

ATHAWALE COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK BHANDARA

REPORT ON BEST PRACTICE 2025-2026



Background of NAAC Best Practices for Social Work Institutions

The **National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)** emphasizes the identification, implementation, and documentation of **Best Practices** as a key quality indicator for higher education institutions. Best Practices reflect an institution's commitment to **continuous quality enhancement**, innovation, and social responsibility beyond routine academic activities.

For **Social Work institutions**, NAAC places special importance on **community engagement, extension activities, and field-based interventions**, as these are integral to social work education. Best Practices in social work institutions are expected to bridge the gap between **theory and practice** by addressing real social issues through systematic planning, faculty involvement, student participation, and community partnership.

NAAC encourages social work institutions to adopt practices such as **village adoption, community development programmes, health and sanitation initiatives, educational outreach, environmental sustainability, and empowerment of marginalized groups**. These practices should demonstrate clear objectives, relevance to local needs, measurable outcomes, sustainability, and scope for replication.

Through Best Practices, social work institutions contribute to **nation-building, inclusive development, and social transformation**, while simultaneously enriching academic learning

and professional competence. NAAC views such practices as evidence of an institution's alignment with its vision, mission, and societal obligations.

Objectives of the Practice

The Village Adoption Best Practice **will aim** to:

- Promote **holistic and sustainable rural development** through academic engagement.
- Apply **subject expertise of faculty members** to real-life rural challenges.
- Strengthen **education, sanitation, infrastructure, environmental awareness, and community participation**.
- Develop a **replicable village development model** integrating social, educational, and environmental components.
- Inculcate **social responsibility and experiential learning** among faculty and students.

The Context

Rural villages **will continue to face** challenges such as inadequate sanitation, limited educational facilities, weak infrastructure, and environmental concerns. **Takdi Village**, Taluka Bhandara, District Bhandara **will be adopted** by **Athawale College of Social Work, Bhandara** to address these issues through a **need-based, participatory, and sustainable approach**.

The programme **will be implemented** in collaboration with local stakeholders, focusing on **community empowerment, convergence of government schemes, and long-term sustainability**.

REPORT ON

BEST PRACTICE 2025-2026

Village Adoption Programme – Takali, Bhandara

The **first joint meeting** under the **Village Adoption Programme** was successfully conducted on **17th Dec. 2025 and 27th January 2026** as per the **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** between **Athawale College of Social Work, Bhandara** and **Bhandara Municipal Council, Bhandara**.

The meeting was organised to initiate discussion on the **plan of action and best practices** for the holistic development of **Village Takali (Takdi)**. The focus areas included **education, health and nutrition, water and sanitation (WASH), livelihoods, infrastructure development, environmental sustainability, and social inclusion**.

The meeting was attended by **Smt. Chandrakala Bhope (PSC In-charge, Bhandara Municipal Council)**, **Dr. Chahhargi (Principal, High School, Takali)**, **Smt. Pranali Nagolwart (School Representative)**, and faculty members from Athawale College of Social Work including **Dr. Madhukar Nikam, Dr. Iliyas Bepari, and Dr. Arati Pawar**.

During the discussion, stakeholders agreed to conduct a **baseline survey**, ensure **community participation**, strengthen **school-based interventions**, and implement **sector-wise best practices** as outlined in the Village Adoption Plan. The Municipal Council assured administrative support, while the school and college faculty committed to academic guidance, fieldwork, monitoring, and documentation.

The meeting concluded with a collective commitment from all participants to work collaboratively for **sustainable and inclusive development of Village Takali**, following a structured, participatory, and best-practice-driven approach.

Results of the Initial Coordination Meeting

- Formal initiation of the **Village Adoption Programme for Village Takali (Takdi)** as per the MoU.
- Consensus achieved on implementing **best practices** in education, health & nutrition, WASH, livelihoods, infrastructure, and environmental sustainability.
- Decision taken to conduct a **baseline survey and needs assessment** of the village.
- Roles and responsibilities of the **Bhandara Municipal Council, School authorities, and Athawale College of Social Work** were clearly defined.
- Commitment received from the **Municipal Council** for administrative coordination and scheme convergence.
- Assurance from **school authorities** for cooperation in education and awareness-based activities.
- Faculty members of **Athawale College of Social Work** agreed to provide academic guidance, student fieldwork support, monitoring, and documentation.
- Plan approved for **regular review meetings** and community participation to ensure sustainable village development.

