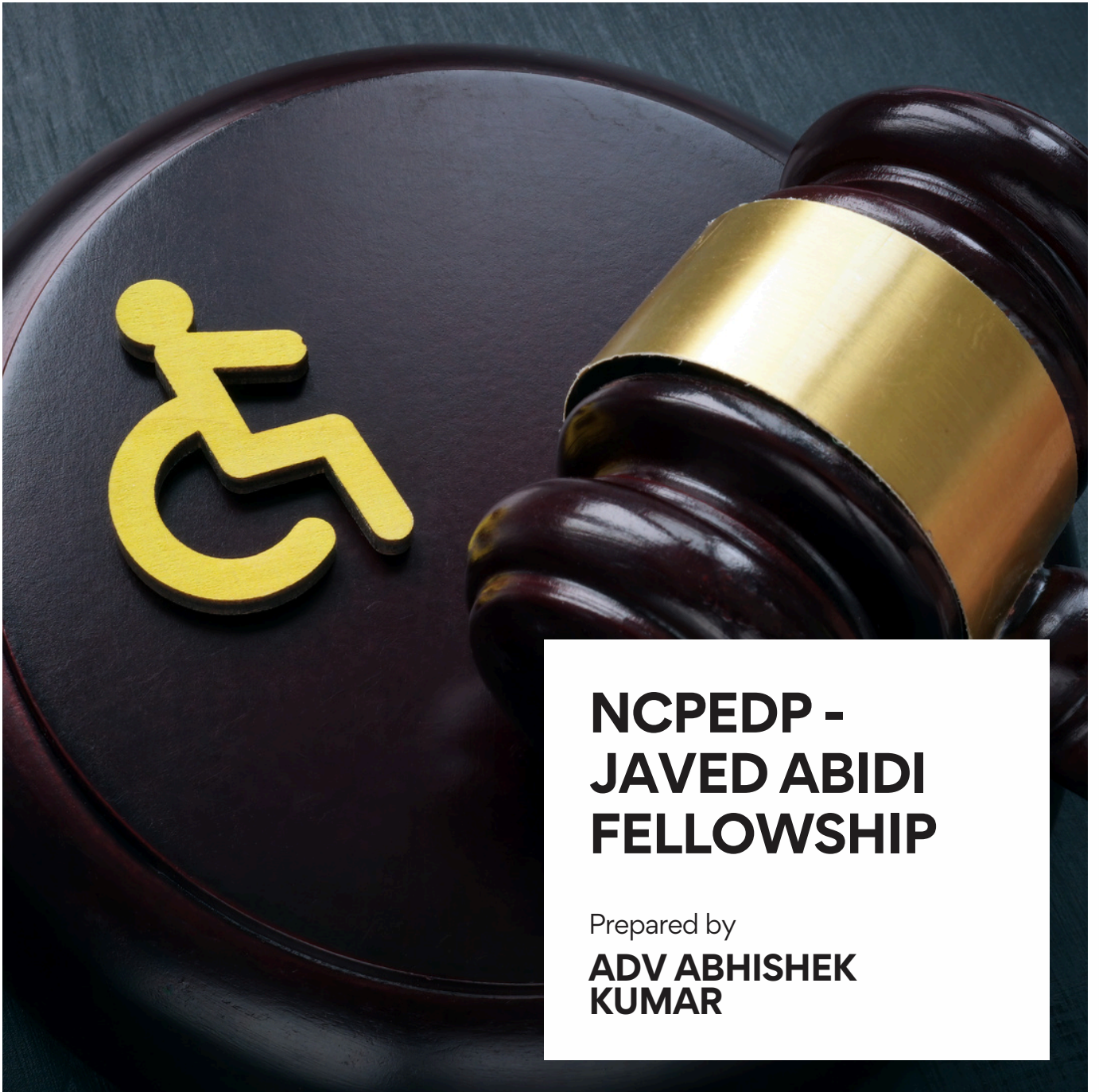


धर्मो रक्षति रक्षितः ("The Dharma protects those who protect it")



NCPEDP - JAVED ABIDI FELLOWSHIP

Prepared by
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Table of Contents

Biosketch	2
Background	3
Progress Overview	5
• November 2021 to April 2022	5
• May 2022 to October 2022	7
• November 2022 to April 2023	8
• May 2023 to October 2023	9
• November 2023 to April 2024	11
• May 2024 to October 2024	13
Achievements	16
Experience in the Fellowship	20
Resources	21



