


NCPEDP MPHASIS
UNIVERSAL DESIGN AWARDS
2023

One Vision. One World.



The 14th NCPEDP Mphasis Universal Design Awards

Forewords



Arman Ali

Executive Director
NCPEDP

The journey towards accessibility and universal design is a relentless mission. As we celebrate the Universal Design Awards 2023, it is both a privilege and a responsibility to reflect on the remarkable progress we've witnessed even as the long road ahead still looks daunting yet not unscalable.

Over the past 13 editions of these awards, we have witnessed an array of incredibly inspiring individuals and organisations who have scripted a new path for persons with disabilities through their innovations and persistent efforts.

While the Awards were instituted much ahead of their time, we are glad to see that the spotlight on the concepts of universal design and accessibility has grown brighter with each passing year. However we must acknowledge that these strides often seem to occur in isolation. The time has come to advance our mission towards an accessible India.

The World Health Organisation's Global Report on Assistive Technology informs us of the urgency for equitable access to assistive technology. One in every three individuals worldwide requires assistive devices to lead independent lives. This number is projected to soar to 3.5 billion by 2050. When it comes to India, research indicates the estimated unmet need for assistive technology and associated services stands at 70%. These statistics are a resounding call to action.

I congratulate all the nominees and winners of the NCPEDP-Mphasis Universal Design Awards 2023. Your remarkable contributions are milestones paving a way towards a New India - a global hub for assistive technology.



Srikanth Karra

Chief Human Resource Officer
Mphasis

The 14th NCPEDP – Mphasis Universal Design Awards exemplify our unwavering dedication and continuous commitment to the concept of ‘Universal Design,’ emphasising the significance of raising awareness and educating others about it. Through our collaboration with NCPEDP, our primary objective remains steadfast – to champion the implementation of inclusive design and comprehension of accessibility and inclusive design principles. In doing so, we strive to educate on the benefits that inclusive design brings and foster a culture where accessibility is embraced.

Every year, the awards fill us with immense joy as we witness an array of innovative and creative solutions, each of which embodies a positive approach towards people with disabilities and contributes to the creation of an inclusive society that benefits everyone. Our ultimate goal is to cultivate a barrier-free culture that strongly advocates for disability inclusion in the country. We firmly believe that by celebrating and acknowledging outstanding endeavours in Universal Design, we can inspire others to follow suit and actively participate in the movement toward an inclusive and accessible world. The NCPEDP-Mphasis Universal Design Awards serves as an inspiring example and encourages others to take similar steps toward creating an inclusive world.

We firmly believe that accessibility should be a fundamental aspect of any project or venture. It is not an afterthought but an intrinsic component that enhances functionality, usability, and equity. By enabling a culture that values accessibility, we can build a society where no one is left behind, and every individual can actively participate and thrive. Together with NCPEDP, we will continue to champion the cause of accessibility and drive positive change to make our world more accessible and inclusive for all.



NCPEDP MPHASIS
UNIVERSAL DESIGN
AWARDS



The NCPEDP – Mphasis Universal Design Awards logo stands for the spirit of Freedom and Celebration. The person with disability appears to be throwing her/his arms up in the air in celebration of the Awards and the hope they bring to so many. The dynamic oval form gives an illusion of constant motion suggesting that people can achieve whatever they want, regardless of the odds stacked against them. The orange colour further enhances this optimism of the new universal and inclusive world.

The NCPEDP-Mphasis Universal Design Awards

Conservative estimates put the population of people with disabilities in India at 70-100 million. Only a miniscule percentage of this population can be seen in the mainstream. The core reason for this is the basic lack of access. Accessibility not only means access to physical spaces but also means access to information, technology, transport, services, aids and appliances, etc. Access, therefore, is an issue that cuts across disabilities and sectors and forms the very basis of empowerment of people with disabilities. A concept that is intrinsic to any kind of access is 'Universal Design', which means a design that is usable to the greatest extent possible by everyone, regardless of age, ability, or situation.

With a view to spreading awareness of Universal Design and popularising the concept, the NCPEDP-Mphasis Universal Design Awards are conferred under three categories: persons with disabilities, working professionals and companies/organisations who have created an impact in accessibility and Universal Design in any of the following areas - built environment, transport infrastructure, service provision, information and communication technology (ICT), universally designed consumer products, mobility & independent living aids, or assistive technology in their personal/ professional capacity.

Across categories, the Awards will recognise innovative efforts that create an impact in the area of accessibility and Universal Design. It is expected that, in over time the Awards have gained recognition and credibility as also encourage more and more people to work in the field of promoting Access and Universal Design. The Javed Abidi Public Policy Awards were instituted in 2018 to celebrate advocacy efforts to promote accessibility.

