SOUVENIR 12TH ANNIVERSARY - 2017

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND

KARNATAKA

Let the Blind Lead the Blind

Regd. No.: 4866

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND

(Affiliated to World Blind Union)

#S-373, Bharat Nagar 2nd phase

Near Karnataka Bank , Magadi Main Road

Bangalore - 560091

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Karnataka State Branch
#S-373, Bharat Nagar 2nd phase, Near Karnataka Bank , Magadi Main Road
Bangalore - 560091

Souvenir

12th Anniversary

4th January 2017

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From Editor's Desk....

Prof. Prasanna Udipikar
HOD of English
VVN Degree College, Bangalore

A man walking along the beach noticed a boy picking up a starfish and throwing it into the ocean. The boy said,"The surf is up and the tide is going out. If I don't throw them back they will die". The man said,"There are miles and miles of beach and thousands of starfish. You can't make a difference". The boy picked up another starfish and throwing it back into the surf said with a smile,"I have made a Difference for that one".

National Federation of the Blind stepping ahead towards its celebration of 12th anniversary with its noble vision brings in a **Difference** by maximizing the potential in the lives of Visually Challenged persons to see a better tomorrow.

This yeoman service being rendered by National Federation of the Blind (Karnataka) to the community of visually challenged persons deserves adulation. Setting up of computer lab and distribution of e-books by Marwadi Samaj and Marwadi Mahila Samaj members, the health checkup camps conducted in coordination with medical association reflects the support and recognition given for the valuable work of NFB.

This Souvenir brought out to commemorate 12th anniversary celebrations of NFB presents to you the various activities spread throughout the year 2016 and information which prove to be an indispensible guide in making the VI persons self reliant. The stories shared by VI achievers inspire and motivate the readers. On this occasion of the release of 12th anniversary souvenir of NFB, I profusely congratulate Mr. Goutham Agarwal, General Secretary, NFB (Karnataka) and his team for the unstinted commitment for bettering the lives of visually challenged brothers and sisters.

May the Almighty shower choicest blessings to find success in every step taken by NFB for the noble cause.

From President's Desk....

Nagaraj M.
President
NFB Karnataka

I am delighted that National Federation of the Blind Karnataka is bringing out its souvenir for 3rd consecutive year It is expected that this souvenir throw light on the unique activities of the federation and its strategies/ approaches to address various challenges towards comprehensive upliftment of our visually impaired brothers and sisters and their integration in main stream of the society.

I am happy on the progress made by NFB Karnataka during last one year. Good efforts have been made to convince the state government to undertake some new initiative to improve social economic situation of persons with disability. Such as special coaching courses to prepare the persons with disability for various competitive exams, awareness campaigning, some additional facilities to the visually impaired commuters of Karnataka state road transport corporations. As a member of state post identification committee, the federation has played a key role to convince the concerned authorities to identify a large number of new posts as suitable for visually impaired in their concerned establishments.

But still I realize that we have a long way to go in order to ensure that all human rights of our peers be respected, protected and promoted and to enable them to lead a decent living with dignity.

In its present situation, I dare to say with pride that NFB Karnataka during last 12 years in forced its position as being "Only authentic voice of the blind throughout the state"

The goals of the organization may be far reaching and ambitious but with cooperation, good will and collective endowers we can meet them.

At last I thank all members, E.C. members, office bearers, staff, and national leadership of the federation and all other sister organizations, government officials, volunteers, donors, well wishers, and civil society for their extensive support to strengthen the federation and make all its endowers successful.

With best complements

Acknowledgment

Goutam Agarwal
General Secretary
NFB Karanataka

As we have come to the conclusion of this 3rd issue of our Annual Souvenir and the calendar year 2016, I consider it my pleasant duty to acknowledge the help and cooperation I received from different sources in preparing and compiling material for this publication and in achieving the targeted outcomes of various initiatives in service of our Visually impaired brothers and sisters during the bygone year 2016.

First and for most, I owe a depth of deep gratitude to Sri. S.K. Rungta National General Secretary of the federation for stimulating expertise and providing timely guidance.

I am also grateful to central office of the federation for its regular financial support in order to initiate and succeed all our activities.

I must at this juncture recall with at most gratitude the generous donation of Rs. 1.05000/- provided by Agarwal Mahila Mandal (women wing of Agarwal Samaj Karnataka) for conversion of 10 kannada books into audio format and purchase of 30 mattress for hostel inmates of the federation.

I would like to record my sincere appreciation to Mr. Nayan Kumar & team Dell Services International Private Limited/NTT Data Services for donation of Mice set to the federation.

I am also thankful to Mr. & Mrs. Vikas Jain not just for donation of all gifts, they received at the occasion of their Grihapravesh in platinum city apartment, equallent to worth Rs. 43,000/- but specially for setting an innovative ideal example for others too.

I also wish to place on record my sincere thanks to all those friends and well wishers each of whom made a generous contribution of Rs.11,000/- towards meeting the expense of World Braille Day celebration on 4th January 2017

All those who have extended their blessings for successful publication of souvenir and recognized our endeavors in cause of the sector are too numerous to be mentioned by name. However I extend my whole hearted gratitude to all of them and assure to be true to their expectation.

Successful and timely publication of the souvenir has been possible only through pains taking efforts of Prof. Prasanna Udipikar. I owe a depth of gratitude to prof. Prasanna Udipikar for her abiding support in compilation, editing, supervision of printing and final release in time.

I also take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to my long trusted friend and president of NFB Karnataka for his untired contribution for the success of all my initiatives.

I also place on record my appreciation to Ms. Haseena Husain coordinator NFB Karnataka state women committee who is an ardent champion of women empowerment and has contributed her constructive energy to the federation in making a positive difference in lives of our visually challenged sisters.

I also express my gratitude to Dr. Kusumalata Mallik Prof. Hindi department Delhi University and National vice president of the federation who contributed a story for this souvenir.

I have a special word of praise for our hard working concerned and dedicated staff particularly Mrs. Vijayalakshmi, Mr. Hemant , Mr. Mohan and Mrs. Lakshmi who have contributed to the publication of this souvenir by way of text entry, typing, material collection and revision of the data. Without their support and devotion the publication of souvenir could not have materialized on time.

At last, I express my humble great fullness to all those who have been instrumental in release of souvenir on time and to make the programme of world Braille day celebration a success. I trust that the support and contribution from all these quarters will continue in future also.

सत्यमेव जयते

प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय
नई दिल्ली - 110011
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
New Delhi - 110011

MESSAGE

The Prime Minister is happy to learn that National Federation of the Blind, Karnataka State Branch is bringing out a souvenir to mark 208th Birth Anniversary of Louie Braille and 12th anniversary of the Federation on 4th January, 2017 'World Braille Day'.

On this occasion, best wishes for the event and successful publication of souvenir.

(Chandresh Sona)
Deputy Secretary

New Delhi
December 07, 2016

अनंतकुमार
ANANTHKUMAR
ಅನಂತಕುಮಾರ್

सत्यमेव जयते

D.O. No. 5102 /M(C&F)/16

रसायन एवं उर्वरक
तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्री
भारत सरकार
MINISTER OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

31 October, 2016

Dear Shri Agarwal Ji,

I acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 1st October, 2016. Thank you for inviting me as Chief Guest on the programme of World Braille Day and 12th anniversary of the National Federation of the Blind scheduled to be held on 4th January, 2017 at Bangalore.

I appreciate the efforts of the National Federation of the Blind, Karnataka who are engaged in activities to resolve socio economic problems of our visually challenged brothers and sisters with the view to ensure them decent living with dignity.

I congratulate and extend my best wishes to organizers, participants, and volunteers for their continuing efforts and hope the deliberations on this platform will go a long way in inculcating a better understanding of communities and society.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(AnanthKumar)

Shri Gautam Agarwal
General Secretary
National Federation of the Blind
#S-372, Bharatnagar 2nd Phase
Near Karnataka Bank, Magadi Main Road
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Visit : www.ananth.org

सत्यमेव जयते

VAJUBHAI VALA
Governor of Karnataka

No.GS 159 MSG 2016 03rd Oct. 2016

MESSAGE

I am happy to know that National Federation of the Blind is organizing Birth Anniversary of Louie Braille and also 12th Anniversary of the Federation on 4th January 2017. Further, it is also intended to bring out a Souvenir concerning the facilities, concessions, opportunities available to visually impaired persons in public and private sector at different levels. I hope this Conference provides a platform to the participants to share their experiences and addresses the need of blind people at large.

I wish the Organisers, editorial team and participants a grand success.

(VAJUBHAI VALA)

Raj Bhavan, Bengaluru - 560 001. (Karnataka)

G. PADMAVATHI
MAYOR
Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike

Date: 08-12-2016

MESSAGE

I am glad to know that National Federation of the Blind is celeberating the 208th Birth Anniversary of Louie Braille and the 12th Anniversary of the Federation on 4th January 2017.

In order to mark the event, National Federation of the Blind is going to release a souvenir on this occasion which contains a wide range of acheivements of the Federation towords multidimensional empowerment of persons with disability.

Hence I wish the organizers all success.

MAYOR

Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, N.R. Square, Bangalore - 560 002.
Off.: 080-22238540, 22248366, 22975501, Fax : 080-22237457, Mobile : 9663000002
E-mail : mayorbengaluru@gmail.com

M. Krishnappa
Minister for Housing and
Mandya District Incharge Minister

Room No. 257A, 259,
2nd Floor, Vidhana soudha,
Bengaluru-560001
Ph: 080-22259181/22033501
E-Mail:housingministermk@gmail.com

No: HM/425/2016

Date: 14-12-2016

MESSAGE

I am glad to learn that National Federation of the Blind is going to celebrate 208th birth Anniversary of Louie Braille and 12th Anniversary of the Federation on 4th January, 2017 and that a souvenir is being published on this occasion which contains the details of wide range of activities/achievements of the Federation towards multidimensional empowerment of persons with disability in general and blind in particular.

I hope and trust that the yeomen service being rendered by your Federation is laudable and praiseworthy and will go a long way in empowerment of disabled persons in the country.

On this occasion I convey my good wishes and the programme a grand success.

(M.Krishnappa)

P.C. MOHAN
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
BANGALORE CENTRAL

सत्यमेव जयते

3rd Floor, Podium Block, Ambedkar Veedhi
Vishveshwaraiah Centre, Bangalore - 01
Tel. : 080-22865454, 22865656
Email : pcmohan@pcmohanbjp.com

Date: - 13-12-2016

Message

I am happy to know that National Federation of the Blind is a leading self help organization for the blind, founded in 1970 with the philosophy "let the Blind lead the Blind" is celebrating 208th Birth Anniversary of Louie Braille and 12th anniversary of the Federation on 4th January, 2017.

I am glad to learn that an official Souvenir of this prestigious event is being released to commemorate the occasion as a tradition followed by National Federation of the Blind, which contains a wide range of achievements of the Federation towards multidimensional empowerment of persons with disability.

I wish the National Federation of the Blind all the best and a grand success of the celebration.

Thanking You,

Yours faithfully,

(P.C.Mohan)

BASAVARAJA RAYAREDDI
Minister for Higher Education

Room No. 317, 3rd Floor
Vidhana Soudha
Bengaluru-560 001
Telephone No.: 080-22253835
080-22033234

Ref: HEM/ 2670 /2016

Date: 19-10-2016

: MESSAGE :

I am pleased to know that 'National Federation of the Blind' is celebrating 208th Birth Anniversary of Ms. Louie Braille and 12th Anniversary of the National Federation of the Blind on the 4th January, 2017 at Bengaluru and publishing a Souvenir on this occasion.

Ms. Louie Braille, is a great inventor of Braille Script, which was used by visually impaired people across the globe. To show a mark of respect; her birthday was celebrated as 'World Braille Day' worldwide.

National Federation of the Blind is striving hard for enforcement, protection and promotion of all basic human rights to all visually challenge people of the State.

I congratulate the members of the National Federation of the Blind and wish them all success in their future endevour.

(BASAVARAJA RAYAREDDI)

ಡಾ. ಬಿ. ಬಸವರಾಜು, ಭಾ.ಆ.ಸೇ.
ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ
ಸಾರಿಗೆ ಇಲಾಖೆ

Dr. B. Basavaraaju, IAS
Principal Secretary to Government
Transport Department

Telephone : 080 - 22353912
22032548
Fax : 080 - 22352769
e-mail : prs-transport@karnataka.gov.in
secretarytransport@gmail.com
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸಚಿವಾಲಯ,
ಬಹುಮಹಡಿಗಳ ಕಟ್ಟಡ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು - 560001
Karnataka Government Secretariat
M.S. Building, Bangalore - 560001

19-12-2016.

MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure to congratulate NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND (Affiliated to World Blind Union) on the occasion of 208th Birth Anniversary of Louie Braille, along with the 12th anniversary celebrations of the Federation, being held on 4th January 2017.

The Federation's sincere efforts in resolving all socio economic problems of visually challenged brothers and sisters with the view to ensure them decent living with dignity is highly appreciable and it is a great service to the humankind. Also, it is very significant that the Federation is going to release a souvenir on this momentous occasion.

I convey my heartfelt greetings to the Federation and wish the programme a grand success.

19/12/2016.

(Dr. B. Basavaraaju, I.A.S.)
Principal Secretary to Government
Transport Department.

BHARAT LAL MEENA, I.A.S.,
Additional Chief Secretary to
Government
ಭರತ್ ಲಾಲ್ ಮೀನಾ, ಭಾ.ಆ.ಸೇ.,
ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಪರ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ

Education Department
(Higher Education)
ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ (ಉನ್ನತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ)

Date:-07/11/2016

MESSAGE

I am pleased to know that the Karnataka Chapter of National Federation of the Blind has completed 12 years of its establishment and is celebrating its 12th Anniversary along with the 208th Birth Anniversary of Louie Braille on 4th January 2017. It is gratifying to note that the National Federation of the Blind is striving hard for enforcement, protection and promotion of all basic human rights of around 2,60,000 visually challenged population of Karnataka State.

To mark this event, the Federation is releasing a Souvenir containing wide range of activities/achievements of the federation.

On this occasion, I am happy to convey my greetings and best wishes to the office bearers of the Karnataka Chapter of National Federation of the Blind. I wish the celebrations and the publication of the Souvenir a grand success.

(BHARAT LAL MEENA)

6th Floor, 2nd Gate, M.S. Building
Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru - 560 001
Tel : +91-80-22252437, 22032494
Fax : +91-80-22253756

6ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, 2ನೇ ಗೇಟ್, ಐಹುಮಹಡಿ ಕಟ್ಟಡ
ಡಾ: ಬಿ.ಆರ್. ಅಂಬೇಡ್ಕರ್ ವೀಧಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು – 560 001
E-mail : prshigh-edu@karnataka.gov.in

Dr. P.L. NATARAJ
Director M.B.B.S., D.O.M.S.
Health & Family Welfare Services

Ph : 080-2287 09
Fax : 080-2220 18
e-mail: dirhfw@gmail.c

DATE:14.12.2016

MESSAGE

I am happy to know that National federation of Blind is celebrating the 208th Birth anniversary of Louie Braille on 4th January 2017.

On this occasion, it is heartening to know that, National Federation of Blind is releasing a souvenir which lists all the activities that it has undertaken so far for the welfare of the differently abled in general and visually challenged in particular in the state. I hope the information reaches all the concerned and the deserving persons are benefitted by this souvenir.

I wish all the best for the National federation of the blind in their Endeavour.

Director
Health and family welfare services

REGD. NO. 4866

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NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND

(AFFILIATED TO WORLD BLIND UNION)

PLOT NO. 21, SECTOR VI
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NEW DELHI-110 017

(Donations made to this Federation will be eligible for tax relief under section 80-G of the Income Tax Act, 1961)

President:
Dr. Shirish L. Deshpande

Patron:
Vichitra Vijay

Vice-Presidents:
C. C. Kasimani
Inder Singh
Dr. Kusumlata Malik
(Women's Affairs)
Ramakant Singh

General Secretary:
S. K. Rungta
B.A., LLB., LL.M.

Secretaries:
Chandravir
Mohd. Imran Ali
Navin Ahlawat
(Youth Affairs)
R. Viswanath Reddy

Treasurer:
Syed Kazi Farooq Ali

Ref. No. _____ Dated _____

MESSAGE

I am glad to know that the National Federation of the Blind Karnataka Branch is publishing a souvenir on the occasion of World Braille Day. The National Federation of the Blind Karnataka branch was established on 10th July 2004 at Banglore and since then it has taken in hand a number of schemes and activities for the protection of rights of visually impaired persons and their overall empowerment. The main activities include employment, promotion, advocacy, hostel for college going blind students, aids and appliances scheme, Braille cum Talking Library and information and counseling service. In a short period of twelve years the branch has been rendering its services to the blind within its resources successfully.

I wish the branch success in its endeavors.

(S.K. RUNGTA)
GENERAL SECRETARY

Dr. G. PARAMESHWARA
Home Minister

Room No. 144
1st Floor, Vikasa Soudha
Bengaluru - 560 001
Phone No. : 2203 4336
Fax : 2228 6778

No. HM/ 1558 / 2015-16

Date 08.12.2016.....

Message

I am pleased to know that the Karnataka Chapter of National Federation of the Blind has completed 12 years of its establishment and is celebrating its 12th Anniversary along with 208th Birth Anniversary of Louie Braille on 4th January 2017. It is gratifying to note that the National Federation of the Blind is striving hard for enforcement, protection and promotion of all basic human rights of around 2,60,000 visually challenged population of Karnataka State.

To mark this event, the Federation is releasing a Souvenir containing wide range of activities/achievements of the federation.

On this occasion, I am happy to convey my greetings and best wishes to the office bearers of the Karnataka Chapter of National Federation of the Blind. I wish the celebrations and the publication of the Souvenir a grand success.

(Dr.G.Parameshwara)

Message

I congratulate the National Federation of the Blind, Karnataka for its tireless efforts for the welfare of visually impaired persons in the state.

In the field of education, it is very encouraging to note that college going students from Karnataka have been awarded with National Scholarship of the federation, and meritorious students who stood first among their visually impaired peers in the state have been awarded with NFB Prathibha Award. In addition, college going students have been distributed the Daisy player device in order to enable them to pursue their higher education through National Institute of Visually Handicapped Dehradun under ADIP scheme of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt of India. Education is a key element in empowerment and I congratulate the NFB on these efforts to support students in their quest for knowledge.

Books are a storehouse of knowledge. I note that the Braille production unit of the federation has produced master copies of Kannada general books, textbooks, and Kannada reference books for competitive exams, general knowledge and recreational books. In addition, the NFB Karnataka Braille cum talking library works to meet the requirements of reading material for blind students pursuing higher education, professionals, and others.

I also commend the federation on its tireless advocacy for progressive reforms in the field of education, rehabilitation and employment of persons with disability. I wish the NFB, Karnataka all success in its endeavours.

Uma Mahadevan
Principal Secretary Women and
Child Development Department

National Federation of the Blind

A movement for protection of rights of persons with disabilities and an organization for empowerment of the persons with visual disability

The concept of the National Federation of the Blind sprouted in the year 1970, in its infancy christened as **"National Federation of the Blind Graduates"** was mainly formed with a vision to focus and highlight on the right platform the various issues that were dogging the visually impaired. The society in general was unaware and ignorant about the latent talent and capabilities of the Visually Impaired people who constitute a considerable section in the society. There was discrimination and apathy almost to the extent of considering the visually challenged brothers and sisters as a burden on the society in general and the respective families in particular. A little while later, to be precise in 1973 the word **"The National Federation of the Blind"** and the membership of the body were kept open for all. The principal guiding philosophy of the organization is aptly "Let the Blind lead the Blind", which has remained as the unique feature of the federation.

Vision Statement:

We at NFB strive toward empowering people with visual impairment, generating awareness of their needs within families and communities and, together, work towards their inclusion in the society. Our primary mission is to open up a range of opportunities for blind and low vision persons in every possible spear of activity, enabling them to function as equal, contributing and dignified members of society.

We wish to be recognized as an organization with a difference. The difference lies in the fact that our policies and programs are planned and shaped by visually impaired persons themselves. Our main thrust is reaching out to the unreached segments of blind population. The methodology and strategy is to deliver services to those who need them most, across the wide spectrum of the blind population. Creating new opportunities of innovative trainings, rehabilitation education and employment for our blind brothers and sisters is our main challenge.

Aims & Objectives

1. To work towards establishing and providing all the required special facilities for the education of the Visually Challenged.
2. To provide complete infrastructure to impart training for the Vision Impaired in employment generation trades and schemes.
3. To identify and guide the Visually Handicapped seeking suitable employment in Government as well as Private Sectors. Pressurise the government at various levels for the progressive, improvement and modernization of public policies, programs and practices governing education, health, employment, rehabilitation, social security, sports and recreation of the blind people.
8. To encourage the exchange of information and experience between all organizations whose activities are related to the objects of the federation.
9. To disseminate and update information and the promotion of enlightened attitudes on the part of the people at large towards the blind and low vision persons.
10. To encourage, coordinate and conduct research and studies in all fields of the blindness including its prevention.
11. To promote and coordinate technical and materialistic assistance in furtherance of the aims of the federation in areas where such help is required.
12. To implement any other measures necessary or conducive to the achievements of the objectives of the federation.

National Federation of the Blind as a movement for protection of rights of persons with visual disability

Despite the executive orders in favor of 1% exclusive reservation for the blind out of the overall 3% for the 3 categories of disabled persons in the group C and D jobs in the Government sector due to the prevailing negative mindset of the authorities about the potential of the disabled the orders were not being considered seriously and implemented earnestly.

A legal section for the implementation of these orders has become a dire necessity, which in turn is difficult, if not impossible. To work in that direction the Federation felt that a comprehensive legislation to give legal protection to all such Government Orders is needed and as such the government should be requested to enact and execute such a binding legislation at the earliest.

With a view to draw the attention and pressurize the Government the Federation decided to take out a procession

on the 16th of March 1980 in Delhi. Incidentally 1980 was the International Year for Disabled Persons as proclaimed by the United Nations.

A great number of protestors joined the procession lead by Mr. S.K. Rungta and other prominent members of the Federation and the society started their peaceful march from Jantar Mantar to the Prime Minister's residence with an intention to submit a charter of demands, but the procession was rudely halted and the participants were brutally beaten up by the police. The peaceful blind participants in the procession became the hapless victims of ruthless and inhuman police action that left many grievously injured protestors. This brutal action by the Delhi Police came in for severe condemnation and criticism from across the country and the world over, the incident was prominently featured in the headlines of the print media, and the then prime minister late Shrimati Indira Gandhi had to apologize publicly as well as in the Parliament for this heinous action of Delhi Police. She had also invited a delegation to discuss the matter and bring about a solution. this group lead by the General Secretary Mr. S.K. Rungta met with the Prime Minister and convinced the government to constitute a working group to draft a legislation and the government also agreed to circulate a recommendation to all the state governments to implement an executive order issued in 1978 for 3% job reservation for the disabled. Later, the Working Group could not do much and had to be dissolved. A committee under the chairmanship of Justice Beharul Islam was constituted to draft the said legislation which submitted its report in the year 1990. The Federation had to resort twin pronged strategy, On the one hand it continued the peaceful agitation from time to time and on the other hand started lobbying with the law makers of both the houses of the Parliament. This action of the Federation yielded positive results and the Government tabled the draft legislation before the Parliament which passed it on the 22th December 1995. The act called **"The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation)Act-1995"**came into force after the 7th of February 1996 with its notification in the gazette of India. This morale boosting victory was a result of a long unyielding struggle and sustained efforts of the Federation spearheaded by the visionary Secretary General. At the moment efforts are on to pursue the government to amend the act.

This act ultimately became an umbrella of the protection for the rights of persons with disabilities as judgments in a number of cases filed against the violation of rights under various articles of this act in different courts were awarded in favour of the disabled persons. One such landmark judgment pronounced by the High Court of Delhi on the 19th December 2008 in a Writ Petition I No. 15828/2006 filed by the National Federation of the Blind versus Union of India against the discrimination of the blind and low vision persons by virtually excluding them from the process of recruitment to the Government. Posts in violation of the scheme of reservation contained in Section 33 of the said act. The Honorable High Court of Delhi has directed the government:-

1. To constitute a committee consisting of the Chief Commissioner for Disabilities (Chairman), Joint Secretary, Department of Personnel & Training, Joint Secretary Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Joint Secretary Department of Public Enterprises and Secretary Staff Selection Commission to do the following acts in terms of this order:-
   - To solicit information with regard to recruitments made by Departments/ public sector undertakings / government companies from the date when the backlog of vacancies for the disabled on the total cadre strength in different establishments within one month from the date of this order.
   - To undertake special recruitment drive by organizing centralized recruitment against backlog worked out so as to fill up the vacancies by utilizing at least 50% of the vacancies available with the respective establishments for this purpose only.
   - To organize further special recruitment drive as required so as filling up the remaining backlog of vacancies by 31st December 2010.
2. The Government will issue an appropriate order modifying the OM dated 29.12.2009 and the subsequent OMs consistent with this courts order.
3. The Government shall issue instructions to all the departments/ public sector undertaking/ government companies declaring that the non observance of the scheme of reservation for persons with disabilities should be considered as an act of non-obedience and the nodal officer in Departments/ Public sector undertakings/ government owned companies responsible for the proper and strict implementation of reservation for persons with disabilities to be departmentally proceeded against for his default.

4. The Government is further directed to issue instructions to all the departments/ government companies as well as recruiting agencies not to undertake recruitment for any department/ public sector undertaking/ government company makes provisions for reservation for persons with disabilities in terms of the order of this court and a clearance is granted by the Committee headed by the Chief Commissioner for Disabilities.
5. The Committee headed by the Chief Commissioner for Disabilities shall submit a status report on implementation of the above directions of this court within three months from the date of this order.

Being aggrieved of the above judgment of Delhi high court, the government of India appealed in supreme court by way of special leave petition. Where the national general secretary of the federation and Sr. Advocate in Delhi high court Sri. S.K. Rungta appeared in person as a respondent and argued that in term of section 32 and 33 of persons with disability act 1995 it is obligatory on the parts of government establishments to provide at least 3% reservation of posts in the total cadre strength and not only in identified vacancies. He further prayed for time bound direction for effective implementation of the scheme of job reservation for persons with disability in above said manner. Convincing with the argument of Mr. S. K. Rungta the apex court delivered a land mark judgment on dated 8th October 2013 with the following observation/direction

1. "Employment is a key factor in the empowerment and inclusion of people with disabilities. It is an alarming reality that the disabled people are out of job not because; their disability comes in the way of their functioning rather it is social and practical barrier. That prevents them from joining the workforce. As a result, many disabled people live in poverty and in deplorable conditions. They are denied the right to make a useful contribution to their own lives and to the lives of their families and communities.'' (Para 49 of the judgment)
2. "The union of India the state governments as well as the union territories have a categorical obligation under the constitution of India, and under various international treaties relating the human rights in general and treaties for disabled persons in particular, to protect the rights of disabled persons. Even though the act was enacted way back in 1995, the disabled people have failed to get required benefits until today. (Para 50 of the judgment)
3. "Thus, after thoughtful consideration, we are of the view that the computation of reservation for persons with disability has to be computed in case of group A, B, C & D posts in identical manner, "computing 3% of reservation on total number of vacancies in the cadre strength'' which is the intention of legislature. Accordingly certain clauses in the OM dated 29.12.2005 which are contrary to the above reasoning are struck down and we direct the appropriate government to issue new office memorandums in consistence with the decision render by this court.'' (Para 51 of the judgment)
4. In our opinion, in order to ensure proper implementation of the reservation policy for the disabled and to protect their rights, it is necessary to issue the following directions
   a. we here by direct the appellant hearing to issue an appropriate order modifying the OM dated 29.12.2005 and the subsequent OM's consistent with this court's order within 3 months from the date of passing of this judgment.
   b. we here by direct the appropriate government to compute the number of vacancies available in all the establishments and further identify the posts for disabled persons with in a period of 3 months from today an implement the same without default.
   c. The appropriate government here in shall issue instructions to all the departments/public sector undertakings/government companies declaring that the non observance of the scheme of reservation for person with disability should be consider as an act of non obedience and nodal officer in department public sector undertakings, government companies, responsible for the proper/strict implementation of reservation for persons with disabilities, we departmentally proceeded against for the default. (Para 54 of the judgment)

The stand on the passage of RPD Bill

When the government of India finalized RPD Bill 2013 to replace the existing Act without even looking at previous consultations held between the civil society and the govern for over four years. At the initial stage, most of the organizations even without knowing about the contents of the Bill were pressing for the introduction and passage of the Bill without Debate.

At that time the federation took a stand that the Bill should be shared with the civil society before its introduction. The General Secretary of the federation manages to obtain a copy of the RPD Bill which the Govt. was to introduce in Rajyasabha. The contents of the Bill was very disappointing and shocking as it even sought to legitimize discrimination on the ground of disability and also was seeking to curtail or limit certain existing rights. Consequently, the Federation announced and undertook its agitation against the introduction and passage of the bill that form as the agitation grew and contents of the Bill circulated by federation reached various other organizations of persons with disabilities, many organizations supported the Federation in its demand for non introduction and passage of RPD Bill in that form. During the course of agitation, various organizations having similar views decided to form IADA and the general secretary of the federation was given the responsibility of acting as coordinator of the Alliance. The agitation initiated by the federation was then converted into an agitation of IADA at the final stages. As a result of this four months long agitation, federation could succeed in saving our rights by throttling the move of the government of the introduction and passage of the Bill firstly in the parliament and thereafter by ordinance route just before the Elections.