BIOSKETCH

Adv. Abhishek is researching the disproportionate impact of Climate Change on Persons with Disabilities. He is a law graduate from the National Law University, Delhi and registered as an Advocate with the Bar Council of Delhi. He is presently working as an NCPEDP-Javed Abidi Fellow on Disability. He has engaged at various national and international forums, including at G20 India 2023; UN India; UNICEF NYHQ; UN Women; COSP15; Rotary Club of World Disability Advocacy; International Purple Fest, Goa - 2024; 68th Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women; Rotary Bangalore Abilities; Composite Regional Centre, Ranchi; Climate Justice-Just Transition Donor Collaborative (CJ-JT), OP Jindal Global University, Muskaan PAEPID, etc., to highlight the intersectionality of climate change & disability. He's advocating for the National Mission on Climate Change and Vulnerable Communities under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (2008) and running a campaign, 'Build Forward Better', to achieve it while mainstreaming climate change within the disability sector and vice versa. He's empanelled as a research expert on climate change & disability on 'The Global South Climate Database' by Carbon Brief and Reuters Institute's Oxford Climate Journalism Network. He's the ideator, founder and curator of the initiative, 'The Sangyan', which works on Law, Environment, Disability and their intersectionalities. He also carries out an interview series, 'Ulgualan Talks!', to document the life journey and lived experiences of persons with disabilities regarding the impacts of climate change. He can be reached at abhishek.ncpedp@gmail.com / thesangyan.in / linktr.ee/sangyan

BACKGROUND

“Now, when I look back at my childhood and teenage years, I see myself having a natural inclination towards law and environment. I used to watch cricket, epics, and sansad proceedings since my childhood. So, I got interested naturally in politics, governance and the environment and maybe choosing law as a profession was a natural decision. I had an interest in exploring nature and culture across various topographies across Bharat at different intervals. I remember in almost all the painting competitions, I would naturally paint landscapes and even won an award for a painting on climate change in 2008. I was literally shocked as I was not great at painting and received the award for it. The very theme itself may have been a niche for the evaluators as no one else in the school picked up such a theme.”

He later joined the law school in 2015, and therein, he carried out most research projects within the curriculum on the various intersectionalities of the environment. The same was the case with his internships and other research activities. “I remember the wonderful experience I had in a project during the period at Kanker, Surguja and Raigarh in Chattisgarh, and it was a vivid learning of the realising intersection of the environment on humankind in terms of livelihood, resettlement, health, migration adversely impacting the marginalised community.”

Such learning over his professional journey only metamorphosed into him looking at the adverse impact of climate change on persons with disabilities, beginning his fellowship journey. As said in his own words in an interview with Youth Climate Resilient Network 2023, "There was no particular moment but slow evolution conditioned by my Prakṛti (environment), Sanskriti (culture) and Paramparā (heritage).

The value that made me work for climate justice is Dharma (the right thing to do for a person's moral and social obligations as an individual and as a member of society). Additionally, understanding that the "best way to give effective and lasting protection from climate chaos is through action that addresses inequities such as those based on gender, ethnicity, disability, age, location, and income" and how climate change disproportionately impacts vulnerable communities, so I began my journey of working for the disability-inclusive climate justice."

PROGRESS OVERVIEW

NOVEMBER 2021 TO APRIL 2022

- Since graduation, he developed an interest towards climate change which led him to do multiple projects and internships around it. He started working ground up with Adv. Abhay Jain in a newly established department of environment law at Zenith Society for Socio-Legal Empowerment on various topics including FRA and PVTGs.
- As he was selected for the fellowship and attended the first workshop he had a first-hand experience to know about disability movement and advocacy for disability inclusion. It helped him look closely into the intersection of climate change and disability.
- Post workshop when he started to explore the topic he found negligible weightage paid to the impact of climate change on persons with disabilities. None of the major frameworks had a focused approach to disability-inclusive climate action.
- However, the [2022 IPCC report](#) highlighted the disproportionate impact on persons with disabilities and paved the way for the research gap within this intersectionality.
- The past experience of working on climate change with vulnerable communities like women and PVTGs and exposure to such literature made him focus on the impact of climate change on persons with disabilities.
- He began with desk literature to understand the [laws and policies](#) related to climate change that exist in India and global scenarios. This helped him understand the relationships between the environment, biodiversity, etc and made him realise the reasons that lead to the impact on biodiversity and how different is the impact on vulnerable communities with respect to others having better resources to cope with the same.

