



JNANA PRABODHINI FOUNDATION

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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Listen to inspiring stories
from our different projects!



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From the President's Desk

Hello JPF Family,

This year marks an important **leadership transition** as Revati Deshpande and I step into the roles of Vice President and President, respectively. My deepest gratitude to Pranav Kulkarni and Vidya Hardikar Sapre, who have completed the maximum consecutive term of six years in their respective roles as President and Treasurer. Having served since JPF's inception, they have been exceptionally instrumental in shaping JPF into the organization it is today. Omkar Natu has transitioned from Vice President to Treasurer, while Pranav has taken on the role of Secretary. Vidya Taai will continue to lead our outreach efforts.

Please join me in congratulating our fundraising team for the successful execution of this year's **Women Leadership Campaign**. The team not only surpassed its goal by raising \$40,000 but also organized several collaborative events with partner organizations. Truly remarkable work!

In Q1, JPF's **volunteer-led programs** continued to advance our commitment to the causes of education and health. I especially encourage you to watch the iBRETA team's latest video series about conducting biomedical research on our YouTube channel. We also started our long-awaited **volunteer development initiative**, which is a strategic priority. I present this report to you with great enthusiasm.

With gratitude,
Aakash Chowkase
President
Jnana Prabodhini Foundation

JPF Campaigns

Women Leadership Campaign

In the first quarter of 2026, coinciding with International Women's History Month, we ran JPF's Women Leadership Campaign. This campaign highlighted the impactful, grassroots work led by Jnana Prabodhini's Women Leadership Center for the past 30 years and raised funds to support this transformative work.

The campaign ran from mid-February to the end of March, marked by outreach activities, corporate appeals, and virtual and in-person events. A total of 14 volunteers worked on the campaign team.

On 8th March, on the occasion of Women's Day, JPF was present at Maharashtra Mandal Bay Area's Theater Performance in East Bay, CA, raising awareness of JPF's women's initiatives.

For our first virtual event, we collaborated with Arya Samaj New Jersey to celebrate Indian women leaders. In this event, middle and high school girls from across the US presented inspiring stories of India's past and present women leaders. We also used the virtual stage to share stories from JPF's women leadership work and appealed to the audience to donate to the campaign.



JPF stall at MMBA Event in East Bay, California



Audience and JPF volunteers at the JPF-Arya Samaj Women's History Month event



Students shared stories of women leaders

Our second virtual event, which also marked the last leg of the campaign, was a special interactive session with Suvarna Gokhale, Head of Jnana Prabodhini's Women Leadership Center in Pune, in conversation with Kaumudi Walokar, a global artist and psychologist. Suvarna Taai shared stories and insights from over 30 years of work with women leaders at the grassroots level. Kaumudi facilitated the conversation with intriguing questions and reflections from her recent field visits in India. The event was attended by over 100 people, joining online from around the world. We received numerous positive responses from the audience post-event and raised over \$5,000 through this event alone.

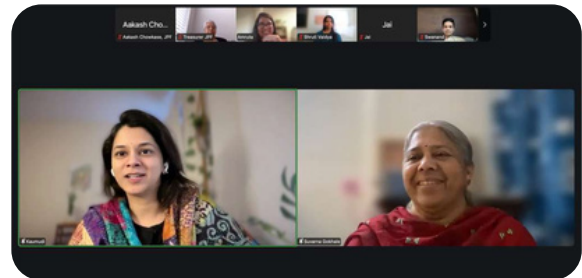
This event was recorded and is available to watch online on JPF's YouTube Channel.

Part 1 - https://youtu.be/ZMQHV3Q_4SI

Part 2 - <https://youtu.be/iqrdfvwt0Uc>

We set out with a goal of raising \$30,000, and through the support of our generous donors, we raised a total of \$39,853 through this campaign. About 82% of this total was raised with corporate matching programs (such as Apple and Netflix), while the remaining 18% was through individual contributions.

We thank our generous donors, whose support will continue to shape this transformative, grassroots work and shape an equitable future.



Suvarna Taai and Kaumudi in conversation



Campaign Awareness Poster

Program Updates

Sponsor a Child, Solapur

The Sponsor a Child initiative supports students from remote areas of Manipur by covering education, accommodation, and living expenses in Solapur. From January to March 2026, the project continued to emphasize experiential and cultural exposure, enabling students to engage with the wider community and strengthen their sense of connection. On Republic Day, students attended the flag hoisting ceremony at the Solapur Police Headquarters, where they interacted with ministers and police officials. Further, students participated in a visit to Srujan Anand School in Kolhapur, where they joined a community birthday celebration that encouraged interaction with children from diverse backgrounds. These experiences reinforced the project's vision of nurturing culturally aware and socially connected young citizens.



