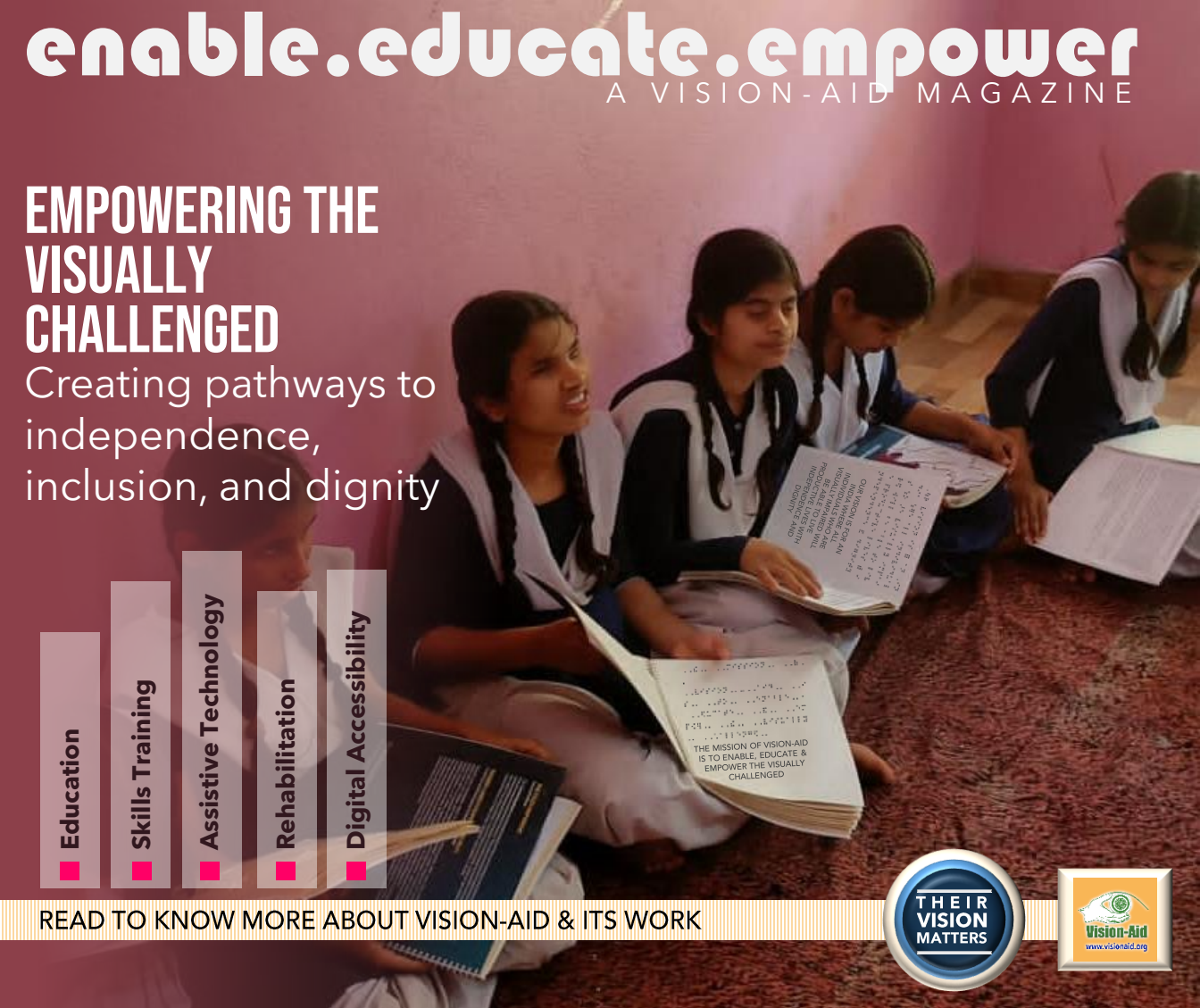
# enable.educate.empower

A VISION-AID MAGAZINE



# EMPOWERING THE VISUALLY CHALLENGED

Creating pathways to independence, inclusion, and dignity

- Education
- Skills Training
- Assistive Technology
- Rehabilitation
- Digital Accessibility

