

Sarthak Educational Trust

Sarthak Advocacy Program - Awareness initiatives for persons with Disability

(Progress report – March 2021)



The primary focus of Sarthak's awareness & advocacy initiative is to create opportunities for a life of equality and dignity for Persons with Disability and their families through holistic approach by providing Medical Rehabilitation, Inclusive Education, Skill Development Training & Sustainable Employment and Advocacy to those in need.

Advocacy for Sarthak means to take action to create change. Advocacy has been described as "**speaking truth to power**". The perennial struggle of the rights of people with disability, including the right to have access to public resources, right to education, right to be employed, and other community support services necessary to support living an independent, unsegregated life is advocated through advocacy programs of Sarthak. **Sarthak Educational Trust takes pride in mentioning that more than 200+ corporate houses have been sensitized and converted into the prospective hiring partners of persons with disability.**

Let's enable wheelchair users to celebrate the positive impact it has on their lives!



Glimpses of Advocacy Events – March 2021

Levels of Advocacy at Sarthak

- **With Government** - As an outcome of advocacy with center and state government of India, Sarthak advocacy events came with varied thought leadership over various areas of action for PwDs, namely, National Action Plan Accessibility India Campaign, Sector Skill Council for Persons with Disabilities, and passing of the Rights of Persons with Disability Act, 2016 was the positive outcome.
- **With Corporate** –We envision a society of humankind to be stronger. This is also done where we involve the corporate stakeholders, study job profiles with person with disabilities with the mutual consent of the human resource manager. Not only this, a basic orientation session is conducted for the non –disabled employees of the organization to acquaint them with the basic know – how to deal with the persons with disabilities, for instance, sign language sessions, basic infra support for accessibility at workplace etc.

Sensitization Workshops

- Sensitization for them becomes an important agenda in inclusive hiring initiatives. Once they are sensitized and understand the value proposition with the PwD, it leads to successful inclusion and long-term benefits to them producing diverse and strong teams.

Sarthak conducted a Disability Sensitization workshop on **4th March** at DHL



- **With RDSM**–NGO capacity growth is an essential tool to share mutual benefits to share resources. This helps in building an ecosystem of stronger humankind where all people irrespective of the abilities, flourish.

Sarthak Educational Trust Ngo partnership program, **RDSM** organized **2** online webinars on the topic of “**Making MOU’s and agreements with Donor organization on 20th March’21** and online marketing through e – marketplace (**GEM**) for **PWD** entrepreneurs on **5th March’21**.

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**RASHTRIYA DIVYANGJAN SASHAKTIKARAN MANCH
(RDSM) WEBINAR**

Topic- Fundraising Process - Making MoU's and Agreements with Donor Organization!

Date- 20th March 2021, Friday, 12:00- 1:00 PM
It is a free zoom webinar! Do join!



For more Information visit: www.sarthakindia.org

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**RASHTRIYA DIVYANGJAN SASHAKTIKARAN MANCH
(RDSM) WEBINAR**

Topic- Introductory session for online marketing through Government E-Marketplace (GEM) for Divyangjan/PwDs Entrepreneurs!

Date- 5th March 2021, Friday, 4:00-5:00 PM
It is a free zoom webinar! Do join!



For more Information visit: www.gem.gov.in | www.sarthakindia.org

- **With Media-** Media is an important instrument in raising awareness and countering stigma. Sarthak during advocacy events ensures the disability awareness is spread to large masses at once.



Sarthak Educational Trust Jaipur-organised a one day Joy of giving program which was chaired by the State advisory board members Dr. Sagrika Aggarwal and Mr. Vikram Joshi, CEO of Rangotri - India

Giving Wings to Dreams ADVERTORIAL

Dr Jitender Aggarwal (45), Founder & CEO of Sarthak is transforming India's landscape for 'people with disabilities' (PwDs). Here the founder has shared his life journey and what drove him to this crucial area for inclusivity of the country's 30 million or more PwDs

Empowering Indian Diversegen
Dr. Jitender Aggarwal, a PwD (Person with Disability) in mobility, is making a difference to India's community of PwDs. The term PwD has been variously mentioned as "differently abled", "handicapped", etc. Prime Minister Modi has called them Diversegen. Since 2004, Dr. Aggarwal has led a team of professionals empowering India's Diversegen. In 2008, with the help of some close associates, he formed the NGO "Sarthak Educational Trust". Sarthak means brother, it has become a leading NGO in India's disability sector.