FIRST MEETING REPORT

Village Adoption Programme – Best Practices Implementation

Village: Takali (Takdi), Taluka Bhandara, District Bhandara

Title of the Programme

First Joint Meeting on Village Adoption and Discussion on Best Practices
(As per Plan and Memorandum of Understanding)

Organising Institution

Athawale College of Social Work, Bhandara

Partner Institutions

- **Bhandara Municipal Council, Bhandara**
- **Village Takali High School**
- **PHC Takli Village**
- **Athawale College of Social Work, Bhandara**
- **Principal Prof. Dr. Naresh Kolte**
- **Dr. Madhukar Nikam**
- **Prof. Dr. Iliyas Bepari**
- **Dr. Arati Pawar**

Date and Venue

Date: 17th Dec. 2025 and 27th January 2026

Venue: Shahid Bhagat Singh School Premises, Village Takali, Bhandara

Background of the Meeting

As per the **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** between **Athawale College of Social Work, Bhandara** and **Bhandara Municipal Council**, the Village Adoption Programme was formally initiated.

Accordingly, the **first joint meeting** was organised to discuss the **plan of action and best practices** for holistic development of **Village Takali**.

Objectives of the Meeting

- To initiate the Village Adoption Programme formally
- To discuss best practices as per the approved plan
- To ensure coordination between Municipal Council, School, and College
- To identify priority areas for village development

Participants of the Meeting

The following dignitaries and representatives participated in the meeting held on **27th January 2026**:

From Bhandara Municipal Council

- **Smt. Chandrakala Bhope**
Vice President Bhandara Municipal Council

From School and PSC Centre (Village Takali)

- **Dr. Chattargi**
(Doctor PSC Village Takali)
- **Smt. Pranali Nagolwar**
(School Principal)

From Athawale College of Social Work, Bhandara

- **Dr. Madhukar Nikam**
- **Prof. Dr. Iliyas Bepari**
- **Dr. Aarti Pawar**

Proceedings of the Meeting

Opening Session

The meeting commenced with an introductory address highlighting the objectives of the Village Adoption Programme and the significance of inter-institutional collaboration.

Discussion on Plan and Best Practices

The participants discussed the **Village Adoption Plan**, focusing on the following best practices:

- Education improvement and school support
- Health, nutrition, and sanitation awareness
- Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)
- Livelihood generation and skill development
- Infrastructure and environmental sustainability

Role of Stakeholders

- **Bhandara Municipal Council** assured administrative support and coordination.
- **School authorities** expressed willingness to cooperate in educational and awareness activities.
- **Athawale College faculty** committed academic guidance, student participation, surveys, and documentation.

Key Decisions Taken

- To conduct a **baseline survey** in Village Takali

- To implement **sector-wise best practices** as per the plan
- To organise **periodic review meetings**
- To promote **community participation and sustainability**

Conclusion

The first meeting successfully established coordination among the **Municipal Council, School, and Athawale College of Social Work**. All participants expressed commitment towards implementing **best practices for sustainable village development** in Village Takali as per the MoU.

The Practice for The Village Adoption Programme

The Village Adoption Programme **will be implemented** through **subject-wise faculty engagement**, ensuring that each faculty member **will focus** on their area of expertise.

1 Role of Dr. Iliyas Bepari

Designation: In-Charge – Village Adoption Programme

Subject Focus: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) & Programme Coordination

Dr. Iliyas Bepari **will coordinate** the overall Village Adoption Programme. He **will conduct** baseline assessments of sanitation facilities, drinking water sources, and hygiene practices. He **will organize** awareness sessions on cleanliness, handwashing, toilet usage, and waste management.

He **will promote** community participation through Gram Sabha interactions and village-level meetings. He **will guide and monitor** sanitation and hygiene-related activities and **will ensure** community ownership of cleanliness and public health initiatives.

2 Role of Dr. Madhukar Nikam

Designation: Co-In-Charge – Village Adoption Programme

Subject Focus: Infrastructure Development & Environmental Sustainability

Dr. Madhukar Nikam **will focus** on assessing village infrastructure such as roads, electricity, water supply, and community assets. He **will guide** planning for improvement of basic amenities and sustainable infrastructure.