Hard stand of the federation on decision of the Indian Railway to exclude the totally blind persons in its recruitments

The federation also took a hard stand against the decision of Indian Railway to exclude the 100% blind persons in its recruitment of Group D post in 2012 -2013 and fought a long legal battle throughout central administrative tribunal, court of CCPD and high court and post the northern railway to revise its selection lists against the recruitment notification of 2012 and 2013 with effect to select the 100% blind persons in D group post as per their merits and finally 65 totally blind candidates were selected by the Northern Railway against the selection process for the year 2012.

Special Recruitment Drive

As a pleasant out come of the "land mark judgement of supreme court October 2013" the central government firstly amended its office memorandum of dtd. 29.12.2005 in term of its new OM dtd. 3rd December 2013 and extended the provision of computation of reservation quota in total cadre strength including identified and unidentified vacancies of group C and D upto group A & B. secondely, in term of its affidavit the government admitted before apex court the backlog of 14267 posts, out of which 4015 are exclusively for blind and undertook to clear this backlog through special recruitment drives upto February 2016.

Reservation in Promotion

As a result of another legal intervention of the federation, the apex court in term of its historic judgment of 30th June 2016 directed the central government to extend the reservation persons with disability under sec.33 of persons with disability act 1995 in promotion too in all ABC&D groups.

Some formal initiatives of the government as a result of sustained advocacy and lobbying of the federation

a. A formal meeting between representative of the federation and then Minister for Education and Social welfare on the problem of employment of person with disability

b. A formal meeting between federation and then labour minister dtd. 4th August 1980

c. The erstwhile prime minister Late. Mrs. Indira Gandhi wrote a letter to the federation showing concern over the unsatisfactory situation of employment for persons with disability dtd. 14th June 1980

d. Order of Govt. of U.P. for appointment of blind in every department during the year 1982.

e. Letter of Shri N.D. Tiwari then Labour Minister addressed to all Chief Ministers regarding special recruitment drive.

f. Letter of Shri S.N. Menon Joint Secretary dated 28.08.1987 to the Federation requesting to withdraw the agitation.

g. Office Memorandum regarding constitution of Special Recruitment Committee dated 03.09.87 to fill up the reserved vacancies for persons with disabilities.

h. The judgement of apex court in 1993 directing the central government to allowed visually impaired persons to write IAS exams and reserve minimum 1% quota in recruitment of IAS officers

I. Issuance of O.M. No.15012/5/92_Estt.(DD) dated 27.07.95 grant age concession to the disabled including blind in group 'A' & 'B' posts for five years.

International Participation

The Federation is affiliated to world blind union and is actively contributing to the activities of Asian Blind Union which is one of the regional arm of World Blind Union. The

General Secretary of the Federation Shri S K Runghta has been recently elected as president of the Asian Blind Union for second conjuctive term.

The World Blind Union has a consultative status with UN and as such, being the president of ABU, Federation's General Secretary is also taking active part in policy formulation and implementation of various international policies in ABU region pertaining to inclusion and participation of persons with disabilities.

Currently, Federation's General Secretary is serving on the advocacy and human rights committee of World Blind Union besides working as one of the regional coordinator for Marrakesh Treaty rectification campaign.

Institutional Services under taken by the NFB :

Foreseeing its important role in Education, Employment, Rehabilitation and social inclusion of persons with visual disability, the federation envisaged the and developed a number of interventions for their advantage. The organization constantly encourages the blind to avail these opportunities to educate and employ themselves in order to have better quality of life and be able to compete and integrate themselves into the mainstream society.

A. RUNNING OF SCHOOLS

The Federation has established and is efficiently running three schools for the blind in different parts of the country spending its own resources, the schools are listed below:-

I Blind School at Kanpur (U.P)

II School for Sightless Girls at Jammu. (J&K)

III. School for the Blind Girls, at Bilaspur. (Chhattisgarh)

B. HOSTELS FOR COLLEGE GOING BLIND STUDENTS

At present the Federation is maintaining hostels for college going blind students at Bangalore & Mysore in Karnataka, hostel for girls in Delhi, one hostel at Ambala cant Haryana and one hostel at Ajmer Rajasthan

C. TRAINING CUM PRODUCTION CENTRES:

Training & Rehabilitation Centers: -

In this era of Globalization, Liberalization and new Technological Development, the job opportunities in Govt. and Public Sector are minimizing day by day. To counter this situation the Federation has opened training and rehabilitation centers in different parts of the country. In these centers the blind persons are imparted training in various trades and later their skills are used in production centers where a number of items are prepared by the blind themselves. The items are later sold in market by the Federation. The trainees are also paid stipend during the training period. These training centers are also preparing the blind for starting their own self-employment ventures. Presently the Federation is running this scheme on the following centers:

1. Training cum rehabilitation centre at Kanpur Blind school, 110/ Nehru Nagar Kanpur.

   Established in the year 2005. It has 19 number of beneficiaries at present who are engaged in manufacturing paper plates, dona and pattals etc.

2. Training cum rehabilitation Centre at S-17/24-15-1, Charan Nagar Colony Nadesar Varanasi (U.P.)

   Established in the year 2009. It has 13 number of beneficiaries at present who are engaged in manufacturing paper plates, dona and pattals etc.

3. Training cum rehabilitation Centre at Mill Road opp. Dashhara Ground, Ram Bagh, Near Rotary Hospital, Ambala Cantt.

   Established in the year 2009. It has 13 number of beneficiaries at present who are engaged in manufacturing paper plates, dona and pattals etc.

D. COMPUTER TRAINING PROJECT

Foreseeing the importance of computer education in the present day and the absolute necessity of Information Technology skills which would enable blind youngsters to take on the competition and succeed in the main stream society, keeping the same in mind and thinking forward, the Federation took this initiative beginning with Delhi and Guwahati. These centers train and educate qualified students using JAWS (Job Access with Speech) software. With the encouraging response to this facility and realizing the potential federation is now geared up to extend the facility to all the states and started setting up and providing its state branches with fully equipped computer training centres

E. National Braille Library & Braille Press

The federation runs one of the largest national Braille library and a press for printing of Braille books with several highly technical sophisticated and latest printing machines at Bahadrugarh Haryana near Delhi.

In addition to this, a Braille library is being run at Rae Bareilly (UP), Braille cum talking library at Bangalore and an Audio book libraries at Kadappa and Kurnool units of NFB A.P. Branch

Schemes and programs for individual empowerment of visually impaired persons

A. Scholarship Schemes : The scholarship scheme was launched during the year 2006-07. So far since the launching of scheme a total number of 6397 blind student have been awarded scholarship worth Rs. 3,25,15,890/-.

B. Education Loan Scheme : With a view to help those blind students hailing from economically weaker families riddled with monetary hurdles in pursuing Bachelor of Education and other job oriented courses, the Federation has been advancing interest free education loans to them.

During the Financial Year 2015-16, a total number of 40 blind students were sanctioned Education Loan of Rs. 996000/- so far. Since the launching of scheme approximately 350 blind students have been sanctioned Education Loan worth rupee 82,19,661/-.

C. National Housing Loan Scheme

National Federation of The Blind provides housing loan to visually impaired person on minimum rate of interest. Under this scheme only Government Employees are granted loans maximum up to Rs. 20,00,000/-. During the financial year 2015-16, a total number of 10 blind employees were sanctioned loan worth Rs. 1,23,00,000/-. Since the launching of this scheme a total number of 213 Blind Employees have been sanctioned loan worth Rs. 18,91,44,000/-

D. Emergency medical assistance scheme

The Federation provides Medical Assistance to its members by way of loans or in some cases as assistance. The Federation has also a Medical Relief Fund of government employees. This fund has been created by the government employees which they are managing themselves through the Federation.

The maximum age limit to become the member of this relief fund 40 years. In case of emergency, Rs 25000/- is paid treatment in the form of loan and in case of death, assistance of Rs. 50,000/- is paid to family member of the deceased which is not refundable.

E. National Food security scheme of the federation :

Appealed by the plight of impoverished state of the blind persons living in certain pockets of country, with no positive steps of aid or alleviation being initiated either by the state or central governments, considering, that the responsibility lies in us to help such the poorest visually impaired persons, the federation announced this scheme. The purpose of this scheme launched in 2016 to save those rural blind who are unable to manage even one square meal a day. Under this scheme the federation identifies such poorest rural blind persons and offers them Rs.200/- per month in order to manage their minimum basic requirements.

Other activities

Sports : The blind are as passionate as the normal individuals about sports. Sport for the Blind is seen as a program of physical and cerebral rehabilitation. Participation in sports helps the blind to stay physically fit, inculcates discipline, team spirit and camaraderie. It also provides an opportunity to them to travel inside and outside the country thus enabling them to gain general knowledge and understand different cultures. This includes Cricket, Football, Chess tournaments and athletic meets. The Federation organized a National Cricket Tournament for the Blind in Delhi in February 2009. Two blind athletes of the Federation have taken part in World Youth and Student Championships from July 15-20, 2009 at Colorado Springs, Colorado, USA and won medals. It regularly organizes meets and tournaments at local, state and national levels thus providing an opportunity encouraging the blind youngsters to actively participate in them.

Cultural Activities : In order to identify, encourage and promote talent from amongst the blind singers, musicians, and poets, constant efforts are made by the Federation through its Cultural Wing. It was able to unearth several such talented young artists. The cultural wing provides a platform and organises various cultural activities such as Music programmes and Kavi Sammelans from time to time in various parts of the Country. This constant effort saw great musical nights and kavi sammelans organized by the federation.

Coaching Courses : Keeping the forthcoming special recruitment drives to fill up the backlog vacancies in quota of visually challenged persons in mind, during the year 2015-16 federation manage to undertake coaching courses through all its state branches to prepare the blind persons for various competitive exams.

Legal protection : The federation affords to provide legal protection each and every blind person of the country who is denied of his/her legal entitlements on the ground of blindness and approaches to the federation for the rescue

The federation manages to sort out all such individual matters at the level of its state branches and national office by way of civil and legal advocacy.

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National Federation of the Blind Karnataka

(Voice of the Blind)

The National Federation of the Blind (Karnataka)is a part of a National and largest self help organization of the blind known as National Federation of the Blind (India) representing around 2,50,000 visually impaired people of the state. We are the Voice of the Blind, speaking to state governments and national bodies, on issues concerning blindness and visual impairments. NFB Karnataka believes to work in partnership with all those national and regional organizations and government agencies for providing services to visually impaired persons.

If someone wishes to join the NFB Karnataka with the view to serve the persons with visual impairment, the membership of the federation is open for all such individuals and institutions.

Our prime focus is on the issues relating to the persons with blindness and low vision. such as prevention of blindness/low vision, rehabilitation, education, employment and social inclusion of persons with visual impairment.

We are also member of Disability NGO Alliance Karnataka and work together as a coalition to advance the living standards of people with disability.

History & Structure

The NFB Karnataka was established on July 10, 2004 and since then it has been engaged to enable our visually challenged peers to maximize their potential in all spheres of their lives and to have all those human rights that their sighted counter parts enjoy.

We have two district units at Mysore and Hubli which are managed by the team of local visually challenged leaders, belonging to their respective regions.

The Federation has around 1200 visually challenged members across the state irrespective of their cast, creed, religion, profession and socio-economic status.

In accordance with its ideology and activities, the federation has become a real and authentic voice of person with visual disability.

Through its leadership and democratic structure the federation has succeeded to provide a platform to all its visually challenged brothers and sisters to establish the right to speak for themselves.

Eliminating prejudice, promoting belief in the proven abilities of visually impaired people, as well as achieving full participation and equality in society are among the key goals of the organization in the state.

Our Governing Council

Our governing council in comprising of leaders elected by the general body of the NFB Karnataka. The present governing council was elected in August 2016 for a term of five years.

The office bearers and members in governing council include the following

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Address & contact details	Profession
1.	**Sri Nagaraj M Sirsi**	President	C/o. G.Narayanaswamy, # 48, 4th Cross, Dinnur, R T Nagar, Bangalore- 32 Mob: 9036097977 email: Nagaraj_M3@dellteam.com	Facility Executive in Dell services international Pvt. Ltd
2	**Kavitha T.S**	Vice president (women)	D/o T. Shivappa, #970, 47th Cross, Kumaraswamy Layout, Bangalore -560078 Mob: 09731106881 email: kavitha.vocalist@gmail.com	Customer Assistant at SBI

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Address & contact details	Profession
3	**Gopalkrishna T**	Vice president	Mob: 09019234616 email: gopalfirst@gmail.com	Employee at BEML
4	**Sri Gautam Agarwal**	General Secretary	Bharat Monofilament & Textiles PVT Ltd #65, 1st Main Road, Pete Channappa Indl. Estate, Magadi Main Road, Kamakshipalya, Bangalore-560 079 Mob: 9980444655 email: gtm.agrawal@gmail.com	Own plastic Business (Director in Bharat group of companies)
5	**Sri Manjunath V**	Secretary (Youth)	Tailagere Village, Karahalli Post, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Dist. Mob: 9731692686 e-mail: manjunath.vl@rediffmail.com	Probationary Officer in Canarabank
6	**Sri Girish V.**	Secretary	S/o Vasant N.R #47, 5th Main, 3rd Cross, Promod Layout, Nayandahalli, Bangalore -560039 Mob: 09980356137/09845929738 e-mail : girish.v13@gmail.com	Lecture in Maddur, Govt. PU college
7	**Sri Pradeep T.S.**	Secretary	# 970, 47th Cross, 1st Stage, Kumaraswamy Layout Bangalore - 560078 Mob: 9845925188 e-mail: pradeep_banakar@rediffmail.com	Assistant Manager in United Bank of India
8	**Ms. Sundreshwari V**	Treasurer	C. A Site, No. P-22, 31st Main, 18th Cross, Sector- I, H.S.R Layout, Behind, NIFT, Bangalore -102. Mob: 9900192609 e-mail: sundari@gmail.com	Working in NGO
9	**Sri Shanthappa**	Member	MPS School, Nalvar, Chittapurtaluk, Kalburgi Dist. M: 9844458675	Teacher in Government Primary School
10	**Sri Mohan**	Member	#42/10, Corporation ATM Building, KHB Colony, Sirke Apartment, Nagarabhavi Ring Road, Jnanabharathi Post, Bangalore - 56 Mob: 9945327884	Helper in Garment Industry
11	**Sri Basavaraj B.T.**	Member	# 70, Karadoni Atpost, Navali Hobli, Gangavathi Taluk, Koppal Dist Mob: 9242884663 e-mail: basavabt.music@gmail.com	

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Address & contact details	Profession
12	**Sri Fayaz Pasha**	Member	S/o Jani Basha #15, E 3rd Street, Shivajinagar, Bangalore - 560051 Mob: 9845942395 Ph: 080-22861397 Personal email : fayazjpasha@gmail.com official email : fayaz.pasha@accenture.com	Test Engineering Senior Analyst
13	**Tanuja**	Member	W/o Vinaykumar #14, 8th Main, 18th Cross, Nanjanarasappa Layout, Canarabank Colony, Bangalore -72 Mob: 08197425555/08123273933 email: tanuja.chetali@gmail.com	Home maker and Dietician
14	**Sirnivasamurty**	Member	S/o Govindaiah #41/B, B Block, Rainbow Layout, 3rd Cross, Vaderahalli, Vidyaranyapuram, Bangalore-97 Mob: 9945977308 / 09035911023 email; ms.srini@rediffmail.com	SDA - Sr. Civil Judge court Maddur
15	**Vidyasagar Gupta**	Member	S/o Durga Prasad #J-1. JS-277, Ittina Apartment, Near Gold Coin Club, Electronic City, Bangalore - 560100 Mob: 09886329390 emai: Vsgupta510@gmail.com	Retd. wipro Employee and writer
16	**Anandivishwanathan**	Member	Flat #015, A Block, DS-Max-solitaire Banjara Layout, Horamavu, Agara, Bangalore - 560043 Mob: 8197177080 email : anandhi.viswanathan@gmail.com	Businessman
17	**Ms. Haseena Hussein**	Coordinator NFB State women Committee	Mob: 8095151514 e-mail : hasina.husein@gmail.com	Government Employee
18	**Channaveer Awate**	Coordinator NFB State youth Committee	Mob : 9741919252 e-mail : channaveer.awate@gmail.com	P.G. Student

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National Leaders of the Federation

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Address & contact details	Profession
1	**Dr. Shirish L. Despande**	National President	Plot No.54, Central Excise Colony Layout, Telecom Nagar, Khamla Nagpur 400025 (MH)	Prof. of Law at Nagpur University
2.	**Sri Santosh Kumar Rungta**	National General Secretary	D-67, East of Kailsha, New Delhi Mob: 09312607540 email: santoshkumar.rungta@gmail.com	Sr. Advocate in Delhi High court & Supreme Court
3	**Sri Kashminai**	National Vice President (South Zone)	Mob: 9444482241 email: kasichempakara@gmai.com	Instructor at Regional Center of NIVH at Chennai
4.	**Sri Vishvanath Reddy**	National Secretary (South)	Kurnool, A.P Mob: 9491362518 email: r.viswa1980@gmail.com	Teacher in Government School A.P
5	**Mrs. Kusumalatha**	National Vice President and Chairperson to National Women Wing	Delhi mob: 9643339979	Prof. in Hindi, Delhi University
6	**Sri. Naveen kumar**	National Secretary and Chairperson to Youth wing	Delhi Mob: 9312640651	Teacher in government school
7	**Ms. Madhusinghal**	National Coordinator to NFB Women Wing	Mitrajyothi, C.A. Site No. P22, 31st Main, 18th Cross, HSR Layout, Sector I, Beihind NIFT (National Institute of Fashion Technology), Bangalore - 560102 Ph: 080-22587623/24 email: admin.office@mitrajyothi.org	Managing Trustee of Mitrajyothi Charitable Trust Bangalore

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One Year of Success at Glance

As we bid good bye to the previous year and welcome the New Year with fresh hopes and expressions. It is therefore be fair that we, at NFB Karnataka should also share with all those to whom the organization wants to serve. A retrospect of what we have done and achieved during last 12 months, so that thousands of our friends, members , well wishers and most importantly the beneficiaries throughout the state can judge themselves whether we are performing as per their desires and expectations or not.

With this in view, the key activities and achievements of the federation during last 1 year may be illustrated as under

a. The aids and appliances of worth 982353/- have been made available to around 3500 beneficiaries across the state under the aids and appliances supply service of the federation during last 1 year

b. 20 college going students from Karnataka have been awarded with National Scholarship of the federation during last 1 year.

c. Three meritorious students who stood first among their visually impaired peers in the state (SSLC-1, Degree-1, PG-1) have been awarded with NFB Prathibha Award of Rs.10,000/- (each)

d. 190 college going students have been distributed the Daisy player device (Plextalk vachak) in order to enable them to pursue their higher education through National Institute of visually handicapped Dehradun under ADIP scheme of union ministry of social justice and empowerment.

Production of Braille books

The Braille production unit of the federation produced master copies of Kannada general books and 3 text books of degree course of Dharwad University, and submitted to NIVH for making available in Braille for Karnataka residing Braille readers.

The unit also produced several master copies of Kannada reference books for competitive exams, general knowledge and recreational books.

The publication of Kannada Grihashobha and on behalf of AICB Delhi and Spardhaspoorthi monthly magazines for its own library members have been continued.

NFB Karnataka Braille cum talking library

NFB Karnataka Braille cum talking library has been continuously engaged to meet the requirements of reading material for blind students pursuing higher education, professionals, workers, adults, women, children and senior citizens. Till date, the collection of wide range of books in Kannada, English and Hindi languages in all accessible formats (including Braille, talking and e-books) have exceeded more than 1600 and membership of the federation have entered in 4 digits during the past one year 40 new members have been added, 350 members visited the library, 530 Braille/talking books were circulated as per the demand of the members.

Employment Promotion

With a prime focus of the federation to help our qualified and trained visually challenged brothers and sisters in securing gainful employment in public sector, the federation has been taking up various initiatives since its inception. The steps taken by the federation during the past 1 year for the employability of persons with visual impairment are as under

a. 21,500 SMS have been circulated to more than 1200 visually impaired persons for informing them about the new job openings/recruitments in public sector services of central and state governments in which certain number of posts have been reserved for V.I. category.

b. Identification of suitable post for V.H. category in state government services: - As a member of the state post identification committee, federation has been playing a key role to convince the concerned authorities to identify many important post in their establishments as suitable for VH category in conformity with the list of identified jobs notified by the government of India.

During past 1 year, many new jobs including group A, B, C and D have been identified as suitable for blind and low vision in various departments and services of the state government. The list of which is reproduced separately at the end of this booklet

c. Screening of all recruitment notification of the state government with the view to ensure the due compliance of all provisions relating the scheme of job reservation for persons with disability. The screening of many such

recruitment notification have been done and the concerned recruiting authorities have been influenced for necessary rectification. As a result the job opportunities to persons with disability could be enhanced during the past one year

d. Federation has also made available the reference books for various competitive exams to the visually impaired aspirants in Braille, talking and e-formats. Such as FDA, SDA, Railway, Banking and many other competitive exams.

Fortnightly E-bulletin of the federation "Voice of the Blind"

The circulation of the e-bulletin of the federation "Voice of the Blind" is still continued, all 24 issues of the bulletin have been circulated regularly during the past year. Each issue of the bulletin contains a wide range of news and informations across the globe that affects the lives of visually impaired persons.

The list of subscribers has exceeded more than 800 individuals and institutions all over the country.

Advocacy and lobbing

As the federation has ever its main thrust on legal / civil advocacy as well as lobbing and influencing the public authorities for progressive, improvement and modernization of public policies, programmes and practices governing the education, rehabilitation and employment of persons with disability

Some key advocacy initiatives and their outcomes during the past year are as under

a. After sustained advocacy and lobbying of several years by the federation, 40 years old syllabus of alternative subjects for visually challenged students at secondary school level including political science, economics and sociology could be revised and new text books for 8th and 9th standard came in the market during the past year while the books of 10th standard had come before last year itself.

b. Placement of visually challenged and low vision persons in various government jobs :- Due to our focused advocacy and continued vigilance with regard to due implementation of scheme of job reservation for persons with disability in general and visually impaired in particular, a large number of visually challenged individuals could get different jobs in State and Central government services.

The selection of the visually challenged persons against some particular jobs during the past one year are as under:

I. FDA – 135

II. SDA- 128

III. Asst. Professor – 13

IV. Recruitment in D Group in Railway -24

In addition to above many visually challenged people have been selected against banking and other central government services in the state.

The process of recruitment and selection is also in many other departments such as the Panchayat Development officer and Panchayat Secretary in Rural Development and Panchayat Raj , recruitment of various departments through KPSC, recruitment of energy department and so on where around 198 Vacancies reserved for blind and low vision.

Financial assistance to 47 poorest rural blind persons under national scheme of the federation

Nfb Karnataka identified and enrolled 47 poorest and helpless visually challenged from the remote villages across the state under National Scheme of the Federation to extend financial assistance of 200 per month to all such persons. Amount of Rs.600/- to all 47 beneficiaries as first installment of 3 months has been paid in the month of September and 2nd installment of the same amount will be paid on the occasion of 12th annual function of the federation on 4th January 2017.

Free Health check up camps

State women and state youth committee of the federation jointly conducted 2 health checkup camps with the view to diagnose the hidden diseases of visually impaired men and women. More than 150 visually impaired persons from in and around Bangalore avail the benefit of these camps.

Enrollment of Visually Challenged Persons under Swavalamban Health Insurance Scheme

Federation organized one swavalamban health Insurance camp at its principal office on 13.08.2016 where around 80 visually challenged persons enrolled for the family health

insurance policy of 2 lakh per annum. In addition to this federation also facilitated many other visually challenged persons for enrollment under the same scheme at the camp conducted by Information Center for Persons with disability NIMHANS on every 3rd Saturday of the month

Counseling workshop for visually impaired women

NFB State women committee initiated to conduct a workshop on social, psychological, and physical issues of the visually impaired women

Establishment of Computer lab

With the financial support of Karnataka Marwadi Samaaj the federation established a computer lab with 10 new desktop system and all other necessary equipments for imparting basic or need base training to working persons with visual impairment

Production of talking books

The federation also has set up a audio book recording room at is office and commenced the production of accessible audio books of various academic/professional courses as well as general interest.

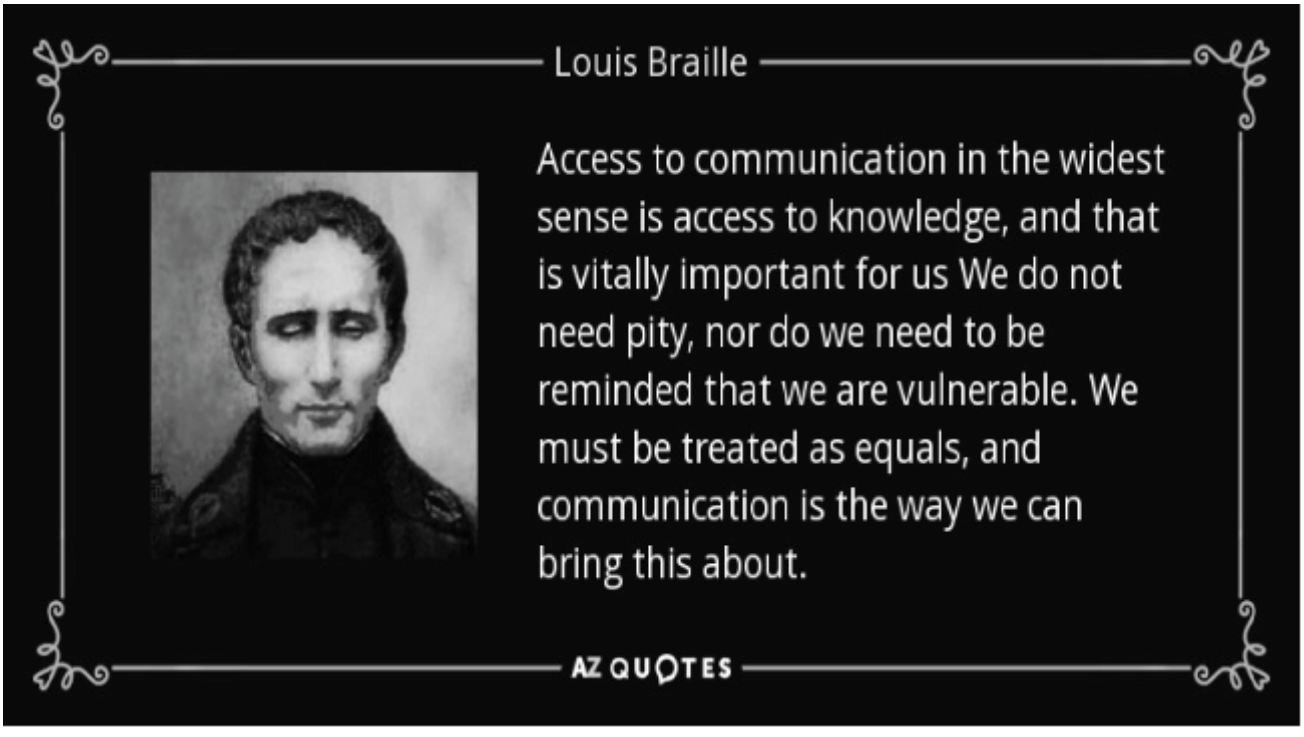
Federation feels obliged towards Agarwal Mahila Mandal for its generous sponsorship to master copies of 10 audio books, the production of which is in process

This is a brief summary of what NFB Karnataka stands for and what it has been able to achieve during last one year. we realize that still we have a long way to go yet, a number of hurdles to cross, and many more milestones to achieve.

We acknowledge in all humility that whatever little we have been able to do, has been possible, largely due to the immense faith reposed in us by our members, staff, volunteers, friends, well wishers, donors and national leaders. With abiding support and very heartening cooperation/help received to us from all quarters of the community we can assure that we shall continue to strive with redoubled zeal and vigor toward opening up new horizons and opportunities for our blind brothers and sisters.

Team NFB Karnataka

❐



The Prime Activities of NFB Karnataka

It was the vision of our founders to reach out to and serve every blind person in the state, and with the view to realize this vision National Federation of the Blind Karnataka came into existence in 10th July 2004 with the philosophy "Let the Blind Lead the Blind"

During the last 12 years the federation has developed a strong pan Karnataka presence, by providing a range of services to the blind in every nook and corner of state through network of its principal office and regional units at Mysore & Hubli.

Since the inception of the organization in the state we have been engaged in creating an environment in the state that enables thousands of our visually challenged brothers and sisters to maximize their potential and have at least all those basic human rights which their sighted counterparts enjoy.

Our Prime activities include the following

Hostel for College going boys with visual disability: -

We are running two hostels for college going blind boys at our principal office in Bangalore and Mysore regional unit respectively, where the visually impaired students are availing the benefit of boarding, lodging, study support material and other basic amenities.

Federation needs all expenditure of both the hostels through its resources without any financial aid from the state or central government. The admission to both hostels are opened to all those Karnataka residing visually challenged boys who come to Bangalore or Mysore from remote parts of the state to pursue their higher education.

Aids & Appliances supply service

NFB Karnataka operates a store of vide range of assistive devices which are used by the blind persons in their day to day life. The store procures all such assistive devices from reputed manufacturers and dealers across the country and abroad and make them available to the visually challenged individuals and their institutions to the state at its actual cost. The assistive devices available at store include Braille learning and writing devices, mobility aids, educational aids, indoors and out door games, puzzles and personnel devices.

