

ACTIVITIES OF NAB CHANDIGARH AND PUNJAB BRANCH

DURING THE YEAR 2019-20

The National Association for the Blind, India (NAB) established in Mumbai on 19th January 1952, with its 22 State branches, 65 Districts branches & 11 Institutions for Blind Welfare, is the largest voluntary organization for the welfare of blind in India. NAB is espousing the cause of creating awareness in society about preventing and curing blindness. The association is rendering valuable service to the society by developing educational, vocational and employment services for the incurable blind children and adults through its vast network in the country.

The activities of NAB include awareness programs for Prevention and Cure of Blindness, Education/Vocational Training, Employment/Rehabilitation, Care of multiple-handicapped Blind, Visually impaired Children and the aged, Cyber Cafes for the Blind and establishment of Braille and Talking centers. Requirements of both urban and rural blind have also been taken up by NAB, keeping in mind, the infrastructure and financial constraints.

NAB Chandigarh and Punjab branch started operations from Karuna Sadan, UT Red Cross building in 2005.

We are duly registered under the following acts:

- 1. Societies Registration Act 1860**
- 2. Rights of Persons with Disability Act (RPWD Act) 2016**
- 3. Income Tax Exemption under section 80G & 12A**
- 4. Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA),2010**
- 5. NITI Aayog, Govt of India**
- 6. The National Trust, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt of India**
- 7. Extension Counter of National Institute for the Empowerment of persons with visual disabilities (NIEPVD), Dehradun**

The report on activities of Chandigarh & Punjab branch during the year 2019-20 is as under:

Existing Programs:

1. Family Counseling Centre

A Family Counseling Centre is operational since March 2009 at Aasha Kiran Vocational Training Centre, Sector 46 D, Chandigarh where two trained counselors help the disabled and their family members to cope up with the challenges faced due to disability and to create positive thinking and right atmosphere for their growth. Additionally, all the 500 students attending courses

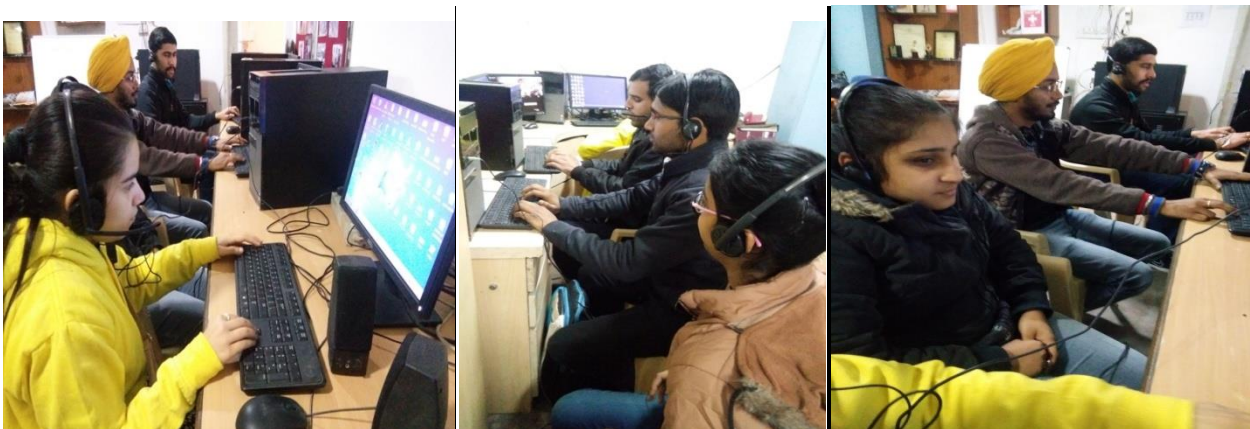
at Aasha Kiran and others from outside make use of this counseling centre. The centre is totally free and open to one and all for counseling needs. This centre is being run with the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi. More than 100 persons are benefitted from this counseling centre every year.



2. NAB Rehabilitation and Computer Training Centre for the visually challenged at Chandigarh

A batch of 14 visually challenged (VI) students is currently being trained in computers and use of software. More than 300 VI have availed this facility of computer training at Karuna Sadan, Sector 11 B, Chandigarh in the last 16 years. A rehabilitation counselor helps in creating and ascertaining employment opportunities. We have added 15 girls from disadvantaged section to this program to utilize our existing infrastructure. The Program was being run with the Ministry of Human Resource development for many years but from this year the program has been shifted to Skill India mission under the newly formed Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Govt of India.

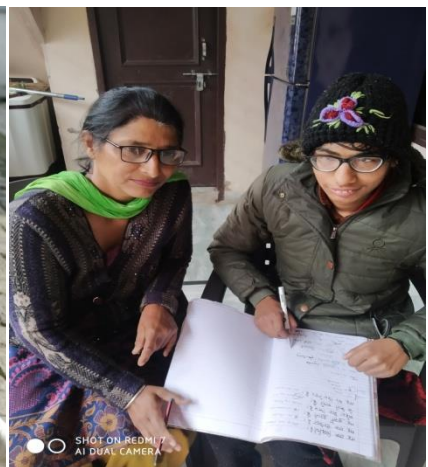
The courses are totally free for all and no fee whatsoever has been charged from anyone since its inception in 2003.





3. Inclusive Education Program for disabled children (IEDC)

NAB in its 15th year of integrated education for the visually challenged has on its rolls 30 students who are being taught through 3 special education teachers in different schools in Chandigarh. Our children study with normal students in regular schools and our resource teachers help the teachers as well as the students in their learning process and also visit their home to help them with their homework. We provide free Braille books and all aids and appliances required for their education.



