

A Report of The Meritorious Students Annual Fees Sponsorship Program



Beneficiary School: RD Memorial School, Village Prahalad Garhi, Ghaziabad

Academic Session (2023-24)

Sponsored by-

Pragarth,

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Sponsoring a child is an effective way to contribute your help to individuals in need.

Introduction

Education is the cornerstone of progress and development in any society. Unfortunately, financial constraints often become a barrier to access quality education for many deserving students. To address this issue and promote education for all, the non-governmental organization (NGO) *Pragrath* has taken an inspiring initiative. *Pragrath* has collaborated with RD Memorial School in Prahald Garhi, Ghaziabad, to sponsor the fees of meritorious students, ensuring that no talent goes to waste due to financial limitations.

Since 2018, *Pragrath* has been at the forefront of promoting education and empowering meritorious students at RD Memorial School in Prahald Garhi, Ghaziabad. Through its annual sponsorship program, *Pragrath* identifies exceptional students from economically challenged backgrounds and provides them with financial assistance to cover their school fees. One of the unique aspects of this program is the organization of a parents' meet, where *Pragrath* evaluates the willingness of parents to support their child's education, ensuring a holistic approach to nurturing young talent.

The guiding philosophy behind setting up of the scholarship is to ensure the underprivileged children belonging to low-income category in the Ghaziabad area are motivated to march ahead in life with their head held high. This small step in their lives have a ripple – on effect that will touch more lives than we realize. It not only acts as a blessing to the child but also allows to witness young lives getting transformed.

As *Pragrath* believes, sponsoring a child is an effective way to contribute your help to individuals in need, without ever leaving home.

About *Pragrath*

Pragrath is a reputed NGO committed to providing educational opportunities to underprivileged and deserving students. With a vision of a literate and educated society, *Pragrath* focuses on empowering students through financial assistance, mentorship, providing resourceful environment to students and skill-building programs. By partnering with various educational institutions, *Pragrath* has been successful in enabling access to quality education for countless students across different regions.

Guiding Philosophy behind sponsoring a child

The guiding philosophy behind setting up of the scholarship are :

Sponsoring a child is an effective way to contribute your help to individuals and communities in need, without ever leaving home.

1. Sponsored children have better chance of finishing their education. Many children are forced to drop out of school early, as their parents are unable to afford ongoing school fees, or they are required to work to supplement the family's income. Sponsored children are given the opportunity to complete their schooling. Education is crucial to combating poverty, and ensuring that these children receive a good education is a sustainable and long-term approach to building a better future. Better education means more opportunities, a new generation of leaders, and the chance to break free from the cycle of poverty.
2. By sponsoring one child, and helping provide education, it's like helping communities as a whole develop.
3. It is an affordable way to make a substantial difference. Sponsoring a child is perhaps the best way to see that small sums of money can have huge impacts.
4. Providing scholarships improves performance in children's academics. Getting a scholarship takes away all their financial concerns. Thus, it gives you more time to study, gain knowledge and secure better grades. They get ample time to look for opportunities for skill development and knowledge enhancement.
5. Scholarship gives student a career advantage. Earning a scholarship is prestigious. Since a child gets a scholarship on merit, getting one will leave a good impact on their future employers. Scholarships can be listed on their resume under accomplishments. It can make them stand out from the rest during job search.

Details of the School selected for Fees Sponsorship

In a commitment to do something for the underprivileged and needy, *Pragrath* provides annual fee sponsorship to the meritorious students of RD Memorial School, Prahald Garhi, Vasundhra, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh for session 2023-24. RD Memorial School is a prominent educational institution known for its dedication to academic excellence and all-round development of its students. Located in Prahald Garhi, Ghaziabad, the school caters to students

from economically weaker sections. The school offers a wide range of academic and co-curricular activities to nurture young minds and shape them into responsible citizens. The school is affiliated by Basic Shiksha Parishad, UP.

This year *Pragrath* is supporting financially for 08 (eight) Elementary Meritorious students who are not able to pay their school fees as they come from very poor family. This Fee sponsorship program breaks the cycle of poverty for a child and their family, creating a lasting and positive impact in their lives. Millions of Indian children of age up to 13 years have never attended any school, the majority of them belonging to the socially disadvantaged class or poor families. In addition, many children of secondary and higher secondary school-going age dropped out of school. Children mired in poverty are forced to drop out of school and find ways to survive.

