

**Annual Report: 2022 to 2023**  
**Aman Public Charitable Trust, New Delhi**



**The Scholarship Campaign**

**Aman Public Charitable Trust**

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## Executive Summary

The year following the COVID-19 pandemic has presented significant challenges, particularly for marginalized communities, which faced more severe and prolonged difficulties. The impact of the second wave was devastating, leaving many in our community with significant losses and enduring hardships. While some parts of society began to recover more quickly, others continued to struggle with the ongoing consequences of the pandemic.

Despite these challenges, there has been a strong sense of resilience and determination to move forward. As we entered the new year, our focus remained on addressing the ongoing needs of those most affected by the pandemic and working towards rebuilding a more stable future for all.

In this spirit, we continued initiatives for youth and adolescent girls, aiming at alleviating mental stress and empowering individuals to focus on their education and personal growth. We continued our educational efforts within the community, while implementing innovative approaches to engage young individuals in meaningful learning experiences.

Our partnerships with key organizations, including Shruti- the Program for Social Action, Sahyog, Lucknow, Mutuni- The Youth Project, and Plus Trust, were critical in advancing the work of the Awadh People's Forum. These collaborations enabled us to provide essential relief to the community bringing rehabilitation in post covid era, build capacities of women to address local issues, and foster youth involvement for social change. Through such united efforts, we were able to strengthen community participation and enhance local initiatives.

Through these joint efforts, youth volunteers gained a deeper understanding of their responsibility within the community and actively contributed to various initiatives led by the Forum. Despite the widespread feelings of despair and isolation among young people, the Forum created an environment of hope and engagement. Weekly online dialogues organised for young individuals provided a vital safe space, allowing them to connect, share, and find support in order to overcome difficult times.

As we continue our work, we are committed to enhancing community engagement, providing youth with opportunities for personal and professional development, and ensuring access to critical resources and support for those who remain at margins of social development.

## **Our Programmes**

### **1-PKVK Centers: Empowering Adolescent Girls for Holistic Development**

The PKVK centers are operational in five localities, focusing on the empowerment and development of adolescent girls. These centers actively engage adolescents in building life skills and expanding their learning scope. Through targeted programs, they have successfully educated adolescents on personal health, civic rights, and constitutional values.

The centers have addressed various challenges faced by adolescents, particularly in education and family dynamics, through participatory workshops. Additionally, school dropouts were counselled on the importance of formal education through interactive group activities, and were actively facilitated in getting re-enrolled in schools.

The PKVK centres were instrumental in raising awareness on personal health including facilitating networking between adolescents and relevant healthcare departments. This enabled their access to identified formal healthcare channels.

Below are the details of key programmes undertaken by the PKVK centres –

#### **i) Skill Development Program:**

This program focused on connecting targeted adolescents to local PKVK centers, providing essential skill development opportunities. A total of 43 adolescent girls participated in vocational training in areas such as tailoring, beauty treatments, and mehndi art. Additionally, in collaboration with the Digital India Foundation (DIF), Delhi, digital literacy classes were conducted, benefiting 15 adolescent girls.

To enhance future employment prospects, adolescents were introduced to teacher training centers, offering specialized programs in teaching methodologies. Empowered by learning and exposure, several adolescents took the initiative to organize a digital awareness workshop within their communities.

To facilitate the integration of marginalized communities into the digital era, digital enablement segment of this program included training on fundamental digital skills, such as using mobile web services, understanding government schemes, navigating registration processes, and accessing government scholarships. In support of these efforts, the Digital India Foundation provided digital tablets to four trained adolescents from the Paharganj locality, further enabling them to enhance their digital proficiency and promote digital literacy within their communities.

## **ii) School Enhancement Program:**

The PKVK center collaborates with 15 schools within the target localities to enhance educational opportunities by strengthening school education systems for building holistic learning experience for adolescents. In partnership with school principals and teachers, the center works on a range of initiatives focusing on education, health, and scholarships for students.

As part of the program, events were organized to provide adolescents with a platform to share the challenges they encounter as students with school principals and teachers. These sessions fostered open communication and helped identify solutions to common issues faced by the students.

Health and safety awareness sessions were held at both the school and community levels, addressing critical topics such as personal health and violence prevention. These initiatives were conducted in collaboration with the Women's Helpline and other relevant organizations actively pursuing these issues. Adolescents were provided with essential resources, including emergency women's helpline numbers and other support contacts.

Additionally, the program facilitated discussions with mental health professionals, such as Dr. V. Pranaya, who provided valuable insights on physical and mental well-being. Students and school authorities were also informed about government hospitals offering adolescent-friendly health services. Adolescents were encouraged to utilize these healthcare facilities for health-related services and guidance. Furthermore, government health schemes targeting adolescents were highlighted during these sessions, ensuring that students are aware of available support options.

