



Annual Report
2015-16



TIME LINE

- 1944** Establishment of the Association by Smt. Anusuya & Sh. U.A. Basrurker, eminent freedom fighters and social workers
- 1946** Industrial Home and School for the Blind at Badarpur
- 1955** Foundation stone of the Association's buildings laid by Dr. Helen Keller
- 1966** Inauguration of the building by Smt. Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India
- 1967** Jormal Perival Memorial School for the Blind; Technical Training Centre cum Workshop; Training Centre for Teachers of the Blind
- 1982** Studio for recording books for the blind; First National Sports Meet for the Blind
- 1986** Unit for Children with Multiple Disabilities; Establishment of Indian Blind Sports Association (IBSA)
- 1991** Computerized Braille Printing
- 1994** Vocational training in book binding/ stationery making, repair of household electrical/ electronic appliances
- 1996** Computer training
- 2003** Massage training
- 2006** Durgabai Deshmukh College of Special Education (Visual Impairment)
- 2008** Call Centre training
- 2013** Best Institution National Award 2012
- 2014** Diploma Course in Computer Education
- 2014** Construction of new hostel block for school children
- 2016** KHUSHI EKEHSAAS a musical presented by the students of J.P.M. School.



ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION

The Blind Relief Association, Delhi, has completed 72 years on 26 February, 2016. It started with just two students Daya Ram and Murli Dhar on its rolls and functioned from an old rented building in Lal Kuan, Badarpur. The Association now serves well over 300 blind children and adults at its own sprawling campus in the heart of New Delhi.

The Association's multi-faceted activities encompass school-education, teacher-preparation, computer-education, vocational training, programs for visually impaired children with limited abilities, placement unit, production of reading material in Braille and audio formats, consultancy and awareness creation.

Highlights

- JPM School registered cent-per-cent pass results in Class XII CBSE Examination in the years 2014-15 and 2015-16. Sintoo Shah of 2015-16 batch secured 90.4 per cent in the School.
- Students of JPM School bagged the top honours at the All India KALA UTSAV-2015 for their performance of folk song “Challa”.
- 32 teacher trainees of Durgabai Deshmukh College of Special Education completed B. Ed. (Spl. Education-Visual Impairment) course. 26 trainees secured First Division.
- 37 vocational trainees were helped to secure job or get self-employed.
- Public shows of musical play KHUSHI-EK-EHSAAS by students of JPM School.
- Sewing and soap making training added to multi-skill vocational programme.

EDUCATION

JORMAL PERIWAL MEMORIAL (JPM) SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

Recognized and aided by the Directorate of Education, Government of NCT Delhi and affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), the school offers free education, board, lodging, assistive devices, books and other services to blind boys from pre-school stage to Class XII. It is recognized today as a leading institution in the country which has made a mark for itself as an excellent nurturing ground for the visually



challenged children to become confident and forward looking, excelling in the field of academics, sports and co-curricular activities.

Enrollment: The School had 200 students on its rolls during the year. Only 11 of them were day scholars, the rest stayed in the school hostel. The School admitted 20 new students in various classes during the year. Nine of them between the age of 5 and 7 years were admitted in the pre-school unit which focuses on laying a broad foundation of tactile and Braille learning, daily living skills, developing and strengthening the children's spatial movement and concept development. The remaining eleven entrants were: two in class I, three in II, one in III, two in IV, two in VI and one in IX.

Academics: The school provides education in a wide variety of academic subjects as also physical exercises in accordance, by-and-large, with the curriculum laid down by the Directorate of Education, Delhi and the CBSE. Keeping abreast with the times, all students from class VII onwards are taught the use of computers. They are encouraged to take Informatics Practice as an additional subject in their senior classes. Teaching in Mathematics and Science is also being upgraded and strengthened in tune with the contemporary requirements.

Board Examination Results: All the 15 students of Class XII passed the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) Examination held in March 2016 securing First Division. Overall they achieved 53 subject distinctions. Sintoo Shah topped in the class securing 90.4 % marks. The School is proud that its students join prestigious colleges in Delhi to pursue their higher studies. Out of 16 students 16 cleared school-based CBSE Continuous Comprehensive Examination for class X. Gaurav Kumar and Ramakant Prabhakar with CGPA 9.8 points secured the highest CGPA in the class.

Co-curricular activities: The School provides all facilities, support and encouragement to its students to take part in diverse co-curricular activities like dance, music, theatre, poetry, debating, eco-club, Rotaract Leadership Programmes etc.



- KHUSHI EK EHSAAAS, a musical conceived, written and directed by Ms. Ritu Rae Chandra, was staged at Kamani Auditorium on 22 January 2016. And the same was staged at Sri Ram School, Gurgaon on 22 and 28 April, 2016. The audience was enthralled by the performance of the students and gave standing ovation.