Persons With Disabilities

These Awards are given to persons with disabilities who have created an impact in accessibility and Universal Design through work done in policy framework, grass-root level implementation, design and development, access audits, or even the rights movement/ advocacy.

Working Professionals

These Awards are given to working professionals who have created impact in accessibility and Universal Design. They could be employees of an education institute/NGO/ corporate/ government body that has taken up the cause, or could be consultants or freelancers who has devoted their time for the cause. Their individual contribution to the cause should have been a major reason for the success achieved by the organisation/firm/movement. She/he may also be an individual who is involved in the cause independent of any organisational support and has achieved significant success in the core objective of gaining accessibility for people with disabilities.

Companies/Organisations

Awards in this category are given to Companies/organisations that have implemented either/all of these within their organisations, which has led to them recruiting and/or empowering people with disabilities and providing them equal opportunities to participate to the best of their abilities. These can be any type of an education institute/NGO/ corporate/ government body – private sector, public sector, joint sector, SME or even proprietorship/ partnership firms. The selection criteria will not only be for adopting accessibility policies, but also for implementing them at the workplace.

NCPEDP – Mphasis Javed Abidi Public Policy Award

A category instituted in 2018 in memory of the Late Mr. Javed Abidi, to recognise advocacy efforts to promote accessibility. This could be in the area of physical infrastructure, transport, ICT, products and services and will be awarded to one organisation and one individual doing exemplary work to create a level playing field for people with disabilities to access the same opportunities and rights as all other citizens of India.



Award Jury 2023

Jury Chair



Arvind Gupta NCPEDP Trustee and Head & Co-founder of Digital India Foundation

Arvind Gupta, an Innovation Evangelist, Co-Founder of Digital India Foundation, and Adjunct Professor at IIT-BHU, dedicates three decades to digital innovation, spanning Consumer Internet, Digital Media, Payment Systems, Analytics, and the Data Economy. Recognised on the Global FinTech Top100 list, he's received the Eisenhower Global Fellowship for Innovation (2014) and DataQuest Pathbreaker Award. Founder of amplify.ai and ApnaPay, he's a pioneer in implementing DBT throughout India. His education includes degrees from IIT-BHU and the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign.

Jury Members



Sarojini Subbiah CSR Head, Mphasis

Sarojini drives the organisation's CSR strategy, focusing on education, inclusion, livelihood, and sustainability. She oversees program development, partnerships, compliance, and budgeting, leading ESG initiatives. Beginning as a Software Tester at Infosys, she advanced to Program Manager, then embraced roles driving strategic initiatives. With 18+ years of diverse experience in India and the US, she pursues self-development. Sarojini holds an MBA from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and a Master's in Computer Engineering from the University of Illinois, Chicago.



Shilpi Kapoor CEO, Barrier Break

Shilpi Kapoor is a serial entrepreneur with a passion for technology and disability. She is the founder of BarrierBreak and 247 Accessible documents that focus on digital accessibility. She has been recognised as one of the Top 15 Women Transforming India by Niti Aayog 2019 and as one of the Top 20 Most Powerful Women in Business for the year 2017 by Business Today magazine. An Ashoka Fellow and a recipient of "NCPEDP – Shell Helen Keller Award 2008", Shilpi has successfully built a sustainable business model in disability products and services.



Anshu Gupta Founder-Director, Goonj

Anshu Gupta, the 'Clothing Man,' earned the 2015 Ramon Magsaysay Award for pioneering work. Founder of Goonj, focusing on clothing as a development issue post-corporate career in 1999, creatively repurposed urban waste for rural development. Goonj spans 27 Indian states, addressing water, disaster response, and more. A global speaker (TED, World Economic Forum) and advisor to social enterprises, Anshu launched 'Gram Swabhimaan,' uplifting marginalised communities. Proficient in photography, journalism, and poetry, he spotlights social issues, gaining international acclaim, and championing the poorest dignity.



Nidhi Bhasin CEO- NASSCOM Foundation

Nidhi, a social development professional with two decades of experience, holds a Social Work degree. Her diverse skills encompass program management, CSR law, and finance. She's passionate about equal opportunities, technology for social good, and women and youth development. At Nasscom Foundation, she drives strategic growth, focusing on employability skills for youth, fostering tech for social good, and women's entrepreneurship. She's dedicated to Nasscom Foundation's vision of an inclusive India through technology and partnerships. Previously, she served as Deputy CEO at Concern India Foundation.



Rama Lakshmi Senior Editor, The Print

Rama Lakshmi, Editor at The Print, served as India correspondent for The Washington Post for 27 years. She contributed to a team winning the Jesse Laventhol award for deadline news reporting during the 2004 tsunami. With a background in museum studies and oral history, she collaborated with institutions like the Smithsonian and the Missouri History Museum. In India, she consulted with the National Museum Institute and National Rail Museum. She also curates the Remember Bhopal Museum and researched disability rights with U.S. activists.