In the area of environmental sustainability, he **will promote** tree plantation drives, water conservation practices, plastic-free village awareness, and renewable energy initiatives. He **will emphasize** ecological balance, climate-resilient practices, and long-term sustainability through community participation.

3 Role of Dr. Aarti Pawar

Subject Focus: Education and Digital Literacy

Dr. Aarti Pawar **will assess** school infrastructure, student enrollment, attendance, and learning levels. She **will interact** with students, parents, and teachers to identify educational challenges.

She **will conduct** awareness programmes on the importance of education, regular attendance, and dropout prevention. She **will promote** digital literacy, learning support activities, and parental involvement in children's education.

Evidence of Expected Success

The programme **will result** in:

- Improved awareness regarding sanitation, hygiene, and cleanliness practices.
- Increased community participation in village development activities.
- Enhanced awareness about education, school attendance, and digital learning.
- Active involvement of villagers in environmental conservation activities.
- Strengthened coordination between the college and village institutions.

Expected Impact of the Practice

The Village Adoption Best Practice **will lead** to:

- Development of a cleaner, healthier, and more aware village community.
- Positive behavioral change towards hygiene, sanitation, and environmental protection.
- Improved educational awareness among parents and students.
- Strengthened planning and sustainability of village infrastructure.
- Enhanced institutional visibility and social accountability.

Anticipated Problems and Resources Required

Anticipated Problems

- Initial resistance and low awareness among villagers.
- Limited infrastructure and financial resources.
- Need for continuous motivation and follow-up.

Resources Required

- Subject expertise and commitment of faculty members.
- Active participation of villagers and local leadership.
- Support from Gram Panchayat and government schemes.
- Educational and awareness materials.

Sustainability of the Practice

Sustainability **will be ensured** through:

- Formation and strengthening of village-level committees.
- Capacity building of community members for self-management.
- Convergence with government schemes for long-term support.

- Regular monitoring and review by faculty members.
- Implementation of a phased exit and sustainability plan.

Replicability

This best practice **will be replicable** in other villages with similar socio-economic conditions. The **subject-based faculty intervention model will be adaptable** by other higher education institutions for rural development initiatives.

Conclusion

The Village Adoption Programme of Athawale College of Social Work, Bhandara **will function** as an effective **IQAC Best Practice**, demonstrating the integration of academic expertise with social responsibility. The subject-wise contributions of **Dr. Iliyas Bepari, Dr. Madhukar Nikam, and Dr. Aarti Pawar will ensure** holistic, inclusive, and sustainable rural development.