Sl. No.	Particular	Rate
1	7 Line Pocket frame	44
2	Measuring tape	10
3	Taylor frame(small)	95
4	6" Scale Plastic	4
5	Arithmetic Types	15
6	Algebra Types (50 Types)	15
7	Braille Slate (Big)	80
8	I.P Slate	86
9	Cross Puzzle Board	65
10	Plastic Stylus	3
11	Concave Plastic Stylus	3
12	5 Line Pocket Frame	21
13	Abacas	54
14	Braille Scale Steel	21
15	Braille Scale (p) 12"	10
16	5 Fold Stick	76
17	Ball	16
18	Chess Board	84
19	Signature Guide (p)	2
20	Signature Guide (a)	3
21	Playing Card	20
22	Safety Stylus (Plastic)	5
23	Draft Board	65
24	Safety Stylus (Metal)	10
25	Geometric Kit Rubber	216
26	V. Geometric Kit Aluminum	388
27	Tactile Diagram Set	1430
28	Taylor Frame (large)	111
29	Puzzle	56
30	Bull Head Stylus	4
31	Peg in Puzzle With Coins	15
32	Centre Peg Board	61
33	Peg Board with Coins	24
34	Braille Slate (small)	71
35	Talking Calculator	450
36	Talking - Thermometer	265
37	Braille Training Board(e)	35
38	4 Fold Stick (wt)	120
39	N. Stick	210
40	Talking Table Clock	415
41	Dominos	170
42	Folding Chess Board	250

Sl. No.	Particular	Rate
43	Hindi Braille Slate	45
44	Sonic Labeler	2850
45	Talking Watch	370
46	Flex Talk (Variable speed recording system)	10800
47	Liquid Level Indicator	875
48	Mobile Talks	2300
49	Smart Cane	3000
50	Braille Titan Watch	1100
51	Elastic	25
52	Kit Stylus	10
53	Knob Stylus	10
54	Taylor Frame (p)	135
55	Braille Letter Cube	12
56	8- Braille Letter Cube	50
54	5braille Letter Cube	35
55	Brain Vita	30
56	Nail Puzzle	15
57	Pyramid Puzzle	75
58	Plot-4	170
59	Match-21	170
60	Cube Puzzle	85
61	Drum Puzzle	85
62	Titan Braille Watch	1100
67	Billet Board	185
68	Eraser	6
69	Folding Stylus	18
70	Note Identifier	50
71	Notex	7
72	9 l p Frame (Plastic)	25
73	4-Fold Stick (nab Mumbai)	140
74	Pill Box	15
75	Carom Board	3600
76	Sudoku Puzzle	850
77	Nylon Scale (p) 12"	14
78	Abacus	80
79	Needle Threaded	2
80	5-Fold Stick (nab)	140
81	Ludo	500
82	Snake & Ladder	600
83	Dice	400
84	6-Fold Cane	175
85	7-Fold Cane	150
86	Special Cricket Ball	40
87	Note Taker	125
88	Talking Weighing	1300

State level Braille cum talking library

NFB Karnataka also houses a Braille cum talking library at its principal office. The library caters reading and learning needs of more than thousands of visually challenged individuals throughout the state.

A wide range of Braille, talking and e- books in Kannada, English and Hindi languages are available at library.

The subjects of general interest which the library covers are history, health, Geography, Law, Literature, disability study, General Knowledge, women literature, child literature, competitive exams and other reference books.

Every blind person across the state is entitled to take the membership of library just by making payment of Rs.100/- as a life membership.

Sri Mahesh Ranani may be contacted for any quarry in regard with library and aids and appliances supply service at Mob: 8197900171

Information & Counseling Service

Under this service federation manages to collect and disseminate accurate and update informations to the visually challenged individuals, their parents and institutions in regard with various opportunities, facilities and benefits available to them in different fields of life by the public and private sector at International, National and State level.

We make available the copies of various notifications, circulars and judgements issued by the State Governments, Central Government and judiciary for all type of benefits to persons with visual disability. We also offer the counseling to the needy visually challenge persons in regard with carrier selection, workplace solution, legal consultation and social support.

Advocacy

According to census 2011 there are around 2,50,000 blind persons in the state , most of these people belong to the under privileged strata of the society. Blindness combined with poverty limits their access to education, employment, health services, etc. All these finally leads to their socio-economic exclusion.

To promote equality of this marginalized groups, to reduce their exclusion, to help them in participating in all developmental measures, make them heard and assert their right, the NFB Karnataka has devised a well focused programme of advocacy with the support of its national leader.

The federation undertakes the initiatives of both legal and civil advocacy in order to influence the government for improvement and modernization of public policies and practices, governing the rehabilitation, education, employment, social security and other concerns of persons with disability in general and blind in particular. The federation also persuades the state government for effective implementation of persons with disability act 1995, UN convention of the rights of persons with disability and directions of the judiciary regarding socio-economic empowerment of persons with disability. Is also actively engaged in delivery of benefits of various welfare schemes of central and state government to maximum number of people with visual disability. ❐

Louis Braille and his wonderful Invention

4th January is observed as birth anniversary of Louis Braille. Through his wonderful invention of tactile "Reading & Writing system" for sightless persons known as "Braille script", French man by birth, Louis Braille has become to be accepted in spirit as a world citizen.

A short life sketch of this great emancipator of the blind, is reproduced here Louis Braille (1809 to 1852). Year 1809 – Louie Braille was born on January 4th in Coup Ray, a small town on east of Paris. Year 1812 – At the age of 3 he accidently pierced his eyes an awl when he was playing in his father's saddle makers workshops. The infection spread to his other eye and he became totally blind.

Year 1819 - Louie joined the young blind peoples institute in paris, founded in 1784 by Valentine Hay. He stayed at the institute for 24 years, first as a student and later as teacher.

Year 1820 - Louis was introduced to the "Night writing system" developed by a army captain Nicolas Marie Charles bar bier for the army. He studied the system, made some improvements and developed his own method, which he completed in 1825 when he was just 15 years old

Year 1827- Louis Braille become a teacher at young blind people institute, where he taught grammar, history, geography, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, piano, cello

Year 1829- The first version of his method was published. The second version including some improvements, was published 8 years later and contains the Braille method as we know it today

Year 1852 – on January 6th, Louis died of tuber colossi aged 43. He was buried coup ray where the house in which he was born still stands and is now in museum

Year 1952 – Louis Braille's body was moved to the pantheon in parries, not far from the young blind peoples institute where he spent most of his life.

What is Braille? Braille is a tactile script use by the sightless person for reading and writing. This is a alphabet system of 6 dots in a 3X2 grid used to represent letters, numbers and symbols for most of the world's languages. It plays an essential role in the lives of millions of blind people worldwide allowing them to access literature and study alongside their peers. Braille was invented by a young blind man, Louis Braille, when he was 15 years old (in 1824). At the time Louis was enrolled in the Royal Institution for Blind Youth in Paris. He wanted the right to read books just like other children and so he worked to create a tactile alphabet that would be easy to learn, replicate and use.

Louis Braille, who was born 200 years ago did not have the chance in his life time to witness the un bridled success of his simple but brilliant invention, a system which revolutionized the lives of blind people by opening doors to knowledge and culture, fields which were out of bounce to them.

Louis Braille completed his code in 1825 when he was dearly fifteen years old, but he passed away 2 years before France officially adopted his system in 1854. 4 decades his method faced rejection from both teachers at the young blind peoples institute in parries, where Braille himself studied and taught, and from sighted people. It was even banned for some time, and it was not until 1878 when an international conference held in parries recognize the Braille system giving it the boost it needed to be implemented gradually worldwide. since then training, development and independence for blind people have a realized largely on this reading and writing system that is now 200 years after it was invented, used in practically every language in the world. Although in the past few years many have hailed the replacement of the Braille system due to technological breakthrough, no alternative method capable of substituting in completely as yet been developed. what is more, there are a numerous signs that it enjoys rude health as it is used increasingly in every day settings to enable blind people to become more independent. Braille is still irreplaceable in this respect, as we can see, for example, with the cosmetics firms, food companies and wine merchants who market their

products with Braille labeling, the European union directive that makes it obligatory to have Braille signage in new lifts, or the fact that since October 2005 all medicine in the European union must carry Braille labeling. Yet more initiative can be found in the field of citizens rights. Countries such as France, Germany, Spane, India, Mexico, Colombia and Costarica are using Braille to come up with different methods to ensure blind people are able to exercise their vote independently in election.

The simple and logical structure of Braille systems is based on the presence or absence of dots in a cell containing two parallel columns, each with 3 dots. The different permutations of dots in the six dots shall give us 63 different combinations representing all the letters of alphabets.

Louis Braille based his system on the so called "Night writing" developed by Charles bar bier, a captain in the artillery, to enable the military to send messages in the dark. Braille learnt about this tactile code when he was just 10 years old and after studying it, he reached the brilliant conclusion that the 2 columns containing 6 dots each put forward by bar bier should be reduced to two columns of 3 dots, an Idol size for the perception of a finger tip. Louis also showed that the sense touch was significantly more sensitive to dots than to the linear system used in the code created some years previously by valentine hay.

Louis Braille came up with very logical code – The first 10 letters of the alphabet are formed using combinations only of the top 2 rows in the cell, the next 10 are the same as the first 10 with the addition of bottom dot in the left hand column, and the following 10 letters use the bottom dots in both columns. After that only the bottom right hand dot is used and so on. Punctuation marks are represented by combination of dots using only the 2 bottom rows. Louis, however, did not stop after inventing the Braille alphabet. He is also responsible for adopting his systems for mathematics, creating clever system of abbreviations, and for music, developing a vertical system that is still used to this day.

Braille and New technologies : We do not have a accurate number of Braille users, nor do we have research showing a correlation between the use of reading and writing system and academic qualifications. However, from the information we do have and available estimates we can observe that it is used by a minority of blind and low vision. This is for a verity of reasons, among them the difficulties, older people have in learning Braille and the high cost of producing Braille resource material. In addition, in recent times we have witnessed the development of new technologies based on text to speech which have reduced noticeably the extent to which Braille is used, especially because of lot of information and books are easier to get hold of using electronic methods. Both methods, however, far from being mutually exclusive, can complement each other.

In the 80's and 90's there were significant breakthroughs in computing and electronics, and we are now able to produce much more material in Braille a lot more cheaply. Suitable complementary computer programs make it possible to present the same information that is written on the computer in Braille. There are now many resources that are an improvement on what most people used to have, but for people with visual impairment many of these technological breakthroughs have opened up possibilities that were previously unimaginable. For example, huge amount of information can now be stored on a CD, DVD or other tiny storage devices that are now available and accessible to more and more people with vision loss, who use a computer. Internet also opens up brand new horizons for those of us who cannot see but have access to an adapted computer. Reading the news paper is now no longer a utopian pipe dream for the blind.

But the truth is that all these innovations do not take anything away from the value of Braille, and in fact they contribute to strengthening its merit. Now a days the ideal system is to combine Braille and text to speech software when using a computer and, more generally, when handling informations.

Braille as a universal system : Although Braille is used by a minority of people with vision loss, it must be recognized as a truly universal system since it is used in all languages, including Chinese , Japanese and Arabic.

1950, played a leading role in the application of Braille in the written languages of the world. It carried out the very important task of preserving unity in dots that were common to several languages and made a vital contribution to extending Braille to languages less wide spread then English, French or Spanish.

Sir Clutha Mackenyie, published a guide "World Braille Usage" in 1953. That sets out general principals and includes Braille alphabets in those languages where they were available at the time.

Thus the Braille has been a vital force for last 200 years to remove the barriers in the lives of multimillion visually challenged persons across the globe and a prime key to their literacy, knowledge, intellectual development and economic independence. ❐

Visual Impairment No Barrier for Personality Improvement of Women

We all want to be successful in our lives – whether it concerns our inter personnel, social or professional domain. But the big time question is, "How to become Successful?" Ironically the answer lies within us. The road to success is our own dynamic personality. Most visually impaired women have within themselves ample capacity to be at par with their sighted counter parts.

A personality is a group of traits that determine a common patron of behavior. It encompasses not only the physical appearance at the whole pattern of our thoughts, feelings, emotions and behavior.

In order to have a more effective and pleasing personality, following are some of the areas on which one can concentrate –

Self esteem and self confidence: - "Nobody is perfect"! : Self esteem is a how you talk and feel about yourself. Ultimately, it is about how much you respect yourself. If we don't respect ourselves, how can we expect others to respect us?

A confident person is one who is self reliant and secure. She keeps the courage to accept her mistakes and take adequate steps to correct them timely. However, people with no self confidence are cynical about their ability to perform a specific task efficiently. As a result, they are scared to take the responsibility. They become the victims of shyness and hesitate to express themselves.

The next time, feelings of self doubt, inferiority or sadness begin to envelope you; remember that you are not alone. Lack of confidence and self esteem is a problem many women face in various aspects of their lives – personnel, social and professional. There are some tips that women across the world use to develop a sense pride in them and confidence in their abilities.

"Magic of positive thinking" – there is no more powerful directing force in human behavior than belief. With powerful guiding beliefs you have the power to take action and create the world you want to live in. If you believe that you cannot do something, then in all probability you will not be able to do it. However, if you believe that you can, then you will fight all O.S that come your way and make sure that success has to come your way. So, it is very important to keep yourself away from dysfunctional thoughts like "I cannot do" , "Nobody likes me" , "Life is full of problems", etc.,

"Overcome self consciousness" - among humans there is a natural carving for praise and appreciation. We all fear condemnation and like to hear nice and pleasant things about ourselves. However it is not quite possible to be liked by all the people around us. For a consistent growth in personality, it is essential to focus on your strength. In fact criticism if taken positively can also prove to be very constructive in overcoming our weaknesses.

"Be your own best friend" : Critical behavior starts from childhood. When we are young, we are often criticized far more then we are praised. Then as we grow up, we continue with this negative patron, by then our belief systems are so firmly planted that we really don't any other way and it's difficult to build confidence and self esteem. Do you find yourself saying or thinking any of the following? – I am not good enough?

I am not pretty enough. Don't deserve : If so, ditch this habit, now, and leant to be your own best friend. Start to say positive thinking to yourself, and once you get used to doing this, self criticism will become a distant memory of the past and your confidence and self esteem will soar. To acknowledge your worth is crucial to enjoy the sense of dignity. No individual is complete. Personality is the combination of many positive and negative traits. Do develop the sense of dignity, it becomes crucial for us to except and like our self just the way we are. for success it is important to read and understand your mind so as to recognize your weakness and strength.

"Enjoy the gift of the present" : Often, we walk around either obsessed about our past mistakes, or we catastrophized about what might happen in the feature, tormenting ourselves with unknown fears, future expectations, assumptions, guilt's and worries. Are you stuck in this pattern? if so, you need to recognize that all we have is here and know. The past is gone, and future has not

happened yet. Don't let worrying about the past or the future consume you. Leave and be happy!

"Learning to say no" : a. do you find yourself saying "Yes" – when you would rather say "No" ? Well, here is the reason. by Nature, women are nurturers and carers. our natural instinct is to help others, and that's certainly an admirable quality, but at what cost to our confidence and self esteem? Remember, saying "No" is not about rejecting the other persons. It is simply about self preservation and your confidence and self esteem. You can say no without being rude or impolite and you teach others not to take you for granted.

Involve yourself in lively activities like sports, reading, writing, cooking or music.

Keep yourself happy and keep others happy too : Knowledge is extremely powerful in boosting the self confidence and building a strong impression on others. However, it is not an in born trait. We can widen our general knowledge in taking the following steps –

1. Listen to the news daily along with other informative programs on television and radio,
2. Interact with intelligent persons
3. Actively participate in discussions
4. Try and persuade friends and family to readout news papers and women's magazines to you
5. Locate such magazines such material in Braille/audio form, wherever available

We all have felt a little diffident, even nervous at the thought of meeting people, attending parties, etc. We get anxious because we worry whether we are making a good impression on others or not. Little knowing that most of the time, they are worrying about the same thing! The mantra that can help you through any situation involves using the one thing that breaks boundaries of cultures, casts, race, class and gender and that is your smile

Faces that never show any emotion, and never smiles are not very appealing. No matter how attractive or how plain a person's facial features may be, a pleasant smile can make that person look beautiful too. Smiling demonstrates confidence, friendliness, positive attitude, a good mood. So, when you smile in the company of other people, they will assume that you are in a good mood and that you are happy with them. This will make other people more likely to spend time with you just try to know you better.

Some other strategies are as following : Firstly, be interested in people. Try to discover what other people want. Know their likes, dislikes, interests and believes. by doing this you will be regarded as a person with an attractive and pleasing personality

Secondly assume that people are like you. If you tell other people that you want to talk to them, they will react to you with warmth.

Thirdly admit your weaknesses. Don't regard yourself as a perfect person. Just as persons have strengths, they also have their weakness

Fourthly, admire your friends. Praise them for their achievements; tell them how attractive they seem. Make them feel how important they are to you. By this, they will also give importance to you. Thus giving complements is a an important part of relationship

Fifthly associate with people who are successful and happy. Seek the companion ship of others who can give you new points of views, renewed hopes, and meaningful life. Ask for their advice and guidance.

Sixthly, knowledge can be keep you alive in many uncomfortable social situations. Often we wonder what to say to a stranger or someone we have just met. Keeping yourself abreast with current affairs, listening to the news and various programs on television and radio can provide starting cues to conversations. Some of the most popular ways to start conversations are discussing about the weather, political events, sports, etc.,

Lastly, listening attentively to the conversations for a while, before joining it, can provide important cues and enable you to draw important inferences about people, nature of conversation etc., Thus one can join in the conversation more confidently

Grooming : One needs to differentiate here between fashion and grooming. The average women on the street may not be aware of the latest trends in fashion. But, being unaware of what is in fashion is no excuse for keeping yourself away from a well groomed and impressive appearance.

Always make your best efforts in respect of grooming and choice of clothing.

Take the advice of your friends and family in buying cloths for yourself. special care needs to be taken that the cloths we are wearing are clean, iron and they are largely color matched, which is easily possible by consulting good friends and thereafter, by organizing your cloths and dresses in given order. Cloths should be worn according to the season and occasion. Simple accessories like hearings, bangles, and necklace, can also like simple dresses, whether they be salwar kamiz or sarees, look beautiful and ailment.

Grooming covers a lot of things,- from general hygiene, to cleanliness of the finger and toe nails, they would hardly be any person who would not be turned off/repulsed by dirty cloths of unpleasant odor. Use of a small amount of good deodorant or perfume can solve most of the problems. Imagine sitting in a park and someone passing by, living behind a whiff of pleasant odor. you will automatically positively inclined towards them, even though you don't know them.

In case you are not in favor of growing your nails, trim them once a week. If you have fancy long nails, remember they need to be cleaned many times a day, as dirt collects inside them. With regard to hair care, hair must be cleaned but it takes more than just washing them with shampoo to keep them lustrous and tidy. A balanced diet with atleast 8 to 10 glasses of water per day with must along with weekly oiling of hair beforing shampoo. The same holds true for your skin. Moisturize your skin regularly, keeping your skin type and seasons in mind.

Know the language your body speaks - Body language is the non verbal form of communication. The world is vigilant and we are continuously judged and observed by the people around us.

Thus, we need to be more careful of our non verbal cues and signals. It is important that firstly, you are not giving the wrong nonverbal cues to the other person and secondly, you are not giving unnecessary cues in the form of mannerisms. Bodily gestures which becomes a parts of behavior and tend to be performed even unconsciously or often referred to as “Mannerisms”. by being alert and aware and open to feedback, we can consciously work at removing them.

Here is a list of some behaviors which are an integral, symbolic part of nonverbal social communication – if you are sitting/standing with the arms folded across the chest, it shows a defensive or critical attitude.

A weak or an overly strong hand shake is not taken as sign of impressive personality. A warm hand shakes with warmfully stretched out and firm grip is received rather well.

Drumming the fingers on the table or continuously tapping or shaking the feet on the floor tends to give the impression that you are nervous or impatient. Either way, it shows this respect to the group/conversation you are in.

During conversations/facing away from the person gives the impression that you are uninterested. Thus, it is very important to face the person but not stand too close. Voice volume should be adjusted according to the situation and once should avoid speaking too loudly or softly.

There are 3 basic head positions. The first one with the head straight and occasional nodding is taken by a person who has a neutral attitude about what he/she is hearing. When the head slightly tilts to one side, it shows that interest has developed. When head is down, it shows negative or submissive attitude.

Healthy life style : A healthy body is our most important asset. it works as a strong supportive system which helps us to deal with various difficulties in life. It is very important to take regular care of our health. This is possible only with a disciplined life style. For a health body, a strong immune system is a must. This can be develop through regular exercise, routine. Include any form of exercise like morning walk, yoga or any sports activity in your daily life. One should have a balanced diet and always eat on time.

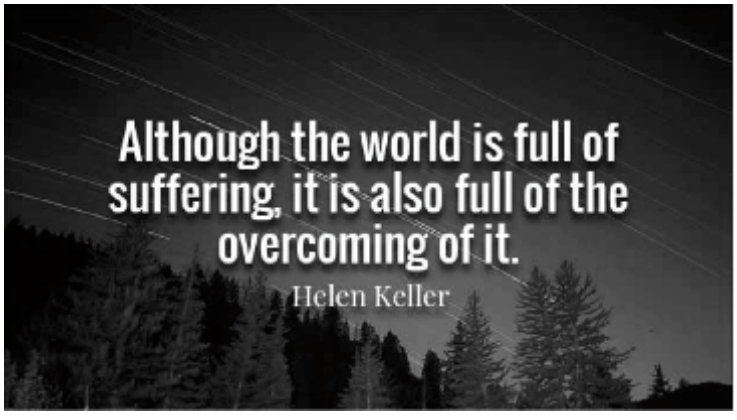
Role of self help organizations: - Self help organizations of the visually impaired cannot escape the crucial responsibilities they have towards enabling their visually impaired female members to become independent in communication and social skills. They must ensure that they provide necessary space to these members in all of their developmental activities. More importantly they should carefully planned, design and conduct training programs and courses which might be shorter in duration, but reach in content to enable these members to pick up the requisite information and skills. such intervention is absolutely essential since experience shows that institutions for visually impaired girls and women, unfortunately, are too obsessed with academic/bookies activities and pay scant, if any, attention towards these aspects of personality development. Equalization of opportunities for visually impaired girls and women could materialized only when they are helped to

acquire parity with their sighted female counter parts, with regard to all personality related skills and, it is here, that self help organizations have to work as a real catalysts as promoters.

It is often lamented in conferences, etc., that women with disabilities, are "Triply handicapped" - being a women, being a disabled (in the present contest visually impaired) and consequently being a socially and economically deprived/neglected

By keeping in mind the details discussed above and developing a pleasing, well groomed personality, your qualifications and competencies will sign through and your disability will take a back seat. thus you would be abled to overcome the so called "Triple handicaps"

(Taken from handbook for women with visual impairment published by all India confederation of the Blind Delhi in 2008)



Helen Keller Quotes on Faith

"When we complain of having to do the same thing over and over, let us remember that God does not send new trees, strange flowers and different grasses every year. When the spring winds blow, they blow in the same way. In the same places the same dear blossoms lift up the same sweet faces, yet they never weary us. When it rains, it rains as it always has. Even so would the same tasks which fill our daily lives put on new meanings if we wrought them in the spirit of renewal from within--a spirit of growth and beauty."

- An Easter Message to the Boston Community Church, 1932

Selected Stories of Successful VI Perosns

1. Mr. Santosh Kumar Rungta

Four decades of eminence

A senior advocate in Delhi High Court and Supreme Court of India as well as a well-known social activist Santosh Kumar Rungta's name has been synonymous with success for over 4 decades. His life is an impressive illustration of the extent to which a person with disability can accomplish and contribute the society if he is given the right opportunities.

Mr. Rungta was born on 17th May 1954 at Kanpur Uttar Pradesh. An attack of small pox at tender age of 16 months, took away his eye sight. At the age of 9 years he was enrolled in model blind school of Dehradun. Young Santosh faced the challenges of his visual disability boldly and emerged as brilliant student. He always stood with distinction throughout his academic carrier in B.A. LLB and LL.M. He also excelled in extracurricular activities. As an outstanding debater he participated in various inter college and inter university debates and won several trophies. Two of his special traits – oratory skill and leadership quality proved indispensable in his future professional and social carrier.

Mr. Rungta chose the profession of practicing law. He started to practice law at TheesHazari Court of Delhi in 1980 after few years he began to practice in High Court and even to Supreme Court. In 1993 filed a petition on the behalf of National Federation of the blind in Supreme Court with a prayer to allow visually challenged persons to appear in IAS exams and to right their exams either in Braille or with the help of scribe and appeared in person to argue the said case in Supreme Court. That was the time when he proved his inner worth. It was a challenge for a young and emerging advocate to prove his mettle, whereas, Mr. Rungta rose up to the task. Mr. Rungta argued the case with so much aplomb that the judges appreciated his merits on record. In 2012 Mr. Rungta has been formally designated as senior advocate of Delhi high court by a panel of judges of the High Court.

Nuptial Bliss

Mr.Rungta tied the nuptial knot in 1981. He found an ideal partner in Sushma who has shared his professional triumphs, personal joys, and sorrows. The couple is blessed with a daughter and a son who are well educated and settled now.

Mr. Rungta was not content with his ascendancy in legal field. He also evinced keen interest to serve his millions of fellow visually challenged brothers and sisters and became the champion in promotion and protection of all basic human rights of persons with disability in general and visually challenged in particular at national and international level.

A helping Hand in Need

He is serving the largest self-help organization of the blind in the country “National Federation of the Blind India" as its chief functionary for last 35 years. He has been also holding the office president Asian Blind Union since 2012. He played a key role in preparing the draft of UN Convention on Rights of Persons with Disability as a member of UN Adhoc committee at UN head quarter New York. He is also engaged in advancement of rights of persons with disability across the globe as a member of working group of world blind union for UNO.

He has been instrumental for formulation and implementation of various schemes and programmes by the central government as well as various state governments in India for socio-economic empowerment of persons with disability such as passage of comprehensive legislation for the disabled called `persons with disabilities act 1995', getting the disabled declared as eligible to compete for highest administrative posts through the favorable decision of supreme court of India in a writ filed by the national federation of the blind, Grant of age relaxation up to ten years in upper age limit for direct recruitments, Special recruitment drive for filling up the backlog of vacancies in government jobs from 1987to till date which resulted into the placement of many thousand visually challenged persons in various government jobs at center and state level. Abolition of excise duty on Braille papers in the year 1981.

Mr. Rungta's dynamic personality and his wide ranging achievements are amply demonstrating of his capacity to meaningful contribute to the society.

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2. Mr. RajdeepManwani

Mr. RajdeepManwani was born in Mumbai on the 13th day of November 1972 to a very caring mother IshooManwani and a very loving father KishanManwani with elder sister Sangeeta. He was greatly a symbol who stood with the quote uttered by his Grandfather – **"What if you cannot see the world, someday the world will see you"** and he left his mark on the society through his accomplishments. He is the man who aspires touch millions of life's through the message of hope and inspiration.

EARLY CHILDHOOD AND FAMILY SUPPORT

Mr. Rajdeep's childhood was unlike any child, he was diagnosed with macular degeneration when he was studying in school, a condition that damages macula located near the center of retina and leads to gradual loss of vision. The enormity of the problem was realized by him in his school days when the question paper of the eighth standard was handed to him and he could not read the questions. He somehow asked the invigilator's help who calmly read the questions for him and he later completed the exams with flying colors. By this time he had already lost 65 percent of his vision. Mr. Rajdeep had always been a topper in his class and has performed very well all through his academics. Mr. Rajdeep did his schooling in Bishop Cotton Boys School.

Mr. Rajdeep always had the greatest support from his family. When he started losing confidence in his ability to perform well in his academic it was his father who stood by and boosted his confidence which had a profound impact on his life as he quoted – **"Don't keep your dreams in your eyes, they will wash away as tears, keep them in your heart, so that each heart beat reminds you to reach your dreams".** This invaluable lesson has helped him win several honours in the academic and non-academic field. He credits his mother for her love and care she has bestowed on him who helped him move forward in his life. Further he acknowledges his sister for being the constant source of help during his formative years as she read out notes and text books for him.

1. SCHOLASTIC LIFE

Mr. Rajdeep joined St Joseph's College of Commerce to pursue B.Com. It was quite unconventional for someone suffering from visual impairment for opting Commerce as the trend for the visually challenged was to either take up Arts or Music. With very less encouragement around him, his choice of stream remained commerce as he loved numbers. Amongst these dissenting voices, he received encouragement from Mr. BabuRangarajan from the NGO called Abilities. Mr. Rangarajan told him, **"Rajdeep somebody is waiting for you to cross the hurdle so that their race can begin".** This became an encouraging and meaningful advice for him to succeed and lay remarkable footprints for many to step out to follow their dreams.

The loss of his father at his academic front, it was a difficult time in his life both, emotionally and financially. To be the support system of his family he burnt his wish to pursue higher studies and find jobs. He further decided to join Mysore University to pursue M.Com through correspondence.

He became a student and the bread winner of the family as he worked as a telephone operator at Sivananda Electronics and studied at the same time. He accomplished and balanced both successfully as he moved around with Walkman and audio cassettes provided with the help of NGO called MitraJyothi. Despite all the challenges faced, he came out with flying colours and became the first correspondence student ever in the history of Mysore University to receive a Gold Medal.

PROFESSIONAL LIFE

Mr. Rajdeep was inspired by his teachers and aspired to become a teacher to impart knowledge and touch many lives, he decided to opt for teaching on Completion of his Masters. Finding job was not an easy walk, he applied for many teaching positions but there were not many who showed faith in his abilities even with brilliant academic records. With sixteen rejections in his hand he kept persuading and got selected on the seventeenth attempt at Sri BhagawanMahaveer Jain College in 1996 which later become Jain University. The President of Jain University Chenraj Jainwho gave an opportunity as a lecturer told – "Rajdeep you don't have sight but you have a huge vision" which opened up several other paths for him. But, before that he had his own challenges to face as a teacher with students hardly impressed with classes.

