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1944 - 2018

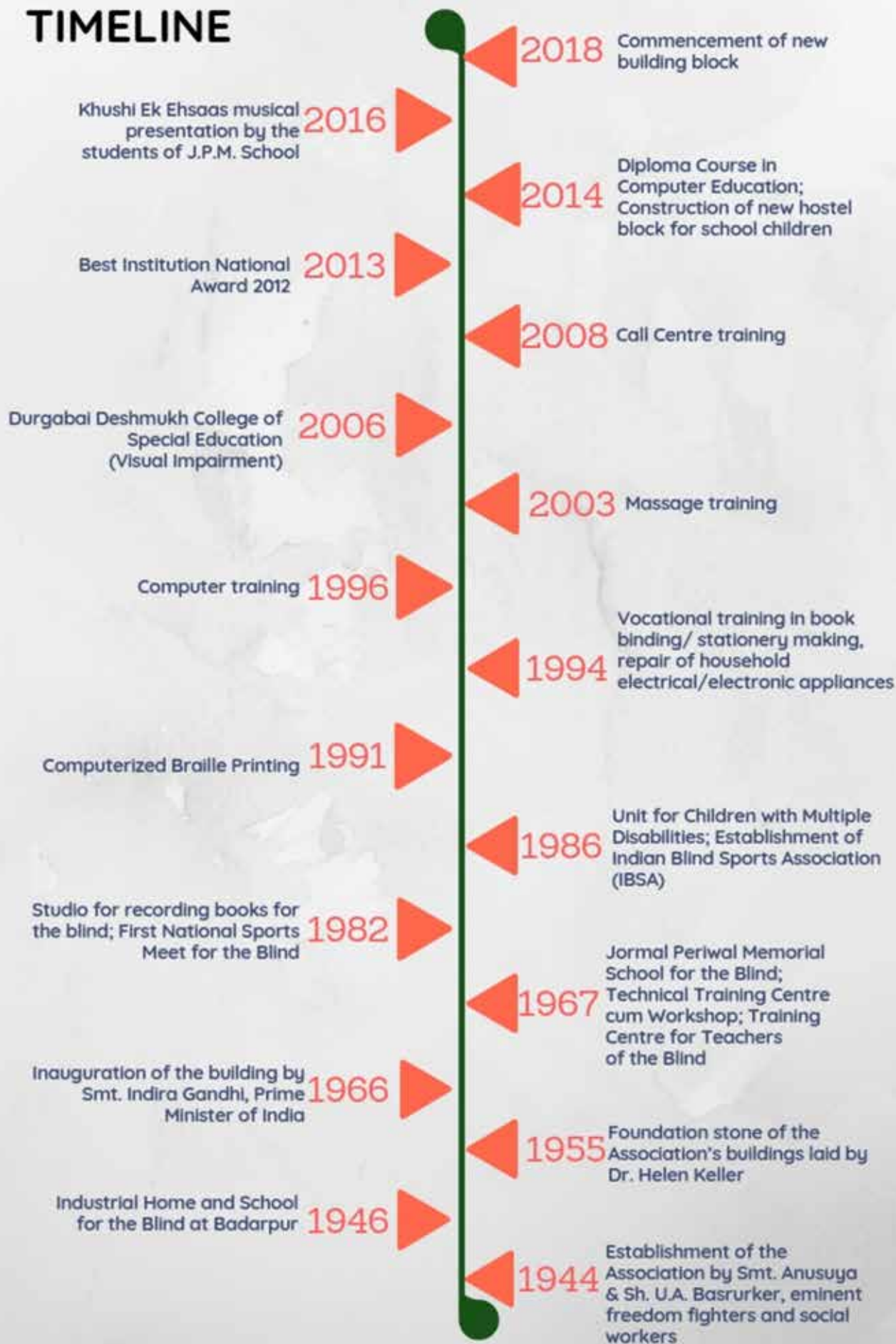


ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18

THE BLIND RELIEF ASSOCIATION, DELHI



TIMELINE



ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION



The Blind Relief Association, Delhi, completed 74 years on 26 February, 2018. Beginning in 1946 with just two students Daya Ram and Murli Dhar on its rolls in its Industrial Home and School for the Blind in rented premises at Lal Kuan, Badarpur, the Association now serves nearly 400 blind children and adults at its own sprawling campus in the heart of New Delhi. The Association's multi-faceted activities encompass school education including special care programs for visually impaired children with limited abilities, teacher training, computer education, vocational training, placement service, production of reading material in Braille and audio formats, consultancy and awareness creation. Most of the programmes are residential. The Association campus is vibrant throughout the year with cultural, sports and other events taking place.

Highlights of the Year

- JPM School registered cent percent pass results in Class XII CBSE Examinations in the years 2016-17 and 2017-18. Sri. Ramakant Prabhakar (2017-18 batch) secured 88.6 per cent.
- 28 teacher trainees (2015-17 batch) and 20 trainees (2016-2018) of Durgabai Deshmukh College completed 2-year B.Ed. (Spl. Education)
- 18 trainees (2016-17 batch) and 21 trainees (2017-18) of Diploma in Computer Education completed one-year course.
- 38 vocational trainees including 7 female trainees completed their training programmes.
- 28 passed out vocational trainees were helped to secure job or become self-employed.
- Hosted USHA Sports Championships for the Blind from 8-13 January 2018 comprising 4th IBSA Kabaddi Championship; 7th IBSA Powerlifting Championship; 2nd IBSA Judo Championship; and Coaching Camp and Seminar on Blind Sports with 540 participants, which included 140 female participants.
- Partnered with IBSA in introducing Lawn Tennis for the Blind through a coaching camp held from 13-15 February 2018 at the Delhi Lawn Tennis Association.
- The Association started a project in collaboration with Youth4Jobs (Y4J) to empower youth with visual impairment (VI) in May, 2017
- With the support of SRF Foundation, English proficiency classes have been taking place for JPM School students.

EDUCATION

JORMAL PERIWAL MEMORIAL (JPM)

SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND



JPM Senior Secondary School has been offering free education, boarding, lodging, assistive devices, books and other services to visually impaired boys from nursery to Class XII. Permanently recognized and aided by the Directorate of Education, Government of NCT Delhi since 1981 and affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) in 1969, JPM has hogged the limelight in the country for nurturing and grooming the visually challenged children to be ambitious and enlightened citizens excelling in academics, sports and co-curricular activities.

Enrollment: The school had 199 students on its rolls during the year. While majority of the students resided in the school hostel premises, only 16 were day scholars. The school admitted 20 new students in different classes this year: 11 between the age of 5 to 7 years were admitted in the pre-school unit (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), and the remaining nine entrants were - two in Class I, two in II, one in IV, three in V and one in XI.

Academics: The school has been providing education in a wide array of academic subjects and 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 VI onwards are taught and trained in computers. They are encouraged to take 'Informatics Practice' as an additional subject in their senior classes. The teaching system in mathematics and science is also being strengthened and upgraded in tune with the contemporary requirements.

Board Examination Results: All the 16 students of Class XII successfully passed the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) Examination held in March 2018 securing first division. Overall they achieved 73 subject distinctions. Ramakant Prabhakar topped the class securing 88.6 % marks and the lowest minimum aggregate score was 73.8% by Aditya Swami. The school takes pride in its students joining prestigious colleges in Delhi to pursue their higher studies.

All 16 students of Class X cleared the school-based CBSE Continuous Comprehensive Examination and Ajay Gupta topped the class scoring 92.8%.

Annual School Examination Results (2017): Excluding the students of Class X and Class XII, all 167 students enrolled in other classes got through

the annual school examinations thereby making the aggregate school pass percentage 100%.

