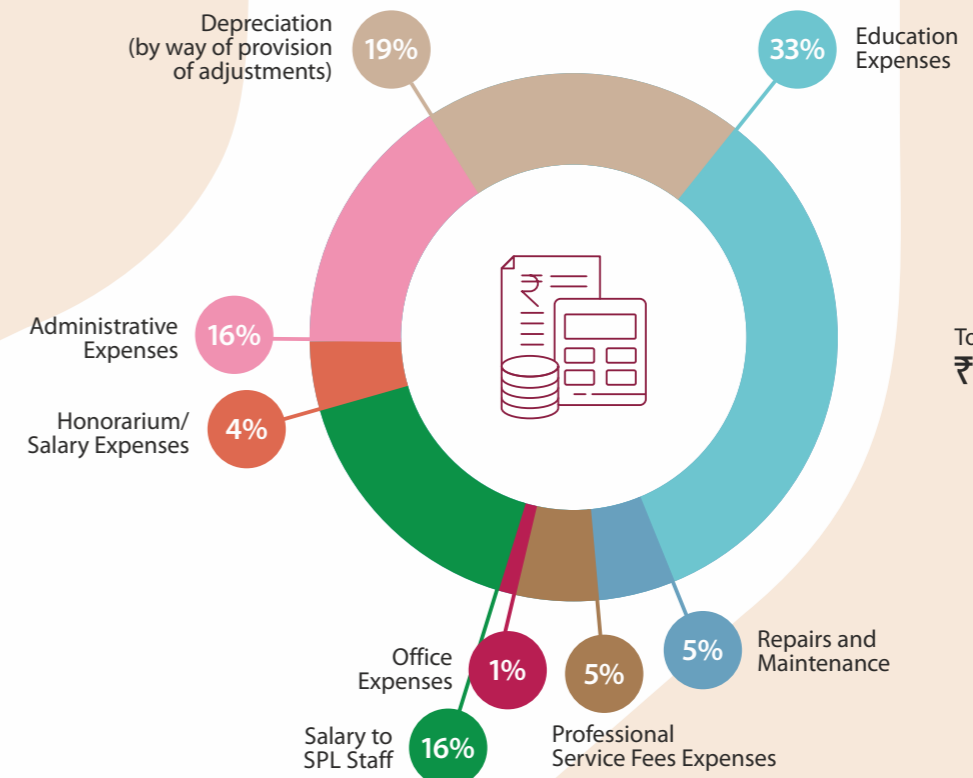


## Akshar Trust Income: FY 2024-25



Total Income  
₹271.51 lacs

## Akshar Trust Expenditure: FY 2024-25



Total Expense  
₹151.35 lacs

## Major Donors over the years

Donor Name
Ms. Amar Patel Amin, Vadodara
Mr. & Mrs. Chirayu Amin, Vadodara
Mr. Parth Amin, Bangalore
Mr. Chris Andreae, London
Mr. Shirish Beri, Kolhapur
Mrs. Jill Beckingham, London
Mr. & Mrs. Jyoti Bhatt, Vadodara
Ms. Malini Bhatt, Vadodara
Mr. & Mrs. Nirmal Bhogilal, Mumbai
Ms. Aleya Brandt, Germany
Mr. & Mrs. Jagdeep Budhiraja, Vadodara
Mr. & Mrs. Boman Cama, Vadodara
Mr. & Mrs. Shivinder Chawla, Vadodara
Mr. Vijay Chowgule, Goa
Mr. & Mrs. Tushar Dayal, Vadodara
Mr. & Mrs. Atul Dalmia, Vadodara
Mr. & Mrs. Nandkishore Dalmia, Vadodara
Mr. & Mrs. Ajay Desai, Vadodara
Ms. Neela Desai, Vadodara
Ms. Rini Dhumal, Vadodara
Mrs. K. R. Dorabji, Vadodara
Mr. & Mrs. Jamshyd Godrej, Mumbai
Mr. K. K. Grover, Mumbai
Mr. & Mrs. Kapil Grover, Mumbai
Mr. Karan Grover, Vadodara
Ms. Karishma Grover, Mumbai
Ms. Neha Grover, Mumbai
Mr. & Mrs. Jitendra Jain, UK
Mr. Kavirath Jain, USA
Mr. Baljit Kapur, New Delhi
Mr. Dalbir Kapur, New Delhi
Mrs. Nargis Katpitia, Vadodara
Mr. & Mrs. Ashok Krishnadas, Vadodara
Mr. & Mrs. Girish Mehta, USA

Donor Name
Mr. & Mrs. Percy Muncherji, Singapore
Mr. & Mrs. Sudhir Munjal, Vadodara
Mr. & Mrs. Ashok Nehru, New Delhi
Dr. R. D. Pandit, Mumbai
Mr. & Mrs. Atul Patel, Vadodara
Mr. & Mrs. D. Patel & Mr. Manan Patel, USA
Mr. & Mrs. Hector Patel, UAE
Mr. Indubhai Patel, Vadodara
Mr. Jal Patel, Vadodara
Ms. Anjali Ela Menon, New Delhi
Ms. Jyoti S. Patel, Vadodara
Mr. & Mrs. Phiroz Patel, Vadodara
Mr. & Mrs. Vimal Patel, Vadodara
Mr. & Mrs. E. J. Paul, New Delhi
Ms. Priya Paul, New Delhi
Mr. & Mrs. K. G. Ramanathan, Mumbai
Mr. Greg Romine, China
Mr. & Mrs. Paresh Saraiya, Vadodara
Mr. & Mrs. Arun Sawhney, Mumbai
Mr. & Mrs. Kamal Sawhney, Mumbai
Mr. & Mrs. Hasmukh Shah, Vadodara
Mr. & Mrs. Piyush Shah, Vadodara
Mr. Sanjiv Shah, Vadodara
Ms. Sunderben C. Shah, Mumbai
Mr. & Mrs. Gulam Sheikh, Vadodara
Mr. & Mrs. Atul Shroff, Mumbai
Mr. & Mrs. Rajju Shroff, Mumbai
Mr. & Mrs. A. Nopany, Vadodara.
Mr. Praveen Singh, Vadodara
Ms. Trupti Singh, Vadodara
Mr. Essam Al Tamimi, UAE
Mr. & Mrs. Chandahas Thackersey, Mumbai
Lord Rumi Verjee, London