- The school students bagged the coveted KALA UTSAV-2015 national prize in folk song with the prize money of Rs.1, 25,000/-. Hon'ble. H.R.D. Minister Mrs. Smriti Zubin Irani gave away the winners' Trophy and prize money in the award ceremony held on 11 December 2015 at Sirifort Auditorium. They made it to the national level after winning the



- District and State level competitions. At the State level Hon'ble. Education Minister of Delhi Shri Manish Sisodia gave cash prize of Rs 12,000/- on 5 November 2015.
- Disaster Management rehearsal-mock-drill was held on 24 February 2016. The students practised DROP, COVER and HOLD and also to move to safety locations.
- Twenty students of BHARAT NATIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOL, Ram Vihar, Delhi visited the school and held interactive activities on 1 August 2015.
- Mr. Rajesh, TGT, and his team of students regularly participated in artificial wall climbing training at Indian Mountaineering Foundation at Dhaula Kuan. At the national level event, Virbal of class VI secured 2nd Prize in wall climbing.
- Ankur Society for Alternatives in Education conducted “ Special Enhancement of Auditory Skill” programme on 4-6 November 2015.
- The school students presented Punjabi folk song CHALLA at the Zonal Annual Prize Distribution Function at St. Thomas School, Mandir Marg on 16 February 2016.
- International Day of Persons with Disabilities was organized by the IEDC, Directorate of Education on 26 November 2015. The School presented a one Act play on the Right to Education of the Disabled, scripted and directed by Mr. C.B. Dubey,TGT. The team bagged the First Prize and Deepak Mittal class XII won the Best Actor Award.
- Mr. Vivek Aggarwal, a lawyer from the Legal Cell, Patiala House Courts visited the School and discussed with the students of class XI and XII the constitutional articles pertaining to court cases on 14 August 2015.
- Students of Rajkumari Amrit Kaur Nursing College performed a skit on cleanliness and fighting dengue on 17 September 2015, facilitated by ROTARY CLUB (Delhi Safdarjung).
- The Government representatives in the RTE School Managing Committee, Mr. Rahul Tiwari and Mr. Chandra Shekhar Chamkani briefed the students on prevention of Dengue disease on 24 September 2015.
- Students of class IV and V were taken for a visit to Red Fort as a part of World Tourism Day on 27 September 2015. The visit was facilitated by Delhi Tourism.
- On 22 November 2015 the School conducted Swachha Bharat Abhiyan.
- Interaction with foreign students and students of Modern School, Barakhamba Road was organized in Gandhi Hall on 24 November 2015.
- The School joined the Association's Annual Picnic at Mahavir Vanasathali Park on 6 February 2016.
- Personality Development Workshop for senior students was held in the School in September 2014.

- 15 Children from the School, receiving training in choral singing under the aegis of The Neemrana Music Foundation took part in the stage presentation under the title SHOW CASE at the Indian International Centre.



Sports Activities:

The School has always been given special attention to development of sports. The School has 2 regular Physical Education Teachers (PET) who monitor various sports and games. 20 students from various classes practiced athletics regularly at the Thyagaraja Stadium in the morning hours under the guidance of PET Mr.Pawan. The remaining students practiced yoga under the guidance of PET Mr. Moolchand, during the morning hours.



The School participated in 1 international level, 2 National, 3 State level and 4 school level events. In all, the students secured 15 Gold, 12 Silver and 15 Bronze medals adding up to a total of 40 medals.

Judo coaching was introduced. 31 students underwent Judo training under Mr. Mehaboob Alam, Judo Coach from National Judo for the Disabled.

Sameer Khan of class X was a member of the national team which participated in IBSA Asia Blind Football 2015 held in Tokyo, Japan from 30 August to 8 September 2015.

Other Activities:

- **Japanese Language Classes:** After-school classes in Japanese language are being held for the students of Class XI and XII. These are conducted voluntarily by language-teachers from Japan led by Mrs. Itsuko Nandi. The students visited the Japan Foundation and participated in a picnic as a part of practical situational exercise. At the end of the one-year programme the students are evaluated and given participation certificates.



- **TWINKLE** – a dance-training programme for the students has been started with the support of MATTERS OF COMMUNITY (MOC), a USA-based non-profit charity.

Interactions:

- Students from American Embassy School continued their Saturday interaction with students of class V and VI in order to improve spoken English language skills.

Student Initiatives: Leadership and organization acumen of the students was evident in several events managed entirely by them. Some of the prominent events organized by them were:

- 21st Subodh Kant Trophy Cricket on 8–9 April 2015 by the students of Class IX.
- 2-day Janmashtami celebrations, which included 24-hour mass recitation of the Ramcharitmanas on 4–5 September 2015 was organized by the students of Class XII. A large number of alumni and their family members also participated in this event.
- 17th K.N. Nayar Memorial Trophy on July 2015. 3 teams formed by the present students of the School and the alumni took part.
- Basant Panchami and Saraswati Puja on 12 February 2016 by the students of Class X.
- Shivratri celebrations on 7 March 2016 by the students of Class XI.

House Activities: The school has four House groups, namely, Basrurker House, Deshmukh House, Bharat Ram House and Nayar House. The Houses take up month-wise responsibility of

conducting daily morning assembly and cultural activities in the School. This provides these youngsters an opportunity to utilize and developing their cultural abilities and leadership qualities.

Staff: The School, headed by Shri K.J. Kuriyan, Principal, has a staff strength of 30. Mr. S. Keshav Kumar (PGT Music) was promoted to the post of Vice-Principal. Mr. Ram Kumar Sharma (TGT) was promoted to the post of PGT Sanskrit. Mr. Ravinder Partap (TGT Music) was promoted to the post of PGT Music. Mr. Moola Singh PGT History superannuated and was re-employed for a period of two years. As on 31st March 2016, there were 15 teaching and non-teaching positions were vacant, namely, 3 Post-Graduate Teachers (English-1, Computer Science-1 and Hindi-1), 1 Trained Graduate Teacher (English), 1 Sanskrit TGT, 1 Special Educator, 1 Music Teacher, 5 Assistant Teachers, 1 Librarian, 1 Nursery Teacher and 1 Chowkidar.

Management: The functioning of the school is overseen by a Managing Committee constituted in accordance with the Delhi School Education Act and Rules. The Committee is chaired by Mrs. Benu Nath, social worker. In addition, the school has a separate 16-member committee called "The RTE SMC" covering education up to Class VIII in terms of the Right to Education Act 2009.