Co-curricular activities: The school provides all facilities, support and encouragement to its students to take part in diverse co-curricular activities that includes dance, music, theatre, poetry, debating, and eco-club.

ACTIVITY RECORD (2017-18)

S.N.	Date	Event	Venue & Organizing Institute	Achievements
1.	20&21/7/17	National IT Competition	Department of Disability Affair At NIT Kurukshetra	Vishwabandhu Sharma, Class XII - 2nd in visual impairment category.
2.	18/7/17	Solo Song	Directorate of Education. Zonal Level S.K.V.Kitchner Road	Ayush Jena, Class V - 1 st
3.	27/7/17	Essay writing (Hindi)	Harcourt Butler SS School	
4.	29/7/17	Instrumental (Music)	Raisina Bengali School, Mandir Marg	Jr. Suraj Negi, Class VII - 2 nd Sr. Abhishek Bhola, Class X - 1 st
5	4/8/17	Poem Recitation (Hindi)		Jr. Kartik Bansal, Class VII - Cons. Sr. Nikhil Srivastav, Class IX- 1 st
6.	8/8/17	Declamation (Hindi)	P&T School Atul Grove Road	Jr. Kartik Bansal, Class VII - 2 nd Sr. Anshu Kumar Class XI - 1 st
7.	8/8/17	Music (Vocal Solo)	JPM	Jr. Gaurav, Class VII- 1 st (Light) Sr. Davender Beniwal, Class XII - 1 st (Semi classical) Jr. Krishna Madan, Class VII - 1 st (Classical) Sr. Brijender Pandey, Class XII - 1 st
8.	11/8/17	Debate (Hindi)	Navy Children School, Chanakyapuri	Jr. Kartik Bansal, Class VIII Tushar Jindal, Class VIII - 1 st Sr. Mohit Jaiswal, Class XI Anshu Kumar, Class XI - 2 nd
9.	18/8/2017	One Act Play	Vidya Bhawan Mahavidyalaya Lodhi Estate	JPM Team - 3 rd
10.	19/8/2017	Folk Song	JPM	JPM Team - 1 st
11.	22/8/2017	Sanskrit Shaloka	Lions Vidya Mandir Kashmir House	Jr. Gaurav, Class VII - 1 st Sr. Rajat Kumar, Class X - 1 st
12.	23/8/2017	Group Patriotic Song	Vidya Bhawan Mahavidyalaya Lodhi Estate	JPM Team - 1 st
13.	26/8/2017	Qwalli	Vidya Bhawan Mahavidyayiaya Lodhi Estate	JPM Team - 1 st
14	4/10/2017	Instrumental Music	Directorate of Education, District Level - JPM School	Jr. Suraj Negi, Class VIII - 2 nd

15.	6/10/2017	Debate Hindi	SKV Aaram Bagh	Jr. Kartik Bansal, Class VIII Tushar Jindal, Class VIII - 1 st Mohit Jaiswal, Class XI Anshu Kumar Shakya, Class XI - 2 nd
16.	7/10/2017	Vocal Solo	Happy School Daryaganj	Jr. Gaurav, Class VII - 1 st (Light) Sr. Devender Beniwal, Class XII - 1 st (Semi classical) Jr. Krishna Madan, Class VII - 1 st (Classical) Sr. Brijendra Pandey, Class XII -1 st .
17.	10/10/2017	Declamation Hindi	Harcourt Butler School Mandir Marg	Jr. Kartik Bansal, Class VIII - 3 rd Sr. Anshu Kumar, Class XI - 3 rd
18.	11/10/2017	Poetry Hindi	SKV Daryaganj	Sr. Nikhil Srivastava, Class IX- 1 st
19.	12/10/2017	One act play	RPVV Link Road	JPM - 3 rd
20.	13/10/2017	Sanskrit Shaloka	Lions Vidya Mandir Kashmir House	Jr. Gaurav, Class VII - 3 rd Sr. Rajat Kumar, Class X- 3 rd
21.	28/10/2017	Folk Song	Nav Hind School Rohtak Road	JPM Team- 2 nd
22.	31/10/2017	Patriotic Song	Vidya Bhawan Mahavidyalaya Lodhi Estate	JPM Team -1 st
23	14/10/2017	Light music	Institution for the Blind Lajpat Nagar	Gaurav, Class VII- 1 st Krishna Madan, Class VII -2 nd
24	15/10/2017	Shalokauchcharan	Do	Gaurav, Class XII - 1 st Shuhaib Ali, Class XII - 2 nd
25	15/10/2017	Debate Hindi	Do	Sameer Khan, Class XII -3 rd Pankaj, Class XII - 3 rd Anshu Kumar Shakya, Class XI- 1 st Mohit Jaiswal, Class XI -2 nd
26	15/10/2017	Poem HINDI	Do	Brijendra Panday, Class XII -1 st Nikhil Srivastava, Class IX -2 nd
27	15/10/2017	Declamation HINDI	Do	Tushar Jindal, Class VIII - 1 st
28	15/10/2017	Quiz	Do	Nikhil, Class IX & Sonu, Class XI - 2 nd
29	2/11/2017	Essay Writing	Delhi Public Library	
30	3/11/2017	Debate HINDI	Do	Anshu Kumar Shakya, Class XI -2 nd Tushar Jindal, Class VIII - 3 rd
31	4/11/2017	Music Light	Do	Jr Ayush Jena, Class V -1 st Mohammad Rehan, Class V - 2 nd Sub Jr Gaurav, Class VII - 3 rd Sr. Ramakant Prabhakar, Class XII - 3 rd
32	4/11/2017	Do Classical	Do	Shuhaib Ali, Class XII - 2 nd Brijendra Pandey, Class XII -Cons.
33	19/9/2017	Zonal MAP READING & QUIZ COMPETITIO	National Mapping Organization	JPM Group - 1 st
34	1/11/2017	All India Map Reading Competition	I N C A Dehradun	JPM Group - 2 nd
35	8/11/2017	Bhashan	Sanskrit Academy VBM Lodhi Estate	Kartik Bansal, Class VIII - Consl.
36	15/11/2017	Ekal Shaloka	Do	Gaurav Kumar, Class XII - Consl.

37	16/11/2017	Shalokauchcharan	Do	JPM Group - 3 rd
38	21/11/2017	Patriotic Song	Directorate of Education Inter District Level SV New Police Line	JPM Team - 1 st
39	22/11/2017	Debate HINDI	GGSSS Shalimar Bagh	Jr Kartik Bansa, Class VIII & Tushar Jindal, Class VIII- 3 rd
40	24/11/2017	Poem HINDI	RPVV Civil Lines	Sr. Nikhil Srivastava, Class IX -1 st
41	30/10/2017	Essay writing	Madan Lal Khandelwal A.I.C.B.	Anshu Kumar Shakya, Class XI -1 st Cash prize
42	3/1/2018	Braille Hindi Writing	A.I.C.B.	Gaurav Kumar, Class XII - 1 st Cash prize
43	2&3/1/2018	Essay Writing	N.F.B.	Anshu Kumar Shakya, Class XI -1 st Cash prize
44	Do	Braille Reading	N.F.B.	Nikhil Srivastava, Class IX -Consl. Cash prize
45	Do	Best Interjector	N.F.B.	Mohit Jaiswal, Class XI Cash prize

Sports Activities: The school has always been focusing and giving special attention to develop the sporting skills of students. Two regular physical training instructors monitor various sports and games. In the morning hours, 26 students from different classes practice athletics regularly at the Thyagaraj stadium under the guidance of Sri. Pawan, PET while the others practice yoga under the guidance of Sri. Moolchand and Sri. Suresh Kumar, Activity Teacher. Principal Kuriyan is passionately involved in the activities.



