

Holy Cross Vikas Kendra Report 2025-26

Teachers planning meeting with Co-ordinator



Children's project At Holy Cross Vikas Kendra

Introduction

Nestled in the heart of Aurangabad, Maharashtra, Holy Cross Vikas Kendra run by the Sisters of the Cross (Pune Province) under the Diocese of Aurangabad stands as a beacon for the poor and marginalized. Since its inception, the center has extended supplementary education to children from four nearby slums, where families scrape by on daily wages, rag-picking, and odd jobs like dish-washing in local apartments. Launched in June 2025 with six classes serving 150 children, these efforts addressed the harsh realities of slum life: parents too burdened by survival to support studies, and children drifting without academic direction or dreams. From June to April 2026, Holy cross Vikas Centers amplified this mission through...

June :- New Beginnings and Academic Reopening

The monsoon season brought greenery and energy as farmers sowed crops and schools reopened on 16th June. Children arrived in raincoats and umbrellas, excited for the new academic year. New admissions joined, while others advanced grades, reuniting joyfully with friends and teachers. The campus buzzed with positivism, symbolizing hope and fresh starts. Green day was observed to in calculate the love and respect for the farmers hard labour. The teachers of the centers had servery-ed the needy students well in advance. The month of June marked the beginning of the monsoon season, bringing greenery and renewed energy to the surroundings. With the onset of rains, farmers began sowing crops, and similarly, schools reopened with fresh enthusiasm. The school premises were filled with excitement and positivity, symbolizing new beginnings, hope, and happiness for all children.



JULY MONTH

July: Women's Week and Educational Enrichment

Women's Week focused on reading inspirational books from the school library over two days. Children learned about women's contributions in social, educational, political, scientific, and cultural fields. Stories of leaders like Savitribai Phule and Kalpana Chawla highlighted perseverance, emotional intelligence, and balancing family with professional life. This activity inspired big dreams, self-confidence, and hard work. Gratitude to the school management, librarian, and teachers for this opportunity and encouragement from the teachers of the each coaching class and guidance from Sister.

Dear Sister Binu and teachers

On the occasion of Women's Week, we got a chance to read good books from the school library. From those books, we got the inspiration to write this essay. Through these books, we understood the contribution of women in the development of society. In today's times, women's participation in every field is increasing significantly, whether it is social, educational, political, or scientific.

The physical strength, mental ability, emotional intelligence, and dedication of women are remarkable. Along with managing household responsibilities, women today are also achieving success in various professional fields. We understood how important it is to respect and support women. Our school gave us the opportunity to read and understand all this through these books. We read books about great women who made history over the past 100 years. We learned about their inspirational lives and contributions. Their struggles, thoughts, and achievements helped us realize the importance of education, hard work, and self-confidence.

Women have contributed immensely in various fields like science, arts, literature, and politics. For example, Savitribai Phule, Kalpana Chawla, and many others became role models for all of us. These two days of book reading left a deep impact on us. We were motivated to dream big and work hard towards achieving those dreams. We are thankful to our donors and of course the school, which provided us with these books and this golden opportunity. Because of this, we now realize how valuable women’s contributions are in shaping our society and nation. Our heartfelt thanks to the librarian and teachers who encouraged us to read these books.

This essay is based on the information and inspiration we got from reading those books. We hope that every student gets such an opportunity so that we all can grow with knowledge and awareness. Gratitude to the school management, librarian, and teachers for this opportunity and encouragement from the teachers of the each coaching class and guidance from Sister Binu.

From Coaching class students.







August







September





September

September : Growing minds with teachers and saving nature

Teachers' Day Celebration – September

Teachers' Day was celebrated at Mondha, Rahul Nagar, Jai Bhim Nagar. All the children welcomed the teachers with roses. On this day, children became teachers and taught the younger students in the classroom. Some children shared their dream of becoming teachers and enjoyed the activities of the day.

The children also learned about the importance of avoiding plastic bags. They were encouraged to use cloth bags to store vegetables, fruits, and other items. The teachers explained how to protect the environment and how to live a sustainable life. The center surrounding was cleaned as part of the program.

The celebration was meaningful and educational, helping children learn values of respect, responsibility, and environmental care.

October





October:



Development

Assessments, Festivals, and Skill



First-semester exams for girls emphasized discipline and organization. A pre-holiday Diwali featured children making Akash Divas (sky lamps), boosting creativity. Post-27th October resumption introduced basic computer skills, educational games, and digital activities across Kreed, Kund, Motha, Modha, and Jai Bhim Nagar, building confidence.

NOVEMBER







November: Health Awareness talk and Community Engagement

same and everyone too. Children participated in health talks / discussing health and hygiene focusing on nutrition and hygiene, with hands-on sessions on balanced diets using local foods. A community clean-up drive extended to nearby villages, reinforcing environmental stewardship. Academic revision classes prepared for mid-term assessments, while storytelling sessions built language skills and cultural pride. The children's day celebration was the most awaited event for children as they enjoy the children's day celebration programme activities . They enjoyed the games and the importance of the celebration was traced also. At the end the children received gifts and snacks. Children were over joyed to have spent time in games conducted by teachers and receive the gifts for the same and everyone too.

DECEMBER





December: Year-End Reflections and Holiday Preparations

Annual reviews celebrated progress with student-led presentations on learning's. Christmas activities included crafting decorations and sharing stories of compassion. Distribution of winter kits and books supported ongoing education. Festive games promoted teamwork, wrapping the year with gratitude and forward-looking goals.



In December, year-end reflections and Christmas celebrations were organized at Vikas Kendra, Mondha and Disha Centre, Aurangabad. The programmes were held on 19 December 2025 at Disha Centre and 23 December 2025 at Vikas Kendra, involving coaching class children, tailoring students, parents, and staff.