UNIT FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED CHILDREN WITH MULTIPLE DISABILITIES

The Blind Relief Association runs a special programme under its Unit for Visually Impaired children with Multiple Disabilities to cater to the special needs of visually impaired children with mild mental retardation and provides them individual care. It also provides remedial teaching to the children studying at the primary level of JPM School,



The unit has two full-time qualified special teachers and two part-time teachers in Music, Art and Craft. There is one resident house-parent for the care of these students before and after school hours.

In order to make appropriate need-based interventions, the unit divides the beneficiary students into two groups:

- **Functional Academic Group**

Remedial Teaching Group

In the academic session 2015-16, five students were on rolls of Functional Academic Group, while 17 students were in Remedial Teaching Group.

Functional Academic Group: The children in this group are with mild mental retardation. They are trained in functional academics like number, money and time concepts, and activities of daily living, such as, orientation and mobility, personal hygiene, and pre-vocational activities. However, in consonance with the provisions of the PWD Act 1995 and the basic tenets of the Right to Education Act 2009 the Unit revised its existing norms of maximum age of 16 years and relaxed it to enable students above 16 years of age to get benefit of School education, as much as possible. Wherever possible, the students under Functional Academic Group were given the opportunity to attend, even if nominally, classes of the same age students in the school. Accordingly, 5 students from class II to X in the group attended maximum classes in the unit, yet they were not segregated from the regular school. They attended some classes like art and craft, clay modeling, music and physical education together with other children of the school. Thereafter, in consultation with their parents, some students are encouraged and advised to continue study as fully integrated students while some are advised to join appropriate vocational training.

Remedial Teaching Group: There were 17 children from classes I & II of the JPM School in this group. Personal attention was given on basic Braille reading and writing to enable them to improve their Braille and Taylor Frame skills. While Hindi is their primary language they were also taught basics of English Braille. The students showed marked improvement in Hindi Braille reading and writing capability and are developing basic understanding of writing numbers using Taylor Frame.

DURGABAI DESHMUKH COLLEGE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION (VISUAL IMPAIRMENT)

Established in 2005 by The Blind Relief Association, the College is affiliated to the University of Delhi, offering study programs leading to the degree of Bachelor of Education, Special Education (Visual Impairment). The College has permanent recognition from the University of Delhi, University Grants Commission (UGC) as well as Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI). It receives partial



financial support from National Institute for the Visually Handicapped (NIVH), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India and some development grant from University Grants Commission. From the academic year 2015-16 the B.Ed. Special Education programme is a two-year course. As a Trust-run Institution, its 19-member Governing Body constituted under the terms of the relevant University statutes manages the College. Sri. Ranjit Puri was Chairperson of the Governing Body during the year 2015-16.

New Admission:

33 students were admitted to the 2015-2017 programme. Two students left the course. Of the remaining 31 trainees, 15 are visually impaired.

Annual Examination & Results:

Annual University Examinations for B.Ed. Special Education (Visual Impairment) Course 2014-15 was conducted in the College in May 2015. Out of 32 students 26 students passed with First Division and 4 students got Second Division. One student passed in essential repetition. One student did not appear on medical grounds.

Co-curricular Activities:

- A 2-day workshop on Autism Spectrum Disorder was organized on 20-21 August, 2015.
- One-day workshop on Smart Cane technique was held on 4 September, 2015.
- Two students, Swati and Ram Milan Yadav participated in Rajat Jayanti Antarmhavidyalaya debate competition, organized by Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar College, University of Delhi on 1 February 2016.
- The Annual Sports Day of the College was held on 20 February 2016.

Education Tour/Visits:

As a part of the curriculum the teacher trainees visited the following institutions:

- Ashish Foundation for the Differently Aabled (Autism) on 29 September, 2015.
- Okhla Centre, School for Special Children on 6 November, 2015
- National Institute for Hearing Handicapped (NIHH) and National Institute for Mentally Handicapped (NIMH) on 27 November, 2015
- Institute for Physically Handicapped, Model integrated School, Minto Road and Institute of Physically Handicapped, Vishnu Digambar Marg on 10 and 11 February 2016.
- Amar Jyoti Charitable Trust on 17 February 2016
- Tech Share Exhibition at India Habitat Centre on 4 March 2016.

Library: The College has a well-stocked Library with a large collection of books and journals on special education. During the year, 233 volumes of books (Print and Braille) were added with grant from UGC and other sources. As on 31 March 2016, the library had a stock of 4131 books in Print and Braille (2049 titles). The library subscribes to 22 Indian and Foreign journals on education and special education. There are more than 70 Conference Proceedings/Research Bulletins & Annual Reports. The Library offers e-resources to its students, faculty members and other scholars through NLIST program of UGC.INFONET Digital Library Consortium. The Library Incharge, Mr. Shanti Bhushan has created College Learning Resource Centre (Library) website www.lrcddcse.wordpress.com through which the college library catalogue can be accessed. The services are particularly beneficial for Special Education and Rehabilitation Professionals, Research Scholars and other persons working in the disability sector.

Faculty: The college has a regular faculty comprising the Course Director, Dr. Swati Sanyal, Assistant Professors, Dr. Sudeep Kumar Dubey and Dr. Pubali Agarwal, Research Associate, Mr. Narendra Kumar Jha and Librarian Mr. Shanti Bhushan.

