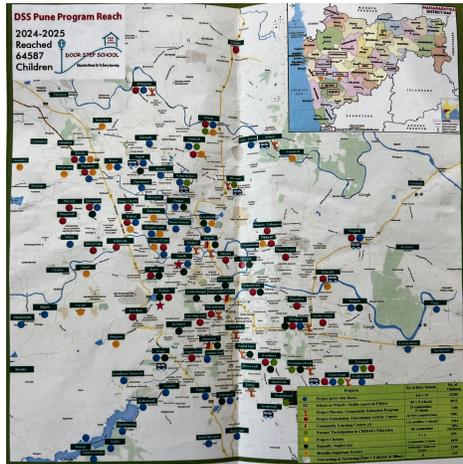


# Door Step School Foundation

Site Visit Report by Aparna Deshmukh (DSSF Steward & Asha SV volunteer)

Date: December 5, 2025



[Door Step School Foundation](#) (DSSF) is a non-profit educational organization based in Pune, India. It was started in 1989 by Prof. Rajani Paranjpe to tackle illiteracy among children from slums, construction sites, and other underserved areas. It focuses on foundational literacy and numeracy for children from marginalized urban communities, especially those who are outside or at the fringes of the formal school system. They have a simple, yet powerful mission: To bring education to the children who are left out of the system.

Rapid urbanization and the demand for low-cost labor has led to large scale migration from rural areas to the cities. These migrant families live in temporary settlements at construction sites with inadequate living conditions, low/ unstable wages & limited access to welfare schemes. The parents are illiterate or school drop outs. This limits the awareness and access to educational opportunities for their children.

Frequent migration disrupts schooling and continuity of learning. They have limited access to books & places to study. The Right To Education (RTE) places children in grade levels that do not match their learning levels. This leads to poor performance and frustration. As a result, these children are either not enrolled in school or show higher drop out rates. They are frequently left to care for their younger siblings.

Recognizing the need to address all of the above issues, DSSF brings structured learning directly to where families live & work. They start by conducting surveys to identify construction sites with at least 15 children. They work with the builder/contractor to build basic amenities such as a classroom with electricity & fan and a bathroom for the children and teachers. They make contact with the parents and the nearby schools to bring them on board with the program. They gather data on the learning levels of the children, recruit and train teachers from the surrounding neighborhoods and set up the classroom. Currently, DSSF has 84 sites at locations in and near the Greater Pune area, reaching approximately 7000+ children.



The classrooms typically have 2 sections. A creche to provide a safe space for children 0-3 years & support older children to attend school. The rest of the children go through a school readiness program, where they are taught the local language (Marathi). They are brought up to speed using the DSSF methodology of teaching. The children typically learn to read fluently in Marathi in a period of 120 days!!!! The program also helps the parents to enroll their children in the local Govt. schools and help them with the documentation needed for the enrollment - such as Aadhar Card, etc.

Over the years DSSF has encouraged active participation of the parents in their child's education. This sustained engagement has led to greater awareness, stronger involvement, and increased responsibility among parents to ensure their children regularly attend and continue in school.

I visited the site at Greens Society in the Thergaon/ Chinchwad area. The site has been established there for about 6-7 years. The construction is in the last phase. When I visited in the late afternoon, the classroom had a mix of children from all age groups. There were a few babies and young children taken care of by a teacher. A batch of school kids had come for the study class after school. The study class helps them with

their school work, reinforces learning through projects based on science, culture and many different topics such as hygiene, nutrition, environment, etc.

The teacher began the class with a short prayer, followed by a poetry recitation that all the children repeated together. This was followed by light stretching exercises to energize the group and get everyone engaged.

Some of the older children are learning spoken English through virtual sessions led by a volunteer. They confidently recited poems and songs and introduced themselves in

