

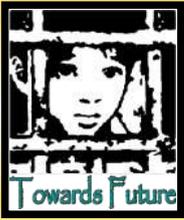


# Towards Future

(Regt Number : SO153135 of 2008-2009)

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# Towards Future NEWSLETTER

## April – June 2025

### Welcome to the Towards Future Newsletter!

**A**t Towards Future, our commitment remains unwavering in building a better tomorrow for children and women. We strive to ensure a safe learning environment with a strong emphasis on quality education. Our vision is to create a world where every child has access to quality education, and women are empowered to take on leadership roles, fostering an inclusive society that champions equality and resilience. Our mission is to enable children and women to transform their lives into independent selves and to propagate education to future generations through active participation of themselves and the other members of society.

### Our Endeavours

Currently, we are engaged in the following six programs.

1. The “Shishumon” program focuses on early childhood care and education for children from underprivileged communities at pre-school age and prepares them for formal schools.
2. “KidzPlanet Learning Centre” supports access to quality education at primary grades up to the 5th standard.
3. “Library Education Program” is dedicated to creating an accessible environment for children, providing them with opportunities to engage with diverse literature through library activity classes in Kolkata and North 24 Parganas.
4. The “Remedial Classes” provide support to high school students facing academic challenges. Currently, 60 students from Classes VI to VIII are enrolled in the program.
5. The “Mukti” program educates children of migrant labourers who accompany their families to brickfields and their parents to exercise their basic rights in their regular lives. This session, 220 children from 3 brick kilns in North 24 Parganas and Bhangar II Block received campsite education.
6. The “Women Empowerment” program aims to make women self-reliant and develop leadership skills. Women are provided with an employable skill development program which includes tailoring, mehendi, beauty care, and computer literacy.



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## Event Highlights (April–June 2025)

Towards Future – Strengthening Learning, Culture & Safety

### SHISHU MELA – JOYFUL LEARNING IN ACTION

Shishumela is an event held in communities to engage children in different play-based activities. Throughout the year, we organize a series of Shishumela in different locations of our project areas. On 12th April, our 3rd Shishu Mela was held at Jhaligachi, Rajarhat, with over 250 participants. Children aged 3–6 from the community participate and enjoy hands-on learning activities like clay modelling, sorting games, and storytelling, promoting early childhood development and strong community participation. The purpose of such events is to make the communities including the parents, to understand that childhood isn't a race, and schooling is not confined to just numbers and letters, rather its a space of nurturing creativity, resilience and joy.



### POILA BOISHAKH PROVAT FERI – A WALK OF CULTURE & UNITY

To mark the Bengali New Year, more than 300 villagers from Rajarhat and Bhangar II joined a vibrant morning rally celebrating tradition, togetherness, and community spirit.



### SUMMER CAMP – "PHIRE DEKHA"

Held at Kidz Planet Learning Centre, the 5-day camp engaged 105 children (including 46 from nearby communities) in drama, art, craft, library sessions, and cooking activities- nurturing creativity, collaboration, and joy.



### ART WORKSHOP – JAMALPARA

On 24th May, 54 children participated in an art workshop that encouraged creative expression and confidence-building through drawing and painting. Alongside the workshop, we also had meaningful conversations with parents and community members about how they can nurture their children's creativity at home. We talked about the importance of listening to children's ideas, creating simple artworks at home with paper, crayons, or even recycled materials.



### CHILD LABOUR DAY CAMPAIGN – AWARENESS SESSION

On 12th June, an awareness session was conducted in collaboration with Campaign Against Child Labour (CACL), engaging 43 children on child labour and early marriage issues. This event launched our 44-day campaign "Shram Nahi Shiksha" promoting education for all.



### TEACHERS' TRAINING ON CHILD SAFETY

In partnership with TALASH (NGO), a two-day training (17–18 June) was held at Mahammadpur to equip teachers with tools on personal safety, child-centric communication, and mindfulness, helping create safer learning spaces.



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## Case Studies

In this quarterly newsletter, we are putting in two case studies, both of them having the same name but with different stories of struggle.

### Case Study 1:

Sabnur Khatun, enrolled in KidzPlanet Learning Centre (2020), faced significant educational barriers. Heavy household responsibilities and caring for her sibling made her father withdraw her from school. She was withdrawn, struggled to concentrate, and made slow progress due to socio-economic pressures and a non-conducive home environment.



Teachers identified her needs and intervened with regular one-on-one interactions and personalized teaching sessions. They created a safe space for her to learn at her own pace and share difficulties.

Personalised support and a safe space enabled Sabnur to overcome the challenges- she opened up, sharing her dream to become a police officer and her love for dance. Back in Class IV, she shows significant improvement in both academics and classroom engagement.

### Case Study 2:

Belonging to an economically disadvantaged minority family, Sabnur faced immense societal pressures during adolescence. Despite her parents' initial support for her football passion, community pressure pushed them towards arranging an early marriage for her. Her courageous act of cutting her hair to resist marriage intensified opposition from family and community, threatening her education and athletic dreams.



Sabnur has received sustained, crucial motivational support for several years from Towards Future. This support network empowers her to withstand pressure.

Additionally, she receives dedicated football coaching at New Town Sports Academy, honing her athletic skills.

Despite all the hurdles, Sabnur's determination is unwavering. She is excelling academically in Class XI and thriving athletically in football. Her resilience exemplifies the power of tenacity and support in pursuing aspirations against societal constraints.



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