The celebrations focused on spreading the message of Christmas, promoting child safety awareness, strengthening family values, and fostering unity among people of different faiths. The programme included prayer dances, welcome ceremonies, cultural performances, skits on values and child protection, and short speeches by children.

The events were graced by Rev. Fr. K. V. Joseph, MSFS, foreign benefactors, and the Sisters. Around 150 children actively participated along with parents and community members.

Messages highlighted love, gratitude, obedience, peace, and the importance of protecting children. Gifts, snacks, and winter caps were distributed, bringing joy to the children.

The programme successfully promoted joy, community bonding, positive values, and child safety awareness. Special thanks to Stichting Maher India for their generous support in making the celebration meaningful and successful.

January



Republic Day Celebration On January 2026, at the center in Aurangabad hosted a vibrant Republic Day event for children from low-income families, including rag-pickers and daily wage earners' kids. Activities featured flag

hoisting, patriotic songs, speeches on India's Constitution, games, and distribution of sweets and national flags, fostering national pride and unity. These supplementary classes, ongoing since June 2025, provided a safe space amid slum challenges, inspiring dreams beyond poverty.



Outcomes Children actively participated, reciting poems and performing skits on freedom fighters, building confidence and cultural awareness. Parents joined briefly, expressing gratitude for the center's role in holistic growth alongside academics and skills training. This event reinforced the Holy Cross Vikas Centers' mission of education and resilience for marginalized children and youth in Aurangabad slums (Maharashtra).

Picnic to Aanadam Resort Aurangabad



Teachers training programme



Overall Summary: June 2025 to April 2026, **Holy Cross** Vikas Centres delivered holistic growth through academic reopening, value education (e.g., Mother Claudine, Women's Week), national festivals (Independence Day, Raksha Bandhan, Diwali), skill-building (computers, crafting, digital games), environmental drives, health initiatives, and cultural celebrations. These efforts enhanced education, moral values, creativity, sustainability, digital literacy, and community bonds for marginalized children. Sincere thanks to the funding agency for enabling these trans-formative experiences.

Conclusion

From June 2025 to April 2026, Disha Vikas Kendra at sadth nagar and at Mondha Holy Cross Vikas Kendra and Jaibhim slum ignited hope among 150 slum children, transforming their unstructured days into pathways of academic strength, moral grounding (via value education like Mother Claudine and Women's Week), cultural pride (through Independence Day, Raksha Bandhan, Diwali, and more), practical skills (computers, crafting, digital games), and community resilience via environmental and health drives. These initiatives not only bridged educational gaps for rag-pickers' children but

empowered them to envision futures beyond poverty. Sincere gratitude to the funding agency for making these life-changing opportunities possible, ensuring marginalized families in Aurangabad slums receive the guidance they deserve

NEF Non Formal Education / Supplementary Class

The Non-Formal Education (NFE) project is designed to support children from interior villages who have limited access to regular schooling. This initiative aims to improve basic education, learning skills, and overall development of children from Grades 1 to 7 by providing a supportive and child-friendly learning environment.

NFE Two-Hour Guided Learning Facility

Under this project, two-hour guided learning sessions are conducted daily for children from Grades 1 to 7. These sessions focus on improving reading, writing, numeracy, and life skills through interactive teaching methods, games, creative activities, and personal guidance. The program helps children strengthen their academic foundation, build confidence, and develop positive learning habits while ensuring equal educational opportunities for children in remote village areas.





Regular Visits to NFE Classes
BOOKS distribution



Village School Development Programme Report

Introduction

The Village School Development Programme was implemented in three village schools of Morhira, Konaora, and Satala with the objective of improving the quality of education and increasing learning opportunities for underprivileged children. The programme focuses on promoting digital literacy and ensuring easy access to education for children from rural backgrounds. This initiative was generously supported by Trishna foundation through Mr. Schaaf, whose contribution has helped bridge the educational gap in village communities.

Activities Conducted

Computer Support: One personal computer (4PC) was provided to each of the three village schools to help children learn basic computer skills and become techno-friendly.

Bicycle Distribution: A total of 40 bicycles were distributed to students to support safe and easy commuting to school, reducing absenteeism caused by long travel distances.

School Kit Distribution: School kits containing essential learning materials such as notebooks, stationery, and basic educational supplies were distributed to students to support their daily academic needs.

Outcomes Achieved

- Students have shown increased interest in learning through access to digital resources and computer-based education.
- Improved school attendance and punctuality were observed due to easier transportation facilities.
- Children gained basic computer knowledge, building confidence and preparing them for future academic and career opportunities.
- Overall, the programme has positively enhanced the quality of education and motivation among underprivileged village children.
- Increased student interest and participation in learning activities.

School-Kit Distribution:



Bicycle Distribution:



Computer Distribution



Holy Cross Vikas Kendra, Mondha, Aurangabad, expresses its heartfelt gratitude to you Mr.Schaaf, Trishana foundation and all those who contribute from their might and also for your constant guidance, generous support, and dedicated cooperation. Your encouragement and timely assistance have been a strong pillar in successfully running various activities and development projects under Mondha Holy Cross Vikas Kendra.

Once again we express our gratitude to Stichting Maher India- Holland ,Trishana Foundation - Holland for financial support and taking the keen interest to visit the mission both in villages and slums.

Because of your valuable contribution, many children have received education, women have been empowered, families have been strengthened, and rural and slum communities have experienced positive change. We sincerely appreciate your commitment to social service and nation-building.

May God bless you abundantly for your selfless service and continued partnership in this mission of hope and transformation.

Thanking you

Sr.Binu Jose

Holy Cross Vikas Kendra
Mondha Aurangabad.

