NGO to commence temporary schools across dist from December 1

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KOLHAPUR: As many as 40 temporary schools will start across Sangli, SAtara and Kolhapur districts from December 1 and remain operational till April next year.

City-based non-governmental organisation (NGO) -Avani will start these schools.

Avani works towards educating children of brick kiln workers, labourers on sugar cane farms and stone quarries as well as those of migrating families.

An NGO volunteer said the schools though temporary are well looked after. A follow up of students is always taken as to whether they are

continuing with their education.

Sattappa Mohite, NGO volunteer and coordinator of schools, told TOI that last year around 1,000 children were learning at the kindergarten arranged for the age group of 3-5.

For over 360 children aged six years and above, the NGO had enrolled them in nearby zilla parishad schools.

Mohite said families migrate to their native place once work season ends. "Generally everyone's address is noted and a survey

of the status of students' continuity in education in later months is undertaken. In our previous education camps, many students were found attending schools. For those not attending, we managed to convince their parents to send them to school," he said.

He added that the main purpose of operating such schools is to ensure that kids don't miss out on education because they have to accompany their parents to work.

Mohite appealed to the citizens to donate warm clothes and winter care such as blankets, sweaters, etc. for the children during winter. The distribution of these will be done once the school session starts. Those interested can call on 7757091100.