## Trusts, Foundations & Corporations which have donated

Donor Name
Amway Opportunity Foundation, Vadodara
Blue Star Foundation, Mumbai
Conmat Systems Pvt. Ltd., Vadodara
G. H. Patel Charitable Trust, Vadodara
Gujarat Alkalies & Chemicals Ltd., Vadodara
Gujarat State Fertilizers and Chemicals, Vadodara
H. F. Patel Memorial Trust, Vadodara
HNG Float Glass Ltd., Mumbai
Koch-Glitsch, a division of Koch Chemical Technology Group (I) Pvt. Ltd., Vadodara
Lupin Human Welfare & Research Foundation
Mehta Charitable Trust, Mumbai
Natubhai V. Patel Charitable Trust, Vadodara
Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd., Vadodara
Paul Mason Consulting (India) Pvt. Ltd.
Pirojsha Godrej Foundation, Mumbai
The Scorpion Charitable Trust, UK
Prosea International Ltd., South Africa
Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, New Delhi
The Rumi Foundation, London
Samaj Kalyan Trust, Vadodara
Sanskriti Foundation, Porbandar
Shapoorji Pallonji Charity Trust, Mumbai
Share & Care Foundation, USA
Shroff Foundation Trust, Vadodara
Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, Mumbai
State Bank of India, Bhadra, Ahmedabad
Sterling Biotech Ltd., Vadodara
SLK Software Services Pvt. Ltd.
United Way of Baroda, Vadodara
United Technologies Corporation, USA
Vidya Vikas Charitable Trust, USA



## From Parents

Ms. Chhaya Gandhi  
Lay's Mother



શ્રીકૃં ભામ હામી ગાંધી કી. શામા શિક્ષણુ ભામ હામ ગાંધી કી. જમમી લમ ૩-૬ વર્ષની હુમી હામી મી અક્ષર શુક્રમાં નેનુ અસમિતમ લીકુ હનુ.

લમી આ જાનામાંની હામીલા 1 થી 12 સુધી શિક્ષણ લીકુ લમ પદી નેલુ શુક્રવિદ્યા. પુનિવંશિમાંથી M.Com. હુલુ. આ હામીલા મારી M.Com. હુલુ પુલ શુક્રવિદ્યાનુ હામી છે. પદા લમી નેનુ પાલાનુ શામ અક્ષર શુક્રમાં પુલ જ માનુ આનુ. લમી આ શીકણીક મશનામાં અક્ષર શુક્રમાં શિક્ષણીનુ ગીલામ છે. હમણાં લામ ૩ વર્ષથી પોલ મેમ સુઅર્જી(PMC) હુપનીમાં આપેલામ તમાર (OPS)માં શામ લી છે. આ હુપનીમાં લમી નીકી અપવનામાં અક્ષર શુક્રમાં શામી છે. હુ આ હામ અક્ષર શુક્રમાં શામાની છે. હુ અક્ષર શુક્રમાં 2૦૦8 થી શીકણા મેનુશુક્રમાં લમી શામ હુલુ છે. ચેલુ. Chhaya K. Gandhi

કેશ ભામ શુક્રમાં જામ છે. મેરી શેલ ના ભામ લામણા જામ છે. પદ 15 માલ મી છે. ઓર અક્ષર શુક્રમાં મેં કશા 8 મેં વહની છે. આ લામણા 5 વર્ષ થી મી લમ સે પદ અક્ષર શુક્રમાં મેં છે. અક્ષર શુક્રમાં મેં લામણા ઓર અક્ષર શુક્રમાં મી અક્ષર ને અક્ષર કહે પદાતી છે. અક્ષર શુક્રમાં પદ અક્ષર શુક્રમાં મેં છે. શુક્રમાં મેં નક્ષત્ર શિક્ષણ વલ્લી મી કશી શિક્ષણી છે. શિક્ષણે નક્ષર વલ્લી કા શિક્ષણી ઓર અક્ષર શુક્રમાં મેં છે. અક્ષર શુક્રમાં મેં વલ્લી મી વાદ્ય મી પ્રતિષ્ઠિતિલામી ને શીક લીધામ કરતી છે. શિક્ષણ શુક્રમાં પ્રા મોજાદમ વેતે છે. લામણા ને શીક મેને અક્ષર શુક્રમાં મેં હી શિક્ષણી શિક્ષણી છે. આમ મેં અક્ષર શુક્રમાં મેં શિક્ષણ ને રુપ મેં નક્ષરમાં છે. અક્ષર શુક્રમાં મેં વલ્લી મેં જોમ નહી મેં છે. વલ્લી મી અક્ષર મી અક્ષર શુક્રમાં મેં છે. શુક્રમાં મેં અક્ષર શુક્રમાં મી વલ્લી પદા વહન વલ્લી છે. મેં અક્ષર શુક્રમાં મેં હુલુ હર અક્ષર મી શામારી છે.

