

REPORT

Empowering Minds at Prerna Utsav

Date: January 5, 2024, Location: Delhi

The journey began with an interview at Navodaya Headquarters. 10 KV Teachers, including myself were selected for the esteemed Prerna Utsav program. The initiation included a captivating short film show casing the essence of Prerna Utsav starting from 15/01/2024.

Insightful briefings were provided by Mrs Archana Sharma, Joint Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy and Shri Vinayak Garg, (Commissioner NVS).

They emphasized the values of pride, passion for teaching, and the joy of learning at Prerna School. The next morning, the selected members convened at Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi, for a crucial meeting with Mr. Shri Sanjay Kumar, IAS Secretary (SE&L) Education Minister. During this session, we were enlightened about the principles of experiential teaching, emphasizing a holistic approach to education focusing on Core Values- Swabhiman and Vinay, Shaurya and Sahas, Parishram and Samarpan, Karuna and Sewa, Vividhta and Ekta, Satyanishtha and Shuchita, Navachar and Jigyasa, Shraddha aur Vishwas, and Swatantrata and Kartavya.

After the enriching meeting, we dispersed, carrying with us a deeper understanding of experiential teaching and a commitment to instil the nine core values in our educational practices. Our journey continues, and we look forward for a call for Training of Mentors.

Date: 11/01/2023 – 13/01/2023, Location: Gandhinagar, Gujrat

Training Programme for Prerna Utsav Mentors

Our shared mission of empowerment culminated in the selection of 16 mentors in two batches. These dedicated individuals, including myself, underwent 3 days comprehensive training at IIT Gandhinagar, equipping us with the tools and knowledge needed to make a meaningful impact.

The first day commenced with an insightful tour of Vadnagar, the location of the newly constructed Prerna School and the designated venue for classes. As part of the visit, we explored nearby archaeological sites, gaining a deeper understanding of the historical context surrounding Vadnagar. Notably, Vadnagar School holds historical significance as the vernacular school of Shri Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister of India.

Following the tour, we returned to Hotel Leela in Gandhinagar, where a meeting with the esteemed Education Minister, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, took place. The meeting served as a platform for a brief but substantial discussion about the impending mentorship of Prerna Utsav. Discussions encompassed the program's objectives, anticipated challenges, and strategies for effective mentorship.

The next 2 days followed by impactful lectures from distinguished personalities. Professor Manish Jain, Head of the Center of Creative Learning at Gandhinagar, shared insights into innovative teaching methodologies. Following this, Padma Shri awardee Chammu Shastri ji, known for his contributions to the Speak Sanskrit Movement, provided a unique perspective on language education. Srimati Smriti Rekha and Mr. Adi Narayan, founders of Anadi Foundation, a Gurukul school in Tamil Nadu, contributed valuable knowledge. Their lecture shed light on holistic education, aligning with the ethos of Prerna Utsav. Srimati Anuradha Choudhury, Professor of Humanities and Social Science at IITG, enriched us with insights into Yoga and the Fundamentals of Knowledge. Her expertise illuminated the connection between mind-body wellness and effective learning.

After absorbing these diverse perspectives, all of us had to demonstrate lectures based on the nine core values. This exercise aimed to prepare us for mentoring students at Prerna Utsav, ensuring that our teaching aligns with the program's foundational principles.

With the lectures concluded, we dispersed to our hometowns, eagerly anticipating the call to commence our teaching roles at Prerna Utsav.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Mrs. Sona Seth, Deputy Commissioner, KVS RO, Mumbai, for entrusting me with the invaluable opportunity to serve as a mentor at Prerna Utsav. This experience has been a source of inspiration and growth, and I eagerly anticipate engaging in many more activities in the future.

Report by:

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