The faculty members were invited to render their services as experts and resource persons to universities and other institutions, namely, Delhi University, IGNOU, Jamia Millia Islamia, Rehabilitation Council of India, Ministry of Human Resource development, National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), District Institute of Education and Training (DIET), National Association for the Blind, Central Institute of Education and Punjab Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.

Dr. Pubali Agarwal, Assistant Professor was awarded Ph.D. degree by the University of Delhi in February 2016..

COMPUTER TRAINING CENTRE:

The Association is one of the pioneering institutions in the country to introduce computer literacy programmes for the visually challenged. Launched in 1996, as a Project for imparting computer-training for the adult blind, the Centre conducts courses for blind adults and also caters to the computer-related curricular needs of the students of JPM School. The Centre also takes care of IT-related services and requirements of the Association.

Diploma Course in Computer Education (V.I)

Introduced in the year 2014-15, as a pilot course approved by the Rehabilitation Council of India for two academic sessions, the Diploma Course in Computer Education (V.I) is now in the second year. The objective of the course is to prepare a cadre of personnel who could provide education and vocation in computers to the visually impaired.



The Association has approached RCI to accord permanent recognition to this Diploma Course and grant permission to the Association to run it on a regular basis.

The final examination of the first batch (2014-15) was conducted by the National Board of Examination and Rehabilitation (NBER) in July-August 2015. Of the 17 trainees, 12 passed and 5 trainees were placed in essential repetition. Hidayaat Hussain Ansari topped in the class and was presented a laptop by a well-wisher.

For admission to the 2nd Batch (2015-16), 59 Applications were received. 18 applicants were selected on merit and only 16 trainees, comprising 10 male and 6 female, joined the Course.

Computer Training for School Students

Over 40 students from Class VI to Class XII from J.P.M. Sr. Sec. School were taught the basics of computers. Special training was given to one of the students who opted for Informatics Practices as a main Subject for CBSE Class XII Board Examination. 4 Students gave their CBSE Class XI examination in all the subjects using computers. One of the labs named Vardhman Jain Computer Centre is supported by The Times of India group.

It is a matter of great pride that 5 trainees of the first Batch have found employment. Under its CSR activity M/s. INFO EDGE (INDIA) LIMITED has committed to provide financial support for Diploma in Computer Education (V.I.) from February 2015 to February 2017.

Computer Training for Adult Blind

There were 9 trainees in the two month Summer training programme held in May-June, 2015. All of them successfully completed the course. A notable feature was the introduction of Non Visual Desktop Access (NVDA), an open source screen reading software.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Technical Training Centre

Vocational training along with the education of the visually challenged has been a major activity of the Association from the very beginning. The Association's vocational training programmes have expanded manifold over the years covering a variety of engineering and manual skills. The curriculum is continuously upgraded to keep abreast with the times. New skills are introduced so that the trainees can avail the best employment opportunities or opt for self-employment.

All the courses are fulltime. Training and hostel facilities are provided free of cost. A brief report on individual training programmes is as follows:



General Mechanic-cum-Machine Operator's Course (GMMO)

Open for visually challenged persons in the age group of 17-30 years who have passed Class VIII, the Course is recognized by the Board of Technical Education, Government of Delhi as a regular ITI Course. Training covers areas of factory work like assembly jobs, inspection work, operating such machines as power press, drilling and tapping machines. The trainees are inducted in July every year.

4 persons from the Course have got employment in Noida of the 2014-15 batch 7 trainees completed the course in July 2015 and were awarded certificates by the Board of Technical Education. 10 trainees were admitted to the 2015-16 batch of which 2 trainees have dropped out due to various reasons.

Sub-Contract and Other Production Work

With a view to giving actual production experience to the trainees, and thereby enabling them to understand the importance of productivity and quality, TTC takes sub-contract assignments. The Centre also manufactures long canes and folding canes for the visually impaired, which are in great demand. Diya stands, which are a huge hit in the Association's Diwali Bazaar, are also made here. The workshop produced goods worth Rs.1,23,179 during the year.

Multi-skill Training



This 1-year programme was introduced in 2014 for adult blind (even those with additional disabilities) that have either missed-out on school education or are marginally educated. During this year they acquired various skills to enable them to work in industry, become self-employed or work with family support. As an individual trainee-focused programme the schedule is kept flexible to suit the capacity, interest and capability of the trainee. Skills taught are: 1. Book Binding and Paper Craft; 2. Basic Massage; 3. Chair Caning; 4. Candle Making; 5. Packaging 6. Sewing and 7. Soap-Making. Sessions on personality development, Braille, music, orientation and mobility are conducted from time to time, with the objective of holistic development. The trainees are encouraged and helped in completing school education under open school system.

The Association added the Sewing Unit to the vocational training programmes. The trainers and all consumables are provided by Sun Foundation, which works in the field of training underprivileged women in stitching and tailoring. The training is attracting a lot of female vocational trainees.

Integral to the programme is the skill-related production work to gain experience in factory-like situations. The trainees are involved in production of paper-crafted items, candles and accessories. During the year the production of paper products amounted to Rs. 15,85,859, as against the previous year's production of Rs. 12,56,437/-. Volunteers also lend their hand in decorating and adding value to some of the products.

Of the 2014-15 batch, 11 trainees completed the course in July 2015. 21 trainees were admitted to the 2015-16 batch, of which 6 trainees dropped out due to various reasons. 4 persons from the course have got employment in Delhi NCR.

The Association is exploring to start an exclusive 6-month training programme in sewing with the support of USHA Silai School.