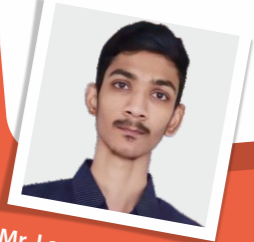


Ms. Rubin Khan  
Laiba's Mother

## From our students' Notebooks

My name is Lay Gandhi. I studied at Akshar Trust from Std: 1 to 10. In Std: 11, I studied at another school, but I left after 5 months. I then rejoined Akshar Trust for Std: 11 & 12. I passed the Std: 12 exam. After that, I studied B.Com and M.Com in college for 5 years. In 2023, I joined PMC. I have now been working at PMC for 3 years. I remember Akshar Trust school.

Thank you,  
Yours faithfully,  
Lay Gandhi



Mr. Lay Gandhi

## our special Gratitude to

- Mr. Karan Grover, Mr. Ishan Grover & the staff of Karan Grover & Associates Mr. J. Jacob, Mr. K. Mohite & Mr. B. M Jha.
- Mr. Manishi Bhatt of Manishi Enterprise for the construction of the new building & all the ongoing work. Mr. Puranik has also been most involved.
- Mr. Alkesh Shah, Chartered Accountant, for handling accounts since 1988 in an honorary capacity.
- Mr. Harsh Purohit and his team from Cognito for the designing of the Annual Report for the past 12 years in a Pro Bono capacity.
- Mr. Jatin Vakil for great help in legal matters.
- The late Mr. Jal Patel, Chairperson, who gave Akshar Trust guidance and direction for many years, first as a trustee and then as the Chairperson.
- Trustees, Mr. Rajesh Parikh, Ms. Ishita Verma, Ms. Rati Desai and Mr. Rajesh Gupta who have always given generously of their time and expertise. Their involvement is most valuable for the Trust.
- JHS Associates LLP is now in charge of accounts FY 2023-24 onwards.



# ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25



*For the new academic year 2024 -25, teachers resumed work on June 6 and students joined on June 10, 2024. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> term, school reopened on November 07, 2024. The last working day for teachers for the academic year was May 03, 2025. School will reopen on June 5 for teachers and for students on June 9, 2025.*

*The 1<sup>st</sup> Term Exam began on October 14 and Report Day was on October 24, 2024.*

*The 2<sup>nd</sup> Term Exam began on April 7, 2025 and Report Day was on April 26, 2025.*

*Elections were held for Head Boy and Girl, House Captains and Class Prefects on June 28, 2024.*



## Interesting Events



An MOU was signed with Sumandeep University in January 2023 under which, till today, 52 interns of BASLP (B.Aud.Sp. & Lang. Pathology) have worked at Akshar. From June 2024, 23 interns have been at Akshar.

Linde Engineering India Pvt. Ltd. invited students and trainees for Garba Celebrations, September 26, 2024.

The Community Science Centre invited 47 students from Std. 6 to 9 to visit and observe experiments. 15 trainees accompanied the students with science teachers on October 04, 2024.

A Fair for PwD (People with Disability), Divya Kala Mela 2025, was organized by Dept. of Empowerment Persons with Disabilities (DEPWD), Govt. of India, January 9 to 19, 2025. 5 students & 10 trainees were invited to volunteer at different stalls to help entrepreneurs with disability. ISLRTC (Indian Sign Language Research & Training Institute) New Delhi, had a stall and invited students of Akshar to volunteer in it.

From February 18, 2025, 8 students from Nalanda International School began their annual volunteering effort at Akshar. They were at Akshar for 9 days, 3 hours each day. This annual feature is of great value to the students of Akshar.

A Fire Drill was conducted for the students, staff, teachers & trainees by Star Safety Solutions on February 6, 2025.



On February 28, 2025 Akshar celebrated Science Day. Ms. Rintu Renjith, Science teacher from Nalanda International School was invited to judge the models and presentations.



17 Science Projects with models were displayed by students of Std. 5 to 10.

'VM Connect' is a CSR event held each year, supported by General Motors. It provides a platform for NGOs to present their work to Corporates. This year on March 12, 2025 Akshar made a presentation about the Centre for Fund Raising. The event was attended by Ms. N. Grover, Audiologist, Ms. F. Shah & Ms. H. Akolkar at Hotel Grand Mercure.

Trustee Mr. Rajesh Parikh asked the MLA from Akota, Mr. Chaitanya Desai, to organize a meeting with the Collector of Vadodara on December 13, 2024. This was to request permission to make a permanent roof for Akshar. The temporary roof allowed by the Government results in damage to equipment as there is water leakage at times. The roof is also damaged by strong winds and every year needs some repair. Ms. N. Grover was present at the meeting.



The installation of the new audiometer and other audiological instruments acquired under CSR, was done under the supervision of Ms. F. Shah and the audiology interns of Sumandeep University on April 3, 2025.