Struggle and Sublimation
Dr. Aggarwal was not congenitally disabled. From a prominent business family, he studied Chemistry in Karnataka and worked in the iron-steel plant in India. When tragedy struck in 2004, almost overnight the best he brought, due to traumatic degeneration. After a period of understandable depression, Dr. Aggarwal got still working in medical transcription. He thought "If this is my fate with AIDS, what about the millions of disabled youth of India?" He quit his job and started Sarthak in 2008. <http://sarthakindia.org>

Socio-Economic Inclusion
The foundation of Sarthak's success has been the involvement of Dr. Aggarwal of a new model for the movement of Diversegen. His is to provide outside life training and then give job training. Where he began, the general assumption was that PwDs are not fit for employment. Like all revolutionaries, the Sarthak Diversegen Inclusionists began with a single business, in the first batch in 2008. Today, Sarthak runs 30+ branches of 25 business each for three months, in 20 centres, across 15 States, in India. It has so far trained and placed 20,000 PwDs, in one 1,000 companies. Sarthak is multiplying the service to PwDs, by sharing its model with other NGOs. It has organized the launch of the Karmaveer Diversegen Sachchidanand Mishra, National Disabled Entrepreneur Association.

Contribution to Society
Sarthak's pioneering work makes multiple contributions to society. First, the young PwDs, through all-India job fairs, build self-confidence and become self-reliant. Second, their parents are relieved, and their lives their own work. Third, the economy has more human resources. Finally, society has more self-reliant persons, who are bringing up their children, who may be without any disability. <http://sarthakindia.org> info@sarthakindia.org

Contribution to Government
As Sarthak entered a new era for its services to PwDs, it began to attract the attention and support of Central and State Governments. Dr. Atal Bihari Vajpayee, President, Pragati Sarthak's annual National Conference on Disability, PM Modi and UP CM Yogi Adityanath visited one of its 100 job fairs. Sarthak supported the formulation and implementation of the Govt's "Accessibility Campaign". The Union Department of many states, like Haryana, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh, Sarthak has conducted training



to host the 12th International Ability Days, in India. It will be a landmark in the annals of Indian PwD. <http://sarthakindia.org/IndiaAbilityDays>

International Media
As most organisations, business, social, Sarthak began with Dr. Aggarwal as its founder. He often is invited to a national institution, invited beyond to various working life, and some PwDs, in particular Sarthak already has, a professional organisation, with Centre Managers, in the field, and specialist Functional Heads, at the Head Office. In addition to the Organisation Structure, it also has IT based systems and processes. It is creating a network of professionals, and is creating a network of professionals, including, eventually, that of the CEO.

Karmaveer
Dr. Aggarwal began his working life, like most people, in a Government, one who works with the expectation of monetary rewards & pensions. He has evolved into a devoted Karmaveer, one who works and inspire others to work for PwDs, in its own reward. The values have spread not only Sarthak employees, but also all stakeholders. Sarthak to serve with great dedication.

Sarthak Mentor and National Advisory Board
Sarthak works under the guidance of Mentor and Management Guru Pradyumna Bhushan Dr. MB Arora, PwD himself, and expert board members: senior Krishna Kumar, President, NAAI and former President, ANA; Ramjan Chopra, MD, Team Computers; Sandeep Bhargava, CEO of Sandeep Line Group; Dr. Suresh Kumar, former Director of CPWS, Madhya Pradesh; Dr. S. Gupta, former CEO, Department of Telecommunications; G. S. Sarda, former MD, Investment Advisory, PwD, India; and Bhargava former CEO, NDC, and state advisory board members of 15 states.

COVID-Adaptability to Opportunity
With the onset of nationwide lockdown, Sarthak transformed all physical setups, to digital platforms for making effective service to persons with disability across India. During COVID-19, Sarthak provided localised skill building training to 4000+ PwDs and sustained job opportunities to 2000+ PwDs. Under the aegis of early intervention and the Groupware rendered to more than 3000+ children with special needs. Medical health workers and therapists.

Along with these initiatives, Sarthak also launched
• **CapSARthak** - Mobile Application for Person with Disability, it aims at reaching to every weak and strong across India and providing references, services and support to people with disability (PwD) at a click. <http://sarthakindia.org/CapSARthak>

• Sarthak Management Information System Development - To maintain, track and analyse data.