Table 1: Detail of School selected for Fee Sponsorship in District Ghaziabad, UP

<i>R.D. Memorial School, Village Prahlad Garhi, Ghaziabad, UP – 201012</i>	
U-DISE No.	09090906003
School Affiliated by	Basic Shiksha Parishad, UP
School Affiliated for Classes	I to VIII
Total No. of students selected for the Fee sponsorship (2023-24)	08

There are a lot of students who have to leave schooling because the parents can't afford fees payment. Child education sponsorship can help these underprivileged students to acquire education. It not only acts as blessing to the child but also allows you to witness young lives getting transformed.

So, presently *Pragrath* is providing monthly scholarship (@ Rs. 700/month/student along with their activity and exam charges @ Rs. 1500/month/student).

Table 2: Detailed Fee structure Class-wise

R.D. Memorial School, Vill. Prahlad Garhi, Distt. Ghaziabad, UP – 201012			
Class	Monthly Tuition Fee	Admission Charges	Other charges (Activity & Exam charges)
VI	700/- p.m.	NIL	1500/- p.a.
VII	700/- p.m.	NIL	1500/- p.a.
VIII	700/- p.m.	NIL	1500/- p.a.

The Meritorious Students Annual Fees Sponsorship Program

Pragath's Meritorious Students Annual Fees Sponsorship Program at RD Memorial School aims to identify exceptionally talented students with financial constraints and support their education by covering their annual school fees. The program is designed to encourage academic excellence and provide equal opportunities to deserving students who may otherwise be unable to afford the cost of education.

The Annual Sponsorship Program by *Pragath* identifies bright and talented students who face financial constraints and may otherwise struggle to access quality education. Through this program, selected students are granted a full waiver of their annual school fees, relieving their families of the financial burden associated with education.

Process to shortlist students for sponsorship

To ensure transparency and fairness, *Pragath* and RD Memorial School have established a well-defined selection process for identifying eligible students for the sponsorship program.

Pragath first seeks recommendations from school keeping in mind the following criteria:

The selection process steps include academic performance recommendations, financial need, and a keen interest in learning through parents meet. Teachers, school administrators, and *Pragath* collaborate closely to evaluate and select deserving candidates.

- a. Academic Merit: *Pragrath*, in collaboration with the school administration, reviews the academic performance of students to identify those who have shown exceptional promise and dedication in their studies.
- b. Financial Need: The economic background of the students is evaluated to ascertain their financial challenges and the necessity of financial assistance for their education.

During both the above-mentioned steps, *Pragrath* considers following Essential & Preferential criteria:

Essential Criteria:

- Minimum 60% marks in previous academic session
- Parent's income to come under Below Poverty Line as per UP State government rules
- Continuous effort from the student and their parents towards the education

Preferential Criteria:

- Girl Child
- Single Parent Child
- Special need child

- c. Parents' Meet: As a crucial step in the selection process, *Pragrath* organizes a parents' meet, where the parents or guardians of shortlisted students are invited to discuss their child's educational aspirations and commitment to their ward's studies. This meeting provides an opportunity for *Pragrath* to understand the family's support system and ensures that the parents are actively engaged in their child's education.

Parents Meet for Fee Sponsorship (2022-23)

Every year, *Pragrath* organizes a special event at RD Memorial School where the shortlisted meritorious students and their parents are invited. During this event, *Pragrath* Trustee members interact with the parents, discussing their aspirations, challenges, and commitment to their child's education. The event serves as a platform for parents to express their support for their child's educational journey, and *Pragrath* ensures that the students and their families feel valued and motivated.

After receiving the recommendation received by the school based on the essential and preferential qualifications, parents of the students were called upon by the *Pragrath* team on 7th April, 2023 at RD Memorial School itself. *Pragrath* Team members had a discussion with parents of the respective students. *Pragrath* Team members who held the discussion were Mr. Partha Chatterji, Mr. Lakshmi Narayan Giri, Dr. Deepali Tyagi and Mr. Dharamchand Jaiswal.



Pic 1: Parents Meet for Fees Sponsorship 2023-24

A small discussion with each parent and student about the future goals of the student; their family background and family atmosphere about education was held.