As part of this program, two social campaigns were run addressing concerns of adolescents within community:

**a) Scholarship Campaign:** A comprehensive scholarship campaign was carried out across communities and 10 schools, focusing on raising awareness among adolescents about available scholarship opportunities. The campaign provided detailed information on the scholarship application process, ensuring that adolescents were well-informed about the criteria and steps required to apply.

A dedicated scholarship distribution program was organized to inform applicants about their scholarship status, and the procedure for scholarship disbursement was explained elaborately. To further engage school administrations, discussions were conducted with school principals, emphasizing their active role in facilitating scholarship applications for students. For former scholarship applicants who faced delays in the application process and were unable to receive their scholarships, updated scholarship forms were provided. These applicants were closely supported and assisted throughout the application process to ensure their successful submission.

**b) Postcard Campaign:** A postcard campaign was organized across four local communities—Dillipura, Paharganj, Sahadat Ali Khan Camp, and Makbara—and 11 local schools, aimed at drawing the government's attention to the pressing education and health needs of adolescents. The campaign involved collecting personal signatures from adolescents on postcards addressed to the state Chief Minister. The postcards called for urgent actions, including the provision of sanitary pads, the installation of proper toilets in schools, and the effective implementation of government initiatives such as 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao.'

The campaign also focused on addressing the issue of early marriages and highlighted the importance of ensuring quality education for all adolescents. Schools were encouraged to create safe and supportive environments for girls, with particular emphasis on providing necessary resources such as uniforms, books, and bicycles, all of which contribute to improving girls' mobility and continued participation to formal education.



## 2- Apna Talim Ghar

The education centers continued to operate in the communities of Dilshad, Mehdona, and Sahadat Ali Khan's cantonment, providing critical educational support to children of unorganized sector workers and those from similar socio-economic backgrounds. Each center served approximately 35 children, offering them quality education through activity-based learning approaches.

Young educators facilitated lessons in various subjects, incorporating storytelling activities to engage the children and foster their creativity. To further enhance the learning experience, libraries were established at each center, stocked with a variety of books, literature, and educational games. Children were encouraged to select books of their choice, promoting independent reading.

To strengthen their reading and writing skills, the centers organized activities such as quizzes and drawing exercises to assess and reinforce their comprehension of books they read. In addition, the children's written works were published in magazines, providing them with a platform to showcase their creativity and encouraging them to pursue reading & writing.



The centers also played a key role in supporting school dropouts, assisting them in re-enrolling in local schools to continue their formal education and integrate back into the mainstream educational system.

The following were the key activities conducted at the Education Centres –

#### **(i) Book Journey:**

The 'Book Journey' initiative was implemented across three target local communities, offering children connected with the education centers an opportunity to engage with books beyond their school curriculum. Book exhibitions were organized at various localities and community centers, allowing children to explore a wide range of books based on their individual interests.

Children actively participated in the exhibitions, reading books and sharing their experiences with the organizing team. This activity took place twice a week in different localities and once a month at community centers, creating a consistent opportunity for children to engage with literature.



The initiative successfully encouraged the development of children's intellectual abilities, vocabulary, and comprehension. To assess the impact, feedback was collected from the children through drawings and written reflections. Overall, the program fostered a strong reading culture, motivating children to develop lasting book-reading habits and a greater appreciation for literature.

#### **(ii) Chakmak Writing Activity:**

At the education centers, children were actively encouraged to contribute to magazine publications, exploring their creativity and writing skills. They were provided with writing prompts related to their surroundings, including topics such as their neighbourhoods, personal experiences, creative stories, drawings, puzzles, and other imaginative articles. The children's submissions were reviewed and edited by center staff before being published in the magazine.



The children who participated in this activity have improved interest in writing. Approximately 35 children contributed to the magazine, visibly experiencing improved interest in writing. This initiative not only enhanced their interest in writing but also allowed them an opportunity to showcase their talent.

The children's writings were also highlighted during the Book Journey exhibitions, further motivating other children to express themselves through writing. This initiative played a crucial role in encouraging a culture of self-expression and creative development among the children.

