## THE BLIND RELIEF ASSOCIATION, DELHI

79 years of empowering persons with visual impairment (1944 - 2023)



## September & October 2023





#### NAYAR KABBADI TROPHY

In an interesting final match of the Nayar Kabaddi Trophy, the alumni of the JPM school (Dragons of Delhi University) competed with its current students (Reckless Eagles) and won the trophy by 2-1.

At the award ceremony, the winning team - Dragons of Delhi University was awarded the trophy. The Man of the Series was bagged by Prince Kumar and Govind Kumar in the B1 and B2 categories respectively.

The Trophy is named after Late Shri K. N. Nayar, the former Hony. Executive Secretary of the Association whose birth anniversary falls on 9 September.



#### **SAARTHI SMART CANES**

As part of the CSR initiative of The Shipping Corporation of India Ltd., 200 Saarthi Smart Canes were distributed to the students and trainees of the Blind Relief Association on 23 September.

Thanks to the team and SCI for their commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of persons with visual impairment in the area of accessibility and mobility.

#### WORKSHOP ON SIGN LANGUAGE

To commemorate the International Day of Sign Languages on 23 September, a workshop on sign language was organized in Durgabai Deshmukh College of Special Education on 26 September '23. The objective was to promote awareness of the important role of sign language in ensuring the full realization of the human rights of persons with hearing disabilities.

The Chief Guest of the workshop was Mr. Dinesh Kumar who discussed many interesting things like the Indian national anthem in sign language and storytelling through 5 sessions in the day.





# 91ST FOUNDATION DAY OF HARIJAN SEVAK SANGH

The Blind Relief Association and Harijan Sevak Sangh have enjoyed a very close relationship with each other. Shri K C Pande, Executive Secretary of the Association attended the 91st Foundation Day celebration of Harijan Sevak Sangh on 24 September.

#### 4TH LIVELIHOOD KIT DISTRIBUTION CEREMONY

The fourth Livelihood Kit Distribution Ceremony was held at the Blind Relief Association on 23 September.

At this ceremony, 9 graduated trainees of Relaxation Massage were provided massage kits, and 2 Multi Skill Trainees were provided sewing machines. Course completion certificates were also provided to 16 Multi-Skill trainees and 23 Relaxation Massage trainees.

Present at the occasion was Ms. Deepti Gupta from Project Sneh and Mr. Hari Varma from Youth4Jobs along with the officials of the Blind Relief Association.

In order to promote entrepreneurial spirit in the vocational trainees, the Association has initiated Livelihood Projects post-COVID to encourage and support self-employment/small-scale businesses.









#### **INTERESTING PROGRESS IN JAPANESE LANGUAGE CLASSES**

#### Visit by Prof. Azumo

Prof. Yoshiro Azuma (from Sophia University Japan), a Visiting Professor at the Department of Physics, IIT Delhi along with his spouse Sanae Azuma visited the Blind Relief Association to meet and interact with the Japanese language students of Sawaru Nihongo Group on 25 September. The lively conversation in Japanese, English, and Hindi covered different aspects of people, life, and culture in Japan and India.

The visitors, who came at the behest of Deepak Gupta (an alumnus of the Association pursuing Ph.D. in English from IIT Delhi and a Japanese language student), were greatly impressed with the awareness and enthusiasm of the students. They promised to frequently come and also help in improving the Japanese pronunciation and conversation skills of our students.



Mr. Ryuta Saito, Second Secretary of the Embassy of Japan along with Prof Azuma and his spouse, visited the Japanese Language Classes (Sawaru Nihongo) of the Blind Relief Association on 8 October. They were impressed by the class activities and students' achievements so far. They also heard students preparing for the Japanese speech contest. Prof. Azuma also introduced students to Japanese songs: Zousan and Kaeru no Uta.

#### **Japanese Language Speech Contest:**

Suman and Vidyanand, two of the students taking Japanese language classes at the Blind Relief Association participated in the 35th North Zone Japanese Language Speech Contest. Beyond performing exceptionally in front of a huge gathering, Suman and Vidyanand also confidently answered questions posed by the jury.

Organized by the Mombusho Scholars Association of India, the Contest was held in Jawaharlal Nehru University on 14 October 2023.







#### **GANDHI MARCH**

In keeping with the practice and tradition of doing a 'Gandhi March' every year on the birth anniversary of the Mahatma, a group of students, trainees, staff, and volunteers of the Blind Relief Association took a walk to five different religious places in Delhi on 2 October.

What began as a time of quietness besides the charkha on the lawn of the Association and vocational trainees spinning thread on takli and charkha, soon progressed to a time of various religious prayers led by the students.