4. Talking Book Library

The Talking Book Library has nearly 2500 titles in addition to recorded CDs of books for the school and college students and also has Braille books on different subjects and also for school syllabus. This library is benefiting all the visually challenged of the region. Nearly 80 members of library are taking benefit of this library.

5. Cornea Transplant

NAB in association with M/s Reliance Industries is running a nationwide Program of Cornea transplant named "DRISHTI" by paying the cost of this operation directly to the Hospital for carrying out free operations for the poor.

6. Computer centre at Ludhiana

NAB centre for Computer Education and Rehabilitation is functional from January 2012 for the visually challenged in Govt Institute for the blind at Ludhiana. The Centre has been equipped with Computers and special software for teaching computers to the Blind. Specially trained teacher is provided for the purpose. No fee is being charged and all facilities are for free. 25 visually challenged from Punjab and the school itself is learning computers at the centre in the current batch.



7. Extension Counter of National Institute for the empowerment of persons with visual disabilities (NIEPVD), Dehradun

The Chandigarh & Punjab branch of NAB has created a landmark for service to the visually challenged by starting NIEPVD Extension Counter at Karuna Sadan with effect from May 2010. This facility has benefited all visually challenged in

Chandigarh, Haryana, Himachal, J & K and Punjab who had to go to Dehradun for this purpose. This service is made available at Ludhiana also. The program is running smoothly as previous years.

8. Project for Visually Impaired Multi disabled (VIMD) with Perkins Institute, USA

NAB is proud to have started VIMD program with Perkins Voice & Vision, Mumbai, a unit of famous Perkins Institute, Boston, USA where 15 MDVI children are being taught by 3 special education teachers. The program is functioning smoothly as previous years.



9. Issue of Letter of Intent (LoI) to Start Community Radio Station at Jamalpur, Ludhiana

NAB, Chandigarh and Punjab branch is the first NGO in disability sector to have been awarded a letter of intent (LOI) by Ministry of Information and broadcasting to start its own community radio station at 2 rooms allotted to us at Institute for the blind, Ludhiana.

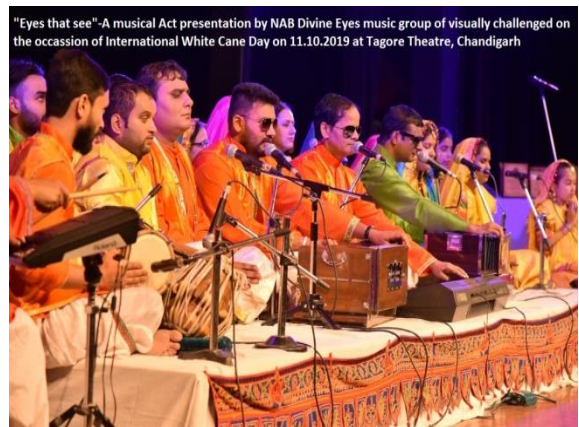
This will cater to educational needs of all students as course books of all classes will be taught thro the medium of radio to all the visually challenged and others in Punjab. The commissioning of Radio station is delayed due to non availability of extra FM frequency as of now.

10. Niramaya Insurance Scheme for Disabled

Project Niramaya is providing Insurance benefit to the persons suffering from Autism, Cerebral palsy, Intellectual disability and multi disabilities through The National Trust, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Govt of India. The program is running smoothly as previous years.

11. International White Cane Day celebrations on 11th October, 2019

30 visually challenged from Divine Eyes Theatre group of National Association for the blind set the stage on fire with a life time presentation of a Musical Act “Eyes that see” at Tagore Theatre on Friday, 11th October, 2019 on the occasion of “**International White Cane Day**”. The Musical Act was **designed on the theme of White Cane day**. All artists, musicians-vocalists and instrumentalists of the act were visually challenged. The total duration of Act was 60 minutes. Their singing, acting and dance mesmerized the audience with a unique unparalleled performance.



Sh B.L. Sharma, Secretary Education and Social Welfare, UT, Chandigarh was the Chief Guest. The Act was directed by famous

ACTIVIES PERFORMED RELATED TO THE NATIONAL TRUST DISABILITIES – MULTIPLE DISABILITIES

MULTI DISABILITIES AND VISUAL IMPAIRMENT (MDVI) PROGRAM FOR MULTI DISABLED CHILDREN

We are providing unparalleled educational services to children with blindness and multiple disabilities. Our purpose is to prepare our students for the world and the world for our students. Specially trained teachers are provided to ensure children are given the best opportunities to learn..

OUR CONCEPT

At least 1 million children in India with multiple disabilities and visual impairment (MDVI) - the majority unidentified and isolated at home. These children deserve the chance to be included at school, and to discover and explore their potential.

National Association for the Blind Chandigarh branch is committed to giving these special children the chance to learn and thrive through our Multi- Disability program.

IMPACT OF OUR ACTIVITIES

<p>When children with MDVI are not supported</p> <p>....they remains isolated, and many never leave their home. Without access to resources and support, families lack the ability to help their children, and many believe their children are incapable of learning.</p>	<p>When children with MDVI are identified and supported</p> <p>....their lives and their families lives change. The impact is different for each child, but inclusion and education gives all children with MDVI the chance to reach their full potential. Inclusion can mean greater visibility, and even acceptance, in the community.</p>
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Through this Multi Disability visually impaired (MDVI) Program NAB had been catering to 15 MDVI students who were being taught through 3 special education teachers at their homes. We provide free Braille books and all aids and appliances required for their education.