- He followed it up with RTIs to understand the actionable measures undertaken by the government and raised questions in parliament sessions in terms of policies and SoPs framed. The response of RTI did not lead to conclusive answers except for that filed for measures in place for disaster management, and the response from the parliament session only apprised him of the approach of the government which mentioned that they are working on the IPCC report and acknowledged the impact of climate change on persons with disabilities but with no concrete actionable points.
- He further started to look into secondary research on diverse issues related to climate change to gain knowledge regarding multiple factors which lead to the disproportionate impact on persons with disabilities like the impact of the climate-induced disaster, the responsibility of the state towards protective measures for climate change, international legal frameworks laying legal principles or systems for setting checks and balances for climate change, deprivation of capabilities of persons with disabilities due to climate change, the impact of climate-induced migration on persons with disabilities and beyond.
- He also designed a pan-India online survey to understand the level of awareness regarding climate change and began a collection of responses. He explored every possible network and managed to only get fifty-two responses which reflects the awareness and apathy around this topic. The results and analysis of the survey on the impact of climate change on persons with disabilities were later published.
- He realised in the period that the topic was not reaching the masses and the need of the hour was to also begin with the discussion around it and started an online campaign of #KnowYourConcept - A Lexicon Series on his social media platforms to make people aware of terminologies and concepts relevant to the intersectionalities of climate change and disability. These regular updates have helped him build a community on social media as well as social networking platforms like WhatsApp. And, started working with cohorts and institutions like CRC Ranchi and Jindal Global University to conduct sensitization and capacity-building sessions for students and participants interested in the topic.

MAY 2022 TO OCTOBER 2022

- It was a time when single-use plastic was banned in India without looking into the needs of persons with disabilities and thus consequent eco-abelism. This made him conduct an online survey on it which helped him gain new perspectives and establish a new network which helped him initiate documentation of case studies and writing articles on the 'Ban on Single-Use Plastic and Eco-Ableism' to further the awareness regarding disability-inclusive climate change.
- He also started an interview series - Ulgulan Talks! which highlighted how various aspects of life are affected by climate change across various geographic regions in India of persons living with various disabilities.
- He continued research on the disproportionate impact of climate change on persons with disabilities about heatwave, employment and livelihood in relation to income deprivation.
- The outreach to the masses was also looked at from the perspective of working with disability and other civil society organisations including Muskaan PAEPID and COSP15, those who work with persons with disabilities for them to also realise a neglected discourse in the disability movement. He continued sharing insights with students from OP Jindal Business School and others.
- The qualitative study was furthered to look at various youth with disabilities from various regions to understand their perspective and lived experiences of persons with disabilities in the form of case studies. The structured interviews were documented and the content was used for mass awareness as well.
- He continued his mass awareness initiatives through social media campaigns incorporating interesting infographics, memes and updates on upcoming global reports using press releases, posters, etc.

- He also started to make innovative use of national and international days related to various groups like International Mental Health Day to talk about the impact of mental health due to climate change on persons with disabilities, International Day of Rural Women to talk about women obtaining disability due to them fetching water from long distances and similar others, invisible disabilities week to talk about climate change's impact on invisible disabilities.
- In the process, he also shared recommendations in the Draft National Policy on Disability.

NOVEMBER 2022 TO APRIL 2023

- He wrote various articles to cover an umbrella of intersectionality between climate change and disability. These articles mainly focussed on the physical as well as mental health of persons with disabilities including suicide, the ban on single-use plastics; eco-abelism affecting the health of women with disabilities and so on.
- He continued with the long-form interview series, one interview every month with persons with disabilities from different climatic zones and different disabilities to continue long-term social media engagements with his network and apprise them of the disproportionate impact of climate change on persons with disabilities.
- He continued using an array of content like infographics, posters, press releases, memes, and fact sheets on budget and other trending platforms such as using memes on climate anxiety and so on capitalising on important days like International Day of Multiple Sclerosis and Menstrual Hygiene.
- He used the opportunity of the ongoing G20 under the leadership of India to participate in various working groups: Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR); Gender Equality and Disability (GED); and Disability, Equity and Justice (DEJ) to share with the set of recommendations and important recommendations that were accepted in the outcome document of the DRR group concerning disaggregated disability data.

