

The National Association For The Blind, Karnataka

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THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND



Quarterly Newsletter
January to March, 2024

Message From The President

On behalf of the Governing Council of National Association for the Blind- Karnataka, I would like to place before you the Quarterly Newsletter for the term "January 2024 to March 2024".

This Quarter at NABK...

1. NABK under MOU with **Skill Council for Persons with Disability (SCPwD)** as Authorized Training Partner has delivered **SCPwD Certified Training Programs**. Trainees have graduated on 31st March 2024.
 - First Batch of Training under **Tourism and Hospitality Sector** for **SHI-Speech & Hearing Impaired Trainees as "Food & Beverage" Service Assistant for 14 students**.
** 13 trainees have got place in Royal Orchid (Bangalore and Mysore locations)
 - 5th Batch of Training under **Telecom Sector** for **Visually Impaired Trainees as "Customer Care Executive" for 7 students**
2. 324th Batch of **Orientation & Mobility Training** Program, 11 trainees graduated on 2nd March 2024.
3. 11th Batch of **Training of the Trainers Program (TOT)**, 3 candidates (2 from Jyoti Seva, Home for the Blind and 1 from Kinder Trust) have graduated on 6th January 2024.
4. CBR Team identified and enrolled 36 trainees for RUDSETI - Animal Husbandry Training Program at Hassan conducted by Canara Bank , 24 people got certified (includes 3 Locomotive Disability)
5. We are continuously engaging with several employers for placement opportunities for our trainees. Also working to simulate an employer specific job role environment at NABK so as to make our trainees job ready on their first day at the workplace.

Placement opportunities in "Assembly & Packing" division

→ **Featherlite, Rajanukunte** - 4 of our on-boarded trainees have successfully completed 1 year and the company has **on-boarded 3 more** of our trainees in March 2024

** **Featherlite Products Private Limited Unit 3** is the joint-winner of the **Rotary DEI Awards 2024 Category – DEI Catalyst Award for Social Impact (organization) in Businesses & Institutions**.

→ **Virya Mobility(Maini Group)** – One of our trainee on-boarded have successfully completed 1 year in Testing and Assembly Department

Placement opportunities in "Telecom Sector as Customer Care Executive"

→ On completion of 45 Days Internship Program **ABB India** has **onboarded one trainee** as "Customer Support Executive" while one of our trainee is expected to complete the internship program and to be onboarded in April 2024.

Continued.....



Message From The President

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6. *STEPathon X - 40-day Online English Course for Beginners were conducted for the Trainers. Focus was on everyday communication skills and speaking with accuracy.*
7. **Vision Empower Trust** conducted a 2 day workshop –”**Pragya**” for teachers (Visually Impaired & low vision) from special schools from Karnataka and Kerala.
8. NABK continues to support **TARVI**, A **T**rainig **A**nd **R**esource center for **V**isually **I**mpaired supported by MICROLAND Foundation (run by Kinder Trust),as Technical Consultant” for their training programs.

We had :

- 2nd batch of trainers (trained by NABK) shortlisting the VI trainees, conducting the Basic Usage of Computer course of which 6 trainees graduated in Mar 2024 from TARVI Center
- 3rd Batch of 4 trainees have enrolled and started their training in the month of Mar 2024. 4 Trainees are working in various Chennai & Kerala based firms.

9. We had Mr. G.Jeevan Raosahib, enrolling for Life Membership,

10. We have received CSR donation of Rs.1 Crore plus for the first time

Thank you all – Thanking every single beneficiaries, Staff, Volunteers, Donors and Life Members for all your efforts.

We also thank the Government of Karnataka The Skill Council For Persons With Disability, Commissionerate, Karnataka Rural Development & Panchayat Raj

Disabilities & CII Karnataka for their continued support

Thank you.