Call Centre Training

The call centre training programme introduced in 2008, in cooperation with Tata Telecom Services Ltd. (TTSL) was discontinued in 2011 due to technical reasons. From August 2014 an upgraded call centre training designed for computer-literate visually challenged persons was introduced in association with QUIKR, a leading e-commerce company. The trainees are being prepared to work in the mainstream call centers by giving them knowledge and practical experience of working on auto-dialing CRM process. Under the 6-month training programme the trainees receive stipend and incentive as they master the skills of telemarketing. The trainee-agents are both male and female blind adults who have completed minimum senior secondary education and are computer literate.

During the year, 14 trainees completed training, of which 7 have got employment.

Relaxation Massage Training

This 4-month training course prepares visually challenged persons to become professional masseurs. It has been designed in collaboration with VLCC Institute and covers Swedish, Thai, Aroma and Head massage. Trainees are also familiarized with the techniques of pain-

management by reflexology, magneto-therapy and Sujok therapy. Such value added-on skills have proved greatly beneficial to them in improving their professional profile.

To upgrade the skills of former trainees, a part-time Ayurvedic massage training programme is being conducted in the Association by Shahnaz Husain International Beauty Academy. The Academy provides free services of a trainer and the required consumables.



Certificates are jointly awarded by Shahnaz Husain International Beauty Academy and the Blind Relief Association to the successful trainees.

The current as well as former trainees were provided opportunities to demonstrate their skills at the Association's Diwali Bazaar; Oberoi Hotel, BSF Diwali Bazaar, CRPF Diwali Mela, The Lalit Hotel, Army Golf Club, Masonic Lodge, Select City Walk, and Sant Nirankari Samagam.

5 trainees of 2014-15 batch completed the course in April 2015. 10 trainees were enrolled in the two batches of 2015-16 starting in May 2015 and December 2015. 5 trainees (May 2015) have successfully completed the course.

7 trainees got employment in Delhi NCR and 10 trainees are working independently as masseurs on call.

Electronics Training Course

This one-year course was designed for the orthopaedically handicapped and low-vision adults. The training included repair and maintenance of household electrical and electronic appliances and cell phones.

5 trainees were admitted to January 2015 batch of which 2 trainees dropped out due to various reasons and 3 completed their training in March 2016.

This training programme has been closed down due to the non-availability of suitable trainees.

Pran Nath ji Candle Making Unit



The Candle unit produces a large variety of candles in different shapes and sizes. These candles are available for sale throughout the year as well as during the Association's annual Diwali Bazaar. The trainees and many volunteers join hands in the production work, Diya painting, and packing. The Unit helps other NGO's by providing training and logistic support in setting up such programmes in candle making. With the introduction of the Multi-Skill Training Programme, a larger number of trainees are being given practical knowledge and experience in different processes of candle making. They are involved in actual production, finishing, sorting and packaging of candles.

Other Activities

Technical Training Centre hosted an Industrial Motivation Campaign conducted by MSME Development Institute, Government of India on 8 January 2016. The idea being to motivate the current and former vocational trainees towards entrepreneurship through starting small business of their own. Nearly 30 persons trained by the Association in different vocational skills participated. The vocational trainees are encouraged to take part in diverse sports and cultural activities. Every Saturday afternoon they have a cultural session in which they display their musical and other talents. They take part in different functions of the Association.



Internship

A number of students pursuing courses in Social Work in the Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar College, School of Social work, University of Delhi, IGNOU, Jamia Millia Islamia University and other institutions are placed with Association to do their field training. They have a good opportunity to study the different aspects of vocational training programmes for persons with disabilities. They also work side-by-side with the visually challenged trainees and gain insight about the capabilities of persons with disabilities.

SERVICES:

Placement

Securing employment for the trainees is an important task entrusted to the Placement Cell. The Cell not only locates suitable jobs for the trainees completing their respective training courses, but also provides hand-holding services to those who work independently. The Placement Cell interacts with industrial associations, potential employers, and a network of individuals and organizations. Representatives from the Cell visit industries to identify and ascertain suitability of the available jobs for the candidates. Matching the skills with job requirement, the Cell recommends to the employer appropriate trainees for the job.

The newly employed are helped in familiarizing with the work and workplace environment, as also

in settling down in the new place, finding appropriate accommodation, providing basic requirements like beddings and utensils, as also guidance on commuting. Follow-up contacts are maintained with the employers as well as the trainees to sort out any difficulties that may arise. The Cell not only serves the trainees and students of the Association, but also other visually challenged individuals seeking job counselling and assistance.



- During the year, the Placement Cell secured employment for 37 trainees (including 10 self-employed) in and around Delhi
 - General Mechanic-cum-Machine Operator Course -- 4
 - Multi-skill Training -- 4
 - Computer Training -- 5
 - Massage Training -- 17 (including 10 self-employed)
 - Call Centre Training -- 7

Orientation and Mobility

The Association has an experienced and professional Mobility Instructor who provides regular orientation and mobility training to the vocational trainees and also renders on-site orientation to newly-employed trainees at their work places. Training is also provided to the recently blinded persons free on request.

Braille Production

The Association is among the pioneering institutions in the country to have introduced computerized Braille printing facility as far back as in 1990. The Unit has been meeting the requirement of books and other education material for the students of JPM School, Durgabai Deshmukh College of Special Education, Diploma Course in Computer Education, Vocational training programmes as well as specific requests from outside. Reading material of general interest such as poetry, fiction and miscellaneous articles were brought out in Braille. During the year a total of 114 Titles in Hindi and English running into 1193 volumes were produced.