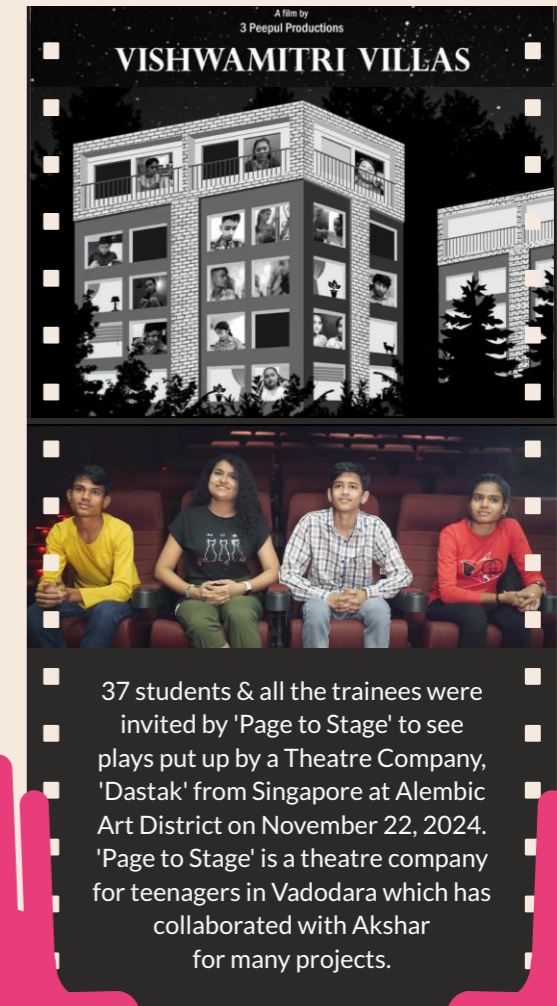
CCTV installation work started on April 21, 2025 with 32 cameras being installed,



As they have been doing for some years, St. Kabir International School invited a few students of Akshar for a celebration on Independence Day, August 15. Akshar students presented a dance based on Independence.

From November 25 to December 7, 2024 Ms. Anuradha Pania & Ms. Ayushi Oza from Malad Kandivli Education Society's Institute of Management Studies & Research, Mumbai, joined as interns and worked on HR. At the conclusion of their internship they made a PPT presentation of suggestions to the staff and also demonstrated effective working with ChatGPT.

40 students of Pathshala School from Std. 5 & 6, came to meet Akshar students and trainees, August 8 & 9, 2024. Pathshala started as an informal mobile footpath school.



37 students & all the trainees were invited by 'Page to Stage' to see plays put up by a Theatre Company, 'Dastak' from Singapore at Alembic Art District on November 22, 2024. 'Page to Stage' is a theatre company for teenagers in Vadodara which has collaborated with Akshar for many projects.

Akshar was invited to join a new programme is under the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAP) of the Govt. of India. On July 30, 2024. Skill-Based classes for tailoring started with 10 students. Ms. Mansa Singh, B.Sc. in Fashion Design, went to Bengaluru to get certified to lead the programme. She is an alumni of Akshar.

3 Master students of Social Work Department of Sardar Patel University joined as interns for a period of 2 months, September 18, 2024.

Socleen Society invited students of Akshar to participate in a Drawing Competition with the theme, 'The Beauty of Nature', December 8, 2024. 5 students took part.

FICCI FLO invited 12 students for a function on March 18, 2025. They provided the transport as well. Some of the students had never been inside a hotel.

## celebrations



*International Yoga Day was celebrated at Akshar. Ms. H. Akolkar lead the event by performing 'Asanas', June 21, 2024.*



On 'Teacher's Day', September 5, 2024, senior students took on the role of teachers and taught the Junior Section. Trainees also participated.

'Deaf Day' was celebrated on September 23, 2024, with the students performing dances, skits & games. Trainees gave speeches and performed a patriotic drama.

Linde Engineering India Pvt. Ltd. organized a CSR activity before Navratri and invited students and trainees. Akshar had a stall to display and sell their paintings, September 27, 2024.

Gandhi Jayanti, October 2, 2024, was celebrated as 'Swachhata Divas' (Cleanliness Day). The cleaning staff was honored with gifts, sweets, flowers etc. Students performed skits and dances in honour of Mahatma Gandhi.

The dance of Garba was enjoyed by all on October 5, 2024. Students and trainees came in colourful dresses & danced along with their teachers. There were prizes for Best Performance & Best Dress.



On July 18, 2024, Akshar celebrated the 36<sup>th</sup> Akshar Foundation Day. Students performed dances, while the alumni shared experiences of their school days. Ms. C. Gandhi was the interpreter and Ms. N. Sevak choreographed the performances. The programme ended with distribution of sweets. An Investiture Ceremony had been arranged for the students elected in various posts.

August 15, 2024, on Independence Day, a Flag - Hoisting ceremony was held in the playground. Students performed skits and dances and some trainees gave speeches on the occasion.



### The Annual Day

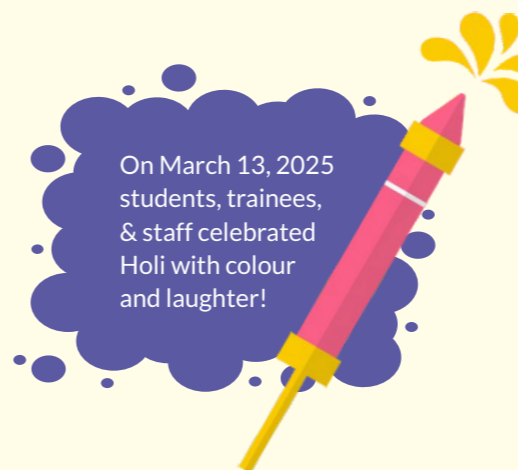
Annual Day was held on December 27, 2024 with the theme of, 'Go Green'. The Chief Guest was Mr. V. J. Rajput, IAS, Disability Commissioner, Gujarat and the Guest of Honour was Mr. V. Shreedharan, Vice President - Operations, Sud Chemie India Pvt. Ltd. Based on the theme, the students performed dances, a fashion show, some skits and so on. Trainees took the responsibility to do the anchoring and performed the Welcome Song. Teachers participated with performances of their own.

