



Shri. Devendra Fadnavis  
Chief Minister



# Pragat Shaikshanik Varta

E-Newsletter of Pragat Shaikshanik Maharashtra (PSM)



Shri. Vinod Tawde  
Minister for Education

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## PSM's First Year of Promising Outcomes

Right to Education Act (RTE) aspires to bridge the gap of opportunity and quality in the school education and bring every child in the educational stream. The Department of Education, Maharashtra State, is committed to implement the RTE in letter and in spirit.

It is fact, indicated by various surveys including state's won State Learning Achievement Survey (SLAS), that the children's academic levels in government run schools are way below the expected levels. Pragat Shaikshanik Maharashtra (PSM), is an effort to change this alarming situation. Released on 22 June 2015, the PSM GR states the intent of the program as well as lays out the blue print to achieve the desired goals.

PSM believes that every child is capable of learning. PSM has introduced several methods to enable teachers to change the nature of classroom interactions, to make them child-friendly and to promote self-learning. Accordingly teacher's role has changed. The teacher is not expected to teach, but to facilitate learning and enable every child to learn at her/his pace.

Shikshan Parishad, regional and district conventions of teachers and education cadre, organized from time to time, have become a platform for learning. These conventions facilitate peer learning along with inputs from expert resource persons. Teachers are also encouraged to

visit the schools adopting innovative learning methods and showing distinct changes in educational achievements.

Kumathe beat in Satara district and other model schools in the state have become learning sites for the teacher. Most schools in the state are in the process of adopting constructivism approach, which makes every classroom an engaging space for self-learning. Students get opportunities to learn at their pace and by interacting with fellow students, with assistance from class teacher, as necessary. PSM also emphasizes on team work at the block and beat levels and active engagement of parents and community members in the school development.

All these changes are contributing in enriching the school environment and adding quality in classroom interactions. As a result the levels of educational achievements are also on rise. Last year two tests were taken - the foundation test at the beginning of the academic year and evaluation test towards the end - in all schools in the state for first language and mathematics. A comparison of outcomes shows almost 10% increase in the grasping on various indicators.

PSM has begun a promising journey. Building on the positive results in the first year, it is now all set to intensify the process and widen its scope.



## On Day One of Schools, Honorable CM interacts with Students

Hon. Chief Minister, Shri. Devendra Fadnavis interacted with students, teachers and parents, from Pragat Schools in remote areas in six districts - Aurangabad, Thane, Latur, Pune, Nandurbar and Dhule - through video conferencing on 15 June 2016, the first day of the academic year. He was accompanied by Shri. Girish Bapat, Guardian Minister Pune and Shri. Nand Kumar, Principal Secretary. He congratulated the schools for their progress, in particular their successful efforts to stop migration of students and ensure hundred per cent attendance, use of digital learning aids and active community participation. As these schools have increased their standard, they are attracting more students.



## Hon. Education Minister gets update from Vidarbha Schools

Hon. Education Minister Mr. Vinod Tawde interacted with remote schools in Vidarbha region through video conferencing on 27 June 2016 to get an update. He talked with students, teachers and parents from Gadchiroli, Gondiya, Chandrapur, Buldana and Amravati to know the steps taken to enhance educational standard and appreciated the progress made by schools.



## PSM heading towards profound changes in the second year

A three-day state level convention of regional education officers reflected on progress made in the first year of PSM program and decided action plan for the next academic year, with an aim to make profound changes. Organised at Fountainhead Resort, Alibaug on 22, 23, 24 June 2016, the convention involved around 130 participants. Appreciating the progress being made through PSM, Hon. Minister Shri.

Vinod Tawde asked participants to reflect on underlying reasons and process as well. Reminding the ultimate goal of PSM, Principal Secretary Shri. Nand Kumar said the program aspires to raise the educational bar to its maximum. Along with developing educational achievements we should strive for developing universal citizens through our schools, he said.



### A special issue traces PSM journey so far



A special issue of 'Jeevan Shikshan', published by MSCERT, takes an overview of one year process of PSM program through articles written by state level leadership to school level teachers.

Developed as a resource compendium, the publication was released by Hon. CM on 15 June 2016.

### Educational Information a Click Away



Maharashtra State Council of Educational Research and Training, Pune has launched a new portal [www.msccert.org.in](http://www.msccert.org.in), which serves as a single platform for all educational programs and information.

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