**(iii) Children's Day Celebration:** On November 14th, 2022, Children's Day was celebrated at the education centers and affiliated schools. The event included a variety of activities for children such as music, songs, painting, crafts, and games. The celebration took place in the communities of Dilshad, Paharganj, Sahadat Ali Khan's cantonment, and Mibra target locations. Children from the associated centers and schools were actively involved in



the preparation and hosting of the event, contributing to a sense of ownership and pride. During the celebration, children presented various media performances and shared information about renowned national personalities, including key figures from India's freedom movement. The event fostered enthusiasm and promoted a creative approach to education, encouraging children to explore their talents. It also positively impacted their self-confidence and helped develop a more constructive and creative attitude towards learning.

**(iv) Sports Activities:** The centers actively encouraged children to excel in both academics and sports, emphasizing the importance of physical well-being alongside intellectual development. Sports activities were organized twice a week at the centers, featuring traditional games such as Kho-Kho, Kabaddi, and Gola Fek. Children were provided opportunities to participate in a range of sports, including football, cricket, and volleyball, at local community fields and stadiums. This exposure allowed children to engage in sports they were passionate about and access resources in their community to further develop their interest.

The center also motivated children to participate in sports competitions at their respective schools, supporting their involvement in mainstream sports events. By integrating sports with academic activities, the program successfully maintained the interest of marginalized children in attending the centers, while simultaneously encouraging them to pursue and refine their athletic abilities.

#### **(v) Music and Songs:**

Music and songs were integrated into the regular activities at the centers on a weekly basis, providing children with a creative outlet while reinforcing important social values. Several songs with social messages were developed in collaboration with the children, focusing on themes that promote social awareness and community cohesion.

These songs were performed by the children during cultural events at their schools and on various other occasions. Through this initiative, the center used music as a tool to emphasize the importance of social values and the role of community life, fostering a sense of unity and shared responsibility among the children.



#### **(vi) Heritage Walks:**

To enhance children and youth's understanding and appreciation of their cultural heritage, regular visits to historical sites were organized, providing them with an opportunity to learn about the significance of these locations. Each site, rich in history, was accompanied by detailed explanations, allowing children to connect the stories behind the landmarks to their educational curriculum.

The selected sites were aligned with topics in school history books, enabling children to practically learn about the Nawabs of Awadh and their administration. Additionally, visits included prominent religious centers such as Ayodhya, and exploration of ancient architectural sites related to Buddhism, Sikhism, and Jainism. The children also visited mosques to understand their historical and cultural significance.

These heritage walks were organized by the voluntary team associated with the center, who provided informative sessions and engaged with participants, deepening their understanding of the rich cultural history of Awadh. The initiative not only enriched children's knowledge but also fostered a deeper appreciation of the region's diverse cultural heritage.

### **3. Teacher Resource and Co-creation Centre**

To enhance the educational development of children and adolescents attending 'Apna Taleem Ghar' and 'Perna Kishori Vikas Kendras,' young educators and community volunteers received periodic training. This initiative focused on equipping local youth with effective teaching and learning skills, which directly benefited approximately 266 adolescents by improving their academic performance.





This year, 10 young educators were trained in the areas of development studies and advanced mathematical skills, which helped enhance the children's understanding of various sociological topics and creative ways of solving mathematical questions.

To ensure the effectiveness of the training, dialogues were facilitated with teachers and volunteers, incorporating their feedback to refine the training process, so as to address the needs of the children in effective ways. The Community Youth Collective also played a crucial role in supporting the program, assisting young educators in managing mental stress and practical life challenges while engaging with adolescent students.

In total, 14 training groups were established, involving around 37 young educators from communities, primary schools, and small private schools. These educators continue to teach children and youth in their communities after school hours, while many of them also pursue their own studies, thereby improving their own educational outcomes while contributing to development of adolescents in their community.

#### **4. The Constitution Friends Group**

A dedicated team, known as the 'Constitution Friends Group,' locally referred to as 'Sanvidhaan Mitra Mandali' was formed, comprising approximately 30 associates from both the forum's team and the target community. This group is focused on deepening community's understanding of, and promoting the principles outlined in the Constitution of India.

The group meets weekly to engage in discussions on various topics related to the constitutional rights of Indian citizens. Through these meetings, the team actively works to foster a deeper understanding of key constitutional values, including equality, liberty, justice, and fraternity. These discussions are extended to the wider community through community meetings and at local schools, ensuring that these fundamental principles are imparted broadly.

Additionally, community volunteers organized a day-long session on the concept of fraternity, further reinforcing the importance of solidarity and collective responsibility in upholding the values enshrined in the Constitution.



Below are some of the key initiatives undertaken by the ‘Constitution Friends Group’-

**i) We and Our Constitution:** A discussion was conducted with students of classes 9 and 10 at Nand Convent Inter College, focusing on the core values of the Constitution of India. The session provided students with an in-depth understanding of the four fundamental rights enshrined in the Constitution, with a particular emphasis on the value of equality.

