



# EVENT PROCEEDINGS

## 11TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DISABILITY

THEME - IMPAACT : INCLUSIVE MEASURES FOR PROMOTING ACCESSIBILITY, COLLABORATION, AND TRANSFORMATION

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## 11TH NATIONAL ABILYMPICS COMPETITION

SKILL COMPETITION FOR PERSON WITH DISABILITIES



06th & 07th December, 2024



Sarthak Global Resource Centre, Plot No. 23/2,  
Sector 45, Gurugram, Haryana 122022

# Panel 1: Government & Corporate Social Responsibility Panel

## Panelists :

- **Prof. Randhir Rathore** - Professor, Policy Planning and Research, Shri Vishwakarma Skill University (SVSU), Haryana.
- **Ms. Anuradha Chimalapati** – Senior Manager CSR, Pernod Ricard India Foundation
- **Ms. Geetanjali Tripathi** - Assistant General Manager, Tata Power Delhi Distribution Ltd.
- **Ms. Madhu Bala Sharma** - Sr. Program Manager, Inclusive Experiences and Technologies, Amazon.

**Moderator- Mr. Sandeep Bhargava** - CEO & Founder at Leap EdTech Learning Pvt Ltd & Sarthak Advisory Board Member.





# Panel 1: Government & Corporate Social Responsibility Panel

**Theme:** Bridging Business and Belonging: The Role of CSR in Promoting Disability Inclusion and Empowerment

## **Key Takeaways:**

- The panel emphasized shifting mindsets to view Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) as contributors to society, supported by inclusive policies.
- Challenges in current CSR policies were highlighted, such as the inability to recruit PWDs trained by corporates themselves.
- Pernod Ricard's collaboration with Sarthak and Tata Power's "Pay U Attention" program were showcased as impactful CSR initiatives.
- Inclusion needs to be integrated at the design stage of programs, ensuring holistic accessibility.
- Innovations like Amazon's Silent Delivery Stations exemplify inclusivity in action.









# Inaugural Panel

## Panelists-

- **Ms. Julia Shchurova Yulia** - Representative of the Russian Federation.
- **Shri Lov Verma** - Ex Secretary to the Government of India.
- **Shri Krishnan Kalra** - President, NAAI, Former President, AIMA.
- **Dr. Jitendra Aggarwal**- Founder, Sarthak Educational Trust
- **Shri Mannan Shah** - Music director and Composer.

**Moderator- Shri Siddhartha Rastogi** - Managing Director, AMBIT Investment Advisors Pvt Ltd.



# Inaugural Panel

**Theme:** Setting the Theme - Inclusive Measures for Promoting Accessibility, Collaboration, and Transformation

## **Key Takeaways:**

- The session set the conference tone by emphasizing global partnerships and cross-country collaborations, particularly between India and Russia.
- Russia's successful Abilympics model was highlighted as inspiration for India's development of similar systems.
- Dr. Jitendra Aggarwal's tireless efforts in creating an inclusive ecosystem for PWDs were celebrated.
- The inaugural session emphasized the critical role of organizations like Sarthak in promoting inclusion for PWDs globally.









## Panel 2: Pathways to Employment

- **Mr. Akshay Tyagi** – Diversity & Inclusion Leader, The Lalit Hotel
- **Ms. Sangeeta Robinson** – Founding Director, ANTS SBC Pvt Ltd
- **Mr. Vinay Jaswal** – Vice President HR Operations, Marriott International
- **Mr. Ashish Kumar Chaudhary** - Manager- Corporate Matters and Projects, Skill Council for Persons with Disability (SCPwD)

**Moderator- Mr. Suresh Kumar Gupta** - National Advisory Board Member - Sarthak Educational Trust & Ex DDG, DoT, Govt. of India





## Panel 2: Pathways to Employment

**Theme:** Inclusion, Access, and Opportunity: The Role of Corporates in Building an Inclusive Employment Ecosystem

### **Key Takeaways:**

- Marriott's commitment to doubling its PWD workforce and hospitality sector's leadership in employment for PWDs were highlighted.
- The panel stressed the importance of updated data on PWDs, as the last census was conducted in 2011.
- Proactive initiatives like basic sign language training and residential training programs were recommended for empowering PWDs.
- Accessibility in the entertainment sector was emphasized, with examples like audio descriptions in movies.
- The need for inclusive development across Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities was underscored.