The school participated in 17 sports events ranging from intra-school to zonal and national levels and the students bagged 21 first, 19 second and 17 third prizes, adding up to a total of 57 medals/prizes. The school also emerged as winners in Kabaddi (men) nationals at USHA Sports Championships for the Blind 2018.

Other Activities:

Japanese Language Classes: Students of Class XI and XII are taught Japanese language in after-school classes by volunteers from Japan who are professional teachers. Smt. Itsuko Nandi assisted by Japanese volunteers has been continuing to teach this year.

Interactions: Students from American Embassy School continue to interact with students of Class V and VI on Saturdays to improve the students' spoken English.

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

- 24th Subodh Trophy Cricket Match organized by Class IX in the school grounds on 2-3 May 2017.
- Janmashtami celebrations organized by Class XII on 14 August 2017 which included mass 24-hour recitation of the Ramcharitmanas.
- 17th Nayar Memorial Trophy played on 20 and 21 July 2017 between three teams formed by the present students of the School and the alumni.
- Basant Panchami and Saraswati Puja organized by Class X on 22 January, 2018.
- Shivratri celebrations organized by Class XI on 14 February, 2018.

House Activities: The school students are divided into 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 the youngsters a favorable opportunity of utilizing and developing their cultural abilities besides bringing out their leadership qualities.

Staff:



The school, headed by Shri K.J. Kuriyan, Principal, had a staff strength of 34. Sri. Moola Singh, PGT History left school on 2 October 2017 after completing two years extension after retirement. The school recruited and welcomed 9 new staff members who joined the school in the month of October 2017.

4 Assistant teachers:

- Sri.Ashutosh Pandey
- Ms. Farheen
- Ms. Komal
- Sri. Sandesh Kapoor

- 1 TGT English : Ansu Kumari
- 1 Special Educator : Aaliya Taskeen
- 1 Librarian : Ms. Suman Singh
- 1TGT Music and : Sri.Mangal Singh Verma
- 1 PGT Hindi : Sri. Sailender Singh

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 Smt. Benu Nath, a noted 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.

Special Education Teachers Training

Cross Disability Training of Special Education Teachers was organized by JPM School in six sessions under the aegis of the Directorate of



Education, Government of NCT of Delhi in the Blind Relief Association by JPM Senior Secondary School. A total of 180 special education teachers from different government school who have specialization in mental retardation participated in the training programme held between, 1-5 August 2017, 18-23 September 2017, 18 – 23 January 2018, 29 January – 2 February 2018, 12-17 February 2018 and 20 – 24 February 2018.

The training was sponsored by the Directorate’s IEDSS Branch and SCERT, Delhi. The programme sought to enrich Special Education Teachers working in government schools in Delhi with practical knowledge of teaching children with disabilities other than their specialization. The participants received hands-on training in the area of visual impairment relevant to inclusive education of the disabled in schools.

Special Care Unit

The unit is run by the Blind Relief Association as a special support service for the benefit of JPM School students who require individual, personalized

attention in academic and co-curricular activities. The children are referred to the unit by the school.

The unit has two full-time qualified special educators and two part-time teachers in music, art and craft. One resident house parent takes care of the students during the pre and post-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

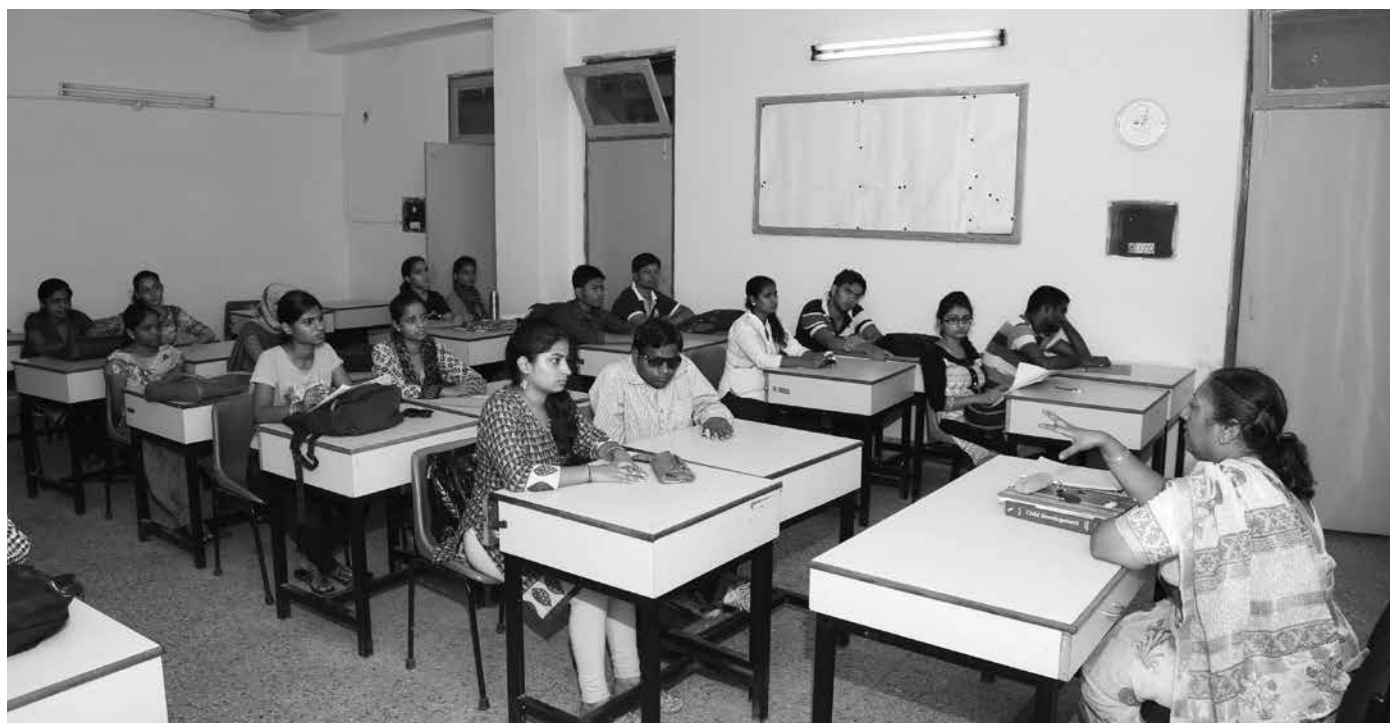
Functional Academic Group: The students are trained in functional academics like number, money and time concepts and activities of daily living, such as, orientation and mobility, personal hygiene and pre-vocational activities. Currently, there are 5 students in this group. Whenever possible, the students under Functional Academic Group are

given the opportunity to attend, even if nominally, classes with their age group students in the school. They attended some classes like art and craft, clay modelling, music and physical education along 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: As a remedial teaching initiative, the children are provided with individual care to improve their reading and writing skills. 21 children from classes I & II of the JPM School improved their Braille and Taylor Frame skills. Personal attention was given to basic Braille reading and writing. While Hindi is their primary language they were also taught the 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 and offers a degree program in 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 the National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Visual Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India and some development grant from University Grants Commission. From the academic year 2015-16, B.Ed. Special Education programme has been a two-year course.

New Admission:

A total of 27 trainees were admitted in the 2017-2019 batch. 13 of them are visually impaired, and one of them is totally blind.

Final Examination Results:

As the first batch (2015-2017) completing the two-year course, 24 out of the 29 trainees passed with first division and 4 secured second division while one trainee did not appear for the final examination.

From the second batch (2016-2018) of 20 trainees, all passed the final examination with first division.

