

Vallabhacharya Pandey (Asha Fellow)

(A Brief Report from 16th May 2024 to 15th May 2025)

- Associated with Asha Trust since 1994, actively contributing to grassroots development and social awareness initiatives.
- Undertaking administrative responsibilities of the Trust since 2003, ensuring smooth functioning and organizational growth.
- Coordinator of various social campaigns, including:
 - Environmental Awareness Campaigns
 - Campaign for Common School System
 - Right to Health Campaign
- Leading the student awareness program titled “*Know Our Constitution*”, targeting students from Class 8th to 12th to foster constitutional literacy and civic responsibility.
- Organizer and coordinator of multiple public awareness programs centered on key rights-based legislations and acts, such as:
 - Right to Information Act(RTI)
 - Right to Education Act (RTE)
 - Food Security Act (FSA)
 - Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)
 - Street Vendors Act
 - Land Acquisition Act
 - Forest Rights Act

Updates:

1. **Administrative work of Trust:** Handles all official correspondence with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Income Tax Department, NITI Aayog, banks, Asha Trust (India) chapters, and other related entities.

2. Programs on 75th Year of Our Constitution:

A. ***Samvidhan Gyan Pratiyogita:*** I am coordinating an awareness program on our constitution for the students of class 8th to 12th. This program started on constitution day 26th November 2022. We organized GK competitions based on our leaflet prepared on the constitution at 240 schools in eastern UP, about 80000 students participated till the month of April 2025. I have prepared a set of 31 Posters covering major points of our constitution. It helps to understand easily.

B. **Talk:** As part of awareness program, I organized a talk on constitutional rights and duties at the Asha Kaithi Center on 27th April. The keynote speaker for the event was Hon’ble Mr. Govind Mathur, Retired Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court.

C. ***Samvidhan Chalisa:*** On May 9th, 2025, I organized a Constitution awareness program at the Asha Center. During the event, poet Mr. Birju Prasad presented the *Samvidhan Chalisa*, a poetic composition summarizing the making of the Indian Constitution and highlighting its key features and principles.

D. ***Samvidhan Pracharak Training Workshop:*** I coordinated a four-day training program for Constitution Volunteers (*Samvidhan Pracharak*) in April 2025. A total of 24 volunteers from 7 states participated in the workshop. The training focused on practical methods to engage with students and communities in spreading awareness about the rights and duties enshrined in the Indian Constitution.

E. **Puppet Show:** To raise awareness among adolescents about the Indian Constitution and to familiarize them with its Preamble, I launched a comprehensive program in July 2024. As part of this initiative, a puppet show titled “*Samvidhan Ki Baat, Kathputli Ke Saath*” is performed every month in six government junior high schools in Varanasi district. Along with the performance, interactive

sessions are held using posters and leaflets to help students understand the key features of the Indian Constitution. This initiative is supported by Varanasi's renowned puppet artist team, *Creative Puppet Arts Group*.

F. Pamphlet Distribution at Mahakumbh 2025 at Prayagraj: During the Mahakumbh 2025, pamphlets titled "*An Introduction to the Indian Constitution*" were distributed on key dates. The objective of this initiative was to familiarize the general public with the process of the Constitution's formation and its core constitutional values in a simple and accessible language, thereby promoting greater constitutional awareness and civic understanding.

3. Know Our Great Leaders: I am currently coordinating an awareness program focused on the great leaders of India's freedom struggle. As part of this initiative, posters featuring 50 prominent freedom fighters have been displayed in 24 primary and upper primary schools across Varanasi. The objective of this program is to provide students with basic knowledge about these national heroes and their invaluable contributions to India's independence movement.

4. Eye Checkup camps: In collaboration with the renowned Shankara Eye Hospital group, I am organizing regular eye check-up camps on the fourth Wednesday of every month at the Asha Kaithi Center. So far, over 200 patients have benefited from these camps, including successful cataract (Motiyabind) surgeries free of cost.

5. Organizing Sports Activities at Asha Center: I am coordinating regular sports activities for girls who attend the Asha E- library. In April, we organized Kabaddi and Kho-Kho competitions, which received a positive response. These activities have contributed significantly to improving the physical fitness and confidence of the participating girls.

6. Awareness Programs on Rights: Coordinating awareness programs on key rights and legislations, including the RTI Act (2005), RTE Act (2009), Land Acquisition Act (2013), MNREGA (2005), Food Security Act (2013), UP Janhit Guarantee Act (2011), Street Vendors Act (2014), Forest Rights Act (2007), and the Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act (2008). These programs are conducted through regular camps, workshops, public meetings, signature campaigns, poster displays, and pamphlet distribution.