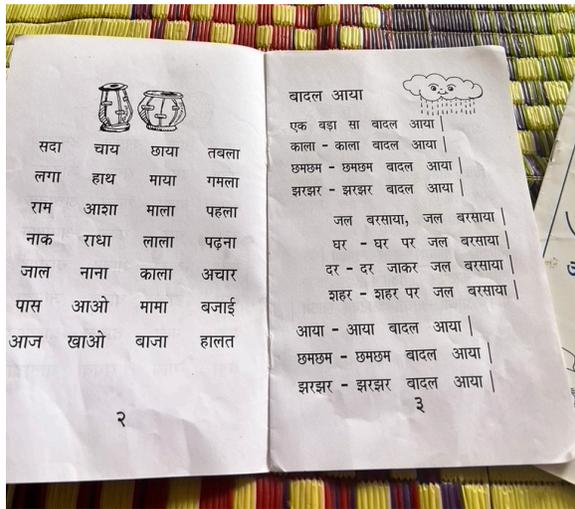
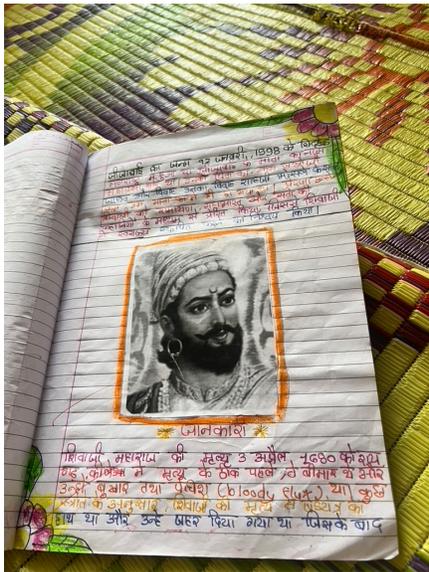
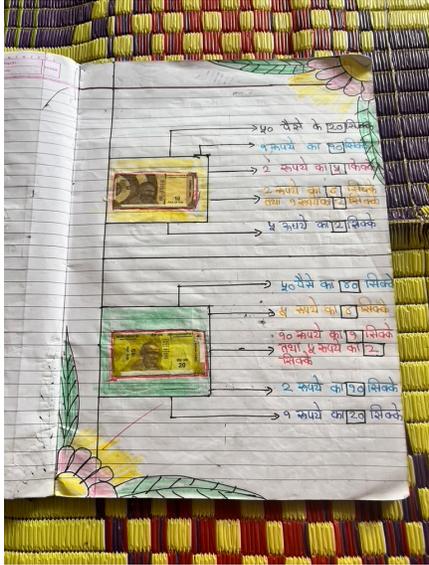


English.



The classroom was well organized and thoughtfully managed. Teachers maintained daily lesson plans, attendance records, individual progress reports, a book checkout register, and parent attendance records for Parent–Teacher meetings.

Overall, the environment was positive and welcoming. The children appeared happy and eager to learn. Though some were shy, they were enthusiastic about participating and showcasing their skills. Children of different ages interacted warmly, with older students showing kindness and support toward the younger ones.



| Date       | Topic                     | Date       | Topic                      |
|------------|---------------------------|------------|----------------------------|
| 01/07/2025 | कक्षा खोलने               | 01/07/2025 | online class - July - 2025 |
| 04/07/2025 | व्याकरण, वाक्य वाक्य लेखन | 04/07/2025 | शुभम सुभाषितवाक्य वाक्य    |
| 11/07/2025 | वाक्य, वाक्य, व्याकरण के  | 11/07/2025 | शुभम सुभाषितवाक्य वाक्य    |
| 18/07/2025 | क्यास आता नाही            | 18/07/2025 | शुभम सुभाषितवाक्य वाक्य    |
| 25/07/2025 | my self, व्याकरण, वाक्य   | 25/07/2025 | शुभम सुभाषितवाक्य वाक्य    |
| 11/08/2025 | वाक्य, व्याकरण            | 11/08/2025 | शुभम सुभाषितवाक्य वाक्य    |
| 28/08/2025 | 8 days व्याकरण वाक्य      | 28/08/2025 | शुभम सुभाषितवाक्य वाक्य    |
| 15/06/2025 | शब्द वाक्य, वाक्य, वाक्य  | 15/06/2025 | शुभम सुभाषितवाक्य वाक्य    |
| 22/06/2025 | वाक्य, वाक्य, वाक्य       | 22/06/2025 | शुभम सुभाषितवाक्य वाक्य    |
| 01/07/2025 | वाक्य, वाक्य, वाक्य       | 01/07/2025 | शुभम सुभाषितवाक्य वाक्य    |
| 07/07/2025 | वाक्य, वाक्य, वाक्य       | 07/07/2025 | शुभम सुभाषितवाक्य वाक्य    |
| 13/07/2025 | वाक्य, वाक्य, वाक्य       | 13/07/2025 | शुभम सुभाषितवाक्य वाक्य    |
| 20/07/2025 | वाक्य, वाक्य, वाक्य       | 20/07/2025 | शुभम सुभाषितवाक्य वाक्य    |
| 27/07/2025 | वाक्य, वाक्य, वाक्य       | 27/07/2025 | शुभम सुभाषितवाक्य वाक्य    |

DSSF designs and implements scalable solutions to make quality education accessible to marginalized children.

The organization has built a dedicated team of staff and teachers who are deeply committed to the mission and consistently deliver high-quality work. DSSF takes pride in its proactive, innovative, and flexible approach to addressing educational exclusion.

While it does not claim to offer a permanent solution to the complex challenges of poverty and migration, it plays a critical role in empowering thousands of children and parents to take meaningful steps toward better education, improved opportunities, and stronger life outcomes.