Audio Recording

The facility for recording audio books was established in 1982 to make study material available in audio format to students and trainees. A team of devoted volunteers render their services free of cost, to read out material for recording. Since its inception, the studio has produced a total of 784 titles in Hindi, English and Sanskrit languages. These comprise school textbooks, University-level books, fiction, non-fiction, competitive exam material, books related to personality development and current affairs. The recorded books are available in digital MP3 CDs as well as in audio-

cassette (old titles only). For the convenience of the students from class X, XI and XII the recorded study material is provided in pen drive digital players. For other classes audio material is provided in MP3 CDs along with CD players for listening. Similar service is also available for the visually impaired students of Durgabai Deshmukh College of Special Education and Diploma in Computer Education (V.I.).

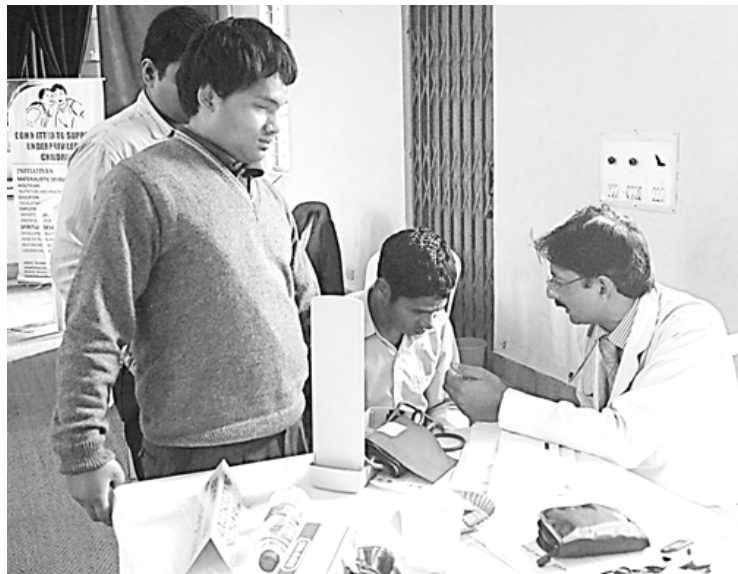
Apart from the Association's own students and trainees, a large number of college-going and other students from Delhi and outside were provided recorded study material on request.

During the year under report, 20 new titles, including 7 in DAISY format, were recorded. A total of 788GB of data in CD's/DVDs/Memory Sticks were copied and supplied to students and trainees.

Blank CDs were procured largely from the Grant Assistance from the Military Order of the Collar Charitable Foundation, Switzerland.

Health Care Unit

The Unit looks after the primary medical and health care needs of the students and trainees of the Association. The team comprises a visiting physician, a round-the-clock male nurse, a female nurse and an assistant. Regular medical check-ups of students are conducted, and free medicines are provided to the students and trainees. There are arrangements with reputed hospitals and health centers like Dr. Shroff Charitable Eye Hospital and Sai Bhakta Samaj Polyclinic for specialized diagnostic assistance and treatment of the students and trainees.



Eye check-up of 121 students and trainees from JPM School and other units of Blind Relief Association was conducted by Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye hospital on 18 January 2016.

A Health Screening Camp under the aegis of Mogel Vision's Healthcare Team was held on 20 February 2016.

Dental Clinic

A well-equipped Dental Care Unit set up by Sri Govind Tricentenary Dental College has been providing dental care services for the benefit of the Association's school children, trainees and staff. A Doctor and support staff hold weekly clinics on Saturdays and educate the students and staff on

oral health. Students, trainees as well as staff of the Association are benefitting from the Clinic's services.

Boarding and Lodging

The Association has a large hostel which serves around 300 persons. These include students of the school, teacher trainees, vocational trainees and visually impaired workers of the Association. The board and lodging services are provided free of cost. The hostel has a large dining hall and a well-equipped kitchen serving 3 wholesome meals (breakfast/lunch/dinner) and afternoon tea. Visually impaired visitors are also provided accommodation and food at subsidized rates.

Promotion of Sports (Indian Blind Sports Association)

The Association is proud of its initiative of having established in 1986 the Indian Blind Sports Association (IBSA), a national level body for the promotion of sports for the blind, and consistently supporting its activities. With 184 institutions and organizations from 25 states as its



members IBSA is one of the oldest, largest and most active disability sports organizations in the country. It represents India in the International Blind Sports Federation, the apex blind-sports body, and is affiliated with the Paralympic Committee of India.

With support of the Blind Relief Association, it organizes national-level sports meets and coaching camps in athletics, powerlifting, football, kabaddi, chess and swimming, besides identifying and sending talented athletes to participate in international sports events.

During the year under report, the Association partnered with and supported IBSA to participate in the Fifth World Championships and Games. A 26-member team comprising 15 blind sportspersons (including 1 female), 3 Guide-Runners, 3 Escorts, 3 Coaches, and 2 Officials participated in the Seoul 2015 IBSA World Games held in Seoul, Korea from 8 to 18 May 2015. The Indian team's participation was confined to Athletics, Judo, Powerlifting and Swimming. Majority of athletes performed very well and improved upon their past performances. As a matter of fact, 3 of our athletes attained minimum standards laid down for IPC World Championships. The lone powerlifter Triptpal Singh won two Bronze Medals in 125 Kg. weight class category and thus brought laurels to the nation. It was really a very satisfying achievement in a high profile international event for the blind.

The Association also supported IBSA in the participation of 5-a side Football Team from India to take part in the Asian Blind Football Championships held in Tokyo, Japan from 30 August to 8 September 2015.

Awareness and Consultancy

Spreading awareness in the society on the equality of rights, capabilities and potentials of persons with physical/sensory disability, especially visual impairment, is an important mandate of the Association.