Co-curricular Activities:

- The college organized a medical camp for 'Women with Disability' on 18 November, 2017.
- The college organised a three day CRE programme on the topic, 'Socio-Emotional aspects of Learning disability' in collaboration with Ayush Society & National Institute for Empowerment of Multiple Disabilities (NIEPMD), from 8 -10 December, 2017.
- Louis Braille Day was celebrated on 4 January, 2018.

Education Tour/Visits:

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

- First year teacher trainees visited and observed classes at Ananth Centre for Learning and Development, Qutub Institutional Area, New Delhi.
- First year teacher trainees visited National Association for the Blind, R.K.Puram, Delhi.
- First year teacher trainees visited Amar Jyoti Charitable Trust, Karkardooma
- Second year teacher trainees did teaching practices at Ananth Centre for Learning and Development, Qutub Institutional Area, New Delhi.
- Second year teacher trainees did teaching practices at the National Association for the Blind, R.K.Puram, Delhi
- Second year teacher trainees practiced lessons on inclusive education at Shaheed Anusuya Govt. Boys. Sr. Secondary School, Ambedkar Nagar, Delhi.

Library: The College has a well stocked library with a large collection of books and journals on special education. During the year, 163 books (Print and Braille) were added with grant from UGC and other sources. As on 31 March 2018, the library had a stock of 4382 books in print and Braille. The library subscribes 22 Indian and foreign journals on education and special education, and has more than 70 conference proceedings/research bulletins & annual reports. The library offers resources to its students, faculty members and other scholars

through NLIST programme of UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium. The College Learning Resource Centre (Library) has its own website www.ircddcse.wordpress.com through which the library catalogue can be accessed. The services are particularly beneficial for special education and rehabilitation professionals, research scholars and other people working in the disability sector.

Faculty: The College has a regular faculty comprising:

Course Director: Dr. Swati Sanyal

Assistant Professors: Dr. Sudeep Kumar Dubey and Dr. Pubali Agarwal

Research Associate: Sri Narendra Kumar Jha

Librarian: Sri. Shanti Bhushan.

The faculty members participated as resource persons, conducted training sessions & demonstrations, delivered lectures and presented papers at various universities and institutions such as Jamia Millia Islamia, University of Delhi, Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), Nabakrushna Choudhury Centre for Development Studies (NCDS), National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC), Tech Mahindra, Teknia, Army Welfare Education Society, Help Foundation, National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities, National Association for The Blind, Skill Council for Persons with Disability.

Dr. S. K. Dubey published a book titled 'Visual Impairment: A Book for Parents and Care givers' by SRP House, New Delhi.

COMPUTER TRAINING CENTRE



The Association is among the pioneering institutions in the country to introduce computer literacy programmes for the visually challenged. The Computer Training Project for Adult Blind was launched in 1996, and catered to the needs of adult, educated blind through a 4- month certificate course.

Currently, the centre is offering a one-year Diploma Course in Computer Education (Visual Impairment), the first of its kind approved by Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) to prepare a cadre of personnel specially equipped to provide education in computer and related services to the visually impaired.

All JPM school students from Class VI onwards are also taught computers. During summer vacation a 2-month basic training for the adult blind is conducted.

Diploma Course in Computer Education (V.I)

Designed by the Association, it started as a pilot project in the year 2014-15 and was regularized by RCI in the year 2016-17 for two academic sessions. This course encourages keeping abreast with the technological advancements in IT and communication sector.

Of the 18 trainees of the third batch (2016-17), 15 passed the final examination held in June 2017. 20 out of the 21 trainees admitted in the fourth batch (2017-18) got through the final examination and Kamlesh Sehgal topped the class.

Pragati Gupta, topper of the third batch was awarded a laptop by Smt. Prabhjot Menon, a well-wisher who donates a laptop to the topper of every batch in memory of her late mother. Pragati secured a job with KVS in Nabha, Punjab.



Almost 70% of the trainees who underwent this training have found employment in various sectors be it private, public or Government services.

Computer Training for Adult Blind

Five trainees, all first time learners enrolled for and successfully completed a two-month basic training.

Computer Training for School Students

16 students of Class IX in J.P.M Sr. Sec. School were taught the basics of computers. Four students wrote their CBSE Class XII examination using computers. One student of Class IX, four from Class X, two from Class XI, one of Class XII took up Informatics Practices as an additional subject. 51 students from Class VI, VII and VIII were taught the use of computers through school programme supported by the Directorate of Education.

The instructors participated as resource persons in five sessions of Cross Disability Training for Special Education teachers, organized by JPM School under the aegis of the Directorate of Education.

Workshop on BuzzClip Wearable Mobility Device

Sri. Arjun Mali, CEO iMerciv Inc. Canada jointly with the IT Unit of the Association conducted a workshop on the newly improved BuzzClip, a wearable mobility device developed by iMerciv. Smt.Neelu Suneja, Head, and Sri.Rajpal, Senior Instructor IT Unit supported Sri.Mali in conducting the workshop by involving trainees from Diploma in Computer Education (V.I.) course. It was a unique exercise in learning about and testing various features of the device.



VOCATIONAL TRAINING



Vocational training along with 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 technical 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. The individual training programmes are:

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

The GMMO course which covered training in factory-floor jobs like working on light machines, assembly

and inspection work was closed down in July 2017.

In the last batch (2016-17), 5 trainees completed the course and were awarded certificates by the Board of Technical Education.

Multi-skill Training

This 1-year programme was introduced in 2014 for adult blind (even those with additional disabilities) who either missed out on school education or are marginally educated. The trainees acquire various skills to enable them to work in industry, get 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 such as book binding & paper craft, basic massage, chair caning, candle making, packaging, stitching, soap making etc. Alongside, spoken

English, computers, personality development, Braille, music, orientation & mobility are taught with the objective of holistic development. The trainees are also encouraged and helped in completing school education as private candidates.

Skill-related production work is an integral part of the programme to gain experience in factory like set up. The trainees are involved in production of paper crafted items, candles and accessories etc. During the year the production of paper crafted products amounted to Rs. 12, 82, 834/-. Volunteers also lend their hand in decorating and adding value to some of the products.

The workshop also produced 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. The workshop produced goods worth Rs. 2, 73,754/- during the year.

With experience gained in running the stitching unit, the association is exploring to start a six-month training programme with the support of USHA Silai School.

No. of trainees on 1 April, 2017	21
No. of new admissions	38
No. of dropouts	14
No. of pass outs	15
No. of trainees undergoing training	30

5 trainees from the previous batch got employed in Delhi NCR.

Call Centre Training

The call centre training programme was introduced in 2008 in cooperation with Tata Telecom Services Ltd. (TTSL) and was discontinued in 2011 due to technical reasons. In 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 arrangement with Quikr ended in December 2016.

A new training commenced in January 2017 in collaboration with Vodafone India Ltd., and the training started with 10 visually impaired trainee-agents. By imparting training in soft skills, knowledge and practical experience of working on auto-dialing CRM process, the trainees are prepared

to work in the mainstream call centers. Under the 6 month training programme the trainees receive a stipend and incentive as they master the skills of telemarketing. Both male and female computer literate blind adults who have completed senior secondary education are admitted.

No. of trainees on 1 April, 2017	11
No. of new admissions	19
No. of dropouts	09
No. of pass outs	10
No. of trainees undergoing training	11

2 trainees from the previous batches and 2 out of the 10 trainees from 2016-17 batch got employed in Delhi NCR.

SRF Foundation supported in upgrading the infrastructure for the relocated call center to accommodate 18 trainees.

Relaxation Massage Training

This is a 6-month training course to prepare visually challenged persons become professional masseurs. The training covers Swedish, Thai, aroma and head massage. The trainees are also familiarized with the techniques of pain management by employing reflexology, magneto-therapy and Sujok therapy. Such value add-on skills have proved greatly beneficial to them in improving their professional profile. Vibes Institute supported by designing the course syllabus and evaluating the trainees.