Manipuri students' visit to a school in Kolhapur

Aarogya Sakhi

The JPF Arogya Sakhi project trains and supports rural women health workers to improve healthcare access and awareness in villages around Velhe. Between January and March 2026, the project organised 14 health check-up camps across 54 villages, reaching 258 patients. These included dental, eye, paediatric, and HPV check-up camps. Eye check-up camps reached nearly 100 patients, with 11 referred for further operations, while paediatric camps benefited 88 children and identified concerns such as tooth decay,



Paediatric health camp

undernutrition, and cases requiring further cardiac evaluation. 11 awareness sessions on nutrition, deworming, menstrual hygiene, and maternal health reached 218 beneficiaries. Menstrual hygiene sessions benefited 106 girls, while nutrition camps encouraged healthy eating practices and the use of locally available foods. Home visits for pregnant women also helped spread awareness about regular check-ups, nutrition, and medication during pregnancy. Through these initiatives, the project continued to strengthen preventive healthcare and health awareness within rural communities.

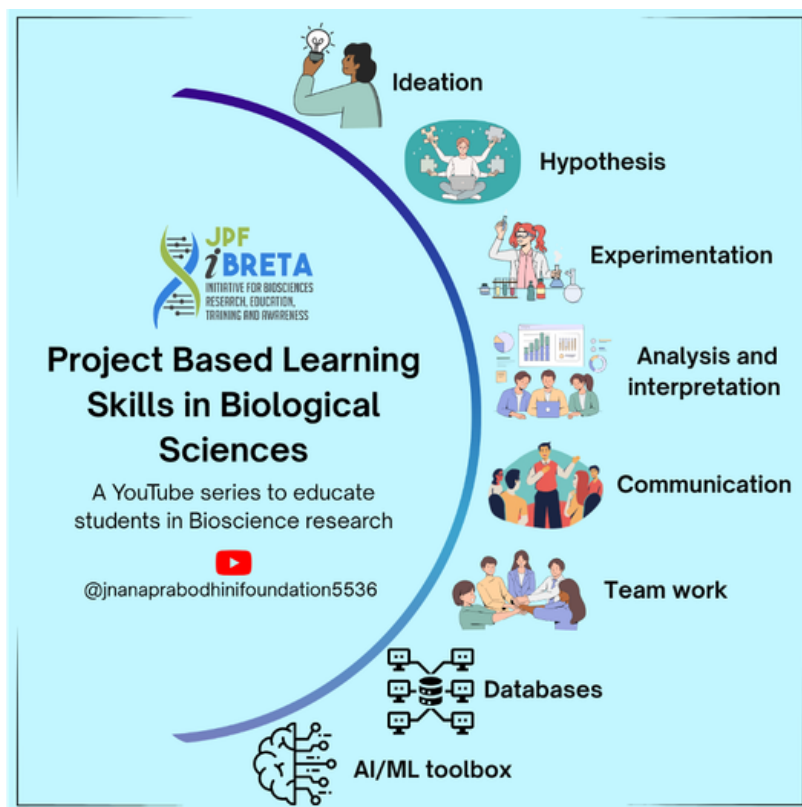
Volunteer-Led Programs

JPF iBRETA

*Advancing life sciences through interdisciplinary **research**, curiosity-driven **education**, and skill-based **training**, while simplifying complex science to build community **awareness** about health and disease.*



Building Research & Innovation Skills in School Students



Biology sits at the heart of every global challenge, and research is what drives it forward.

When students develop research and innovation aptitude, they gain tools to tackle real-world problems with curiosity and creativity.

India's National Education Policy 2020 calls for experiential, holistic learning, a vision we are actively building through JPF iBRETA Education's online content and school outreach programs.

In Q1, we launched a series of seven introductory videos guiding students through the full research journey, from ideation, literature reading, hypothesis formation, and experimental design, to data analysis and communication of findings. The series also highlights three modern enablers reshaping research today: teamwork, scientific databases, and artificial intelligence.

Since its launch in 2026, the series has garnered **400+ views**, reaching students and educators across India and beyond.

Ready to think like a researcher? Watch the full series on our YouTube: 
If you find it valuable, share it with a student or educator who would benefit!

JPF Analytics

Promoting evidence-based research, analysis, and policy-making through a **computational social science** platform.



Launch of JPF Democracy Survey Report

The team launched a survey in the lead-up to the 2026 Pune Municipal Corporation elections. This was the team's 3rd democracy survey and the 6th belief-and-behavior survey since 2020. 'Politics, Punevars, and Perceptions: Vol. III,' a preliminary report with survey findings was published by the Analytics team on Republic Day 2026.