Category A

Persons with Disabilities

These Awards are given to persons with disabilities who have created an impact in accessibility and Universal Design through work done in policy framework, grass-root level implementation, design and development, access audits, or even the rights movement/ advocacy.

Awardees

Dr. Balaji V

Shabeena K

Manoj Dawar

Sonu Ram - *Jury Appreciation*



Flexibility in use



Perceptible



Tolerance for error



Equitable Use



Simple & Intuitive Use



Low Physical effort



Space and size approach



Dr. Balaji V Puducherry balajipucs@gmail.com

Dr. Balaji-V, a person with locomotor disability, currently serves as an assistant professor in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at GITAM Deemed to be University in Bengaluru, Karnataka, India. Over the past fifteen years, he has dedicated himself to research in accessible computing, developing assistive software and tools for mobile and web platforms catering to individuals with disabilities. Dr. Balaji-V earned his Ph.D. in Assistive Technology from Pondicherry Central University.

He has a publication record of 15+ articles in renowned peer-reviewed international conferences, journals, and book chapters. His work is scientifically proven, featured in SCI, Scopus, IEEE, Springer, ACM, among others. Dr. Balaji-V has been a sought-after speaker, delivering talks on universal design, assistive technologies, and policies.

Dr. V. Balaji introduced a model called PARSER (Personalised Accessible Re-ranking of Search Engine Results) to integrate accessibility into information retrieval, aimed at enhancing search engine results for individuals with special needs. His accolades include the National Award for “Best Applied Research and Technical Innovation for improving the lives of persons with disabilities” (2017), the State Award for Best Individual serving the cause of persons with disabilities (2015), and the Dheyepurti Puraskar National Award for “Best Individual serving the cause of persons with disabilities” (2019).

Image 1: Demonstrates the steps for PARSER. Click on PU-SCAN Android Application > Read option > Scan the QR Code. Follow the instructions to proceed

Image 2: Dr. Balaji V. standing in front of a screen speaking.



1. Open the PU-scan Android application
2. Click the read option
3. Scan the above QR-code
4. Follow the instructions



Shabeena K Lakshadweep mkkagri@gmail.com

In 1998, Shabeena K, a Maharajas College student in Ernakulam, Kerala, became paralysed from the waist down after a spinal cord operation. This led to a five-year period of depression and despair, causing her to halt her studies and face an uncertain future despite her family's support.

However, Shabeena's story took an unexpected turn. She emerged with renewed determination to engage in social service and become a social reformer. Her focus has been on improving education levels of children from tribal communities residing in her home island. She started by providing informal education for LKG, UKG, and primary students, later expanding to secondary and senior secondary education, with particular focus on children with disabilities.

Shabeena became a key consultant for the Lakshadweep Administration, advocating for government assistance and assistive devices for the island's disabled community, including disability pensions. Since 2005, she has served as the Secretary of the Lakshadweep Differently Abled Welfare Association's Kalpeni unit, tirelessly addressing community needs.

In 2018, the Lakshadweep Administration recognised her dedication, honouring her with the 2018 Best Performer Award in the UT of Lakshadweep.

Image: Shabeena K, in her wheelchair receiving a certificate and trophy, in the background a group of people standing around her.





Manoj Dawar New Delhi manoj17dawar@gmail.com

Transitioning from academia to life's challenges, Manoj Dawar's journey veered dramatically due to a spinal cord injury. Undaunted by adversity, he charted a path that would define his identity and unwavering commitment to others' welfare. Certified by the American Council on Exercises, he established a fitness center, reflecting his dedication to societal well-being. For 25 years, he's volunteered as a peer counselor at Safdarjung Hospital's PMR Department, offering motivation and guidance to spinal cord injury patients every Sunday, simplifying complexities and easing their burdens.

A co-founder of Saksham Ek Abhiyan, an NGO sparking transformation, he pursued a career as a certified fitness trainer despite his spinal cord injury. His fitness center fosters health and well-being. His volunteer work at Safdarjung Hospital, alongside Saksham Ek Abhiyan initiatives like Mission Wheelchair, Vocational Rehab, and Mission Outreach, empowers economically disadvantaged individuals with spinal cord injuries to reintegrate into society.

Recognised with awards including the 2013 National Award for Best Self-Employed Category, the 2019 Fitness Excellence Award from Messe Frankfurt, and the 2019 Swachh Ability Award from J.K. Cement. His contributions received further acclaim from the Safdarjung Authorities in 2022.