## Panel 3: Global Resource Center Panel

### Panelists :

- **Prof. Suraj Singh Senjam** – Professor in Community Ophthalmology, All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS), Delhi
- **Ms. Guneet Sethi** – Director & CSR Head, Gilard Electronics
- **Dr. Vijay Mathur** – Director General, Apparel Training & Design Centre (ATDC)
- **Ms. Thilakam Rajendran** – Director, NEDAR Foundation
- **Ms. Madhu Bala Sharma** - Sr. Program Manager Inclusive Experiences and Technologies, Amazon

**Moderator- Mr. Sameer Nigam** – CEO, Stratbeans Learning Solutions - National Advisory Board Member of Sarthak Educational Trust



## Panel 3: Global Resource Center Panel

**Theme:** Building a Universal Support System: Awareness, Sensitization, Talent Pool, and Resource Creation on a Global Scale

### **Key Takeaways:**

- The need for a global talent pool and international collaborations was emphasized, drawing from examples in the USA and France.
- Sensitization within families and society was deemed critical for promoting a supportive environment for PWDs.
- Technologies like AI were recognized as vital for bridging gaps between policies and beneficiaries.
- Sarthak's Global Resource Center was acknowledged as a model institution by the NDEAR Foundation.
- Stakeholder involvement from the PWD community was advocated, following the principle, "Nothing About Us Without Us."







## Panel 4: Tech-Enabled Solutions Panel

### Panelists :

- **Mr. Manan Issar** – Founder, Piltover Technologies
- **Mr. Shiv Kumar** – Founder, Kiduara Innovations
- **Mr. Munish Kumar** – Founder, Exobot Dynamics
- **Mr. Amit Panwar** – Founder, SunQalp
- **Mr. Prerit Rathi** – Founder, ThinkLude
- **Mr. Chandan K. Jha** - Founder and CEO, Galanto Innovations

**Moderator- Mr. Atul Bhatnagar** - Former COO of NSDC & National Advisory Board Member of Sarthak Educational Trust





## Panel 4: Tech-Enabled Solutions Panel

**Theme:** Innovating for Inclusion: CapSarathi, RozgarSarathi, and GyanSarathi  
– Local and Global Solutions

### **Key Takeaways:**

- Technology must be affordable, accessible, and functional to address challenges faced by PWDs.
- Innovations like Exobot Dynamics' bionic limbs and Piltover Technologies' dexterous prosthetics were highlighted.
- Platforms like RozgarSarathi and GyanSarathi were recognized for improving employer-employee communication and empowerment.
- Focus on holistic, inclusive solutions catering to the entire spectrum of disabilities was advocated.
- Financial education and continuous information dissemination were identified as critical for long-term empowerment.









# Special Panel: IMPACT

## Panelists :

- Chief Guest: **Shri Om Birla**- Hon'Ble Speaker, Lok Sabha
- **Shri Krishnan Kalra**- President, NAAI and former president, AIMA
- **Shri Lov Verma** - Ex Secretary, Govt. of India
- **Shri Manoj Kumar** - Chief Engineer, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- **Dr. Jitendra Aggarwal** - Founder, Sarthak Educational Trust

**Moderator- Shri Siddhartha Rastogi** - Managing Director, AMBIT Investment Advisors Pvt Ltd.



# Special Panel: IMPACT

**Theme:** Inclusive Measures for Promoting Accessibility, Collaboration, and Transformation

## **Key Takeaways:**

- Shri Om Birla, Hon'ble Speaker of the Lok Sabha, commended Sarthak's impactful work in promoting inclusion and opportunities for PWDs.
- A landmark achievement was celebrated with the presentation of the Indian Constitution's audio description and Braille script.
- The release of Sarthak's and NAAI's annual reports signified progress in disability inclusion initiatives.
- Release of the Sarthak Anthem composed by Mr. Mannan Shah was another highlight of the session.
- Discussions included showcasing artwork by NAAI students in the Lok Sabha to promote awareness.
- Dr. Jitendra Aggarwal shared his vision of establishing a Sarthak University dedicated to PWDs, furthering the cause of inclusion and empowerment.









## Panel 5: Empowering Abilities Panel

### Panelists :

- **Mr. Vijay S. Jodha** – Filmmaker & Photographer
- **Mr. Pradeip Agarwal** – CEO & Co-Founder, Stratbeans Solutions
- **Ms. Dina Makeeva** - Head of Abilympics National Center of the Russian Federal Institute of Development of Vocational Education and Training.
- **Dr. Gurpreet Kaur** – Director (Academic Affairs) & Secretary, Apparel Training & Design Centre (ATDC)

**Moderator- Mr. Prakash Sharma** – Former Chief Finance Officer – National Skill Development Corporation & National Advisory Board Member, Sarthak Educational Trust





# Panel 5: Empowering Abilities Panel

**Theme:** Celebrating Strengths and Breaking Barriers: Empowering Abilities through Inclusive Practices

## **Key Takeaways:**

- Panelists stressed celebrating the unique strengths of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) as a foundation for empowerment.
- Stories of PWD entrepreneurs were shared, highlighting resilience and innovation in overcoming barriers.
- Training initiatives tailored to specific disabilities were showcased as transformative models for skill development.
- Collaboration among NGOs, corporates, and government bodies was recommended for sustainable empowerment.
- A call for amplifying awareness campaigns to challenge societal stereotypes and promote inclusion.