READ TO KNOW MORE ABOUT VISION-AID & ITS WORK

THEIR VISION MATTERS

Vision-Aid
www.visionaid.org

# VISION-AID MISSION:

## ENABLE

People with visual impairment will have access to devices and services to help them achieve their full potential

## EDUCATE

People with visual impairment will have access to a comprehensive range of training programs to meet their learning needs

## EMPOWER

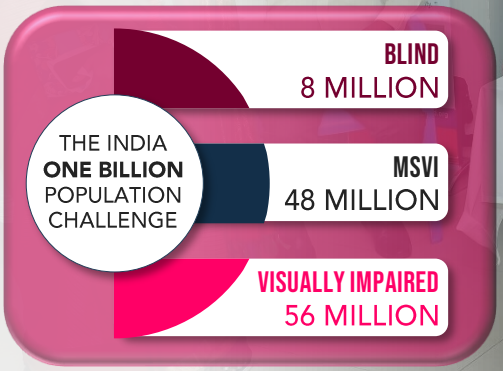
People with visual impairment will feel empowered to succeed in their chosen profession so that they can live with independence and dignity

**OUR MISSION**

ENABLE, EDUCATE AND EMPOWER THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED THROUGH **SUPPORTING, MOTIVATING, AND MOBILIZING** PREEMINENT EYE HOSPITALS, BLIND SCHOOLS, VISION PROFESSIONALS, TECHNOLOGY INNOVATORS, GOVERNMENTS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS **SERVING THE UNDER-PRIVILEGED** SEGMENTS OF INDIAN SOCIETY.

# OUR VISION

AN INDIA WHERE ALL
**INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE**
**VISUALLY IMPAIRED**
WILL BE ABLE TO LIVE
**PRODUCTIVE LIVES**
WITH
**INDEPENDENCE &**
**DIGNITY**



VISUAL IMPAIRMENT STATISTICS IN INDIA

**90%** OF VISUAL IMPAIRMENT IS IN **LOW & MIDDLE-INCOME** COUNTRIES INCLUDING INDIA

*Data Source: VISION ATLAS*

# THE VISION-AID SERVICE MODEL

*The*

**VISION-AID SERVICE MODEL HAS IMPACTED THOUSANDS OF LIVES** THROUGH THE DEDICATION OF PEOPLE COMMITTED TO THE CAUSE

*Visit our website [**https://visionaidindia.org/what-we-do/**] to know more about the 16 Program Interventions*