Image 1: A group of persons participating in Mission Wheelchair with Manoj Dawar

Image 2: A group of volunteers sitting in a wheelchair with Manoj Dawar at Safdarjung Hospital



JURY APPRECIATION

Sonu Ram New Delhi sonuram40997@gmail.com

Sonu Ram is the founder-director of Nirmala Charitable Foundation established in the year 2022. He has been working towards fostering equitable access for over 14 years. His encounter with inaccessibility to public schools, aids and appliances requisite for mobility, and discrimination faced by persons with disabilities led to his work. His initiatives have been focused on rehabilitation, capacity building and upskilling, and enhancing access to healthcare and employment for PWDs at the local level. He has assisted 250+ persons with disabilities to procure e-rickshaws and fostered self-employment.

Sonu's endeavors have enabled many persons with disabilities to access private healthcare treatment, get admission in schools, and provided financial assistance for college studies. In addition to this, his efforts have assisted many PWDs with necessary documents like Aadhaar card, disability certificate etc.



Image 1: Sonu Ram can be seen with a woman sitting on an e rickshaw in the drivers seat

Image 2: Sonu Ram can be seen with a woman receiving a tailor kit





Category B

Working Professionals

These Awards are given to working professionals who have created impact in accessibility and Universal Design. They could be employees of an education institute/NGO/ corporate/government body that has taken up the cause, or could be consultants or freelancers who has devoted their time for the cause. Their individual contribution to the cause should have been a major reason for the success achieved by the organisation/firm/movement. She/he may also be an individual who is involved in the cause independent of any organisational support and has achieved significant success in the core objective of gaining accessibility for people with disabilities.

Awardees

Kopele Tapa

Gunasekaran J

Dr. Alka Rao

Sudeep Goyal - *Jury Appreciation*



Flexibility in use



Perceptible



Tolerance for error



Equitable Use



Simple & Intuitive Use



Low Physical effort



Space and size approach



Kopele Tapa Nagaland kopelemero@gmail.com

Kopele V Tapa, a Special Educator and owner of Bumblebee Inclusive School and Bumblebee Remedial Center for Dyslexia and Learning Difficulties in Kohima, Nagaland, has been dedicatedly promoting inclusion for children with disabilities in schools since 2010. Bumblebee Inclusive School stands as one of Nagaland's pioneering inclusive institutions.

The school aspires to serve as a knowledge hub for educators and professionals working with individuals with disabilities while fostering the concept of inclusion in the wider community. Kopele firmly believes that awareness alone is insufficient to promote inclusion; it must be ingrained and exemplified from a young age. Consequently, the school provides a barrier-free learning environment, inspiring all children to become advocates of inclusivity. Additionally, the Remedial Center offers after-school classes for students with disabilities from various schools.

The institution extends free reading programs to children from underprivileged backgrounds and offers complimentary consultations to parents of children with disabilities. Presently, the school boasts a team of 13 educators and accommodates 98 students, with continuous growth on the horizon.

Image 1: Kopele V Tapa interacting with children in classroom

Image 2: A Kopele V Tapa speaking into a microphone



Gunasekaran J Tamil Nadu guna@sittruli.org

Gunasekaran, the Founder of the Sittruli Foundation in Tamil Nadu's Erode District. In 2010, he joined Cognizant Technology Solutions, Coimbatore, and participated in community service via Cognizant Outreach.

Involvement in para-sports events through Cognizant Outreach unveiled the need for greater para-sports and in August 2017 he founded the Sittruli Foundation With vital backing from Ganga Hospitals and the Cognizant Outreach team, they introduced wheelchair basketball to Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu, establishing a dedicated basketball court at Ganga Spinal Rehabilitation Centre and securing 15 sports wheelchairs through Motivation India partnerships. Since 2018, they've organized state-level tournaments, South Indian Zonal Tournament, an inter-state exhibition tournament in Varanasi, and awareness events in educational institutions. Gunasekaran's mission is to create disability/adaptive sports academies as centers of excellence for high-performance and grassroots-level training, research, and empowerment of persons with disabilities.

He has received several awards, including the "Coimbatore Citizen 2019" award from Radio City FM, the "Inclusive Champion Award" from the Headway Foundation, Chennai, and the "Hero among Our Amidst" award from Cognizant Technology Solutions on their 25th Anniversary. In 2023, he was chosen as an Indian Delegate for the Global Sport Mentoring Program (Sports for Community) organized by the US Department of State and the University of Tennessee.

Image 1: A group of people posing for a photo during a conference, Awardee Gunasekaran is visible in this image.

Image 2: A person shaking hands with a group of people





Dr. Alka Rao Chandigarh raoalka@imtech.res.in

Dr. Alka Rao, a Principal Scientist at CSIR-Institute of Microbial Technology (IMTECH) in Chandigarh, is an accomplished protein engineer with numerous national and international patents, copyrights, and prestigious journal publications. She serves on editorial boards for Chemical Papers and Scientific Reports and advises government bodies.

