

# EDUCATION OUTREACH ACTIVITIES BEYOND CAMPUS



At Parul University, we believe that education is a powerful tool for driving positive societal transformation, and our mission extends beyond the confines of our campus. Our education outreach activities are designed to **make quality education accessible to all**—whether for the underprivileged community, for schools, higher educational institutions, or international collaborators. We also conduct variety of activities to support our government in nation building. These efforts embody our commitment to fostering **inclusive growth and lifelong learning**, aligning with the goals of **SDG 4** (**Quality Education**). Following gives glimpse of such efforts in each category supported with best of the examples.

#### Education Outreach Activities for Underprivileged Community

Parul University, in collaboration with the **Sakshamthad Foundation**, engages in impactful initiatives that promote **education**, **healthcare**, **and environmental sustainability** in underserved areas. Our student-led activities focus on addressing key socio-economic challenges such as **literacy development**, **digital education access**, **and environmental awareness**, empowering marginalized communities through practical solutions. Key initiatives include:

• "Apni Pathshala" – This project translates to "Our Own School" and it involves

- hostelled students at Parul University
  providing basic education to children of
  construction workers. Through evening
  classes, the children gradually gain essential
  skills required for formal school education.
  - So far, 22 children from Apni Pathshala have successfully enrolled in Limda Primary School, and 26 more students are currently being prepared for enrolment.
- Street Schools "Gunjan" and "Killol"
  - These initiatives aim to attract slum



- children towards education by offering informal learning sessions in community spaces. Parul University students conduct evening classes, helping these children develop foundational literacy and numeracy skills to support their academic journeys.
- A total of **64 children** are currently benefiting from these street school programs, setting them on a path toward formal education and personal growth.

Through sustained efforts, we aim to not only educate but also **empower communities**, ensuring that every child has an opportunity to build a brighter future.

## Education Outreach Activities for Schools:

We engage with local schools through education initiatives for organizing science fairs, coding boot camps, and creative arts workshops, including entrepreneurship training

and career counselling sessions for students along with skill-development programs for the teachers. Our notable initiatives are

- **Bal-Milan for school students:** Parul University has developed this a unique platform that provides rural school-going children to showcase their talents in sports and cultural activities. Sports and cultural activities not only promote physical fitness and mental well-being but also help in the overall development of a child's personality. This year 1535 students from 30 different schools participated. (See list)
- Seminars for School-teachers: Parul University organizes Principal Meets, Seminars and workshops for School Teachers as well as for students to address current issues and possible resolutions. This year, 1700 schools were connected through such activities. (See <u>list</u> and <u>Glimpse</u>)

## Education Outreach Activities for Higher Educational Institutions:

Parul University, encompassing 21 different faculties from Science, Commerce, Arts to Medical Science, Pharmacy, Ayurved, Homoeopathy, from Design, Performing Arts to Law, Agriculture and Social Work, often organizes workshops, seminars, webinars, training sessions on current trends and issues which are open to all educators and graduates. This extends learning opportunities beyond the campus, promotes professional development, fosters inclusivity, and aligns with SDG 4 by equipping participants with essential knowledge to enhance educational quality. For an illustration, The Internal Quality Assurance Cell collaborated with School of Education, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar and organized One week FDP on "Awareness of NEP-2020 and Its Implementation" during March 21-27, 2023. (Click here to view report)

### Education Outreach Activities for International Institutions:

Winner of FICCI Higher Education Excellence Awards for Excellence in Globalization, Parul University practices not only exchange programes but it leads Initiatives like the YEEP (Young Entrepreneurs and Emerging Professionals) program, offering students from both institutions a unique platform for entrepreneurial learning and innovation. It is a collaborative initiative with Bern University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland. (See the report of 4<sup>th</sup> Edition of YEEP) Since 2017, this initiative has brought together Swiss and Indian students for a summer school, combining business ideation, market research, cultural exchange, and training sessions by foreign professors. Till the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of this program, in total 12 Swiss Professors and 66 Swiss Students have visited India and interacted with the stakeholders of Parul University. The program's outcomes include 24 developed business ideas, 10 of which were successfully commercialized in India, with one start-up, MEDREF Healthbridge Solutions, earning the prestigious "Youth Start-up of the Year" award. (see the award) This cross-cultural outreach strengthens global engagement and entrepreneurial skills, fostering impactful international cooperation.

#### Education Outreach Activities supporting to Government Initiatives:

As one of the eminent universities of Western India, Parul University upholds the spirit of

contributing to nation building and supports the initiatives taken by the State Government as well as Central Government, such as Promotion and Implementation of National Education Policy-2020, Skill India, Digital India, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, Swachchh Bharat Abhiyan and others. The university regularly organizes celebrations of festivals and awareness activities based on the themes promoting these schemes and missions.



The university has adopted 40 villages under



the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, which is a flagship programme of Ministry of Education to create a vibrant relationship between the society and higher educational institutes, providing knowledge and technology support to improve the livelihoods in rural areas and to upgrade the capabilities of both the public and private organizations in the society. The students and staff of the university regularly organizes educational drives regarding health, hygiene and quality of life. The

University runs several projects for these villages such as Garima (under which the women community is educated and supported enough with the skill to generate livelihood and become financially independent), Sahiyar-Gram-Hatt (an exhibition cum sale fair of the products manufactured by women groups, women artisans, and women organizations), Sanjeevani – Parul Mahila Credit Cooperative Society (aimed at empowering women by developing and promoting their financial literacy and management skills).



These initiatives exhibits our commitment to leveraging education as a catalyst for societal transformation, ensuring inclusive growth by engaging with underprivileged communities, schools, international institutions, and government initiatives to foster lifelong learning and empower future generations.