Ayurvedic Massage Training Programme

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 makes available all the required consumables. Shahnaz

Husain International Beauty Academy jointly with the Blind Relief Association awards certificates to the successful trainees.

The current as well as former trainees were provided with opportunities to demonstrate their skills at the Association’s Diwali Bazaar; SSB Diwali Bazaar, Army Golf Club, and American School Embassy. Two trainees of the previous batches got employment in Delhi NCR and 13 trainees are working independently as masseurs on call.

No. of trainees on 1 April, 2017	08
No. of new admissions	15
No. of dropouts	04
No. of pass outs	13
No. of trainees undergoing training	06

Pran Nath Ji Candle Making Unit

The candle unit produces a large variety of candles in different shapes and sizes round the year. 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 candle production, diya painting, and packing. The unit helps other NGOs working for the needy sections of society 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 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

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. The trainees’ team participated in USHA Sports Championships for the Blind 2018 and emerged as the runners-up in Kabaddi (men) Nationals. They also took part in different workshops conducted during the year.

Cookery Workshop for Vocational Trainees

A 26-member team of volunteers from Mercer, led by Sri. Alok Luthra conducted a basic cooking workshop to the vocational trainees on 28 July 2017.



The trainees were first explained about the various steps involved in cooking. They were taught how to use gas stove, precautions to be taken, hygienic washing of vegetables in water, safely peeling vegetables, and the nutritional value of vegetables, pulses, rice besides other food grains usually eaten. However the most exciting part for the trainees was involving in practical cooking.

Chocolate Making Workshop

A workshop on making chocolate was conducted on 18 November 2017 for the benefit of multi-skill vocational trainees. Instructor Smt. Neelu Sethi demonstrated and explained the process and the ingredients needed. The trainees immensely enjoyed trying their hand at making chocolates in diverse shapes. The workshop is a part of the multi-skill training aiming at encouraging the trainees to start small businesses of their own.



Roadshows organised by Multi Skill Vocational Trainees

In November, a group of six trainees, namely Karan Singh, Pradeep Gogoi, S.Hemen Bije, Mohd.Shahid, Ravinder Singh, Arjun Sah and Sushil Kumar undergoing Multi Skill Training at BRA conducted roadshows and awareness camps to showcase their

skills and capabilities. The trainees participated in 'Accelerated Learning Camp' at Faizabad, UP organized by District Education Officer. With 24 visually impaired and 35 speech and hearing impaired children, the live demonstration of making paper carry-bag, stitching pouches and bags in sewing machines, chocolate making was highly appreciated. Later on, this group visited different schools, colleges and other organizations in the district for similar presentations.

This was an initiative taken by the trainees themselves. The tour was inspired by the experience Karan Singh and Pradeep Gogoi had when they

visited Karan's village during their Diwali break. Many other trainees like Karan wish to fulfil their dreams of establishing small ventures of their own.

Workshop on meaningful relationship and matrimony entrepreneurship; way to self-employment

The Association in partnership with Inclov - a matchmaking app focusing on persons with disabilities, organised a workshop on 17 March 2018 for the vocational trainees of the Association. The topics were, 1. Building Meaningful Relationships and Matrimony 2. Entrepreneurship: Way to Self-employment for Persons with Disabilities.

SERVICES



Placement Cell

Securing employment for the trainees is an important task entrusted to the Placement Cell. In order to scout for jobs, 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 available jobs for the candidates. 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. Matching the skills with job requirement, the cell recommends appropriate trainees to the employer.

The newly employed are helped in getting familiar with the work and workplace environment. They are also provided aid in settling down in the new place, finding appropriate accommodation, providing basic requirements like beddings and utensils, and 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 services of the cell are also available to other visually challenged individuals seeking job counseling and assistance.

During the year, 15 trainees got jobs and 13 were self-employed.

- General Mechanic-cum- Machine Operator Course - 04
- Multi-skill Training - 05
- Massage Training - 15 (including 13 self-employed)
- Call Centre Training - 04

Orientation and Mobility

An experienced and professional mobility instructor provides regular orientation and mobility training to the vocational trainees. The newly employed are given onsite orientation. Recently blinded persons approaching the Association are given counseling in coping with their blindness and rehabilitation through acquiring orientation and mobility skill.

Braille Production

The Association is among the pioneering institutions in the country to have introduced computerized Braille printing facility as far back as 1990. The unit has been meeting the requirement of books and other education material for the students of J.P.M. Sr. Sec. 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 are produced in Braille. During the year a total of 11 titles in Hindi and 27 volumes in English, Japanese & Sanskrit were produced in 8865 pages.

Audio Recording

The facility for recording audio books was established in 1982 to make study material available 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 Association's studio has produced a total of 844 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 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. Similar service is also available for the visually impaired students of the Association's 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, 35 new titles, including 13 in DAISY format, were recorded. A total of 1282 GB of data in CD's/DVDs/Memory Sticks were copied and supplied to students and trainees.

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 - Dr. Baijal, a round-the-clock male nurse, a female nurse and an assistant. Regular medical check-ups are conducted and free medicines are provided to the students and trainees. There are arrangements with reputed hospitals and health centers such as Dr. Shroff Charitable Eye Hospital and Sai Bhakta Samaj Polyclinic for specialized diagnostic assistance and treatment of the students and trainees.

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 holds weekly clinics on Saturdays and educates the students and staff on oral health. Students, trainees as well as the staff of the Association are benefitting from the clinic's services.

Eye Camp by R.P. Centre, AIIMS, Delhi

A 4-member team of ophthalmologists and rehabilitation experts of the Community Ophthalmology Department, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Centre for Ophthalmic Sciences organised a Low

Vision Screening & Rehabilitation Counselling Camp on 16 November 2017.

They examined nursery and primary class children



of JPM School and provided counselling on activities of daily living, orientation and mobility etc. The department plans to do more such camps to cover other students of the school, and trainees of the BRA.

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 dining hall and a well equipped kitchen serving three wholesome meals (breakfast/lunch/dinner) and afternoon tea. Visually impaired visitors are also provided accommodation and food at subsidized rates.

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 brings the Association and the society closer to each other in a big way and thus helps in spreading awareness on disability among the general public. Free space is provided in the 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.

The faculty members from the Association's JPM School and Durgabai Deshmukh College of Special Education, as well as other vocational 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, Tata Teleservices Limited, Google India, Samsung India and Nielsen involving their employees to render voluntary service, helped in sensitizing and spreading awareness in the society.

Workshop for Indigo Staff

The Blind Relief Association hosted a sensitization

and training workshop for the benefit of operational heads and senior staff of INDIGO Airlines on 18 May 2017. Led by Sri.Pratik Arjun Sen, Senior Manager (Functional Training), 52 staff members participated in the workshop. The objective was to understand the problems faced and the needs of the visually challenged passengers and to know how to most appropriately provide assistance to them.

Internship

A number of students pursuing courses in Social Work in Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar College, Department of Social Work, University of Delhi, IGNOU, Jamia Millia Islamia University and other institutions are placed with the Association to do their practical 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.

Volunteering

The Association is fortunate to have a large number of individuals rendering regular voluntary services. They perform different tasks in the recording studio, dining hall, vocational training workshops, school, medical unit, teacher’s training college, Association’s offices. Also executives and staff from several corporate houses render voluntary services on select days. They include Mercer, Google India, Deloitte, InterGlobe, S & P Global, HSBC, Ernst & Young and Tata Teleservices.