# TOUCHING PEOPLE'S LIVES

**20+** Years of Service

**75+** Locations across India

**27,000+** Beneficiary Count
*** In 2024*

**18,343** Vision Assessment & Screening

**2,120** Counselling and Referrals

**2,846** Assistive Devices & Kits

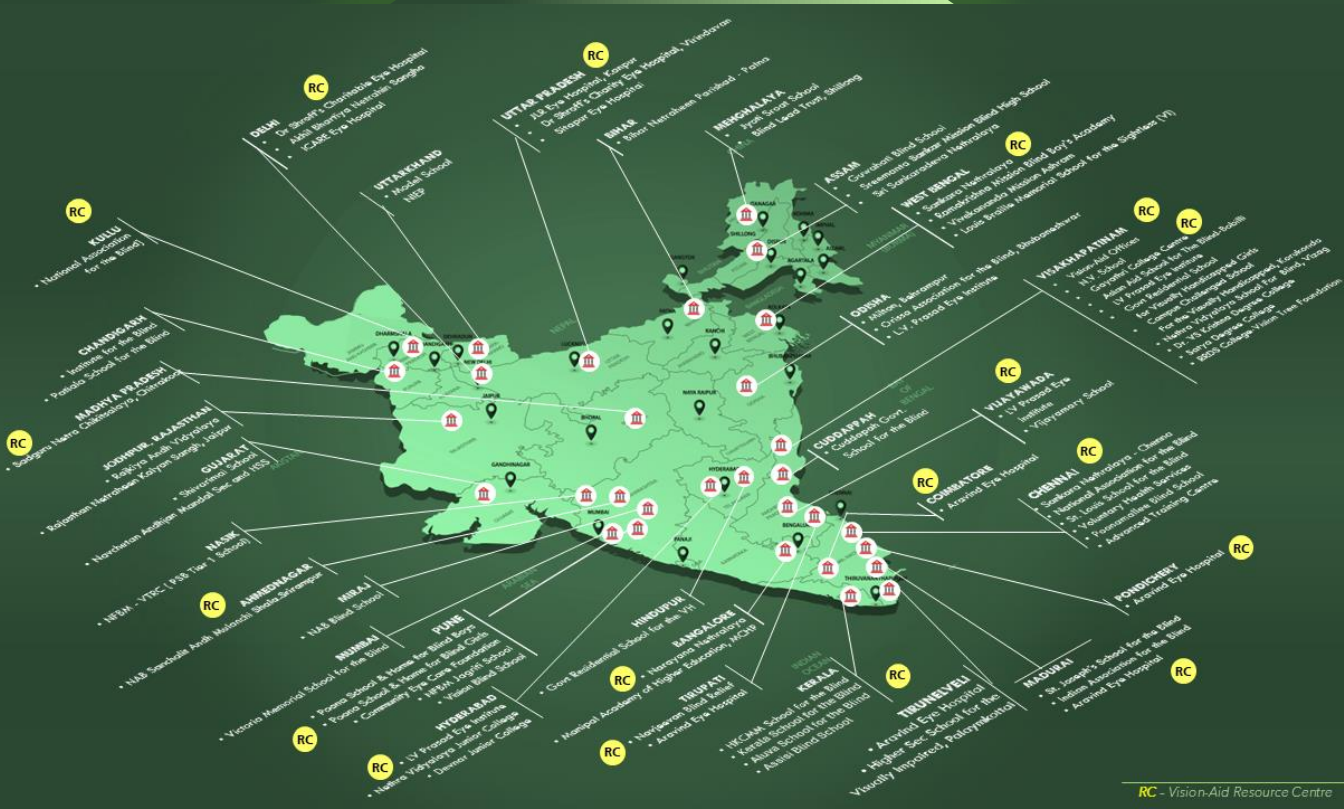
**3,754** Partner Training Programs

**804** Direct Training Programs

## KEY FEATURES

**LOW** OVERHEAD COSTS & **LARGE** VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT | **PERSONALIZED** ATTENTION TO EVERY INDIVIDUAL | CURRICULUM **DESIGNED IN-HOUSE** WITH A PURPOSE IN COLLABORATION WITH REPUTED INSTITUTIONS | **PREPARES** PEOPLE FOR WORKPLACE CHALLENGES | **PIONEER** IN ASSISTIVE DEVICES

# VISION-AID PARTNERS



# TRAINING INITIATIVES

Vision-Aid courses are categorized into four Levels

## BASIC LEVEL

1. SPOKEN ENGLISH – BEGINNERS
2. CERTIFICATE IN COMPUTER APPLICATIONS
3. MOBILE TECHNOLOGIES
4. ORIENTATION & MOBILITY
5. BRAILLE TECHNOLOGY

## INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

1. SPOKEN ENGLISH – INTERMEDIATE
2. COACHING FOR BANKING & GOVT JOBS
3. CORPORATE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT
4. MICROSOFT EXCEL
5. MICROSOFT ADVANCED EXCEL

## ADVANCED LEVEL

1. PYTHON PROGRAMMING
2. STRUCTURED QUERY LANGUAGE [SQL]
3. CHATGPT
4. HTML, CSS BASIC & ARIA
5. DIGITAL ACCESSIBILITY TESTING

## PLACEMENT-ORIENTED

1. BPO DOMESTIC PROCESS
2. RECRUITMENT PROCESS

IN ACTION

# SKILLING & PLACEMENT PROGRAMS

## STATE OF THE ART TRAINING CENTRE'S

**3500 SQ.FT** FACILITY IN **CHENNAI**

**2500 SQ.FT** FACILITY IN **VIZAG**

**1500 SQ.FT** FACILITY IN **DELHI**

**ABILITY TO TRAIN 100'S OF STUDENTS IN A YEAR AT THESE CENTRE'S`**

## IT/ITES SKILLING & PLACEMENT

- More than a decade experience in providing IT/ITES skill development programs for the Visually impaired
- More than 2000 people trained on Technology and Advanced skill programs such as Digital literacy, Digital Accessibility Testing (DAT), Python Programming, SQL, HTML/ARIA, BPO Process, HR Recruitment Process
- 50% placement achieved in programs such as DAT and BPO Processing
- Pioneers in providing both online and offline training thereby increasing student reach
- High quality training curriculum and process

### PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE

- We have a dedicated placement office headed by a Placement officer who oversees all placement activities
- We have good relationship with 50+ companies across India
- Hundreds of our students have found placement with our assistance
- 50% placement rate in Advanced skill programs such as DAT and BPO Process

## EXPERIENCE IN LARGE SCALE SKILLING PROGRAMS

- Vision-Aid trains ~ 1000 individuals annually through online/offline skilling programs
- Proven expertise in delivering large scale skilling programs for Corporate CSR and Foundations

### 2023

- Trained 50+ students on basic computer and communication skills using **Amazon** CSR grant
- Trained 125+ individuals on Digital Accessibility Testing and BPO Process using **NASSCOM foundation** grant

### 2024-25

- Trained students in Saudi Arabia on Python skills using grant from **Abdul Latheef Jaleel (ALJ)**
- Train 50+ women students on BPO skills at Vizag using grant from **NAB, India**

### 2025-26

- Train 100 individuals on DAT skills using grant from **BarrierBreak**

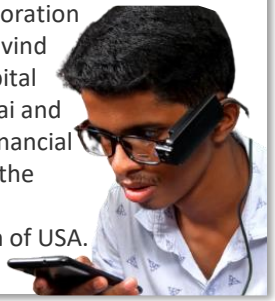
# PROGRAMS THAT IMPACT

## TACTILE BOOKS

Vision-Aid is proud to partner with Raised Lines Foundation (RLF) a start-up coming out of IIT-Delhi to provide high quality tactile Braille books to children in blind schools across India replacing traditional Braille books which were lacking diagrams.

## SMART VISION GLASSES

**Smart Vision** is a revolutionary, affordable, innovative, made-in-India, AI-powered "Smart Glass", the first of its kind brought to India by Vision-Aid in partnership with SHG Technologies of Bengaluru, in collaboration with Aravind Eye Hospital in Madurai and with the financial support of the Palakurthi Foundation of USA.



## SMARTPHONE INITIATIVE

Vision-Aid and Trees For Life India are joining hands to provide life-changing Smart-phone technology to visually impaired from under-privileged backgrounds. Since the pilot in 2021, in coordination with our Partners, hundreds of beneficiaries have had their lives changed.

## PROJECT SATHI

Lack of access to modern assistive technologies is a huge barrier for visually impaired from under-privileged segments of Indian society. In 2025, Vision-Aid launched SATHI - Smart Assistive Technology for Holistic Inclusion, a program which provides powerful assistive technologies including AI Smart Vision Glasses, Augmented reality glasses, Smart Phones, Tablets, Laptops, Tactile Braille books and other powerful technologies which can transform the lives of the visually impaired. In 2025, Vision-Aid will provide over 3,000 such devices to those in need and the number is expected to grow in coming years.

# PIONEER IN INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS

## DIGITAL ACCESSIBILITY

- Training and employment for persons with visual disabilities
- Expert manual and automated standards-based Web Consortium Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) testing for clients globally
- Website: https://dat.visionaid.org/

## VISION-AID ACADEMY

- All courses FREE
- Personalized attention to students.
- LEARNING GATEWAY for Trainers of/and students with vision disabilities
- Easy navigation, accessible to students with vision disabilities
- Website: https://training.visionaid.org/

# LEADER IN TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION

AWARD-WINNING LOW-COST DEVICES

## HAPTIC TORCH

A compact device that can provide haptic alerts to users about obstacles in front of them.