- He also made various representations concerning policy recommendations to national and international stakeholders including, UNCRPD, CRC, UN India, UGC, G20, Supreme Court of India, MoEF&CC, MSJE, PMO, Niti Aayog, etc. to name a few. His recommendations were taken into cognizance and taken into consideration at various levels while others are under the process of consultation and formulation.
- He also carried out field visits in Ranchi and Lohardaga to collect details on the intersectionality of climate change and violence on women with disabilities. He interacted with the Sakhi One Stop Centre, Mahila Thana and the concerned government officials and found out that there was no perspective drawn at these levels nor there was any disaggregated data available for the same. To highlight this issue amongst the masses, he organised a webinar in collaboration with other fellows and published an article as well to create awareness and document the same.

MAY 2023 TO OCTOBER 2023

- His social media engagements kept bringing updates among other content to keep his audience engaged at regular intervals. He also furthered his initiatives like #KnowYourConcepts, and initiated an attractive Ulgulan Talks! Postcard series and also brought a new ChatGPT FAQ series, capitalising on important national and international events and dates to spread awareness.
- His work started receiving traction in the cohorts of climate change and talked as a panellist in various forums. One of the crucial key events was the webinar on Disability and Climate Justice organized by the Climate Justice-Just Transition Donor Collaborative (CJ-JT), Impatience Earth and Impatience Wellbeing where he presented on 'Disability-inclusive Climate Justice: Case Studies from India'.

- He along with the Disability Inclusive Climate Collaboration of India Network with like-minded organisations including Mariwala Health Initiative, National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People [NCPEDP], Shanta Memorial Rehabilitation Center [SMRC], Swadhikaar, Rising Flame, and Women with Disabilities India Network drafted and published “A Call for Disability-Inclusive Climate Action in India and Globally” which was later submitted to COP 28 across working groups.
- He continued with social media engagements with his network as before using a range of content to keep the network updated. He made recommendations to NITI Aayog, on the National Multidimensional Poverty Index report where he suggested the assigned executives add factors like disability-adjusted life years, climate and risk preparedness, universal accessibility and universal health coverage. The UNEP had released a Global Climate Litigation Report based on which he shared recommendations to the Supreme Court to use climate litigation for disability justice and provide universal access in courts to ensure justice towards the same.
- Jindal Global University continued collaboration for guest lectures. He also received an invitation from Rotary Bangalore Abilities to further his perspective on Green skills for youth towards a sustainable future and so on from MAMTA-Health Institute for Mother & Child and Social Workers in Disaster Risk Reduction (SWDRR). His engagements have helped in formalising a series of events with Rotary Club of World Disability Advocacy which will help in highlighting further the impact of climate change on persons with disabilities.
- His efforts in writing articles made him receive international recognition under Harvard Law School Project on Disability and McGill University in their collaborative forum published article “Climate Resilient and Accessible Architecture” co-authored with Ar. Kavya Poornima Balajepalli (NCPEDP-Javed Abidi Fellow on Disability).

- His varied understanding at various levels across multiple issues relevant to climate change made him focus on looking at three predominant reforms required in India: 1. Mainstreaming the disability justice narrative and discourse within the climate change discourse and vice versa qua awareness, sensitisation, capacity building, etc. 2. Formation of the National Mission on Climate Change and Vulnerable Communities under the National Action Plan on Climate Change, 2008, as an umbrella mission to protect vulnerable communities from the impacts of climate change across intersectionalities/sectors/themes/areas of concerns. 3. Disability-inclusive climate laws, policies, plans, approaches and strategies, and climate-inclusive disability laws, policies, plans, approaches and strategies at local, regional, national and international level action plans, including the UNCRPD and RPwD Act.
- This made him spearhead a brand new campaign “Build Forward Better”. He ensured the goals of the campaign, provided visibility to it with a logo and curated pre-events to reinvigorate connections with the community using webinars and social media activities. A dedicated WhatsApp channel was then launched followed by an event apprising people of the vision and mission of the campaign. It immediately started to receive engagements from bodies like UNICEF where Abhishek’s past works as well as the campaign received credibility through their platform Voices of Youth which published a blog covering his ‘Build Forward Better’ campaign and the intersectionality of climate change and disability and the need for a disability-led climate action.

NOVEMBER 2023 TO APRIL 2024

- was invited as a guest speaker on the “Intersectionality of Climate Change and Disability” in the Badalta Daur podcast series by Radio Udaan, discussing critical links between climate action and disability rights. He later chaired and moderated the webinar “Climate Justice and Disability: Why We Need to Build Forward Better,” co-organized by The Sangyan and NCPEDP, highlighting the importance of inclusive climate justice frameworks.