Mural at Gandhi Hall

Golden beige background with a bust of Gandhi ji painted over golden Asoka Chakra, and a row of monuments (Lal Quila, Taj Mahal, Lotus Temple, Qutb Minar and India Gate) painted underneath. The half wall on the right shows Charkha and a quote from Helen Keller. The entrance foyer of Gandhi Centenary Memorial Hall of the Blind Relief Association acquired an impressive look.

A team of executives from Mercer India volunteered to conceive murals in the premises of BRA. Along with this mural at Gandhi Hall, the Mercer team also decorated the paper-craft workshop with

floral painting and painted a ‘Tree of Life’ in the wall bordering the stairs giving a charming look to this workplace. We profoundly commend the volunteers for translating their dream with great passion.



Thank you BRA for the opportunity



Aayushi Dhawan, a 17 year old student of Haberdashers' Ashtons School for Girls, Borehamwood, U.K came to India on a family visit. During the visit, she volunteered at the Blind Relief Association and here is what she left behind:

“When I first came to visit the blind school I did not think that I would be asked to paint an entire cupboard from scratch. Although, I love art and anything creative I did find it hard to begin with. My signature drawing is the parrot so I thought why not make an idea with the parrot being the centre of attention. It took me

a few hours to finally come up with the idea but I was very happy with it. My first day at the blind school was terrifying. I thought nobody would like my idea but luckily the opposite happened. Even though I thought I would be more involved with the blind whilst working here, painting the cupboard was still an experience. It consisted of my having some kind of communication with the blind as I would tell them to watch over for the wet paint. I am extremely happy with the finished product and I now know how thankful I am to live the life I live. I can't wait to work at the blind school on my next holidays as this truly was an amazing experience. Thank you!! ”

Youth 4 Jobs

In May 2017, the Blind Relief Association and Youth4Jobs (Y4J) started a collaborative project to empower youth with visual impairment (VI). Under the youth project, Model Visual Impairment Centre (MVIC) is being set up and works at different levels such as

1. Helping youth with visual impairment fulfill their aspirations for enrolling in higher educa-

tion or professional courses by training them in English communication skills & computers with access to appropriate technologies.

2. Sensitizing companies about the ability in this new talent pool
3. Coaching them for government jobs by giving them holistic trainings in English, computers, coding, mathematics & reasoning, general knowledge.

The training programs are tailored to the need of the vocational trainees from BRA:

- Multi Skill Training Program

- Call Centre in collaboration with Vodafone
- Massage Training Program



	Year 2017	Year 2018	
		Batch 1 (January – June)	Batch 2 (July – December)
Massage	10	6	10
MST	20	20	30
Call Centre	10	10	1
Computer Science	-	-	9

Initiatives Taken

1. Life skills sessions for students
2. Crash Course Program: The program aims at helping trainees clear their Class X and XII CBSE exams. Out of 18 candidates, 17 successfully cleared the exams. These 17 trainees are now eligible for Group C and Group D exams.
3. Mentorship Program: In collaboration with HSBC, Y4J started a mentorship program. The

program called Sarthi, aims to help mentees align to their aspirations and become employable.

4. Residential Facility was started by Y4J with Humanity Foundation at East of Kailash. The facility is being utilized by call centre trainees and computer science trainees.

Companies such as HSBC, Microsoft, E &Y, Saarthi (Call Centre in Gurgaon for differently abled), and Srva Education visited the training program

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 from 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.

USHA Sports Championships for the Blind 2018

During the year, the Association partnered with and supported IBSA to organize USHA Sports Championships for the Blind from January 8 -13,



2018. Over 540 participants, including 140 female blind sports persons from ten states, namely, Bihar, Delhi, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Telangana and Uttarakhand participated in this one week event. The sports events include 4th IBSA Kabaddi Championship; 7th IBSA Powerlifting Championship; 2nd IBSA Judo Championship; and Coaching Camp and Seminar on Blind Sports.

Introduction of Tennis for the Blind in India

Lawn Tennis is a relatively new sport amongst the visually impaired in India. Also currently there are no blind tennis programmes in India, both in terms

of coaches, coaching camps and popularity amongst blind persons.

IBSA and Delhi Lawn Tennis Association (DLTA) in a collaborative initiative introduced a Lawn Tennis Coaching Camp for coaches and players. The objective of the initiative was to provide an opportunity for the coaches to learn the techniques of lawn tennis to further train the visually impaired. Also being a new game for the visually impaired, there is a need to generate enthusiasm and popularity.

16 coaches and 19 players participated in the coaching camp held from 13 to 15 February, 2018 at Delhi Lawn Tennis Association

EVENTS

West African Percussion Performance



The students and trainees of the Blind Relief Association experienced a scintillating performance of traditional West African drumming on 19 April 2017. The Sunshine Ensemble, formed by percussionists presented impressive numbers at the Gandhi Centenary Memorial Hall.

The musicians performed on a variety of African percussion instruments, like ‘djembe’, the accompanying bass drums called ‘dunduns’ and the high frequency bells, called ‘apitua’ and ‘agogo’. The ensemble is led by Suchet Malhotra, a multi-percussionist and music producer. The audience

thoroughly enjoyed the six rhythmic numbers zoko, zolie, lumbal, moribayasa, kukkoo, and kiripa which received thunderous applause.

Japanese Class Graduation Ceremony

To mark the completion of 2017-18 Japanese language basic course conducted for the students of JPM School, the *Shuuryooshiki* ceremony was held on 21 April 2018. Madam Patricia Hiramatsu, wife of the Japanese Ambassador was the Chief Guest and Sri.Kaoru Miyamoto, Director General, Japan Foundation was the Guest of Honour. 8 Students of JPM School who completed 2017-18 session of elementary Japanese language classes were awarded certificates. Following the certificate distribution, there were games, and music. Kooru Mayura Choir presented Japanese and bilingual (English/Japanese) numbers. The students also rendered Japanese group song with actions.



great fanfare. Chief Guest Smt. Vandana Jena (IAS) former Secretary, Government of India hoisted the tricolor. The students, teachers and employees of JPM School, Durgabai Deshmukh College and all the units of the organization enthusiastically participated in the program. The students of the school saluted the flag and sang the ‘Jhanda Geet’

Janmashtami



Like every year, Janmashtami was a daylong celebration at BRA. The 24-hour reading of Tulsi Ramcharitmanas started at 8 PM on 14 August and concluded on 15 August midnight. The former students of JPM School visited the campus and exchanged love and greeting. The prasad was packed and distributed by the students to all. The program was organized by Class XII students.

Independence Day

The Independence Day was celebrated on 14 August in the premises of the Blind Relief Association with



In the noon, a special music gathering was organized under the aegis of SPIC MACAY – VIRASAT 2017. The main artist was a noted Hindustan classical vocalist, Smt. Sunanda Sharma, a disciple of the famous Padmabhushan Girija Devi. Sunanda ji captured the heart of the audience with her melodious performance of classical and semi-classical items. She was accompanied by Dr. Jaishankar on tabla and Ustad Zameer Ahmad Khan on the harmonium.

Diwali Bazar

The Association’s Diwali Bazar, held from 10 to 16 October 2017, 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 and items made by clothes.

Masseurs trained by the Association demonstrated their relaxation massage skills during the Bazar. However, the prime center of attraction of the Bazar, as always, was the Association's candle stall, doing a brisk business selling over 70 different varieties of candles. Nearly 250 other stalls were selling a variety of exclusive items. Being an 'event with a cause' nearly 115 NGOs 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.

Music in the Dark

The Embassy of Switzerland in India, the Bikaner House and the Blind Relief Association jointly presented 'Music in the Dark' by Sandro Schneebeli and Max Pizio (Switzerland) on 1 November, 2017 at Bikaner House.