AN INSPIRATION

Mr. Rajdeep's had his set of challenges to address as a teacher. As he pondered on making his teaching better he came across an interview of Jack Canfield during a radio broadcast by American Broadcasting Corporation (ABC). Jack Canfield is the originator of the series of books, Chicken Soup for the Soul.

The book had sold 6 million copies in its first two years itself and how did the author achieve this miracle was the question that intrigued him most as a Commerce lecturer.

Mr. Canfield in his interview on ABC told that he applied the rule of three. He said, "Even if you hit the tallest and strongest tree three times in a day and sharpen your axe every evening, it would fall within six months. Mr. Rajdeep applied the same thing and decided to do one thing every day to improve his teaching skills. It was 15th of June, 1996, went to the Library and requested the Librarian to read out some stories which was related to Management and which could be told in the class to make it more interesting. On the second day, he started working on the voice modulation with a dramatist, on the third day he went through some research articles and so on. With continuous hardship and sincere efforts for a year and a half he mastered the art of teaching and became a star teacher with the students seeking out for classes.

He went on to pursue MBA and then M.Phil and received a Gold Medal followed by PhD in Commerce with the topic, **'Strategic Evaluation of Training in Commercial Banks'.**

NUPTIAL BLISS

Mr. Rajdeep marital began with a arranged set up, where he met his life partner. With mutual liking and consenses they tied the nuptial knot. Today they are proud parents of a nine year old boy.

SPECIALTIES AND EXPERTISE

He has a inbuilt trait to connect and influence life, which propelled towards becoming the counsellor of the mentorship programme at the University. Counseling is all about empowering a person to take his or her own decisions and started teaching budding counselors at Banjara Academy on the finer aspects of coaching and counseling.

Today he trains the professionals and also takes motivational sessions on different themes for students, professionals from the corporate sector, NGOs and other organizations with an ultimate aim to inspire. The sessions are on different themes, at times it is on conquering fear, at times it is on commitments but the underlying idea is that at the end of it the individual should feel empowered and inspired.

His approach towards uplifting experience and striving to make a difference landed him at the TED X conference on the theme Success-Absolute or relative. Today he has to his credit of having trained, motivated and mentored over 15,000 students and executives over a span of eighteen years and have become a regular faculty at the Wipro Leadership Programme.

Mr. Rajdeep is an accidental Quizmaster, his foray into the domain was rather interesting, as his first quiz show at the then Sri BhagawanMahaveer Jain College. It was when the scheduled Quizmaster backed out leaving everyone in a lurch and he was asked to step in his place. Since then, he has conducted quizzes for Nokia, Deutsche Bank and several Management institutions among others.

According to Mr. Rajdeep a winner at Olympics is a winner just for ten seconds, the moment he comes down from the podium, he is just another defending champion who has to work hard all over again to defend his title. There is always so much more to achieve and every time you reach a milestone, another one is waiting to be conquered.

He has always been an enviable optimistic person with a want to spread hope to millions who often give up their dreams in the face of despair. He is a strong believer that the society can play a much more beneficial role in lending a helping hand to those who suffer from some disability by changing its perception. What is required is a little empathy and understanding that he or she can do as much as the next person.

Mr. Rajdeep is more focused and lives his life with the burning desire to do something in life and make a mark in the world. In this context he recalls his Biology teacher Mr. Alexander Nainen, who had once read out a poem, which brings life into perspective.

The poem is as under,

I learn as the years roll by, and leave the past behind;
That much I had counted as sorrows, prove that God was kind.
That many a rose I longed for, had a thorn of pain;
That many a rugged bye path, led to fields of ripened grain.
The clouds that cover the sunshine, can never banish the sun';
Earth shines brighter, when the weary rain is done.
We must stand in the darkest shadows, to see the brightest light;
For it's from life's worst obstacles, that comes the greatest strength to fight.

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3. Nidhi Goyal

Nidhi Goyal fought a battle to come to terms about her being blind, to accept the life of a blind person was very challenging to her. She did not put her arms down to accept her blindness. Rather she understood the intricacies and difficulties faced by a blind and spearheaded to volunteer to help the other blind persons who did not have much care and support.

Ms. Nidhi started her career as a media professional and was constantly connecting with problems faced by women due to gender and disability. And she found that these two aspects were disconnected and was not mainstreamed into different policies. Nidhi further streamlined her work over sexual and reproductive health and rights of women with disabilities, where these streams were considered less important as to priorities of disability movement.

In India the movement towards disability is unending and is a roughly contested topic in courts and law making, and Nidhi has been able to give a new dimension to the gender disability movement and through her research, training, campaigns, advocacy and writing and gave a wide angle view to the same. She has focussed mainly on sexuality and disability and created an online resource. The online website released by her is a highly informative source on disabled women, their partners, families, and caregivers,, organisations working on the issue, doctors, and policymakers. Nidhi has narrated many successful stories as to disabled activists and has wrote a book on life on disabled peoples life dealing with couples i.e. “why should disability spell the end of romance”.

Ms. Nidhi has also empowered many other disabled people though educating them about tailoring and making accessible things for women. She has been educating many teenagers to senior citizens about the sexual myths, gaining ability to identify, acknowledge, redress about abuse and know their own bodies.

Ms. Nidhi as an activist has tried to balance between her work not only with her activism but is also involved in creating Hindi language content for disabled on sexuality and reproductive rights and the same has been set up in her website and is covering four Hindi states she also developed programs for rural settings of north India. Nidhi is currently documenting and disseminating experiences and situations of women with disabilities in rural grassroots, across the four gender resource centres established by the Shanta memorial rehabilitation centre Orissa.

Ms Nidhi has also extended her work internationally, to her credit she has successfully conducted 3 day residential program for over ten south Asian countries about information and advocacy around disability, gender and sexual reproductive health and rights. Nidhi is also a member of one international planning committee of association for women's rights in development, and is working towards strategizing and integrating gender and disability issues in their international forum. Her main agenda behind her involvement in international issues is to ensure participation, space and visibility for the disability group.

Ms. Nidhi has also been very actively participating with policy makers and in legislative level and has spearheaded the issue of inclusion of special provisions on women and girls with disabilities in the rights of persons with disabilities bill, India. She has also incorporated her experiences by incorporating to India's only civil society contribution towards draft general comment on women with disabilities by the UN.

Ms. Nidhi is a gifted person who has been successfully exposed to different impairments and their live experiences and she is volunteering herself with many disabled persons organizations and has motivated many other activists to work for development of the disabled. She has networked with many social activists and has successfully put her voice across the different abled bodies. She has been able to achieve this feat through her endeavour, inspiration by many other senior activists and a vision to serve the disabled being a disabled by knowing their daily difficulties.

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4. Dr. N. Dasharath

Dr. N. Dasharath, a challenger who set no limits to the challenges, a strong believer who believed that **"an optimist finds a number of opportunities in the midst of a number of difficulties, while the pessimist finds number of difficulties in midst of a number of opportunities".** He was born on 25th January 1964 at Raichur District of Karnataka State to late Shri. Narasimhulu T. and late Smt. Chennamma. He suffers from partial blindness due to RP (Retina Pigmentosa) from childhood.

EDUCATION

He received his schooling and pre-university education in Raichur and moved to Bangalore to pursue engineering in R. V. College of Engineering. His deteriorating vision became reason for discontinuing his engineering studies. Rather not losing hope he sought admission for 5 year LL.B. course as first batch student of University Law College, Bangalore University, Bangalore and successfully completed the course in 1991. Further he completed post-graduation in Labour Law (LL.M.) in 1993 and began his professional life as a teacher.

PROFESSIONAL LIFE

He first taught at Islamiya College of Law as a Law Teacher from 1993 to 1995 and thereafter accepted challenge after challenge for change in the dimension of life. He then received the post of Principal of Indira Priyadarshini Law College, Bangalore and served from 1995 to 1998. In 1998, he joined B.M.S. College of Law as full time teacher and served there as lecturer in Law till 2003. On 6th March 2003 Dr. Dasharath was appointed as a lecturer, P.G. Dept. of Law, University Law College Bangalore and presently he is serving as Assistant Professor of Law (Senior Grade).

SCHOLASTIC APPROACH OF LIFE

Dr. Dasharath had accepted the challenge of obtaining Doctorate of Philosophy Degree (Ph.D.) in Law from the prestigious Indian Law Institute, New Delhi. He successfully completed his studies and received his Ph.D. degree in Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi on 10th January 2010 from the then Chief Justice of India Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.G.Balakrishnan.

Dr. Dasharathhas to his credit of being the first visually challenged academician in India to receive Ph.D. degree in Law from Indian Law Institute, New Delhi for which the Chief Justice of India is Chancellor of the central deemed university (ILI).

ASSOCIATION AND CONTRIBUTION

Dr. Dasharath is involved in organizing legal awareness and legal literacy programme in rural areas as coordinator on behalf ofUniversity Law College, Bangalore University for the past 12 years.

He has contributed to the academic fields through presenting papers at National and International Seminars and Conferences. He has also published articles on different topics in National and International Journals.

He has authored 2 books "A Vision for Social Justice", book released by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rama Jois, Former Governor, M.P. RajyaSabha and former Chief Justice of Punjab and Haryana High Court, and another book titled "A Vision for Reasonable Accommodation at Workplace for Persons with Disabilities", published by Puliani&Puliani and released by Hon'ble Mr. JusitceBannur Math, former Chief Juistice of High Court of Kerala.

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Dr. Dasharathhas a vast experience of 21 years of teaching. On the basis of his teaching experience, academic achievements and creating legal awareness and legal literacy to society, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India conferred the 'National Award' as best employee for the year 2014. The award was handed over on 3rd December 2014 at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi by His Excellency the President of India.

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5. Dr. Sunil Gokhale

Dr. SunilGokhale is presently working as lecturer in the Dept. of Community Medicine, Karnataka Institute of Medical Sciences, Hubballi. He is working in this dept, for last 15 years. A born achiever who proved nothing can stop an achiever from achieving his goals. He is a person who set his goals straight and worked to achieve and accomplish it in serving and making the society around him beautiful and exquisite.

CHILDHOOD AND EDUCATIONAL LIFE

Dr. Sunil Gokhale was born in a small village Dodwad of Belgaum District in an orthodox Hindu Brahmin family to Sri. Atmaram & Smt. Mangala. He secured his primary education in Govt. Marathi School. Further did his higher schooling in Lamington School. He has an excellent meritorious record to his credit since his primary schooling. He stood first to school in 7th & also in 10th public examination. Apart from academic activities he was also active in cultural, social & sports activities & got many prizes, at District, State & National levels in many competitions. He further completed his PUC from H. S. Kothambri College and topped in the merit list and secured a medical seat in KMC Hubballi.

COLLEGE LIFE

Securing a seat in Karnataka Medical College, Hubballi he embarked on his medical education from 1982 to 1987. He then, appeared for post graduate entrance test in 1989 and secured 72nd rank in the state and got M S Ortho seat in M R Medical College, Kalburgi, which he had to discontinue after six months of the course because of the eye problem.

THE TRAGIC EVENT AND PROFESSIONAL SURVIVAL

Dr. Sunil Gokhalea meritorious candidate and an achiever met with the unfortunate eye injury leading to blindness in 1988. He was affected with the clinical condition called Mooren's ulcer of eyes, a rare blinding disease, which wasn't cured even after taking treatment from the best of doctors & hospitals in India & abroad, his vision could not be retrieved.

His life offered the struggle to survive with the total blindness and the scuffle to find the right job in medical field for which he was highly qualified. With visual impairment in one hand and the tussle to get recognised in the other he had to initially faced some resistance in getting job. But with his persistent effort and support from family members, local leaders, peoples' representatives higher authorities and well-wishers he became a lecturer in Department of Community medicine KIMS, Hubballi in 2001. He deeply acknowledges that his dreams are realised due to the support and assistance given by Dr. G. N. Prabhakar, Professor and HOD of Dept. Of Community Medicine at that time and DR. V. N. Biradar the then director of KIMS, Hubballli for their whole hearted help and support.

Since then he is involved in teaching and training activities for Medical, paramedical and nursing students. He makes use of technological support in making his class more interesting.

He has been actively involved in presenting paper on the burning issues in medical field in National and International Conferences. He has also co-authored for an article on “EYE DONATION” in an indexed international journal. Today

MARITAL BLISS

Dr. Sunil Gokhalehas tied the nuptial knot with Smt. Rekha who is a civil Engineer. They are blessed with a son and a daughter and leading a happy life.

SOCIAL CONTRIBUTION

Today he is associated with many social activities like health check-up camps and health education and lectures on general health and eye donation. He is also been appointed as NSS officer to KIMS, Hubballi unit along with 100 dedicated, hardworking NSS volunteers of KIMS College. He has conducted many social activities and annual special camps in month of May 2015 at Gokulgrama, Hubballi which was appreciated by citizens of Gokul gram.

AWARDS AND HONOURS

Dr.Sunil Gokhale has received honours for his achievements and contributions to the society. Some of them are listed below,

- Received Best “G.P.A” Member Award during 2007- 08 from General Practitioners Association, HUBLI.
- “Visually Challenged Personality of Karnataka – 2009-10” Award given by National Federation of Blind (NFB) Karnataka, by the Honorary Governor or Karnataka, his Excellency Hansraj Bharadwaj.
- He was chosen as “Public Hero” by Public TV CHANNEL, on& the interview was shown live on 17THDecember 2014, on Public TV Channel.

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The Payment

Prof. Kusumlata Malik
(From Story collection 'Said Unsaid')

Her eyes had to be taken out because of an accident. What to say of accident it was as if she came back from the mouth of death. The thing was Latika was going to school with her younger brother who was five years old. Both the brother and sister daily used to go to school, there was nothing new about it. Latika was studying in second standard and her brother in Kg. Misfortune is never seen approaching, then how could these innocents get any clue of its approach.

Suddenly a tractor came with great speed blowing smoke and dust. Looking at it from a distance, Latika, along with her brother stuck to the wall of the school. Still that irrepressible monster crushed both the children. In this accident the brother died and unexpectedly Latika survived. The bones of her hand and legs were broken. The light of her eyes went out by the incessant bleeding and also her nose got broken. Her beautiful face blooming like a flower was deformed as her eyes were taken out and nose got broken.

Her parents didn't have enough saved money that they could spend on the plastic surgery of the child. Though, they spent a lot for the treatment of the girl from the city doctor, but that too with great difficulty. Whatever the doctor could do he did within his power and competence. Thus Latika was reduced to a living creature only. Her parent's pain was doubled, had the boy survived perhaps they might have some solace. But when do our wishes fulfilled according to our desires? The pen of God doesn't move with the desire of the protagonists who had to bear pain or joys in life. How can we say whether it moves or not, nobody knows the truth. The girl on whose beauty the whole family used to feel delighted, now it seems her whole existence itself has departed. Every one of the family was busy in their own pain and was oblivious of her misery. When you don't have beauty all your qualities also disappear, at least the persons living with eyes think so in this world.

Latika had one younger brother who was two years old. She used to spend her time with him only. Looking at her often the mother would cry. Don't know why the father was becoming indifferent towards her day by day. Now he would never call her near him while coming or going out of the house. Whenever he came in the house Latika would be all the more afraid. After all she didn't know what was her crime? On the other hand all her friends went away from her, earlier they used to call her to play with them. Even if she wanted to play they would run away ignoring her. Earlier these were the very friends who would insist on playing with her. She used to be their leader. Now she was so helpless and constrained that in spite of her best efforts nobody was prepared to play with her.

Whenever Tai, Chachi, Dadi, Nani, Bua, sister or any other person from the neighborhood came they would sing only one note—arey! This little child's fortune is destroyed, what will happen to her now? God has snatched away her beauty, what a beauty she was. Ram, Ram…! God should have given her death that would have been better. Her life is spoilt as it is; her parent's life is also spoilt. Who is going to carry her burden throughout her life? Hey Ram! What will happen to her in future, etc. etc. Hearing all this little Latika would be immensely annoyed. Sometimes she felt unhappy for herself, at other times she would pity at the wisdom of others. She would ask her mother – mother! Am I not the same girl as I was earlier? What could mother say to that innocent child as she didn't know how to console her in this situation to such a small child; only she would embrace her tightly to her bosom and sob. Gradually she started somewhat understanding things in her own way. She felt that now she was not the earlier Latika. But why she is not? What has happened to me? Though understanding some things still a lot she could not understand. Now she started remaining silent most of the time. Her naughtiness and obstinacy, which was her hallmark for last seven-eight years, suddenly disappeared. The days passed this way only. One day her father came to know that there is a special school for blind girls, and if one takes admission there one doesn't have to pay anything, everything is arranged by the Government.

Latika's father himself went to verify everything. What to say of the school it was heaven, girls from 4-5 years to20-25 years were staying there. The school was spread over thousands of meters. In the school' premises there were three separate buildings and a very big park. There were about fifty teachers. The blind girls were doing embroidery,

knitting,stitching, candle making, toys making, sweater knitting, singing,playing musical instruments and working on computers very efficiently. This was three o'clock in the afternoon. The guide told Latika's father that in the morning shift they study only, from 7.30 in the morning till 1.30 in the afternoon girls study. During half an hour's recess there is arrangement for lunch. After food, as you are seeing, all these classes take place. This way these blind girls come out of this place in society equally educated like normal girls. In this way their rehabilitation becomes very easy.

Latika's father was on wings when he came back, his feet were not touching the ground and his heart was jumping high ropes. On the small screen of his eyes a golden happy future was spreading. The darling daughter, whom he had considered guilty without any fault of hers for last four five months; but today his heart was brimming with love as he was looking at her bright future. The moment he came home after a long time he called Latika, made her sit in his lap and then told everybody all the details. Latika was frightened as if today they were sending her to a lunatic asylum; as Chachiji used to say often. Whenever she would ask her mother to send her to school, Chachiji would say—put her in the lunatic asylum, Bhabhi. What will she learn in reading and writing? Of course she would get bread and water with the lunatics. Frightened Latika would cry a lot. For so many days she would not talk about the school to her mother.

Today her father's unexpected affection was getting heavy on her little heart. She was trying to free herself again and again from her father's lap but since he was flowing with too much of emotions he would fondle her and put her back in his lap. The father further spoke—Latika! Today I feel I have really received a reward for my good deeds. Now my daughter will also study. Why Latika! Will you go to school? No sound came out of Latika, she was feeling suffocated. Eight years old little girl was unable to understand how to get out of this love's jail? Finding no clue she started crying suddenly. The mother made her drink water and the father caressed and petted her till Latika was pacified. Her heart was sinking with unspeakable fear. The father started speaking again—Bittoo there are all blind girls, nobody can see.

Mother asked—how do they do their work?

Father told with pride—tomorrow I will take you there and show you. They do all their work with more skill and efficiency than any of us. This is what they teach them there.

Next day the father took Latika, her younger brother and mother to the school. He was much pleased in his heart, mother was also happy. The brother was excited in a childlike way for going out, but Latika…? Nobody felt the need to explain anything or distract her. In this unexpected situation she was alone with fear, misery and anger. What could she have done? She did whatever was natural, started crying loudly. Father held her in his lap but she didn't stop crying. She was thinking that they were actually taking her to a lunatic asylum. Somehow the mother crying herself appeased Latika. Whosoever known person met father he would talk about her studies etc. Latika was confused. She was thinking that the school was near her house then what was the need of to take her to a school so far away. If he is taking her to a lunatic asylum, then why is he talking about her studies? Today father gave her chocolates after a long time. She was happy eating chocolates, wanted to be lost in that but a strange nervousness and worry didn't allow her little heart to be normal.

Thus Latika reached there where her life got a new meaning and dimension. It was the place where she learnt the importance of the power of touch and its uses in the place of eyes. She also came to know that in absence of one sense the four senses get more sharpened and efficient. Even today she remembered the first touch of the girls as it was at that time. Even today the affection, pity and sensitiveness of that touch fill her heart's movements. That first day in the school—girls were looking at her by touching, some would say the girl is beautiful, the other would say—very clean and sweet also. Some other said—she seems to have come from a good family. At that very time somebody lifted her in her lap and said—don't be afraid baby. Look! Look! Girls right now she is afraid of our touch. Don't touch her hard she might start crying. The others agreed—yes, yes, if she cries we will be scolded. An older girl petting Latika and said—look! Baby all of us are your Didis.

Since that time Latika's world changed, this was the first time she heard good and sweet things about herself. Today all the old pictures moved in her mind. Today, after 22 years she was remembering all these things. Is the memory in her mind or in her chest? Don't know, but the burden of memories has to be borne by the chest only. Howsoever, the eyes shed tears but the chest filled with the pain of one's own people never empties. Today is her brother's marriage and her father has ordered her to stay here alone, lest the

shadow of her ill luck and ugliness falls on her brother's fortune. She had been crying since morning, but her tears wouldn't stop yet. It is not a matter of pride for her family that in spite of being blind she is a PGT. English teacher. Of course, it is a matter of sorrow that the accident gave her blindness and deformity. Actually whatever is visible before everybody is important and worth reckoning. Whatever is hidden or covered somewhere nobody thinks about it. In the eye of the whole world it has no meaning. Whatever is open that is the only truth, why should anybody hide himself from the truth? To go beyond this truth is not everybody's forte. The same pain of the present engulfs everybody; with its going on how can we live.

Today, how everybody would be happy! Auspicious songs would be sung; felicitations would be given and taken! Customary gifts and auguries would be distributed. I won't have any customary gift; even my name wouldn't be mentioned. Forget about father even brother and mother didn't insist on calling me for the wedding. What a great desire I had that I would sing songs in my brother's wedding. But my being there would bring misfortune on them. I don't know under which misconception I purchased four sarees to wear on different occasions in different styles in his wedding. I didn't know that I would be ordered to stay in Delhi itself. Latika felt that the whole world was throwing her away forcefully… do all the relations in the world were merely for the show. Was there nothing one could call one's own? … Not even that house for which one works tirelessly day and night. It is true Latika that house is not yours…if the persons living there are not your own, then what you will do with its walls and doors? But Latika this house is your earning where you are sitting. True this is the Government residence but this is only because of you, hence nobody can evict you from here. Think Latika you are free here with your bad luck and ugliness….

She started roaming about in her two room house and started listening to her own footsteps with great concentration. Is there any inauspicious sound implied in them with which these steps could be called inauspicious. I who was saving my family from all the misfortunes, have I really become an affliction myself…I have always been alone in my struggle. I have been sending my earnings to my family for last five-six years… their mud brick house had become a firm lasting brick house and all the amenities of comfort and pleasure had entered the house. My family rose from lower middle class to upper middle class… on whose strength... on this ugly, unfortunate and ill-fated Latika. She is unlucky and inauspicious to sit with relatives, not worth looking at.

Latika again started crying, remembered her fair complexion, her big eyes with long eyelashes and lovely chiseled nose, small two lips like rose petals…does everything finishes when you don't have eyes? Her nose has been somehow put back, still no face is made…? Is the outward beauty most important…? Several questions started buzzing like honeybees in her mind. All these questions used to escalate her restlessness, but today she had answer for most of the questions. Now she is a teacher with mature mind and not a small Latika. Whenever father needed money he would tell his plan with great affection and take away all the money. Then he never told even once that your earning was inauspicious and unlucky and that you should keep it for the protection of your unlucky life. Thinking all this Latika started feeling giddy, she went to the kitchen swallowed a disprine and lay down in the bed again. At that very time somebody rang the door bell. Hearing the bell she remembered—oh! Today Vaibhav had to come. Unwillingly she got up to open the door. Again the bell rang and Latika asked –who? Vaibhav said—those who have been forgotten after calling. The lover of promises is present at the door. Latika started laughing. She opened the door still Vaibhav didn't come inside. He continued standing at the threshold. Latika turned again and said—arey Bhai! Why don't you come inside?

Vaibhav—how should I come may be you have forgotten too that I can come to this house.

Latika said laughing—forgive me baba! Do come inside, I remember everything. Vaibhav came inside and closed the door and went straight to the kitchen. Latika came in the room and sat down. Vaibhav drank aglass of water and got another glass filled with water and coming near her said—take this and drink. Latika was feeling really thirsty, she was moved. Vaibhav asked her simply—why are you getting nervous? What's the matter?

Expectorating the pain out of her throat she said—do you really want to marry me?

Vaibhav felt her words like stones and with injured feelings he said—when there is doubt, if there is no complete faith in somebody, there is no place for such serious talks. Why are you asking me, a stupid person, such a question?

Latika understood that Vaibhav had felt bad. She stepped forward and holding Vaibhav's hand made him sit in the chair—you don't know today is my younger brother's marriage.

Vaibhav—I know

Latika—then understand this also that I have been kept away from the marriage thinking me to be a bad omen.

Vaibhav—this is their orthodox vision, you need not pay any attention to it.

Latika—no Vaibhav, you will have to understand all this.

Vaibhav said in a simple way—for me you are my whole being! I cannot partition you in separate compartments of lucky or unlucky. To me you are as important as breathing is to my life. Latika wished that vaibhav continued speaking and more speaking so that if he has any unpleasant thoughts they would definitely come out with his intense emotions.

Seeing Latika quiet Vaibhav further said—you don't think Latika that I am misleading you because I don't have a job today. Even if the whole world's glory and prosperity came to me, still I would like you to be my life partner.

Today Latika's heart was full of doubts. She asked Vaibhav a direct question—looking at the beautiful girls don't you desire that one of them should also be your wife?

Vaibhav – that stage I have crossed Latika, when every one of us is impatient to crush any beautiful flower that comes his way. Today I want to tell you my whole truth, and then do as you wish.

Latika – what is the truth that I don't know?

Vaibhav –I am not so simple and innocent like you. Perhaps eyes don't allow anybody to remain as simple and honest as you wish. They stick not only to gold but to iron also like magnet. With these retinas I have experienced all the pleasures of beauty. In my opinion you should know all this. Remember Latika once I introduced Puntul, she was my first love; her big beautiful eyes had always the desire for sexual pleasures. She was never satisfied. Both of us decided that we would get married after we finished our Bed. During that time a good proposal came for her. The boy was an Airforce officer, a tall and handsome young man. She changed. I also hardened myself and tried to make myself understand the situation. When she was engaged she showed unbroken happiness. After that I never looked at her. Where did she go after marriage and what happened to her I didn't know.

Latika--And the second girl?

Vaibhav—the second girl in my life was Manju, she was doing Med with us. She herself came to me. After four five meetings I realized that she too remained limited to physical contact only. The body of a woman and a man can demand only the same thing. There is nothing bad in it, but Latika! Each demand should be satisfied but if it is considered the only thing that is not possible at least for a sensitive person like me. Manju asked me to come to her house; she was alone at that time. Both her parents had their jobs. Her brother was living outside the city for his studies. Both of us had enough time, space and protection for sexual pleasure. But my heart, I don't know why wanted salvation through meditation instead of sexual pleasures. I understood through her talks and body language that she wanted only physical satisfaction. I made her sit very close to me and said—Manju if we marry soon it will be good for us, she got up as if she had an electric shock.

She immediately moved away from me to a distant spot. Casting an admonishing glance started saying—what is your status, I cannot even introduce you to my parents. Since I called you home, have you started considering yourself a king?

I came to my senses and immediately got up, opened the door and went out. That was my last meeting with her. I went to a meditation camp for fifteen days. After that I gradually immersed myself in books and tuitions. I used to help you from BA first year, I liked reading for you. Later on I felt that whatever I was reading for you was for me also, thus I started reading more and more for you. The fact was that I wanted to spend time with you in any way. Since you needed a reader so I made reading itself a basis to be with you. Gradually, my habit of reading for myself changed into reading with you only. What else should I say you know everything? How we have studied together for Bed and Med. Latika should I say one thing more, I know you never expected anything from me besides reading. I started liking you, though knowing fully well that you kept as much distance from me as it was when we met on the first day. Sometimes I used to feel bad and would think, was it because you could not see or was there anything else? I started observing you minutely, during that time I saw your

parents and and your younger brother. After that a chain of events happened. I observed that how these people were relating to you on the surface only, and how deeply you were holding those relationships. Even after getting the job I found how you were handing over all your savings to your father without any apprehension. One day I myself told you—Latika, how much you save for yourself? You replied—Vaibhav, money is not important for me; relations are more important for me. If I could earn an honest relationship in life that would make my life go more comfortably by itself. That talk of yours went deep inside me. As people daily worship, or do namaz, that talk I remembered each day. From that very day Latika I started liking you. Two years ago when I proposed to you, you had said—look Vaibhav, do not expect anything from me, I have too many limits in my life and possibilities are very few. So I don't want to keep you in any illusion. Whether I will be able to marry you or not, today I cannot say for sure. Your forthright frankness I liked all the more. Then I also saw that in spite of knowing my love your behavior did not change. As if my love or no love didn't mean anything to you. You were rotating round your own axis with full honesty and devotion. Many a times I felt that because of the absence of your eyes your emotions don't agitate within you. Many time I told you but you would evade it laughing. When I saw your writings I realized why this brimming pitcher does not spill. Often I remembered those girls and with controlled feelings I would praise you. I have learned from you the art of self control; I have started molding myself according to you.

Latika said very seriously—I felt nice knowing your history. It is necessary to build a healthy present on this history. Come let us get married today, then you won't have to soak all this. But I have one condition Vaibhav.

Vaibhav was shocked—what?

Latika—if tomorrow you are bored with me, or some other unexpected thing happens do not desert me for being blind. Say it clearly—Latika we part ways, both of us go separate ways! Now I cannot go along with you.