- In January 2024, Abhishek participated as a panellist in the International Purple Fest, Goa, on “Climate Change and Invisible Disabilities” and contributed to NCPEDP’s ‘Purple Think Tank’ discussions on “Disaggregated Data and Disability” and “Reforming Advocacy Strategies” Building on this, he presented as a Resource Person on “Intersectionality of Climate Change and Disability: Need for Building Forward Better” at the NCPEDP-Bajaj Finserv CSR Scholarship Program’s Capacity Building Workshop, emphasizing how disability justice should be integral to disaster risk reduction (DiDRR).
- Abhishek continued to present his work on disability-inclusive climate adaptation in various high-profile forums. At a parallel event during the 68th Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women, he spoke on “Intersectionality of Climate Change and Women With Disabilities” emphasizing the need to build forward better to protect vulnerable populations.
- In educational spaces, Abhishek delivered a guest lecture at Jindal Global Business School, O.P. Jindal Global University, on the “Convergence of Sustainable Development Goals and Need for Inclusive Climate Action.” He also presented at the National Disability Network 2024, presenting the critical need for inclusive health insurance for disabled individuals in India (including perspectives on climate vulnerability, disability-adjusted life years, and losses and damages caused by climate change). As a guest speaker, he addressed the “Climate Change as a Threat to SDGs and Need for Disability Inclusive Climate Action” in Project Samajh’s ‘Narratives From the Field’ Series and contributed to the Sensing Climate research project led by the University of Exeter on disability-inclusive climate adaptation.
- Abhishek’s advocacy also included engaging with local accessibility improvements through his access audit of sports facilities in Ranchi, Jharkhand, aimed at providing insights for NALSAR’s Centre for Disability Studies Report on access rights, later presented to the Supreme Court of India. His presentations, moderation, and panel roles—such as those with Social Workers in Disaster Risk Reduction and the Rotary Club of World Disability Advocacy—consistently spotlighted the disproportionate impacts of climate change on people with disabilities and advanced policies and strategies for building an inclusive, climate-resilient future.

MAY 2024 TO OCTOBER 2024

- Abhishek curated the “Build Forward Better” Campaign for Disability-led and Inclusive Climate Action and Disability-inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction (DiDRR) and the Formation of the 'National Mission on Climate Change and Vulnerable Communities' under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (2008) and drafted the Representation Petition for furthering that objective.
- A key highlight of his fellowship was authoring the Baseline Report on the Impact of Climate Change on Persons with Disabilities, a foundational document that provided data-driven insights into the disproportionate effects of climate change on disabled communities. Later on, Abhishek co-drafted the policy document Pointers of Action on Climate Change Anxiety Among Youth and How it Can Be Tackled through Social Emotional Learning (SEL) for UNESCO MGIEP, contributing to the G20 Brazil 2024 Youth Working Group’s Outcome Document.
- Abhishek actively participated in international platforms as a Delegate and Resource Person on “Climate Change, Disability, and Accessibility” at CBA18: Local Solutions Inspiring Global Action in Arusha, Tanzania and as a Youth Delegate representing India at the G20 Brasil Youth Pre-Summit, where he discussed climate change anxiety among youth and its mitigation through SEL. Recognized globally for his impactful work, he was honoured on Diversability’s 2024 D-30 Disability Impact List and received Jury Appreciation at the 15th NCPEDP-Mphasis Universal Design Award for being a Role Model Person with Disabilities. In June, he contributed to the “Climate Change and Heat Waves: Impact on Persons with Disabilities” webinar co-organized by NCPEDP and The Sangyan, discussing the unique challenges posed by extreme weather events on persons with disabilities.