Mr. Alok Kshirsagar

Impact of NAB Karnataka's Programs

Community Based Rehabilitation Program in Rural Karnataka

Q3	New identified taluks were Hospet and Raichur and on-boarded new field staffs							
	Taluks	No. of Panchayats	No of Villages	VI Trainees	Rural mobility training	Urban mobility training	Self employed	Placement
	2	48	227	85	55	4	4	1
5	Existing and Surveyed Taluks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reaching out to beneficiaries in need of support to avail Government Schemes Conducting Rural Mobility Training Programs Educating on the various job oriented training programs conducted by NABK Formation of two Self Help Groups, Reaching out to local companies for placement opportunities 						

Glimpse of our Self Help Groups' Support Toward Self Employment

SHGs – Name	Total Members	Members availed loan	Mode of Loan	Savings	Loan Amount	Repaid	Purpose
Shree Manjunatha Swamy Vikalachethanara	17	12	Savings scheme	96000	90000	45000	Animal Husbandry - 5 Sheep Rearing -3 Petty Shop - 3 Education – 1
		10	Hassan Development Cooperative Bank	0	100000	100000	
Sri Lakshmidevi Vikalachethanara, Hassan	11	4	Saving scheme	36000	25000	15000	Animal Husbandry -1 Sheep Rearing -1 Petty Shop - 3 Education -1
		5	Hassan Development Cooperative Bank		80000	80000	
Two Groups are formed							
Sri Lakshmikantha Disabled Self Help Group, Nanjangudu	12	0	NIL	3000	0	0	Not availed loan as of date
Lakshmi Janardhana Disabled Self Help Group, Hassan	10	0	Kavery Gramina bank, Bylahalli	7500	0	0	Not availed loan as of date

Courses & Job –Oriented Programs

- Foundation Course** - Includes Rehabilitation, Orientation & Mobility, Life Skills, Vocational Training & Placement / Self Employment.
- Capacity Building** - NAB-K is the only institution to conduct "Train-the-Trainer" program. It's a 6 months residential course.
- Job Oriented Training Programs - Blue Collar & White Collar :**

Impact of Courses and Job Oriented Programs

Particulars	Mobility Courses	No of students trained
NABK Bangalore Office	Urban Training 45 days	11
Nanjangudu	5 days Training	30
Channarayapattana	5 days Training	20
Hospet	5 days Training	19
Raichur	5 days Training	39
Total		119

Job Oriented Training Programs	No of students trained
Train the Trainer Program 6 months	3
White Collar - Basic computer training (4 months)	7
Call Centre Training (3 months)	6
ITCB- Mysore 12 months course	7
Food & Beverage Assistant Training for (Speech & Hearing Impaired) were trained by Royal Orchid	14
Blue collar training @ Featherlite	3
RUDSETI Program for Animal Husbandry training by Canara Bank	36
ABB Help desk training @ NABK	1
Kinder Trust , Coonor (Tarvi Centre)	4

NABK Placements

We have successfully enabled placement for our trainees, NABK Team :-

- Continuously engages with several potential employers,
- Explores the possibilities for employment/internship program,
- Identify specific job roles suitable for visually impaired,
- Jointly create job specific training programs to impart skills required for the identified job role.
- Plans are on to simulate employer specific job role environment in NABK so as to make our trainees **Job ready** on their first day at workplace.
- NAB Team reaches out to All Corporates, Industrial Associations. Dealers Association etc.,

Glimpse of our placement details are shared below:

Urban Placement

Company*	Profile	Nature of job	Positions	Blue Collar	White Collar
Featherlite **	Furniture Manufacturing Company	Assembly & Packing	10	7	
ABB India	Technology Leader in electrification and automation Solutions	Customer Support & Admin Asst.	2		1
Zamindar Microsurgical Eye Centre	Eye care Centre	Customer Support & Admin Asst.	1		1 *
Multify Lifestyle Pvt Ltd., Blore	Retail Apparel and Fashion	Packing & Shipping	2	1*	1 *
Royal Orchid	Experience the essence of Indian hospitality	Food & Beverage Assistant	13		
Kalyani Old Age	Old Age Home	Care taker	1	1	
Sigma Call Centre, Chennai	Call Centre	Tele-caller,	1		1
JFA Furniture Company	Retail	Sales Executive	1		1
N Vision Company, Erankulam	Retail	Tele-caller,	1		1

• Positions are open and yet to be filled

** Featherlite Products Private Limited Unit 3 is the joint-winner of the Rotary DEI Awards 2024 Category – DEI Catalyst Award for Social impact (organization) in Businesses & Institutions

