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PIRAMAL CENTRE FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS



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Vision

To create a world-class institute for 300 Children with Special Needs in Bagar as a lighthouse to impact lives of 1 million Children with Special Needs in India

Piramal Centre for Children with Special Needs (CwSN) aims to create premier special needs school in Bagar, Rajasthan for children under 3 key disabilities

Visual Impairment | Hearing Impairment | Locomotor Disability

It also aims to provide a home away from home for children with special needs whose parents want to ensure that their child will be happier and safe beyond them.

The Genesis

A special needs child is someone who has been determined to require special attention and specific necessities that other children do not. These children may have a disability or a combination of disabilities that makes learning or other activities difficult than most children their age.

In India, the community at large is not quite aware of the potential that these children have. Structural gaps are wider when it comes to Children with Special Needs. One single approach may not be possible as ours is a country of diverse socio-economic and geographic conditions. By ratifying the rights of persons with disabilities (RPWD) Act, India has committed herself for full and equal participation of CwSNs.

As India gears up to actualize the Sustainable Development Goal of leaving no one behind in all areas, concrete action in this direction assumes great importance.

Piramal Centre for CwSN is one such concrete action that will provide a safe haven and transformative abode for these children.

The Way Forward

There is a 10-year plan to scale up intervention mapped across needs of CwSNs

- By addressing challenges of access to quality education and livelihood opportunities for more than 6,00,000 CWSNs in Rajasthan
- Use learnings from demonstration in Bagar school scaled up to improve rehabilitation, schooling and livelihood in Rajasthan replicable across India



The Approach

Phase 1: Demonstrate model CwSN School - 300 CwSN/ year, 70% pass-out of grade 12 and gainfully employed

- Revamp School campus as model per CwSN needs with state-of-the-art design and amenities to create conducive learning environment
- Incorporate world-class curriculum and pedagogy with focus on Social, Emotional and Ethical skills and Experiential Learning to succeed in the 21st century
- Integrate innovative Assistive Technology through specialized applications and tools to accelerate learning and empower CwSNs to become independent and productive
- Integrated livelihood centre to provide opportunities for students to learn skills, engage in challenging environments and gain life skills crucial to employability

Phase 2: Strengthen Special Schools - Increase pass-out by 20% for 30,000 CwSNs across 200 Special Schools

- Establish/strengthen 301 Block, 33 district rehabilitation centres
- Improve 200+ special schools managed by NGOs

Phase 3: Strengthen Inclusive Schools 20% increase in pass-out for 1,00,000 CwSNs across 10,000 Inclusive schools

- Create 10,000 PEEO (Panchayat Elementary Education Officer) Schools as models for inclusion
- Institute CPD for 6,000+ special teachers
- Improve 100+ Special teacher schools
- Revamp CwSN Curriculum and pedagogy

Phase 4: Promote Livelihood for PwDs (People with Disabilities)

- Establish 33 PwD Livelihood Centres, 1/district
- Incentivize companies, SMEs to hire PwDs



The Journey so far

- A strong team comprising thematic expert, compassionate commune builder and passionate, empathetic administrator to lead deployment in place
- Identified thought leaders and potential partners for design support, technology and training, curriculum, utilization of government resources, and skill development programme for PWDs

On the Anvil

- Inclusive school for age group 9-12 boys and girls remedial, mainstream
- Inclusive sports training space
- Adaptive life skill training space
- Transit boarding for 50 joining for training and education
- Livelihood training, marketplace by People with Disabilities (PwDs) and caregivers
- Staff houses supporting Piramal School of Leadership, hostel and inclusive school
- Inclusive group housing for 150 PWDs
- PWD-run kitchen and cafeteria, library and club activities