JPM School is proactively sending its students to other schools to present their talent and interact with their counterparts on equal footing. They also participate in open talent contests and compete with other school children. The vocational trainees too participate in different public events and demonstrate their professional skill and dexterity. The Association's popular Diwali Bazar in a very major way brings the Association and the society closer to each other and thus helps in spreading awareness on disability among the general public. Free space is provided in Diwali Bazar to fellow NGO's to showcase their activities and sell their products.

The Association shares its expertise with institutions or organizations seeking guidance on establishing disability services, and also provides training to the trainers from such institutions.

Recently-blinded persons approaching the Association are given counselling in coping with their blindness and rehabilitation through acquiring orientation and mobility skill, and availing educational and vocational training.

Faculty members from the Association's JPM School and Durgabai Deshmukh College of Special Education, as well as vocational skill trainers are frequently invited as experts in consultative groups and as participants in seminars and media programmes concerning disabilities.

The Association received a large number of visitors, coming individually and in groups, from schools, colleges and other institutions to see and take part in the activities and programmes of the Association. Companies like Haldor Topsoe India and Nielsen Employees involved their employees to render voluntary service, and helped in sensitizing and spreading awareness in the society.

MAJOR EVENTS

Dastangoi Baithak: Dastango duo Fouzia and Valintina Trivedi enthralled the students and trainees of the Association with their rendering of Dastan of Goopi and Bagha, the story of two most popular Satyajit Ray characters, Goopi the singer and Bagha the drummer, on May 1, 2015.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

The 69th Independence Day was celebrated on 14th August 2015 in which all the units of the Association participated. The ceremonial hosting of flag was done by Dr. R.K. Baijal visiting Medical Doctor of the Association. After the flag hoisting the students and trainees presented patriotic songs, poems and speeches.

DIWALI BAZAAR



The Association's Diwali Bazar, held from 2 to 8 November 2015, yet again established its immense popularity as a premier event in the capital. The skills and abilities of the Association's vocational trainees and workers was visible in the wide variety of products made by them, such as candles, Diyas and paper products including attractive carry bags, envelopes, notepads, lampshades. Masseurs trained by the Association demonstrated their relaxation massage skills during the Bazar. However, the prime centre of attraction of the Bazar, as always, was the Association's stall, doing a brisk business selling over 70 different varieties of candles. Nearly 200 other stalls were there selling a variety of exclusive items. Being an "Event with a Cause" nearly 90 NGO's were provided free tables. As a major resource generation event, the Association earned a sizable income from the stall rentals and the sale of the Association's own products.



KAVI SAMMELAN

On the eve of World Disability Day a KAVI SAMMELAN was hosted by the Association in its premises on 2 December 2015. The event was organized in cooperation with Delhi Police at the initiative of Sri. Ved Prakash, Station House Officer, Nizamuddin Police Station who himself is an accomplished poet. Included among the established poets reciting their poems were three visually challenged poets Dr. Dayal Singh Pawar, Sri.Chandraveer and Shailendra Sheel. Also, Sri Ajay Dixit, a managing committee member also briefly read out his poem.



SEVENTY SECOND ANNUAL FUNCTION



The students of JPM School, Durgabai Deshmukh College of Special Education and other units of the Blind Relief Association presented an impressive cultural programme in the 72nd Annual Function of Association held on 19 December 2015. The Chief Guest was Mrs. Meenakshi Lekhi, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) who has been associated with the Association for many years. Mrs. Vinita Shankar, Deputy Director of Education was the Guest of Honour.



MUSICAL PLAY : KHUSHI – EK EHSAAAS

The Association presented a grand-scale musical play entitled KHUSHI - EK EHSAAAS enacted by visually impaired children of Association's JPM School at Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi on 22 January 2016. Conceived and directed by noted theatre director Mrs. Ritu Rae Chandra and





supported by a distinguished production team, this indigenous production was scripted solely with the objective to give the children an out of ordinary experience to perform on a prestigious platform before general public and demonstrate their talent. The play in Hindi, had songs, dances and audio-visuals. Both the ticketed shows at Kamani Auditorium, one in the morning for schools children and the one in the evening for general public were house-full. The enthralled audience lustily applauded the flawless performance by the children. The play was a success also as a fund-raising event for the Association. Subsequently, on special request, the play was staged at The Shri Ram School (TSRS), Aravali on 23 April and TSRS Moulisari on 28 April 2016.

To celebrate the grand success of the Play and to thank the production team and the young actors, dancers and singers of JPM School who took part in it, a Thank You Tea was hosted by the Blind Relief Association in its premises on 26 February 2016.

ANNUAL PICNIC

Over 500 students, trainees, alumni and staff, many with their family members participated in the grand Annual Picnic held on 6 February 2016 at Mahaveer Vanasthali Park in the Central Ridge



REMEMBERING U. A. BASRURKER, FOUNDER

A Remembrance Meeting preceded by Havan Ceremony in memory of Late Sri Umesh A Basrurker, who along with his wife Smt. Anusuya Basrurker founded the Blind Relief Association in 1944, was held on 19 February 2016, marking his 57th death anniversary.

Obituary

Mrs. Indira Sabhaney (29 Dec 1929 -14 July 2015), former Honorary General Secretary of the Blind Relief Association passed away in Gurgaon on 14 July, 2015. Wife of Late Air Marshal I. W. Sabhaney, Mrs. Indira Sabhaney first visited the Blind Relief Association in early 70s and started helping the children of JPM school as a volunteer. She soon learnt Braille and distinguished herself by manually transcribing into Braille a large number of text books and other reading material which benefitted hundreds of students. She served as the Association's Honorary Joint Secretary from February 1976 to December 1978, and then as its Honorary General Secretary till January 1982. She initiated several innovative programmes and activities. The Association will ever remain grateful for her abiding affection and selfless service.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

An account of our activities will remain incomplete without acknowledging the debt of gratitude the Association owes to a large number of individuals and organizations--from home and abroad--for the invaluable co-operation and assistance extended by them. The Association could not possibly have achieved whatever it has but for the willing and unstinting support from these generous benefactors.

