

Site Visit Report: Aashyam

Volunteer Name: Ramadevi Velagapudi

Event: 16th Annual Day Celebrations

Date of Event: November 2025

Executive Summary & Event Highlights

I had the privilege of attending Aashyam's 16th Annual Day celebrations in November 2025. The event was vibrant and festive, with students, parents, and staff participating enthusiastically. The students were beautifully dressed for the occasion, and their excitement was palpable throughout the day.

The event was attended by several distinguished guest speakers:

- A Founding Director of Vimta Labs
- A Director from the National Institutes of Health (NIH)
- A Director from the LV Prasad Eye Institute
- A practicing Child Psychologist

The speakers praised Aashyam's impactful work and committed their continued support to the institution. This strong institutional backing and successful event are a testament to the persistent dedication of Mrs. Lakshmi Kumari and the devoted parent volunteers who keep the institute thriving despite ongoing operational challenges.

Operational & Financial Updates

1. FCRA Renewal Status

Mrs. Lakshmi Kumari provided a critical update regarding the institute's FCRA (Foreign Contribution Regulation Act) status:

- **Background:** The FCRA renewal application submitted in June 2025 was denied due to an invalid reason. A formal representation was submitted along with supporting documentation for reconsideration.
- **Impact:** Due to this unexpected denial, funds received into the FCRA account since September 2025 currently remain frozen and unutilizable.

2. Infrastructure Projects

- **Elevator Installation:** Two local corporate sponsors have donated funds to install an elevator, which will enable seamless mobility for students between the ground and third floors.

- **Current Status:** The project is temporarily on hold, as available operational funds are being prioritized for day-to-day running expenses until the FCRA renewal is resolved.

Academic & Vocational Activities

Although I was unable to tour the main facility directly, I interacted closely with students and parents during the event. Mrs. Lakshmi Kumari also shared key updates on ongoing educational and vocational programs:

- **Vocational Training (Cooking Oil Extraction):** The institute continues its oil extraction program to keep older students engaged and productive. Revenue generated from oil sales is shared directly with participating students. This initiative fosters financial independence and boosts self-confidence for students who face barriers to traditional employment.
- **Transportation:** The students expressed immense gratitude for the new van funded by *Asha for Education*, which has significantly improved their daily commute.
- **Core Curriculum:** Regular classes continue uninterrupted for language skill development, physical therapy, and computer literacy.
- **College fees:** Paid tuition fee of Sampreethi for 4th year of B Pharmacy and is willing to identify other higher education students that need support.

Attachments

- Photos from the Annual Day celebration are attached to this report, capturing the joy and enthusiasm of the students and community.