Vaibhav felt it was a strange beginning where before the beginning one talked about the end. Latika was really different from ordinary girls. He said –ok Latika! I agree with your condition. Come we will get married in a temple.

Both of them got married in a temple and got it registered in the court. After 20-25 days of Latika's marriage her parents came. They were stunned to see the name plate—Smt.Latika Verma and Vaibhav Verma. They rang the bell in anger, the door was interlocked, and nobody was inside. They started waiting for her in her neighbour's house. Vaibhav and Latika returned in the evening, as they were coming out of taxi, the father came forward and started saying—shameless creature! You threw all our prestige to the wind.

Before Latika could say anything Vaibhav got annoyed and said—mister who you are? You cannot talk to my wife so disrespectfully. Latika came out of taxi and stood near Vaibhav and said—listen! We don't know you. Please return to the place from where you have come. We have nothing to do with your prestige and honour otherwise we will be forced to call police.

Looking at this stance of Latika the mother stated crying. Before the things aggravated Vaibhav held Latika's hand and opening his flat went inside. Neither he neither said anything nor asked anything. Closing the door started putting things in order.

Latika embraced him and said crying—Vaibhav! This was the honour and affinity I wanted, you have given me this, thank you.

Vaibhav gathered her to himself and said—you know who you are? You are more important to me than breathing is to my life. ❐

Availability of Accessible Journals and Magazines for Visually Impaired Persons

Following Periodical Publications are available to the Visually Challenged Persons all over the Country in an accessible format.

PUBLICATION OF ALL INDIA CONFEDERATION OF THE BLIND

Braille Bhavan (Behind Rajiv Gandhi Cancer Hospital), Sector-V, Rohini, NEW DELHI - 110 085. (India)
Ph. No.: 011 - 27054082 / 27247469 Fax No.: 011 - 27050915 / 22941093
E-mail ID: aicdelhi@yahoo.com & aicb@mailcity.com Website: www.aicb.org.in

Name of Publication	Format	Language	Periodicity	Subject Matter	Annual Subscription	Refundable Deposit (If any)
Braille Digest	Braille	English	Bi-monthly	Collection of Articles of General Interest from Print Media	Rs. 50/-	N.A.
Jigyasa	Braille	Hindi	Bi-monthly	Collection of Articles of General Interest from Print Media	Rs. 50/-	N.A.
Sai Arpan	Braille	Hindi	Quarterly	Religious	Free	N.A.
Nandan	Braille	Hindi	Monthly	Children	500/-	N.A.
Thuttinikkethan	Braille	Tamil	Monthly	Collection of Articles of General Interest from Print Media		N.A.
Gruhashoba	Braille	Hindi, Kannada, Gujarathi	Monthly	Braille conversion of Gruhashobha General Magazine	120	N.A.
Char chogi	Braille	Marati	Monthly	Collection of Articles of General Interest from Print Media	120	N.A.

PUBLICATION OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND (MUMBAI)

Sir Jamshedji Duggan Braille Press, # 11, Khan Abdul Gaffer Khan Road, Worli Seaface, MUMBAI- 400 030.
Ph. No.:022- 2493 5365 / Fax No.: 2493 2539 / 2493 5370
E-mail ID: nabin@vsnl.com & nabcyber@hotmail.com Website: www.nabindia.org

Name of Publication	Format	Language	Periodicity	Subject Matter	Annual Subscription	Refundable Deposit (If any)
Vigyan Bharti	Braille	Hindi	Quarterly	Science & Technology	Rs. 60/-	N.A.
Braille Sapthaik	Braille	Marati	Weekly	General	250/-	N.A.
Deepshika	Braille	Hindi	Quarterly	Concerns of the woman	Rs. 40/-	N.A.
Blind Welfare	Braille	English	Thrice in year	Concerns of Visually Challenged	Rs. 120/-	N.A. pending

PUBLICATION OF N.I.V.H. (Dehradun)

Central Braille Press, # 116, Rajpur Road, DEHRADUN-248 001. Uttranchal.
Ph. No.: Board line - 0135 - 2744979 Direct line - 0135 - 2738122(Braile Section)
For Talking 0135-2738147 Fax No.: 0135 - 2748147 E-mail ID: mcbp@nivh.org Website: www.nivh.org

Name of Publication	Format	Language	Periodicity	Subject Matter	Annual Subscription	Refundable Deposit (If any)
Nayan Rashmi	Braille	Hindi	Bi Monthly	Collection of Articles of General Interest from Print Media	Rs. 25/-	N.A.
Braille Dhara	Braille	Hindi	Monthly	--do--	Rs. 50/-	N.A.
Anther path	Braille	Hindi	Monthly	Women Special	Rs. 25/-	N.A.
Braille Chronicle	Braille	English	Monthly	Collection of Articles of General Interest from Print Media	Rs. 50/-	N.A.
Chayanika	Talking	Hindi	Monthly	Collection of Articles of General Interest from Print Media	Rs. 100/- Life time	N.A.
Ankur	Talking	Hindi	Bi-monthly	For Children	Rs. 100/- Life time	N.A.
Spectrum	Talking	English	Bi-monthly	Collection of Articles of General Interest from Print Media	Rs. 100/- Life time	N.A.

PUBLICATION OF NFB. (Bahadurgarh)

7/458, Delhi Rothak Road, Baahadurgarh, Jhajjar (Dist.)
Ph. No.: 01276 - 230912 / 235849 Fax No.: 01276 - 233025
E-mail ID: nfbindia_mlm@hotmail.com Web ID: www.nfbindia.org

Name of Publication	Format	Language	Periodicity	Subject Matter	Annual Subscription	Refundable Deposit (If any)
The Touch	Braille	English	Bi-Monthly	Collection of Articles of General Interest from Print Media	Rs. 40/-	N.A.
Sparshsetu	Braille	Hindi	Bi-Monthly	--do--	Rs. 40/-	N.A.
Gnyanodaya	Braille	Hindi	Monthly	For Competition Exams	Rs. 100/-	N.A.

PUBLICATION OF RAJASTHAN NETRAHEEN SANGH (Jaipur)

3780, LangarKeBalaji Road, Gangouri Bazar, JAIPUR.
Ph. No.: 0141 - 2410363 / 9414454705 E-mail ID: rnksjpr@yahoo.com

Name of Publication	Format	Language	Periodicity	Subject Matter	Annual Subscription	Refundable Deposit (If any)
Braille Samachar Patra	Braille	Hindi	Fortnightly	Concerns of the V.I. and General Knowledge	Rs,50/-	N.A.

PUBLICATION OF BRAILLE TRANSCRIPTION UNIT OF CANARA BANK RELIEF & WELFARE SOCIETY

Canara Bank Relief & Welfare Society, 27th Cross, Banashankari 2nd Stage, BANGALORE-560 070.
Ph. No.: 080 - 2671 3421 Website: www.matruchhaya.org

Name of Publication	Format	Language	Periodicity	Subject Matter	Annual Subscription	Refundable Deposit (If any)
Kamanabillu	Braille	Kannada	Bi-monthly	Stories & Articles from Popular Print Magazines.	On request	N.A.

PUBLICATION OF ROTARY BANGALORE CUBBAN Park BRAILLE CENTRE

#54, 6th main Road Tata Silk Form, Bangalore - 560 028 Ph. No.: 9980866660 e-mail: brmeenakshi@yahoo.com

Name of Publication	Format	Language	Periodicity	Subject Matter	Annual Subscription	Refundable Deposit (If any)
Wisdom	Braille	English	Monthly	General Knowledge.	NIL (Only for Institution)	N.A.

PUBLICATION OF MITRAJYOTHI CHARITABLE TRUST

C.A Site No. P 22, 31st Main, 18th Cross HSR Layout Sector 1,
Behind NIFT (National institute of Fashion Technology), Bangalore 560102
PH-080-22587623 E-mail ID: mjyothi@vsnl.com Website: www.mitrajyothi.org

Name of Publication	Format	Language	Periodicity	Subject Matter	Annual Subscription	Refundable Deposit (If any)
Sanchaya	Audio	Kannada	Monthly	Articles of General Interest from print media	Rs. 125/-	N.A.
Spardashunkula	Audio	Kannada	Monthly	For Competition Exams	Rs. 180/-	N.A.
Gyanasamhita	Braille	Kannada	Monthly	Genearlintrest	Rs 100\-	N.A
Insight	Braille	English	Quatrely	Genearlintrest	Rs 100\-	N.A

PUBLICATION OF UPASANA MAKATI

E/3/4, Kripanagar, Irla, S.V. Road, Vile Parle (W) Mumbai - 400056 Ph : 09920400580 e-mail : upsana@whiteprint.in

Name of Publication	Format	Language	Periodicity	Subject Matter	Annual Subscription	Refundable Deposit (If any)
White print	Braille	English	Monthly	Articles of General Interest	300/-	N.A.

RELIANCE FOUNDATION DRRISHTI

Maker chembers IV, 3rd Floor, 222, Nariman Point, Mumbai - 400021, India.
Toll free number-18004198800 Editer - 09223217568 e-mail;braille@reliancefoundation.org

Name of Publication	Format	Language	Periodicity	Subject Matter	Annual Subscription	Refundable Deposit (If any)
Reliance Drrishti	Braille	Hindi	Fortnightly	Genearl Articles & Different News	free	N.A.

PUBLICATION OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE BLIND

National association for the blind

Delhi state branch : Sector-v, R.K. Puram, NEW DELHI-110022

Ph. No.: 011 - 26102944 / 26176379 / 26175886 Fax No.: 011 - 26187650 / 230109173

E-mail ID: nab@vsnl.com / nabdelhi@del2.vsnl.net.in Website: www.nabdelhi.org

Name of Publication	Format	Language	Periodicity	Subject Matter	Annual Subscription	Refundable Deposit (If any)
Current affairs	Audio	Hindi &english,	Monthly	For Competition Exams	100/-	N.A.

PUBLICATION OF INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF THE BLIND MADURAI

Sundarajanapatty, Alagar Koil Main Road, Arumbanur Post, Madurai, Tamil Nadu, India - 625104

Phone: +91 452 6609900 Mobile: + 91 96008 33223 E-mail: contact@theiab.org Website: www.theiab.org

Name of Publication	Format	Language	Periodicity	Subject Matter	Annual Subscription	Refundable Deposit (If any)
Vilichaval	Braille	Tamil	Monthly	Current affairs		
Puthiya Thalaimurai	Braille	Tamil	Weekly	Braille Conversion of leading Tamil weekly magazine		

PUBLICATION OF NFB KARNATAKA

#S372, Bharatnagar, 2nd Phase, Near Karnataka Bank Magadi Main Road Bangalore-91

Phone : 080-23484794 Mob: 9980444655 email : nfbkarnataka@gmail.com

Name of Publication	Format	Language	Periodicity	Subject Matter	Annual Subscription	Refundable Deposit (If any)
Voice of the Blind	e-format	English `	Fortnightly	Latest updates on news, events and informations effecting the life of blind and other disables	Free subscription by electronic mail on request	
Spardhaspoorthi	Braille	Kannada	Monthly	Braille conversion of Spardhaspoorthi monthly magazine for competitive exams	Free (Made available to the members of the NFB Karnataka library on read and return basis)	

PUBLICATION OF WORLD BLIND UNION

web ID: www.worldblindunion.org

Name of Publication	Format	Language	Periodicity	Subject Matter	Annual Subscription	Refundable Deposit (If any)
WBU News Bulletin	e-format	English	Quarterly	News and events of world blind union	Free	

PUBLICATION OF NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND USA

National Federation of the Blind and sent to the NFB, attention Braille Monitor, 200 East Wells Street at Jernigan Place, Baltimore, Maryland 21230. email : nfbpublications@nfb.org.

Name of Publication	Format	Language	Periodicity	Subject Matter	Annual Subscription	Refundable Deposit (If any)
Braillle monitor	Braille / large print / electronic	English	11th issues in a year	Articles, news, informations effecting the life of persons with blindness	$75 (approximately Rs.5000/-)	

PUBLICATION OF READER'S DIGEST ASSOCIATION OF USA

web ID: www.rd.com

Name of Publication	Format	Language	Periodicity	Subject Matter	Annual Subscription	Refundable Deposit(If any)
Reader's digest	Braille/ large print/ electronic	English	Monthly	Conversion of leading international prestigious journal containing articles, news and information on multidimensional subject in accessible formats.	This is a paid magazine for rate and procedure of subscription above mentioned website of company may be logged in	

INNER EYE ONLINE MAGAZINE OF BRAILLE - AID PORTAL

Name of Publication	Format	Language	Periodicity	Subject Matter	Annual Subscription	Refundable Deposit (If any)
Inner Eye Online magazine of Braille-Aid portal	e-format	English	Quarterly	Update informations on assistive technology	Free	

Some prominent online portals of news and informations effecting the life of blind and persons with other disability

Disability world - **www.disabilitywrold.com**

Eye way project of score foundation Delhi - **www.eyeway.org**

Department of Empowerment of persons with disability under union ministry of social justice and empowerment government of India - **www.disabilityaffairs.gov.in**

Office of chief commissioner for persons with disability - **www.ccdisability.nic.in**

Braille -aid online portal - **www.braille-aid.in**

Prominent Sources for Availment of Accessible Reading Material for Persons with Visual Impairment and Other Print Disabilities

The following resources in public and private sector may be refered for availment of reading material such as educational books, reference books and wide range of books of general interest in an accessible format like Braille, Audio and Electronic formats.

The most of the material is available either in Hinid or English languages but the efforts are been made to convert reading material of regional languages too.

The prominent source include the following

Sl. No.	Name of the Source	Address contact details	Availability of various type of material	Status
1	**National Institute for the Visually Handicapped (N.I.V.H.) Dehradun**	# 116, Rajpur Road, DEEHRADUN-248 001. Uttranchal. Ph. No.: - 0135 -2744979/ 2738122 Fax No.: 0135 - 2748147 E-mail ID: mcbp@nivh.org Website: www.nivh.org	Sale of Braille books at subsidized rate/Braille and talking libraries	Public sector Government of India
2	**All India Confederation of the Blind**	Braille Bhawan, Sector-5, Rohini, Near Rajiv Gandhi Cancer Hospital, New DELHI-110 085. Ph. No.: 011 - 27054082, 27247469 Fax No.: 011 - 27050915 E-mail ID: aicbdelhi@yahoo.com & aicb@mailcity.com Website: Website : www.aicindia.in	Sale of Braille books at subsidized rate and library of talking books	NGO
3	**National Association for the Blind (India)**	# 11-12, Khan Abdul Gaffer Khan Road, Worli Seaface, MUMBAI-400 030. Ph. No.: 022 - 2493 5365 / 2493 2820 / 66838686 Fax No.: 022 - 24932539 Telefax: 022- 24935370 E-mail ID: contactus@nabindia.info Website: www.nabindia.org nabbraillepress@radiffmail.com	Sale of Braille books at subsidized rate in Hindi, English, Marati and some regional languages /talking book library	NGO
4	**National Federation of the Blind (India)**	Delhi Rothak Road, BAHADURGARH, Jhajjar (Dist.), Haryana- 124507 Mob: 9873346121 Ph. No.: 01276 - 230912 / 235849 Fax No.: 01276 - 233025 Email ID: nfbindia_mlm@hotmail.com nfbprojects@gmail.com Web ID: www.nfbindia.org	Sale of Braille books at subsidized rate in Hindi and English and National level Braille library	NGO
5	**Braille Press of Ramkrishna Mission Blind Boys Academy Narendrapur, West Bengal**	Ramakrishna Mission blind boys academy Narrendrapur, 7th Block, KOLKATTA-700 703. (A Branch Centre of Ramkrishna Mission, P.O. Belurmath, Dist. Howrah, WEST BENGAL-711 202. Ph. No.: 033: 2477 2201 (3 lines) Fax No.: 033 - 24772070 E-mail ID: bbarkm@gmail.com	Sale of Braille books at subsidized rate in Bangla, English,Hindi and some other regional languages, publication of bi annual magazine title "Rainbow half yearly mazine" (braille com large print)	NGO ok

Sl. No.	Name of the Source	Address contact details	Availability of various type of material	Status
6	**CFBI Braille Press Christian Foundation for the Blind (India) Chennai**	CFBI Services Complex, # 33-A Annadurai Street, (Near Municipality office) Anagaputhur, Chennai 600 070 INDIA E-mail : cfbi74@gmail.com info@cfbiministries.org Website: www.cfbiministries.org	Supply of Braille literature mainly in Tamil and English	NGO
7	**Helen Keller Foundation computerized Braille Press of Poona Blind Men's Association**	Poona Blind Men Association 82, Rasta Peth, PUNE - 411011 Tel. : 91 020 6336433/6336568 Fax : 91 020 6336741 Email : pbma52@vsnl.com	Regional Braille press for printing Braille books on request	NGO
8	**National Association for the Blind Delhi**	Delhi State Branch Sector-V, R.K. Puram, NEW DELHI-110 022. Ph. No.: 011 - 26102944 / 26176379 / 26175886 Fax No.: 011 - 26187650 / 23010917 E-mail ID: nab@vsnl.com & nabdelhi@del2.vsnl.net.in Website : www.nabdelhi.org	Availability of a wide range of talking and e-books on MP3 CD at rate of just Rs.15/- per book and production of Braille books on request	NGO
9	**Lal Bihari Shah Braille Academia Braille press of Blind persons Association, Kolktata**	Lal Bihari Shah Braille Academia Vidyapalli, Malancha-Mahinagar, Kolkata - 700145 Phone: +9133-24377206 Established in 2003 Email: bpaindia@gmail.com, bpaindia@vsnl.net Web: www.bpa.org.in	Regional Braille press and supply Braille books mainly in Bengal and some extent in English	NGO
10	**Braille press ofIndian Association for the Blind, Sundarajanapatty, Madhurai**	Alagar Koil Main Road, Sundarrajanpatti, Arumbanur Post, Madurai, Tamil Nadu-625104,India Phone: +91 452 6609900 Mobile: + 91 96008 33223 E-mail: contact@theiab.org Website: www.theiab.org	Supply of Braille books mainly in Tamil	NGO
11	**Braille press of Sri Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya, Coimbatore, Tamilnadu**	Sri Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya Sri Ramakrishna Vidyalaya (P.O) Periyanaickenpalayam Coimbatore - 641 020 Tel : (0422)2692676, 2692676, 2695451, 2695453, 2695452, Fax : (0422) 2692582 9944414271-pradeep	Production of Braille books on request	NGO
12	**Braille Press of NIVH Regional Center Chennai**	522, Trunk Road, Poonamallee, Chennai, Tamil Nadu. incode :600056. Ph: 044-26272505	Producer and supplier of Braille books in all south Indian languages either free or at a nominal cost	Public Sector Government of India

Sl. No.	Name of the Source	Address contact details	Availability of various type of material	Status
13.	**Member organization of Daisy forum of India**	For the list refer website of DFI - www.daisyindia.org Mob: 09818094781	Talking book libraries across the country :- there are some prominent audio book/e-books libraries in almost in every state across the country who produced and supplies accessible text books and general books to visually challenged persons. For names and contact details of all these libraries website of dfi may be referred	NGO Network
14	**US based book share on line library**	www.bookshare.org Contact detail of Indian representative email: zainabc@bookshare.org Mob: 9650211575	Multi lakh books of various nations and languages including Indian authors and languages are stored in this portal in fully accessible e-format, membership of which is totally free International	NGO
15	**Sugamya Pustakalaya**	C/o The DAISY Forum of India 486 Double Storey, New Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi - 110 060, India Phone: 1800 300 20469 (Toll free) or +91-11-42411015 Email : info@daisyindia.org	online library of most accessible audio and e-books in most of Indian languages	PPP

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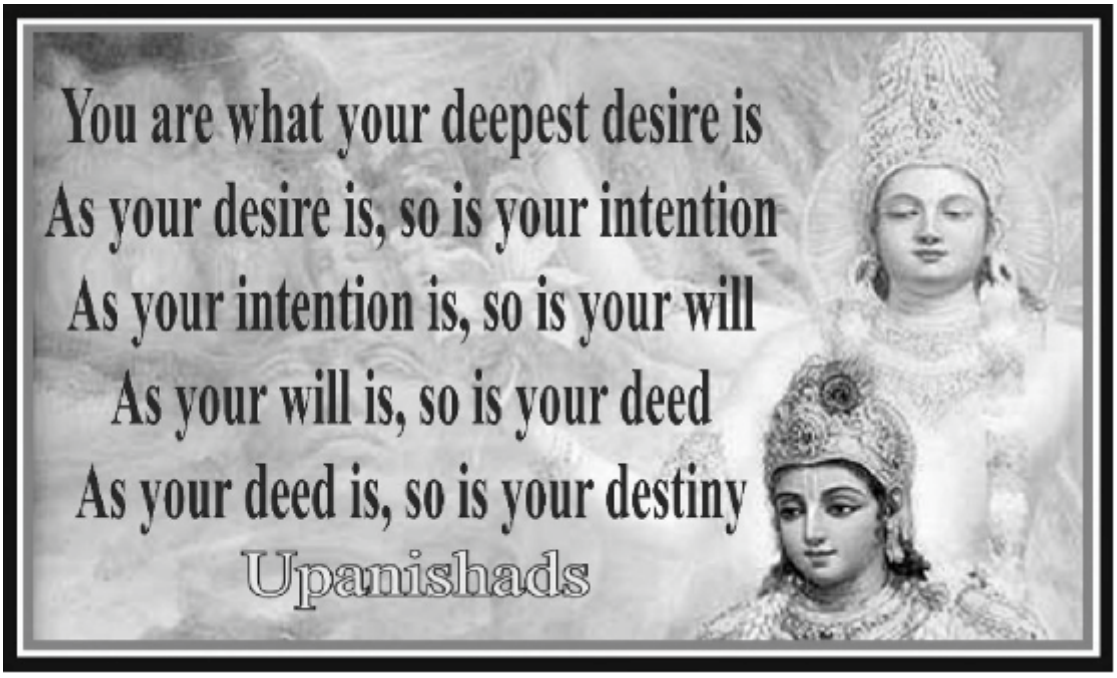


Special Residential School for the Visually Challenged Children

Sl.No.	Name & Place	Address	Contact details	Status	Activities
1	**Asha Kiran Residential School for Blind Children**	Chikkamagalur, Kempanna Halli, Chikkamagalur, Karnataka.577101	Tel. No. 08262 - 222368 asbckfb@gmail.com www.ashakiranckm.com	NGO	School education upto 10th std. and Various professional trainings
2	**Ashakirana Education & Rehabilitations Society, Chikkaballapura,**	Health Colony, Post Office Road, Behind Railway Station, Sidlaghatta Taluk - Chikkaballapura District. 562 105 Karnataka.	Mob: 9448368147 / 9449314250 Tel. No. 08158- 255600. ashakiranaedu@yahoo.co.in	NGO	School education upto 10th std.
3	**Asha Kiran Residential School for Blind. Bidar.**	Near KVK, Opp Sandesh Petrol Pump Janwada Road Markal Taluk Bidar dist 585402 Karnataka	Tel. No. 08482-225383 Mob : 9449399558 / 9743325263 E-mail : dasakb1995@gmail.com	NGO	School education upto 10th std. professional trainings,Music&Vocational training course
4	**Deepa academy for the differently - abled**	Deepa Academy for the Differently-abled, #226/A/3, Tank Bund Road, Subramanya Nagar, Bangalore - 21	Ph: 23471268 info@deepaacademy.org/ deepa.academy@gmail.com Ravi 9980368431	NGO	School Education from 8th to 10th std. Hostel for College going V.I. students/ training of dance and music \ Comp Lab\ Brail Libiary\ Placement Service& Dairy Forming Unit at Chamarajnagar
5	**Dr. Pandith panchakshari gawai's special music & primary school for the blind, Gadag**	Sriviresvhara punyashram. Panchakshari Nagar. Gadag- 582101. Karnataka	Tel: 08372- 238464, 230079 Mob : 9902367099	NGO	School education upto primary level / training of Musical vocal and instrumental
6	**JMR school for blind children ashakirana trust**	JMR School Ashakiran trust (Regd) Siddapur Uttara Kannada, Jagadguru Murugarajendra Blind School haladakatta Siddapur- 581355	Ph: 08389 - 231603 /230286 / 230386 Mob : 7676488679 huvinamane@gmail.com	NGO	School Education upto 10th Std. Music, Yoga, Vocational Training

Sl.No.	Name & Place	Address	Contact details	Status	Activities
7	**Jyothi seva School and Home for the V.I. Girls**	Jyothi Seva School for the Blind 1"t Main Rd, 3rd Cross, Venkateshpura Bangalore 45.	Phone : 25477972 (Office), 25433365 - (School) 25446748 jyothiseva@dataone.in Mob: 9535531105 / 8197156745	NGO	School education upto primary level. Hostel for college going V.I. Student / Training of Dance and other curriculum activities
8	**School of Karnataka Welfare Association for the blind**	# 69, 1st Main, Nehru Nagar, SC Road, Sheshadripuram, Bangalore-560 020	Ph: +91-80- 23369703 /23345118 kwab_ngo@rediffmail.com Mob : 8088920465	NGO	School education upto 10th std. and training in different trades and professions Project Placement Service\ Comp& Communication Training and Dance
9	**Karnataka Andhara Okkuta**	M Krishna Residential School for the Blind Salgami Road, Near AIR Station, Hassan - 573 201 Karnataka	Mob : 9900499121 Ph: 08172-245876	NGO	School education upto Primary, Vocational training of Basket making and chair recaneing
10	**Maheshwari school for the blind (Belgaum)**	Behind Ramdev Hostel, Nehru Nagar, Belgaum-590 010 Karnataka	Ph: 0831-2471482, Mob : 9448954235 bdabmsb12@gmail.com www.associationfortheblind.info	NGO	School Education upto 10th std. and training in various trades and professions. Craft training, Music class ,PE
11	**Mathru Education trust, Bangalore for V.I. Girls**	C.A. Site.14, 6th cross, 5th Phase, Newtown, Yalahanka, Bangalore-64.	Phone : 080-28463992 Mob : 91 8028463992 / 9886032632 mathru_India@yahoo.co.in	NGO	School Education upto 10th std.
12	**Karnataka Nava Chetana Blind School**	Kuvempunagar, Kunigal Town, Kunigal - 572130, Tumkur Dist, Karnataka	Ph: 08132-220550 Mob : 9844855643	NGO	School Education upto Primary. Music
13	**Ranga Rao Memorial School For V.I. Girls**	Ranga Rao Memorial School for Disabled # 1/c, KRS Road, Metagalli, Mysore- 570 016	Phone : 0821-2412320 Mob : 9242240401 Email : meerarmsd@gmail.com rmsd@nrfoundation.org.in Web: www.rangsons.com	NGO	School Education upto to 10th Std. Music, Cookery, P T, Computer, Dance
14	**Shree Rakum school for the blind**	# 421, Shree Krishna Temple Road, Indiranagar, 1st Stage, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560038	Ph: 080-25215253 /25215705 / 25254721 Fax : 080 - 25215253 E-Mail: rakumrakum@yahoo.com	NGO	Formal School Education Primary School, Karate, Dance, Yoga
15	**Shree Ramana Maharishi Academy for the Blind**	SRMAB, 3rd Cross, 3rd Phase, J.P. Nagar, Bangalore - 560 078 Karnataka	Ph : (O) 080 - 26581076/ 26580325 Fax: 080 - 26588045 Mob : 9482022973 E-mail ID: mail@srmab.org, srmab.org.in Web: www.srmab.org.in	NGO	School Education upto 10th std. and various training programmes for vocational and professional skill development. Special D.Ed. course