# Panel 6: Early Intervention Panel

## Panelists :

- **Dr. Monica Juneja** – Director Professor and Head, Department of Paediatrics, Maulana Azad Medical College
- **Mr. Anil Joshi** – Program Director, IBM
- **Dr. Rajive Bhatia** – ENT Specialist, Delhi
- **Dr. Sharmila Banerjee** – MD Paediatrics, Fellowship of Indian Academy of Paediatrics
- **Ms. Preeti Johar**- CEO, Family of Disabled.
- Guest of Honour- **Shri Rajesh Aggarwal**- Secretary, Department of empowerment of PwDs, Government of India.

Moderator - **Mr. Raj Kapoor** -National Advisory Board Member of Sarthak Educational Trust, JCT electronics LTD.



## Panel 6: Early Intervention Panel

**Theme:** Nurturing Potential from the Start: Effective Strategies and Best Practices in Early Support

**Key Highlights:**

- The golden period for addressing disabilities is **0-6 years**, when brain development and neuroplasticity are at their peak; timely intervention during this phase is critical.
- Early symptom recognition by stakeholders (parents, caregivers, healthcare professionals) and collaboration can ensure appropriate support and care.
- Shifting perspectives from disability to "special abilities" promotes a positive outlook, highlighting unique strengths (e.g., individuals with autism and their attention to detail).
- Educating parents, caregivers, and society on disabilities and the importance of **early action** can significantly improve outcomes and development milestones for children.
- Guest of Honour Shri Rajesh Aggarwal emphasized collaboration among the **Department of Empowerment of PwDs**, therapists, special educators, and Sarthak Global Resource Centre to maximize the reach and impact of Early







# Panel 7: Tech4Good Panel

## Panelists :

- **Dr. Sunil Shekhawat** – Founder, Sanchi Connect
- **Ms. Aparajita Ahuja** – Partner & Chief Financial Officer, CX Partners
- **Mr. Hunny Bhagchandani** – Founder, MyTorchit
- **Prof. Siddhartha Panda** – Professor, IIT Kanpur

Moderator- **Mr. Rahul Gupta** – Founder & Managing Director at Valuable & National Advisory Board Member, Sarthak Educational Trust





## Panel 7: Tech4Good Panel

**Theme:** Advancing Disability Solutions through Innovation: Partnerships with IITs, Investors, and IIMs for Technological Advancements

**Key Highlights:**

- Assistive technologies like speech-to-text and mobility aids can transition into mainstream solutions, benefiting the general population.
- Successful digital solutions require clear product mapping, alignment with market needs, and a focus on accessibility and affordability.
- Entrepreneurs in assistive tech face challenges such as limited mentorship, underscoring the importance of collaboration, innovation, and co-development.
- A business roadmap and effective outreach efforts are essential for product exposure and increased accessibility.
- Empowering PwDs as a productive workforce highlights their potential as reliable, revenue-generating contributors and promotes social and economic inclusion.







# Panel 8: From Invisible to Empowered

## Panelists :

- **Mr. Vicky Roy** – Documentary Photographer
- **Mr. Ravish K. Shukla** – Senior Special Correspondent at NDTV India
- **Ms. Annapurna Jha** – Resident Editor, Central Hall Magazine of Parliamentarians
- **Ms. Shradha Chhetri** – Assistant Editor, Careers360 News
- **Mr. Vicky Roy**- Documentary Photographer

Moderator- **Mr. Supriyo Gupta** - CEO at Torque Communications & National Advisory Board Member, Sarthak Educational Trust



# Panel 8: From Invisible to Empowered

**Theme:** Media's Role in Promoting Accessibility and Inclusion for PwDs

## **Key Highlights:**

- Indian media often portrays PwDs as either tragic figures or tokens, neglecting balanced and empowering representation.
- There is a need to shift perspectives from pity to empowerment, encouraging society to see PwDs as equals with rights and capabilities.
- Limited media representation and awareness perpetuate societal ignorance; proper advocacy and storytelling can challenge stigma.
- PwDs must actively embrace self-acceptance, voice their needs, and advocate for representation alongside media efforts.
- Positive portrayals in media and cinema that respect and accurately depict PwDs help promote understanding, respect, and inclusion.







# Valedictory Panel

- Exceptional skills of participants with disabilities were showcased on a national platform.
- **34 winners** were honored with **10 Gold, 13 Silver and 11 Bronze medals**.
- 12 Russian Abilympics participants received Participation Certificates.
- Awards were presented by the **Hon'ble Board Member** of Sarthak Educational Trust.
- Participants excelled across various vocational skill competitions.
- The event promoted inclusivity and empowered PwDs through skill recognition.
- The Abilympics concluded on a high note, inspiring all to celebrate ability and opportunity.















THANK YOU