Dr. Rao is dedicated to fostering inclusive (Science, Technology Engineering, and Mathematics) STEM education for individuals with disabilities, particularly the deaf community. She leads the ISLEVL (Indian Sign Language Enabled Virtual Laboratory) project, funded by CSIR under the Jigyasa program, creating digital educational resources for STEM subjects in accessible formats like comics, games, infographics, and simulations. These resources include STEM vocabulary support in (Indian Sign Language) ISL and cater to various learning levels.

The groundbreaking ISLEVL platform, a collaborative effort involving scientists, interpreters, content creators, and multimedia editors, is accessible online and on Google Play Store. Dr. Rao's collaboration with NGO HWSPSHI led to the ISL-enabled astronomy lab in Karnal and the "EAT RIGHT INDIA" initiative for the deaf community. She also conducts STEM workshops, events like Deaf Inclusive Proteomics Day, and received the 2022 State Award of Service in Excellence (Empowering Persons With Disabilities) and recognition as a "Women Scientist Achiever" on International Women's Day 2023.

Image 1: Dr. Alka Rao posing for a photo with children

Image 2: Dr. Alka Rao crossing up her fingers with the picture of a hand as the logo of the ISLEVL



JURY APPRECIATION

Sudeep Goyal Rajasthan sudeepgo@rediffmail.com

Sudeep Goyal, a disability and child rights professional, has consistently advocated for accessibility and inclusion at both state and national levels. His NGO, Asha Ka Jharna, has been providing support to over 200 children with intellectual disabilities and hearing impairments, as well as the community, for a remarkable twenty-five years.

Serving as an Executive Council member of NIEPID, Government of India, and as the National General Secretary of PARIVAAR (a Confederation of 300+ parent associations of Persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities), along with his past role as a Member of the Rajasthan State Child Rights Commission, Sudeep Goyal has played a pivotal role in shaping national policies by offering valuable insights to the government.

With over seven years of experience in auditing accessibility in the built environment, he has successfully implemented solutions to remove barriers in accordance with national standards. His efforts have made 80 public-use buildings in Jaipur accessible, positively impacting countless users. He tirelessly works to effect change through advocacy, policy development, collaboration with stakeholders, and direct service delivery.

Image 1: Sudeep Goyal can be seen speaking during a workshop on accessibility

Image 2: Sudeep Goyal standing in front of a screen and giving a presentation





Category C

Companies/Organisations

Awards in this category are given to Companies/organisations that have implemented either/all of these within their organisations, which has led to them recruiting or empowering people with disabilities and providing them equal opportunities to participate to the best of their abilities. These can be any type of an education institute/NGO/ corporate/ government body – private sector, public sector, joint sector, SME or even proprietorship/ partnership firms. The selection criteria will not only be for adopting accessibility policies, but also for implementing them at the workplace.

Awardees

Torchit Electronics Private Limited

National Informatics Centre

Socio Dent

Anuprayaas

Museum of Possibilities - *Jury Appreciation*



Flexibility in use



Perceptible



Tolerance for error



Equitable Use



Simple & Intuitive Use



Low Physical effort



Space and size approach



Torchit Electronics Private Limited

Gujarat Hunny@mytorchit.com

TorchIt's mission is to simplify the lives of people with disabilities globally. With 200 innovative assistive solutions, they prioritize accessibility and practicality, empowering independent living. Their approach is rooted in ensuring accessibility, user-friendliness, and practicality in each product we offer. Their products are intended to equip individuals with the means to lead more independent and enriching lives. Through their endeavors, they've had the privilege of creating employment opportunities for over 9,500 individuals with disabilities. Additionally, their micro-entrepreneurship model has fostered the growth of 90+ entrepreneurs in both India and Africa. This not only bolsters local economies but also brings a sense of empowerment to these communities.

The true measure of their impact lies in the lives they have touched. To date, their solutions have directly touched the lives of over 100,000 individuals with disabilities. This inspires them to remain dedicated to the cause of fostering a world that is more accessible and inclusive for everyone.



The image demonstrates the assistive technology products developed by Torchit.