Rural Placement

Company	Job Profile	Location	Positions	Blue Collar
Spark Minda	TVS Switch kit assembly	Nanjangud	9	9
Pavan Hotel	Helper	Hospet	1	1
ITC food packing unit	Assembly & Packing	Immavu	1	1

Self Employment

Self Employment	Profile	Location	Position
Selco Company	Roti Making Unit	Raichur	2
Bangle Shop	Bangle Shop	Hospet	1
Petty Shop	Petty Shop	Hospet	1

NABK Community Based Rehabilitation Activities

Rural Mobility training



Channarayapattana



Hospet ,



5 days Training at Nanjangud



5 day @ Raichur, Arshanagi Village

Cane distribution



@ Hospet by City Commissioner Officer



At Gadiganur Gram Panchayat by Mr. Chudki Chandrappa, Panchayat President



Gadhar Village, Raichur Taluk,



Manik Prabhu Blind School, Raichur

Vocational Training

NABK(CBR Team) identified and enrolled 36 trainees for RUDSETI Animal Husbandry Program at Hassan conducted by Canara Bank , 24 people got certified (includes 3 Locomotive Disability)



Workshop at NABK

1. **CBM India Trust** - works with people with disabilities, their representative organisations, community-based organisations, institutions with local, state & central Government. NABK staff conducted one day Workshop on 'Orientation and Mobility.



One day Workshop on 'Orientation and Mobility' for the 3rd Batch of RCI-CBID trainees @ CBM India Office, Chamarajanagar on 22 Feb 2024,



CBID Trainees visited NABK, NABK staff conducted Mobility Training Program to get a practical experience of O&M sessions. They were introduced to Assistive technology/ devices used by Visually Impaired, 34 staff attended the program on 12th Mar 2024



Vision Empowerment Trust conducted a two day workshop -"PRAGYA" for Teachers from Special Schools in March 2024 at NABK Campus. We had 34 teachers from Kerala who teaches science and maths to visually impaired students attending the workshop

Continued.....

NABK Outreach Programs conducted at NABK Bangalore campus



Tyson India Team participated in a sensitization program ,interacted with our students and distributed folding cane , T-shirts on 24th January at NABK

New Horizon Students visited NABK on 31st Jan, 100 students *Participated in a sensitization program and had a walk through of our campus*



LDRA team visited NABK had lunch with our students and participated in the Sensitization Program on 31st Mar 2024



Outreach day was organized at NABK & 8 participated in the Sensitization Program on 20th Jan 2024

Continued.....



New Year Celebrations and Health Camp @NABK

Mr. Kuldeep Kumar R Jain, IPS (Traffic East) Bangalore City & Mr. Venkatachalapathy, Inspector Traffic JBN celebrated New Year 2024 in NABK.

Mr. Ramachandra, ACP, Bangalore City celebrated New Year 2024 at NABK



Vydehi Women & Child foundation , Kalyannagar in Partnership with Cure Hospital conducted a health camp for our trainees and staff at NABK



NABK with Skill Council for Persons with Disability (SCPwD) as Authorized Training Partner has delivered the 1st Batch of Training under Tourism and Hospitality Sector for SHI-Speech and Hearing Impaired & training under the supervision of Royal Orchid Hotel



Continued.....



NABK -Placement



New Trainees -Eranna, Shekar and Dayanand. at Featherlite , Rajankunte



4 trainees attended the interview at Zamindar Eye Centre, Kalyanagar



Swamy Gowda as security staff at SDM College Hassan



Hitesh is joined as supporting staff in Janapriya Hospital, Hassan



Sanjay is working as Customer support for ABB India, Vande Bharat Help Desk, Kavya is another trainees getting trained



TVS Switch kit Assembly Job at Spark Minda Nanjangudu taluk Kadkola industrial area, Mysore



Roti Making unit were provided to them as part of Self employment. 70% funded by Selco company, 25% Gram Panchayat and 5 % Self (VI Trainee)



Mousim Akram, Hospet Taluk in his petty shop support by NABK

NABK Bangalore Activities



Louis Braille Day was celebrated at NABK on 4th Jan 2024



75th Republic Day was celebrated, Mrs & Mr. Moloy Banerjee was the Chief Guest and other GC members attend the function



