



PRATHAM

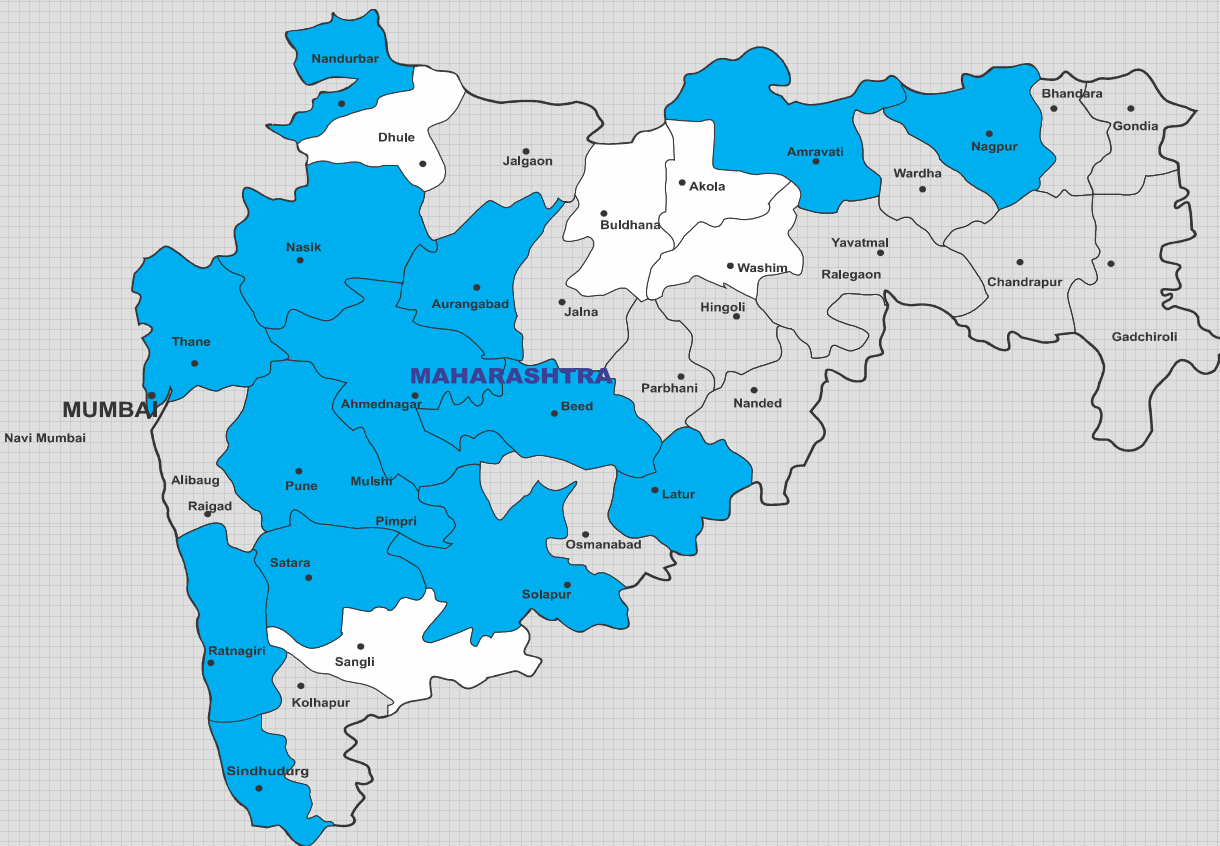
Every Child In School...
And Learning Well

About Pratham

Pratham works in both urban and rural contexts across 21 states of India, reaching over 2.2 million children through its educational programs. **Read India** is Pratham's capstone rural program—a grassroots effort for which we recruit volunteers from local communities to help struggling students develop basic literacy and numeracy skills. Pratham trains volunteers and government teachers in our accelerated learning methods, provides effective teaching-learning materials, and monitors learning outcomes closely to ensure that children make consistent progress towards clear, targeted goals.

Block Excellence Programs (BEP) are units of Read India, operating in 100 villages in one selected block of a district. BEPs serve approximately 2000 children between the ages of 6-14, providing volunteer-taught classes either during or after school. BEPs aim to demonstrate to the Government and other stakeholders that rapid improvements in learning levels are possible at a low cost. **District Resource Centers (DRCs)** are run across the district, with one focus block operating like a BEP. Additionally, DRCs offer courses for middle and high school children as well as vocational courses for volunteers.

Education for Education (EFE) is a program designed to strengthen Read India by offering courses to volunteers in exchange for her contributions to the program. In the current phase of EFE, computer courses are available, while spoken English will be offered in the future.



Pratham Maharashtra

March 2011

Maharashtra Districts (Blocks) in which Pratham works:

DRCs - Nashik (15 blocks), Ratnagiri (9 blocks), Nandurbar (6 blocks), Aurangabad (5 blocks). **BEPs** - Nagpur, Amravati, Beed, Latur, Solapur, Satara, Thane, Nashik, Sindhudurg, Ahmednagar, Pune.

Education Outlook for Maharashtra 2011:

According to the 2010 ASER Report, 67.7% of children in Std. II in Maharashtra can recognize numbers from 11-99 or perform operations. However, issues remain at higher level competencies – 58.6% of children in Std. V cannot do basic division.

Pratham in Maharashtra this Year:

Geographical Coverage: 7257 villages across 45 BEPs

Children Reached: 195,194

Volunteers Mobilized: 11,472

- Pratham is currently running the Read India program through 4 DRCs and 10 BEPs, as well as an **Urban Learning Centre (ULC)** program, 'Library' program and Scholarship Program in Maharashtra. Formal written consent has been obtained by Pratham to teach in government schools in Ratnagiri, Nashik, Latur and Satara, whereas in Pune, Government school teachers are implementing Pratham's Read India Program in schools. In the remaining blocks, in almost 75% of the villages, Pratham is running classes within Government Schools.
- As part of the EFE program, 55 cluster level centers have been started in one block each in 13 districts, offering computer courses to nearly 1405 volunteers.
- The ULC program in 11 cities runs on a tutorial model, providing coaching classes for children of Std 1 - 10. There are **currently 63 ULC's, 190 Scholarship classes, 270 English classes, as well as 439 Libraries** where children are taught to read. Of the 439 libraries, 239 libraries are run independently by the 'librarians'. The Scholarship, English and Library classes operate out of communities. Pratham pays teachers a small stipend.
- Pratham's efforts extend beyond the classroom, reaching parents and local officials through meetings and melas to encourage communities and Village Panchayats (local councils) to focus on learning outcomes. 632 villages have passed resolutions to work towards improving quality of education among primary school going children and also about identifying and supporting volunteers.

Pratham Arora Centers for Excellence (PACE Programs):

- In order to train youth in marketable skills such as banking, entrepreneurship, agriculture, and hospitality, Pratham has set up **training centres** in Aurangabad, Kolhapur, Latur, Nandurbar, Nashik, Ralegaon, Sangli, Satara, and Solan.



Future Plans:

- Pratham plans to set up **PRATAP Centers** (Pratham Training, Assessment and Placement Centers) to begin its transition to a post-secondary institution for volunteers and other youth.
- In the next few months, new rounds of training for Pratham staff and volunteers will occur. Pratham will also work towards building stronger partnerships with local government and parent-run School Management Committees (SMCs), an initiative set forth in the recent Right to Education Act.