Akshar Trust announced 5 awards for students.

1. **Leadership Award**  
Mohammed Jiyar Sheikh
2. **Creativity Award**  
Yashraj Devare
3. **Most Studious Student**  
Manthan Patel
4. **Sports Person of the Year**  
Rani Machhi
5. **Star of the Night**  
Yashraj Devare
6. **The Fashion Icon**  
Girl - Roli Prajapati  
Boy - Pratham Suthar



November 14, 2024, the birthday of Jawaharlal Nehru, 'Children's Day', was celebrated with many activities. Students played games with trainees participating. Teachers brought snacks for all.



On March 13, 2025 students, trainees, & staff celebrated Holi with colour and laughter!

United Way of Baroda invited all the students to participate in the Kite-Flying event called Kshitij on December 10, 2024.

## The Annual Sports Day

The Annual Sports Day was celebrated on January 27, 2025 at Baroda Football Academy. Ms. Vibha Naik, Director - Information Technology, Linde Engineering India Pvt. Ltd. was the Chief Guest. Ms. Gayatri Vyas, CEO VNM News Channel was the Guest of Honor.



There were Drills presented by the students and Races enjoyed by them. Trainees participated in the Pyramids. A wonderful display of Karate was the highlight of the event. A stiff competition prevailed between the three Houses but ultimately, Nehru House won the School Trophy. Trainees did the anchoring.



## Parent's Meetings

A Parent's Meeting for Board Exam related work of Std. 10 students was held on June 4, 2024.

A Parent's Meeting was organized for both junior & senior classes on July 11 & 19, 2024. Ms. F. Shah, audiologist, discussed the importance, care and maintenance of hearing aids and batteries. Ms. C. Gandhi, Coordinator, discussed the importance of home-work and care of work-cards. Ms. H. Kale, Principal, motivated parents to buy new hearing aids for their children to enhance their academic performance and speech skills.



Report Day serves as the occasion to discuss the progress of each child. Report Days were October 24, 2024 for Term 1 and April 26, 2025 for Term 2.

## Paul Mason Consulting India Pvt. Ltd. (PMC)

Akshar has been fortunate to have had many visitors from PMC in the year.

Mr. Vikas Bali, Head of Global Sales, Mr. Ryan Embleton, Head of Direct-to-Consumer with Ms. Urvi Parekh, Country Head & Head of HR-PMC India came on August 6, 2024.

Mr. Paul Mason, Chairman PMC, with the PMC Team, Ms. Moumita Dey, Snr. HR Business Partner & Operations Lead, Ms. U. Parekh, Country Head & Head of HR - PMC India and Ms. Sakshi Sharma, HR Administrator and an alumnus of Akshar, visited on November 28, 2024.

On December 19, 2024, 17 members from PMC came as a part of 'PMC Day'. They had planned interesting craft activities for the students and also distributed gifts and food packets.

Mr. Richard Lowe, CEO PMC with Ms. Moumita Dey, Snr. HR Business Partner & Operations Lead and visitors, Mr. H. J. A. Kernick & Mr. D. A. Wade on February 27, 2025.

2 members of the Technical Support Team from PMC visited and checked each Smart Board. Mr. Tejas Dhruna, Lead IT Administrator and Mr. Nishit Kansara, IT Administrator, January 10, 2025.

On March 5, 2025 Mr. Carl Haggas, Managing Director PMC India - HR Director, Ms. Sarah McGuire, HR & Resourcing Business Partner & Ms. Urvi Parikh, Country Head & Head of HR-PMC India visited.

Ms. Urvi Parekh, Country Head & Head of HR - PMC India & Ms. Maya Weier, Head of Marketing, visited on March 27, 2025.

Most generously, the Chairman of PMC, Mr. Paul Mason, personally donated 2 Android Smart Boards on April 22, 2025.



## Sports

A Football Tournament (Boys and Girls under 15) was held at Baroda Football association (BFA) ground. The Akshar Girl's Team played on Sept. 27 & the Boys on September 29, 2024.

15 students from Akshar received an invitation to play cricket and football from Nalanda International School, November 22, 2024.

12 Students of Akshar were invited to give a Karate Display at the St. Kabir International School Sports Day on December 30, 2024. Ms. N. Grover was invited as Special Invitee.

A Football Tournament (Boys and Girls under 15) was held at BFA ground. Akshar boys played on January 2 and girls on January 4, 2025. The tournament was organized by 'Sansad Khel Spardha'.

The Akshar Girl's Football Team went to BFA Ground for a football Tournament, January 26, 2025.

42 students participated in the Vadodara Marathon, February 02, 2025.

17 students participated in the 'Khel Mahakumbh' Sports for 100 mt and 200 mt Free Style Running. Yeshraj Devre came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 100 mtr. Race, February 4, 2025.