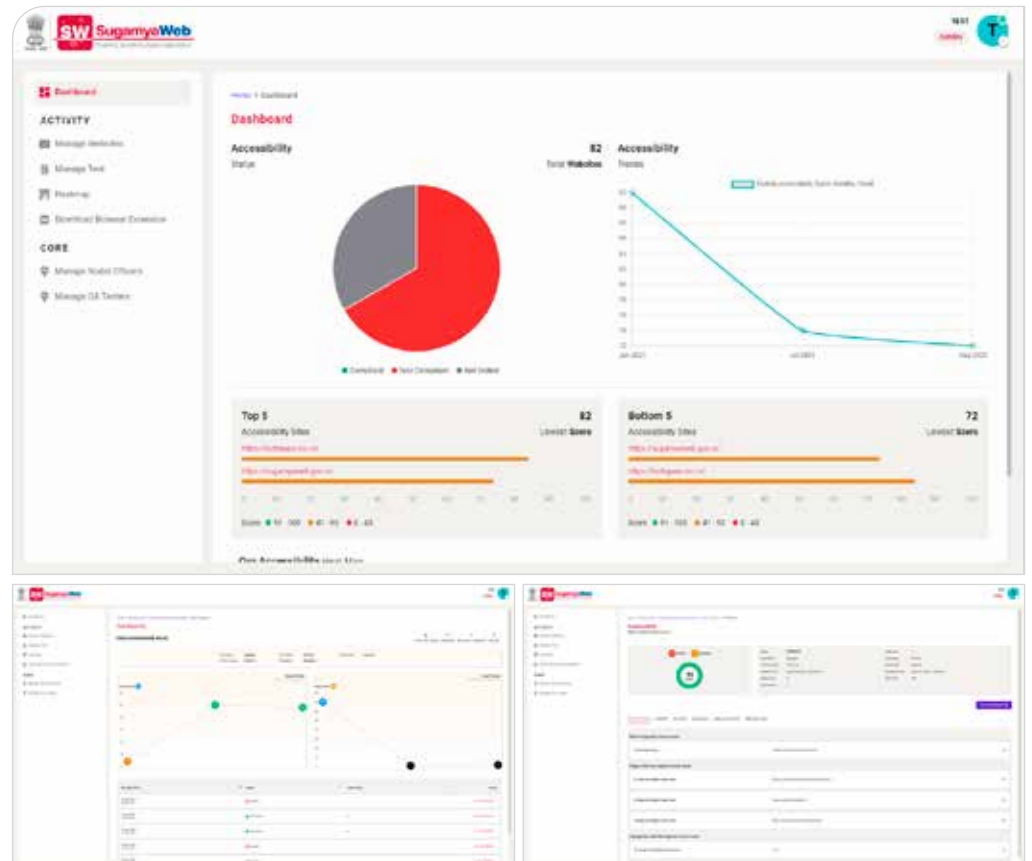
National Informatics Centre

New Delhi servicedesk-nic@nic.in

The National Informatics Centre (NIC) is at the forefront of technological advancements for the Government of India, spearheading inclusive digital projects like SugamyaWeb. This platform empowers government ministries and departments to evaluate their websites, ensuring compliance with GIGW 3.0 guidelines and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPWD) Act 2016. The initiative’s primary goal is to revolutionise access to government information and services, creating a more inclusive online environment for persons with disabilities.

SugamyaWeb's meticulous design and innovative approach utilise emerging technologies to optimise websites for various disabilities. It enables individuals with visual, auditory, motor, or cognitive impairments to navigate web content seamlessly. The tool employs continuous monitoring through automated tests and a historical comparison dashboard, facilitating accessibility trend analysis and compliance with standards.

For over a decade, NIC has been dedicated to standardizing and improving digital practices through the GIGW initiative. It evolves in alignment with international standards, ensuring government websites remain accessible and user-friendly. GIGW also serves as the foundation for website certification and quality assurance by STQC. This multifaceted approach underscores NIC’s unwavering commitment to digital accessibility and equity.



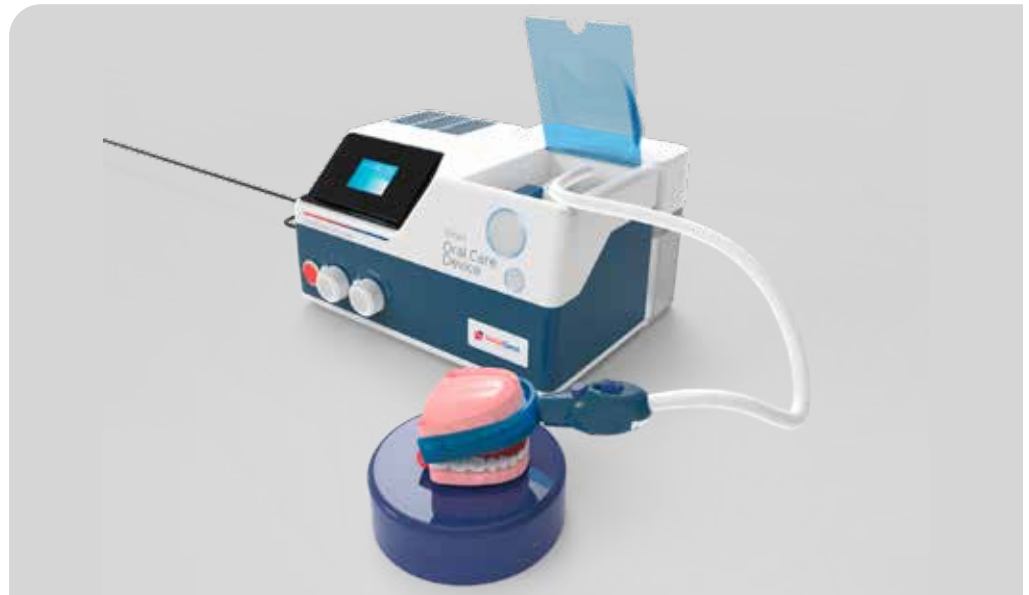
The image demonstrates the analytics using pie-chart, line-graph depicting the accessibility status of SugamyaWeb.