The students were encouraged to share their perspectives on the importance of equality in today’s society. The discussion prompted thoughtful reflections on the relevance of equality in addressing contemporary social issues. As a result, the session generated a greater interest among students to explore these issues further and sparked a desire for more regular dialogue sessions on related topics.

**ii) Session on Constitution in Amar Shaheed Ashfaqulla Memorial Inter College:**

The session, organized for students of classes 9, 10, and 11, aimed to raise awareness about the concept of the Constitution and its significance in shaping the nation's governance within the rights framework. The discussion began with a thought-provoking question: "Why is the Constitution necessary even after India’s independence?" This prompted students to reflect on their duties as citizens alongside their rights. They were encouraged to consider their duties towards their environment and school, emphasizing how these responsibilities are interconnected with the principles outlined in the Constitution. The session concluded with a recommendation for regular dialogue sessions to further deepen students’ understanding of their responsibilities and the broader societal context in which they live.

**iii) Aman Trophy Tournament:** In memory of the late Riyaz Ahmed, the 6th Aman Trophy Football Tournament 2023 was held at Cantt Stadium, Ayodhya. The tournament highlighted the vital role of sports in human development, particularly in teaching teamwork, discipline, and life skills. Football, a popular sport in the target area, saw renewed enthusiasm among participants, as the event brought together local teams and youth from diverse backgrounds.

The tournament showcased the involvement of several local sports clubs, including Hindari Bazaar Football Club, Queres Club, Nirala Sporting, Sadar Bazaar Football Club, Star Club Ghosiayana, and Railway Football Club, enhancing community engagement through sports. The two-month-long tournament, conducted over weekends, provided ample interaction opportunities between local teams and youth, promoting a sense of healthy competition, camaraderie, and friendship both on and off the field.

The event was graced by distinguished guests, including the Commissioner of Municipal Corporation Ayodhya, Security Commissioner RPF Gorakhpur, Proctor of Sate



Mahavidyalaya Ayodhya, Coordinator of Shruti- Delhi, a renowned Advocate, and a senior journalist. The chief guest emphasized the need for the youth of India to show solidarity for a stronger nation, noting that sports serve as a powerful example of unity, transcending differences. Another special guest underlined the importance of such events, encouraging youth to engage in real-world interactions beyond the virtual world.

The tournament was a resounding success, fostering a spirit of love, sportsmanship, and community, and reinforcing the value of sports in bringing people together.

#### **(iv) Film Screenings for Social Change:**

A series of film screenings were organized across various communities and schools, including Dildusha, Sahadat Ali Khan's Camp, Paharganj, Indira Muslim Girls Inter College, and Newatipura, aimed at fostering reflection on social issues and encouraging open dialogue.

In Dildusha, a neighborhood movie was screened, prompting residents to share their experiences and reflect on how seemingly small issues often escalate into conflicts within the community, sometimes resulting in physical altercations. In Sahadat Ali Khan's Camp, the film *Juice* was shown, encouraging viewers to examine how gender roles manifest in everyday life and the impact they have on individuals.

At Indira Muslim Girls Inter College, *Juice* and *Must Bol* were screened, sparking discussions among female students about the household realities they face, particularly the burdens of gender stereotypes imposed on their mothers and other women in their families.

Additionally, on December 30th, 2022, screening of the movie *Turup* was held at the Cultural Theatre Group Hall with 30 participants. The film elicited thoughtful reflections on the daily challenges and often hidden social issues faced by individuals, stirring important discussions among the audience.



**v) Constitution in Every Home:** The 'Constitution in Every Home' initiative successfully facilitated discussions on the significance of Constitutional principles within target marginalized communities. Six inter-colleges participated in conducting sessions with students in grades 11 and 12, focusing on the importance of the Constitution and its core values. These discussions aimed to bridge the gap between constitutional principles and daily life

experiences, highlighting how these values pave way for day-to-day convenience and rights that individuals experience. The sessions emphasized the relevance of constitutional knowledge in contemporary society. Following the sessions, students were encouraged to share their understanding of the Constitution's Preamble with their family members, fostering broader community engagement and awareness of constitutional values.

**vi) Observance of National Days with Community Engagement:** Several national events of significance were organized in collaboration with community members, fostering participation and awareness:

**a) World Environment Day (June 5, 2022):** A community-level celebration was held at Shahid Park, Civil Lines, Faizabad, with approximately 50 adolescents. The event included a cultural evening and a tree planting initiative aimed at promoting environmental consciousness and community engagement.

