

The National Association For The Blind, Karnataka

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THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

Quarterly Newsletter
July to September, 2023

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 “July 2023 to September 2023”.

This Quarter at NABK...

1. NABK has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) as Authorized Training Partner with **Skill Council for Persons with Disability (SCPwD)** also formalizing to get our NABK Training Center affiliated by SCPwD to conduct various training programs for all disabilities at NABK premises.
2. Discussion on a 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”**, NABK will:
 - Orient, Train and support identified Govt Staff (VI) on objectives of making Rural Libraries accessible (Beacon), etiquettes for interacting with Disabled.
 - Implement and promote usage of assistive devices in all Rural libraries
3. NABK has entered into an MOU with Kinder Trust Coonoor as Technical Consultant” for their training center – “TARVI (run by Kinder Trust, supported by Microland) for :
 - Setting up a Computer Training Centre, Design the course curriculum, Train the Trainer, shortlist and train the VI trainees, guide them in assessments, support them on placement upon graduation of the course.
 - First batch of trainers (trained by NABK) shortlisted the VI trainees, conducted the course of which 4 trainees have graduated in September 2023 from TARVI Center
 - Second Batch of 6 trainees has been oriented in October 2023.
4. 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.
 - Urban Employment - Companies like New India Electricals Ltd., VST Group, Arya Legal, Vydehi Women and Child Development-Ngo, ABB have employed our trainees.
 - Local Employment – Local Agencies has provided employment as support staffs in Hospitals, Hotels in Rural areas.
5. NABK’s website revamp includes new features such accessibility devices for the visually impaired, QR code for easier payment transactions, an informative blog that captures new developments/ stories at NABK and a new and improved look that can be checked out at - <https://nabkarnataka.org/>

Thank you.
Mr. Alok Kshirsagar

Impact of NAB Karnataka's Programs

Community Based Rehabilitation Program in Rural Karnataka

Term	Taluks	No. of Panchayats	No of Villages	VI Trainees	Rural mobility training	Urban mobility training	Self employed	Placement
2022-2023	5	331	2453	3352	201	102	7	9
Q1	2	Mysore urban		110	16			3
	•Supported trainees to avail Governmental facilities (UDID Cards, Travel pass, Pension, Laptops for students)							
	•Enrolled 20 trainees under Rudseti Training Program - initiative by Canara Bank for self employment.							
	•Approached Gram Panchayats in Hassan & Arsikere to obtain Panchayat Grants for Disability Group							
SHGs – Self Help Groups were formed in Arsikere to promote self-employment.								
Q2	2	86	707	998	-	4	Nil	5
	Under expansion plan & widening NABK's areas of impact in new talukas, onboarded new trainees : •Nanjangudu - Apoorva, Rashmita.S							
	•Raichur – Sree Devi, Sunil Despande; •Hospet – Shadakshari. T, Punya Murthy Rathod							

Courses & Job –Oriented Programs

a) **Foundation Course** - Includes Rehabilitation, Orientation & Mobility, Life Skills, Vocational Training & Placement / Self Employment.

- Program is a 6-week course covering: Rules of walking in enclosed & public space using a cane, negotiating steps & escalators, commuting using public transport systems, learning techniques to map & memorize routes, layouts in rural and urban areas.

Impact of Orientation & Mobility Courses

Particulars	Mobility Courses	No of students trained
NABK Bangalore office	Urban mobility training for 45 days	22
Mitra Jyothi, Bangalore	1 day training	55
Karnataka Welfare Association for the Blind	2 days training	28
	Total	105