Prepared By

Dr. Madhukar Nikam

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Prof. Dr. Iliyas Bepari

Professor in Social Work
Athawale College of Social Work, Bhandara

Dr. Arati Pawar

Assistant Professor in Social Work
Athawale College of Social Work, Bhandara

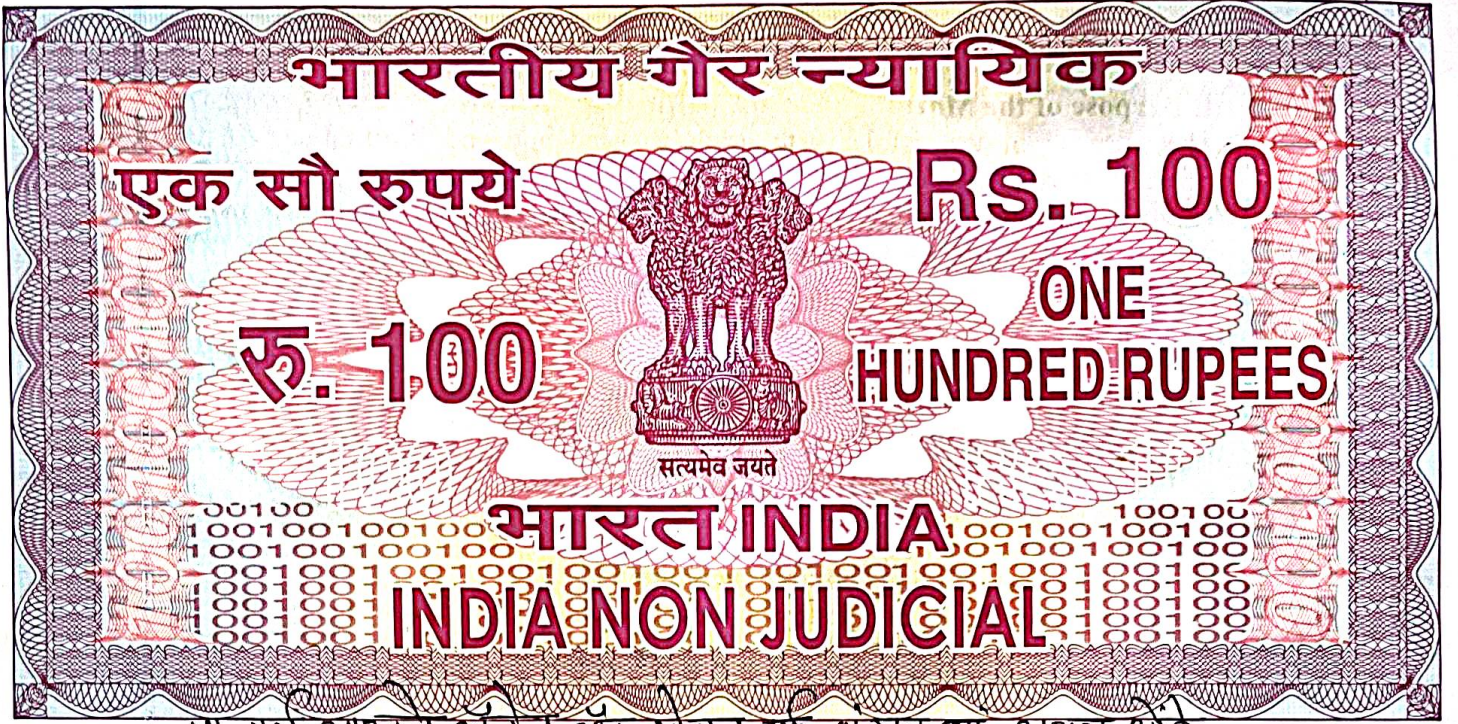


Meeting Regarding Adoption of Village Takali









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2025

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प्राकाश उपयाम

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किमत - १००

दिनांक - २७/०१/२०२६

प्रतिशोपत्र

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Treasurer Officer	
Bhandara	
Date of Issue	
20 JAN 2026	
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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)

Between

Athawale College of Social Work, Bhandara

And

Bhandara Municipal Council, Bhandara

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is entered into on 31/01/2026 between:

Party One

Athawale College of Social Work, Bhandara, an educational institution engaged in teaching, research, and community outreach, hereinafter referred to as "Party One",

Party Two

Bhandara Municipal Council, Bhandara, a statutory local self-government body responsible for urban governance and civic administration, hereinafter referred to as "Party Two."

1. Purpose of the MoU

The purpose of this MoU is to establish academic and institutional cooperation between Party One and Party Two for activities related **BEST PRACTICES** to **community development, social work fieldwork, surveys, awareness programs, research, training, and extension activities** within the jurisdiction of Bhandara Municipal Council.

2. Areas of Collaboration

The collaboration may include, but is not limited to:

- Student fieldwork, internships, and block placements
- Social surveys, need assessments, and research studies
- Awareness programs on health, sanitation, education, environment, and social welfare
- Capacity-building and training programs
- Support in implementation and evaluation of municipal social initiatives

3. Roles and Responsibilities

- **Party One** shall provide faculty guidance, student participation, academic inputs, and documentation support.
- **Party Two** shall provide necessary permissions, field-level coordination, and administrative support as feasible.

4. Duration

This MoU shall be valid for a period of **three (3) years** from the date of signing and may be extended by mutual written consent.

5. Signatories

In witness whereof, the authorized representatives of both parties have signed this MoU on the date mentioned above.

For Party One

Athawale College of Social Work, Bhandara

Name: **Prof. Dr. Naresh S. Kolte**

Designation: **Officiating Principal**

Signature: _____

Seal: **OFFICIATING PRINCIPAL**
Athawale College of Social Work
Bhandara



For Party Two

Bhandara Municipal Council, Bhandara

Name: **Mrs. Chandrakala Bhope**

Designation: **Vice President, Bhandara Municipal Council, Bhandara**

Signature: _____

Seal: _____

सौ. चंद्रकला प्रेमचंद भोपे
उपाध्यक्ष
नगर परिषद भंडारा

31/01/2026