The concept of the concert was to allow the audience listen to sounds, voices, tones and music in a pitch dark room. The Swiss musicians Sandro Schneebeli

and Max Pizio offered an intense experience for the guests. Throughout the concert, that includes performances of several string, wind and percussion instruments, one sees nothing of the musicians, instruments or even the neighbor seated in the next seat. In a surprising role reversal, the audiences were assisted to their seats by the visually impaired trainees from BRA.

Annual Picnic

Nearly 700 members of the BRA family comprising students, trainees, alumni, staff along with their



family participated enthusiastically in the annual picnic at DDA's South District Park near Hauz Khas on 3 February 2018.

Choir Singing before the French President

The students of the BRA's JPM School, as members of Children's Choir of the Neemrana Music Foundation were honored to sing the national anthem of France before President Emmanuel Macron during his visit to India. The occasion was a reception hosted in his honor at the Embassy of France in New Delhi on 11 March 2018.



OUR NEW PRESIDENT

SRI. ARUN BHARAT RAM

Arun Bharat Ram, Chairman of SRF Limited is an alumna of the University of Michigan, USA, from where he graduated in Industrial Engineering. Prior to that, after having completed his schooling from The Doon School, he went on to acquire Vor-Diplom from the Technical University of Darmstadt, Germany.

As Chairman of SRF Limited, Arun Bharat Ram is credited with turning his family owned multi-business organization into a world class conglomerate. Arun Bharat Ram serves as the Chairman of SRF Foundation that runs one of the largest community programs in the country, imparting education and vocational training programs to underprivileged children and youth by improving infrastructure facilities in Government schools, promoting computer-aided learning, and through the digital inclusion of communities. The Foundation also works in the areas of creating awareness on issues related to health and hygiene, natural resource management. He is also the Chairman of Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi and The Shri Ram Schools, Delhi and Gurugram.

A mid-handicap golfer and a keen musician, having learnt under the renowned maestro Pt. Ravi Shankar, he is an accomplished sitar player.

Farewell

During the year four members of the BRA family retired and one member was transferred. They were given a warm farewell attended by the staff of different units and members of the management.



Smt. Devaki Vijay Kumar, Stenographer, retired on 31 March 2017 having served the Association for 37 years with distinction.

Sri Moola Singh, PGT and senior faculty member of JPM Senior Secondary School retired on 3 October 2017 after having rendered 25 years of service.

Smt. Kamal Verma, Nursery Teacher, JPM School retired on 31 October 2017 after having served the School for 38 years.

Sri. Hari Datt Kaushik, U.D.C., JPM School took voluntary retirement on 31 March 2018. He was given a warm send off on 31 March 2018. He worked for over 25 years in JPM School.

Sri. Ram Kumar Sharma, PGT Sanskrit, JPM School, whose services have been transferred to another school, was given a warm farewell by the Association on 31 March 2017. He has been working with the JPM School for the past over 25 years.

Obituary

- Justice (Dr.) Adarsh Sein Anand, Chairman of the Board of Trustees and President of the Association passed away on 1 December, 2017. With his background as the Chief Justice of India and Chairperson, National Human Rights Commission, Justice Anand had deep understanding and empathy for the dignity of the persons with disabilities. Justice Anand took great interest in the activities of the Association for over 10 years and under his stewardship the activities of the Association attained newer heights.
- Ex- Vice Principal of JPM School Sri Sukhbir Singh Chaudhary passed away on 21 June 2017. Sukhbir ji had his early schooling in the Association's Industrial Home and School for the Blind at Lal Kuan, Badarpur, and teachers training in Teachers Training Centre at the BRA. He joined the Association's JPM School for the Blind as teacher in 1980 and retired as Vice-Principal in 2012.
- Sri. Ganesh Singh (54 years) who served as a cook for over 32 years in the BRA's kitchen passed away on 23 November 2017. He joined the service in January 1985 and the Association gave him meritorious long service award in 2015. He is survived by his wife, three daughters and a son.



The BRA family offers heartfelt condolence to the members of their families and prays for the departed souls.

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 (NDMC)
- National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Visual Disabilities (Divyangjan), Dehradun
- University Grants Commission (UGC)
- National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC)

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

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 the 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 Californian USA-based non-profit charity for supporting TWINKLE – a dance training programme for the school students.
4. Shahnaz Husain International Beauty Academy for fully supporting Ayurvedic Massage

training with the free services of trainer and required consumables.

5. Neemrana Music Foundation and especially Ms Nadya V. Balyan for teaching western choir music, and conducting performances with great love and devotion.
6. Sri. Kavi Jain, architect for planning and supervising execution of phase-2 of the Association's plan for the construction of a new block to house a hostel for blind women, resource cum research centre for education and multi-disciplinary research & development activities.
7. Smt. Itsuko Nandi and her team of Japanese lady volunteers for teaching Japanese language to JPM School students.
8. The Robin Raina Foundation for providing scholarship to college going blind students.
9. Sri. Sanjeev Saroha and Sri. Vikas Batra, advocates for providing scholarship to college going blind students.

CSR Support

10. Mercer Consulting (India) Pvt. Ltd. for supporting the Multi-Skill training program.
11. SRF Foundation for supporting English proficiency classes for JPM school students.
12. Vibes Institute of Beauty, Wellness & Nutrition for setting up a saloon and preparing syllabus & evaluating the body massage course.

The Association also thanks the statutory auditors M/s. Thakur, Vaidyanath Aiyar & 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 as well.

And the journey continues...

BENEFICIARIES DURING THE YEAR		
1	Jormal Periwal Memorial Senior Secondary School for the Blind (Nursery to class XII)	199
2	Durgabai Deshmukh College of Special Education for Visually Impaired (B.Ed. Special Education)	55
3	Diploma in Computer Education(V.I.)	39
4	Computer Training for Adult Blind	5
VOCATIONAL TRAINING		
1	General Mechanic Cum Machine Operator Training	5
2	Multi-Skill Training	59
3	Call Center Training	30
4	Massage Training	23
	Total	415
	Placements (including 13 self-employed)	28

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF
THE BLIND RELIEF ASSOCIATION, DELHI

1. *Report on Financial Statements*

We have audited the attached Financial Statement of The Blind Relief Association, Delhi which comprise of the Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2018, Income & Expenditure Account and the Receipt and Payment Account for the year then ended and a summary of Significant Accounting Policies and other explanatory information.

2. *Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation of these Financial Statements in accordance with the applicable law. This responsibility includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

3. *Auditor's Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with the Standards on Auditing issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. Those Standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

4. We report that:

- a) We have sought and obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit;
- b) The Balance Sheet, the Income and Expenditure Account and the Receipts & Payment Accounts dealt with by this report are in agreement with the books of account,



- c) In our opinion proper books of accounts are maintained in conformity with the requirements of the Applicable Law

In our opinion, the Balance Sheet, the Income and Expenditure Account and the Receipts & Payment Accounts dealt with by this report, comply with the accounting standards *except that*

- (i) *the provision for Gratuity Liability has been made based on the demand made by the LIC on valuation date 01.04.2018 instead of on the basis of liabilities determined on Actuarial Valuation under PUC Method as notified under AS (Revised) 15 and the provision for liability on account of unavailed leave has been made for partial liabilities as determined based on the leave encashment rule of the association instead of on actuarial valuation under PUC method as per AS(Revised)-15 as such shortfall, if any, is ascertainable (refer Note 4 & 5 of Schedule 24),*
- (ii) *non-provision of salary of 7th pay commission for the staff of the DD college in view of the fact stated at Note No.3 of Schedule-24.*

5. Opinion

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us *except the provision for gratuity liability as stated at 4(d) above*, the financial statement of the Association, give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India:

- (i) in the case of the Balance Sheet, of the state of affairs of the Association as at 31st March 2018;
- (ii) in the case of the Income and Expenditure Account, of the surplus for the year ended on that date, and
- (iii) in the case of the Receipt and Payment Account, of the Receipts & Payments for the year ended on that date.