Pic 2: Parents Meet with Pragrath & School staff for Fees Sponsorship 2023-24

Based on this discussion, the chart was prepared to filter down the students who are aligned with the ideology of Pragrath. Few meritorious students who showed upon their progress and achievement were selected from previous sessions too.



Pic 3: Parents Meet for Fees Sponsorship 2023-24

Despite belonging to the poor background, many parents were willing & eager to support their kids in their further education for better future.



Pic 4: Pragrath Team for Parents Meet (Fees Sponsorship 2023-24)

Students Selected for Fee Sponsorship (2023-24)

After a discussion with parents and students, the following list of students were finalized for the fee sponsorship by *Pragrath* for academic year 2023-24.



Pic 5: Students selected for Fees Sponsorship 2023-24

Table 4: List of Students Selected for Fee Sponsorship (2023-24)

S.No.	Name of the student	Class	Gender	Father's Occupation	Mother's Occupation	Previous year Result
1	Aastha Pandey	VII- B	F	Job	House wife	82.3%
2	Shakshi Gupta	VII-A	F	Job	House wife	88.9%
3	Shivani Mishra	VIII-A	F	Driver	House wife	96.6%
4	Vandana	VI-A	F	Watch repair shop	House wife	75.4%
5	Krishna I	VII-A	M	Job	House wife	76.9%
6	Ruby	VIII-B	F	Presswale	House wife	88.1%
7	Krishna II	VII-A	M	Job	House wife	89.9%
8	Uma Shankar	VIII-B	M	Job	Housewife	93.8%



Pic 6: Selected Students (Fees Sponsorship 2023-24) with *Pragath* Trustee Members & School Authorities

As long as the child continues to show a will to participate in their education and the academic achievement, *Pragath* will continue to support them in whatever way it can. In this way, the child is more likely to stay on the educational path and be well informed of their possibilities. Their families are more likely to support them through this process, leading to the blossoming of a child into a healthy, well-educated young adult ready to make their mark on the world.

Benefits & Impact of Annual Fees sponsorship Program

The Meritorious Students Sponsorship Program offers a multitude of benefits, including:

- a. **Financial Relief:** Selected students are exempted from paying their annual school fees, which significantly reduces the financial burden on their families.
- b. **Encouragement for Merit:** The program motivates students to excel academically, knowing that their hard work and dedication will be recognized and supported.

- c. Enhanced Educational Access: Through *Pragrath's* support, deserving students gain access to a quality education, which enhances their overall academic and personal development.
- d. Holistic Development: By supporting students' academic journey, *Pragrath* also encourages their participation in extracurricular activities and skill development programs, fostering their overall growth and development.
- e. Equal Educational Opportunities: The program aims to bridge the gap between financial limitations and quality education, providing meritorious students from disadvantaged backgrounds with equal opportunities to excel academically.
- f. Positive Impact on Families: The sponsorship not only benefits the students but also alleviates the financial stress on their families, encouraging them to invest in their children's education further.

The *Pragrath*-sponsored Meritorious Students Program has already made a substantial impact on the lives of numerous students. Several success stories have emerged, where students from economically weaker backgrounds have excelled in their studies, participated in various competitions, and achieved outstanding results. Their success stories stand as a testament to the positive impact of the program and reaffirm the significance of educational support for meritorious students. The program's success has inspired other schools and individuals to adopt similar initiatives to promote educational equity.

Future Plans & Sustainability

Pragrath remains dedicated to expanding the scope of its sponsorship program, reaching out to more deserving students in the coming years. The organization plans to enhance the sustainability of the program by exploring potential partnerships with corporates, institutions, and individual donors who share a vision for an educated and empowered society.

Conclusion

The annual sponsorship of meritorious students by *Pragrath* at RD Memorial School, Prahald Garhi, Ghaziabad, has been a transformative initiative in the field of education. By identifying and supporting exceptional students from financially challenged backgrounds, *Pragrath* is

fostering talent, promoting equality, and empowering young minds to achieve their dreams. The initiative stands as a testament to the power of education and the commitment of organizations like *Pragrath* to create a brighter and more equitable future for all.

The parents' meet serves as a crucial step in ensuring the commitment and support of families in nurturing these bright students. As *Pragrath* continues its commendable efforts, the program stands as a beacon of hope for countless students and their families, building a brighter and more inclusive future for the community.