From the government:

- Department of Education and Department of Social Welfare, Government of NCT of Delhi
- New Delhi Municipal Council
- National Institute for the Visually Handicapped, Dehradun
- University Grants Commission
- National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation

Each of these authorities have extended valued assistance to the Association for which we are most thankful.

A large number of self-effacing ladies and gentlemen have been giving of their time and energy in a totally voluntary capacity to provide useful services for us, such as:

Reading and recording textbook, helping in Braille book preparation, tutoring, lending a hand in adding value to the candles and paper products made by the visually challenged, sharing their knowledge and expertise for improving and enriching our various programmes and services.

Space-constraint does not permit us to acknowledge the contributions of each one of them by name. However, the Association expresses its deepest gratitude to all of them.

OUR SUPPORTERS

1. Military Order of Collar Charitable Foundation, Switzerland for the sustained support to the Association's varied activities, namely Unit for Visually Impaired Children with Multiple Disabilities, Community Outreach Programme, Braille Production Centre and Recording Studio.
2. MOC Terra Nordica, Sweden for the financial support to the Placement Project.
3. Matters of Community (MOC), a California USA-based non-profit charity for supporting TWINKLE – a dance training programme for the School students.
4. The Times Eye Research Foundation and Ashok Jain Charitable Trust for their continued support to Vardhman Jain Computer Centre set up by them for the benefit of the students of J.P.M. School.
5. Smt. Kamla Devi Charitable Trust run by INOX Group for re-equipping the old Computer lab, and supporting the salary of a Computer Instructor.
6. VLCC Institute for providing technical support to the Massage Training programme.
7. Shahnaz Husain International Beauty Academy for fully supporting Ayurvedic Massage training with the free services of trainer and required consumables.
8. Neemrana Music Foundation and especially Ms Natasha A Vaz for teaching with great love and devotion, western choir music, and conducting their performances.
9. Sri. Kavi Jain, Architect for planning and supervising execution of Phase-1 of the Association's plan for renovation and expansion of its buildings, comprising LGFS structure to house new hostel wing for JPM School, and for preparing architectural plans for Phase-2.
10. Smt. Itsuko Nandi for teaching and her team of Japanese lady volunteers for assisting her in teaching Japanese language to JPM School students.
11. The Overseas Human Resources and Industry Development Association (HIDA), Japan, for assigning its staff member Mr.Katsuhiko Arakawa to render voluntary services in December 2015.
12. M/s. INFO EDGE (INDIA) LIMITED, New Delhi for CSR Contribution for the Project "Diploma in Computer Education (Visual Impairment)", a full-time one-year training course approved by the Rehabilitation Council of India.
13. M/s. UPTWIGA Fiberglass Limited - False Ceiling of entire Hostels.
14. M/s. IGSEC Heavy Engineering Limited - LED Lighting in the entire Association premises.

The Association also thanks the Statutory Auditors M/s. Thakur Vaidyanath Aiyar and Co. for having conducted the periodical and annual audit work on time.

The Association wishes to record its deep sense of appreciation and a big "THANK YOU" to all the employees, who have carried out their duties with commendable commitment and devotion. We look forward to the same commitment and the spirit of dedication to their tasks in future also.

And the journey continues

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BOARD OF TRUSTEE

Justice Dr. Adarsh Sein Anand	Chairman & Life Trustee
Mr. H. M. Periwal	Life Trustee
Mr. Ranjit Puri	Life Trustee
Mr. Arun Bharat Ram	Life Trustee
Mr. Lalit Nirula	Life Trustee
Mr. S.K. Misra	Elected Trustee
Mrs. Benu Nath	Elected Trustee

MEMBERS AND OFFICE BEARERS OF THE MANAGING COMMITTEE

	NAME	DESIGNATION	OCCUPATION
1.	Justice Dr. A. S. Anand	President	Former Chief Justice of India (Retd.) & Former Chairperson, NHRC
2.	Mr. Ranjit Puri	Vice President	Social Worker
3.	Mr. Lalit Nirula	Vice President	Social Worker
4.	Mrs. Benu Nath	Hony. General Secretary	Social Worker
5.	Mr. S.K. Misra	Hony. Treasurer	Social Worker
6.	Mrs. Radhika Bharat Ram	Hony. Joint Secretary	Vice Chairperson The Shri Ram School
7.	Mr. Kailash Chandra Pande	Hony. Executive Secretary	Social Worker
8.	Mr. A.K. Mittal	Member	Disability Activist
9.	Mrs. Usha Ravi Sen	Member	Social Worker
10.	Mr. Sanjeev Anand	Member	Advocate
11.	Dr. Anil Kohli	Member	Dental Surgeon
12.	Mr. Sushil Ramola	Member	Social Entrepreneur
13.	Mr. Chander Parkash	Member	Addl. Member/ Project (Rtd.) Railway Board
14.	Mr. Navin Bahl	Member	Chartered Accountant
15.	Mr. Ajay Kumar Dixit	Member	Social Worker
16.	Sri Mahender Kumar Sarin	Member	Chartered Accountant Ex-Consultant World Bank-Africa

