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Nutan Bal Shikshan Sangh Kosbad





Padma Bhushan Tarabai Modak
(The founder member of NBSS &
Gram Bal Shiksha Kendra)



Padma Shri Anutai Wagh
(The founder member of
Gram Bal Shiksha Kendra & Vikasvadi Kosbad)

Our Idols

Tarabai Modak, a true Gandhian and rightly called as the “Montessori Mother” of India, gave her attention to the education and development of the children of slums, rural, tribal areas and thus KOSBAD was born. Today NBSS functions at Kosbad Hill, in Dahanu Taluka of Palghar district, in Maharashtra, as a guiding institution of pre-primary & primary education.

In her journey of delivering primary education, she met Anutai Wagh who offered her services for the cause. Both of them worked, hard tirelessly and endlessly in an atmosphere totally alien to them. Educating the tribals was very novel and new concept not only to these two devoted, dedicated and determined educationists, but also to the tribals themselves. In the years that followed their selfless and tireless dedication helped to educate large numbers of children in an otherwise deprived section of society. Various new experiments were visualized and successfully implemented at Kosbad. Tarabai Modak and Anutai Wagh had to confront the challenge posed by the indifference and apathy of tribal people towards education. But with their sustained work, patience and determination, they overcame this hurdle and laid the foundation of a system of education which was perfectly attuned to the needs, habits and culture of the Adivasis. Their success has been acclaimed nationally and internationally by one and all.

Today a wide range of visitors, eminent educationists in India and other countries, representatives from UNICEF and UNESCO and a variety of professionals interested in reforming education make a pilgrimage to Kosbad and return with a sense of fulfillment, having seen something new, dynamic and full of life.





Vision & Mission

Our main aim remains the same as envisioned by Padmabhushan Taratai & Padmashri Anutai i.e. to make pre-primary & primary education student friendly, easy to understand, taking examples & educational aids, familiar to the students. But now we wish to expand this vision to higher levels of education (secondary education) too. We also want to create a centre NBBS at Kosbad which will provide facility for learning and research in education with new and progressive ideas. Researchers will be able to write, publish papers from here, nationally and internationally.

The New Challenge

Since then, Govt. of India, taking inspiration from Kosbad experiment has established such institutions all over. Thus now NBBS faces new challenges.

- To make Kosbad the Leading Place of Pre School Education.
- To make it Globalised and Modern without taking away its down to earth approach.
- To develop it into an International Research centre for Child Education.





Our Institutes

● Balwadi

Around Kosbad, there are 7 Balwadis in different Padas / hamlets. Each Balwadi has about 40 children. Kendra Balwadi at is the model Balwadi. Each Balwadi has one trained teacher and 1 or 2 assistants depending on the number of children attending the Balwadis. Nutritious mid-day meal is served to all children. The teaching aids are made by the teachers using material easily available from the surrounding area itself. Songs and rhymes about their way of life mostly are given great importance. They are often chosen from the local dialect and improvised making it easy to understand and enact. Along with this the regular syllabus, vocabulary, easy craft, counting and general knowledge is taught to them.

● The Creche

This activity is run along with the balwadi. Many times the older child has to stay at home to look after the younger siblings and hence cannot attend the balwadi. The creche or Palanaghar along with the balwadi solves this problem. Children from the age of 6 months to 2 and half years are admitted to the Palnaghar. Care is duly taken of the toddlers and their special needs are looked after. Each Balwadi/Palnaghar has one trained teacher and one or two helpers depending on the number of children attending. Each child is given nutritious mid-day meal.

● Primary School

Vikasvadi Prathamik Shala is a model school run along the principles set by Tarabai Modak and Anutai Wagh. The school has classes from class 1 to class 8. There are about 500 + students in the school.

● D. Ed. College

Vikasvadi Adhyapak Vidyalay is run by Gram Bal Shiksha Kendra at Kosbad Hill. Nutan Bal Shikshan Sangh is its parent body.





Our Programmes

● Anganwadi Sevika Prashikshan

This is a Training Programme of the Central Government's scheme ICDS. 50 Trainees (Women only) are sent to us from all over Maharashtra in each batch. The courses are held for 1 week, 15 days and 30 days. We have a separate faculty for educating these trainees. The facilities like free lodging and boarding & hot, nutritious meals are provided to them. The teachers are taught to make all the teaching aids themselves by using material that is easily available in the surrounding area.

● Balwadi Sevika

This programme was set up by Tarabai Modak. It is an autonomous course. 20 women trainees are admitted every year. As a practical work, the trainees' work in the Balwadis from 9.00 AM to 12.00 Noon and then after lunch break they have lectures on different subjects related to running of a successful Balwadi. Sewing, basic knowledge of computers, paper bag making, paper flowers, origami are a few crafts taught to them. It is an 11 months' certification programme.





● Workshops

We have ready infrastructure to host seminars & workshops. Separate facility for men and women participants, spacious and well ventilated dormitories. Hot meals can be organised at very reasonable rates.

● Printing Press

It was Tarabai's dream to have a printing press at Kosbad so that the books and other reading material will always be made available to the children. She used to say, "the letters of the alphabet should dance around the children all the time". All her published material was printed at the Kosbad's publication house itself. Now the printing press has been modernised with new machinery, book-binding machine, photocopier & lamination machine.

● Publication House

The publication house at Gram Bal Shiksha Kendra, has published various books authored by residents, including Tarabai Modak & Anutai Wagh. "Shikshan Patrika", the monthly magazine is published and distributed from Kosbad. It's the longest running magazine in Marathi language.





Other Activities

- Various educational trips come to Kosbad by prior appointments.
- Workshops for balwadi teachers are organised on need basis with prior appointments.
- Farm land is being looked after. There are chickoo, mango, coconut and various other trees. There is also a piece of land under paddy cultivation. The D.Ed. college students have been given farming as their work experience subject and this farm activity imparts hands-on knowledge of the subject.
- Recently a Warli Painting Workshop has been started for the local youth.





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