Glimpse of our Self Help Groups' Support Toward Self Employment

SHGs - Name	Total Members	Members Receiving Loan	Loan Amount	Repaid	Pending	Purpose
Hassan Development Cooperative Bank	17	10	1,12,000/-	54,000/-	58,000/-	Animal Husbandry, Sheep Rearing, Businesses (Petty Shop, Coffee Powder, Fruits, Vegetables), Education
Shree Manjunatha Swamy Vikalachethanara	17	7	1,02,000/-	58,000/-	44,000/-	Animal Husbandry, Sheep Rearing, Petty Shop
	Total Members	Loan taken Member	Loan Amount	Repaid	Outstanding	Purpose
Hassan Development Cooperative Bank	11	8	92,800/-	23,200/-	69,600	Sheep Rearing, Education, Animal Husbandry, Cow Fodder
Sri Lakshmidevi Vikalachethanara	11	4	22,000/-	16,500/-	5,500/-	Animal Husbandry, Sheep Rearing, Petty Shop

b) **Capacity Building** - NAB-K is the only institution to conduct "Train-the-Trainer" program. It's a 6 months residential course. The trained Trainers get absorbed by Institutions as Trainers to train the Visually Impaired.

c) **Job Oriented Training Programs - Blue Collar & White Collar :**

Job Oriented Training Programs	No of students trained
Train the Trainer Program 6 months	3
White Collar - Basic computer training (duration - 4 months)	13
ITCB- Mysore 12 months course	7
Total	23

NABK Placements

We have successfully enabled placement at the following employers, NABK trainers work with potential employers, identify specific job role suitable for visually impaired, jointly create specifically designed training programs to impart skills required for the job role.

We are continuously engaging with several employers for placement opportunities for our trainees. Also, plans are on to simulate employer specific job role environment at NABK so as to make our trainees **Job ready** on their first day at workplace.

Urban Placement

Company	Profile	Nature of job	Positions	Blue Collar	White Collar
VST Group	Manufacturer of multipurposes power tillers	Assembly & Packing	3	3	
New India Electricals Ltd.,	Design, Manufacture & Export End-to-End Electrical & Power Solutions	Telecaller (supporting sales team)	2		1
Vydehi Women & Child Foundation, Bangalore	NGO	Telecaller & Admin Asst	1		1
Arya Legal	Legal Consultant	Telecaller & Admin Asst	1		1
ABB Group	Technology leader in electrification and automation solutions	Customer support Exec	2		2

Rural Placement

Rural Employment	Location	Placed
SDM Ayurveda Hospital - as Support staff	Hassan	3
Janapriya Hospital, - as Ward Boy	Hassan	1
Rajeev Hospital - as Ward Boy	Hassan	1

NABK Community Based Rehabilitation Activities & New Taluk Centre



New CBR Team was oriented and trained on 29th & 30th September at NABK, followed by a Sensitization Program.



Mrs. Sreedevi & Mr. Sunil Deshpande, new CBR Staff interacts with Panchayat Village Resource Workers in Raichur.



Mr. Shadakshari & Mr. Punya Murthy new CBR Staff interacts with Panchayat Village Resource Workers in Hospet.



Mr. Manje Gowda, from Tirupathihalli (Arsikere), was guided by our CBR Team to avail the bus pass facilities.



Ms. Chethana, from Bailahalli receiving a folding cane through NABK issued by the District Disabled Officer (Hassan Taluk).



Mr. Annappa, from Kalgundi (Arsikere), applying for a housing scheme under the guidance of NABK's CBR team.

NABK Outreach Programs conducted at NABK Bangalore campus



Nayan Foundation for Performing Arts, Mumbai conducted two-day theatre workshop for our trainees on 22nd and 23rd September. Students put up stellar skits highlighting social issues like Dowry & Organ donation.

Mr.Prashant & Mr.Pramod, PDO's from Govt of Karnataka, RDPR department visited NABK facility, experiencing the Assistive Devices -**Smart Vision**,



Rotary Bangalore Brigades, Indiranagar hosted their first meeting with their newly elected members 2023-24, participated in the Sensitization Program on 1st July.

CII hosted their CSR Panel meeting in NABK, released their CII Karnataka CSR Compendium 2023. Ms. Priyanka Mary Francis, IAS, Commissioner – Karnataka Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Dept, Govt of Karnataka was the esteemed Chief Guest for the book release.