• **Global ESGs**

Awards and Accreditations
More than a decade dedicated to inclusion of People with Disabilities, with various developments and landmark initiatives got recognised at many platforms.

• Recently, honoured by magazine **Shri Anandika** during **State Startup Concept Season 13** (Karmaveer Series <http://sarthakindia.org/ESG>)

• Honoured by National Skill Development Corporation and Skill India with special mention award on the category for empowering specially abled people.

• Honoured by IIT Madras based under the category of Change makers.

• Honoured by CapSARthak for generating innovative thinking of youth with disabilities.

• Certificate of Appreciation and Participation in WorldSkills India - Abu Dhabi 2018.

Sarthak Global Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities
Honorable Chief Minister of Haryana, PwD Member of Parliament (Member of Parliament) for Haryana proposed for Sarthak Global Resource Center for Persons with Disability where all services to persons with disability could be rendered under a single roof. Let it be Health and Education Services for Children with Special Needs, or Vocational Skill Building and support in Employment for youth with disability. Along with this, various other services like Union in the Dark, Accessible Audit, SMART Centre, Sanyam Park, Centre of Excellence for Employment, Centre of Excellence for Skill Building, Centre of Excellence for Early Intervention & Inclusive Education and Centre of Excellence for Technical Education & Vocational Education will be the part of the center. <http://sarthakindia.org/GlobalResourceCenter>

These services and programs would be provided at different floors of the building, the each floor construction and development, will render the cost of 25 Crores. Thus, the total requirement will be Rs. 14 Crores. The support regarding the SCRC support has been requested by Minister, Haryana <http://sarthakindia.org/SCRC>

We request individual, corporate and government officials to the Government support Sarthak in building Global Resource Center for Persons with Disability. For more details about Sarthak, visit www.sarthakindia.org or info@sarthakindia.org or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9m3k8k8k8k8>

All donations made to Sarthak are eligible for Tax Exemption under Section 80G(c) of the Income Tax Act, 1961. We are registered under FCRA for receiving foreign funds.

Glad to share an article by Indian express featuring Dr. Jitender Aggarwal – top 100 influential personalities

Highlights of the Month

In the endeavor to bring happiness to the underprivileged **Sarthak educational Trust** together with **Robinhood army** conducted 2 distribution drives in **Khamria park** and **Madipur Village** in New Delhi on **13th and 21st March** respectively. The drive aimed at helping those who need us and create a momentum for a lasting impact for inclusiveness.



Pernod Ricard

Sarthak Educational Trust extends heartfelt thanks to Pernod Ricard India Foundation for donating 34 laptops for the empowerment of people with disabilities. We are grateful to team Pernod Ricard for supporting Sarthak initiatives and stepping forward for building an inclusive and empowered nation.

Introduction to Sarthak ke Sarathi

Maria Paul Williams – Sarthak Jaipur Center

Rabindranath Tagore once said, “Whatever you are be a good one”. Maria Paul Williams hails from Chennai. He lives in a beautiful family of 5 with his parents and 2 elder sisters. His disability is that he is visually impaired. Currently he is working as an accounts teacher in Chennai.

During Covid- 19 he got a call from Sarthak Educational Trust and got himself enrolled in the skill development and sustainable employment program. The 90-day program helped him gain confidence. William takes pride in mentioning that how he being called differently abled means that he can do the things differently.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1YxIU0m2k&t=408s>

Anil Khole – Sarthak Thane Center

Anil Khole hails from Maharashtra. His disability is that he is an OH person. He received a message from Sarthak educational Trust. The training age limit in Sarthak barred him initially from enrolling in the training program but Sarthak actively listened to his grievances and enrolled him in the program. Anil khole never gave up and believed in his capabilities. He has a strong will power and says that no one is disabled by body but only by brain.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hao2wiz9C0I>

CALL FOR ACTION

For people with disabilities, the ability to advocate for oneself is essential. For disabled people, advocacy is also an effective way to make changes in systems, policies and procedures that affect their daily lives. So, we at Sarthak try our best to advocate their rights and disseminate into the society.

For more information, reach out to Sarthak Advocacy Team

ceo@sarthakindia.org

011-42004238

Link for Donation - sarthakindia.org/donation.php

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