

Minutes for Asha Chennai on 22nd Feb 2026

Asha Chennai Minutes of The Meeting held at 9.30 AM on Sunday, 22nd February 2026

Following were present

Komalavalli

Madhavan

Paripoornam

Pushpaleela

Rajaraman

Sriram

Shiva

Sundaram

Venkat

0. Ratification of minutes of the meeting held on 11 January 2026 and Ratification of poll for grant loan for construction of Tulasi Project office held on 29 January 2026

Minutes of the meeting on 11 January 2026 and the poll held for grant of loan for construction in Tulsi project were unanimously ratified

1. Staff loans and changes

Loan proposals in respect of 7 Sangamam teachers including one RTC teacher and one for Mylapore office staff were considered and approved. One was for house building and the rest were personal loans. The amount of each loan being Rs 60000. Conditions apply

2. Fund raising Updates

- City Union Bank

Rajaraman stated that through the good offices of our staff member Jayalakshmi from Poorna Vidhya Asha Chennai received an ad hoc donation of Rs 3,00,000 from City Union Bank under the CSR route. Since it was the end of the 25-26 FY it had to be an ad-hoc sum. It appeared that they were impressed with our activities , and Asha Chennai could mark them as a potential donor for the future.

- Sheng Long

Sheng Long Bio Tech in Tiruvallur District expressed interest in supporting Asha Chennai having heard of its connection with Michelin Tyres who are supporting a Library run by Asha Chennai at Palavakkam. It appeared that they were new to the processes involved in making a donation under CSR. , Asha Chennai would be in touch with them to identify Projects/Programs/Schools where they could support Asha Chennai activities

- Michelin

Rajaraman stated that arrangements had been made to open a Library for school children in Palavakkam supported by Michelin who funded the effort to the tune of Rs 3,00,000

3. Update on CS curriculum work.

- Roll out of Robotics and Web Development 2.0 courses.

Rajaraman reported that Curriculum work in respect of Robotics and Web Development 2.0 were nearly complete

- AI activities for Explore.

Under Amazon Explore it was proposed to impart education on AI 5 hours per child per year. This would help exposing them to the benefits and the challenges of the emerging technology

-New AI course.

Active preparation of Lesson Plans was underway to formulate a new AI course based on inputs from Dr Karthik Raman of IIT M and UNESCO guides on AI Competence Framework for students . This course would be launched first in RTCs and spread gradually

4. Feedback from Rajaraman on Delhi trip.

- [Bodhan.ai](#) conclave

Rajaraman narrated his experience of attending Bodhan AI conference held in Delhi on February 13th conducted by IIT M AI and Data Science Department on AI education. Expenditure for his trip would be covered by Amazon Budget for travel and training. There were several developments by many companies in the space of using AI in TAL and PAL systems. This will be of relevance to Asha Kanini. We need to watch this space. There werent many companies/organizations there showing how to teach AI or having an AI curriculum.

He mentioned that he ran into his IIT Classmate Prof Karan Sher Singh who was involved In Univ of Toronto India Foundation supported by Tata Trust. This could be a potential source for garnering resources to support our activities in reaching education for the underserved sections of the society.

- Meeting with Amazon

Rajaraman mentioned that he took the opportunity of his trip to Delhi to meet Amazon Executives Prateek Agarwal and discussed with them their future plans to align our programs and projects suitably

.

5. Ongoing and upcoming events.

- School Excursions and RTC Excursions.

They were proceeding apace , RTC Excursions were planned for early next month

- RTC Impressions and certificate distribution events.

RTC impressions were successfully completed on 21st February'26 in IIT M and prizes were awarded to the best project presentations. Categories were Digital Literacy, Scratch Programming, Media Editing, Animation , Web Development, Physical Computing, and Robotics.13 RtCs submitted 500 projects 56 were chosen and presented in front of a distinguished panel of judges

Distribution of certificates to all participants were planned in respective project locations from 28th February'26

- Amazon TIS Makerspace.

Training session for Asha students in Bangalore under TIS would be held from 13th to 15th of March

- ACE and Asha Impressions.

ACE and Asha impressions were scheduled for April for all projects except Rajatalab where they would be held in the third week of March'26

5A Laptops Distribution

Rajaraman stated that Asha Chennai had received 500 Laptops from Amazon and added that he had requested all Lead Teachers and Coordinators to assess their requirements and fill in the details of requirements in google sheets. It was also proposed to give free laptops to Scholarship students who were pursuing college degrees in computer courses.

6. Assessments

- Oral

Oral assessments were completed and data clean up was in progress.

- Written

Written assessments were completed during the third week of February. Grading is yet to start.

- CS Assessments at ACE, RTC and Sprint.

It is expected that CS Assessments would be carried out in early March. RTC Assessments were complete.

- Northstar baseline and endline assessments

North Star evaluation is used to conduct baseline and endline for our Digital Literacy programs. This is being conducted in our RTC and ACE programs.

- Paper to be published on analytics with IITB Prof Ramkumar.

Rajaraman stated that he was collaborating with Prof Ramkumar of IIT Bombay Department of Education Technology using the assessment analytics we have done.

7. Interaction with TN Govt

- NSNOP

- ADWH

- SPARK

No new development on the above and efforts were on to contact officers in NSNOP to pursue of our goal of participation in CS Education the methodology and curriculum developed by Asha Chennai for ACE

8. Scholarship Report on Second Inst disbursement

The Scholarship second instalment disbursement was successfully completed on 31st January

- College counselling.

Shiva proposed that we could engage TICF an education consulting organisation with good reputation for guiding the XII Class students and college leaving students among our scholarship recipients. It was felt choosing a course and the college even for well educated and well informed parents had become a bit of a challenge with multiple entrance tests and coaching academies. The proposal was agreed to in principle and Scholarship focus group could approve this as required.