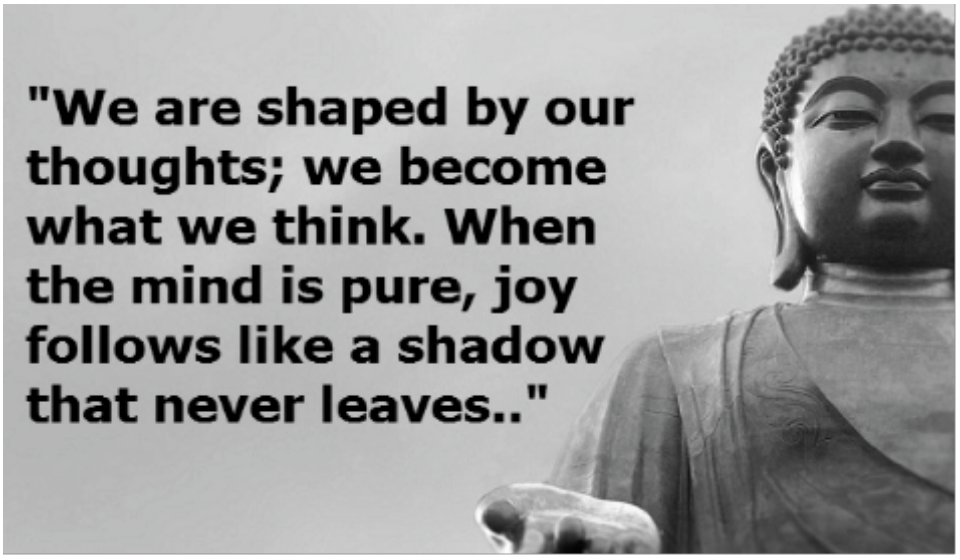
Sl.No.	Name & Place	Address	Contact details	Status	Activities
16	**Shree Shiva Sharana Haralayya Vidyavardaka Residential School for Blind Children**	Mallikarjunanagar, BLD Road, Bijapur - 586103	Mob : 9480902211 / 9880182080	NGO	School Education upto Primary Level. Music, Computer,
17	**Shri Aroodha Educational Society for Disabled ®**	#17,2nd cross, Magagi Kondi Layout, Siddarod mutt main road, old Hubli - 24	Phone: 0836 - 2202138 / 9449669161 aroodhblindschool@gmail.com	NGO	School Education upto 10th std.
18	**Shri Manik Prabhu Shikshan Samiti**	Maniknagar, Humnabad, Bidar - 585 353 Karnataka	Ph: 08483 - 270042 Mob : 9480167551 Email: maniknagar@gmail.com Web: www.manikprabhu.org	NGO	School Education upto 10th std. Computer, yoga, music
19	**Shri Sharadha Devi Andhara Vikas Kendra**	Paramhamsa Nagar, Anupinakatte Road, Gopala, Shivmoga - 577 205 Karnataka	Phone: 08182-222020 / 9845446288 e-mail ID-srisharadadevi09@gmail.com	NGO	School Education upto 10th Std., Training of Yoga, Music and other cultural activites
20	**Jagadguru Sri Balagangadharanatha Swamy free residential school for the blind**	Archakarahalli, BM Road, Ramanagaram Dist - 562159 Karnataka	Contact No: 080 -2 7201091 / 9740222169	NGO	School Education upto 10th Std. Music, Yoga.
21	**SREE Siddaganga School for The blind (Tumkur)**	Sree Siddaganga Math, Tumkur -572 104 Karnataka SS Math	Ph: (O) 0816 - 2282211 (Fax) 0816 - 2282511 E-mail : Swamigalu@yahoo.in	NGO	School Education upto 10th Standard
22	**Tikshna Organizaion for Rehabilitation of Visually Impaired,**	Near Mallappana Hatti, Beside Social Forest Office, Bheema Samudra Road, Chitradurga.	Mob : 8762004787 e-mail : tikshnaorgnizationtorvi@gmail.com	NGO	School education upto Primary and tranining of Yoga, computer and indoor games
23	**Govt. School for the Blind (boys), Mysore**	Bamboo Bazar, Tilak Nagar, Mysore - 570 021	Phone: 0821 - 2497496 / 9481441453	Government	School Education upto 10th Std.
24	**Govt. Boys School for the Blind, HUBLI,**	Shri Siddharood Swamy Mutt, Karwar Road, Old Hubli, District Dharwad, HUBLI - 580 024 Karnataka	Phone: 0836 - 2204167 / 9945731984	Government	School education upto Primary Level. Training of Classical Music, Cricket, Chess
25	**Govt. School for the Blind (Girls) at Davangere**	Near Devraj Urs Layout, "B" Block, 1st Cross, Near Shivali Talkies, Davangere (Karnataka) 577006	Ph: 08192 - 250442 Mob : 9448415383 blindschooldavanagere@gmail.com	Government	School Education upto 10th Std. Computer Lab, Music
26	**Govt. School for the Blind (boys), gulbarga**	I-van E Shani, Near Chandrasekhar Patil, Stadium, GULBARGA - 585 102, Karnataka	Ph: 0958472 - 220641 / 0847-2220641	Government	School education 1st To10th

Sl.No.	Name & Place	Address	Contact details	Status	Activities
27	**Belaku Academi Bangalore**	Ashwini Angadi Trust # 3 - 1st Cross Shrinidhi Layout 2nd Phase Opposite water tank Near Janapriya Town Ship Kadabagere Post Magadi Road Bangalore 560130	Ph : 080-2853559 Mob : 9741595749 / 8095654922 ashwini.angadi0@gmail.com ashwiniangaditrust@gmail.com Web: ashwiniangaditrust.org	NGO	Formal School education and professional trainings.
28	**Special School for visually challenged children (Sri Sharada institution of visual management) of Sri Ramakrishna Sevashrama Pavagada**	(unit of Sri Ramakrishna Sevashrama) Swami Vivekananda Nagara, Pavagada - 561 202	Ph. Hospital : 91 8136 - 244030 / 24491 Ashrama : 91 8136 - 244548 Fax : 244290 Email : swajapa@yahoo.com / srimathadrishtri@gmail.com	NGO	Formal School education and professional trainings.
29	**Smt, Ambubai residential school for blind girls gulbarga**	4/282, Makpumpuragulbarga 585101	Mob : 9535393900 school.blindgirrls@gmail.com www.ambubaischoolforblindgirls.org	NGO	School Education upto 10th std. Craft, Computer, Yoga
30	**Sanjeevani residential school for blind childrens (Samagra Jeevana vikasa samsthe) Bagalkote**	Sarvodaya Building in front of CBSE School 8th Cross, Vidyagiri, Bagalakote - 587313	Mob : 9535873060 / 9845298041 Email : mbudupudi@gmail.com	NGO	School education upto Primary Level. Yoga,Music, Computer
31	**Roman & Catharine lobo school for the blind mangalore**	3rd Cross, Kotekani, Baji, Mangalore-575004	Phone : 0824-2458552 Mob : 9945421892 Email: rclsb@rediffmail.com	NGO	School Education upto 10th std. Computer, music, craft, dance
32	**Gnana Pragna Residential Blind Childrens School**	Deshpande Nagar, Mundagodu, Mundagodu (tq & dist) Karavara - 581349	Mob : 9845275024 Phone : 08301-222820	NGO	School Education upto 10th std. Music, Yoga and Other
33	**Gnanajyothi Residential Blind School**	Ijari, Lakkampur, Near ST quarters Taluk & Dist Haveri	Mob : 9845275024 / 8762258385	NGO	1st to 8th Computer, yoga, Music
34	**Sri Manik Prabhu Academe For the Blind**	Sri Manik Prabhu Residential School for the Blind,In memory of the Sri Sathyanarayan Zovara, manik prabhu mandir, Rayachur. Karnataka	Ph : 08532-240131 Mob : 9448844418 email: raichurblindschool@gmail.com	NGO	1 to 10th Computer, music, yoga
35	**VKG blind school afzalpur Gulbarga**	MG Nagar, Datarga Road, Afzalpur Taluk Kalburgi - 585301	Mob : 9972609818	NGO	1TO7th Computer, yoga, Music
36	**Sneha Jyothi Center**	Satti Road, Atni, Belgaum - 591304 Sr. Vincent Kiran	Mob: 8861375544 snehajyothicpc@gmail.com	NGO	Distance Education of SSLC, PUC and Degree and Music Computer Litrecy, Etc.,

Hostel services for studying and working persons with disability

Sl. No.	Name & place of the Hostel	Address & Contact details	Men/Women	Intact accommodation capacity
1	**Jyothi Seva Home, Bangalore**	Jyothi Seva Society, 1st Main Road, 3rd Cross, Venkateshpura, Bangalore-560 045. Ph. No: 25477972 (Office) / 25433365 - School Email ID: jyothiseva@dataone.in	College going girls	15
2	**Prerana Resource Centre Bangalore**	# 6,7th main,1st cross 3rd Block, Sonnappa Road, Goragunte Palya, Bangalore-560 022. Tel. No. 2357 3705 E-mailID: prashantha_prc@rediffmail.co.in Website: www.prc.co.in	women's / working and Studying	120
3	**Sahana Charitable Trust for the Disabled Bangalore**	# 1101, 10th Main, RPC Layout, Vijayanagar, 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560 040. Tel.: 080 - 2311 6699 / 2314 6716. E-mail ID: -sahanacharitabletrust@yahoo.com	Women's	25
4	**Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled, Bangalore**	No.11, Villa Suchitha, 1st Cross, 17th 'A' Main, Behind Giri Apartments, J.P. Nagar 2nd Phase, Bangalore - 560 078 Phone No.: 26591488 / 26592999 / Abdul 9449864770 Email: donations@samarthanam.org Website: www.samarthanam.org	Separate hostel for both men and women / working and studies	400
6	**Snehadeep Trust**	#44.Charles Cambels Road, Cox Town, Bangalore-560005 Ph: 080 25801069 Mob: 09449021997 email: snehadeeptrust@gmail.com paulmuddha@snehadeep.org	Separate for Both men and women / working and studies	60
7	**National Federation of the Blind Karnataka, Bangalore.**	#S-372, Bharat Nagar 2nd Phase, Near Karnataka Bank, Magadi Main Road, Bangalore - 56009 email: nfbkarnataka@gmail.com Ph. No: 080-23484794 Mob: 9916368800 / 8197900171	Studying and working men	50
8	**Government hostel for working and studying women with disability Bangalore**	Bande Matta, Komugatta Road, Kengeri Upanagara, Jnanabharathi (Post), Bangalore- 560060 Ph: 080-22719192 Mob : 9900281688 (Parvathamma)	Women	50(now staying 17 members)
9	**Govt. Hostel for working and studying men with disability Bangalore**	#42/10, Ring road, Nagadevanahalli, Bande Matta, Kengeri Upanagara, Jnanabharathi (Post), Bangalore- 560056 Ph: 080-22719192 M0b : 9900281688	Men	50
10	**Awake Vishwa Seva Foundation**	AWAKE VISHWA SEVA FOUNDATION (R) #97,4th Main Road, Rangappa Layout, BSK 3rd Stage, Bangalore-85 Ph: 080-49557680\26693123 Mob : +91 96203 69680 Email : awakefoundation@gmail.com Website : www.awakevishwaseva.org	Studying Girls and boys	25

Sl. No.	Name & place of the Hostel	Address & Contact details	Men/ Women	Intact accommodation capacity
11	**Mitra Jyothi Trust for Disables**	C.A. Site No. P-22, HSR Layout, Sector-1, 31st Main, 18th Cross, Behind NIFT, Bangalore - 560102 Tele. Nos. -080-22587623 Mob : 9900517293 / 9900192609 Email : mjyothi@vsnl.com Website: www.mitrajyothi.org	working women	60- for working women and studying girls 35
12	**Chikkena koppada sree chennaveera sharana andara kalyana asrama, Hubli**	Navanagara, Hubli - 580025 Ph : 0836-22251511 Manager, Hiremutt - 8762104680	Studying boys	100(Blind 27 student)
13	**Prerana trust for disabled**	Kempea gowda road swarnasandra Mandya - 571402	Ph: 08232-231132 Mob : 9844083196	Hostel for school and college going girls and boys with all type of disabilities including V.I Present strength of VI -18
14	**Divya Jyothi Charitable Trust Mysore**	#151/F Bapuji children's home campus.4th cross. gokulam 3rd stage, Mysore - 570002 Land line 0821-2510129 Shivaprakash Mob : 9886409563 Divya.jyothi.@gmail.com	NGO	Hostel service for puc for boys



12th Anniversary and World Braille Day Celebration

4th January 2017

▲ Inauguration by Dr. Prabhudev,
Former Vice Chancellor Bangalore University

▲ Felicitation to Dr. Krishna Hombal,
Dept. of Political Science, University of Mysore

▲ Release of Souvenir by the dignitaries

▲ Felicitation to Mr. and Mrs. Narayana Swamy

▲ Felicitation to Mr. and Mrs. Bhavesh

◄ Felicitation to
MS. Haseena Hussain

▲ Felicitation to Mrs. Krishnaveni,
Dept. Transport Commissioner,Vizianagaram

► Felicitation to
Kum. Kaladhari Bhavani

12th Anniversary and World Braille Day Celebration

4th January 2017

▲ Dance Competition

▲ Dance Competition

▲ Dance Competition

▲ Debate Competition

▲ Debate Competition

Glimpses of NFB Activities 2016

▲ Karnataka Marwadi Samaj Members donated Computer lab

▲ General Health Check up Camp

▲ Distribution of Smart Canes

▲ Agarwal Mahila Mandali Members Donated E texts and Matresses

Glimpses of NFB Activities 2016

▲ Training for various Competitive Examinations

▲ Distribution of Scholarships

▲ Training Session at NFB

▲ Cooking Competition

▲Training Session at Library

Various Professional and Vocational Training programmes in Public and Private Sector

Sl. No	Name & place of the institution	Address and contact details	Status	Training programmes
1	**Bhartimeaus Resource Centre for Visually Impaired (B.R.C.V.I.) Bangalore**	90/1, Mother Teresa Layout, Near Guddi Cross, Kannur Post, Bangalore - 560 049 Mob : 9620027815 Email: brcvi@rediffmail.com bartimacuf@rediffmail.com	NGO	Training of mobility and orientation, spoken English, preschool training. Cooking training,computer,braille reading\writing
2	**Enable India**	#473/B, Adugodi Main Road, Koramangala 8th Block, Bangalore 560095. Landmark : More Super Market Phone : 08067323636 E-mail : enableindia@yahoo.co.in Web: www.enable-india.org	NGO	Various types of computer application courses, job specific skill development training, spoken English training.
3	**IDL Foundation**	IDL FOUNDATION & IDL BLIND BAND No.28, Opposite to Sriniket Apartment, M.S.Ramaiah Engineering College Road, 1st Cross, Mathikere, Bangalore-560 054. Mob : 9972425267 Ph.2360 8787 / 41282413 email: paul@idlfoundation.org	NGO	English speaking course , training of music and dance, computer training
4	**Mitra Jyothi Trust for Disables**	C.A. Site No. P-22, HSR Layout, Sector-1, 31st Main, 18th cross Behind NIFT Bangalore -560102 Ph : 080-22587623 Tele. No s. - 25727623/ 624/625 Mob : 9900517293/ 9900192609 Email : mjyothi@vsnl.com Website: www.mitrajyothi.org	NGO	Various type of Basic and professional Computer courses, home management course for women.
5	**Mobility Training Centre for the Blind**	Child & Family Welfare Centre Building, 7th Cross, N.G. Road, Attavar,Mangalore - 575 001 Mob : 9743391152 What's app 8050510762 Ph : 0824 - 2416017	NGO	Training of mobility and orientation , skill development training in various states such as re-caning, doll making, tailoring, paper cover making, door mat making, candle making
6	**National Association for the Blind**	Karnataka Branch, NAB Rehabilitation Complex, C.A. Site No. 4, NAB Road, Jeevan Bima Nagar, Bangalore - 560 075 Contact Details: Ph: 25281590 / 25289939 / 25280740 Fax: 25281439 Email: nabkarnataka@yahoo.co.in Website: www.nabkarnataka.org	NGO	Training courses of mobility and orientation, Computer applications, rehabilitation and technical industrial training.
7	**National Association for the Blind**	Industrial Training Centre for the Blind & Deaf, Shed No. L/177/178, Industrial Estate, Yadavgiri Mysore - 570 020. Karnataka. Contact Details Ph No.: (O) 0821-2514431 Sreenivash, Manager - Mob : 9900372254 e-mail : nabmysitcbd@gmail.com	NGO	Industrial training in various states like Engineering, Assembling, Packaging, Plastic Molding, Re-canning, and Coir mat making, Electrician, Screen printing etc.

Sl. No	Name & place of the institution	Address and contact details	Status	Training programmes
8	**Pandit Puttaraj Gawai Trust for disabled (R)**	#720, Behind Ambabhavani Temple, 58th Cross, 1st Stage, Kumarswamy Layout Bangalore - 560078 Ph: 080-26661323 Mob: 9448706585	NGO	Training of music including vocal and instrumental Music residential girls school Accommodation facility 18
9	**Prerana Resource Centre**	Prerana Resource Centre # 6,7th main, 1st Cross, 3rd Block,Sonnappa Road, Goragunte Palya, Bangalore-560 022. Contact Details:Tel.: 2357 3705 E-mail : prashantha_prc@rediffmail.co.in Website: www.prc.co.in	NGO	Training in Mobility / orientation, daily living skills, and employable industrial skills.
10	**Sahana Charitable Trust for the Disabled**	# 1101, 10th Main, RPC Layout, Vijayanagar, II Stage, Bangalore - 560 040. Tel.: 080-23116699 / 23146716 E-mail : sahanacharitabletrust@yahoo.com	NGO	Carrier centric computer operation course, English speaking course,
11	**Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled**	No.11, Villa Suchitha, 1st Cross, 17th 'A' Main, Behind Giri Apartments, J.P. Nagar 2nd Phase, Bangalore - 560 078 Phone : 26591488 / 26592999 Email: donations@samarthanam.org Website: www.samarthanam.org	NGO	Training in various Computer operations, entrepreneurship training and call center profession.
12	**Shree Ramana Maharishi Academy for the Blind (R)**	SRMAB, 3rd Cross, 3rd Phase, J.P. Nagar, Bangalore - 560 078. Karnataka. Ph : (O) 080 - 26581076/ 26580325 (Fax) 080 - 26588045 E-mail : mail@srmab.org & srmab1969@yahoo.com	NGO	Diploma and special education, training in rural domestic income generation activities.
13	**Karnataka Welfare Association for the blind**	# 69, 14th Main, Nehru Nagar, Sheshadripuram, Bangalore- 560 020 Ph: +080- 23369703 /23345118 kwab-ngo@rediffmail.com	NGO	Computer operation course, English speaking course, mobility \orientation\Braille
14	**Snehadeep**	#44, Charles Cambels Road, Cox Town, Bangalore -05 Ph: 080 25801069 Mob: 09449021997 e-mail: snehadeeptrust@gmail.com paulmuddha@snehadeep.org	NGO	computer operation course, English speaking course
15	**Hellen Keller Teachers Training Center Mysore raining center Mysore**	Pulakeshi Nagar, Tilaknagara, Bamboo bazar Road, School for blind Children Campus, Mysore- 21 Ph 0821-2491600 Annapurna- 8123519283	Government	Diploma and special education, training in rural domestic income generation activities.
16	**Divya jyothi charitable Trust Mysore**	#151/F Bapuji children's home campus, 4th Cross, Gokulam 3rd Stage, Mysore-570 002 Land line 0821-2510129 Shivaprakash - 9886409563 Divya.jyothi.@gmail.com	NGO	Computer operation course ,Braille library,
17	**JSS Polytechnic Mysore**	J SS Technical Institution's Campus, SJCE Campus, Manasa Gangothri, MYSORE-570 006, Karnataka, INDIA. Phone: 0821-2548318 Step-0821-2548321 Telefax: 0821 - 2548319 Email: jssp418@yahoo.co.in	NGO	Not available any training

Suppliers of Braille literature in public and private sector across the state

Sl.No.	Name and place	Contact details	Status	Remarks
1	**National Federation of the Blind Karnataka, Bangalore**	#S-373, Bharat Nagar 2nd phase Near Karnataka Bank, Magadi Main Road Bangalore - 560091 email: nfbkarnataka@gmail.com Ph. No: 080-23484794 Mob: 9916368800 / 8197900171	NGO	Producer and supplier of text books/ reference books / general books kannada and English language.
2	**Braille Transcription Unit of Canara Bank Relief & Welfare Society, Bangalore**	Canara Bank Relief & Welfare Society, 27th Cross, Banashankari 2nd Stage,Bangalore- 560 070. Tel. No. 080-26713421 (Manager) Website : www.matruchhaya.org	NGO	Supply of educational, reference and general books to cater the individual needs.
3	**Gnanajyothi Trust for Disabled persons, Bengaluru**	Gnanajyothi CA site No. 2, Syndicate bank colony, Near Kamakshipalya Police Station, Magadi Main Road, Bengaluru - 560079 Ph : 080-23485848 Mob : 9342950586 / 9019883188 Email: info@saignanajyothi.org, gnanajyothibaba@gmail.com web ID: www.saignanajyothu,org	NGO	To cater the needs of school and college going students through manual and computerized brailing.
4	**Mitrajyothi Bangalore**	C.A.Site No. P-22, 31st main, 18th cross, HSR Layout, Sector-1, Behind NIFT College, Bangalore -560102 Tele. : +91-80-22587623 /24 /25 Mob : +91-9900192609 Email : admin.office@mitrajyothi.org, mjyothi90@yahoo.com Website : www.mitrajyothi.org	NGO	Full-fledged Braille printing press for printing of Braille books in large volume.
5	**Sahana Charitable Trust Bangalore**	# 1101, 10th Main, RPC Layout, Vijayanagar 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560 040. Tel. : 080 - 2311 6699 / 2314 6716. E-mail : sahanacharitabletrust@yahoo.com	NGO	Prints study material for school and college going students on request through computerized Braille embosser.
6	**Snehadeep trust**	#44, Charles Cambels Road, Cox Town. Bangalore - 560005 Ph: 080 25801069 Mob: +91-94490-21997 E-mail: paulmuddha@snehadeep.org.in Web : www.snehadeep.org.in	NGO	Prints Braille reading material for school and college going students on request
7	**Braille Center of Bangalore University**	Bangalore University Central College Campus Bangalore - 560001 Ph : 080-22961295 Mob : 9886257668	Govern ment	Prints study material for students of Bangalore university
8	**Divya Jyothi Charitable Trust**	#151/F.4th cross.gokulam 3rd Stage, Mysore - 570002 Bapuji Children's home campus Land line 0821-2510129 Shivaprakash M: 9886409563	NGO	Prints and supplies text books for school and college going students on request. College audio books

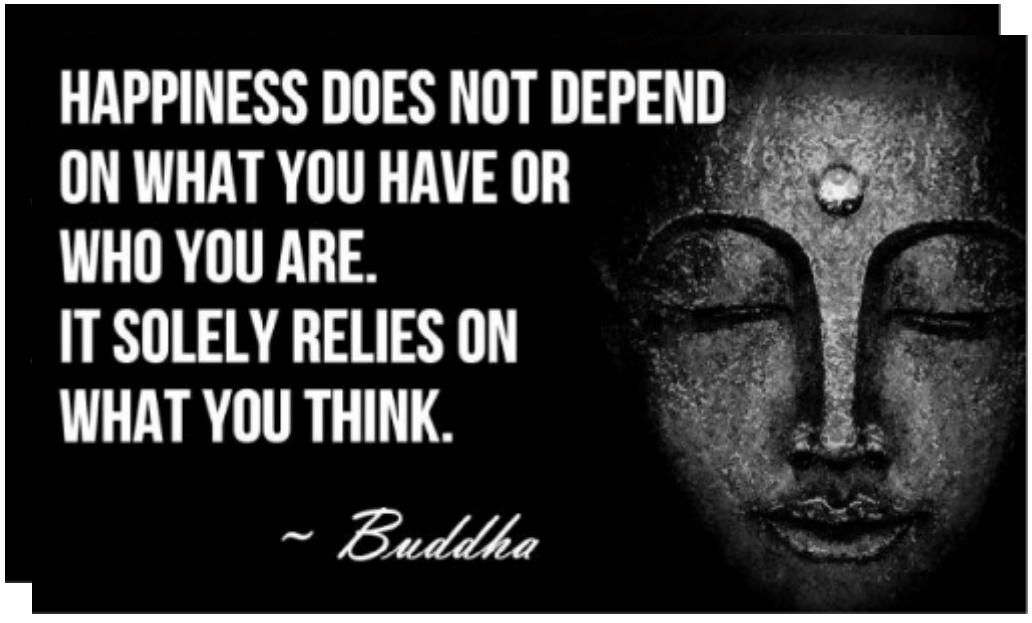
Digital Library, Scribe, Counseling and Other Services

With the view to address various special needs of persons with visual disability and for their equalization some other services are also available to them by different agencies in public and private sector across the state.

Some notable services are as under:

Sl. No.	Name & Place	Contact Details	Key services	Status of the organization
1	**National Federation of the Blind Karnataka, Bangalore**	#S-373, Bharat Nagar 2nd phase Near Karnataka Bank, Magadi Main Road Bangalore - 560091 Ph. : 080-23484794 Mob: 9980444655 / 9916368800 / 8197900171 email: nfbkarnataka@gmail.com	State level Braille cum talking library Aids and appliances supply service, Information and counseling, JOB Alert SMS service, advocacy / lobbying protection and promotion of rights of visually challenged persons.	NGO
2	**Anthardristi Centre for the Blind, Bangalore**	Premaanjali Educational Trust (Regd.) # N-3, LIC Policy Holders' Colony, 24th Main, J.P. Nagar 1st Phase, Bangalore - 560078 Ph (080)-42190200 Mob: 9036341470 sandhyabalachandrabm@gmail.com	Digital library, supply of study material in accessible format , Resource room for study , equip with accessible computers internet and scanning facilities , arranging scribes, for visually impaired for various exams, helping visually impaired persons in filing their online applications for various competitive exams	NGO
3	**Enable India Bangalore**	#473/B, Adugodi Main Road, Koramangala 8th Block, Bangalore - 560095. Landmark: More Super Market. Phone : 08067323636 E-mail : enableindia@yahoo.co.in Web: www.enable-india.org	Placement cell for enabling visually challenged individual to find suitable jobs in corporate sector	NGO
4	**Mitra Jyothi**	C.A. Site No. P 22, 31 st Main, 18th Cross, HSR Layout, Sector I, Behind NIFT (National Institute of Fashion Technology) Bangalore: 560102 Phone : 080-22587623/24 Website: www.mitrajyothi.org Email: admin.office@mitrajyothi.org	Digital talking library, Placement cell for assisting visually challenged persons in finding suitable job in private sector	NGO
5	**Office of state commissione r Bangalore**	Karnataka Slum Development Board Building, Abhaya Sankeerna, 2nd Floor, No.55, Risaldar Street (Plat Form Road), Sheshadripuram, Bangalore-560 020. Phone No: 91-80-23462659/23462625 Email: scdkarnataka@gmail.com Web :www.scd.kar.nic.in/contact_us.asp	Information and counseling service	Govt.
6	**VVN Degree College**	Scribe Bank Officer - Prof. Prasanna Udipikar Mob. : 09449800783	Providing scribes to visually impaired examinees for writing their exams& support to all the activities related to visually challenged student, Recording notes for visually challenged student	NGO

Sl. No.	Name & Place	Contact Details	Key services	Status of the organization
7	**Pen Volunteers Group of Scribe Bangalore**	Co - ordinator Mr. Surender Mob.: 08892839840	Providing scribes to visually impaired examinees for writing their examsRecording books for student Kannada, English, Hindi, Tamil	NGO
8	**Directorate for empowerment of differently abled and senior citizen**	Co-Ordinator Mr. Amarnath Podium block, Visweswaraiah Centre, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore - 560 001 Phone : 080-22866066, 22866046 Fax- 22868347 E-Mail- dir-dwdsc-ka@nic.in Web : www.welfareofdisabled.kar.nic.in	Information and guidance service cell	Govt.
9	**Amritha bindu Bangalore scribe**	Co-ordianator Akshita and Prashant Mob: 9483457417 Prashant - 8553840709	Providing scribes to visually impaired examinees for writing their exams	NGO
10	**Information and Rehabilitation Center NIMHANS**	Outpatient department, Hosur Road, Email : siddagangamn.asha@gmail.com / drt.sivakumar@outlook.com Dr. Shivakumar - 9379488666	In addition to treatment and rehabilitation of mentally ill persons, a monthly camp is conducted on every 3rd Saturday for enrollment of persons with all type of disabilities for annual health insurance policy under swavalamban health insurance scheme	Govt.



Special Schemes and Programmes of Central Government for Comprehensive Empowerment of Persons with Disability

Education

1. Scheme of National Scholarship for persons with disability

   Central government has undertaken a new scheme of scholarship for students with disability who are pursing pre metric, post metric research studies and for those who go abroad for the higher studies, under this scheme a good monthly amount of scholarship is offered to students with all type of recognized disabilities all over the country. for more details visit website of department for empowerment for disabled under union ministry of social justice and empowerment www.disabilityaffairs.gov.in

2. Provision of 3% reservation in education and employment for persons with disability in all universities/colleges

   In term of UGC circular .O. D.O. No.ll-5/95(CPP-il) (Vol-III) J & JU. 2001 July 11, 2001, it is obligatory for all universities and colleges to provide 3% reservation to persons with disability in admission of all their academic courses and recruitment for teaching and non teaching staff

3. Relaxation of 5% marks in P.G. Course to students with disability for appearing to NET Exam:

   In term of circular NO.F.6-I/2002(CPI'-n) May, 20G2 UGC allows disabled students with 50% marks to appear in NET Exam while the eligibility condition for appearing in the same exam is 55% marks in PG course.

4. The comprehensive and unified guidelines for scribe to the persons with disability in written exams :

   On the basis of recommendations made by chief commissioner for persons with disability, the union ministry of social justice and empowerment has notified certain unified guidelines to provide the scribe/reader/lab attendant to persons with disability in written exams. In term of its notification number F.NO-16-110/2003-DD.III dated 26.02.2013

   These unified guidelines are applicable in all written exams throughout the country.

   Some key guidelines include the following:

   a. The facility of scribe/Reader/Lab Assistant should be allowed to any person who has disability of 40% or more if so desired by the person.

   b. The candidate should have the discretion of opting for his own scribe/reader/lab assistant or request the Examination Body for the same. The examining body may also identify the scribe/reader/lab assistant to make panels at the District/Division/ State level as per the requirements of the examination. In such instances the candidates should be allowed to meet the scribe a day before the examination so that the candidates get a chance to check and verify whether the scribe is suitable or not.

   c. Criteria like Educational qualification, marks scored, age or other such restrictions for the scribe/reader/lab assistant should not be fixed. Instead, the invigilation system should be strengthened, so that the candidates using scribe/reader/lab assistant do not indulge in mal-practices like copying and cheating during the examination.

   d. There should also be flexibility in accommodating any change in scribe/reader/lab assistant in case of emergency. The candidates should also be allowed to take more than one scribe/reader for writing different papers especially for languages.

   e. The disability certificate issued by the competent medical authority at any place should be accepted across the country

   f. The word “extra time or additional time” that is being currently used should be changed to “compensatory time” and the same should not be less than 20 minutes per hour of examination for persons who are making use of scribe/reader/lab

assistant. All the candidates with disability not availing the facility of scribe may be allowed additional time of minimum of one hour for examination of 3 hours duration which could further be increased on case to case basis.