- Abhishek also spearheaded campaigns to integrate disability justice into climate and governance frameworks. His Build Forward Better campaign advocated for disability-led and inclusive climate action and disaster risk reduction (DiDRR), culminating in the representation for forming a National Mission on Climate Change and Vulnerable Communities under India's National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). He co-curated the Charter of Demands: Call to Action for Disability Justice, along with a Signature Campaign petition on Change(dot)org, which was submitted to multiple stakeholders, including political parties, public authorities, and government bodies. This campaign influenced policy outcomes, with several demands being incorporated into the election manifestos of key political parties and reflected in the Modi Government 3.0's Accessible India 2.0 initiative as announced in June 2024. He also contributed to NCPEDP's Manifesto: For and By Citizens with Disabilities in India's section on Climate Change and Disability.
- Further expanding his advocacy, Abhishek co-curated the Ink for Inclusion initiative, focusing on sustainable, climate-resilient, universally accessible, and inclusive elections. Under this initiative, he co-drafted the Comprehensive Toolkit for Inclusive and Accessible Elections, aimed at ensuring electoral processes are inclusive and sustainable for disabled individuals. Additionally, he collaborated with multiple organizations, including NCPEDP, Mariwala Health Initiative, and Rising Flame, to co-draft 'A Call for Disability-Inclusive Climate Action in India and Globally' for COP.
- Abhishek's contributions extended to shaping institutional frameworks. He advocated for the development of a Handbook on Combating Disability Stereotypes, which resulted in the Supreme Court of India releasing a comprehensive Handbook Concerning Persons with Disabilities in 2024. His efforts in creating a more inclusive legal and policy environment have set a benchmark for integrating disability justice across various sectors.

- Through his fellowship, Abhishek has also engaged in numerous speaking and leadership roles, including his participation in capacity-building workshops, panel discussions, and webinars addressing topics such as “Climate Change and Heat Waves,” “Climate Change and Invisible Disabilities,” and “Convergence of SDGs with Inclusive Climate Action” - at various national and international forums and platforms. His journey reflects a profound commitment to ensuring that disability justice remains central to global climate action and governance.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Participate in the G20 Brasil's Y20 Pre Summit and TAGe: Youth.Climate.Emotions - Talking Across Generations on Education's Panel Dialogue on "Climate Change Anxiety Among Youth and How it Can Be Tackled through Social Emotional Learning (SEL)" as a Youth Panellist representing India, held from 17th to 19th June 2024 in Belém-PA, Hangar Convention Center, Brazil; and organised by UNESCO MGIEP in partnership with the Y20 Secretariat of Brazil.
- Participation in the 18th International Conference on Community-Based Adaptation to Climate Change (#CBA18) and represented India, which delved into aspects concerning 'decolonise climate action' and promoting 'locally-led innovation and adaptation', held from 6th to 9th May 2024 in Arusha, Tanzania; organized by the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED).
- Awarded with the 15th NCPEDP-Mphasis Universal Design Award, 2024 [Jury Appreciation] for research, advocacy, and campaign endeavours on the need for universal accessibility as an integral component for achieving disability-led and inclusive climate action, strategies, and plans (SDG 10 and 13).
- Recognized with the Diversability's 5th Annual 2024 D-30 Disability Impact List Honoree for data-driven and evidence-based research, advocacy, and campaign endeavours toward the intersectionality of climate change and disability and for the pursuit of triggering, catalyzing and nudging law and policy formulation and its effective implementation to achieve disability-led and inclusive climate action and disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction.
- Stories of Impact - Making a Case for a Handbook on Combating Disability Stereotypes. Last year in 2023, when the Supreme Court of India launched the 'Handbook on Combating Gender Stereotypes' to assist judges and the legal community in identifying, understanding and combating stereotypes about women, Abhishek, advocated for the need to formulate a similar 'Handbook on Combating Disability Stereotypes' and made representation to the Chief Justice of India in this regard. A year later, the Supreme Court of India has released a comprehensive 'Handbook Concerning Persons with Disabilities' covering chapters on the Law of Equality and Disability, Language and Disability, and Legal Framework.