Socio Dent

Tamil Nadu sociodentz@gmail.com

SocioDent is a startup focused on dental innovations for dependent individuals. Some categories of persons with disabilities and elderly cannot perform the periodic task of tooth brushing or oral hygiene by themselves. They are highly dependent on caregivers for this aspect of personal hygiene. This dependency leads to poor oral hygiene, dental complications (requiring frequent dental visits), psychological pain and poor quality of life. Our product (Assistive Oral Care Device) is a novel patent-pending device which provides oral hygiene with the help of an inclusively designed mouthpiece and portable external unit. Our value propositions are gradual independence in oral hygiene, better oral care and improved quality of life. SocioDent is associated with top-class incubators such as IITM HTIC Medtech Incubator, SIIC IIT Kanpur, KIIT TBI, and IIHMR Startups and has received government and incubator grants. At the Empower 2022 Conference, we won the ATF Awards 2022, organized by Assitech Foundation, under the Best Emerging Startup category. Our company aspires to make dentistry and oral health accessible for all. In alignment with SDG-3 focusing on universal health for all, we are working towards breaking the existing barriers to oral care through innovations.



Different images of assistive oral care device of SocioDent

Anuprayaas

Punjab reachanuprayaas@anuprayaas.org

Anuprayaas began in 2014 by Pancham Cajla and Shakti S Cajla. Since then, it has transformed into a social organization with a profound vision to make India a place that is accessible and inclusive for individuals with disabilities. Anuprayaas focuses on three core areas: Accessibility, Inclusion, and Empowerment. They take pride in introducing Braille signs in India's first station and train, and their collaborative efforts with heritage spaces, Indian Railways, and CSR partners have improved accessibility in around 100 railway stations, heritage monuments, and schools nationwide. They design, manufacture, and install customized accessibility products, including Braille signs, maps, portable ramps, sign language videos, Braille menu cards, and books.

Anuprayaas plays a pivotal role in fostering inclusion through inclusion programs for government staff, railways, airports, and corporate offices. Their ultimate goal is to create a society where individuals with disabilities have equal access to public spaces and are treated with equality and empathy. Their impactful work has been featured in publications such as "Disability at a Glance 2019" by the United Nations (ESCAP) and "Demystifying Accessibility in Built Infrastructure" by the Department of Empowerment of People with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.



Image 1: A person using a Braille sign at a railway station.

Image 2: A person in a white shirt using a sign language at railway station

Image 3: A person with visual impairment using braille at railway station

Image 4: An image of a ramp showcasing the wheelchair accessibility



JURY APPRECIATION

Museum of Possibilities

Chennai, Tamil Nadu museumofpossibilities@gmail.com

The Museum of Possibilities and Museum Cafe, a collaboration between the Department for Welfare of the Differently Able in Tamil Nadu, Vidya Sagar, and The Foundation for Vocational Training, acts as a pioneering resource center for Assistive Technology, bridging users and innovators.

The Museum Cafe is a vocational training center for adults with disabilities, teaching bakery, confectionery, and restaurant management to promote employment using the “Live, Work, and Play” model. The museum showcases various low to high-tech adaptations and technologies for enhanced accessibility and universal design in Live, Work, and Play domains. It includes a Model Accessible Home, workplace solutions focusing on Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), and adaptations for leisure activities like gardening, sports, art, and music. This exceptional museum has hosted 7,000+ visitors, inspiring others to adopt a similar model in their states, furthering disability inclusion and accessibility.