### 61 Students from Akshar participated in the Prerna Sports event, organized by M.S. University on September 21, 2024.

1.	<b>Priyanka Rathod</b> Rangoli	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Prize</b>
2.	<b>Yashraj Devare</b> Painting	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Prize</b>
3.	<b>Aman Salat</b> Painting	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Prize</b>
4.	<b>Devika Patanwadia</b> Race	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Prize</b>
5.	<b>Ethan Pillai</b> Shooting	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Prize</b>
6.	<b>Deepanshu Sharma</b> Shooting	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Prize</b>
7.	<b>Roli Prajapati</b> Shooting	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Prize</b>

## Results



First and Second Year Results were declared on August 10, 2024. All the 11 trainees of First Year and all the 16 trainees of Second Year cleared the exams.

## Faculty and Staff Activities

- September 21, 2024, Ms. N. Grover & Ms. H. Kale attended a webinar on the use of a pedagogy, 'Dhwani' developed by Balvidhayala School, Chennai. The webinar was organized by Ali Yavar Jung National Institute of Speech & Hearing Disabilities (DIVYANJAN).
- Ms. N. Grover attended the 29<sup>th</sup> Executive Council meeting of ISLRTC on November 7, 2024.
- Mr. J. Shajimon attended an online meeting for National Apprenticeship Programme (NAP) November 26, 2024.
- Ms. H. Akolkar attended an online meeting of YUNIKEE organized by ISLRTC in collaboration with Infosys Foundation. The Foundation has developed free online courses for the deaf, January 24, 2025.
- HR Dept., Ms. Rupal Joshi and Trustee Ishita Verma met Mr. B. Padhiyar, PF Consultant, March 18, 2025.
- As a Guest Lecturer, Mr. Krunal Thakkar, started giving lectures to First Year & Second Year students, March 22 & 29, 2025.
- Department of Empowerment of Person with Disabilities invited Akshar to a 'Purple Talk' on 'Exceptional Organizations', for presentation April 3, 2025. This was attended by Ms. H. Akolkar, virtually.

## Visitors

- Ms. Kanaka Bhat & family visited. Ms. Bhat was one of the first students of Akshar in 1983, before Akshar formally began, June 10, 2024
- Ms. Pratibha Naik from Bluestar Foundation, September 4, 2024.
- Mr. R. Bansal and Mr. Amish Sheth from Shakun Polymers Pvt. Ltd., September 12, 2024.
- Mr. & Mrs. Kishor Panchal from New Jersey, November 20, 2024.
- A team from Gulbrandsen Technologies India Pvt. Ltd., headed by Ms. Tina Ugale, HR. Head, December 10, 2024.
- 3 guests from Cosara Diagnostis, USA, Ms. Kimberly Abbott, Ms. Leslie Egan & Ms. Shreni Dholkia, December 12, 2024.
- Mr. Paul Mason, Chairperson of Paul Mason Consulting India Pvt. Ltd. visited with his team from PMC. The team comprised of Ms. M. Dey, Ms. U. Parikh & Ms. Sakshi Sharma. Ms. Sharma is an alumni of Akshar on November 28, 2024.
- Mr. Arvind Bhambri with his son, Nikhil, from USA, December 18, 2024.
- Mr. & Mrs. Pradeep Narain, France, December 19, 2024.
- Mr. Jagdish Shah, CRC Coordinator Cluster, Sevasi, January 16, 2025.
- Ms. P. Agarwal & Ms. A. Philip from Heubach Colour Pvt. Ltd., January 30, 2025.
- Mr. Sanjeevi Singh Jain, Regional Director India, Koch Engineered Solutions India Pvt. Ltd., January 31, 2025.
- Ms. Deepa Chowgule, Dr. G. Lele & Mr. M. Kamat from Goa, February 11 & 13, 2025, Ms. Tulsi Paride, Hasmukhbhai Shah's granddaughter, February 17, 2025. Hasmukhbhai was the Chairperson of Akshar for 2 years.
- Heeru Foundation Mr. H. Lakkad & Mr. R. Dave, March 04, 2025.
- 30 students Rajapura Govt. Primary School, Sindharot, March 7, 2025.
- Mr. Brijesh Nair, Relationship Manager Institutional Banking from ICICI Bank, April 20, 2025.
- Ms. M. Sanas & Mr. M. Kumar from Sudharshan Chemicals Industries Ltd., May 08, 2025.

## Trustee Meetings

Meetings were held on the following dates:

June 21, 2024	September 12, 2024 (a Virtual Meeting)	December 10, 2024	March 17, 2025
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## Teacher Training 2024-25



The teacher trainees started the new Semester on May 27, 2024. Diwali Holidays began on October 24. The Second Semester began on November 07 and concluded on May 12, 2025.

A New Batch of Diploma (D.Ed.Spl.Ed.-HI) started from Aug. 01, 2024 with 5 students.

## Trainee's Workshops

- A Workshop on 'Tracing Stick Figures' for First Year & Second Year trainees (Batch 2024-26 & 2023-25.) was conducted by Ms. H. Akolkar and Mr. R. Solanki, August 24, 2024.
- A Community Based Rehabilitation (C.B.R) project on 'Causes of Deafness' was organized by trainees at Xavier Institute. The students showed a PPT & a movie about Akshar. Ms. H. Akolkar, Mr. D. Patadia & Mr. R. Solanki were in charge, September 28, 2024,
- An Awareness Programme was conducted by Second Year trainees along, with students of Sardar Patel University, for students at a govt. school in a village in Anand District, January 28, 2025