Continued.....



Sensitization Program at VST Warehouse for VST Co-workers



Students of St. Philomena's English School, Vidyaranyapura, visited NABK and participated in the Sensitization Program.

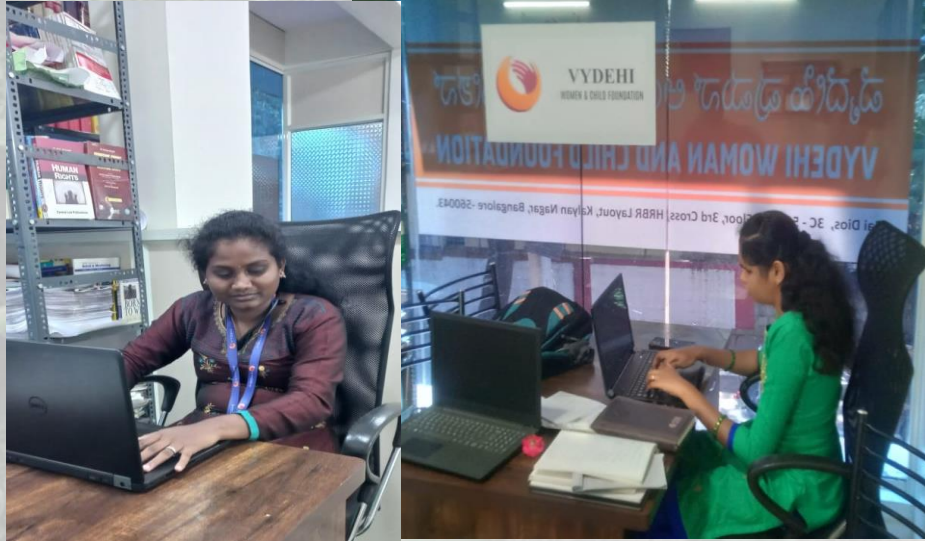


Sensitization Program at New India Electricals, co-workers partaking in sensitization Program.



Teachers Day Celebration at NABK, Students dedicated performances and speeches to the NABK staff and teachers

NABK Job Placement of Trainees



Ms.Kalpana N is been placed with Arya Legal as Telecaller and Admin Assistant. Ms.Mamta have been placed as Tele-callers at VYDEHI Women & Child Foundation,.



Ms.Sara L has been placed at New India Electricals Ltd.,as a Tele-caller



Mr.Praveen, Mr.Yogesh Naik and Mr.Joy Francis was placed as support staff in SDM Ayurvedic Hospital, Hassan.



Mr.Eranna, Mr.Nanja Gowda and Mr.Bhanu Prakash have been placed in Assembly and Packing Division at VST Tillers Tractors Ltd,. Bangalore.



Mr.Karthik has been employed at Janapriya Hospital, Hassan as Ward Boy.



Mr.Somashekar is placed as Ward Boy at Rajeev Hospital, Hassan

NABK Bangalore Activities



Meeting with Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department at NABK to discuss on upcoming project - Usage of Assistive Devices in Rural Libraries.



Smt. Lathakumari IAS (DWDSC) & Mr Vivek Nagarkatti & Mrs.Nalini present as chief guests for Graduation Ceremony of 320th Batch –Orientation & Mobility Training & 50th batch of Digital Literacy Program .



46th Year Annual General Meeting



Mr. Raju Swamy, Founder, and Advisor to Family Business, at PROMAG Consultancy Services was Chief Guest for 77th Year Independence Day Celebration at NABK.



Mr. Venugopal Koka (former MD of General Electric) & Mrs. Sunitha were Chief Guests for 321st batch Orientation and Mobility Training.

NABK Mysore – ITCB Center Activities



Mrs. Jyothi K.V, District Disabled Welfare Officer, Mysuru visited for Campus Inspection.



Selection Committee for 34th ITI batch training, Interviews were conducted by GC members & NABK staff



Trainees - Hearing-Impaired students practicing threading the pipes.



