



## Perfect Record In Tact

The second and largest class of AVANI 10th standard students all passed their exit exams with above average marks, surpassing the national average. Aruna (*seated far right*) achieved the highest marks with a total score of 85% in Science, Technology and English.

# TIMES CITY

THE TIMES OF INDIA, KOLHAPUR [THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2014]

## 7 from Avani clear SSC exam

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Kolhapur:** As many as seven students from the Avani Children's home, a non-governmental organization (NGO) working towards the empowerment and welfare of orphaned and homeless children, passed in the SSC exam this year.

The SSC result announced on Tuesday not only brought smiles for the state with the increased passing percentage but also brought cheers for the first batch of seven students from Avani.

Shirisha Yeotikar, a member of Avani, said, "One of our students, Aruna Torse, scored 85%. Of the



The seven successful students

seven, six received first-class marks, while one student passed in the second class. However, their score does not matter, it is their dedication and hard work that led them to success."

According to Yeotikar, each of the students come from a background of pover-

ty, homelessness or abandonment and is first generation from their families to attend school.

"It is our purpose to work alongside the children from the homeless, migrant and nomadic communities. We do this by conducting surveys to identify children at risk, rescue those in need, and provide them food, clothes, shelter, healthcare, rehabilitation and an education up to class X and beyond. These children will also be encouraged to pursue higher education," she added.

The Avani Children's Home has been working for the education of child labourers and homeless children since 1999.

A circular portrait of a young woman with long dark hair, wearing a red top and a white patterned shawl. She is looking slightly to the right with a gentle smile. The background is a soft-focus green landscape.

# Aruna

15 Years Old

10th Grade

3rd Year  
with AVANI

Orphan

Father died of  
HIV passing it  
on to her mother  
who died this year.

Aruna is not HIV positive

THE  
CHILDREN OF  
**AVANI**



A circular portrait of a young man with short dark hair and glasses, smiling slightly. He is wearing a grey shirt with a red and blue striped collar. The background is a soft-focus green field.

# Mayur

16 Years Old

10th Grade

6th Year  
with AVANI

1 Sister  
at AVANI

Father died of  
HIV and passed it  
on to his mother

Mayur is not HIV+

THE  
CHILDREN OF  
**AVANI**

A circular portrait of a young boy with dark skin and short, dark hair, looking slightly to the right with a gentle expression. He is wearing a teal and black striped button-down shirt. The background of the portrait is a soft-focus outdoor scene with green foliage.

# Rohan

**15 Years Old**

**10th Grade**

**2nd Year  
with AVANI**

**2 Cousins  
at AVANI**

**Father is an  
alcoholic and  
abusive to the  
family. Mother  
abandoned Rohan.**

THE  
CHILDREN OF  
**AVANI**

A circular portrait of a young boy with dark, spiky hair and a slight smile, wearing a blue collared shirt. The background is a soft-focus outdoor scene with greenery and a wooden post. The portrait is set against a dark green background that contains white text.

# Shashikant

15 Years Old

10th Grade

3rd Year  
with AVANI

1 Sister &  
1 Brother at  
AVANI

Nomadic Family

Mother abandoned  
by her husband

THE  
CHILDREN OF  
**AVANI**





# Suraj

18 Years Old

10th Grade

6th Year  
with AVANI

1 Brother  
at AVANI

Family  
is Nomadic

Mother abandoned  
by her husband

THE  
CHILDREN OF  
**AVANI**

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A circular portrait of a young woman with dark, wavy hair, a bindi on her forehead, and a red patterned top with a dark shawl. She is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is a soft-focus green field with a wooden pole on the left.

# Pallavi

19 Years Old

10th Grade

6th Year  
with AVANI

Family is  
Nomadic

Mother died

Her Father  
abandoned her

THE  
CHILDREN OF  
**AVANI**