## Donations in Kind

- Ms. Rati Desai donated a locker, June 22, 2024.
- Mr. Rajesh Gupta on behalf of Mr. R.C. Singhal donated stationery, June 26, 2024.
- Mr. Narendrakumar P. Patel distributed food packets on his birthday, August 12, 2024.
- Mr. Jal Patel's family donated a computer with a printer, September 10, 2024.
- Mr. Ajay Sonavane, Akshar bus driver, distributed snacks, October 1, 2024.
- Mr. Bhagirath distributed food, October 3, 2024.
- Ms. Priti Shanghavi gave lunch to all students, trainees & staff, Dec.10, 2024.
- Mr. Jeel Barot gave food on January 8, 2025.
- Dr. Bharat Parmar with a team of doctors from homeopathic college, Sevasi, organized lunch and handed over stationery for students, February 11, 2025.
- Ms. Rathod & Mr. Sujit Kumar from SBI, Sevasi, Branch donated an incinerator for Sanitary Pads, February 11, 2025.
- Mr. Vijay Chowgule and Ms. Deepa Chowgule from Goa, donated a Sewing Machine, March 6, 2025.
- April 3, 2025, Alumni Shrenik Shah's parents donated old clothes & hearing aids. Shrenik is working in Executive Clearing Unit Dept. at DCB Bank.
- Mr. Paul Mason, Chairperson of Paul Mason Consulting India Pvt. Ltd., donated 2 Android Smart Boards for students, April 22, 2025.



## Fundraising 2024-25

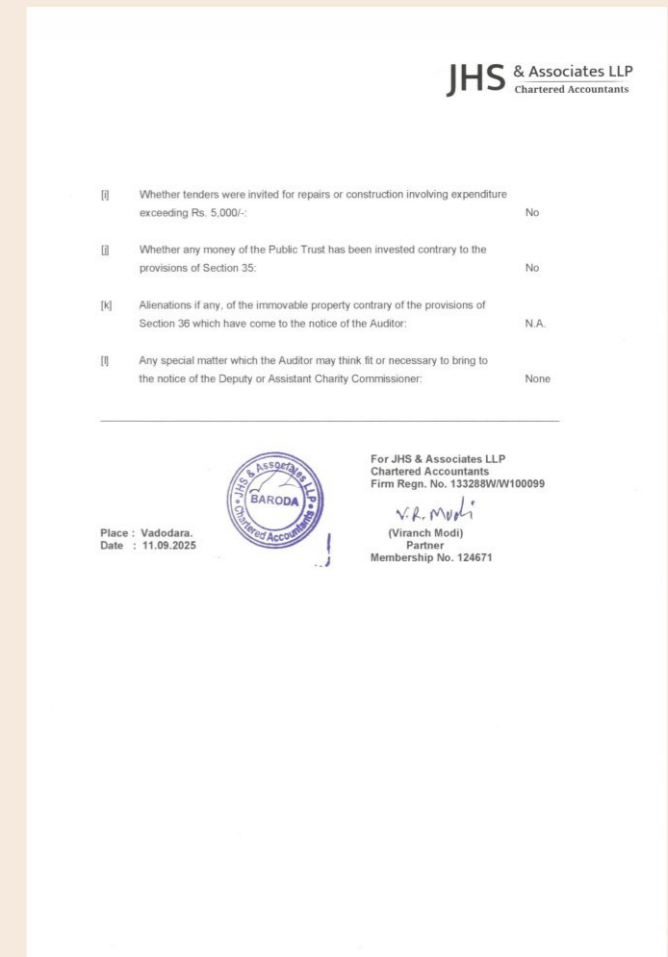
Donor Name	Amount (INR)	Donor Name	Amount (INR)
Daksha & Girish Mehta	39,42,874	Mr. Shirish Beri	26,600
Koch Engineered Solutions India Pvt. Ltd.	31,43,000	Kewalram Chanrai Foundation	25,000
SLK Software Services Pvt. Ltd.	15,00,000	Mr. Rahul Sen	25,000
Paul Mason Consulting India Pvt. Ltd.	13,52,000	Ms. Nalini V. Patel	25,000
Banco Aluminium Ltd.	12,50,000	Ms. Pushpa Sundar	20,000
Heubach Colour Pvt. Ltd.	12,37,060	Ms. Anupam Khanna	15,000
Harsha Engineers International Ltd.	11,00,000	Mr. & Mrs. K. G. Ramanathan	15,000
Pathak Foundation	10,45,800	Ms. Sarla R Momayani	11,000
Shakun Polymers Pvt. Ltd.	10,00,000	Mr. Lay Gandhi, Alumni	11,000
Sud-Chemie India Pvt. Ltd.	7,20,000	Mr. & Mrs. Rustam Ginwalla	10,000
United Way of Baroda	5,29,370	Mr. Mayur Vasava	5,000
Axtel Industries Ltd.	5,00,000	Master Mievean Gogte	5,000
Demuric Holdings Pvt. Ltd.	5,00,000	Miss. Miraaya Daswani	5,000
Gulbrandsen Technologies India Pvt. Ltd.	4,14,770	Miss. Naina Bakshi	2,000
Styrenix Performance Materials Ltd.	3,15,000	Master Ashraf Patel	2,000
Pardos Real Estate Pvt. Ltd.	3,00,000	Master Ameer Sah	2,000
Rishi FIBC Solutions Pvt. Ltd.	2,50,000	Master Ved Arya	2,000
Blue Star Foundation	2,50,000	Master Agastya Javeri	2,000
Dr. Chetan Shah	2,49,000	Miss. Daania Chopra	2,000
Mr. R. C. Patel & Mr. L. R. Patel	2,00,000	Master Ryan Charna	2,000
Transpek Industry Ltd.	2,00,000	Master Aryan Shah	1,500
Ms. Indiraben Manbhai Bhatt	2,00,000	Master Hiaan Jain	1,500
Mr. Paul Mason	1,95,000	Miss. Sarrah Lokhandwala	1,500
Well-Wishers	1,00,000	Miss. Nyla Mahtani	1,500
Mr. & Mrs. Hector Patel	1,00,000	Master Agastya Poddar	1,500
CTC Geotechnical Pvt. Ltd.	1,00,000	Master Vedant Punamiya	1,500
Mr. & Mrs. Amit Goradia	1,00,000	Master Aaryan Majmundar	1,200
Heeru Foundation	76,033	Master Ameer Goenka	1,200
Ms. Malavika S. Nehru Gupta	60,000	Master Aryan Mehta	1,100
G. H. Patel Charitable Trust	51,000	Miss. Miraaya Shah	1,100
Ms. Shruti Atul Shroff	51,000	Miss. Amaira Sodha	1,001
Leherchand Uttamchand Trust Fund	50,000	Miss. Amaira and Ms. Anaisha Mansukhani	1,000
Shantaben Jamubhai Patel Memorial Trust	50,000	Miss. Sophia Ghouse	1,000
Sitaram Jindal Foundation	50,000	Mr. Dhiren Rupareila	1,000
Ms. Neeta Wig	41,000	Miss. Ivaan Shah	600
Ms. Jayshreeben H. Swami	41,000	Miss. Kaira Patel	500
Kachnar Trust	30,000		