For notification containing these comprehensive guidelines the website of department for empowerment of persons with disability union ministry of social justice and empowerment may be visited www.disabiltiyaffairs.gov.in

5. Relaxation in upper age limit to persons with disability in admission to university/colleges

   In term of its circular wide No.F6-1/2002(CPP-11) Vol-III dated July 2006, UGC has advised all universities and colleges to grant relaxation of 5 years in upper age limit to persons with disability for admission in all their courses

SPECIAL FACILITIES TO THE EMPLOYEES OF GOVERNMENT OF INDIA WITH DISABILITY

1. Adhoc allotment of General Pool residential accommodation to the physically handicapped employees :-

   As per circular No. G.O.No. No. 12029(2)/80-Pol.II dtd.19.10.92 the disabled employees of government of India are entitled for out of term allotment of residential accommodation from pool of residential accommodation

2. Provision of special transport allowance to the disabled employees of government of India:

   Employees of government of India with disability are paid transport allowance at double of normal rate subject to minimum Rs.1000/- per month. Please refer OM No. 2I(2)/2008-H-II(R) dated 29.09.2008 of government of India

3. Provision of special casual leaves for disabled employees of government of India:

   Government of India has granted 10 special casual leaves in a calendar year to its employees with disability in order to participate in developmental conferences, workshops and seminars relating to the disability issues. For detail, Please refer the circular No. No. 28016/02/2007-Estt (A), dated.14th November, 2007

4. Relaxation in rules of posting and transfer for Group C & D employees of Government of India with Disability:

   In term of circular No. A-B 14017/41/41/90-Estt. (RR) dtd. 10th May, 1990 Government of India maintains that its group C and D employees with disability be appointed as for as possible nearest to their home town and exempted from routine transfers

5. Provision of Child care allowance to female employees of government of India with disability and reimbursement of education allowance to the government employees for their disabled child:

   In term of its circular No. No.12011/04/2008-Estt. (Allowance) dtd. 11th September, 2008 government of India has made the provision to give additional monthly allowance of Rs.1000/- to its female employees with disability to look after their child.

   As per the same circular the education allowance is admissible to its employees at double of normal rate for the education of child with disability

6. Provision of extra casual leaves to Employees of government of India with disability

   in term of its Circular No. No. 25011/1/2008-Estt (A) dated : 19th November, 2008 Government of India allows four additional casual leaves to its employees with disability in compare to all other employees

7. Guidelines of central government with regard to provide certain facilities/amenities to its employees with disability

   In term of the circular of department of personnel and training wide No. 36038/3/2013 dated 31.03.2014 government of India has notified certain guidelines to provide some special facilities and amenities to its employees with disability with the view to enhance their performance.

   Such key facilities/amenities include inclusive post recruitment and pre promotion trainings providing all required aids/appliances /latest assistive technology for discharge of their duties, fully accessible and barrier free working and utility areas at work place, establishment of grievances redressel committees, etc.

8. Protection of government employees in case of occurrence of disability during the service by way of any reason:

   Sec.47 of person with disability act 1995 provides the protection to those employees of the government who acquire disability during their service tenure due to any reason. But the instances have come to the notice that due to lack of awareness regarding said legal provisions the employee after acquiring disability prefer or is forced to apply for voluntary retirements under various service rules.

   Keeping this in view, the government of India in terms of its notification F.NO.25012/1/2015 dtd. 19.5.2015 has decided that it will be the responsibility of superiors of such concerned employees to explain the concerned employee who acquired the disability and wants to seek a voluntary retirement , what legal protections are available to him\her under above mentioned section 47 of PWD act 1995.

9. Exemption from transfer to bank employees with disability:

   In term of Circular issued by Bank division of dept. of economic affairs govt. of India vide no.:302/33/2/87 – SCT(B) dated 15.02.1988, disabled employees of public sector banks and non banking corporations are exempted from routine transfers from the place of their original posting / appointments.

10. Scheme of UGC for financial assistance to permanent visually challenged teachers at colleges and universities for hiring reader service:

    As per 11th five year plan the financial assistance is available permanent visually challenged teachers at colleges / university level for hiring reader services and purchase of Braille / Talking books / Assistive devices for pursuing the teaching and research work.

11. Travel allowance to the Escorts of disabled employed of Govt. of India:

    In term of circular issued by Department of Expenditure ministry of finance govt. of India vide no.: 19030/3/2013-E dated 17th Feb. 2015, Govt. of India has decided to offer travel allowance to the Escorts of its disable employees for training and touring purpose.

BANKING FACILITIES TO VISUALLY CHALLENGED CUSTOMERS

1. Ruling of RBI with regard to provide all banking facilities to the visually challenged customers:

   In term of its circular No. RBI / 2007-08 / 358 dtd. June 4, 2008 Reserve Bank of India has directed to all commercial banks to extend all banking facilities to their visually challenged customers at par with other customers, such as account opening, cheque book, ATM card, credit card, debit card, locker, loan etc.,

2. Direction of RBI for making all ATM accessible and to install new Talking / Braille enabled ATM's:

   In term of its circular vide No.: UBD.BPD.Cir.No. 70/13.03.000/2013-14 dated 11.06.2014, RBI has advised all commercial banks to construct appropriate ramps for enabling disabled customers to use the ATM's and to install atleast 1/3 of their new ATM's with Braille Key Pad and Audio output systems for independent use of ATM's by the Visually challenged customers.

3. Cheque facility for visually challenged account holders in SBI:

   In term of its circular Vide no.: S & P /SD/424 dated 30th October 2009 and further amendments, the SBI has made the provision to issue the cheque book to its visually challenged depositors.

4. Internet banking facilities of VC customers by SBI:

   In term of its circular vide No.: NBG/NBG-INB-INB/2013-14/3 07.08.2013, the SBI has decided to allow its VC customers to use all internet banking facilities to its regular websites.

5. Issuance of Credit Card to VC Customers by PNB:

   In term of its circular vide No.: 08/2010 dated 31st May 2010, Punjab National Bank (PNB) has allowed all those VC customers who are holding an account with it for more than six month to take and use Credit card of PNB at par with other credit card users.

6. Advise of RBI to non-banking finance companies (NBFC) for providing loan to persons with disability:

   In term of its circular Vide No.: DNBS.CC.PD.No. 191 /03.10.01/2010-11 July 27, 2010

RBI has advised to all NBFCs note to discriminate with persons with disability including visually challenged persons in extending loan facilities to their clients.

7. Provision of Banking Facilities for VC customers by State Bank of India (SBI):

   In term of its master circular vide No.: DBOD No.Leg.BC. 21 /09.07.006/2012-13 dated July 2, 2012, (Point No.: 10 at page No.: 36), SBI also allows its VC customers to make use of various banking facilities such Cheque book, ATM's and locker.

8. Strict instructions of RBI for compliance of all provisions with regard to provide all banking facilities to VC customers:

   In term of its circular vide No.: RPCD. No. RRB.BC. 35 /03.05.90/2012-13 October 11, 2012 RBI has advised all banks for strict compliance of the provisions made under circular no.: Circular RPCD.CO.RRB.BC.No. 13/03.05.33/2008-09 dated July 23, 2008 and Circular RPCD.CO.RRB.BC.No.97/03.05.90-A/2008-09 dated April 21, 2009 , with regard to offer all banking facilities to persons with visual impairment such as cheque book, net banking, ATM's, Locker, Debit / Credit cards and loan etc.,

9. Inclusion of persons with disability in weaker section as a priority sector for banking finance:

   In term of its circular vide No.: FIDD.CO.Plan. BC.51/04.09.01/2014-15 March 13, 2015 persons with disability are included in weaker section as a priority category for banking finance.

COMMUNICATION

1. 20% concession in usage of BSNL Broad band service:-

   Bharatiya Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) allows the blind users 20% concession in uses of BSNL broad band service. For more detail please refer its circular no. R&C No.10/09-10 dated : 08-04-2009

2. Provision of telephone connections to blind persons on priority and 50% rebate in monthly / Annual rent:

   In term of its circular vide No.: No.9-27/93-PHA dated 23/09/1883, issued by BSNL, a provision has been made to provide telephone connection to the blind persons on priority and to grant 50% rebate in monthly / Annual rental.

3. Postal concession in transmission of literature for blind:

   in term of rule no.: 129, 130, 131 for inland postage and rule no.: 304 & 305 for foreign postage in part one of post office guide updated upto 30th June 1965, literature for the blind is exempted from the payment of postage both inland and foreign.

   Some key rules with this regard include the following:

   a. The packets of "Blind literature" are exempted from the payment of following –Postal Charge, Registration fee, fees for acknowledgement, fee for the attested copy of the receipt .

   b. Postage free "Blind literature" packet will be transmitted by surface route only.

   c. Papers of any kind, periodicals and books impressed in braille or other special type for the use of blind, may be treated as "Blind literature" and transmitted by post as "Blind Literature".

   d. Plates bearing the characters of writings, sound reports for the use of blind and discs, films, tapes and wires on which spoken messages have been recorded, when sent by, or addressed to, an officially recognized institutions for the blind, shall also be treated as ``Blind Literature".

      For more details above given rules of post office guide may be refer.

CONCESSION IN TRAVEL

1. Concession in travel by Railway

   Ministry of railway allows the blind to travel at concessional fares by Indian railways. Some key rules in order to enjoy the benefit of this concession are as follows.

   1. A blind person may travel alone or with an escort in Indian Railway at concessional fare for any purpose.

2. A blind passenger and his / her escort are given the concession in fare for their journey in Indian Railway as follows:

   a. First class, second class, sleeper class, AC chair car and 3 tire AC- 75%

   b. First class Ac, 2nd class Ac and Season ticket- 50%

   c. Concession in Rajadhani and Shatabdi trains – 25%

3. The concession is applicable in basic fare only, superfast charge, reservation charge, etc are payable as per the normal rates.

   a. The concession is allowed on production of certificate issued by a medical practitioner or head of the registered institution of and for the blind.

4. The concession certificate issued by the above mentioned authorities shall be valid for five years from the date of issue.

   For more details the website of Indian railway may be visited

2. Online booking of concessional tickets in Railway

   In term of its notification wide No. 2011/TG-1?10/e-ticketing for disabled/Pt-I dated 19.3.2015 the government of India ministry of railway has allowed its physically challenged passengers for online booking of their concessional tickets on the strength of a photo Identity card issued by the Indian railway. for more details either the website of Indian Railway may be visited or the commercial division of railway in concerned area may be contacted

3. Yatri Mitra Yojana of Indian Railway for helping Senior citizens and persons with disability

   In term of its No. 2015/TGIV/10/WC/181/IRCTC (Commercial Circular no. 47/2016) dated Dt: 12.09.2016 Indian Railway has undertaken a scheme of assisting its old and differently abled passengers at the railway stations of departure and arrival . The scheme is entitled Yatrimitra Seva

   The salient features of the proposed Yatri Mitra Seva are as under:

1. Yatri Mitra shall provide Wheel chair cum porter services to differently abled, ailing and old persons

2. The responsibility of providing Yatri Mitra Sewa has been entrusted with IRCTC.

   IRCTC may provide this service 'Free of cost' through some NGO, charitable trust, PSUs etc under CSR. However, if this service can't be provided 'Free of Cost' due to lack of response from NGOs, Charitable trust, PSUs etc, IRCTC may arrange this service on payment basis through a service provider or on its own.

3. IRCTC may also arrange these services through existing Battery Operated Car (BOC) Operator, wherever, an agency is providing the service.

4. Booking of Yatri Mitra: The booking of Yatri Mitra can be done as under:

   * The Yatri Mitra service can be booked on IRCTC e-ticketing website and 139 (IVRSand SMS) or through a mobile.

   * A Mobile Application developed by CRIS would also be made available for booking of Yatri Mitra as and when it is developed and released by CRIS.

   * A dedicated Mobile number for each station, where this service is available, shall be made available by the Service provider/IRCTC which would be displayed on IRCTC e-ticketing website and zonal websites of IR to facilitate booking of Yatri Mitra.

4. New guidelines of Director General Civil Aviation for carriage of passengers with disability and reduced mobility have been notified in term of DGCA circular wide No. 23-5/2010-AED dated 28th February 2014

   Some key guidelines include the following

   a. These guidelines are applicable to all Indian operators engaged in scheduled and non scheduled AIR services of carriage of passengers within and outside India, all foreign airlines operators who operators from and to Indian and air port operators with the territory of India.

b. No airlines shall refuse to carry persons with disability for reduced mobility his/her assistive devices escort/guide dog, etc.

c. It shall be the responsibility of passenger with disability or reduced mobility to intimate the airlines about their specific requirements minimum 48 hours before the schedule time of departure, so that the airlines can make the necessary arrangements.

d. No Airlines shall refuse to engage in interlines transactions for carriage of persons with disability or reduced mobility. However, such carriage shall be governed by the applicable provisions of the interline carrier/state.

e. Where a person with disability or reduced mobility is assisted by an escort, the airline shall make all reasonable efforts to give such a person seat next to the persons with disability or reduced mobility

f. It shall be the responsibility of the cabin crew in-charge to ensure briefing to persons with disability or reduced mobility including their escorts, if any, before take-off on the emergency procedures, cabin layout and specialized equipment on board the aircraft to cater for their needs. Blind passengers shall be briefed verbally. Braille broachers may be provided as a back-up of such briefing. Instructions in large print may also be made available for persons with low vision.

To no more about with this new guidelines please refer above mentioned Civil Aviation Requirement Notification

EMPLOYABILITY

1. Reservation for persons with disability in jobs and other relaxations

In term of office memorandum of department of personnel and training under ministry of personnel public grievances & pension Government of India wide No. 336035/3/2004 dated 29th December 2005 and subsequent circulars, the Central government has granted 3% reservation to persons with disability in all its recruitments of group A,B,C & D in each establishments. under its control. The 3% reservation in equally divided among blind/low vision, hearing impaired, Locomotor and cerebral policy in ratio of 1%

For effective implementation of scheme of job reservation the central government has also extended some other relaxations. such as exemption from payment of application and examination fees for competitive exams, relaxation of 10 years in upper age limit for entry to the government jobs, reservation in promotion upto some extent in group C and D, etc.,

SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

1. 3% Reservation in Indira Awas Yojana

In term of circular of department of rural area and employment, government of India wide No.H.11011/13/96 RH dated 10th March 1997, 3% horizontal reservation is given to persons with disability belonging to BPL families in their respective SC, ST and OBC categories under Indira Awas Yojana.

2. Reservation in construction of toilets for individual house hold to persons with disability

As per the circular of Department of Rural Development, ministry of Rural areas and employment, government of India dated 5.5.1997. 3% of the fund allocated for construction of toilets for individual households in rural areas is spent for persons with disability under rural sanitation program

3. Allocation of 3% fund for creation of barrier free environment for persons with disability under Javahar Rojgar Yojana

In term of para 33.2 and 32.1(a) of manual of Javahar Rojgar Yojana 3% of the fund allocated for the general work should be spent for creating barrier free environment for persons with disability in rural areas.

Circular of ministry of rural area & Employment, government of India wide No. 24011/13/94 REIII dated 10.2.1997

4. ADIP scheme of union ministry of social justice & empowerment for financial assistance to purchase assistive aid & Appliances under revised ADIP scheme

effective from 1st April 2014 following additional benefits have been granted to the beneficiaries.

a. Income ceiling of the beneficiary or his/her parents is enhanced from monthly Rs. 6000/- to 20,000/-

b. quantum of 100% assistance has been raised from the device worth Rs.6000/- to the devices upto Rs.10,000/- in general.

c. 51 modern and innovative devices for the use of visually challenged have been covered for 100% financial assistance under revised scheme such as daisy player, smart cane, tablet, etc.

The revised ADIP scheme may be referred on the website of the department of empowerment of persons with disability www.disabilityaffairs.gov.in in detail

CONCESSION IN CENTRAL TAXES

1. Concession in custom duty

As per the amendment notifications Government of India dated 28.2.2009 the goods for welfare charity research and education of persons with disability specified in its Colum 2 imported from other countries are exempted from payment of custom duty.

The exemption has been extended event to import of Braille paper from the financial year 2016-17 in term of announcement made by hon'ble union finance minister in his budget speech of 29th February 2016

2. Concession in Income Tax

The government of India allows persons with disability a generous deduction of 1,25,000 from total income when computing the net income for income tax purpose. Under sec.80U of income tax act which is effective for the assessment from the year 2016 – 17

MISCELLANEOUS

1. Exemption from routine/rotational transfer to employee of government of India having child with disability

The notification of Department of personnel & Training under ministry of a personnel, public grievances and pensions government of India wide No. 42011/3/2014 dated 6.6.2014 exempts employ of government of India having child with disability from routine/rotational transfers subject to administrative constrains.

2. Swavalamban Health Scheme

A prestigious health Insurance scheme entitled "Svavalamban Health Insurance Scheme" launched on 2nd October 2015 by Ministry of social justice , Dept of Empowerment of persons with disabilities in association with The New India Assurance Company Limited for benefit of persons with disability

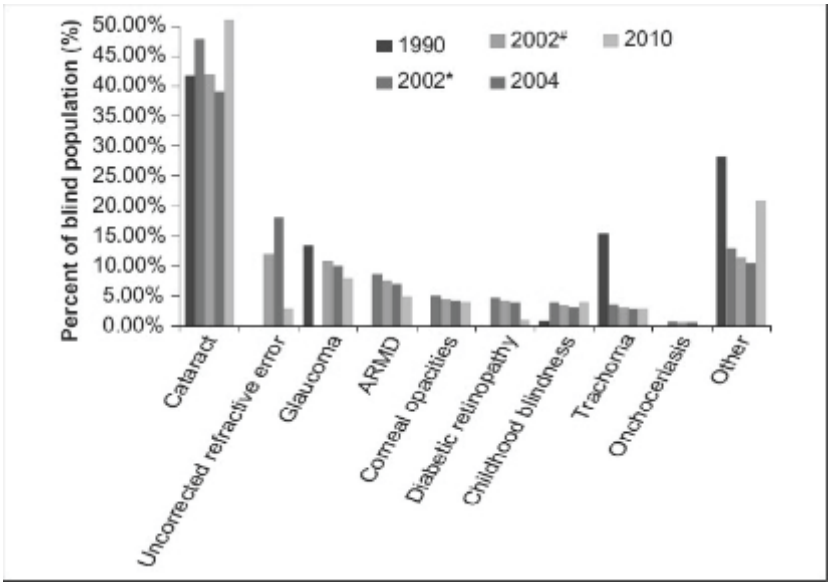
The Sailent features of the scheme are as under

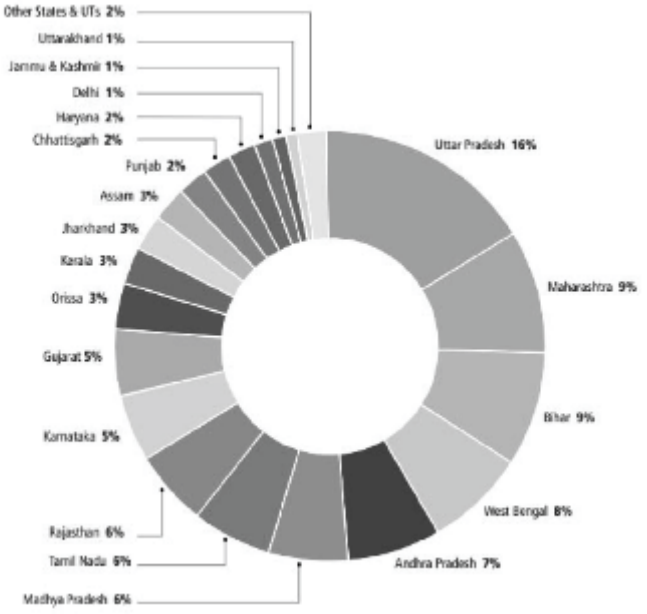
1. Sum insured of Rs. 2 lacs on family floater for a period of 12 months.
2. Age band 0 - 65 years.
3. Family Size upto 1+3 (pwd, his/her spouse, and upto 2 children)
4. If the primary person (disabled) is minor then legal guardian or parents of the minor will be covered in the policy
5. Benefit of the scheme is available for persons with disabilities with annual income of Rs. 3 lacs and below on declaration basis in proposal form.
6. No premedical tests
7. Uniform premium contribution of Rs. 357 per person / family.(equallent to 10% of actual premium)
8. 90% of the actual premium is born by the central government
9. OPD cover for corrective therapy up to Rs. 10,000 a year for person with disability. For persons with mental retardation and mental illness, OPD cover is Rs. 3000 per annum.
10. No exclusion of pre-existing conditions. However corrective surgery for existing impairment can be done with consent of insurer/TPA.
11. Pre-post hospitalization expenses covered sub to limits.
12. Persons with multiple disabilities, Cerebral Palsy & autism are not covered under this scheme.

13. Procedure for enrollment : Proposal form duly completed and signed with Rs 357.00 (Premium : 310 + Service tax: 47), Passport size two photographs of each family member to be covered in the policy, Disability certificate as per PWD act 1995, Copy of valid ID i.e. Voter card, Aadhar Card, Driving license etc.

Contact Details : Toll Free No: 1800 209 1415
Ph: 011-23411998, 23412370
rajesh.jain@newindia.co.in
manju.mittal@newindia.co.in

Bangalore office of New Assurance India company : 9449061966





Useful Links for Seeking for Information, Guidance, Counseling on Various Concerns of Persons with Blindness

Sl. No	Name of the Service	Contact details	Nature of service	Status
1	**Help line of National Association for the Blind on Assistive technology , Delhi**	Ph: 011-64556968	solutions to the issues relating availability and use of assistive technology	NGO
2	**Eye Way Help Desk of score Foundation Delhi elp desk of score foundation Delhi**	Our Helpdesk number is 011-46070380. email: helpdesk@eyeway.org Web ID: www.eyeway.org	seeking comprehensive informations of all concerns of persons with visual impairment	NGO
3	**NAB Lion Home for aging blind at Khandala**	Ph: 6683 8637 Email: contactus@nabindia.info	A residential home in service of aged blind men and women	NGO
4	**National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People**	Phone: 011-26265647/26265648 Fax: 011-26265649 E-mail: secretariat@ncpedp.org www.ncpedp.org	seeking comprehensive informations of all concerns of persons with all type of disability	NGO
5	**Sarthak Educational Trust Delhi**	Ph No. 011- 42004238 Email- sarthakedu@gmail.com www.sarthakindia.org	In agency for imparting various employable trainings and helping the persons with disability in getting suitable placement in corporate sectors.	NGO
6	**All India Confederation of the Blind New Delhi**	Phone - 91-011 27054082 Mobile - 091-09810684208 Email - aicbdelhi@yahoo.com Website - www.aicb.org.in	A pioneering NGO for rehabilitation and comprehensive empowerment of persons with visual impairment with wide range of rehabilitation and professional training programs and a online portal for seeking comprehensive information concerning the blind and blindness	NGO
7	**Indian Blind Sports Association Punjab**	E-Mail: indibsa@gmail.com Phone: ++91 – 11 –24361376 ++91-011- 65650969-70 Web : blindsportsindia.org	A National non governmental body for promotion of various indoor and out door sports event for blind persons	NGO
8	**Matrimonial Service of Voice Vision Mumabi for Persons with Disability**	Phone: +91 22 40400000 Email: sushmeetha@voice vision.in Web:www.voicevision.in	for registration of persons with disability to find suitable match	NGO
9	**Disability Matrimonial.com**	Ph: 09501751000 ,07814612345 http://disabledmatrimonial.com/	for registration of persons with disability to find suitable match	NGO

10	**Job ability portal from LRC**	www.jobability.org	a web based portal that connects people with disabilities with jobs, placements and work-related advice	NGO
11	**Sense international India Mumbai**	Phone : +917926301282 E-mail : info@senseintindia.org Web : http://www.senseintindia.org	Only national level organization in comprehensive service of deaf blind.	NGO
12	**Disability World**	www.disabilityworld.com	for seeking comprehensive information on various concerns of persons with disability	NGO
13	**Website of CCPD News Delhi**	www.ccdisability.nic.in	for seeking comprehensive information on various concerns of persons with disability	GOI
14	**Braille – aid online portal**	www.braille.aid.in	for purchase of various innovative assistive devices	NGO
15	**The International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB)**	http://www.iapb.org	for seeking information on prevention of blindness	International Agency
16	**Hadley institution for the blind and visually impaired**	www.hadley.edu	A International school that offers various courses relating rehabilitation and development of persons with blindness through correspondence	International Agency
17	**International Guide Dog Federation**	www.igdf.org.uk	for seeking information on training and purchase of guide dogs	International Agency
18	**International Disability alliance**	www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org	Alliance of all international associations and unions representing different disabilities	International Agency
19	**World Health Organization**	www.who.int/en	for seeking informations on statistics facts and conditions of persons with disability	International Agency
20	**Wonder Baby**	www.wonderbaby.org	A portal for parents of child with disability for seeking various informations, guidance and counselling	International Agency
21	**World Blind union**	www.worldblindunion.org	An apex global organization representing multimillion visually challenged persons across the globe and as a key role in addressing the concerns of the blind and low vision persons in all international policies and programs	International Agency

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Special Training Programs For Visually Challenged Persons in Rehabilitation and Vocational/Professional Skills Across the Country

Sl. No	Name of the Institution	Contact details	Description of course	Status
1	**Call Cnter Training project of Blind Relief Association Delhi**	Ph: 011-65650969 Email: blindrelief@gmail.com	Joint venture with Tata telecom services Ltd. for training of visually challenged in tele marketing services	NGO
2	**Ayurvedic Face & Body Massage training course of Blind Relief Association Delhi**	01124361376 blindrelief@gmail.com	Unique and employable professional course	NGO
3	**Vocational training course of Blind relief association Delhi**	Ph: 011- 24361376 e-mail: blindrelief@gmail.com	Training in trades like Electronic and Electric appliances repair –maintenance	NGO
4	**Advance Diploma course of Physiotherapy College for the Visually Impaired School at Deaf-Mute Society, Ahmadabad, Gujarat**	Opp. Times of India Ashram Road, Ahmadabad Ahmadabad Pin Code: 380009 Gujarat	This is a 3 and half year professional diploma course in physiotherapy recognized by Ahmadabad university	NGO
5	**Short term training course on accessibility test by Mitrajyothi, Bangalore**	08050109391 Email: admin.office@mitrajyothi.org	This is a short term professional course a newly emerging area of accessibility testing	NGO
6	**Japanese Medical Manual Therapy vocational training course of blind peoples association Ahmadabad**	Call Us : (+91 -79) - 26303346,26305082. Email : blinabad1@bsnl.in www.bpaindia.org	Japanese Medical Manual Therapy. JMMT originally developed in Japan, has for centuries provided blind people as a substantial source of employment	NGO
7	**NAB IDBI polytechnic training center** **Maharashtra**	Ph: (0251) – 262 0759 / 262 1027 Email: idbipolytechnic@nabindia.info	The center offers 2 year course for general machine operation and short term course for plastic molding machine operation and cardboard file, candle making, etc.	NGO

8	**CRISES Management training for later blind of all India confederation of the blind Delhi**	Phone - 91-011 27054082 Mobile - 091-09810684208 Email - aicbdelhi@yahoo.com Website - www.aicb.org.in	The Confederation also actively seeks to provide support to persons losing sight later in life either during young adulthood or during employment. Called 'Crisis-Management', the service has two important components -- stress counseling to help clients overcome the shock of onset of disability and training in skills like daily living activities, Braille, communication skills, orientation and mobility etc. The major thrust of the programme is to enable the recently blinded individuals to return to their earlier place of work, or become independent if not yet in employment	NGO
9	**Executive secretary /receptionist/call center training course of NIVH Chennai**	Ph: 044-26274478 /26272505 nivhrbp@gmail.com	The regional chapter of nivh offers these regular courses to the visually challenged persons free of charge with the view to for more their employability	Public sector GOI
10	**ITI training Center of blind peoples association Ahamadabad**	Call Us : (+91 -79) - 26303346,26305082. Email : blinabad1@bsnl.in www.bpaindia.org	It offers a training course to the visually challenged persons in various innovative trades like Desk Top Publishing Trade (D.T.P.) 3 Stenography English Trade 4 Telephone Operator Cum Receptionist Trade 5 Offset Printing Trade 6 Hair And Skin Trade 7 Cutting And Tailoring Trade	NGO
11	**Cultural training unit of Rajasthan Netraheen Kalyan sang (RNKS Rajasthan)**	Ph: 0141-2410363/2411634 Mob: 094145297 Email: info@rnks.org Web: www.rnks.org	The unit offers training of acting, painting and dance.	NGO

12	**NIVH Dehradun**	NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE VISUALLY HANDICAPPED (Under Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India) 116 Rajpur Road, Dehradun – 248001 Uttarakhand Telephone No. – (0135) 2744491 Fax : (0135) 2734157 Email id : director@nivh.org.in web: www.nivh.org	Course of special B.Ed., for disability study, special teacher and mobility instructor	Public sector
13	**NIVH Dehradun**	NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE VISUALLY HANDICAPPED (Under Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India) 116 Rajpur Road, Dehradun – 248001 Uttarakhand Telephone No. – (0135) 2744491 Fax : (0135) 2734157 Email id : director@nivh.org.in	Vocational training courses in various trades as per the newly emerging marketing trends for both men and women	Public sector
14	**Nivh Dehradun**	NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE VISUALLY HANDICAPPED (Under Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India) 116 Rajpur Road, Dehradun – 248001 Uttarakhand Telephone No. – (0135) 2744491 Fax : (0135) 2734157 Email id : director@nivh.org.in	Training of independent living skills such as mobility, Braille literacy, guidance and counseling to the later blinds, etc public sector	