Students getting trained to make ropes, dye the ropes and make mats.



Independence Day Celebration at NAB (Mysuru).



Retirement of **Mr.Narasimharaju**, our Instructor, served & contributed to Mysore ITCB for 33 years in training & placement of trainees. ***Wishing him a Happy and Healthy Retired Life***

NABK Team's visit to Industrial Employers at Mysore.

Perfect Industrial, Automat Unit, Mysore



Mr. Bhanu Prakash, Managing Partner - Perfect Industries (Precision machined components), Mysore. Shivanna is been working at Perfect Industries since 2010 (13yrs)

PAMS Engineering, Mysore



Mr. C K Mohan Rao, Managing Partner- Meeting NABK staff at PAMS Engineering, Mysore.

Mr. Ranga Swamy, employee at PAMS, working as a Drill Operator since 2004 (18yrs)

Kiran , Baskar & Suresh working as CNC Operators since 2010 (13yrs)

Calender Events - October To December 2023		
Month	Date	Activities
October	13-Oct	Pollinate group to conduct sessions on self employment opportunities for our trainees
	15-Oct	World White Long Cane Day
	21-Oct	Out reach Day(Tentative)
	06-Nov	Rural Mobility Training Program at Sharavanabelagola
November	10-Nov	Graduation Day of 322st batch for Orientation & Mobility Training Program
	15-Nov	New Batch Orientation - 323rd batch of MTC
	18-Nov	Outreach Day
	25-Nov	Curious Minds" an inclusive STEM exhibition is hosted in NABK
	26-Nov	
December	02-Dec	Graduation Day of 51st Batch Computer Training Program
	03-Dec	World Disability Day
	04-Dec	New Batch Orientation - 52nd Batch of Basic Computer Training Program
	08-Dec	Field Visit - Nanjangud/Chanrayapatna
	16-Dec	Outreach Day

Goals For This Quarter

- 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”**.
- Start New batch of **Call Center Training** as per SCPwD guidelines
- Conduct Orientation and Mobility and Basic Computer Training for new batch of students
- Conduct Employability Training Programs - Sarathee
- Conduct Rural Mobility Training Program at Mysore and formation of Self Help Groups. Educate them on different opportunities & placement options.
- Reach out and promote volunteers interested to associate with NABK on soft skills training program.
- NABK in partnership with Vivida Trust hosting an 2 day workshops for 100+ students.
- Setting up of Experience Zone for Accessible Devices at NABK Campus.
- To Induct, Orient , Train and provide placement support for 2nd Batch of Trainees at TARVI - Training and Resources Centre, Coonor
- Corporate Outreach & Placement Programs – Pursue the existing job opportunities with ABB, Suprajit Engg, Dakshin Honda.
- Reach out and connecting to Industrial Associations to create more employment opportunities.

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:

New India Electricals, VST Groups, Arya Legal, VYDEHI Women & Child Foundation and ABB Group have provided placement opportunities to 8 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 and 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.
- 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. They are as follows:

Bengaluru Center - Donations in cash:

Donations to General Fund by:

- ✓ Mrs.Latha R Rao Rs. 100,000/-.
- ✓ Mr. Venugopal Koka Rs 50,000/-
- ✓ Rotary Club Rs 50,000/-
- ✓ Ms Prudence Chittappa Rs. 45,000/-.
- ✓ M/s.Pollinate Group Rs 30,000/-
- ✓ Mr. Narasimharaju Rs 30,000/-

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/>

Donation/ Sponsorship options

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) Digital Literacy Program/Call Centre			
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) Industrial And Technical Training			
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) Discovering Hands			
Discovering Hands (Training visually impaired women for employment in hospitals to detect breast cancer in patients) batch of 8-10 beneficiaries for 1 year	Rs. 15,00,000 Rs. 1,50,000	Sponsor a trainee for 1 year	
G) Food expenses in our hostel per day			
Sponsors food expenses for our hostel (per day)			Rs. 15,000

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.