

Pathways to Progress: 4th Quarter Highlights from Satya (Jan – Mar 2026)

Learning, livelihood, and lived inclusion.

APR 14, 2026



What does inclusion actually look like?

Not in policy. Not in theory. But in real life. It looks like a child standing up in front of a room full of parents and answering a question with confidence. It looks like a student learning to bake, not as an activity, but as a skill they can use. It looks like parents asking questions, not sitting silently. This quarter, inclusion moved out of planning and into practice. And more importantly, it started showing results.

When Classrooms Start Changing

In one classroom, 15 children sat together, including six from inclusive settings. No separation. They painted, played, and learned together.

That's where inclusion begins. In shared spaces. The same extended to the inclusive science fair, where students explored concepts through hands-on learning.

And when 60 students stood before parents and explained what they learned, one thing was clear. With the right support, children step up.



Learning Skills That Stay



This quarter was not just about learning inside classrooms. Ten students stood in a bakery training session and learned how to make a carrot cake from start to finish. Not watching. Doing.

In another setting, students prepared Moringa leaf powder, going through every step from collecting leaves to packaging the final product. Alongside this, they engaged in gardening, learning how to grow, handle, and care for plants through direct involvement. These moments matter because they move children from dependency to capability.

Health is Not Optional

For many children, access to healthcare is still inconsistent. This quarter, dental camps reached 60 students, while another 30 received care through outreach efforts involving medical students.

Alongside treatment, children learned simple but critical habits. How to wash hands properly. Why hygiene matters. What to do in situations like fatigue or seizures. Because awareness is just as important as access.



Stepping Ahead in Education

This quarter, 17 students enrolled in the NIOS 10th program successfully completed their practical examinations. This marks an important step in their academic journey, reflecting consistent preparation and the confidence to perform in formal assessments.

Because progress in education is about moving forward with clarity and purpose.



Taking Inclusion Outside the School

Inclusion fails if it stays inside school walls. This quarter, 55 students and 8 staff members in a government school experienced disability through simulation activities. Not lectures. Experience.

At the same time, 67 nursing students were trained to understand disability beyond textbooks. Because the next generation of professionals needs to get this right.

Students also stepped into public spaces through initiatives like voter awareness rallies. Not as observers, but as participants.



Parents Are No Longer on the Sidelines

A key shift this quarter has been stronger parent engagement. In focused meetings involving 16 parents, discussions moved beyond routine updates to include government schemes, intervention planning, and long-term support systems.

The learning festival further strengthened this connection, bringing more than 50 parents into the learning space and allowing them to witness their children's progress firsthand.



Moments of Joy and Belonging



Celebrations this quarter were not just events. They became real opportunities for connection. Festivals like Pongal, Republic Day, Down Syndrome Day and World Autism Awareness Day brought together students, teachers, and families in shared participation. Activities such as Colours Day, puppet shows involving 67 students, and sibling engagement sessions created space for expression, creativity, and emotional bonding.

These moments matter. They build confidence in ways structured sessions alone cannot.

Support that builds ability

Therapy continued to be integrated, not isolated. Physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech, and sensory-based interventions were carried out through structured and group-based approaches.

The intent remained clear. Not just to support, but to enable children to function with greater confidence and control.



Building Livelihoods That Sustain



Skill development matters only when it leads to real opportunities. This quarter, Satya Special School inaugurated livelihood initiatives for mothers and persons with disabilities with the support of Five Star Business Finance Limited.

The launch included an E-auto, Bakery Unit, Handloom Weaving Unit, and Tailoring Centre, creating pathways for income, independence, and dignity through work.

This was not symbolic support. It translated into real livelihoods for families and individuals.

When Visitors Don't Just See, but Understand



Some visits inform. The right ones stay. This quarter, teams from Ashwini Seetha Foundation, Sankalpa, and BDT visited our centres, including Muttrampattu. They observed vocational training, NIOS classrooms, and the Dental Assistant Program in action.

An exposure visit with a team from Cambodia team combined discussions on systems with field visits, including time spent at Writer's Cafe interacting with youth at work. Students from Sri Dharmasthala Manjunatheswara College moved beyond theory into real classroom observations.

What stood out was not just the exposure, but the cross-functional learning across teams, programs, and perspectives. These visits didn't just inform. They challenged assumptions and showed what inclusion looks like when it is lived.

When Sports Become a Space for Inclusion

Not every achievement comes from classrooms. This quarter, athletes from Special Olympics Bharat - Puducherry won a Silver Medal at the SKF Gothia Football 2026 in Gwalior, reflecting strong teamwork and determination.

At the local level, Satya's 18+ voter athletes secured both Winner and Runner-up positions in a badminton competition organised by the Election Department.

World Down Syndrome Day marked the formation of a dedicated football team, while the Fitness Captain Program strengthened fitness, confidence, and leadership.

Because inclusion becomes real when individuals are given the space to compete and succeed.



Stepping Forward and Being Recognised



This quarter, students from Satya Special School participated in the Beyond Boundaries - Dance E-Festival organised by the United Schools Organisation of India at a national level.

A key highlight was Kalamudhan securing First Prize in the Solo Dance Competition (With Support Category), standing out among participants across the country.

More than the award, this reflects confidence, preparation, and the ability to perform on larger platforms.

Recognising the People Behind the Work

Strong systems are built by people who stay consistent. This quarter, Ms. Anitha and Ms. Suryakumari were recognised with the Young Indians (YI) Award for their contribution to inclusive work. This recognition reflects not just what is seen, but the effort, patience, and consistency that goes into the work every day.

Moments like these matter because they highlight the people driving the impact. Because behind every outcome, there is a team that chooses to show up and stay committed.



A Recognition That Reflects the Journey



Some work doesn't aim for recognition. It earns it over time. This quarter, Ms. Chitra Shah, Founder and Director of Satya Special School, was honoured with the Excellence in Special Education Award at the Irai Awards 2026, presented by Revathi. She was also recognised with the FICCI FLO Chennai Women Achievers Award 2025-26 for Social Entrepreneurship.

These recognitions reflect years of consistent work built on one clear belief. Every child deserves dignity, opportunity, and a place to belong. More than awards, this is a reminder of the impact that steady, committed work can create.

This quarter reflects steady, consistent progress. Work that stayed practical, focused, and close to real needs. Across classrooms, therapy spaces, and communities, each step strengthened independence, confidence, and inclusion in ways that continue to grow over time.



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