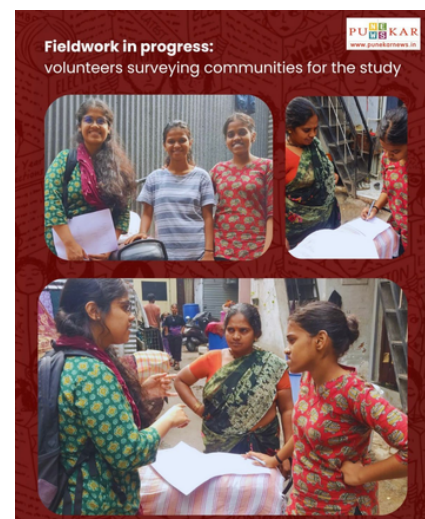
Conducted between 20 December 2025 and 15 January 2026, the team surveyed 1,257 Punevars across socioeconomic groups. The survey explored how citizens perceive democracy, approach local elections, and prioritise civic concerns like public services, unemployment, corruption, crime, and pollution. Read the report on JPF's website!

The report caught the local media's attention. Punevar News published a Republic Day special feature highlighting both the key takeaways from the study and insights into how the survey was conducted with support from multiple grassroots organizations. The piece described the study's findings through the lens of voter age groups around opinions of democracy, government systems, social media, and misinformation. Read the Punevar News story here!

The survey also included questions about personal finances, the overall economic situation, and artificial intelligence. Read these findings on JPF's LinkedIn!



Punevar News article about the survey.



Volunteers from JPF Analytics and JP Nagari Vasti Abhyas Gat surveying in Vadarwasti.

How can you get involved?

Are you excited about research and data? Reach out to us at analytics@jnanaprabodhinifoundation.org

JPF Volunteer Engagement and Development Initiative

JPF launches its Volunteer Development and Engagement Team with a focus on JPF's greatest strength: its volunteers

This quarter, JPF welcomed the launch of its Volunteer Development and Engagement Team, led by volunteers Swapneeta Date, Shilpa Vaze, and Ananya Jogalekar.

As a 100% volunteer-driven organization, JPF places the well-being and growth of its volunteers at the top of its priorities. The new team operationalizes this strategic priority with a focus on three specific areas: *Volunteer onboarding*, *Sustenance*, and *Growth*, strengthening the volunteer ecosystem from end to end.

This team's scope spans the full volunteer journey: from welcoming and onboarding new members and creating growth opportunities, to facilitating meaningful interactions and collaboration among fellow volunteers, addressing pain points, and encouraging fresh ideas.

The team started holding weekly meetings in December 2025 and hosted its first volunteer onboarding session on March 1, 2026. This session drew 25 newly interested volunteers and introduced them to JPF's projects, helping each of them identify roles aligned with their interests. Over the quarter, 11 of these volunteers started contributing actively across five teams in JPF.

Interested in volunteering with JPF, or know someone who would be?

Fill out our [Volunteer Interest Form](#) and we'll be in touch. Reach out to us at getinvolved@jnanaprabodhinifoundation.org with any questions, ideas, or feedback.



JPF Volunteer onboarding session: March 2026



An in-person meeting between JPF's youngest and the most experienced volunteers:
Omkar and Vidya

Jnana Prabodhini Global Network

This quarter was marked by regional meetups and community tours involving more than 200 members of the JPF community.

The quarter began with three regional meetups organized across the United States in February. The first meetup was held in Houston, Texas, with 26 participants, followed by a gathering in Connecticut attended by 15 members, and a meetup in the Bay Area that saw participation from 25 members. These events included potluck meals, icebreakers, informal discussions, and informative sessions about various JPF initiatives. Members also spent time discussing ideas for future community-building activities and ways to support one another.

In March, Vidya Taai Hardikar Sapre and Aakash Chowkase undertook separate tours to connect with JPF volunteers, well-wishers, and donors. Vidya Taai visited the Bay Area and met with 36 members of the JPF community, while Aakash visited Boston and interacted with 21 members. These visits provided an opportunity for meaningful conversations and helped strengthen connections within the community. Activities included meeting for a coffee, group running on the riverbank, or even going skiing!



Houston Meetup



Connecticut Meetup

Apart from these larger gatherings, several JPF members organized smaller meetups across the United States and India during the quarter. A few volunteers and donors also visited different JP centers to better understand the work being carried out on the ground, while gaining insight into the challenges faced by the organization and the communities it serves.