Master Khayal Grover, age 5 yrs., asked his friends to donate to the students of Akshar instead of giving him presents on his birthday.



Daksha and Girish Mehta have been supporting the activities of Akshar Trust for many years. They have, in their personal capacity, been instrumental in providing generous funding for the students of Akshar. Though they live in USA, they have visited many times. They have introduced Akshar to their friends, have encouraged their friends to support Akshar and then matched the donations given by their friends. It is clear that Akshar has benefitted greatly and been blessed by their guidance, direction and special care.

### Audit Certificates - 2024-25

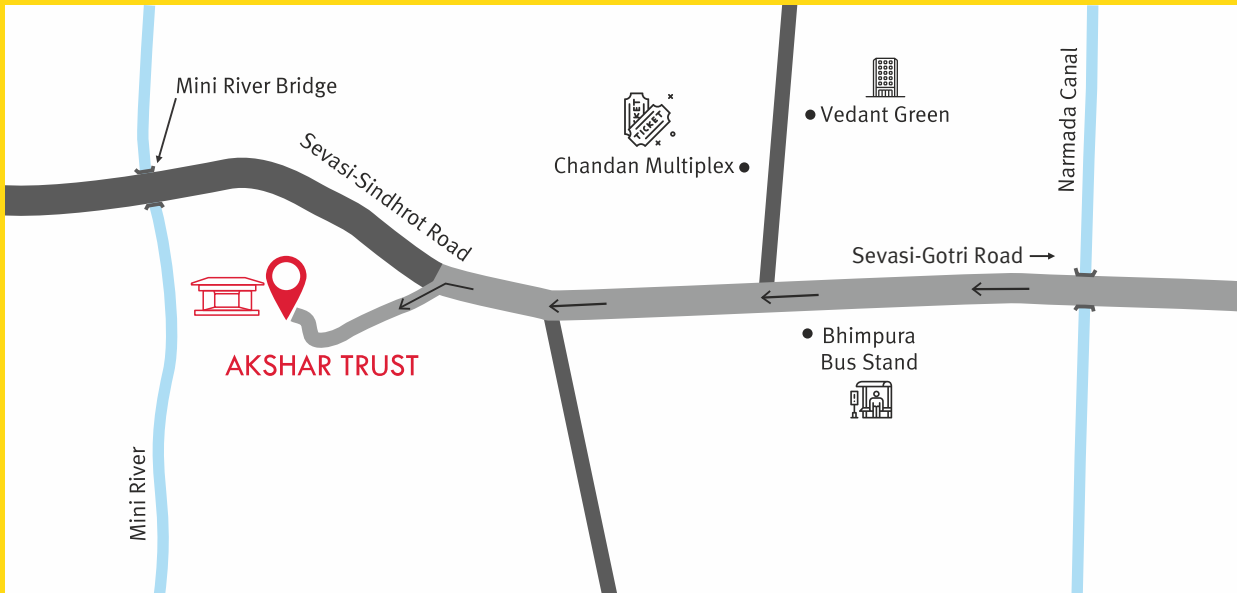


### Current Office Bearers

**Trustees**  
Mr. Rajesh Parikh  
Mr. Rajesh Gupta  
Ms. Ishita Verma  
Ms. Rati Desai

**Managing Trustee**  
Ms. Nisha Grover

## Route to Akshar Centre from Vadodara



**AKSHAR TRUST**



Scan the QR code for Online Donation. (Valid only for Indian citizens)

### Akshar Centre for Hearing Impaired Children

#### Office Address

11<sup>th</sup> Floor, Kirti Towers,  
Next to Kirti Mandir,  
Tilak Road, Vadodara-390 001.  
(Gujarat) India.  
Ph.: +91-265-2427522  
+91-265-2427544

#### Centre Address

Near Nandanvan Farm,  
Before Mini River Bridge,  
Sherkhi-Sindhrot Road,  
Ta. & Dist.: Vadodara-391 330.  
Ph.: +91 8460058117  
Email: akshartrust@gmail.com

[www.akshartrust.com](http://www.akshartrust.com)