Later, the group set off towards Gurudwara Damdama Sahib in Nizamuddin, Centenary Methodist Church in Lodhi Road, Shahi Masjid on Pandara Road, Synagogue Judah Hyam on Humayun Road and finishing off at the Valmiki Temple in Khan Market.

With 'Vaishnav Jana To' singing in the background, the group walked the roads of Delhi for almost 10 km hand-in-hand. We sincerely thank the officials and the priests of all five institutions for their kindness and hospitality.









#### TRAINING PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL PRINCIPALS & VICE PRINCIPALS





The Principals and Vice Principals with visual impairment who are working in the Govt. Schools of the Directorate of Education, Delhi underwent a 15-day training from 18 Sept - 6 October.

The training focused on facilitating the Principals' and Vice Principals' services in a better manner and equipping them to deal with various challenges faced owing to the visual impairment. Sessions on the use of various assistive devices, technologies, software for the visually impaired, importance of ICT, knowledge of school administrative work, and cyber security were held.

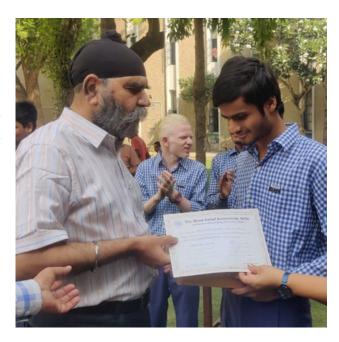
Shri Himanshu Gupta, the Director of Education was the Chief Guest for the Closing Ceremony and handed over the certificates to the participants.

#### **BRAILLE READING & WRITING COMPETITION**

Priyanshu, a Class XI student of JPM School and the winner of a Braille Reading & Writing competition was gifted Orbit (a Braille reading & writing device) on 13 October.

The competition was conducted for students of Class IX-XII of the JPM School by the Blind Relief Association on 12 & 13 September '23.

The gift was sponsored by Smt. Prabhjot Menon in memory of her beloved father Shri Harbans Singh Mehta. It is also noteworthy to mention that Smt. Menon has been sponsoring a laptop to the topper of the Diploma in Computer Education batch for many years in memory of her mother.



#### SUBODH CRICKET TROPHY





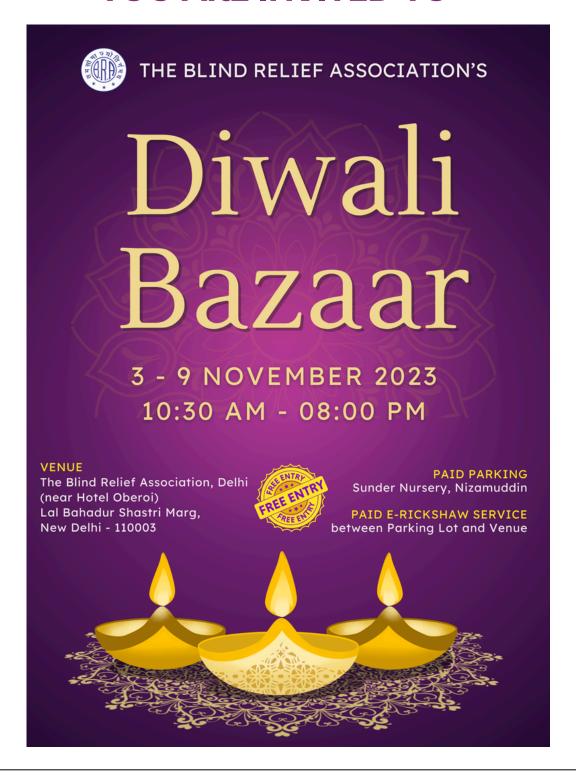
The Subodh Trophy Cricket Tournament for visually impaired students was conducted by the J.P.M Senior Secondary School from 14 - 16 October 2023. The 1st match took place between teams Demolition Boys and Rising Stars on 14 October and was won by Rising Stars by by 34 runs. The second match held on 16 October between Demolition Boys and JPM Stars was won by Demolition Boys again by 34 runs.

In an exciting final, Rising Stars won the final match against Demolition Boys by 90 runs. Rupesh in B1 and Rishu in B2 were the Man of the Match respectively. Prashant Chadhuary in B1 and Abhishek Chandra in B2 were awarded the title Man of the Series. The match was organized with great enthusiasm by students of Class XI with full participation of all the students.

#### PAPER PRESENTATION

Mr. Kamalbir Singh Jaggi, Head of Academia, Planning & Research presented a paper on "The Philosophy of Self Help Movement: A Vision Or Reality" at an event organized by All India Confederation of the Blind on 27 October 23 at the Viswa Yuva Kendra, Chanakyapuri. The paper provided insights into how people with similar concerns can work together to improve lives.

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