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Authorities and Institutions of Government of India in service of persons with disability

Below listed authorities, organizations and institutions of public and private sector offers various specific and unique services for the persons with disability in general and visually challenged in particular

Sl. No.	Name of the Service	Contact detail	Description	status
1	**Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disability under Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment**	5th Floor Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road New Delhi - 110003 (India) Phone : 24369055(Off.) Email : secretarydamsje@nic.in Web- www.disabilityaffair.gov.in	The nodal department of central government for formulation, execution and monitoring all rules, policies, programmes and schemes for holistic development for persons with disability	Public sector, Govt. of India
2	**Office of The Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities** **Government of India**	Sarojini House, 6, Bhagwan Dass Road, New Delhi Mail: ccpd@nic.in Ph: 23383907, Fax: 23386006 www.ccdisabilities.nic.in	The Office of the Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities has been set up under Section 57 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights & Full Participation) Act, 1995 and has been mandated to take steps to safeguard the rights of persons with disabilities.	Public Authority Government of India
3	**Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), New Delhi**	B-22, Qutub Institutional Area, New Delhi – 110 016 Tel. 011-26532408, 26532384, 26534287, Fax-011-2653 4291 E-mail: rehabstd@nde.vsnl.net.in rehcouncil_delhi@bol.net.in Web: www.rehabcouncil.nic.in	The Rehabilitation Council India was constituted for regulating and monitoring the training of Rehabilitation professionals and personnel, promoting research in rehabilitation and special education, the maintenance of a Central Rehabilitation Register and related matters.	Public Authority Government of India
4	**National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities, New Delhi**	16B, Bada Bazar Road, Old Rajinder Nagar New Delhi - 110060 E-Mail: contactus@thenationaltrust.in Telephone: 011-43187878 Fax: 011-43187878	The main objectives of the National Trust are to enable and empower persons with disabilities to live as independently and as fully as possible, to extend support to registered organizations providing need based services, and to evolve procedure for appointment of legal guardians for persons with disabilities requiring such protection.	Public authority government of India

			The Government of India has provided Rs.100 crores toward the corpus of the Trust. The income generated from the corpus is utilized to implement its programmes. The State Nodal Agency Centres (SNACs) provide coordination assistance at the State level to enable the National Trust to implement its programmes, disseminate information and train parents and professionals. The SNACs function as Information Centres, facilitators, project mentors, training centers, LLC activators and networkers.	
5	**Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped (AYJNIHH)**	K.C. Marg, Bandra (W) Reclamation Mumbai - 400 050 Phone : 022-26400215/26409176/26400263 : Fax : 022-26404170 E-mail : ayjnihh-mum@nic.in Web: www.ayjnihh.nic.in	The Ali Yavar Jung National Institute is for the Hearing Handicapped was under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 under administrative control of department for empowerment persons with disability The Institute has been established for manpower development, research, clinical and therapeutic services, outreach and extension services for the persons with hearing disabilities. The Institute is responsible for development of manpower by undertaking or sponsoring the training of trainees and teachers, employment officers, psychologists, vocational counselors and such other personnel as may be deemed necessary by the Institute for promoting the education, training or rehabilitation of the hearing handicapped. The Institute sponsors, coordinates and subsidizes research into all aspects of the education and rehabilitation of the hearing handicapped. It is also developing model services for rehabilitation of the hearing handicapped.	Public sector Government of India

6	**National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities (NIEPMD) Chennai** ,	East Coast Road, Muttukadu, Kovalam Post Chennai - 603112, Tamil Nadu, India. Tel: 044- 27472113, 27472046 Fax: 044- 27472389 Email: niepmd(at)gmail[dot]com Website: www.niepmd.tn.nic.in	The Government has set up this new Institute at the total project cost of Rs.61.90 crores comprising of land cost of Rs.39.20 crores (notional), non-recurring cost of Rs.18.10 crores and a recurring cost of Rs. 4.60 crores. Government of Tamil Nadu has provided the land for this Institute. Government of India is providing the financial support for construction of the building of the Institute and other activities. The Institute has started clinical services and short-term training programmes for caregivers from July 2005.	Public sector GOI
7	**Swami Vivekananda National Institute of Rehabilitation, Training & Research (SVNIRTAR), Cuttack**	Olatpur, P.O : Bairoi Dist: Cuttack Odisha Phone No.- 0671-2805552 FAX No.- 0671-2805862 Website:- http://www.svnirtar.nic.in. Email:- svnirtar@gmail.com, dirnirtar@nic.in,nirtar@nic.in	NIRTAR, originally, started as an adjunct Unit of ALIMCO, Kanpur, The aims and objectives of the Institute are human resources development, implementation of service delivery programmes, research and outreach programmes. It undertakes, sponsors or coordinates training for rehabilitation personnel and conducts research on bio-medical engineering and surgical or medical subjects for orthopedically handicapped. The Institute produces and distributes aids and appliances. It develops models of service delivery programmes for rehabilitation. NIRTAR also undertakes vocational training, placement and rehabilitation of the physically handicapped.	Public sector GOI
8	**National Institute for Orthopedically Handicapped (NIOH), Kolkata**	B T Road, Bonhooghly, Kolkata - 700 090 Phone : 033-2531 1248 : Fax : 033-25318379 E-mail : abhishekpmr@gmail.com, mail@nioh.in Web: www.niohkol.nic.in	The mission of the Institute is to develop human resources for providing rehabilitation services to persons with locomotor disabilities, providing of services in rehabilitation, restorative surgery, aids/appliances etc. The Institute is responsible for development of manpower for providing services, namely, training of	Public Sector GOI

			physiotherapists, occupational therapists, orthotics and prosthetic technicians, employment and placement officers etc. NIOH also develops model services in the areas of restorative surgery, aids and appliances, vocational training etc. for the orthopedically handicapped population. It conducts and sponsors research in all aspects, relating to the total rehabilitation of the orthopedically handicapped people and is involved with standardizing aids and appliances for the orthopedically handicapped and promoting their manufacture and distribution.	
9	**National Institute of Visually Handicapped (NIVH), Dehradun**	116 Rajpur Road, ehradun – 248001 Uttarakhand Telephone No. – (0135) 2735350 Fax : (0135) 2734157 Web: www.nivh.gov.in	The objective of the Institute is to conduct, sponsor and coordinate all aspects of education for rehabilitation of persons with visual disabilities and coordinate research in these areas. The Institutes also assisted in running a Composite Regional Centre (CRC) for persons with disabilities at Sundernagar in Himachal Pradesh. This apex level Institute is engaged in education, vocational training, training of teachers and other personnel, research and development of service modules, production of Braille books, aids and appliances for the visually handicapped.	Public sector GOI
10	**National Institute of Mentally Handicapped (NIMH), Secundrabad**	Manovikas nagar, Secunderabad, AP-5600009 Ph No-091402775 www.nimhindia.gov.in	The Institute has been established with the objective to prepare human resources equipped to deliver services through quality models of rehabilitation, based on life cycle needs. The National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped (NIMH) is committed to develop models of care for the mentally handicapped persons, conduct research in the area of mental handicap, and promote human resource development to work with mentally handicapped persons in the country.	Public sector GOI

11	**Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Institute for the Physically Handicapped (IPH), New Delhi**	4, Vishnu Digamber Marg, Connaught Place, Near Balbaban, New Delhi, Delhi 110002 Ph. No.011- 23233782, 23233672 Web: www.iphnewdelhi.in	The major objective of the Institute is to develop trained manpower for rehabilitation of persons with orthopaedically disabled persons, provide outreach services and research. The Institute offers education, training, work-adjustment and such other rehabilitative services as the society may deem fit to orthopaedically handicapped persons with associated mental retardation or such other associated handicaps as are not considered incompatible with the development of a harmonious educational, training or workshop programme. IPH also undertakes the training of physiotherapists and occupational therapists. Besides it has a facility for manufacture and distribution of such aids and appliances as are needed for the education, training and rehabilitation of the handicapped.	Public Sector GOI
12	**Indian Spinal Injury Centre (ISIC)**	Indian Spinal Injuries Centre, Sector C, Vasant Kunj, Opp. Vasant Valley, School, New Delhi, Delhi 110070 Ph: 011-42255225 Web: info@isiconline.org	The Indian Spinal Injury Centre (ISIC), New Delhi, a Non-government Organisation, provides comprehensive rehabilitation management services to patients with spinal cord injuries and related ailments. These include intervention in the form of reconstructive surgery, stabilization operations, physical rehabilitation, psycho-social rehabilitation and vocational rehabilitation services. The Government supports the ISIC to provide 25 free beds daily for treatment of poor patients. Besides, the Centre provides 5 free beds to such patients.	PPP GOI

13	**National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC), Faridabad**	PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, PHD House, 4/2 Siri Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi-110 016 Ph: 011-45088636 Web: www.nhfdc.nic.in	The National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC) is a wholly owned company by Government of India. NHFDC functions as an Apex institution for extending financial support for education, employment and entrepreneurship of the persons with disabilities through the State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs) nominated by the State Government(s). Prominent schemes being implemented by NHFDC are given below in brief: 1. Financial Assistance in the form of Education Loan Education loan is given for pursuing higher education in India and abroad. All courses having employment prospects i.e. Graduation courses/ Post graduation courses/Professional courses and other courses approved by UGC/Government/AICTE etc. are eligible. Maximum amount of loan is Rs.10.00 lakh for courses within India and Rs.20.00 lakh for courses abroad. The rate of interest is 4% per annum, a rebate of 0.5% on interest is allowed to women beneficiaries. The repayment would commence one year after completion of course or 6 months after securing a job, whichever is earlier. The maximum repayment period is 7 years after commencement of repayment.	Public sector GOI
14	**Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO)**	G.T. Road, Kanpur – 209217 Ph.: 91-512-2770873, 2770687, 2770817 Fax: 91-512-2770617, 2770051, 2770123 Toll Free No. 1800-180-5129 Web : http://www.alimco.in E-mail: alimco_hq@vsnl.net	The company manufactures and distributes various types of most cost effective ISI marked Assistive Devices, on mass scale.	Public sector under taking GOI

Provisions of Assistance by the State Government for Empowerment of Persons With Disability Including Blind and Low Vision

Education

A. "Scheme of Scholarships":-

The Students with all type of disabilities in Karnataka, who pursue their education in a main stream educational institution, are awarded with a scholarship of 10 months in each academic year. Office of District disabled Welfare in each District may be contacted for application form and other necessary informations.

As per the Government order No. WG CHW: 293: PHP: 2013, Bangalore Dated 01.02.2014 the current effective rates of monthly Scholarship for Visually Impaired Students are as under.

Course	Rate of Scholarship	Reader Allowance
1st – 5th Std.	100	25
6th – 10th Std.	200	25
P.U.C.	300	75
Degree/TCH	400	75
BE/MBBS/LLB	250 (Yet to be revised)	100
M.A./M. Sc/M.Com/ LLM & Equivalent	300 (Yet to be revised)	100

B. Prize money Scheme for meritorious Students with Disability

In order to recognize and encourage the academic ability of disable students, the state Govt., offers a cash prize to those disable students who secure more than 60% marks in public Examinations such as S.S.L.C, P.U.C, Graduation & Post Graduation.

As per the Government order No. WG CHW: 324: PHP: 2013, Bangalore Dated 05.02.2014 and G.O. no.: WG CHW: 324 PHP: 2013, Bangalore dated 08.05.2014 the Amount of cash prize for various examinations are as follows

(a)	SSLC	Rs. 3000/-
(b)	PUC	Rs. 5000/-
(c)	Degree / TCH	Rs. 8000/-
(d)	Post Graduate Degree Like M.A./M.Com./M.Sc. etc	Rs. 10000/-
(e)	PG – MBBS, PG in Engineering and Agricultural	Rs. 12000/-

Application for these awards are called for by the Asst, Director Dept of Women and Child Development in every District preferably in the month of September every Year.

C. Reservation of Seats for Disabled Students in Educational Institutions

In term of Sec.39 of persons with disabilities(equal opportunities, protection of rights and full participation) Act 1995, The State Government has reserved 3% seats for disable students including blind in all educational institutions of the Govt and those who receive financial aid from the State Govt.

The provisions of this reservation cover all courses and faculties of schools, Colleges and Universities.

Please refer the following G.O for more information

G.O. No.: ED U.G.C.99 Dated 03.06.1999

Regarding 3% reservation of seats for persons with Disabilities in TCH & B.ED Courses

G.O. No.: ED 10 STB 93 Bangalore dated 02.01.2004

D. 5% reservation for admission in pre university courses:-

As per the extract from the prospectus for admission and other activities in 1st year and 2nd year of pre university education, the 5% seats have been reserved for persons with disability in all courses of pre university colleges.

E. Facilities to provide scribe and extra time to Visually Impaired Students in all public examination.

The secondary education examination board and department of colligate education have granted following facilities to V.I. Students in their respective examinations.

A. The visually impaired students are allowed to appoint scribe for writing their answers in all public exams at school, college and university level.

B. The scribe of visually impaired examinees may be senior to the examinee Provided that the faculty of both shouldn't be same. For example a student of Msc. may write the examination of blind examinee of B.A or B. Com.,

C. One hour extra time is given to blind examinee in all public exams of 3 hours.

D. The blind students are allowed to choose optional subjects in place of maths and science at secondary school level.

Following G.O. may be referred to know more about the facilities to V.I. Students in exams.

G.O. No. Vide: ED 42 TPU 2004 dtd. 26.3.2004

ED 15 U.N.E 2004 dtd. 5.3.2004

F. Free Laptop to College going Visually Impaired Students

The department for empowerment of differently abled & senior citizens has undertaken a new scheme of providing free laptops to college going visually challenged students with the view to help them in pursuing their higher learning's.

For availment of benefit of the scheme office of director for empowerment of differently able senior citizens in Bangalore or district disable welfare officers of each district may be contacted.

G. Reimbursement of Admission, Tuition, Examination and other fees / charges to student with disabilities.

In term of its G.O. no.: WG CHW: 271 PHP: 2013, Bangalore dated 03.09.2013, the state govt. reimburse all fees and charges paid by the students with disability to their respective educational institutions after SSLC such as admission , tuition, examinations, lab, library, sports fees/charges,

The scheme is implemented by district disable welfare offices at each district

H. Special facilities to the school going children with special needs

The state project director for Sarvashiksha Abhiyan and Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA/RMSA) respectively deals with special needs of visually challenged children who are enrolled in government schools.

The special facilities extended to the visually challenged students include providing Braille text books to each blind child for 1st to 10th standard, Braille learning/writing aids, assistive educational and mobility devices, monthly transport allowance of Rs.250/- for regular attendance at school and so on.

The state project Director (SSA) and District offices of SSA in each district may be approach to understand and avail the benefit of various special schemes of children with special needs.

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EMPLOYMENT

The key initiatives of the state government for employment and economic independents of persons with disabilities may be illustrated as follows:

1. Reservation of Jobs in group A & B:-

In term of government order bearing No. DPAR 50 SRR 2000, dated 17th August 2005, 3% horizontal reservation has been given to the persons with disability in direct recruitment of all those jobs in group A & B which are identified as suitable for them of which 1% for each among:

a. Blind or Low Vision, b. Hearing Impaired, c. Locomotor disability or cerebral palsy.

2. Job reservation in Group C & D:-

5% horizontal reservation is given to persons with disability in direct recruitment in group C & D vacancies.

As per the latest G.O. of DPAR 128 SNN 2006 dt. 1-08-2009, 5% job reservation is sub-divided in different categories of disability as under:

i. Blind/low vision – 2%

ii. Hearing impaired – 1%

iii. O H– 1%

iv. Leprosy Cured / MR/MI/MD- 1%

3. Allocation of Roaster Points for Implementation of horizontal reservation.

As the reservation for persons with disability is horizontal in nature, so the separate roaster point have been allocated to each category of disability in 100 point roaster for due implementation of their reservation quota. As per the latest G.O. DPAR 53 SNN 2007 dt. 4.1.2008 and No.823 DPAR dtd. 10.06.2013 . Given roaster points are as under:

Group A & B

Blind / low vision – 4

Hearing impaired – 44

Locomotor disability or cerebral palsy - 84

Group C & D

Blind / Low vision – 4 & 24

Hearing impaired – 44

OH – 64

Others – 84.

4. Relaxation in upper age limit for Government Jobs:

Relaxation of 10 years is granted to the persons with disability in upper age limit to join the government service. Please refer the extract from Karnataka Civil Services (General Recruitment) Rules 1977, (As on February 2006) (Amendment upto December 2005 incorporated).

5. Provision of scribe for writing the exam of blind/low vision candidates in competitive exams of Govt. of Karnataka:

In term of Government order No: CASE 74 SNN 2006 DTD 30.10.2007, the Karnataka public service commission (KPSC) allows blind / low vision candidates to take the help of a scribe for writing their competitive exams.

As per the said G.O. extra time of 10 minutes per hour is also granted to the candidates in all competitive exams.

6. Exemption from Application Fees for Competitive Exams:-

In term of government order No. DPAR 142 SRR 2006 dated 5.11.2007 persons with disability are exempted from payment of application fees for any competitive exam held by government of Karnataka for direct recruitment

7. Exemption to the blind persons from passing the TCH Exams:

In term of G.O.No:- SKE 79 PHP 92 Bangalore, Dtd:25-1-1999 blind persons are exempted from passing the TCH exam to become the teacher in special schools for blind

8. Provision for application of job reservation for person with disability in govt. aided, private institutions

In term of G.O. No.WCD.08.PHP.2006 dated 9th November 2006 and DPAR 235 SRR 2012 dtd. 27.11.2012 containing amendment in persons with disability (Karnataka rules 2003), the job reservation for persons with disability applies to all those private institutions who receive financial aid from the state government.

9. Service rules for appointment of blind person in government run special residential schools for blind:-

In term of G.O. No. DPAR/101/SRD/98(P), Bangalore Dated 1st April, 2004, Special rules have been made for appointment of blind person as a mobility instructor and music teacher in government run special residential schools for blind children's.

10. Reservation in allotment of Industrial Sites for Disabled Entrepreneurs:

in term of extract of resolution passed by Karnataka Area Industrial Development Board in its 275th meetings held on 24.08.2006, 3% sites in all layouts of K.I.A.D.B. are reserved for entrepreneur with disabilities and subsidy of 40% subject to a maximum of Rs.5,00,000/- in value of the site is also extended to them.

N. Unemployment allowance to unemployed person with disability:

State government has undertaken a new scheme to offer monthly allowance of Rs.1000/- as an employment allowance to those persons with disability who are registered in special employment exchange for more than 2 years and could not placed in any gainful employment. As per the standing rules age of the beneficiary should be between 25 to 45 years and he/she should not be a beneficiary of monthly pension scheme for disabled.

For more details please refer G.O. No. WCD112PHP2014, Bangalore dated 12.3.2015

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SPECIAL BENEFITS TO THE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES WITH DISABILITY

Government of Karnataka has granted some special facilities and relaxations to its employees with disability. Which are as under.

a. Restriction on the transfers of disabled employees:-

In term of G.O No:-DPAR 94 Dtd: 5-9-1985, the state government maintains that its employees with disability are exempted from routine transfers and it is also maintained that in case if the transfer of a disabled employee becomes un avoidable, in such situation government should afford to provide all basic amenities to the transferred employee with disability for his/her re accommodation at the transferred place

b. Conveyance Allowance to Blind & Orthopedically Handicapped Employees:-

In term of G.O. no.: FD 31 SRP 2007(1) dtd.14.8.2008

Visually challenged and Orthopedically challenged employees of the state govt. are entitled to get Monthly conveyance allowance equalent to 6% of their basic pay.

The provision of conveyance allowance applies to govt. aided private institutions too.

c. Reservation in allotment of government quarters:-

In term of Para 7 (11) of Government order No.PWD/245/PPM 96 dated 22.1.99, 2% reservation is given to govt. officers / employees with disabilities in allotment of government quarters.

As per the said G.O. it is also maintained that the employees with disabilities would be allotted the quarters at ground floor.

d. Exemption to the blind persons from payment of professional tax:-

In term of G.O. No. FD 16 CPT 79, dated 13th November 1981, the blind employees and self employed are fully exempted from the payment of professional tax.

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SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

A. Monthly Maintenance Allowance to poor Persons with Disabilities:-

In term of G.O. No.: RD 74, DSP:2013 Bangalore, dated 30.08.2013, The state government offers monthly maintenance allowance to all poor persons with disability.

Monthly Allowance of Rs. 1200/- is paid to those poor persons whose disability is above 75% and Rs. 500/- to those whose disability is between 40% to 75%.

The scheme is implemented through revenue office at each block under ministry of rural development and panchayat raj.

B. Scheme of Financial Assistance to person with disability to purchase assistive devices:

In term of G.O. No: SWL 199 PHP 91, Bangalore Dtd: 5.2.1992, the Directorate for empowerment of differently abled and senior citizen offers financial assistance to the persons with disability for purchase of assistive devices of their daily use.

Various assistive devices for use of different category of disability are covered under the scheme.

The scheme is implemented through district disable welfare officers at each district.

C. Scheme of Financial Assistance for Disability corrective Surgeries.

In term of G.O. No.: WG CHW: 114: PHP: 2014, Bangalore Dated 07.06.2014, the directorate for empowerment of differently abled and senior citizens extends financial assistance upto Rs. 100000/- to person with disability for surgical correction and reduction in their disability.

As per the above mentioned G.O. the surgery for correction and reduction in disability in govt. hospitals and well reputed private hospital and post surgery medication are covered under the scheme.

Office of director for empowerment of differently abled and senior citizens may be contacted to know more about the scheme.

D. Reservation to person with disabilities in housing schemes:

In term of G.O. No. HD 206 HAH, dtd.24.6.2002, 5% reservation is extended to houseless persons with disability under all housing schemes of the state government such as Rural Asharay Housing Scheme, Ambedkar housing scheme and scheme of housing for special professionals.

All these schemes are implemented by Rajeev Gandhi Rural Housing Corporation.

The applications may be made for benefit under all such schemes through district disabled welfare offices at concerned district.

E. Reservation of 3% of the fund under all poverty alleviation schemes:

In term of Notification No: WCD 08 PHP 2006 DTD., 9TH NOVEMBER 2006, and G.O. No.: WG CHW 96 PHP 2011 dated 11.03.2011, 3% of the budget of rural development and panchayat raj for schemes of educational, social, economic and medical upliftment, has been earmarked for person with disability.

f. Reservation in allotment of residential cites of B.D.A :-

In term of letter of principal secretary to the government department of urban development wide its number UDE 195.2001 dt. 20.9.2001 written to state commissioner for persons with disability, the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) provides 2% reservation to persons with disability in allotment of all its residential cites.

g. Facility of free travel to totally blind persons in KSRTC Buses:-

The KSRTC has extended free Travel facilities to the totally Blind persons on the strength of Identity –cum-free passes issued to them by the KSRTC.

The various provisions of this scheme are as under :

1. The facility of free travel to totally blind persons is available in City Services, suburban services, mofusil ordinary buses and mofussil express busses.

   Reference: No.430 dated 6.6.1997.

2. Rs.2/- shall be charged to issue a pass to a blind person for free travel.

   Reference: 245 dated. 30.3.1970

3. Necessary instructions with regard to use the facility of free travel

   a. A totally blind person shall have to apply for free travel pass cum identity card in a prescribed format accompanied by two pass ports size photograph and certificate of blindness issued by a competent authority

   b. Luggage upto 20kg to adults and 10kg to children with free pass is admissible at free of charge.

   c. The pass holders shall carry the pass while travelling in the KSRTC busses and shall produce the same on demand by any authorized official of the Corporation failing which fare and penalty prescribed for the Journey will be recovered.

   d. The pass holder shall travel at his own risk and subject to the availability of accommodation in the bus.

   e. Travel on mutilated pass, misuse of pass or un-authorized alteration on the pass will yielded confiscation and cancellation of pass.

   f. A pass does not confer on the holder of the pass any right either to enter a bus “Which is full or may preference over other persons waiting at the bus stop.

g. Begging or causing nuisance of any kind inside the bus is prohibited. In case the pass holder is found to be indulging in the act of begging in the bus or bus station premises the pass will be confiscated and he will not be issued with a free pass thereafter.

h. In case of loss of the Identity Card cum pass a duplicate will be issued subject to payment of Rs. 5/- (Rupees five only).

Reference: GENERAL STANDING ORDER NO.340 dt. 15.1.1986

4. The validity of Identity cum free pass shall be 5 years.

Reference : General standing order No. 195 dtd. 23.7.2016

5. Facilities of free travel in KSRTC busses is extended throughout the state of Karnataka and in neighbouring states

Reference : General standing order No. 195 dtd. 23.7.2016

6. Reservation of seats for physically handicapped in KSRTC buses:- Two seats located in left side near to front door have been reserved for physically handicapped passengers in all city and suburban services

Refernce : GSO NO. 714 dt. 12.5.1997

h. Facilities to the totally blind passengers in BMTC buses. :- Bangalore metropolitan transport corporation(BMTC) has granted the following facilities to its totally blind travelers

1. Facility of free travel in all services of the BMTC including vaayuvajra (Volvo) service on production of free travel passes issued by the KSRTC

2. 2 seats have been reserved in all ordinary busses of BMTC for physically handicapped travellers including blind, out of which one seat is for male physically challenged and one for female physically challenged

Reference:

A. General standing order of KSRTC dtd.641/2010

B. Cirucular No. of BMTC dtd 35/99

c. Modified order of BMTC No. 433/2009-10 dtd. 18.05.20

i. Scheme of Rural Rehabilitation of persons with disability:- In term of wide No. DWCD 237 PHP 2007 dtd.16.8.2007, the state government has undertaken an ambitious scheme of comprehensive development of persons with disability residing in rural areas. Under this scheme the person with disability have been appointed as village Rehabilitation worker at panchayat level and multitask rehabilitation worker at Taluk level. In order to respond the special needs of persons with disability in area of rehabilitation, education, employment and social security

The scheme is being implemented in each taluk all over the state

j. 2% reservation for institutions for persons with disability in allotment of civic amenity (CA) sites of BDA:

In term of G.O. No. UDD74MNJ2009 dated 20.04.2010, BDA provides 2% reservation to NGO working for the welfare of persons with disability in allotment of civic Amenity (C.A) sites.

k. Marriage incentive to the couple incase a normal person weds to a person with disability:

In term of G.O. No. DWCD: 261:PHP:2013 Bangalore-Date: 28.08.2013 the directorate for empowerment of differently abled and senior citizens has undertaken an innovative scheme under which amount of Rs.50,000/- is deposited for minimum 5 years to the joint account of such a couple where a normal person gets marriage to a person with disability

After completion of 5 year it will depend on mutual discussion of the couple to continue the FD or to en cash the same.

l. Child care allowance to mothers with blindness:

In term of G.O. No. DWCD: 265: PHP 2013 dated. 28.8.2013 the directorate for empowerment of differently abled and senior citizens offers an assistance of Rs.2000/- per month to the blind mother for care of her 2 babies upto 2 years.

for availment of the benefit of the scheme the annual income of the family of the blind mother should not exceed Rs.2.50 lakhs.

M. Additional casual leaves to female employees of the state government who are having child with disability:- In term of G.O. No. DPAR 1 SRR:2011 dtd 29.6.2011 a female employee of state government having a disabled child is allowed extra casual leaves upto 15 days in a calendar year for necessary care of her child with disability.

N. Allocation of Rs.10 lakh per annum for development of persons with disability out of MLA local area development fund: In term of G.O. No. PD 79 UVV 2011 Bangalore dtd. 8-9-2011 it is obligatory for each member of legislative assembly in Karnataka to spend Rs.10 lakh to providing assistive devices to persons with disability out of his/her fund received for local area development.

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MISCELLANEOUS

1. Financial Assistance to the Sports persons with disability:-

   In term of G.O. No.: MMA: 282: PHP: 96 (Part – II) Dtd: 18-9-96 the sate government has formulated a scheme called ``Sadhane Scheme" , under which financial assistance of Rs. 30,000/- is offered to such sports persons with disability who participate in any sports event at National or International level.

2. Exemption from maximum limit of income for availment of benefit of various special scheme by persons with disability :-

   In term of G.O. No.: DWCD 473 PHP 2001, Bangalore Dtd: 28-6-2002, the beneficiaries with disability are exempted from the provision of maximum income ceiling for availment of benefit of some special schemes. Such as scholarship, free bus travel and financial assistance for disability prevention and correction surgeries.

3. Disposal of the files of persons with disability with in a time limit:-

   In term of G.O. vide No.: MMA/166/PHP/2004 Dtd: 5-5-2004, The chief secretary to the state government has instructed the all departments and authorities of the state government for disposal of matters of persons with disability with in a time limit of one month.

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SOURCES TO AVAIL ALL ABOVE MENTIONED G.O/CIRCULARS –

1. website of directorate for empowerment of differently abled and senior citizens –

   Welfare of Disabilities.kar.nic.in

2. Mr. Amarnath information officer to Directorate for empowerment of differently abled and senior citizens at Telephone: 080-22866066, 22866046,22860907

3. The compendium published by the directorate for the empowerment of differently abled and senior citizen and available at office of director

   Dept. for the Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens

   Podium Block, Vishveswaraiah Tower, Dr. Ambedkar Road, Bangalore-560 001 Telephone: 080-22866066, 22866046,22860907 Fax: 080-22868347

   Email Address : dir-dwdsc-ka[at]nic[dot]in
   Website Address : welfareofdisabled.kar.nic.in

4. General secretary National federation of the blind Karnataka – 99804 44655 / 991636 8800 mail-id- nfbkarnataka@gmail.com ❐

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