

Supporting inclusive education through partnership with Pratham

Arjo continues to support improved access to education for children in underserved communities through its long-standing partnership with Pratham, one of India's leading non-profit organizations focused on learning outcomes.

For nearly a decade, Arjo has been engaged in the consortium Swedish Industry for Quality Education in India, led by Pratham Sweden and involving major Swedish companies. The collaboration focuses on strengthening foundational literacy, numeracy and skills development programs in parts of India where access to quality education remains limited.

“Our goal is to ensure that every child not only goes to school, but acquires the foundational skills needed to thrive. Partnerships like this enable us to reach more communities and create lasting change at scale, and Arjo's engagement is playing an important role in strengthening and supporting the impact of our work on the ground,” says Nadine Nelander, Program Manager at Pratham Sweden.

Supporting learning that lasts

Pratham's programs are designed to address one of the most critical challenges in education, ensuring that children not only attend school, but also gain the foundational skills needed to progress.

Through initiatives in regions such as Assam and Maharashtra, the partnership supports evidence-based approaches like Teaching at the Right Level, which adapts learning to children's current knowledge level rather than age. This helps close learning gaps early and reduces the risk of school dropout.

“Education is one of the most powerful enablers of long-term health, independence and well-being,” says Vishaka Dave, Director HR, Sustainability & CSR at Arjo South Asia & Middle East. “By supporting initiatives that improve learning outcomes, we aim to play a role in enabling brighter, healthier futures for the next generation.”

Reaching millions of children

Pratham is one of India's largest education-focused NGOs, reaching hundreds of thousands of children directly each year across thousands of communities. Through collaborations with governments, its methods extend to millions more across several states.

The organization combines large-scale implementation with strong local engagement, working closely with teachers, families and communities to ensure that improvements in learning are sustained over time.

Local engagement strengthening impact

In addition to its contribution through the Swedish consortium, Arjo also supports Pratham programs at the local level in India. These efforts enable closer engagement with the programs and their impact on children and communities.

The partnership is evolving to explore opportunities beyond early education. Pratham's vocational training programs equip young people with practical, job-relevant skills, creating potential pathways to employment.

“We see opportunities to further connect education with employability,” Vishaka explains. “Over time, this could help create meaningful career opportunities while supporting local communities.”

A key strength of Pratham’s approach is its focus on systemic, lasting change. By combining research-driven methods with collaboration across public and private sectors, the organization contributes not only to individual learning outcomes but also to broader shifts in how education challenges are addressed.

Through its continued partnership, Arjo aims to support this long-term impact – helping to create better opportunities for children today and stronger communities for the future.

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