For Thakur, Vaidyanath Aiyar & Co.
Chartered Accountants
FRN: 000038N



(M P Thakur)
Partner
M. No. 052473

Place: New Delhi
Date: 24th September, 2018



THE BLIND RELIEF ASSOCIATION, DELHI

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH 2018

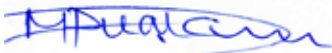
(Amt. In Rs.)

	Sch. No.	As at 31.03.2018	As at 31.03.2017
FUNDS & LIABILITIES			
Corpus Fund	1	6,877,905	6,877,905
Reserves & Funds	2	140,178,125	139,784,561
Income & Expenditure Account	3	16,766,118	14,890,609
Loan Funds (Overdraft against Fixed Deposit from SBI)		487,515	3,416,474
Unspent Balance Grant-In-Aid	4	488,884	1,181,719
Current Liabilities	5	10,275,759	8,931,745
Provisions For Leave Encashment	6	6,917,394	4,229,859
TOTAL		181,991,699	179,312,872
ASSETS			
Fixed Assets			
Tangible/ Intangible Assets	7	28,827,089	31,031,163
Capital Work in Progress	8	4,053,925	1,898,039
		32,881,014	32,929,202
Investments	9	124,422,192	121,635,548
Current Assets	10		
Interest Accrued on Investments		3,667,131	3,197,287
Inventories		1,810,701	1,766,948
Sundry Debtors		1,739,971	3,022,243
Cash & Bank Balances		3,311,281	9,167,090
		10,529,084	17,153,569
Loans & Advances	11		
Advances Recoverable		7,511,128	1,042,543
TDS		6,648,282	6,552,009
		14,159,410	7,594,552
TOTAL		181,991,699	179,312,872

Accounting Policies & Notes to Accounts 24
Schedule 1-24 form an integral part of the Balance Sheet.

As per our report of even date.
For Thakur, Vaidyanath Aiyar & Co.
Chartered Accountants
FRN 000038N

For The Blind Relief Association, Delhi




(M.P. Thakur)
Partner
M.No. 052473



(Mrs. Benu Nath)
Hony. Genl. Secretary

(S. K. Misra)
Hony. Treasurer


(K. C. Pande)
Executive Secretary


(Mrs. P. S. Sreedharan)
Accounts Officer

Place : New Delhi
Date : September, 2018

24 SEP 2018



THE BLIND RELIEF ASSOCIATION, DELHI

Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st March 2018

(Amt. in Rs.)

INCOME	Sch. No.	Current Year	Previous Year
Voluntary Contribution			
Grants in Aid	12	34,497,009	31,436,552
Financial Assistance received for Students		60,000	140,000
Grants-in-aid from Companies under CSR Activities	13	1,594,300	5,057,458
Donation	14	16,083,062	14,346,780
Membership Fee		5,900	5,450
Rental Income	15	39,384,028	34,734,504
Interest	16	9,227,426	10,530,702
Dividend on Mutual Funds		232,400	62,751
Fees - D.D. College & Computer Training	17	1,400,325	1,426,500
Miscellaneous Income	18	1,866,521	1,611,741
Surplus before depreciation from Incidental Activities	19	38,602	209,703
Total		104,389,572	99,562,141
EXPENDITURE			
Establishment Expenses	20	18,304,573	19,829,215
Education, Vocational & Other Training Programmes	21	60,790,916	57,520,080
Administration & Other Expenses	22	19,154,804	15,796,094
Finance Cost	23	97,578	66,175
Depreciation & Amortisation		3,768,400	2,981,681
Less: Transfer from Capital Reserve Fund		(102,208)	(104,105)
Total		102,014,063	96,089,140
Surplus for the year		2,375,509	3,473,000
Amount transferred to Building Fund		500,000	3,400,000
Surplus carried to Balance Sheet		1,875,509	73,000

Accounting Policies & Notes to Accounts


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Schedules 1-23 form an integral part of Income & Expenditure account

As per our report of even date.
For Thakur, Vaidyanath Aiyar & Co.
Chartered Accountants
FRN 000038N

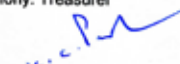
For The Blind Relief Association, Delhi



(M.P. Thakur)
Partner
M.No. 052473


(S. K. Misra)
Hony. Treasurer


(Mrs. Benu Nath)
Hony. Genl. Secretary

Place : New Delhi
Date : _____ September, 2018


(K. C. Pande)
Executive Secretary


(Mrs. P. S. Sreedharan)
Accounts Officer

24 SEP 2018



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Sri. Arun Bharat Ram	Chairman & Life Trustee
Sri. H. M. Periwal	Life Trustee
Sri. Ranjit Puri	Life Trustee
Sri. Arun Bharat Ram	Life Trustee
Sri. Lalit Nirula	Life Trustee
Sri. S.K. Misra	Elected Trustee
Smt. Benu Nath	Elected Trustee

MEMBERS AND OFFICE BEARERS OF THE MANAGING COMMITTEE

NAME AND ADDRESS	DESIGNATION	OCCUPATION
1. Sri. Arun Bharat Ram	President	Industrialist & Philanthropist
2. Sri. Ranjit Puri	Vice President	Company Chairman
3. Sri. Lalit Nirula	Vice President	Social Worker
4. Smt. Benu Nath	Hony. General Secretary	Social Worker
5. Sri. S.K. Misra	Hony. Treasurer	Social Worker
6. Smt. Radhika Bharat Ram	Hony. Joint Secretary	Vice Chairperson The Shri Ram Schools
7. Sri. Kailash Chandra Pande,	Hony. Executive Secretary	Social Worker
8. Sri. A.K. Mittal	Member	Disability Activist
9. Sri. Sanjeev Anand	Member	Advocate
10. Dr. Anil Kohli	Member	Dental Surgeon
11. Sri. Sushil Ramola	Member	Social Entrepreneur
12. Sri. Chander Parkash	Member	Addl. Member/Project (Rtd.) Railway Board
13. Sri. Navin Bahl	Member	Chartered Accountant
14. Sri. Ajay Kumar Dixit	Member	Service
15. Sri Mahender Kumar Sarin	Member	Chartered Accountant Ex-Consultant World Bank-Africa



With rapid growth in the requirements of the visually impaired due to expanding technologies and a larger population to cater to, the Association decided to augment its facilities and services by constructing a new block. The new building is built on a ground area of 800 sq. m. and comprises stilt plus 3 three floors above. While the first and second floors will be utilized for educational and vocational training activities, the third floor will house a hostel exclusively for blind women.

The building has been designed by a renowned architectural firm Nirman Consultants Pvt. Ltd. using the principles of GRIHA - the Indian system for sustainable architecture. The total cost is around Rs. 8 crores and the construction work has been entrusted to Ms/ Gupta Enterprises.

The Bhoomi Poojan was held on 15 January and construction commenced on the same day. The work is at full throttle and the building is expected to be ready by the end of March 2019.

The association welcomes contributions from its well-wishers towards the construction of the new block. The contribution can be monetary or in kind. Needless to say, it will go a long way in making a difference in the lives of the visually impaired children and youth.

Donations to the association are exempt under Section 80 G of Income Tax Act 1961.



The Blind Relief Association, Delhi



(Registered under Societies Registration Act XXI, 1960)

Lal Bahadur Shastri Marg, New Delhi-110003

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Email: blindrelief@gmail.com

Website: blindrelief.org

 The Blind Relief Association Delhi,  @BlindDelhi