## VISION-AID DIGITAL MAGNIFIER

Low Cost, 3.5 inch, portable digital magnifier, is one-tenth of the cost of comparable devices in the market today

## ELECTRONIC WAND

A hand-held short wand that remotely detects obstacles and also beeps to alert user of obstacles

## SMART VISION GLASSES

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SHG TECHNOLOGIES

An innovative Artificial Intelligence based wearable device which can help the visually impaired read, navigate, recognize objects and people

## CAMERA MOUSE

An AWARD-WINNING device that can help the visually impaired view magnified text on their TV screens

## PORTABLE READING STAND

WITH LINE MARKER CURSOR

A home-work table for close viewing work by individuals with Low Vision

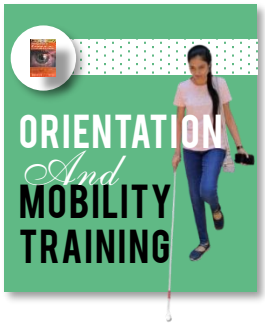
## CAMERA CAT CLASSROOM DEVICE

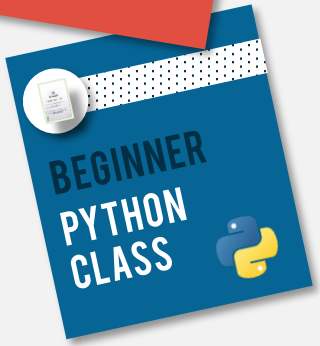
A wireless device that enables students with Low Vision to clearly view distant blackboards

**NOTE:**

**DEVICES CAN BE PURCHASED AT VISION-AID OFFICES OR VIA OUR PARTNER NETWORK**

# BOOKS RELEASED BY VISION-AID





PROF. M.S. RAJU

CHAIRMAN EMERITUS, VISION-AID

DEAR READER

# JOIN HANDS WITH US

## LET'S DO MORE FOR PEOPLE WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS

# TOGETHER

WE MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

*To*

## SPONSOR, VOLUNTEER *Or* FINANCIALLY SUPPORT

OUR CRITICAL PROGRAMS

MAIL US AT: **info@visionaid.org**

WE WILL CALL BACK

# AWARDS & RECOGNITION

**2024** NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR INNOVATIVE WORK FOR INDIA'S VISUALLY IMPAIRED

**HARVARD UNIVERSITY**
**DEREK BOK PUBLIC SERVICE PRIZE**
*Awarded To*
**RAMAKRISHNA RAJU**
*Founder, Vision-Aid*
Y2019

**INDIA NEW ENGLAND**
**WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD**
*Awarded To*
**REVATHY RAMAKRISHNA**
*Co-Founder, Vision-Aid*

Y2019 **MAKING A DIFFERENCE AWARD [CHILDREN'S HOPE INDIA]**
- FOR EDUCATION OF UNDER-SERVED CHILDREN

Y2010 –15 **MINISTRY OF S & T / SCIENCE CONGRESS RECOGNITIONS**
FOR INNOVATIONS

Y2014 **IIT KHARAGPUR DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARD**
FOR THE PRESIDENT, VISION AID

Y2013 **VISAKHA CIVIC AWARD**
FOR SERVICE TO SOCIETY

Y2012 **ROCKEFELLER BELLAGIO RESIDENCY AWARD** FOR ENABLING THE VISION DISABLED

Y2011 **RESOURCE ALLIANCE INDIA NGO AWARD**

Y2010 **NCPEDP MPHASIS AWARD AS INDIA'S BEST UNIVERZALIZER OF DESIGNS** FOR DISABLED PEOPLE

Y2009 **NASEOH 'S BJ MODI AWARD**
FOR SERVICE TO VISION IMPAIRED

Y2008 **NASSCOM FINALIST AWARD**
FOR COMPUTER TRAINING OF VISION IMPAIRED

Y2007 **INDIA S & T (TePP) AWARD**
FOR INNOVATING ASSISTIVE DEVICE CAMERA MOUSE

"THE BEST WAY TO FIND YOURSELF IS TO LOSE YOURSELF IN THE SERVICE OF OTHERS"
- MAHATMA GANDHI

Vision-Aid

# VISION-AID IN ACTION

THIS

IS

VISION-AID

## VISION-AID TRAINING CENTERS

# GET IN TOUCH WITH US

**VISION-AID**
8 VINE BROOK RD
LEXINGTON
MASSACHUSETTS 02421
UNITED STATES

https://visionaid.org/

https://visionaidindia.org

https://training.visionaid.org/

https://dat.visionaid.org/

Like us on Facebook

Follow us on Twitter

Watch us on YouTube

info@visionaid.org