Graduation Ceremony of 323rd batch – Orientation & Mobility Training & 11th batch of Train the Trainer program



Graduation Ceremony of 324th Batch – Orientation & Mobility Training

Assistive Devices



Headband



Processor with cover

AI aided **HEADBAND** smart reader, can read out the contents to the user through a Headphone in **ENGLISH & FIVE OTHER INDIAN LANGUAGES without internet**

It features are

- Navigation
- Currency Reader
- Face recognition
- Device temperature
- Quick reading
- Date and time
- Object detection



Mr. TimVedanayagam, Director of **Hear Sight Audio Vision** & team visited NABK on 29th Feb, they demonstrated a wearable artificial intelligence device developed for the visually Impaired .



Phoenix Medical Systems Pvt Ltd., demonstrated Smart Cane to NABK Staff

Smart Canes attach to the top fold of a standard white cane. They use ultrasonic ranging to identify obstacles ahead. Smart Canes communicate the distance to the obstacle using unique vibratory patterns. They enhance the capability of the cane to detect objects between knee height and head height. This technology helps users avoid collisions with objects such as signboards, tree branches, open windows, and the undersides[‘edges’?] of parked vehicles.



Innovation Hub Technologies introduced their latest version U reader device for the Visually Impaired

URead is a robust, stand-alone Book Reader for the visually impaired. It provides the user with speech experience using naturally sounding voices. URead supports Indian languages. It has easy-to-use tactile keypad to control all operations including media control.

NABK Mysore – ITCB Center Activities



Mr. Asish, SCPwD visited Mysore to interview SHI students for - Food & Beverage Service Assistant Training Program



Louis Braille Day was celebrated on 6th January 2024



Republic Day was Celebrated Mrs & Mr . Parabaraman & GC Members attended the celebration



Mr. Suresh, Deputy Director of Women and Child Development, Mysore & Mr. Mohan Kumar Incharge DDWO, Mysore visited ITCB for inspection on 28th Feb 2024



Hellen Keller Govt Teacher Training Centre Coordinator and Students visited on 21st Feb 2024



students practice at IITCB Mysore

NABK along with Kinder Trust :-
NABK continues to support TARVI- Training And Resource center for Visually Impaired supported by MICROLAND Foundation (run by Kinder Trust) as “**Technical Consultant**” for their Computer training programs,



Inauguration of Tarvi Centre @ Coonor



Interview of trainees



Students undergoing their practical class



1st Batch student @ NABK for their assessments



1st Batch students graduation



Batch of students @ coonor

Calender Events- January to March 2024		
Month	Date	Activities
April	01-Apr	1st Batch Graduation of Food & Beverages Assistant Program
	06-Apr	Graduation Day of 52nd Basic Computer Training Program & 5th Call Centre Training Program
	15-Apr	New Batch Orientation- 53rd Basic Computer & Call Centre Training Program
	20-Apr	Outreach Day
May	04-May	Graduation Day of 325th Batch of Orientation & Mobility
	06-May	New Batch - 326th Batch Orientation & Mobility
	18-May	Outreach Day
June	15-Jun	Outreach Day
	22-Jun	Graduation Day of 326th Batch Orientation & Mobility
	24-Jun	New Batch Orientation - 327th Batch

Goals For The Year – 2024-25

- **NABK under MOU with SCPwD** :- 150 students to be trained and placed
 → 50 Blue collar Assembly Job
 → 50 Call Center Training
 → 50 SHI Training for Food & Beverage Assistant,
 → 20 Train the Trainer Program
- **Outreach Program with**
 → Rotary Club – for CBR team
 → CII Young Team
 → FKCCI Team
 → ASDC (Automotive Skill Development Council)

