



PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

April 2025 - March 2026



Report For: Asha for Education Silicon Valley

Report By: Educate Girls

A. SUMMARY INFORMATION

NAME OF THE DONOR ORGANISATION	Asha for Education
NAME OF THE PROJECT	Pragati Programme
GRANT PERIOD	1 April 2025 - 31 March 2026
GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE AREA	Rajasthan & Chhattisgarh (learning kits); Bihar (exam scholarships)
FUNDING PROVIDED IN REPORTING PERIOD	INR 22,71,000

B. OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT

Pragati is Educate Girls' second-chance education programme for adolescent girls and young women (aged 15-29) who have dropped out of the formal education system and have no clear pathway back. A significant proportion have been out of school for several years, facing compounding barriers including early marriage, household responsibilities, and limited community support for continued education. The programme operates through village-based learning camps led by trained local mentors (Preraks), supporting learners to enrol in State Open Schools, prepare for Grade 10 certification while gaining life skills and confidence over a structured 24-month cycle.

The Asha for Education Silicon Valley grant for FY 2025-26 was directed toward two specific components:

- (1) **Pragati Learning Material Kits (20 Camps in Rajasthan & Chhattisgarh):** Comprehensive learning materials that provide Preraks and learners with the content and tools needed to support village-based learning camp sessions as well as self-directed study.
- (2) **Exam Registration Scholarships (1200 Beneficiaries in Bihar):** Coverage of enrolment and exam registration fees through the Bihar Board of Open Schooling and Examination (BBOSE).

C. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

FY 2025-26 delivered strong programmatic outcomes across all three geographies covered by Asha for Education's grant, alongside one notable operational complexity: a government-driven postponement of Bihar board exams to June 2026, which shifted exam fee disbursements beyond the financial year-end. Despite this change, we are happy to report that all grant funds have now been fully utilised. Further details are provided below.

D. PROGRAMMATIC ACTIVITIES

Pragati Learning Material Kits: Rajasthan & Chhattisgarh

For learners in the Pragati programme, structured learning materials are the primary vehicle through which girls rebuild academic skills, catch up on years of missed learning, and prepare for Grade 10 certification. Each Pragati Kit equips both learners and Preraks for every phase of the journey. For Preraks, the Prerak Handbook provides step-by-step guidance on camp structure and learner engagement techniques, ensuring Preraks are equipped to deliver consistent, meaningful mentorship. For learners, the learning materials cover foundational literacy, numeracy, and core subject content to rebuild academic skills and confidence, alongside chapter summaries and practice questions aligned to state curricula for direct Grade 10 exam preparation. Throughout the programme, the kit's QR-enabled content (including video tutorials, audio explanations, and access to the Pragati Didi WhatsApp chatbot) further supported doubt resolution and self-study. Since many learners balance camp attendance with caregiving, wage labour, and domestic responsibilities, having their own learning materials enables girls to study at home as well as during camps and maintain progress during periods of migration or disruption.

Asha for Education's FY 2025-26 grant funded 10 kits in Rajasthan supporting 150 learners. In Rajasthan, the Pragati cohort achieved an overall 62% Grade 10 pass rate, against a state average of 40%, with 85% of regular camp attendees appearing for their exams. The grant also funded 10 kits in Chhattisgarh supporting an additional 150 learners. In Chhattisgarh, Educate Girls' first Pragati pilot (Cohort 2024-26) had 65% of regular camp attendees clear their exams on the first attempt, despite the challenges typical of a new geography.

Exam Enrolment & Registration: Bihar

Appearing for State Open School Exams not only requires academic preparation, but also navigating the practical and financial barriers that can derail progress. While some states like Rajasthan have waived exam fees for our learners, in Bihar exam fees for the Bihar Board of Open Schooling and Examination (BBOSE) represent a significant barrier.

Preraks and programme teams invest significant effort in guiding learners through the enrolment process, helping secure necessary documentation and navigate the administrative steps required. Asha for Education's funding for enrolment and examination scholarships in Bihar ensured that all this work was not undermined by exam fees that learners could not afford.

While all BBOSE exam enrolment fees were successfully incurred in FY 2025-26, BBOSE examinations were postponed by the government, which meant that all examination fees could not be disbursed before the close of the financial year. Examination fees were successfully paid in two phases in May and June 2026 and are reflected in the financial summary below.

Financial Utilisation (FY 2025-26)

Particular	Budget FY 25-26* (A) INR	Actuals - Total (B) INR	Variance (A-B) INR
Pragati Kits	2,28,816	1,97,289	31,527
Enrolment and Examination fees	18,36,000	18,68,162	-32,162
Central Support Cost @ 10%	2,06,482	2,06,482	-
TOTAL	22,71,297	22,71,933	-636

**The table above summarises financial utilisation against the agreed budget for FY 2025-26, reflecting expenditure incurred across the full grant period, extended through June 2026 due to Bihar exam fee disbursements.*

Notes on Variance:

- **Enrolment & Examination Fees (Bihar):** All enrolment fees for learners were booked in FY 2025-26 as planned. However, the Bihar government postponed exams, delaying disbursement of exam fees for 915 learners beyond the FY 2025-26 close. These exam fees were paid in two phases in May and June, with the final installment settled in the first week of June 2026.
- **Learning Material Kits (Chhattisgarh & Rajasthan):** In Chhattisgarh, an underspend was recorded as the team printed learning materials in-house rather than procuring pre-assembled kits, reducing costs. In Rajasthan, a slight overspend on kits occurred due to higher-than-budgeted unit costs.

We are grateful for Asha for Education's continued partnership, and for your patience and flexibility as we navigated the operational complexities of this year. All grant funds have now been fully utilised. Across states, adolescent girls and young women in rural India are gradually learning to believe in themselves again and reclaim their place in learning. Every smile shared over a Pragati workbook is possible because of you. Your support has made these second chances real, not only for the learners themselves, but for their communities and education systems, expanding access and sustaining opportunity for those once left behind.