அனைத்தும் சாத்தியம்



Museum of Possibilities
A Tamil Nadu Government Initiative



Image 1: A person using one of the products of Museum of Possibilities in this picture

Image 2: A person can be seen standing and interacting with a group of people in an accessible room with universal design elements

Image 3: A wheelchair user can be seen checking the tactile map at the entrance

Image 4: A wheelchair user can be seen playing an adaptive version of the bowling game

Image 5: A wheelchair user can be seen using one of the products of Museum of Possibilities





NCPEDP – Mphasis Javed Abidi Public Policy Award

A category instituted in 2018 in memory of the Late Mr. Javed Abidi, to recognise advocacy efforts to promote accessibility. This could be in the area of physical infrastructure, transport, ICT, products and services and will be awarded to one organisation and one individual doing exemplary work to create a level playing field for people with disabilities to access the same opportunities and rights as all other citizens of India.



Flexibility in use



Perceptible



Tolerance for error



Equitable Use



Simple & Intuitive Use



Low Physical effort



Space and size approach



Dr. Satendra Singh Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh ssingh@ucms.ac.in

Dr. Satendra Singh, MD, holds the position of Professor of Physiology at the University College of Medical Sciences & GTB Hospital, Delhi. He is not only an accomplished medical professional but also a dedicated advocate for disability justice. Dr. Singh is the founder of “Doctors with Disabilities: Agents of Change” and serves as the Co-chair of the International Council for Disability Inclusion in Medical Education.

His remarkable advocacy work has led to several important policy reforms. Notably, he successfully integrated disability rights as essential competencies into India’s new medical curriculum. This achievement was the result of collaborative efforts with doctors with disabilities, disability rights activists, and health professional educators. Together, they developed 27 disability core competencies based on real-life experiences, human rights principles, and social accountability. Eight of these competencies are now a mandatory part of the national curriculum, implemented in over 700 medical colleges across India.

In addition to his impactful policy and advocacy contributions, Dr. Singh has played a significant role in shaping international guidelines. As a member of the Guidelines Development Group, he contributed to the development of the World Health Organization’s Wheelchair Provision Guidelines in 2023, further demonstrating his commitment to advancing disability rights and inclusion in the medical field.

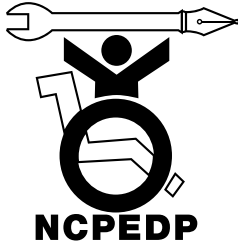


Image 1: Awardee Dr. Satendra Singh is visible in this picture with a group of other panelists

Image 2: Awardee Dr. Satendra Singh can be seen standing and speaking to audience members

Image 3: Awardee Dr. Satendra Singh can be seen with another delegate





National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People (NCPEDP)

NCPEDP is a non-profit voluntary organisation, registered in 1996, working as an interface between Government, Industry, International Agencies and Voluntary Sector towards empowerment of persons with disabilities. In the past 27 years, NCPEDP has established itself as a leading cross-disability organisation. NCPEDP pioneered the concept of cross-disability in India, and formed the National Disability Network (NDN) in 1999 which has members from every State and Union Territory across the country. Since inception, NCPEDP has successfully advocated several policy changes that have positively impacted lives of people with disabilities working across to encourage employment of disabled people, increase public awareness on the issue of disability, empower disabled people with knowledge, information and opportunities and ensure easy and convenient access to all public places, products, services and technologies. NCPEDP works on six core principles, also called the six pillars of the organization, namely: 1) Education; 2) Employment; 3) Accessibility; 4) Legislation/Policy; 5) Awareness/Communication; and 6) Youth. Understanding that accessibility is the key challenge to empowerment of persons with disabilities, NCPEDP instituted The NCPEDP-Mphasis Universal Design Awards in 2010.

www.ncpedp.org



Mphasis

Mphasis (BSE: 526299; NSE: MPHASIS) applies next-generation technology to help enterprises transform businesses globally. Customer centricity is foundational to Mphasis and is reflected in the Mphasis' Front2Back™ Transformation approach. Front2Back™ uses the exponential power of cloud and cognitive to provide hyper-personalized ($C=X2C^2_{TM}=1$) digital experience to clients and their end customers. Mphasis' Service Transformation approach helps 'shrink the core' through the application of digital technologies across legacy environments within an enterprise, enabling businesses to stay ahead in a changing world. Mphasis' core reference architectures and tools, speed and innovation with domain expertise and specialization are key to building strong relationships with marquee clients. To know more visit www.mphasis.com



One Vision. One World.

In a world intricately connected yet riddled with disparities, this year's theme, "One Vision. One World." offers a powerful aspiration and calls for collective action. It envisions a future where accessibility, inclusivity, innovation, collaboration, empowerment, sustainability, and technology converge to shape a unified world. This theme talks about traversing the last mile together to innovate environments, systems, and solutions that foster a harmonious global community.

One Vision is represented by a dynamic cornea, signifying our collective purpose; while the divergent rays bring out the diverse dimensions of an accessible world.

National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People (NCPEDP)

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