**b) International Youth Day (August 11, 2022):** A discussion on 'Constitution and Our Educational Responsibilities' was conducted at the Press Club, Faizabad, with around 50 youths from five local communities and schools. The event emphasized the importance of education, employment, and understanding constitutional values in shaping the future of the youth.

**c) Independence Day (August 15, 2022):** Independence Day celebrations were organized with active participation from community members. The event included local area clean-ups, donations for sweet distribution, and mobilizing community members to participate. Cultural programs by children from Perna Kishori Vikas Kendra and Apna Talim Ghar highlighted the significance of freedom and its impact on their lives. The celebrations were supported by volunteers and local representatives across 10 schools, promoting discussions on the meaning of independence.

These observances successfully fostered a sense of community solidarity and raised awareness of constitutional rights and duties among participants.

## **5. Campaign for Promoting Socio-Economic Equality and Rights of Wage Workers**

To enhance the community's understanding of inequalities, particularly in the areas of education, health, and basic needs, several dialogues were conducted with a diverse range of community organizations. Petitions were submitted to the relevant government departments as part of an initiative aimed at reducing and ultimately eliminating socio-economic disparities at the grassroots level.

The campaign specifically addressed critical issues such as fair wages for labourers based on their working hours, improving the living conditions of daily wage workers, and issues emerging due to increasing number of youth migrant labourers due to declining job opportunities and rising inflation. Real-life examples were shared to illustrate the challenging and often unfair working conditions faced by women labourers and their children, particularly those involved in sugarcane cultivation along the Ganges and Yamuna- river belts.



A weeklong campaign was organized to raise awareness about the inequalities faced by wage labourers through active engagement with local stakeholders. The campaign included community meetings, cultural evenings, worker dialogues, workshops, and the distribution of petitions advocating for fair working conditions. Emphasis was placed on gender equality in the world of work, along with need for decent working conditions for small-scale farm labourers in small towns, to reduce the risks associated with exploitative migrant labour.



## 6. Annual Women's Conference

The second annual conference with the community was held at Lakshmi Academy, Mehdona, where new women members were introduced to the Awadh People's Forum project. The event was attended by the village head, who encouraged active participation from women in the conference.



The conference provided a safe platform for community members to voice their concerns and share their aspirations for uplifting their community through individual efforts. Participants emphasized the importance of sustained engagement with the forum's activities, particularly in connecting workers to available resources and initiatives.

## **7. Rural Women's Entrepreneurial- Third Batch of Saheri Fellowship**

From February 6th to 8th, 2023, the Plus Trust, in collaboration with Awadh People's Forum, launched the third batch of the Saheri Fellowship (Pathways to Dignity Participation). This fellowship, aimed at girls and women, is a six-month program designed to develop skills, empower participants, and support their business journey toward financial independence and dignity.

The fellowship provided a reflective space for women to address personal challenges, explore business opportunities, besides enhancing their economic stability, further creating a ripple effect within community positively influencing the rural ecosystem for women entrepreneurs. The Sarju Foundation played an active role in the orientation workshop, which attracted applicants from Faizabad, Ayodhya, Sultanpur, Jaunpur, Bahraich, and surrounding rural areas. During the workshop, participants shared their personal stories and discussed their expectations from the fellowship. Activities included storytelling, discussions on gender-based violence, and an exploration of its impact on daily life.

## **8. Social and Personal Development Initiatives:**

To promote the social and personal development of marginalized community members, several learning opportunities were provided through a variety of workshops and training sessions:

### **i) Educational Boot Camp (Lucknow):**

Held from December 17 to 19 at the Literacy Centre in Lucknow, this boot camp was organized by the Mutiny the Youth Collective. A total of 35 young educators from various organizations, including BEWJA, S Foundation, and Awadh People's Forum, participated in the camp. The workshop emphasized the practical application of knowledge through storytelling and interactive activities.

### **ii) Social Transformation Workshop:**

Facilitated by Shroti Sanstha, this 10-day training session, spread over five weeks, focused on the concept of social transformation and its broader societal implications. Some participants had their first ever learning experience outside their home states, creating opportunities for intercultural exchange and networking. They gained valuable insights into Social Sector Capacity (SSC) and expressed interest in encouraging new members to participate in future SSC sessions.

### **iii) Community Training Workshop (Lucknow):**

Organized by Join for Social Action Help, this workshop was held from December 23 to 24 at the Sahyogi Shiksha Kendra. The training focused on gender-based violence and gender identity issues and perceptions. Participants explored how these issues of gender-based violence manifest in their own lives, watched short films to connect the concepts to real-world situations. The importance of education and the Rights to Education Act 2009, was highlighted through thorough discussions on education policies for adolescent girls.



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