Goals For The 1st Quarter– 2024-25

- Start 2nd Batch of **Food & Beverage Industries for hearing impaired and 6th Batch of Call Center Training for Visually impaired** as per SCPwD guidelines
- Conduct O&M , Basic Computer Training, Call Center Executive & Train the Trainer Program for new batch of students
- Conduct Basic English Speaking Class – Prishni Innovations Pvt Ltd.,
- Introducing a new curriculum for Train the Trainer Program which is proposed for 2 years (Cover O&M, DLP, CCE, SHI, CBR), to start from June 2024.
- Conduct Rural Mobility Training Program at Hospet, Raichur and formation of Self Help Groups. Educate them on different opportunities & placement options.
- Finalization of Project proposal with Government of Karnataka - Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department (RDPR) for proposed Train the Trainer Program on Usage of Assistive Devices w.r.t project – **“Enable all Rural Libraries accessible to users with Visual Disabilities”**.
- ITCB, Mysore will conduct final exam for the 34th batch& interview for the next batch of students.
- Setting up of Experience Zone for Assistive Devices at NABK Campus.
- Corporate Outreach & Placement Programs – Pursue the existing job opportunities with Zamindar Surgical Clinic, Suprajit Engg, Dakshin Honda.

Corporate Outreach

It has been our constant endeavor to ensure that we make the visually impaired in Karnataka lead a life of dignity through socio-economic independence. We train them on Mobility and employability skills, which includes white collar, blue collar or self-employment skills.

We explore possibility of hiring visually impaired in blue collar or white collar jobs with potential employers.

In this direction, we have taken the following steps:

ABB Group have provided placement opportunities to 1 students.

NABK adopts a new model of approach - TRAIN & HIRE. Under this new model, we are working with employers on the following lines:

- ✓ Employer training personnel to initially train our trainers on job role skills.
- ✓ Shortlisting of willing & eligible trainees / ex trainees by NABK & employer.
- ✓ Shortlisted trainees are employed as Interns/Apprentices on a regular stipend to cover their costs of accommodation and food at NABK along with some nominal amount to pay for their personal expenditure.
- ✓ Training to be provided by our trainers under the supervision of employer trainer.
- ✓ Internship objective would be to teach interns the job skills required – but also get them up to speed on the rigor of an 8 hour shift along with the safety, quality and performance expectations.
- ✓ Replica of specific job role's work environment set up at our Bengaluru campus by employers.
- ✓ Identification of safe accommodation near factory vicinity, where the interns could stay after initial training at NABK. One of our trainers to handhold them during this period, till they gain required confidence.
- ✓ Post training and performance assessment, those selected will be taken on payrolls of the employer. Those not shortlisted, will receive a certificate jointly issued by NABK + Employer to enable them to seek jobs in related industry.

On similar lines, we are continuously engaging with several other employers regarding placement opportunities for our vision & hearing impaired trainees.

Acknowledgements

We express our sincere thanks to:

- The Government of Karnataka and The Directorate of Disabled Welfare for their support.
- Members of Taluk Panchayats of Mysuru, Arsikere, Hassan, Tumkuru, Sira, Nanjangudu and Channarayapatna for encouraging us, appreciating our activities at taluk centers.
- NSDC-SCPwD for all the support being extended to connect with potential corporate employers and Government projects for welfare of vision impaired.
- Partner Organizations, all Employers Well-wishers and Volunteers for their active participation and support for the activities conducted in NABK.

Thank every single one of our Trainees, Staff, Volunteers and Life Members for all your efforts over the past year.

We thank our Donors for their contributions in Kind / Cash. Details are as follows:

Donations in kind by:

Smart Tv was donated to NABK by Mr. S.E. Sukumaran

Koogu Samsthe donated 3 different sizes Stainless Steel Hot Boxes and 9 Ceiling fans