- Stories of Impact — Accessible India Campaign 2.0 Submitted representation in collaboration (Charter of Demands: Call To Action for Disability Justice) to the Government of India, States, Union Territories, Public Authorities, and Political Parties (National, Regional, and State level), among other stakeholders. Some of the demands were even accepted in the Election Manifestos of certain political parties, later on Social Justice and Empowerment Minister, Dr Virendra Kumar on 11th of June 2024 outlined the 100-Day Plan for his ministry of the newly-elected and formed Modi Government 3.0, underlining initiatives which included Accessible India 2.0 (which was one of the key demands).
- Empanelled as the Research Expert on 'The Global South Climate Database' by Carbon Brief with the support of the Reuters Institute's Oxford Climate Journalism Network - "a publicly available, searchable database of scientists and experts in the fields of climate science, policy, and energy that currently lists 849 experts from 102 countries" as a lawyer, researcher and fellow on the impacts of climate change on vulnerable communities (especially people with disabilities).
- @voicesofyouth [Voices of Youth] - @UNICEF's home for young people and by young people, on the occasion of International Day of Persons with Disabilities (03rd of December 2023), covered research and advocacy endeavour on disproportionate impacts of climate change on vulnerable communities, including persons with disabilities, and the 'Build Forward Better' Campaign advocating the need for a Disability-led Climate Action.
- Contributed to the consultation process on the CRC Committee's Draft General Comment on Climate Change and the resultant General Comment № 26 (2023) on Children's Rights and the Environment, with a Special Focus on Climate Change, emphasised the urgent need to address the adverse effects of environmental degradation, on the enjoyment of children's rights (including children with disabilities), and clarifies the obligations of States to address environmental harm and climate change.
- Written Submission in collaboration with Ar. Kavya Poornima Balajepalli to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities's General Comment on Persons with Disabilities in Situations of Risk and Humanitarian Emergencies [OHCHR took cognizance of it and uploaded the recommendation on its official website - Search for submission by the name of National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People (NCPEDP)].

- Worked with the United Nations India's Office of the UN Resident Coordinator concerning the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS), Approaches to Disability Inclusion, Disability-Inclusive Indicators/Marker, and Research Study and Capacity Building Programme Design on DiDRR.
- Co-authored a blog with Ar. Kavya Poornima Balajepalli on "Climate-Resilient and Accessible Architecture," reflects upon the need to have an intersectional approach to climate-resilient and universal accessibility as we 'build forward better' to ensure disability-inclusive climate justice while leaving no one behind. The blog is part of the Digital Symposium on "Beyond Vulnerability: The Rights and Agency of People with Disabilities in the Climate Crisis", nested in the Bill of Health parent blog via Harvard Law School Project on Disability (HPOD), the Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics at Harvard Law School, and the Disability-Inclusive Climate Action Research Programme (DICARP) at McGill Law Faculty.
- Contributed towards inclusion of a section on Climate Change in the NCPEDP's 'Manifesto: For and By Citizens with Disabilities' as suggested and recommended based on his data-driven and evidence-based research, advocacy, and campaign endeavours in the last three years as the NCPEDP-Javed Abidi Fellow on Disability working on the 'Impact of Climate Change on Persons with Disabilities'. As member of the National Disability Network by NCPEDP and NCRPD, Abhishek extensively contributed to the vision framework on climate change, disaster, and disability, as well as, on Health and Politics in India.
- Presented on the "Intersectionality of Climate Change and Women With Disabilities: Need for Build Forward Better" at the virtual parallel event on the occasion of the 68th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women organized by Shanta Memorial Rehabilitation Centre, Women with Disabilities India Network, and Revival Disability India.
- Co-curated and drafted 'Charter of Demands: Call to Action for Disability Justice' along with Ar. Kavya Poornima Balajepalli (NCPEDP-Javed Abidi Fellow on Disability) as a joint initiative, for the concerned public authorities and other relevant stakeholders (governments, political parties, civil societies, etc.) to take cognizance of the prominent issues of the larger interest and asks of the disability community.

- Ideated and co-curated the [‘Ink For Inclusion’ Initiative](#) along with Ar. Kavya Poornima Balajepalli (NCPEDP-Javed Abidi Fellow on Disability) as a joint initiative, towards Sustainable, Climate-Resilient, Universally Accessible, and All-Inclusive - Elections and India (Bharat).
- Curated and organized a webinar on 'Climate Justice and Disability: Why We Need to Build Forward Better?' as a collaboration between The Sangyan and NCPEDP.
- Co-drafted the “A Call for Disability-Inclusive Climate Action in India and Globally”, Disability-Inclusive Climate Collaboration [Mariwala Health Initiative, National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People (NCPEDP), Shanta Memorial Rehabilitation Center (SMRC), Swadhikaar, Rising Flame, The Sangyan, and Women with Disabilities India Network] for the Conference of Parties (COP) on Climate Change.



EXPERIENCE IN THE FELLOWSHIP

I have had a net positive experience in the fellowship with meeting people from diverse backgrounds, with respect to their individual identities, academic backgrounds, work experiences, types of disabilities, regions of residence, among others that created the environment for cross-learning with a spillover impact that transcends the personal as well as the professional aspects of my journey of the fellowship.

RESOURCES

Follow Abhishek's work on their social media

