

HelpYourNGO VISIT REPORT

NGO Name: Masoom

Date of visit : Monday, 11th March 2019

Visit conducted by : Mr Nishant Parekh

Location : Wadala, Mumbai

About the Program:

Masoom's 'Tech-on-Wheels' (ToW) bus which acts as a mobile computer lab imparting training in computers, providing access to online resources and innovative educational programs that will open doors to a whole new world of learning for the beneficiaries. The program aims at imparting digital literacy and making students future ready.

About our Visit:

We visited Masoom's Tech-on-Wheels bus stationed at Nadkarni Park Municipal school, Wadala and had the privilege of interacting with Mr. Ashraf (program coordinator), Mr. Pathak (trainer) and the beneficiaries.

ToW bus:

The bus is stationed within the vicinity of the school premises such that the students have easy access.

Salient features of the bus include:

- Equipped with 14 laptops and internet access
- Capacity to seat 28 students
- Helps Masoom serve hundreds of students every year, who in the absence of this bus, would have been denied access to Computer and Technology training
- Utilized to impart Life Skills training and facilitates community engagement through street plays and programs with video projection that helps increase enrolments in Masoom schools



The Tech-on-Wheels bus stationed outside Nadkarni Park Municipal school, Wadala

Beneficiaries:

The beneficiaries are mainly students of Std. 8, 9 and 10 studying in Government Schools (both day as well as night schools). Majority of the students do not have access to computers or laptops at home and ToW is the only time during the week that they use any form of gadgets.

Fee:

No fees are charged to the beneficiaries

Schedule:

The bus runs 6 days a week – from Monday to Saturday

Timings: Morning (before school) and evening (after school)

The bus travels to multiple locations during the week and students of each school get to access the ToW twice a week for 1 hour each.

Curriculum and Activities:

Introduction to and basics of computer, graphic designing, web designing.



A digital literacy session in progress at the Nadkarni Park Municipal school, Wadala

We witnessed a session on Key Features of MS Excel conducted for Std. 8. The students were thrilled at learning shortcuts to copy-paste data in a cell. The trainer, Mr. Pathak, was extremely patient while explaining to the students and conversed in Marathi, a language the students were more comfortable in, to explain key points.

It was heartening to see the childlike enthusiasm in students at having learnt something new and discovering features in a computer that they felt were equal to doing 'magic' 😊 At the end of the session, they were excited to share their new learnings with their friends and family.

Beneficiary Feedback:

The beneficiaries were bubbling with excitement for the session to start so that they could get to use laptops. They were very happy and said that the ToW session was a key event in their weekly school schedule that they looked forward to the most.

Some even said that they will focus more on studies and secure good marks so that they can then request their parents to gift them a laptop!

Challenges:

- Due to lack of regular practice students tend to forget what they have learnt earlier.
- Some students have enrolled for coaching classes / extra-curricular activities which coincides with ToW timings and hence are irregular in attending.