January 2024 to March 2024

Name of Donor	Donated Amount	Name of Donor	Donated Amount
Next Wealth Entrepreneurs Pvt. Ltd.,	15,00,000.00	Mrs Meenal Eknath Kshirsagar,	10,00,000.00
XACTLY Technologies India Pvt., Ltd.,	11,16,650.00	New Horizon Gurukul	2,23,820.00
VXCEED Software Solutions Pvt. Ltd.,	8,00,000.00	Mr Vinod P Deshmukh	1,00,113.00
Affordable Business Solutions Pvt. Ltd.,	7,50,000.00	Mr Subramaniam Somasundaram,	1,00,100.00
V S Tiruvengadaswamy Mudaliar Memorial Trust,	7,00,000.00	Mr N. Balasubramanian,	1,00,000.00
Wurth Electronics Service India (P) Ltd.	5,00,000.00	Mr Sreekrishnan Venkateswaran,	1,00,000.00
Sansera Foundation,	5,00,000.00	Mr Parag Dhol,	1,00,000.00
Sansadhan vikas Ltd,	2,50,000.00	Mr Jayaramaiah Munnagappa	50,000.00
UEI Electronics Pvt. Ltd.	2,35,532.00	Mr Sudhindranath Pai Kasturi,	50,000.00
SCPwD	2,25,575.00	Mr N.Sudhakar,	50,000.00
rPROCESS outsourcing services Pvt Ltd.,	2,00,000.00	Ms Ritika Oswal,	50,000.00
Valugen Pharma Private Limited,	2,00,000.00	Mr Sudarshan Kumar,	25,400.00
Telos Investments & Technologies	1,50,000.00	Mr Venugopal Koka,	50,000.00
SAN Rolling Stock Services Ltd.,	1,00,000.00	Mr Srenivasan Ravindran,	25,000.00
Prime Assetsource Pvt., Ltd.,	83,000.00	Mr Poonacha C P,	25,000.00
RINAC India Ltd.,	50,000.00	Mr B M Ravi,	25,000.00
Vision Empowerment	40,240.00	Mr.Vivek Nagarkatti	25,000.00
Hydroline Products Pvt. Ltd.	50,000.00	Ms Meera Ravi	25,000.00
Small Contributions more than 10,000/- and less than 25,000/-		52 Donors	4,51,002.00
Small Contributions less than 10,000/-		105 Donors	4,35,195.00
Total -Corporate	74,50,997.00	Total -Individuals	30,10,630.00
Total -Corporate + Individual			1,04,61,627.00

Engage With Us

Donors & Sponsors:

You could donate to NABK as an individual or as an Organization/Corporate. Your donations could go towards our various Training/Rehabilitation programs, Rural community development initiatives OR other new projects & activities that we plan for the benefit of the visually challenged.

To know more and make a donation: <https://nabkarnataka.org/donate/>

A) Sponsor A Taluk Centre (For a year)			
Sponsor A Taluk Centre annually for 30 to 50 beneficiaries			Rs. 10,00,000
B) Foundation Course/ Mobility Training and Orientation program			
Sponsor the Foundation Course, batch of 10-12 beneficiaries for 6 months	Rs. 5,00,000	Sponsor a trainee for Foundation course + Vocational training + Placement/ Self Employment	Rs. 50,000
C) Train-The-Trainer Program			
Sponsor the Train-the-Trainer program, batch of 6-8 trainers for 6 months	Rs. 12,00,000	Sponsor a trainer for the course	Rs. 2,00,000
D) White Collar Job oriented Program			
Sponsor the Digital Literacy Program, batch of 8-10 beneficiaries for 4 months	Rs. 10,00,000	Sponsor a trainee for the course	Rs. 1,00,000
E) Blue Collar Job Oriented Program			
Sponsor the Industrial & Technical Training program, batch of 8-10 beneficiaries for 6 months	Rs. 7,50,000	Sponsor a trainee for 6 months	Rs. 75,000
F) Food expenses in our Hostel per day			
Sponsors food expenses for our hostel (per day)			Rs. 25,000

Volunteering:

Volunteer with us as an Organization / Corporate by encouraging your staff members to volunteer with us or get involved as an individual volunteer.

To know more and register for volunteering activities at NABK, please find the link below: <https://nabkarnataka.org/register/>

Donations to NAB are exempted under U/S 80G of IT Act. We accept cheque and direct online payment to bank by NEFT / RTGS or UPI. Our Bank details are:

**Name of the Account: The National Association for the Blind, Karnataka Bank:
Bank of Baroda, Indiranagar Branch,
Account : SB account # 89240100010208,
IFSC Code: BARB0VJINBA**

Or, scan the QR code to directly make your contributions.



Please send us an email to outreach@nabkarnataka.org with the NEFT transfer reference and contact details to enable us to send you an official receipt of your payment.

Together, we can make a difference!