7. Indian Freedom Struggle GK Competition: I coordinated a General Knowledge competition program in 22 government upper primary schools for Class 8 students on the occasion of Republic Day. The competition focused on the Indian Freedom Struggle (1857–1947). A total of 1268 students participated, out of which 127 were awarded prizes—books on Mahatma Gandhi—and certificates in recognition of their performance.

8. Support for Education of needy students: Coordinating Asha's Education Support Program for children from underprivileged families. In the last academic session, we supported 18 students by covering their educational expenses, including school fees, books, stationery, and other essentials. This initiative is funded through the interest earned on our bank deposits.

9. Volunteers / Teachers Training Workshops: Organized three training camps/workshops this year for social activists and teachers associated with ASSK (Asha Samajik Shikshan Kendra). These sessions focused on key public interest issues related to education, health, employment, agriculture, and more. A total of 67 volunteers participated across the four workshops.

10. Work with Government Primary Schools: I am coordinating a campaign called *One Nation Equal Education (ONEE)*, aimed at promoting equal and quality education for all, along with the overall improvement of educational standards and infrastructure in government primary schools. As part of this initiative, we established Asha Baal Pustakalayas (children's libraries) in 5 primary schools this year, bringing the total number of such libraries to 23.

11. Blood Donation Camps: As in previous years, we organized two blood donation camps at Asha's Kaithi centers—one on the occasion of Shaheed Rajguru's birthday (24th August 2024) and the other on Bhagat Singh's Martyrdom Day (23rd March 2025). A total of 62 units of blood were collected across both camps. I also reached a personal milestone of 107 lifetime blood donations.

12. Asha Social Education Center at Brickfields / City: We are operating five education centers under the name ASSK (*Asha Samajik Shikshan Kendra*) at various brickfields in Bhandaha Kala, Rajwari, and Kursia villages of Varanasi. These centers provide two hours of daily educational support to the children of migrant laborers working at the brickfields. A total of 124 students are currently enrolled. In addition to these, we are also running three ASSK centers and one Self-Reliance Training Center within Varanasi city.

13. Asha E-Library and Study Centers for Girls: This year, we established three new E-Libraries and Study Centers for girls in Sahupur village (Mau), Dhatoori Tola village (Ballia), and Kosda village (Varanasi district), with support from a CSR fund from Tavant Technologies. The Kaithi E-Library, launched on 5th February 2023, continues to run successfully, with an average of 50 girls attending regularly. The Asha Kaithi Library has witnessed several noteworthy achievements. Three girls have been selected as government school teachers in Bihar, one has been selected as a constable in the Uttar Pradesh Police, and two others have qualified for the SSC GD examination.

14. Workshop on STUT (for Students): Organized workshops on (STUT) Safe Touch and Unsafe Touch, along with self-defense training, in 6 rural schools and 8 urban schools. Approximately 2,250 children benefited from this program. The sessions were conducted with the support of trainers from the Red Brigade Trust, a social organization specializing in gender safety and empowerment.

15. Film Par Charcha : Continued the *Film par Charcha* program, involving regular discussions with volunteers, students, and girls from the E-Libraries. Under this initiative, we screen one film per month and engage in discussions focused on its social message and relevance.

16. Relief Campaign during Mahakumbh 2025: In view of the overwhelming crowd of pilgrims and the resulting hardships during Mahakumbh 2025 in Prayagraj and Varanasi, Asha Trust (Kaithi Centre) organized a relief campaign. Under this initiative, free night shelter and light refreshments were provided to pilgrims for a period of 35 days. Hundreds of devotees from distant regions benefitted from these services. I coordinated this relief campaign.

17. Participation with other Groups: Actively participated in various social and cultural activities organized by other groups, primarily *Sajha Sanskriti Manch* and *Dakhal Varanasi*. These events addressed a range of important issues, including the *Loktantra aur Samvidhan Bachao* campaign, promoting communal harmony, *Save Ganga*, ending violence against women, protecting the rights of street vendors, and raising voter awareness.

THANKS

(Vallabhacharya Pandey)
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(Some photographs and paper cuttings attached in separate files)

Fellowship Renewal Amount INR 4,90,000 will be used towards the fellowship stipend to continue the fellowship work of Vallabhacharya at ground level for upliftment of local area, and cover operating expenses, for the period April 2025 to March 2026.